THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVI.—No. 179 JANUARY, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

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

- Editorial Notes -

All ranks will note with great regret that the first Colonel-Commandant of the Corps, Lieutenant-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., has relinquished that appointment on reaching the age limit. The following paragraph is quoted from *The Times* of 4/12/34:—

"Sir John Fowler was the Director of Signals at General Headquarters in France from 1914 until the end of the war. It was under his direction on the Western Front that the Signal Service, Royal Engineers, grew from a few Companies into an organisation containing 70,000 men. He sponsored the policy under which Army Signals became a separate organisation, forming an integral part of the machinery of command and operating under the direct control of the General Staff. When this situation was recognised after the war by the formation of the Royal Corps of Signals, it was fitting that he should be the first Colonel-Commandant, and in that position he has presided over the new Corps until now. The Corps took shape under his hand before it received its separate entity, and it is with great regret that the officers and other ranks will note the end of his twenty years' official connection with them."

The severance of this long connection means much to all members of the Corps, and especially to those of us who served on the Western Front when Sir John Fowler was the Director of Signals. As the twig bends, the tree will grow; and the fact that our Corps to-day is such a vigorous and healthy sapling is due largely to his foresight in directing the policy of those early days.

In the intervening years, as Colonel-Commandant he has presided over the Corps Committee which deals with those multifarious matters of domestic Corps policy which do not fall under the official regulations; and in that capacity, also, he has lent distinction to many an old Comrades Reunion.

All members of the Corps, serving and retired, combine to wish him long life and happiness, and trust that his official connection with them, which has now ended, will be followed by his attendance for many years to come as a most distinguished visitor at our Corps functions.

❀ ❀ ❀

His Majesty the King has approved the increase in establishment of Colonels-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, to two; and the vacancies have been filled by the appointment of Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.—to whom we tender our hearty congratulations.

At the time of going to press, the question of the election of the representative Colonel-Commandant for the Corps for the ensuing year was still under discussion. We hope to have further information for publication in our next issue.

❀ ❀ ❀

New Memorial Prize at the Royal Military Academy.—On the occasion of Public Day at the Royal Military Academy, last month, the Chief of the Imperial General Staff made the first presentation of the Agar Memorial Prize. This prize, of the value of £10 each term, has been endowed by the officers of the Royal Signals in memory of Lieutenant John William Agar, who lost his life on the 27th August 1933 in rescuing from drowning two men of his Section.

The award is accompanied by a record of the act which it commemorates, in the following words: "On the 27th August 1933 Lieutenant John William Agar, Royal Signals, gave his life

in saving the lives of men under his command, and in that act of honour fulfilled the brilliant promise of his youth. He added lustre to the name of his Corps, and this prize was established in his memory by his brother officers of the Royal Signals."

The prize is to be awarded to the best qualified cadet entering the Royal Signals, and on this occasion it was won by Gentleman Cadet B. H. P. Barnes.

❀ ❀ ❀

Greetings.—The following telegram to a far-distant Signal officer speaks for itself:—

"Meiklejohn, Graham Land Expedition, Port Stanley. Brother officers Royal Signals send best wishes happy Christmas and successful expedition. COLONEL-COMMANDANT."

❀ ❀ ❀

R.E. Point-to-Point Meeting, 1935: Royal Signals Race.—The above meeting will be held at Ashbridgewood on the 9th March. For conditions of entry, etc., see Appendix "C" and Rule 11 (*a*) (vii.) in "Rules of Royal Signals Officers' Games Club."

❀ ❀ ❀

Will all serving and ex-members of Royal Signals and all ex-members of R.E. Signal Service please note that a Birmingham Branch of the Signals Association has been formed and is holding its First General Meeting on Wednesday 30th January at the Crown Hotel, Corporation Street, Birmingham.

Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D. (Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command) will preside, and it is hoped that a large muster will be present.

Any ex-member of the Corps who is interested in the movement, but unable to attend, is asked to communicate direct with the Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, Cateswell House, Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

❀ ❀ ❀

The following is an extract from a letter recently received at this office, and is considered of sufficient interest to our readers generally to warrant its publicity:—

"EMPLOYMENTS—All the people whom you have sent and whom we have recently engaged are proving very satisfactory, and the Signals Association is getting a very good name at this establishment."

❀ ❀ ❀

Exchange.—Subaltern willing to exchange with officer posted to India during trooping season 1935—36. Apply Subaltern Y, c/o the Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, Victoria, London, S.W.1.

❀ ❀ ❀

Passage to India.—Wife of R.Signals sergeant, 1st Indian Divl Signals, Rawalpindi, India (an experienced children's nurse) seeks passage to India in return for services. Has had previous experience of the journey. Please communicate direct with Mrs. D. Mills, Waterworks, Alton, Hants.

❀ ❀ ❀

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.

❀ ❀ ❀

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 Signal Mess Library is complete without it.* Price 8/0 per copy, post free (at home or abroad).

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

The attention of all Hon. Branch Secretaries and Unit Representatives is directed to items 4, 5 and 7 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, Nottingham	Salesman
2	Ex-N.C.O. Nottingham	Salesman
3	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey	Wireless Factory Hand
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Salesman
5	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	P.O. Engineering Dept.
6	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Telephonist
7	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Electrician
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
9	Ex-N.C.O. Yorks	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
11	Ex-N.C.O. London	House Man
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Gas Fitter
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
15	Ex-W.O. Aldershot	Lieut.-Quartermaster (T.A.)
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Super
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
20	Ex-N.C.O. London	Lineman
21	Ex-N.C.O. London	Lineman
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
23	Ex-Driver, Glasgow	Lineman
24	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Driver
28	Ex-N.C.O. Bristol	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Royal Signal Units, Aldershot Command.
United Services Trustee (Grant from Royal Tournament Fund 1934).
Mr. G. W. Youngs, London.
D Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, Aldershot.
Mr. W. Moffat, Sheffield.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£2 10	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Liverpool.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Sheffield.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Middlesbro'.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Durham.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1 10	0
6	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3 0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O. Aldershot.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1 0	0
8	Family of ex-Sigmn (deceased) Lancashire.	Domestic difficulties	Grant	2 0	0
9	Ex-N.C.O. Suffolk.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	5 0	0
10	Ex-W.O. London.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	8 0	0
11	Ex-Sigmn Salisbury.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	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,
18th December 1934

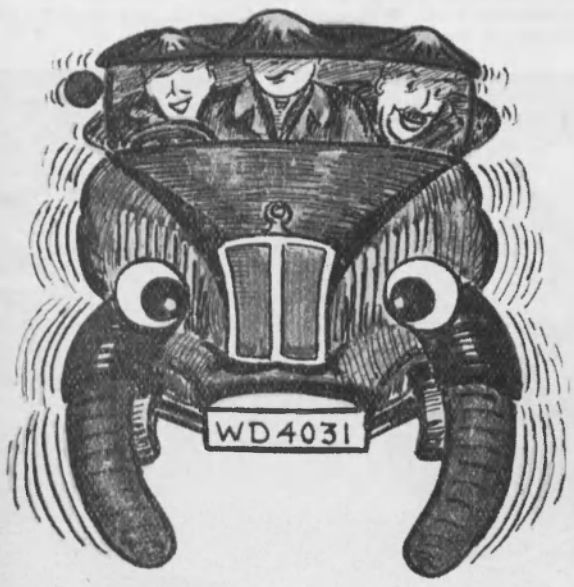
The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the January 1935 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.



Morris known as Minor,
To the party went-
Started with glee,
Came home with three
Feeling a little BENT

Ex-LINEMAN
"DID THOSE WIRES REVOLVE -OR?"

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER: SALISBURY BRANCH
R.SIGNALS, O.C.A. 16TH NOV 1934.

Employment for Ex-Signal Personnel.

The Editor, "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following letter by Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., was published in "The Broadcaster and Wireless Retailer." It is well that the qualifications of ex-Signals personnel should thus be brought to the notice of many prospective employers.

. . . . . .

Sir.—I have been following your correspondence about employing ex-Naval wireless ratings as service men, and would like to put before you the claims of ex-Signalmen of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Military wireless sets are carried about in the field and require constant service. I think, therefore, that military signalmen have perhaps even more experience than Naval personnel. I understand from a letter you have already published that these people often do not see the inside of a set from one year to another.

In the Royal Corps of Signals there are a large number of these specialist technical ratings, such as electrician fitters and instrument makers. The higher qualified men reach the rank of Foreman-of-Signals. I enclose a copy of an application for employment from such a man.

The qualifications set out in this application include the following: Repair and maintenance of Service W.T. sets, telephones and telegraph instruments, 1922—29. Qualified as instrument maker, group A class i. 1925. Qualified as Foreman-of-Signals, 1929, after nine months course—this qualification embodies sound knowledge of electricity, wireless telegraphy, telephony and internal combustion engines, and ability to lecture and instruct on these subjects. From 1923, in charge of military repair workshops. Three years experience in stores accounting and disposal. First class certificate of education, with distinction in mathematics. Sole charge of Army wireless in Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth. Prior to enlistment, three years at Marconi's W.T. Chelmsford factory and Marconi International Marine Communication Co. at Marconi House. Experience with civilian sets and radiograms, both British and American, including short wave apparatus.

An electrician fitter is fully trained in the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles. With this knowledge, combined with that of radio, he would be an ideal man for car radio service work.

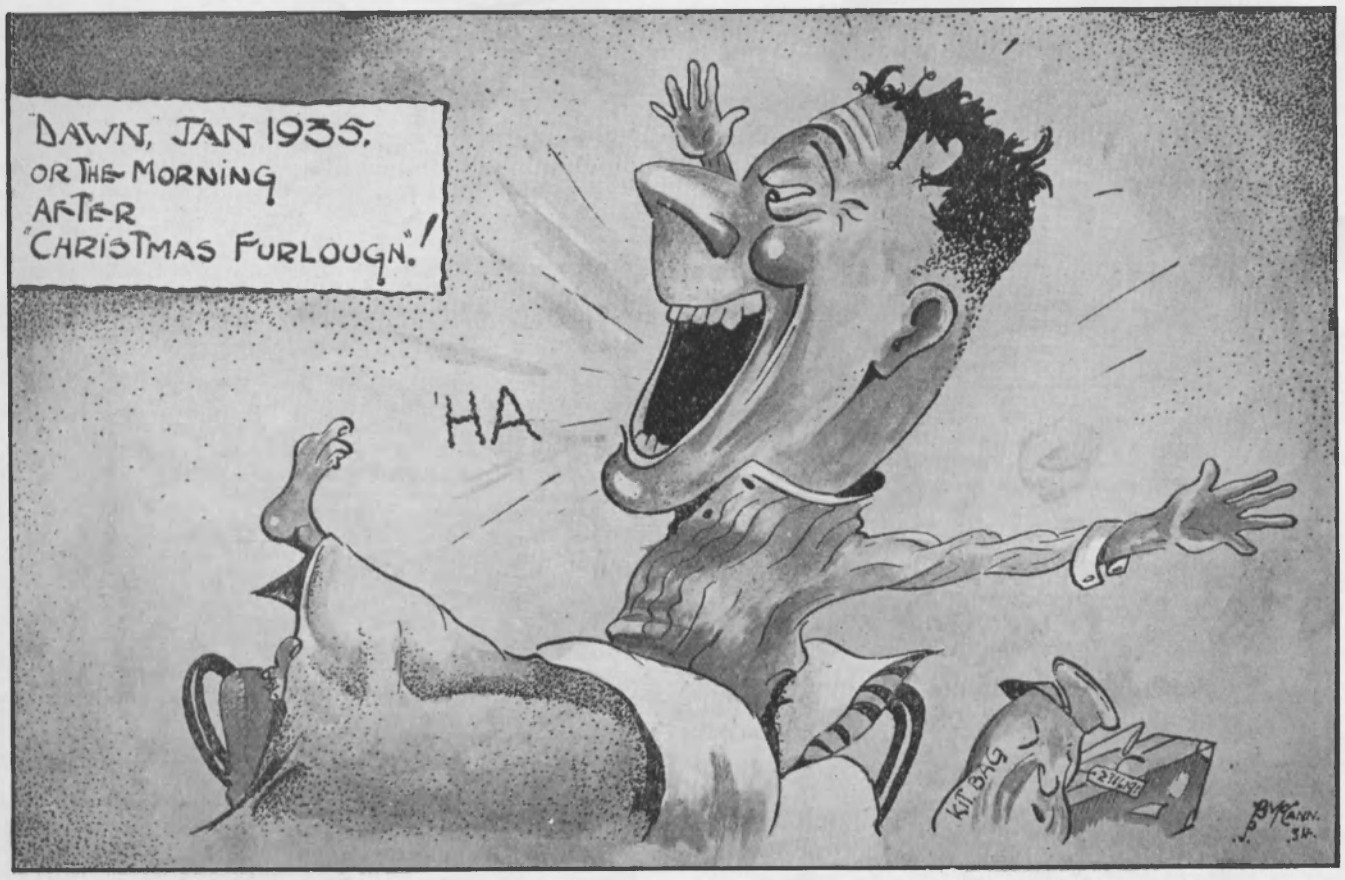
I feel that publication of this letter may prove not only a great help to ex-Signalmen seeking employment, but may also put firms in the industry into touch with some very useful men.

G. D. OZANNE, M.C., M.I.E.E., Colonel, R.Signals, T.A.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham from Egypt to War Office
Captain R. Sutton-Pratt from Malta to Catterick
Captain J. W. Bailey from Aldershot to Catterick
Captain H. P. Hart from India to Catterick
Lieutenant H. L. Lewis from India to Canterbury
Lieutenant G. F. Houghton from India to Catterick
2/Lieutenant P. C. Williams from Catterick to Aldershot (2nd Divisional Signals)



That bit of leave I "scrounged" is over,
So here goes for another year.
They say a Tommy's life is clover—
Well! whoopee, chaps! we're here.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 16/11/34

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

M. Peachey to be 2/Lieutenant 17/11/34

War Office 20/11/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler is seconded whilst employed as Superintendent S.E.E. 19/10/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—S.E.E.

Major St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler, R.Signals, to be Superintendent (Class Z) 19/10/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

50th (N) Divl Signals—Captain W. H. N. Dent, M.B.E., R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant 1/11/34

Lieut. G. B. Bell, R.Signals, to be Adjutant and is granted the temporary rank of Captain in the Territorial Army whilst holding the appointment 1/11/34

R.Q.M.S. Smith G. H., 50th (N) Divl Signals, to be Lieut. (Quartermaster) 21/11/34

War Office 23/11/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain F. C. Curtis, M.C., is seconded for service on the Staff 1/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—P. G. M. Lee to be 2/Lieutenant 24/11/34

War Office 30/11/34

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS: S.T.C.

Captain C. M. F. White, R.Signals, to be Brigade Major 17/11/34

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain E. L. Smith-Masters, from Supplementary Reserve, to be Captain 23/11/34, with seniority 2/6/24

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Captain L. D. Goddard, R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant 17/11/34

Captain H. R. Firth, R.Signals, to be Adjutant 17/11/34

War Office 4/12/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned are appointed Colonels-Commandant 30/11/34:—

Colonel (Hon. Brigadier) H. C. Smith, D.S.O., retired pay, late Royal Engineers and Royal Signals, vice Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., who has attained the age limit.

Colonel (temporary Brigadier) R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C. to the King, late K.R.R.C. and Royal Signals, to complete establishment.

Lieutenant R. H. O. Coryton to be Captain 3/12/34

War Office 7/12/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. G. B. Bell is seconded for service with the T.A. 1/11/34

Captain W. H. N. Dent is restored to establishment 1/11/34

Captain C. M. F. White is seconded whilst employed as Brigade Major, S.T.C. 17/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. A. R. B. Dobson to be Captain 10/10/34

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. H. Baker, late R.E., to be 2/Lieutenant 28/11/34

56th (W.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieutenant J. T. Stephen to be Lieutenant 5/12/34

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War Office 11/12/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divl Signals—Lieut. F. G. Pitt resigns his commission on account of ill health 12/12/34

The Photo-Electric Cell.

By W. T. LOWE and E. PHILLIPS.

The Photo-Electric Cell, or "electric eye," is one of the most remarkable inventions of recent years. Never before has the power inherent in a beam of light been harnessed so completely to the service of man.

We of the present generation must remember, however, that this wonderful achievement is really due to the researches of scientists of the past, who investigated the properties of light and its effects, but were unable to use those properties outside a laboratory owing to lack of suitable apparatus. It was the discovery and development of the thermionic (or wireless) valve that enabled inventors to adapt these effects.

As with the microphone the valve has made wireless broadcasting of sound possible to its present-day extent, so the valve with the photo-electric cell is making broadcasting of sight similarly available. We propose to tell you how this marvel is effected.

Light is a disturbance in the ether due to the enormously rapid vibrations of atoms in the sun. These vibrations cause heat, and set up waves of disturbances in the ether like those which rise on the surface of the sea under the influence of wind.

Etheric disturbances pass across space at the terrific speed of 186,000 miles per second. Light from the sun takes eight minutes to span the 90,000,000 miles between it and this earth. Light from any artificial source such as an electric lamp, a candle, gas jet, etc., is of the same nature and travels at exactly the same speed.

The similarity of light waves and those we see on the surface of water is further exemplified in what is known as the "quantum theory ", due to Professor Planck. This theory states that light does not reach us in a continuous stream, but in quantities at frequent intervals, like waves passing over the sea to break in succession upon the shore.

Measuring some millionths of a centimetre from crest to crest, light waves are inconceivably small. The quantities are also correspondingly exceedingly small. Nevertheless, they are very useful, and the photo-electric cell is a reliable device for turning their work to account as in, say, television.

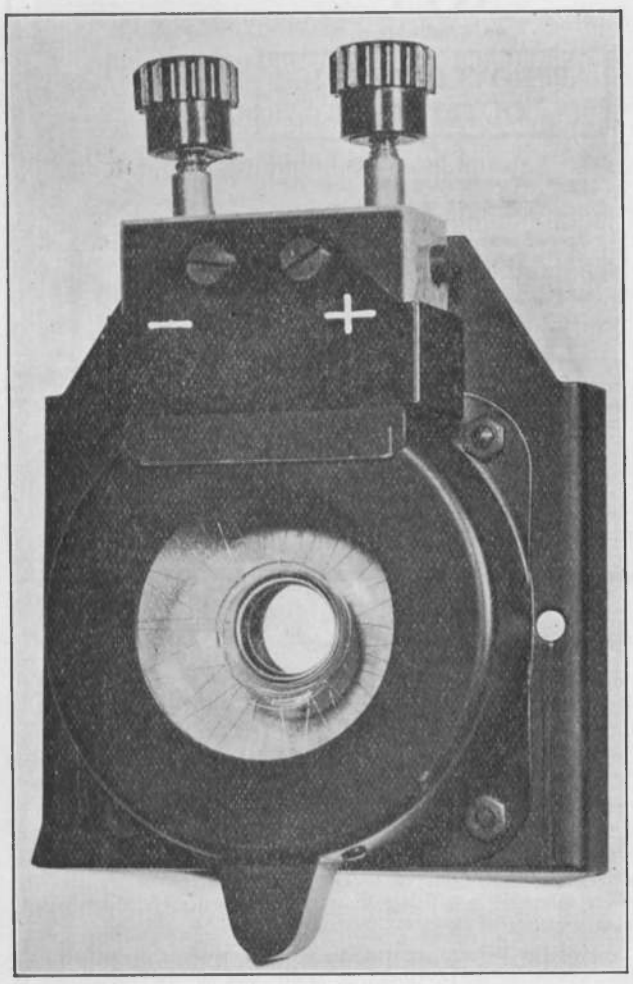

Photo-Electric Cell as used in the Siemens-Karolus Picture Telegraph Apparatus.

By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

Let us now see in what manner this cell functions. It is theoretically assumed that everything solid on this earth is composed of atoms. These atoms are composed of charges of positive electricity around which revolve charges of negative electricity, like planets revolving round the sun. The negative charges are termed electrons. Some of these are attracted very strongly to the central mass, and can only be detached with very great difficulty. Others, however, are attracted less strongly, and if a sufficiently strong force acts upon them they will be detached and fly off into space. They will then continue travelling until attracted by some other atom. The force which detaches them is provided by light.

Some substances, principally the metals potassium, sodium, cæsium, rubidium and lithium, are very sensitive to light in this way: and the first named is the one commonly used for the photo-electric cell. The cell is a glass bulb which has part of its inner surface covered with a very fine layer of potassium deposited on copper. This layer faces a " window " in the cell through which the light is directed. Inside the cell, a fine wire mesh faces the potassium.

The light directed through the window of the cell on to the potassium surface falls upon the metal with a force corresponding to its brilliance. The impact detaches some of the looser electrons from the atoms of the potassium. The brighter the light, the stronger the force and the greater the number of electrons detached. This is similar to throwing a stone into water ; the larger the stone, the bigger the splash.

But in the photo-electric cell the smallest change in value of light immediately causes a corresponding change in the number of electrons propagated. These electrons fly off with great speed and impinge upon the wire mesh. As they are negative charges of electricity, this, in effect, causes an electric current to pass across the cell. The mesh is connected to the " grid " of a wireless valve to which the current passes. By adding further stages of valves, this current is amplified to sufficient strength and passes along the wire used when connected to a transmitter.

Current generated across the cell by the brightest light is very small, of the order of 4 micro-amps (four millionths of an ampere), hence the necessity for several stages of amplification to raise it to a useful working strength.

In Television, a beam of light is directed as a spot upon the subject to be transmitted. This spot must cover a different portion of the subject each moment. Movement of the spot may be effected by the rapidly revolving perforated disc, or by the reflection of the light beam from the vari-angled mirrors of a mirror drum. In Picture Telegraphy, the picture revolves continuously before the light spot, and the light spot also moves down the picture. By this means the picture is explored by a fine spiral of light from top to bottom. Light reflected from the televised subject or picture being telegraphed is arranged to fall into the photo-electric cell. These reflections cause streams of electrons of varying values to fly across the cell from the potassium surface to the wire mesh, and so pass to the amplifying system and the wireless aerial, or wire channel, as the case may be. The result is an electric current of continuously varying value passing along the channel to the distant end, where means are provided for retranslating the current into terms of light. We thus achieve Television and Picture Telegraphy.

The usefulness of the photo-electric cell is not confined to Television or Picture Telegraphy. The sensitiveness of the photo-electric cell to the slightest change in light-value renders it suitable for showing up very small changes in colour-values. Variations in the colour of cigars, for instance, may be detected by this means with greater certainty than the human eye could give. So if cigars, or other things of which a colour check is required, are arranged to pass in a continuous band in front of a beam of light which shines upon the object and is reflected from it into a photo-electric cell associated with an amplifier and some form of indicator (which may be an electric bell), each cigar reflects a certain amount of light into the photo-cell.

Whilst this amount of light (which has previously been determined by a standard colour) persists, the bell or other indicator may be arranged not to function. But if some change occurs in the values of light, due to the object being lighter or darker than the standard, current from the cell varies accordingly. The bell then rings, or the indicator shows that there is a deviation, and the attendant investigates the cause.

Similarly, in printing works or factories where lengths of material pass along a carrier to another machine, a photo-electric cell can be arranged to indicate breakage of the material, faulty alignment, or similar trouble. The cell is placed under a small hole in the carrier channelling and a lamp is placed above the aperture. Normally, the hole is hidden by material passing along the channel, but if from any cause the hole is uncovered and the light shines into the photo-cell, a bell is rung and attention attracted to the faulty piece.

Many other adaptations are being made for the use of this marvel ; and from its obscurity of a few years ago, the photo-electric cell has now become a valuable adjunct to industry, by the use of which a beam of light is as sure and certain in action as a bar of steel.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Then.—We were camping somewhere in sight of the Afghan border when he told me about his last trip home.

It was a true night for reminiscences, with a glorious full moon, the liquid light of which threw a silvery sheen over the rugged barrenness of the country around us—a night in which the toil of a heavy marching day, under a fairly hot sun and amidst clouds of dust, was a thing of the past. The chill of the early evening had turned into a cold wind from the north, so we sat by a wood fire to get what warmth we could before turning in.

It was a glimpse of the Great Bear showing faintly in the light of the brilliant moon that turned my thoughts to England and home and made me ask my companion " When did you go home last, Sylvester ?" His rugged face, tanned with the summers and winters of two decades in this part of the world, lit up with a smile and he replied " Haven't I ever told you about my last trip home ?" " No," says I ; " let's have it."

He chuckled as he puffed away at his pipe, gazed reflectively into the dancing wood flames, and then off he started:

" It was in 1925, I think—it seems so long ago that I sometimes forget the year in which I managed, after the operations around this area, to obtain a well-earned furlough to Blighty. Together with four other fellows I made my way to the railhead at Gurkhani, which we reached after three days trekking and jumping A.T. carts and bullock wagons. You see, we had six months wherein to visit the old homestead, so we were in no hurry ; otherwise we could have done it in two days. As this was before the advent of the six-wheeler, the hurry and bustle of life wasn't so evident as it is now.

" It took us six days to get to Bombay—six days of the clicketty-clack, clicketty-clack of the train, with tiresome stops at wayside stations. Confinement in a railway carriage across India for that length of time in the early summer is far from comfortable, and so it was with intense relief that we finally reached the quayside and saw a big towering vessel moored alongside.

" You can, however, imagine the shock we had when we reported to the embarkation staff, for they took us not to the big liner in which we expected to travel but to another vessel close by, the masts of which we could just see peeping above the edge of the quay. She was called the *Sarcastic*: a typical old sea-going tub of a few hundred tons burden which took forty-three days to get to Plymouth. With a full head of steam she was good for six knots on the flat and nine knots running downhill!

" I didn't know much about the first ten days, it being a period when I was in a coma and wishing for death—or such less punishment. A further three weeks were employed in getting my sea legs, endeavouring to converse in marine jargon with the crew of eight, and watching the old skipper seated on a soap box doing the steering. The latter part of the trip is rather vague, too, because when we got into the Gulf Stream the old *Sarcastic* took it into her head to spin on her own axis, so that I didn't know whether we were coming or going and I was still dizzy when we landed. I was told then that it was only the presence of mind of the old captain, who threw out kedge anchors, sea anchors and my crown and anchor, that saved the old tub from disaster and landed us at Plymouth.

" I came back on a cargo boat, but as the stokers went sick with some fell disease through eating too much salt pork and biscuits, I was employed in the stokehold—but that's another story. I'm turning in. Good-night."

* * * * * * * * *

Now.—It was on a Thursday morning, just after dawn, that I had occasion to run down to the 'drome on business. Officials were busy checking in passengers and their baggage. Nearby stood a huge Airways monoplane (the " Britind ") in all her majestic power—her eight engines, driven by compressed air, purring softly. Thinking perhaps that I might know some of the passengers, I approached nearer and espied Sylvester, togged up in his Sunday best, carrying a suit case and smoking a Burma cheroot!

" What's doing, Sylvester ?" says I.

" Oh, I'm just running off home for a week-end," says he.

" What! after all these years ?" I asked.

" Well," says he, " with all these new-fangled contraptions I can get home in twenty hours, spend a couple of days in the old country, and be back in time for parade on Tuesday morning. Besides," he continued, " when I was home in 1925 I grafted a pippin on a russet in the orchard, and I want to taste a real Devonshire apple!"

" Have you forgotten the jolly old *Sarcastic* ?" says I.

" Ha! ha!" he laughed, as he got into the lift which took him up into the spacious saloons of this Queen of the Air—and to England. And in the course of time the " shades of the shires " will grow dimmer and dimmer.

TIM.

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= = Plain Tales = =

Greeting.—So many people ask me how it is that I am allowed to continue writing for THE WIRE. To tell you the honest truth, I don't know. You'd never believe the hours I spend in thinking it out. Perhaps I had better keep on the right side of all you WIRE readers, so as a very special treat this month I am going to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. This is absolutely free of charge. No other magazine could do this. Think of it. The whole of 1935 happy and prosperous. Isn't that swell ? Yeah. Think of it.

* * * *

The Reflections of Minnie.—Introducing Minnie the cat. Black, silky, polished with Wadworth's 5 X. and bad tempered. Favoured quadruped of the 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess. Unkind people say she is bad tempered through long association with a certain C.S.M., but this is unlikely in view of the frequent absences on week-ends of the said C.S.M. Minnie was educated at the Charwomen's College and graduated with honours some few months ago. She gained a double sack apron for singing, though since arriving at the mess she only sings when trodden on. I have made a lifelong study of cats and, believe it or not, I am able to converse with them. I could wreck the unit with some of the things that Minnie tells me, but she extracted a promise of secrecy. However, what is a promise between good friends ? Can that cat judge character ?

I found her the other day sitting on a shelf in the dining room, gazing at nothing in particular with that lazy intentness peculiar to cats, or maybe it is dogs. " Penny for 'em, Min " I said.

" I was just thinking. You're not a bad lot here, really." She blinked slowly.

" Thanks, Min. That's decent of you."

" One or two exceptions, of course," she went on.

" Let's hear about them, old girl." I stroked her silky back, but she wriggled away with a snarl.

" Take yourself. You talk too much!"

" Why, Min, how can you say that when Freddy and Taff are here ?"

" Well, perhaps you don't stand so much chance then," she said—truthfully enough, I thought.

" How do you get on for grub, Min ?" I asked, thinking to get her on a favourite subject.

" Oh, not so bad when Humphrey is in London and the cook forgets to ask his pals in."

" Now, Minnie, you mustn't be rude." I shook a finger at her, but she shot out a wicked claw and hooked it in the fleshy part. There was a slight disturbance for a few minutes, and then she poked her head out from under the wireless set and shouted: " I'll tell you something about everybody next time."

" I shall not publish it, Min."

" You will!" she screamed. " What about the Quarterbloke who is going on the tack until New Year's Eve so that he can afford to get ' blind ' at Christmas ?"

• • • •

Agitate.—Jock Whitelaw has joined Barleux and his Band as pianist and proves to be a discovery. Ron Softly sailed for Karachi on the 13th December and takes with him all good wishes for his tour. He says he has been in India before. He's telling us. The Band welcomes Sigmn Rogers from Karachi, who has joined as trumpeter in place of Softly. He is an unknown quantity at the moment, but the boys are optimistic all the time. George Mitchell (tenor sax) says he will hold on until all the old hands are gone, so that he can decorate the drum with " Mitcheux and his Band."

• • • •

Society Note.—With the greatest pleasure and a simply lovely feeling of " I told you so," we record that C.Q.M.S. Sam Weller of Jubbulpore was married to Miss Doris Edith Barker at Birmingham on the 12th October 1934. Sam's many friends in the Corps will wish the happy couple all that they could wish themselves—probably more. Our one regret is that we have no photograph with which to decorate this page.

• • • •

Signature Tunes.—This seems to be the popular method of identifying people these days, so if you can assist me with my list I shall be grateful.

For someone in No. 1 Company who had a purple ring under one eye last month: " I saw stars."
For the troops engaged on the recreation grounds with picks and shovels: " Singing in the rain."
For the happy father who has just been blessed with one more: " I never slept a wink last night."
For L/Corpl Black, 3rd Divl Signals: " Learn to croon."
For Sergeant MacIntosh: " I ain't got no body."
For C.S.M. Taff Thomas: " Whispering." Very subtle, this.
For a Quartermaster: " All I have is yours."
For a C.Q.M.S. who shall be nameless: " The Sheik."
For Sergeant Bob Barlow: " My sweetie went away."
For Sergeant John Garroni: " Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been ?"

• • • •

Ukann Larfe Retires.—Little remains to be told. The arrest of the Plugger filled the newspapers for several days. Even the advertisements had to be left out. Hardly any evidence was available at first, but the lads rallied round and found a couple of dozen witnesses who were willing to swear to anything. Then it was found that no one knew what the charge was, so while they were trying to urge the Plugger to smash a Belisha beacon, he jumped into a taxi and was never seen no more—sorry! I mean again.

As the world now knows, Inspector Faceache was raised to the peerage and took the title of Lord Vertigo of Nostalgia. He may be seen any morning creeping along the gutter in the Charing Cross Road with a microscope in his hand. He can never forget his old job.

Of course, you want to know what happened to Ukann Larfe. I happened to be right on the spot at the time, so I can tell you (see my finger wet, see my finger dry). The Prime Minister and Hannen Swaffer thanked Ukann warmly on behalf of the nation, laid out a tray of honours and titles which our hero spurned or scorned (I forget which), and then settled £10,000 a year on him which he neither spurned nor scorned (whichever it was).

Hermione was furious about the refusal of the titles, and the devoted couple had a royal bust-up which resulted in Ukann's sudden departure for the Isle of Capri, where he wrote the world shaking tango " Tripe fell on Piccadilly."

Hermione repented and followed him out on the next boat, but the captain didn't know where Capri was and seemed to be too proud to ask anyone. They were last seen sailing up the Manchester Ship Canal.

Uncle Alf: What about the fourth man who got into the taxi ?
Me: He got out at Goodge Street and vanished in the crowd. Yah.
Uncle Alf: Well, what about Lord Elpas, who had the jewels stolen ?
Me: He didn't. I mean, they weren't. Elpas found them in an old silk hat in the pantry. See ?

Look out for our next great unsolved murder mystery.

BARLEUX.

Passengers for the Near East.

The above photo (by the Topical Press Agency Ltd.) depicts the famous Army and International cross-country champion, Sergeant Cotterell W. This was taken aboard the trooper *Neuralia* at Southampton just prior to sailing for Egypt, whither " our Joe " has been posted for a tour of duty. He appears to be " telling the tale " to his young son, who looks every inch a soldier in his outsize military cap.

HOME STATIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP — *Panoramic Photograph Co, Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Please don't be too critical when reading this ; it's my initial effort in journalism.

Happenings.—During the past month these have been but few. The following are some which I hope will interest you.

General Sir Alexander Wardrop, K.C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, visited the Battalion on the 6th December. The A.D.M.S. inspected the unit lines during November.

A certain amount of overtime has been put in on the barrack rooms, which are undergoing their annual spring cleaning. Floors have been stained and measured for carpets. That home from home aspect is becoming more prominent every week, although just now parts of the lines remind one of Passchendaele. New roads are being built through the lines, but the recent heavy rain has given them a rather muddy appearance.

No. 4 N.C.O.s Course is breaking up on the 15th December, when some sixteen n.c.o.s will be returning to their respective units brimful of knowledge of gravel crushing and pokey drill. Corporals Dale, Perfect and Tucker should now know how to allow for wind when aiming at the centre of the dart board.

Arrivals and Departures.—During the past week or two these have been few, although quite a crowd of our brothers from overseas have passed through en route for civilian life and ——. Good luck to them all!

We welcome Major G. Tayleur, our new O.C., from the Dismounted Wing.

We also welcome Corpl Brunton from the 2nd Divl Signals. He has joined our weapon training staff in relief of Corpl Walker, who has been posted to Aldershot. The latter will be greatly missed by the Battalion Rifle Club, of which he has been a member for the past four years. Recent performances by the Club in the Yorkshire League are described by Sergt Seabrook in the Sports Notes of this issue.

Sigmn Cotton has joined us from India and is now on furlough. Corpl (Battleship) Ferrier, the Battalion chippy, recently came to us from the Mounted Wing. Sigmn Dellor leaves us for civilian life on the 15th December after serving nearly 26½ years.

Married Quarters.—These provide us with a little more news. Our congratulations to Sergt Stainer on being presented with a daughter (Bernice Gwendoline) at Catterick on the 22nd Nov. L/Corporals Bray and Thomas are now worrying the pay sergeant for C.R.A. Corpl Cooley (our n.c.o. i/c cookhouse) and his wife are to be congratulated on carrying off the third prize in the first Catterick Garrison baby show with their daughter, who weighed only just over 2 lbs. when born. Our cookhouse n.c.o. certainly knows how to feed 'em. The great retreat from St. Quentin to Mons was successfully carried out under the leadership of our "Q" staff. Casualties were few during the great rush of the advancing R.E. workmen. Sergeant Russell's pram had a short combat with a three-ton lorry: the lorry won! Our married personnel are hoping that the enemy will evacuate their old homesteads shortly after Christmas,

We have very much enjoyed the Band concerts given in the Newbigging Hall on Sunday evenings. Mr. Ricketts and the Band must also be congratulated on their recent broadcast.

To all units, we send our wishes for a happy New Year.

G.E.S.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Depot Battalion.

The Mess members send out to all units their best wishes for a happy New Year.

During the past month we have had several nights of entertainment. Our fortnightly whist drives and dances continue a great success. A Sunday evening social was held quite recently and everyone enjoyed it very much, excitement running very high during the games. Our rough-riding sergeant-major was no good over the sticks that night. Games tournaments are being arranged on Mess meeting nights, and after a few of these we hope to throw out another challenge to our worthy opponents the Training Battalion.

On the 14th November Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., and the officers of the S.T.C. entertained the w.o.s and sergeants and their wives at a party given in the Newbigging Hall. We thank Brigadier Heymann, the officers, and their wives for an excellent entertainment. It was the best evening most of us had spent for a long time ; a real gathering of the clans, so to speak.

Congratulations to C.S.M.s Young, Nash and Ingles and to C.Q.M.S. Stevenson on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. Also to Sergt Gordon on his promotion to that rank.

Sergt Crabtree is staying with us while undergoing a course in stable management. When he is clipping manes, we give him a special pair of hand clippers with extended handles.

Our armourer, Sergt Roberts, who has been with us for quite a long time, is leaving us within a few days to take up residence at Sialkot.

When pushing out congratulations above, I forgot to extend them also to F/Sergt Mains on being presented with another iron bender (Keith Barry) ; but here they are, Harry.

At a recent Mess meeting R.S.M. Caulfield was expressing his pleasure in the hope of receiving a junk from China Signals. "Junk ?" said a certain rough-rider. "We don't want their old junk." On being enlightened as to the meaning of the word, our worthy rough suggested that the delay may have been caused by Ticky Willis deciding to row it home.

Sergeants Lannigan and Rhodes stayed with us for a day or two while passing through to civvy street. Our best wishes go with them.

G.E.S.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—This being the month in which Christmas appears, everyone seems busy making arrangements about drafts, passes, luggage tickets and "whatnotelses." Last month, no mention was made regarding the welfare of units during the Christmas period, but we sincerely hope that all enjoyed themselves. Our sympathy is extended to those who did not ; and seeing that I am writing these notes *before* Christmas, I'd better say no more in case I need the sympathy for myself. No! I've not forgotten the New Year. See the end of these notes.

Drafts.—Last night, the 12th December, saw a draft leave here for India. L/Corporals Wright and Wilson and Signalmen

Hedley and Ashby went off with the usual pomp and glory in a United bus from the Kemmel Lines bus stop. Someone suggested that it would be cheaper to go only as far as the Saar, but nothing being heard this morning, we take it they are well on their way to the East. All the best and a very pleasant journey!

The next to follow them is a draft for China: Sergt Lockyer and Signalmen Carter and Bainbridge. One of the three knows the way to mark a kit bag; the other two are under instruction, this being their first trip. From appearances, they are awfully excited; and who blames them? Here's a wish that the waves don't swish and that they have a very pleasant journey.

Postings.—Corpl Hampton has left us for the 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury, and L/Sergt Waight has joined us in his place. I can't say whether Corpl Hampton is enjoying his stay in the south, but L/Sergt Waight says he is certainly pleased he has come to Catterick. Anyway, if he didn't say it, he gives us that impression.

Congratulations.—Sergt McDonald is now one without the "lance" in front. That means we shall probably lose him now, and judging from his fan mail every week, many of this Company are going to be somewhat disappointed. How he "pulled it" and all the correspondence that goes with it can be obtained direct from the person concerned. I would say to those interested that he is a very staunch supporter of the 534.

Curtain.—I have been specially asked to wish all units a very happy and prosperous New Year. I suppose everyone has had millions of good wishes—enough, I daresay, to take them into the next world; but this one is wished to take first place, and should any man of the Corps win this year's Irish Sweep, put the blame on E Company.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Thoughts of leave and the good times ahead are filling the minds of everyone, with perhaps the exception of the orderly corporal and the pay corporal. Those two are busy working out the credits, fares and routes of all the boys proceeding on leave. A ready reckoner would be handy, and anyone possessing a spare one might possibly "trade" it for an invitation to a certain Hockey Club dance.

A very novel and entertaining feature of the social life of this Company is the class for likely dancers, ably conducted by Corpl Powell, who incidentally (being a married man) is giving up a considerable amount of his spare time. Many of the young bloods are looking forward to showing their paces to their girl friends at home. We have recently purchased a new radiogram and a piano, so that we are not short of music for the classes. Someone suggested starting a beauty chorus. We certainly could produce the chorus part, but we are awaiting the arrival of a few more recruits from Portsmouth before we can complete the beauty side.

Congratulations.—To the Instrument Mechanics football team on winning their match in the third round of the Army Boys' cup.

Departures.—Having attained the dizzy height (5 ft. 2 in.) necessary to become a soldier, Sigmn Tich Warner has left us for the 2nd Divl Signals, and we hope he will be noticed when he arrives (2nd Divl Signals, please note). We also lose Signalmen Chandler and Willis. The latter was well known for his crooning and artist's hair-cut. Of course, being a Kentish bob, he has naturally gone to Canterbury. We sincerely hope the hairdressers will carry on business for the sake of the other inhabitants.

We Want to Know.—From what chemist do the Quartermasters buy their scented soap?

The Competitors for the Australia Cup (1st Divisional Signals).

Back row (l. to r.)—Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut, L/Corpl Green J. J., Signalmen Chapman H. and Hartill W., and Sergt Dilworth E.

Front—L/Corpl Thompson H., Captain A. E. Morrison, L/Corpl Chapman W., Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley, 2/Lieut. G. D. B. McKean, Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland and 2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon.

[*Photo by Bassano, London.*]

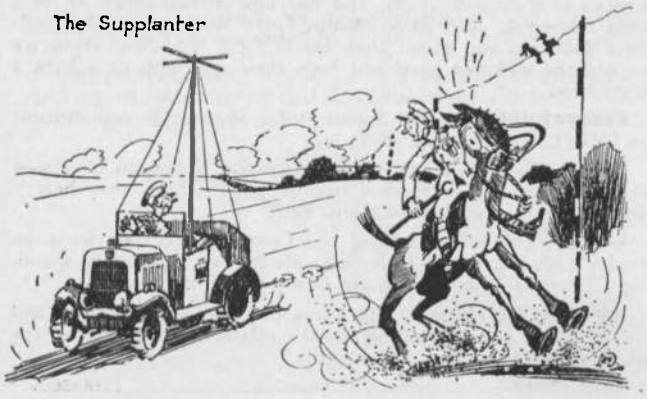
ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Greetings.—To all ranks of all units all over the world, best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year from the officers, w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men of the 1st Divl Signals. And in case we have forgotten to send you a Christmas card, herewith the "centre-piece."

The Supplanter



In acknowledging our indebtedness to Mr. L. H. Drake for producing it, we take this opportunity of including him in the "multiple address" message above.

Boxing.—A very successful novices and open inter-Company boxing tournament was held on the 28th and 29th November. The results are given in the Sports Notes, from which it will be seen that the Mounted Company, as usual, were well to the fore. One wonders how *The Daily Express* forecast of the complete mechanisation of the 1st Division is to affect the future of boxing.

Major-General K. L. T. Malmberg, Chief of the Finnish Civic Guards, took a keen interest in the proceedings on the second night and intimated that he was impressed by the skill, stamina and enthusiasm of the novices. We were also impressed by the (pardon us!) "guts" displayed.

The triangular contest between the three units in Mons Barracks for the Willan trophy resulted in this unit (awarded a bye in the first round) boxing against the 2nd Divl Signals on Friday 7th December at the Command Boxing Centre. We were fortunate enough to win by the odd point, the result being 20—19. It was an exceptionally good show on the part of both units, and no doubt the 2nd Divl Signals are (with reason) as proud of their team as we are of ours. Their correspondent has kindly undertaken to write up the notes on the competition which will be found in the Sports pages.

It would be invidious to select any winners for special mention, but two losers—Signalmen Alexander and Banham—put up game fights after a hard afternoon's football on a soft ground.

The background in these events is often overlooked, so while the contest is fresh in our minds let us register a vote of thanks to the trainers, Lieut. T. G. V. Stephenson, C.S.M. Cutler, Sergeants Hamlin and Evelyn, and L/Corporals Emblem and Griffin, who gave their time and experience to such good effect.

Australia Cup.—We are sorry to hark back to this subject, but we think the photo on the opposite page is worthy of publication.

Obituary.—Those who knew ex-Sigmn Wall W. (2319227) latterly of 3rd Divl Signals, will be sorry to hear of his death. He was killed in a coal mine at Blyth, Northumberland, after working there only fourteen days.

Contemporary.—We noticed the following alleged gem of brevity and wit in a periodical enjoying a large circulation: "Rules and regulations—plus rissoles—complete army." Still speaking gastronomically and infinitely more briefly, we hasten to add "Tripe!"

JESSAMINE.

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CELLARS STOCKED - Payment as Consumed

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to our midst, and though we have no hallucinations about our weather, we hope they will otherwise be comfortable. Sergt Thomas R. H. from Aberdeen—and straight into quarters. Signalmen Cable and Green from Catterick—and straight into the cross-country team. Signalmen Chadwick, Hallam W. T., Pointon J., Fishwick R. A., McLeod P. and Webster W. from Egypt Signals—and straight on a vocational course. And if Records are straight, we should have Corpl Sims and Sigmn Linnee from the School of Signals.

Departures.—Farewell and the best of luck to the following on their departure. Sigmn Carter W. to the School of Signals. Signalmen Hunt J. and Ashwell J. to India, possibly accompanied by Sigmn Panter F. L/Corporal Chidgey to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford.

Courses.—L/Corpl Reed to the School of Signals on a regimental signalling instructors course. L/Corpl Laurenson to the School of Signals for No. 13 n.c.o.s wireless course.

Marriages.—This heading appears to have come to stay, and as the evenings lengthen so does the "sleeping out pass" roll. Our best wishes go to the following who, despite the imminence of mechanisation, have gone into double harness. Sigmn Frazer M. to Miss E. Williamson at Hillhall, County Down, on 14/11/34. Sigmn Scott to Miss D. M. Goodall at Aldershot on 3/12/34. L/Corpl Chidgey to Miss G. Newman at Hale Church, Farnham, on 26/12/34.

Employment.—We were pleased to note that ex-C.Q.M.S. Johnson A. has obtained employment as a commissionaire in London. We have no shares in the commissionaire business, but we have seen their brochures (or whatever they call them) and suggest this is a matter worth looking into by those re-mustering as civvies.

Births.—Sorry!—must forge this paragraph for this month. Sergt Howler (not in blue book) tells me that he does not like

the broadcasts of boxing matches. He says (inter alia) " they give you a running *complimentary* on the *second* round while the *first* is in progress." While you are still wondering what this has to do with births, I'm off.

Stop Press.—We thought it wouldn't be long before the League of Nations looked to us for a little support. Know, therefore, that two officers and about thirty-six n.c.o.s and men have been selected from what Records have left us, to form a composite Signal Force for duty in the Saar. Christmas leave and cross-country medals were thrown to the four winds in the rush for volunteers. By the time you read these lines, they will be dashing about in Morris Minors, wearing superior airs, driving on the wrong side of the road, eating sausage by the kilometre (pronounced " kill-om-eter ") and talking left-handed.

[It is good of us to remember to send your WIRES out direct, isn't it ? Thanks. Good luck, lads!] JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Once again I have to fill the breach as " Easy," being for the boat on the 23rd January for Punky, is enjoying a much earned holiday (emphasis on the " much earned ").

There has been little to record in Barrack Blocks 37 to 40, but one or two people walk about with long faces. What they are thinking of, I do not know, but a good guess would certainly be that the subject of their thoughts and the cause of their long faces is the monster that takes them away for five years. Cheer up, lads! Thousands have done it before, so just say to yourselves that you can, too. It is really easy.

There are a few new faces in the Company now, and also there are one or two of the old ones missing. The names of those who have come and gone during the last month will be found a little further on. A hearty welcome to those who have arrived, and the best of luck to those who have departed.

Appointments.—U/L/Corporals Martin S. and Carver to be Lance-Corporals on the Corps roster. Signalmen Port C. R. and Horne W. J. to be U/L/Corporals.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Tracey has arrived from the Terriers in Glasgow and has been posted to No. 2 Company, and in exchange we have C.Q.M.S. Winkle. Actually he is in H.Q., but he's also in the Company, so I must include him in the list. Corpl Manning and his wife from S.T.C. India ex the s.s. *Ballarat* on 5/12/34. Signalmen Rigby and Evans from Training Battalion.

Departures.—Sigmn Harding on discharge. Sigmn Clist on transfer as a " waxy " to the Royal Artillery. L/Corpl Hicks and Signalmen Hardy, Higgins, Watson and Kercher to India on 13/12/34. Nurmi, when you read these notes you will be in Loralai. Did you have a good trip ?

Finale.—There is nothing more of interest, so we will close with wishing a glorious and prosperous New Year to all at home and abroad. So long until next month. EASY II.

No. 2 Company.

Apologies.—We must apologise for the absence of notes during the past, and endeavour to see they are inserted in the future.

General.—As the leave season is upon us and individual training is in full swing, our numbers are few. We are hoping to put up a good show at the Trade Board which is being held in the near future.

Drafts.—We have supplied a few of our lads for service in Egypt, and on 13/12/34 we supply seven more for service in Punky: Signalmen Done, Brookes, Coulson, Hancock, Hague, Rosbotham and Brown. We wish them the very best and hope they will enjoy their Christmas on the water.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Tracey and Sergt Collins from the T.A. and Drivers Blain and Horton from the S.T.C.

Departures.—L/Corporal McKeer to the Depot Battalion on posting. C.S.M. Spong and Sergeants Sykes and Moore to the T.A.

Greetings.—We wish all members of the Corps at home and abroad a bright New Year,

No. 3 Company.

General.—First of all, we wish everyone at home and abroad a happy New Year.

Drafts.—The undermentioned folks will embark for India on 13/12/34 and we wish them the best of luck: Signalmen Cass, Copestake, Davies D., Falconer, Grant, Heap, Herberts, Jones, Lawson and Stubley.

Departures.—Signalmen Dickerson, Millington, Miles and Drane have left us for sunny Egypt. Corpl Brunton W. has gone to the frozen north: Catterick Camp—likewise our esteemed C.Q.M.S. Lawrenson G.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Robertson has arrived from the 42nd (East Lancs.) Divl Signals, T.A., and has now settled down to do a little soldiering. C.Q.M.S. Hobbs, Corpl Walker C. and Signalmen Robinson and Hood from the S.T.C. To all of them we extend the welcome hand and hope their stay with us will be a happy one.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Willis W. on his appointment as U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 28/11/34.

Sports.—For the third year in succession K Section have won the unit inter-Section football trophy. In the final, they beat L Section by 4—1 goals. Bear up, Red!

Leave.—The main body of the Company went on leave on Friday 14th December. All ranks are looking forward to spending Christmas at home and are busily preparing for it.

Horses.—We are gradually losing our long faced friends, and Corpl Camin is busy getting himself efficient at winding up the mechanical toys. Bear up, Freddie!

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.

Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

Greetings.—To all our readers at home, abroad and in the Dominions, a very happy and prosperous New Year. The best of health and good luck always.

General.—Apart from the usual whist drives and dances, life during the past month has been somewhat quiet. Most members are, no doubt, thinking of Christmas and the prospects of a spot of leave. Unfortunately, everybody can't get away at this time of the year. Some of the more fortunate gentlemen are getting ready to shake the dust of this big city from their shoes. The even more fortunate ones have already done so.

Drafts.—Still not much doing in this department. L/Sergt Mullins and some sixty other ranks, complete with sea kit bags and Bombay bowlers, left us for the land of perpetual sunshine (memories of Razmak in winter!) on the 13th December. Stout fellows. Not a bit superstitious. Let us hope they were able to enjoy their Christmas dinner.

By the time these notes appear in print, we hope that Captain R. H. R. Steward, Lieut. C. H. Stoneley, Sergt Mason A. and L/Sergeants Napier R. and Chalmers R., who form part of the Saar Signal Section, will be enjoying (!) themselves in the Saar. An unusual number of Mess members could have been observed indulging in " gunfire " in the mess before reveille on the 17th December. The drivers of the fourteen vehicles proceeding produced a very effective subsidiary ante-reveille.

Hatches and Matches.—Nil.

Departures and Arrivals.—These are much less numerous this month. On the 10th December we bade farewell to C.Q.M.S. Lawrenson, who left for the School of Signals. We wish him a pleasant stay in his new station. In his place, we welcome C.Q.M.S. Hobbs from the frozen north.

It is gratifying to learn that ex-C.Q.M.S. Johnson, late 1st Divl Signals, obtained employment very shortly after being discharged.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergeants Henshaw and Stevens, 1st Divl Signals, on becoming Mess members. The usual salutations and welcome.

Sport.—In our last notes, we omitted to state that the officers won against the w.o.s and sergeants in the relay race during the summer, thereby gaining two more points towards the Mudge cup. Omission regretted. This meant that in order to draw with the officers, it was necessary for the sergeants to win both

of the remaining events: the billiards and the miniature range shooting.

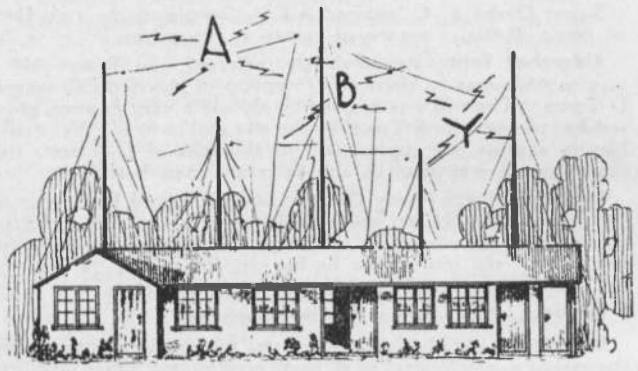
The officers were at home to the sergeants billiards team, officials, etc., on two successive Thursday evenings. On the first occasion the result was one game each, Captain G. W. Odell beating C.Q.M.S. (F.-of-S.) Ayton A. and Sergeant Kitchen H. beating Lieut. (Q.M.) W. Clark. On the second occasion, however, the sergeants won both games, C.Q.M.S. Yates W. beating 2/Lieut. R. Linton and Sergt Wheeler C. beating Lieut. A. R. Reeder.

According to tips, the chances in the miniature shooting are fairly even. Naturally, although we hope that the better team will win this last event, we are not without aspirations of sharing the final honours.

Social.—It has been decided to hold a social evening on Saturdays and an occasional Mess dinner. More of this anon.

Query.—What does ..-. ..-. ..-. ..-. form by re-arranging the spacing without altering the sequence of the symbols ?

No more this time. E.D.S.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling all Cads.—Bon jour, mon Cads (French). Another 365 days of trials and tribulations have just started, and on behalf of the Super-Cads, Cads and Cadettes of this Company I have much pleasure in wishing you all the best for 1935. If you are due for civvies this year, set the old school tie at a good job --and may you succeed. If, like me, you have to sweat on in a tough job, bear up, and may guards and orderly whatnots be very infrequent. I gather from *The Daily Slobberer* that our greatest tribulation in 1935 is likely to be scarlet and gold uniforms. Courage, mon amis. I've heard the rumour of " scarlet and gold next year " many times. An old soldier told me of it when I was a young soldier 'way back!

Gems of Science (Peg 8).—Sub-title: " He was only a draughtsman; or, a little knowledge gathers no moss." Question: How can I tell for certain when the accumulator is run down ? Answer: The plates turn pink and atmospherics increase.

Socialities.—An interesting ceremony was performed during the week following the election of the chief tea guzzler. Competition for this unique honour was very keen, and after a dead heat with Mahatma Toe Grip Macken Ji, Sigmn (Forked Lightning) Sinclair won the replay and was elected by a majority of one vote. Forked Lightning was confirmed in his appointment with much pomp and was gazetted class one grade A. The appointment is a much coveted one, as it carries with it the honour of emptying the tea pot and washing the cups.

Another auspicious occasion was that when the news came through that Sergt Bishop G. R. and Sigmn Williams L. had been awarded hockey " Jimmies " by the 1st Div. Congratulations to them both. Fancy our revered superintendent getting his first " Jimmy " at his age and with his figure! I let him beat me at golf that day just as a celebration.

Undetected.—Sergt (What a Man!) Bishop G. R. now sports a row of six on the left breast. This time it's the one for long service and undetected, etc. I'm not jealous, but what beats me is that he can walk about without blushing.

Bad Luck.—Corpl Durand A. has been posted from this unit to No. 3 Company A Corps Signals. Although we've lost him he's not gone, as he is still attached to this Company and occasionally his sweet face pops up to greet us. From a purely selfish point we can ill afford to lose him, as he is a great sticker at soccer.

Golf.—Modesty compels me to refrain from talking too much about this side of our social life, as I am without question the best exponent here. Those players with a jealous nature put my successes down to luck. They do not recognise that I have fought my way to the front by sheer grit (read my book " A Bogey Man," £3/3/4 net (advt.). Corpl Stanley, our unworthy clerk, who up till now has been regarded as the rabbit and easy meat for anyone, has gained renown by winning two matches in one month. He has the most amazing drive that I've ever seen. Defying Abe Mitchell's instructions on the way to drive, he grasps the club like a cricket bat, stands obliquely to the ball, closes his eyes, and at the moment of contact between ball and club he carries his left foot round just as though he were making a beautiful hit to the leg boundary. What beats me is that his drive always goes much straighter than mine.

Congratulations.—To our O.C., Captain H. H. Anthony, on having recovered from his illness. By the time these notes appear, we expect that he will be back to duty.

? ? ?—What do you think of the slogan at the beginning of these notes ? I saw it on a piece of paper and, being of a curious nature, found its meaning is " Courage in difficulties." I'm going to adopt it as my motto, as I think each WIRE scribe needs it.

We've Never Heard.—The Q.M. say " Never mind about detailing anyone for sheets ; I'll do it myself." The Fitter say " A pair of pliers ? Certainly. Only too pleased to lend them to you." The Operators say " I'll do your night duty." The Clerks say " Of course, you can have some blotting paper. Take two reams." The Superintendent say " O.k. Austin. You take the day off. I'll do the work." The Acting Superintendent say " Pompey are a rotten team." AUSTIN.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—I apologise most abjectly for not wishing you a merry Christmas last month. As it is too late now, I sincerely hope that you all *had* a merry Christmas, and I wish you all a prosperous and successful New Year.

The unit broke up for annual furlough on the 7th December, and we shan't meet again until the 5th January, so by the time these notes are in print, our holiday, to which we are looking forward so keenly, will be practically over.

For the past few weeks individual training has been in full swing and the consequent cold feet abounding. So far, no serious cases of frost bite have been reported, but one or two men have had to report sick owing to inability to take part in examinations and tests.

The instructors are doing their level best, I believe, to make up for any discomfort experienced by their protegees. One of them has gone so far as to give each of his students a hand-worked Christmas card containing, among other things, the Greek alphabet. I'm sorry to say that the instructor in question left the holly and mistletoe off the front page.

A thing has happened in this unit that is, I think, without precedent in the Corps. A certain junior n.c.o. has been promoted to storeman in one " go "—and they tell us there is no such thing as accelerated promotion. Still, he is doing his best to prove himself worthy of the honour. He achieves this by always wearing a very worried look and by counting the blankets every two hours. This is no mean achievement, considering that he has to carry a pocket step-ladder about with him for the latter purpose.

I have been asked by the competent authority to state that the imminent outbreak of influenza and cold in the nose, back, chest, etc., caused by the withdrawal of ground sheets from issue, has *not* yet broken out.

Old hands of the unit will be glad to hear that Harry Wells (can carrier) is no longer carrying cans.

Congratulations.—To Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., on being permitted to remain in the Service until the 30th December 1938.

To Sergt and Mrs. Tebby on being presented with a son (Bryan William) at the Military Families Hospital, Tidworth, on 8/11/34.

To Sigmn Chambers T. on passing the trade tests as instrument mechanic class ii., and to Signalmen Coates F. and Houghton T. as electrician fitters class ii.

To L/Corpl Lafford S. and Signalmen Rowse W. and Faulkner B. on obtaining their first class certificates of education.

To Sigmn Nicholas N. on passing in English, to Sigmn Freeman A. on passing in English, maths and map reading, and to Sigmn Linton J. on passing in English, maths (" D ") and map reading, towards their first class certificates of education.

To Sigmn Williams F. on being awarded his special certificate of education.

To Signalmen Wallwork H., Alltoft L. and Addlesee J. on being mustered in their respective trades.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—The undermentioned have joined our happy throng, and we hope their stay will be a very happy one. Sergt Atkinson and family from the Lowland Signal units (T.A.) Glasgow, on 15/11/34. Sergt MacDonnell from the 55th Divl Signals (T.A.) Liverpool, on 15/11/34. Sergt Smith from the 47th Divl Signals (T.A.) on 18/11/34. Sigmn Williams F. from the Training Battalion on 27/11/34.

Departures.—Sigmn Bristow S. to Mauritius per the s.s. *Garth Castle* on 8/11/34. Signalmen Yule J. and Perrins H. to Egypt per the *Neuralia* on 15/11/34. Corpl Ives H. to A Corps Signals on 10/11/34. L/Corpl Paling R. and Signalmen Adams W., Bailey E., Houghton T., Crossley E., Addlesee J., Liley A. and Barnes J. to India per the *Lancashire* on 13/12/34.

In Lighter Mood.—Well, well! I do declare our unit poet has come to earth again!

A D.R.'s Lament.

Two young D.R.s from A.F.V.
  Thought hiking was a bind,
And so they bought a motor bike
  The country lanes to blind.

Now, one fine day these two young lads
  A week-end pass did tender
To go to Swindon on the binge,
  Although their means were slender.

With one or two adjustments,
  They swiftly shot away
With hopes of reaching Swindon
  In style that very day.

Along the road they blinded,
  Creating quite a breeze,
When suddenly the driver found
  The handles on his knees.

There was no time to cogitate.
  They just were out of luck,
And in one gorgeous somersault
  Both riders " hit the muck."

Precisely what else happened, we
  Regret we cannot say,
Except that when they staggered up
  It seemed " a dirty day."

They are now a little older, and
  Their wounds are healing up.
They've decided, in the future,
  To stay at home and sup.

We Want to Know.—Is it true that surcingles are being issued in lieu of belts, waist ? How many blankets are actually in store ?

Agony.—To Thommo, 5th Div.: What for no write this long time, please ? May be fader's lonch too heavy. Mad Mervin.

RUSTYKID.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—The arrival of the 12th Royal Lancers from Egypt on the 8th December caused a little activity in Candahar Barracks. Training was held in abeyance for a few days in order to assist the Regiment.

The first period of individual training has finished, and the majority of the Troop have proceeded on furlough.

In connection with the Saar, the 12th Royal Lancers are providing a composite squadron of armoured cars and are due to leave Tidworth on the 31st December. Several members of the Troop are proceeding with the Squadron in order to provide W/T communication. We may shortly be able to produce a foreign correspondent.

Departures.—On the 3rd December L/Corpl Norton J. (Badgy) proceeded to Macclesfield, where he is taking up residence on his discharge. L/Corpl Norton has completed twenty-three years in the Service, eight of which were with the Corps. We take this opportunity of wishing him the very best of luck in civvy street, and trust that he will not forget to drop an occasional line to the Troop.

Signalmen Cox A. C. and Dempsey R. A. C. (inst. mech.) proceeded to the A.F.V. Signals pending embarkation to the China Command. They are due to embark on the 19th January. We trust that their sojourn in the mystic East will not be marred by the too frequent appearance of Shroffs and Shylocks on number four pay day.

Sigmn Clarke A. C. rejoined A.F.V. Signals on the 14th Dec. on being allotted a vocational course at Hounslow.

Aldershot Trip.—As previously indicated, the Troop paid a visit to Aldershot on the 17th November to play football against D Troop. The trip was enjoyed by all, and a very exciting game resulted in a win for F Troop by the odd goal in five. We should like to express our appreciation to all ranks of D Troop, and hope that we may soon be able to return their hospitality.

Courses.—Corpl Penny C. and L/Corpl Lafford E. are due to proceed to Catterick on the 13th January, having been allotted vacancies on the n.c.o.s W/T course. L/Corpl Allen was also destined for the course, but he has decided to cast the light of his countenance upon the inhabitants of the Saar.

Arrivals.—Side curtains for the kingfisher.

Conclusion.—Although a trifle late, we should like to extend the season's compliments to all past, present and future members of the Corps.

R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Best wishes to all members of the Corps for this festive season, and particularly to all old members of this unit.

There is little to report this month. The Big Dig is still with us, and we have just completed our first fourteen days of this entertainment. Another three weeks of it has to be endured in March.

The A.D.V.S. Southern Command inspected the horses of this unit this month, and was full of praise for their condition and appearance. If the mechanisation programme holds good, we will be losing some thirty of our present horses during the next six months.

The Big Dig, 1934.

Sergeants Mess.—It is hoped that a word or two from the Mess will appear as a regular feature under our notes. If some of the members could write half as well as they can talk, there would be little or no difficulty in filling the space.

Old members will be interested to learn that the Mess is beginning to look more like a West End Club. New blue curtains at all windows have replaced the faded old timers. The piano has been moved into the big room, together with the silver cabinet. Many new chairs, including the large easy type, have made a welcome appearance, and friends in the district are invited to give us a call and an inspection. Interior painting will be carried out at an early date. Someone suggested that we should do it ourselves to pass away the winter evenings, but on investigation it was found that passing away the evening presented no problem at all to the majority.

Whist drives and dances are held monthly, and we are hoping that a few more of our members will support the shows. The problem, of course, is getting home afterwards, so we cannot blame them too much.

A certain C.S.M. wishes it to be widely known that he hasn't had a week-end for nearly a fortnight.

There is a good deal of healthy competition among the members for the job of sergeant i/c digging party, especially while the rain is doing its best. We do not know whether this rivalry exists among the subalterns or not. The well-known entertainers, Joe (Bodyline) Brooke and Bob (Advertisement) Barlow, are often in the mess with the piano and saxophone, but the members are powerless to do anything about it.

This month's fairy story: Harry Ayres missed his dinner to-day.

All old Jubbites here wish C.Q.M.S. Sam Weller and his bride the best of luck and happiness for the future. It took us all day to recover from the shock, Sam.

We are holding our own in the Garrison Sergeants Mess Billiards and Snooker League. Up to date (the half-way stage) we are at the top of the table and level on points with the 5th Light Brigade R.A.—23 each. We are going to make a special endeavour to bring back the cup which we so narrowly lost last season. Several very interesting games have taken place, and the teams have been composed of players of experience, who are fast becoming old stagers at this line of sport.

Billiards team—C.S.M. Thomas and L/Sergeants Luck, Brooke and Barraclough. Snooker team—R.S.M. Harrison, R.Q.M.S. Adcock, and L/Sergeants Butcher and Ayres.

Corporals Room.—Once again the time has come for more spilling of ink, so we must spill.

First of all, we are very glad to welcome Corpl Chappell to our fold. Many members are finding that he can scatter the pills and darts to wherever he decides.

Our annual big dig has ceased for the present year, and many aching backs are being rested at various health resorts.

Our local scribe having donned festive apparel and " gone the bundle " with leave party No. 2, many words of wisdom have been held over for a few weeks.

We wish all comrades, near and far, a happy New Year and much " up and up " the ladder of fame in the near future.

FOGBOUND.

Titfor.—Plum has not forgotten his beloved (?) brother who went East. A sadly depleted suitcase kit is a constant reminder. Having wasted approximately forty sheets of perfectly good stationery, two brand new stamps, and a considerable amount of mental energy in unavailing efforts to establish communication, he now sinks to the same depth as the said brother, as is here evident. He further is desirous of knowledge. How many letters does a young soldier have to write to one six months his senior before he is entitled to recognition ?

Arrivals.—Corpl Chappell from the 2nd Divl Signals. Driver Pleasants from the Depot. Signalmen Collett G., Law G. and Roger A. from India.

Departures.—L/Sergeants Watt and Barraclough have left us for the 43rd Divl Signals (T.A.). Corpl Adams to the 2nd Divl Signals. Sigmn Barnecutt to civvy street.

Marriages.—Sigmn Excell to Monica Agnes Butler, at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Pokesdown, Bournemouth, on the 15th October. Sigmn Lee R. T. to Edith Rose Blake, at the Register Office, Andover, on the 10th November.

Medals.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Harrison, Sgt O'Connor and Sigmn Meehan on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal.

Courses.—Sigmn Andrews to a teleprinter course at Dollis Hill. L/Sergt Butcher to a gas course at Winterbourne Gunner.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corpl Coles promoted Corporal 17/10/34, and L/Corpl Johnson 1/11/34. U/L/Corpl West to be Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster 29/9/34, and U/L/Corporal Kings 17/10/34.

Education.—We congratulate the following on obtaining certificates of education as shown. L/Corpl Sutcliffe, special. First class, Corpl Clarke, Corpl Jones (" D " in geography), Corporal McKenzie, Sigmn Sellers, Sigmn Dowding, Sigmn Davenport (" D " in maths), Sigmn McLoughlin E. (" D " in maths), Driver Morton.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Furlough is still in full swing, and the lucky ones who drew for the second batch have now left for their month and Christmas at home. The remainder are struggling along with plenty of duty and work. One individual was heard to remark " Roll on, mechanisation, and then we can all have leave at Christmas."

During the month the unit was inspected by both the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command and the G.O.C. 4th Division.

Individual training starts on the 2nd January. This year special attention will be paid to the training of operators for No. 1 sets and light car drivers. In addition, courses will be held for upgrading, and if possible a ride.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Norcross and Sigmn Dobson from Egypt. Signalmen Teasdale and Reen from S.T.C. Catterick.

Departures.—The following have left for the sunny plains of India: Signalmen Anderson J., Collings R., Hyett H., Madder B., Williams J., Strong S., Munslow J. and Turner H. Bon voyage!

Courses.—The following have left us to take up courses as shown. L/Corpl Walton, stable management. Sigmn Yates J., G.P.O. Sigmn Blackburn G., hygiene. L/Cpl Holsey J., M.T.

Appointments.—Corpl Hunt N. to be L/Sergeant. U/L/Cpl Park D. to be L/Corporal. Congratulations!

Greetings.—To all ranks at home and abroad, a prosperous New Year.

MASKEE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The first all ranks dance to be held by the unit in Canterbury took place on Friday 7th December in the canteen, and we are sure everyone had a pleasant time, although the floor was rather crowded. We wonder who was the girl who, as she passed the guard room on her way home, looked through the window and said to her escort " Poor boys! sleeping on iron beds."

Nothing of note has happened in the Company since the last notes were written, but duties come round quicker and quicker as men go away on furlough. Everyone is hoping to get Christmas leave, but a lot are due for a shock. We hope those staying behind will have a pleasant time.

Trooping.—On the 13th December we said good-bye to Signalmen Bruce, Barran, Cox, Duggan, Hunt, Hanlon, Hatton, Harding, Donaghy, Woollett and Wilson W. J., who are leaving us for India. We wish them the best of luck in their new stations.

Command.—2/Lieut. A. C. R. Stead has taken over the reins of the Company (both of them) from Captain W. M. Clapp, M.B.E., who is enjoying a month's leave in South Africa prior to embarking for India.

Marriages.—We congratulate Sigmn Pipe H. on his marriage to Miss G. Baker at Canterbury on 27/11/34. Sigmn Moase R. is also taking the plunge with Miss B. J. S. Wishart on the 19th December, and we congratulate him in advance.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Hudson W. and Taylor J. to the Company on their arrival from Catterick.

Agony.—We wonder what made Joe Kells return from a month's leave after one short (and hectic ?) week-end.

TOOCADS.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Very general, in fact. Like the miscellaneous file, it covers a multitude: last hope, sort of.

I am afraid these notes will be shorter than usual owing to lack of material and time (furlough, of course). Furlough and drafting appear to be the main topics of the day. The main party proceeds on furlough on the 21st December and will therefore have the pleasure of Christmas and the New Year at home. Speaking of Christmas reminds me of my negligence, and I apologise for forgetting to pass on the compliments of the season to all readers. However, the wish was there, if silent.

On the 12th December we wished bon voyage to nineteen other ranks on their departure for India. As they will have reached their destination before the January issue of THE WIRE appears, no mention of their names need be made, except one: Gray of "Gray's Fables." This bright youth is to spend his five years holiday with A Corps Signals at Karachi, and will no doubt find ample scope for his weakness. As an operator he can be managed, but if his fables reach Westminster his name will be appearing as "re-mustered from O.S. to M.P. and transferred to Westminster accordingly."

Ideas.—I thought I should have been stumped for material, but thinking back gave me an idea. This idea of photographs emblematical of units has its possibilities. Take this unit, for instance. How about the Registrar's office, floodlit, or the altar approached by a stretch of red carpet ?

A photograph of Catterick as it is offers little inducement to an intending recruit. A few of the Alps might be transferred from Switzerland, or a snap of the Corps Band broadcasting from the North Regional would strike a happier note.

Can you not fancy the 4th Div. being surmounted by three bells—horticultural, musical and Scarborough variety. There must be some of the latter in evidence, or why move from Colchester ?

Ireland has me beaten. I have only spent three months there, and it rained every day. Tombstones are indicated.

The field abroad offers plenty of scope. Quetta (and surrounding country) would be incomplete without its hills, and I would suggest D.R.s (including the Karachi wallahs) traversing rough country: none of your Quetta—Kuchlach—Pishin road. There's no kick in that stretch.

D.I.K. should definitely be surmounted by a row of scent bottles, for if ever a place smells, that does, and there is no other like it (thank goodness!)

I could carry on like this for pages, but will be satisfied to close with a safe 100 to 1 on tip: What about Peshawar Dist. being overlooked by the Khyber ?

Social.—Ladies first. The new departure in the way of ladies' social afternoons appears to be very welcome, and the winter programme attractive. This is composed of competitions, lectures and socials.

The first competition consisted of making any kind of article at a cost not exceeding one shilling. This was won by Mrs. Wathen, who produced a child's coat and shoes. Sigmn Wathen would also appear to be a good knitter.

At the next gathering a lecture was given on chenille rug making, and some useful hints were given and received.

The next competition held demanded a toy, home made, at a cost not exceeding one shilling. The help of husbands was allowed, and away crept Mrs. Wathen with the first prize again. Well done!

The next competition takes the form of making a cake. No prizes are offered for naming the winner.

Gentlemen's Department.—Our social took the form of a boxing tournament. Altogether, thirteen fights were staged, including two exhibition bouts.

Sigmn Newman J. (ex-Royal Sussex Regiment) and Driver McGregor (ex-Corps champ come-back) proceeded to amuse and instruct the audience. Our first vision of these contestants was a sylph-like figure in a patterned blue silk dressing gown and wearing black boxing tights. After that, the audience were entitled to a good demonstration—and they got it.

The next exhibition bout was given by Sigmn Nicholson W. and Boy Burton of Scarborough. This also was a very good fight.

The results of the finals in the novices bouts were as follows: Heavy, Sigmn Cartwright S. beat Sigmn Rudge. Light, Sigmn Thompson J. beat Sigmn Taylor. Middle, Sigmn Ford beat L/Corporal Thom. Welter, Sigmn Boon beat Sigmn Shreeve. Feather, Sigmn Watson beat Sigmn Evans.

Cups and medals were presented to the winners and runners-up respectively by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C. Sigmn Edmunds received the prize for the best loser—and he earned it.

This was the first tournament held for about two years, and great credit is therefore due to those who organised such a splendid entertainment. I am sure that all will look forward to another at an early date. Many thanks are due to those who came from outside the unit to help: Captain Kennett from the S.T.C. who acted as referee, and Messrs. F. Clark and H. H. Robinson (both members of the Northern Counties Amateur Boxing Association) who acted as judges.

During the interval an old Corps boxer (ex-Sigmn Govier) was introduced to the community. In reply to the applause which greeted his appearance, he said the best six years of his life had been spent in the Corps (more applause).

Undoubtedly a great evening—a triumph for the promoters, and well worth repeating.

Our next item on the programme, gentlemen, will be the concert on the 17th December—too late for this month's notes.

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Owing to our usual scribe sojourning somewhere at the back of beyond, I have been elected to carry on the good work until his return.

All the strange faces have disappeared on the conclusion of the Trade Boards. The following are to be congratulated on their success in the tests: Sigmn Leedham on attaining his B.i., and Corpl Wootton and Signalmen Roy and Watson on gaining their B.ii.

Arrivals.—We take this opportunity of welcoming Sergeant Washford from the 50th Divl Signals (T.A.) Darlington, Sigmn O'Neill from Egypt, Sigmn Lawley from Scarborough, and Signalmen Gray, Faulkner and Davidson from the Training Battalion. We hope their stay with us will be long and pleasant.

Departures.—Sergt Goodman has left us for the 50th Divl Signals (T.A.) Darlington, and Signalman Lowday has gone to Scarborough.

Corpl O'Brien, Signalmen Hale, Morrison, Parkinson, Jones, Miscummons and Leedham have decided on a five years vacation in India. We would like to know if Jones still thinks of the sea as dark, restless and romantic.

Operators' Howlers.—A message had been sent with part of the text reading "Owing to faulty transmitter." The receiving operator came back with "Check filthy." Phew! was it a bad one, or was it —— ?

Scottish Mail.—What colour will you be in five years' time, Jock ? All the best from the Leek and Shamrock.

Bonzo: How's the bad hand ? Stevo.

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 2. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

The unit has now settled down in winter quarters in Rawalpindi and looks forward to the collective training period, which this year promises to give us interesting schemes to work out.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Lydamore from A Corps Signals, Karachi. Corpl Hudson and Sigmn Brown J. R. from Waziristan District Signals. Sigmn Kent from 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Sergt Broadhead, L/Sergt Tennant and Corporal Muir from six months leave in the United Kingdom. Mrs. Frampton and Mrs. Lombard from U.K. to help with the marriage allowance and ration problems. To all we extend the glad hand of welcome and hope their stay with us will be happy and long.

Departures.—Sigmn Evans W. to 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Sigmn Hargreaves to Waziristan District Signals.

The first two drafts have left us for Blighty, most of these being for transfer to the Army Reserve. To all we wish the best of luck, and may the dole be kind to you old sweats.

Births.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Watford a son at Murree on 3/10/34. To W.O. Instructor and Mrs. MacLaren (A.E.C.) a son at Murree on 18/10/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. Copeman a daughter at Rawalpindi on 14/11/34.

Marriages.—Sigmn Delaney to Miss Phyllis States at Rawalpindi on 14/11/34. The best of luck, Johnny, and may all your troubles be little ones.

Entertainments.—An O.C.A. dance was held in the regimental theatre on 24/10/34, and I am sure everyone will agree that it was a first class evening's entertainment. The floor was rather crowded, but not too much so. Our thanks are due to our Branch representative (Sergt Smith R. M. T.) for the very able way in which he carried out all arrangements for such a fine show. We are all hoping to have more dances like this in the near future.

Sport.—Enclosed are photographs of our two football teams: the rugger team who put up such a fine show in Calcutta, and the soccer team with the Durand and Buffalo trophies.

Finale.—In closing, we should like to mention that Crash, our bed carrier cum coolie cum bath orderly—in fact, cum anything likely to produce a few extra pice—passed away after a very short illness. Most of his life had been spent in these barracks, and there are quite a number of old Bekorites at home who will remember him.

Two of our mild " poets " have submitted verses for which we hope the Editor may find room. It is so unusual for people to offer help in compiling THE WIRE notes that I was nearly dumbfounded when I got these.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE GONE HOME.

[*Dedicated to Simmo from Smudger.*]

The lads are gone, but the songs they sang
Linger on and re-echo again ;
A whisper of wind in the sheltering trees ;
The heat of the Plains with no pleasant breeze.

A MEDICAL ORDERLY'S LAMENT.

The cold of old England is not to compare
With the chill of the mornings in Pindi, I fear.
When Frampton and Denyer take P.T. parades,
I hear muttered curses 'midst " Arms upward raise."

At sick parade time a crowd soon collects
To find new excuses the M.O. to pexplex—
Pain in the tummy's an old one, I fear,
And caused very often by much Murree beer.

The castor oil bottle is placed on the shelf,
Awaiting the man who committeth himself
By having wrong symptoms to bear out the tales
That he tells the M.O. with simpering wails.

Yes, the medical orderly's wise to the trick
Of dodging parades by reporting " sick "—
He tells the M.O. of the dodges there be
Relating to sickness. O.k!!! M. and D.

—WHITEY.

Corporals Mess.

I know I have neglected to forward notes from this branch recently, but things have been going very smoothly and there has not been very much to record.

The mess in Topa was a very pleasant one and we had some enjoyable evenings there. The entertainments were fairly well attended, and consequently our funds gradually accumulated, leaving a nice margin to be spent. Naturally the members wanted a smoker. This was very well attended, and some talent that had previously been hidden came to light among our younger members. It was a very enjoyable evening, but the next morning feverish foreheads and sticky tongues were well to the fore.

In the sports line we have nothing to record. After their last defeat, the Sergeants Mess do not seem to like the idea of meeting the Corporals at hockey or football. Perhaps they are getting too old for these strenuous exercises.

There is not much to say about the Mess except that I do wish some of the members would give me material for notes occasionally. They all seem to think that I have only to sit down at a typewriter and ideas flow straight on to the keys. All WIRE correspondents, however, realise that such is not the case.

DENNY.

HE WHO HESITATES IS LOST ! !

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1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Friday 9th November.

General.—Our absence from the pages of the Corps Journal for the last three months is greatly regretted, but notes have for some reason been unavoidably delayed or lost in the post.

Training.—The unit is at present in the throes of Company training, in preparation for the unit camp which takes place at Mandra between the 1st and 15th of this month.

The advance party consisting of one n.c.o. and nineteen British and Indian other ranks left on the morning of the 29th October, with ten three-ton lorries loaded with tentage and camp stores, to prepare for the arrival of the rest of the unit, who were to leave Rawalpindi on the 1st November and carry out a two-day attack scheme en route. arriving at Mandra on the afternoon of the 2nd November. Further details and notes referring to the camp will be given in next month's contribution.

Entertainments.—The Rawalpindi Branch of the Old Comrades Association held its opening dance of the season in the regimental theatre on the 26th October. This was a great success. The committee were very sorry that the floor space was limited, which necessitated invitations being also limited. The theatre was tastefully decorated and the floor was in capital condition. The music was rendered by Materson's Melody Makers, who played no small part in making the evening enjoyable. The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of Sergt and Mrs. W. S. Smith, assisted in a very able manner by the committee, and all are to be congratulated on the results of their efforts.

Our next dance is booked for the 28th November, and it is hoped that the committee will be as well supported as they were on the previous occasion.

Departures.—Four B.O.R.s have left us for that happy land Blighty per H.M.T. *Nevasa*. Signalmen McGuigan and Leeming have been invalided home after a short sojourn with the unit. Sergt Nicholls and Sigmn Blake to discharge. Our hearty wishes go with them to their new spheres of activity, and to the two first named for a speedy recovery of health and strength.

Signalmen Roscoe and Mathews to Waziristan District Signals. It is hoped that the columns and bumps will make a pleasant change for them.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Phillips and McGratten from Waziristan District Signals in exchange for the above pair. We hope the transfer will never be regretted by either during their sojourn with us.

Agony.—To Corpl Taffy Dodd, late of this unit: What has happened, Taffy ? The post is now cheaper than it was. What about a line ? Sergeant Smith W. S. ONEDIV.

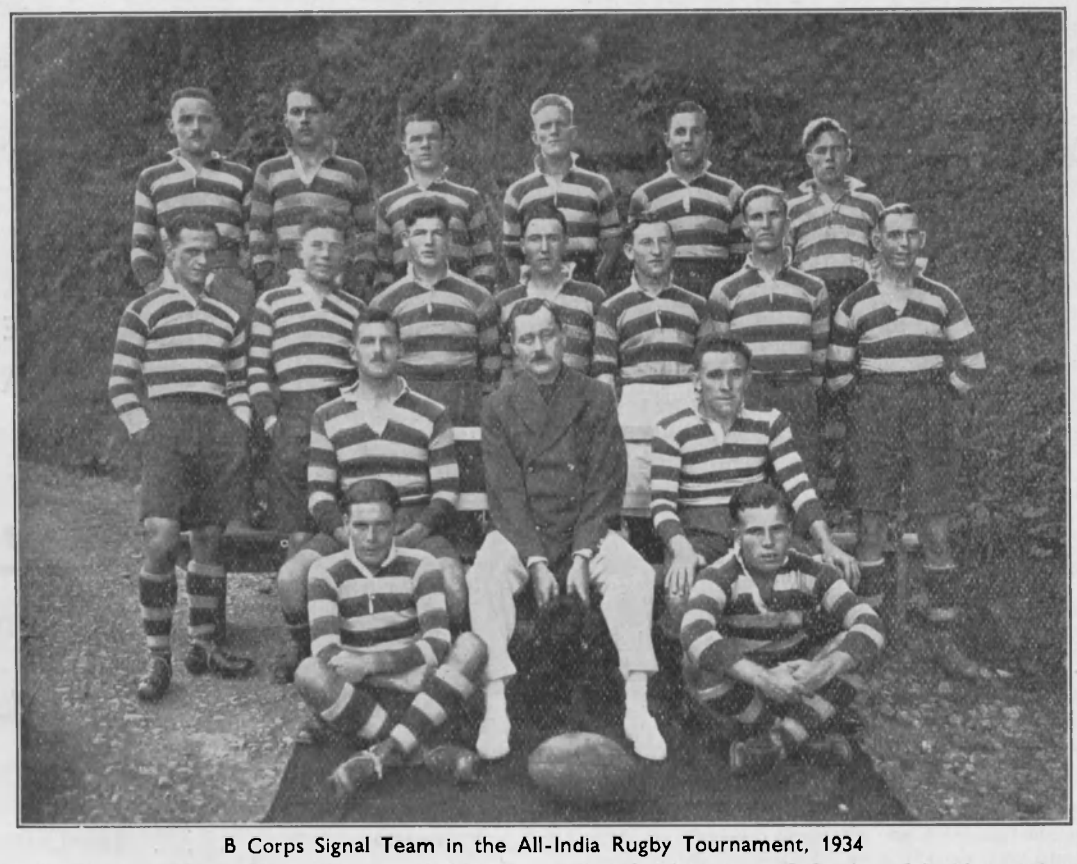
Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters, Dera Ismail Khan.

Saturday 1st December.

The main notes of this Section should come under the heading of " Social "—social functions being very much to the fore nowadays. Since the last notes we have had several, the main event being the Armistice ball held at the D.I.Khan Club on the 10th November. The worst of it, though, was the church parade next morning. I seem to remember several outbreaks of nerves when the time gun went off.

The ball was well attended by all ranks, and the out-stations sent in their bright boys as representatives. It was a very good



B Corps Signal Team in the All-India Rugby Tournament, 1934

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Signalmen Young M. and Ransome, L/Corpl Johns, Signalmen Barton, Murrell and Hurst.

Centre—Corpl Broadhead, L/Corpl Lennon, Signalmen Delaney, Dologhan and Harrison, L/Corpl Noble, Sigmn Glynn.

Seated—Lieutenant Clarke (captain), Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., Sergeant Richards.

On ground—Signalmen Sims E. and Cox.

show—as many of the fat heads next day will testify. The unit was well represented on all sides. Mrs. Bew and Mrs. Double ran a couple of side shows, while the pay bloke, assisted by two others, ran the B.O.R.s bar, our O.R.S. also assisting in the n.c.o.s bar. When the results of the various swindles became known, it was surprising to note that we were in those as well. Sigmn Butterworth carried off the cake but didn't know what to do with it ; Sigmn Moaitt won a cash prize in what was obviously a swindle ; and last, but not least, Mrs. Bew and Mrs. Double came in for prizes as well.

Regarding our own " do's," we have had a smoker for the B.O.R.s and a games tournament. Both went off well. An all ranks dance was also held, for which great credit is due to the committee for the hard work they put in, and also to the band who were called on to do the musical side when the panatrope broke down.

The Sergeants Mess are running a social and dance each week-end, and here " Eyes down for a full house " is heard quite frequently. Mrs. Bew officiated as caller and was quite good on the " dinkey doo " and " lucky for some." The takings go towards the kiddies' Christmas party, which is a good cause, after all.

After throwing a scare into us, the G.O.C. carried out his thrice threatened inspection. It was held at short notice—before breakfast, too—but we came through o.k.

The annual musketry has been fired, and the first class shots are either telling us when they first did it or are ordering a larger size in topees. The first day's firing took place on " a morning after the night before," and the Lancers were well represented. One member of the butt party, when told to hoist the red flag on top of the bank, tried to ride up on a bicycle—with dire results. Having succeeded in getting to the top on foot, he found he was too short to reach the flag and had to come down again.

Part II. Orders have been feverishly scanned of late, but now that all the extra pice have been allotted we'll have to wait until next year before we get any more budding class i.'s. We still have a number sweating, though, but they are all in possession of the blue book and an indelible pencil.

People must like the life here. Our repatriation roll is dwindling, and we look like making the Officer i/c Records busy with A.F.s B.221.

I could finish off this sheet with " Agonies," but as I have to let the Sergeants Mess have their say, I'll just suggest that anyone in the Corps owing anyone here a letter should do his stuff and save another Frontier war.

Sergeants Mess.—The Sergeants Mess opening ball, held on the 31st October, proved a huge success, particularly as the G.C.C. (Major-General D. E. Robertson, C.B., D.S.O.) and the staff from headquarters arrived in force. The " card dance " caused some merriment, and also anxious moments, when it was discovered that there were two couples still on the floor with only one card left. On enquiries being made, it was found that Major C. B. Barlow (our G.S.O.2) hadn't a card but had joined in the dance with his partner—well! just for the sake of the dance—and of course enjoyed it from start to finish, whilst some unfortunates were " tipped off " practically as soon as the dance started. Very well thought out! There's something in being a *p.s.c.* after all.

The new Mess building proved its worth on the occasion of this dance. The whole of the floor space was utilised for dancing, whilst the lawn, with some 80 and 160-pounders, provided splendid sitting out accommodation. Fairy light, palms and

B Corps Signal Football Team, winners of the Durand and Buffalo Tournaments, 1934

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Sgt Frampton, Sigmn Hislop, L/Corporals Statham and MacFarlane, Signalmen Walsh, Sinclair and McNulty, Corporal Denyer.

Centre—Sigmn Jones H., R.S.M. Wray G. M.M., L/Corpl Cant (captain), Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., Captain Harries, L/Sergt Smith, Sigmn Fleming.

Front—L/Corporal Managhan, Signalmen Nichol and Thomas, L/Corporal Jarvis.

plants, etc., just brought this part of the proceedings up to perfection.

Here I must mention that Sergt Applegate and Corpl Watts are the entertainments committee, and they certainly did their stuff, assisted by the usual crowd who always want to do something at these shows.

* * * *

Of course she had " writ," which helped matters considerably.

Signals in D.I.K. and their Jobs.

To the O.C. W.D. Signals. I shall be obliged if you would please arrange for the destruction of a blind donkey which is sent herewith. (*Signed*) x x x x x x.

[Enclr/ one donkey]

Wana Signal Section.

The continued absence of notes from this Section is very much regretted, but various activities have intervened to occupy our time.

The first three days in October saw the Section taking part in a cross-country column to Inzar, where the final stage of the march out is a climb up a steep rocky narai to the camping site.

The second week in October was taken up by weapon training, and the reputation of several dead-eyed lads seemed in danger of eclipse, but they all managed to put up a respectable score.

On the 12th October the annual reliefs arrived, and the older hands in large numbers departed for H.Q. Since then the newcomers have been employed chiefly in training on the No. 1 sets, which have proved very useful—especially from the point of view of the V/T terminals.

The Christmas Forage Party.

The Odyssey of the poultry fanciers certainly deserves mention. Three intrepid spirits set off for Bannu on the 1st November in a Ford of ancient vintage, the property of Sigmn Hoyle, for the purpose of buying the Section's Christmas poultry. They got there quite safely, and after a stay of two days started their return journey with two cages of ducks and fowls perched on the hood. But ill-luck dogged them, for with a defective inflator they suffered five punctures in the deserted Bain Pass, the sand-strewn surface of which, in conjunction with dangerous curves, is not conducive to safe cornering on soft tyres. They struggled along for five miles on a soft tyre, and when that went down they managed a further five miles with it flat. After the last burst, one went ahead in a " flying accha " to Tank, to get a spare tube. In his absence the others, realising that necessity and invention have a certain relationship, stuffed the cover with a blanket and proceeded a further five miles until the blanket and wheel parted company, when they continued on the bare rim. Two miles further on this fell apart, just when the spare tube arrived. They completed the journey from Tank on the following day—not, however, without a further puncture two miles from Wana. By that time they were heartily fed up and ran in on a flat tyre. Since that date the fact that half of the chicken have given up the ghost has not improved their popularity.

On the 9th November a small party proceeded to D.I.K. for the Armistice ball on the following day. They had quite a good time, although this function did not appear to be so crowded as on previous occasions. We have not yet heard the results from the treasurer's viewpoint.

On the morning of the 16th November we awoke to find the first snow of the season covering the higher slopes of the hills. We are now preparing for the rigours of winter.

After many weary months, our new canteen is at last completed, and we are looking forward to a house-warming celebration. We can therefore offer no further " vocs " to aspiring bricklayers or plasterers.

Entertainments.—These are pretty rare in Wana, and all we have had lately were the Murphy Brothers, who give a combined show of trick shooting, conjuring and motor-cycle stunting. The shooting was pretty good and we would certainly have let them cart a " first," but the stunt riding, although quite thrilling for the unsophisticated sepoy, left us cold, especially as the Section D.R. was an ex-member of the Training Battalion Olympia team.

Local Conversations.—Cook to cook-orderly: " What for tea, sahib ? makhan roti ?" " Yes." " Accha sahib, makhan not got."

Canteen hand: " Not got fish paste—only meat paste." " All right! what sort ?" " Sardine and tomato."

Cheerio.

WANASIGS.

Razmak Signal Section.

" Many are cold and many are frozen." A more appropriate Biblical quotation (though slightly modified, like most things for India) would be hard to find when alluding to Razmak now that we are once more in the depths of winter, and the topics of the day are confined to coal issues and Christmas. We have already had a slight fall of snow, but fortunately it did not quite reach the camp—probably due to the fact that Razmak has the geographical advantage of being situated in a valley.

Our commanding officer, Captain R. H. Wall, has just left us for a brief spell in the United Kingdom, and we take this opportunity of wishing him bon voyage and a pleasant leave.

We most heartily welcome back our old Section officer, Lieut. P. J. Palmer, who has just returned from leave at home. We regretfully learn that his stay with us will not be a long one, but we sincerely hope that we shall have him with us again this Christmas so that we may have his able assistance in making it as great a success as last year.

Our second-in-command, Lieut. R. G. Yolland, is still on leave and (we all hope) having a very enjoyable time. We are anxiously waiting to hear his glowing (or otherwise) accounts of the glamorous Far East.

In Lighter Vein.—An I.O.R. of this Section was recently detailed to collect eighty-four poppies from the S.S.O.s office for Armistice Day. On receipt of the order, he asked if he might be given a large basket and at least one more assistant to help him. On being questioned as to why he required this further assistance, he replied " Please, sir, how possibly I can single-handed carry so many dog's children (puppies) without a somewhat large and spacious basketing."

Several individuals in the Section have become quite practical lately. One—a Welshman by force of habit—has found a new use for Lux: he actually bathes in it. This is probably because he has heard that it is a preventative against shrinking. If this is the case we can't blame him, as he certainly can't afford to lose much ; and then, again, we would miss those rather striking orange and mauve silk pyjamas if he had, through lack of height, to be relegated to the ducks.

Training.—Though there have been no actual columns during the last month, there have been several Brigade tactical exercises which at times have been rather strenuous but on the whole have been enjoyed by all (so Spud tells me)—the consolation being that after a hard day, one is assured of a decent kip, which is oh! so dear to a soldier's heart. Ask me!

Armistice Day.—A combined church parade for a drum-head service was held on the Durham football ground on Armistice Day. The service, being non-denominational, was well attended by all the B.O.R.s and Christian I.O.R.s of the Section. The Church of England padre conducted the service, and the band

and buglers were provided by the 1st Battn The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. The two minutes silence was observed during the service, at the conclusion of which the parade marched past Brigadier Marshall, D.S.O., O.B.E., commander of the Razmak Brigade, who took the salute.

Sport.—We have, as usual, been having plenty in the way of sport during the last month, hockey of course being the chief game played. Our " Blue Birds," a combined team of British and Indian ranks, came up against a fairly strong team from the 1st D.C.L.I. the other day and, much to the surprise of all, left the aforesaid " foot-sloggers " standing with a score of 4—2 in favour of the Signals.

Shop.—A little bird has whispered that we shall very soon be losing some of the lads of the old brigade. L/Corpl Dunlop (Duncan or Dunbody) to the home establishment ; Sigmn (Ispud) Murphy to the Army Reserve ; and last, though by no means least, Sigmn (Ginger) Barringer M.B. (Raz) to—well, ask him yourself. He may have made up his mind ere these notes are in print—by which time also, if Dame Rumour be not a fickle jade, the above-mentioned locals should be well on the way to the Blighty cantonment. If they are, we wish them the very best of luck and prosperity in the New Year. If they are still here, well! it serves them right.

L/Corpl Shepherd and Sigmn Barton will also be leaving us about the same time for six months leave in England. I very nearly said " Lucky blighters," but I have just remembered that I shall probably pass them on their way back on the *Chupatee*, or some such liner, and have the satisfaction of reminding them in the time-honoured way that they are going the wrong way. Roll on!

Sigmn (Chippy) Carpenter is earnestly hoping that the gods are good and that he will be able to go on a vacational—sorry! I mean vocational training course at gay old Lahore (where the good niggers go). He deserves a pat on the back for this step, for after all, how can a man die better ?

Communications: Hebrew.—To F. D. (Wana): How long has Lahore been on the Frontier ?

To McWarad: Have you heard the Avis singing lately ?

To S.V.M. (Trimulgherry): If you write to the late Supt. C. R., in the words of the great Benegal he will let you have it for 2/8.

To all whom it may concern: Watch your bolts. And here endeth the lesson. SHELAMAC.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Bleak and unfriendly winds cut viciously down the Kurram Valley these days, and as P.T. parade falls in it seems as if all these winds congregate to form a vortex of icy blasts around nude calves and shivering knees. Every odd Saturday morning sees black-faced white men and blacker-faced black ones leaving a load of nuts outside people's back doors—" coal issue, up!" All this is significant of Kohat in November. Only the flowers and the crispness of the day, especially in the morning when the hunt is up, fully compensate for these lesser evils.

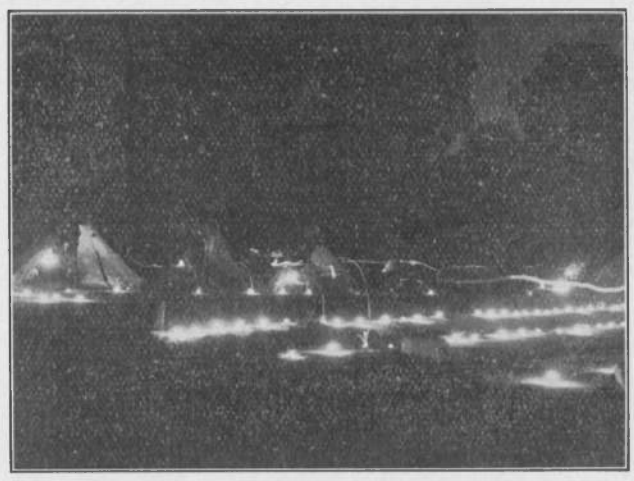
New Blood.—Into the unit, into D Section, into the rugger and hockey teams, and to enthuse the band, Lieut. G. U. Finney has come amongst us, fresh from home. As he arrived on Armistice Day, we hope he will soon settle down and that his stay will be peaceful, even though we have welcomed him with a unit camp just prior to Christmas.

Blood Transfusion.—We regretfully pass Lieut. H. Worrall on to Quetta on permanent transfer. We trust that he will be as happy there as we were to have him here.

L/Sergt Starling has returned to his nest, having rejoined from Jubbulpore looking fitter than when he went down. What a pity that silvery ripple will be absent at the Jubb. Christmas tree! but we need him here, too.

We mentioned last month that L/Corpl West had rejoined us from Poona Signal School, but it must be of interest to many to know that he cakewalked a Q.1 with a " distinguished " certificate: undoubtedly an n.c.o. of signal abilities.

K Section, complete with the monkey (whose chief diet now is altar candles and sick reports) have returned from manœuvres in the Punjab, bringing good reports as their spoils of war, together with some foils and sabres which were " won " en route. This Section have just completed some signal exercises with the Lahore, Ferozepore and Ambala Brigades respectively. (The poem " Kasur Revisited " is still in the press.) It was quite an impressive sight to find their camp completely surrounded with twinkling lights on the night of the Diwali Festival, which was celebrated by the Gurkhas and Dogras of the Section whilst at Lahore.



The Camp on the Night of the Diwali Festival.

Armistice Day saw some of the unit at the open air service near the Memorial on the Mall ; others who were left paraded with the I.O.R.s on the parade ground. K Section " stood to " in the R.A. barracks at Ambala.

A couple of Sundays ago our equilibrium was upset by an earthquake shock—fortunately of no great severity but which, like all earthquakes, was decidedly disturbing. Our correspondent learns that the sermon which was being preached at a church parade at the time was based on " Laughing at difficulty." Although at the first slight tremor the text was ably applied, it is regrettable that when a second and more severe one was felt the padre was the first out of the door, with his hat in his hand!

Much revolver and rifle firing has been taking place, and in consequence Sigmn Pask walks about with a dignified Bisley air and with one arm swinging in a distinctive manner.

The unit is preparing for a camp at Manduri, some fifteen miles in the direction of Salt Lake City via Lachi. " Q " can be seen carefully pacing out the space required by donkeys and men, and more carefully still gauging their capacity for water (fortunately, that does not include other liquid refreshment).

Our month has been filled up with inspections by the C.C.M.A. and the A.D.O.S. The latter one produced a very good chit for our Q staff. We might even say that they got the kudos for ados.

The " stop express " news for this month tells of one of our number all ready dressed in twisted trousers at 17.00 hours to catch a train at 21.00 hours en route to fetch his memsahib from the hills. Owing to unforeseen engagements, he missed the train and only saw its red light gleaming down the line. The old soldier ran down the line, screaming (presumably in Railway Pushtu) and eventually the train stopped whilst His Kurramic Majesty gathered his kit from the now distant platform and passed meekly on his true husbandly way.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

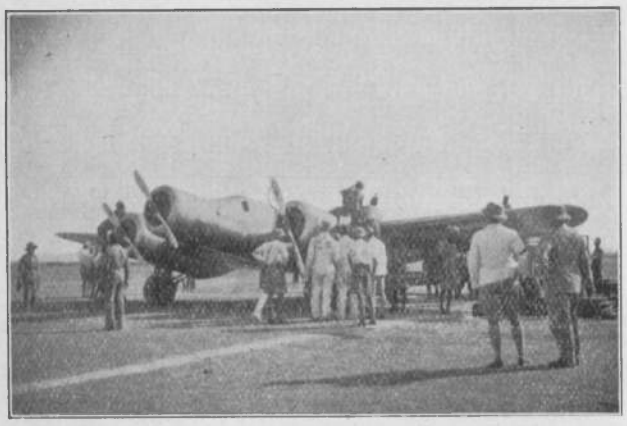
A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tuesday 4th December.

Boxing.—Karachi was given a feast of boxing on the occasion of the Western Command championships. From the unit point of view, results were more than satisfactory. As predicted, it was a huge financial success and we took two of the other ranks championships—heavy weight and feather weight. L/Corporal

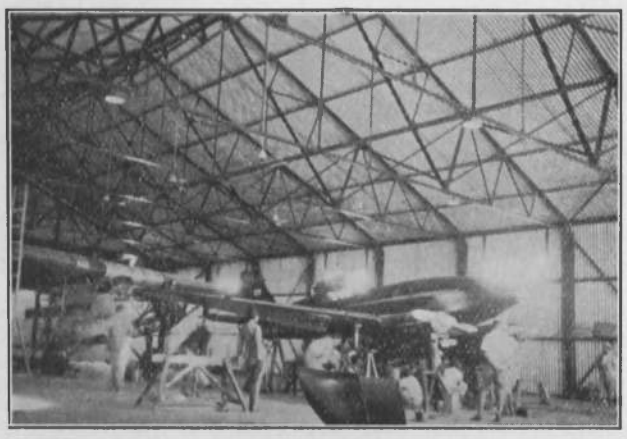
Rymer won the heavy: he was the only entry! Signalman Warburton won the feathers by a series of brilliant victories. His quickness and the punch carried by a man of his size proved altogether too much for his opponents. He has since proceeded to Lahore to participate in the Army and Air Force championships, and there are few people who are not convinced that he will win his weight. He is accompanied by Lieut. F. C. Seely and L/Corpl Rymer, both of whom we expect to go far in their respective classes. Lieut. Seely was easily the best officer on view in the Command championships and had no difficulty in gaining a title.

Children's Corner.—Just by way of a change, let's give the kids a chance. Last month the sturdiest of the unit's infants were on view at the local baby show. Jean MacFarlane, Roberta Stanley and Tony Blunden pleased the critics, particularly the MacFarlane heiress, who won her weight (or class, or whatever else it is that babies win at these affairs). With such a promising start in competitions and the advantage of good-looking parents, this young lady will probably be well to the front when she reaches the beauty competition stage.



The arrival of the Dutch "Pander" S.4 at Karachi Air Port.

The Air Race.—The recent England to Australia air race was closely connected with Karachi, and those of us who were not at Quetta were very much startled when the Mollinsons' plane streaked in here less than twenty-four hours after leaving Mildenhall. This suggests the possibilities of week-ends at home for us—only suggests, mind you! In connection with the race, a further claim to fame may be made by the unit. Lieut. E. J. C. Harrison was secretary of the local committee, and very high praise was given the arrangements made for the race at Karachi Airport. For the accompanying snaps we are indebted to Sigmn Lodge W.—he has the manner and face which get that sort of thing. One shows the record breaking England—Karachi "D.H. Comet" actually under repair, its under-carriage having been damaged. The other depicts the arrival at Karachi of the Dutch "Pander" S.4 which was later burnt out at Allahabad.



The "D.H. Comet" under repair at Karachi Air Port.

• • • •

I am not in favour of this matter being gone into too deeply, and I have nothing but sympathy for the fellow who inspired the following—but, ever on the look out for talent in verse, our poet's lines must be given a chance in print. Purporting to be "inspired by the dramatic loss of L/Corpl Bridges' shorts in action against the R.A.F. at Bath Island," it runs thus:—

On Piccadilly, minus shorts or even shy of slacks,
We'd soon be made aware that bare were our respective backs.
Why, even youngsters in the lead of fathers proud and pompous
Must ever and anon take heed that they still wear rompers.
On growing older, they are taught the value of their braces;
They learn of breeches brought to naught—the need of saving faces.
Then by Dame Fortune's fickle whim, as manhood they attain,
Support is lost, as that of him who started this refrain.
Throughout our lives we're always short; it's usual to lack;
But few of us are short of shorts as was our rugger back.
He grabbed the ball, but in his path a figure crouched intent,
And as he handed off the man his shorts were from him rent.
Still undismayed, though ill arrayed, our back defied convention
And gained his ground, though all around was shivering apprehension.
"Who is this worthy?" goes the cry from male and female tongue—
And who am I that, standing by, should do that stout back wrong?
The unit literary man, his gruff tones holding sorrow,
Is probing everywhere he can a pair of shorts to borrow.
His the deserving cause. For such as he we wear the poppy.
We only add the final touch: "Will other nudists copy?"

—T.W.

Thank you, Walker! S.W.B.

Corporals Mess.

Romance has crept into our austere precincts. No longer does the prospect of battling with "fan" interference tie Corpl Evans to his screened-grid eight. Neither do the ceaseless worries accorded a unit librarian interfere much with L/Corpl Berry's comings and goings.

Against the arrival of the above we have to discount the departure of the inimitable Charles Hodge. Joe Lister is desolated: he has cause to be, having failed by 31 points and 3742 flukes to make up his deficit in the Marathon billiards match with Charles. Of course, it's not really so bad as all that. Hodge has only gone on detachment to Fort Sandeman. Very little trouble of a technical or tribal nature can be predicted on that frontier during his stay—providing always, of course, that Charles keeps his "mouf" organ in its case and uses spoons for their set purpose in life.

At a dinner and dance we said farewell to the members leaving us for home. The dinner (apart from speeches) was nice and the dance enjoyable, but the prospect of losing people like Hudson, Lamont and Scotland Yard is heartrending. S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Monday 10th December.

General.—The job of writing notes has been passed on to me at last. I've been waiting some time for it to happen—ever since the beginning of the trooping season, in fact—and the great W.G.S. has at last managed to pass them on. He is not leaving the unit until some time in January, but a few words in the R.S.M.'s ear and . . . . . .

The local Branch of the Signals Association held another grand dance in the Masonic Hall on the 9th November in aid of the Haig Poppy Fund, and I'm pleased to relate that it went off in grand style. The Signals Band provided the necessary music and, considering that they are only just getting into their stride again, they played very well. Financially it was a huge success,

and we managed to contribute a very nice amount to the aforesaid fund. The bar was the greatest success of the evening, however (I cannot yet remember getting home from the dance). The Sergeants Mess, who provided the bar, no doubt had a very profitable evening, although I think the poor people who served were run off their feet (ask Sergt Snow—he'll tell you all about it).

The first fall of snow has taken place and this morning the top of Murdarghar (?) was covered, and by the look of things we are in for a few nice falls just around Christmas time. Old Quetta folk will remember the snow we have had in the past. When I try to tell the other chaps that the icicles are fully 6 ft. long, they just won't believe me ; but seeing is believing, and they won't have long to wait now.

Old members of the Workshops will be interested to hear that the shops are now being run on a factory basis, complete with a siren designed by Heath Robinson and made by C.Q.M.S. Gerrish (our able F.-of-S.). A movement is on foot to supply a time clock! The siren has caused a great deal of comment, and the Workshops personnel are now fully qualified workmen—dropping their tools on the first note and falling over each other to get on parade. [P.S.—Ethel, the siren, is definitely out of action. Some loose-wallah has pinched the battery for his flash-lamp.]

In any spare interval left by working overtime, H.Q. Company now help to guard the unit or else indulge in a spot of P.T. Apropos the latter, Laurie, Henry and our P.T. expert (B. B.) are a joy to behold. The last named is endeavouring to have the kit changed from shorts to gym frocks. This, I need not say, has the full support of the aforementioned Laurie.

Schemes and things have finished for the present, and one may now walk into the regimental institute and hear tales of " how I marched from Peshin to Fort Sandeman in one day " and so forth.

The R.S.M. has been taking the Company on their usual weekly drill parades on Friday afternoons. Last week twenty of us were spread all over the square, trying to represent five Companies—you know the kind of thing. Personally, I couldn't make much of it, but as the adjutant and the R.S.M. both seemed pleased, that's all we are concerned with.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Marcham from No. 1 Company to take over the M.I. room orderly job from the renowned Grattage.

Departures.—Sigmn Mays (at last) and Sigmn Grattage to U.K. on 11/11/34 and L/Corpl Nugent (also to the U.K.) on 6/12/34. Many members of the Corps will remember Sigmn Mays both here and in Bulford (about '26—'27) and we shall miss him, believe me. L/Cpl Sam Nugent leaves a sorrowing Corps Mess, and already the Murree Brewery shares have fallen from Rs.30 to Rs.20.

Sergt and Mrs. Snow leave us on the 24th December (what a day!) on being posted to Karachi. He's been in the unit for a considerable time, and now he has what he wants and has been after for years. But, then, everything comes to those who wait, and our best wishes will go with them when they leave us.

Agony.—To Sigmn McCallum, Jubb: What about a blinking line ? You'll know who this is from, so no names are needed.

R.C.D.

No. 1 Company.

General.—It isn't very often that I feel dissatisfied with life, but now that reveille is later in the day one expects to reap the benefit of that extra half-hour in blissful slumber. Our crows think otherwise, though, and insist on having their domestic squabbles on the bungalow roofs at the usual hour. Something will have to be done about it. We'll either have to approach the M.E.S. to have layers of felt put over the roofs, or send in a special indent to Arsenal for some pads, soundless, non-skid for claws, crow, I.P., for issue to the offenders. Anyhow, we put up with it, but we appeal to those very lucky individuals who will be posted here in the future from Blighty, to bring out some very high-powered sports rifles—only just to scare them away! If I manage to catch the one which delights in rolling bones, etc., down the roof, it won't need scaring.

Not many outstanding events have occurred during November, but one worthy of mention is the inspection of the unit by the Director of Physical Training on the morning of the 26th. Preparatory training for this was indulged in by everyone. It cheered the young soldiers' hearts and dulled the old sweats. Nevertheless, we got through—somehow.

Departures.—L/Sergt Pearsall made a hurried departure with his family early in the month, in order to catch the s.s. *Mooltan* at Bombay on the 10th November. We extend our sympathies to him for clicking so rough a passage, but (apart from joking) wish him luck in Mrs. Pearsall's speedy recovery. There were several other departures, but on a boat not quite so palatial as the aforementioned: L/Corpl Wallace and Signalmen Guymer, Mortimer, Davies A. and Daniels. It isn't, strictly speaking, within my jurisdiction to mention others of U.H.Q. and No. 2 Company who left with our chaps, but I have been asked to include farewell salaams from inmates of the " wet " end to Sigmn Marmy Mays.

Arrivals.—Buxmith, of Zhob journalistic fame, graced Assaye Lines for a few days—the former whilst awaiting orders to return to Fort Sandeman from B.M.H. Quetta ; the latter whilst on a scrounge—er, I mean leave. They *were* stirring tales we heard about the Chitral Relief, don't you think ?

The renowned Bonzo from a course at Jubbulpore. It's regrettable that the unit won't reap the benefit of the extra knowledge he obtained, as he is waiting reposting to the Zhob Signal Section.

Deaf 'Uns.—There was once a very dopey soldier who insisted —whether on ceremonial, guard mounting, drill, pay or any other kind of parade—on chasing paper blown along by the wind. It was eventually decided that he was unfit for further service, and he was therefore given his discharge. Outside the orderly room he stood on that fateful day—discharge papers in his breast pocket, trilby tilted at a saucy angle, walking stick hung on the crook of his arm, and wearing a very wicked smile—awaiting his final interview with the C.O. The R.S.M. came along to march

him into the C.O.'s office, when a gust of wind came along and blew some papers out of the S.M.'s hand. "Run along, laddie, and do your stuff by collecting my papers," quoth he to the discharged one. "Not I," said he in a discharged state. "Kis wasti ?" said the S.M. "You've never been known to miss chasing after paper yet." "I know," replieth the ex-soldier, tapping his pocket and smirking a disgusting smirk ; "but I've got right here the papers I've been chasing ever since I joined, and I don't intend doing it any more."

An Aberdonian has discovered a new process whereby ink can be extracted from blotting paper for re-use with damaging or ruining the efficiency of the blotting paper. This gentleman has been awarded the Nobel prize for science.

Scots Corner.—To J.M. from S.J.H.: One 99.9 per cent. is no good without the other 99.9 per cent.

To Charlie G., Aldershot, from Tichus: Eleven more months and ten more days Abyssinia. PRESSY.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Last month we finished our notes very bravely. We had spoken about the Trade Board and other things at Chakrata. This month finds us back in Meerut, and although the general opinion is that it is not so bad, after all, there is of course a difference from the hills.

The journey down was not an experience one might enjoy every day. The first party left Chakrata three days before the final move down and marched for a good part of the way, while the second party followed by hired buses. Travelling through the hills on the return journey was thrilling enough, but the long wait at Dehra Dun rather "browned us off" and we were not sorry when the train did arrive. We detrained at Meerut at seven o'clock in the morning, and no one was sorry to see the old place again.

Chakrata differs from Meerut in that the office there overlooks a wonderful panorama of never-ending hill scenery, while the one here has a fine vista of the brick wall of the tech. stores. Twenty thousand bricks all neatly laid in rows hardly make up for misty valleys and towering heights.

However, the hills are now a thing of the past, and we are steadily sorting ourselves out for the collective training season with route marches and schemes, testing out personnel and offices that have hibernated through the long summer. Lifting up boxes, we discover things that are quite surprising and greet them with cries of "Ha! the test panel," etc. Then there are other more plaintive cries that rend the air: "Who stole my dixie ?" kind of business. Finally, however, will emerge the complete Div. offices and they will sally forth with their usual nonchalance to win wars. For the present, it would be kinder to leave them fighting their smaller battles.

By the time these notes appear in print, exercises will be in full swing. The following outburst is suggestive of it and might be useful to those who think that an exercise is physical jerks.

B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s and horses wandering round:
Cables and tables, and wires beneath the ground:
Airplanes and motor bikes, lorries, bullock carts:
Half reliefs, lots of work, and meals in fits and starts:
Bridges and ridges, salient points and trees:
Flaggings and waggings, flashes, dirty knees:
The blue, green and white that flickers in the night:
Bacon and Quaker oats, and tents a homely sight:
Imposing and dozing: counter clerks asleep:
Shaving on icebergs: scorpions on the creep:
Laughing and chaffing, lots of jokes, and more:
Rifle oil and dirty rag: Quartermaster's store:
Limber wagons, packing tents, soldiers in the dust:
Blazing sun and pouring rain: shiny brass and rust:
Barracks back in Meerut: sore and dusty eyes:
Stick them all together—and you have an exercise.

Greetings.—The New Year will have dawned before these notes are read, so we wish all our friends a bright and prosperous one.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Johnson and Williams from Trimulgherry. Signalmen Moran and Silvester from Quetta.

Departures.—In the early hours of Sunday 11th November Signalmen Forward and Stones slipped quietly away to the Blighty cantonment. Signalmen Anderson and Macklam left for the W/T Station, Quetta, on the 2nd November.

Appointments.—The following are now U/L/Corporals: Hoar, Pitney, Tweedley and Taylor. L/Corpl Edwards is now paid. There are a lot sweating.

Final Look Round.—Little by little our far-flung outposts are returning to the fold and soon we shall see nearly all of them back in Meerut. Not for long, perhaps, but long enough to get re-organised and perhaps enjoy Christmas in the old way.

P.E.R.

No. 2 Company.

Monday 12th November.

General.—The collective training season is now in full swing, and by the time these notes appear our three R.A. Brigade Sections will be away with their Brigades at camp. F Section have already left, and in a few days time E and G will follow suit.

Route marches, schemes, etc., are now the order of the day, and all Sections are busily preparing for this year's camp which is to be at Delhi. The journey to Delhi will be by route march, so at the present time our old stagers are having an enjoyable time in giving tips picked up from the march to Delhi in '31. The Infantry Brigade Sections contain quite a number of new faces, but no doubt, like their predecessors, they will keep up the reputation of their Section and Company. Of course, the old hands like to start a grip with "In Jhansi in '29," "In Delhi in '31," or "We used to do this and that," but if old soldier Cripps 310 and Jenner from Quetta keep their eyes open, they may learn something from the young soldiers at Delhi in '35.

The annual Armistice dance was held at the Rink on the 10th November and all ranks thoroughly enjoyed themselves, although church parade on the following morning called for a rather special effort from quite a number of them. (Am I right, Sam ?)

Arrivals and Departures.—Signalmen Gartery and Forest to Lucknow. We wish them the best of luck. Sigmn Jenner and Gunners Guest and Sims from Lucknow. Everyone seems to have a liking for Two Company, and we hope they won't be exceptions.

Finis.—No. 2 Company take this opportunity of wishing all units a very happy New Year.

F Section, Jhansi.

After a good journey we arrived here to be welcomed into the fold of the 5th Field Brigade R.A., and I must say they did us well. Now we are settled down and have hardened to our harness for another training season.

On the 12th November we part for ever with the 5th Field Brigade, who proceed to Rawalpindi, and then we wait here to welcome the 25th Field Brigade R.A. on their arrival.

The training with our old Brigade has consisted of miniature schemes and four big ones. Still, we have never lost a night's sleep yet.

Queries.—Is there anyone as bad as a Scotsman ? Scot (after three weeks in camp): "How about buying a paper instead of reading mine every week ?" Englishman: "What! I paid half for *The People* the first week I was here." He enjoys it better when someone else pays for it. Good old Topper!

Agony.—L/Corpl Collington of this unit would like to hear from Driver Watson G., last heard of in Bulford, but now somewhere in the land of the Sphinx.

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

Monday 12th November.

General.—Last month's WIRE note writing day passed unheeded as we were not in possession of sufficient material to produce readable nonsense. Personally, I am of opinion that this month's scandal should be treated likewise, so that I could sleep this afternoon "a la Busty."

[*Continued at foot of page 26*]

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 14th November.

General.—The chief item of news this month is, of course, the movements of the trooper. The *Dorsetshire* arrived on the 8th and left us six other ranks and then went on to Shanghai and Tientsin. She returns on the 29th, sailing the same day for U.K. So far we are only losing three members of this Section. One or two of the " maskee draft " are still optimistic, but there's very little hope of any more of us seeing Blighty before April next year.

On board the s.s. Sui An.

Sport.—Notwithstanding the fact that several of our sportsmen have been in hospital lately, we have been keeping our end up in the sporting world. Our position in the Mamak Hockey League seems quite secure, and we are also doing very well in friendly games. The football team has been hit rather badly, being without the services of Signalmen Lomax, Drake, Fielding and May for the latter part of last month, and we had to postpone most of the league games. The Tattoo which was held recently has also messed things up a bit, but now that it is all over we hope to carry on as usual.

Hong Kong Signal Section Hockey Team, 1934/35.

Back row (l. to r.)—Signalmen Buttery and Dilley, L/Corpl Cross, Corpl Hodges, Signalmen Austen and Martin (captain).

Front—Signalmen Higginbottom, Erridge, Whitehead, Farrell and Larking.

On Sunday 4th November we paid our annual visit to Macao, the Portuguese colony, for the purpose of endeavouring to beat up the local hockey team. All the Hong Kong hockey teams visit Macao with this intention, but up till now only one team has beaten them—and they came all the way from Malaya to do it! However, a party of eighteen left Hong Kong full of enthusiasm. We arrived at 1.30 p.m. and were met at the boat by Lieut da Costa, who took us up to the ground, where we dumped our kit before strolling round the town.

The game commenced at 4.15 before a crowd of about 1500 ; they like hockey up there. Signals commenced well, both Whitehead and Erridge having shots at goal in the first five minutes. Macao soon settled down and after ten minutes the first goal was scored through Costa, who flicked the ball past Cross. For the next ten minutes the Signal goal was under a steady barrage, and Cross brought off some wonderful saves which drew loud applause from the Macao spectators. Before the interval Macao added another three goals through Rosario, Costa and Ramalho.

After the resumption of play the Signals bucked up a bit, and play was mostly in midfield with attacks on both goals, both Higginbottom and Larking having bad luck when they shot right across the goal mouth. Fifteen minutes from time the Macao forwards broke through and Angelo sent in a spinning shot which Cross reached with one hand but could not hold. The final whistle went with Macao winning by 5—0.

The game was a very clean one, and everyone was perfectly satisfied. With May in the forward line we might have scored, but against a team like Macao such a defeat is no disgrace.

After the game three of the Macao team took us round the town, and after dining we visited all the gambling halls, cabarets, etc., and had a very enjoyable time, arriving back at the boat at 2.30 a.m. One or two of us had a tough time keeping Randolph and Push in check. Randolph in particular caused quite a stir in the lane of an M.A. when he insisted on joining a mah jong school.

The trip was voted a great success by everyone, and some of the chaps are already " on the jew " in preparation for another visit. I'm sending a couple of snaps along with these notes.

The Tattoo.—The Searchlight Tattoo was held at Sookunpoo on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd November, and though not to be compared with the Aldershot or Tidworth displays, it was quite a success. Every unit supplied a turn ; even the Signals—about the smallest Section—produced the " wireless controlled " combination which was staged by Corporal Sugg. The pick of the programme was the P.T. display by the Lincs. Regiment and "A Soldiering Phantasy " (being the story of " Sam, pick up thi' musket ") by the same unit. The proceeds of the Tattoo are to go to military charities and the construction of new playing fields for the Garrison. Of course, the performance drew forth the usual crop of letters to the newspapers from people who rave about " war-like displays," etc. Few of them seem to know that a soldier only produces and takes part in Tattoos because it is about the only way he knows of " raising the wind."

On the 5th November a floodlight football match was held as a finale to the Tattoo. The game was between the Army and South China, and Sigmn Cord played for the Army. He was also selected to play for the Combined Services v. the Rest of the Colony in a charity game on Armistice Day. In both games he put up his usual good performance.

We lose Jock on the first boat, and he will be greatly missed not only by the Section but in Colony football circles. We hope it won't be long before we are reading about his exploits in a bigger league than Hong Kong can offer. We are also parting with another good sportsman in Snowy Whitehead, who will be a big loss to both the hockey and soccer teams. L/Corpl Cross, the hockey custodian, is not yet certain of leaving by the Nov. boat, but if he does happen to go we lose a good man there also.

Sob-Stuff.—Forty Metre Ferg, hero of many an Alaskan adventure, has amazed us all of late by showing traces of that very human weakness " lerve." We never realised that beneath that rugged exterior there beat a human heart, but sure enough a maid has pierced his armour. Many a touching scene has been witnessed around the duty launch as a frantic figure searched among the Punjab's guard, calling " Fergsh!" in agonised tones.

The best scenes, however, are witnessed when Ferg gets ready for his dates ; one has no idea how the lads rally round with offers of shirts, ties, etc. Flip (Ferg's Alaskan pard) is now experiencing a draught worse than any blizzard he encountered way up thar, and within the next few weeks there is bound to be a showdown, as Flip is not the kind of guy to let a gal come atween pards. More of this anon.

Promotions.—L/Corpl Rafferty to be Corporal w.e.f. 7/8/34. Na-hice woik, Corpy.

We Welcome.—Sergeant Wilmot and Signalmen Willoughby, Thompson, Hughes, Eggott and Clarke, and hope their stay here will be pleasant.

Goodbye.—To Signalmen Cord, Neale and Whitehead. We wish them all the best and fruitiest in civvy street.

Agony.—Sigmn Okey, Tientsin: If you write any more letters to the *Ely Examiner*, you'll have all the locals joining the Signals. "Lent to the Foreign Office!" Gurcha!

All the best to all units for the New Year. Till next time.

MATA HARI.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 1st December.

We make no apology for the brevity of this month's notes (?). A glance at peace establishment even, without any idea of the humdrum life on the Rock, will convince one that even a Fleet Street genius would starve for copy here. Having carefully examined and studied Part II. Orders for the past month, we find the only item of consequence was the attachment of some six Gordon Highlanders to the unit for accommodation. We hasten to state that the danger of future drafts to this unit having to master the Scottish tongue prior to their arrival is very remote!

We understand that *the* draft of the season—as far as we are concerned, at any rate—is due to embark on the 9th January. We await their arrival with interest and their hoped for assistance on the football field with impatience ; and lastly, but not least, we wish them a pleasant voyage.

New Year Greetings.—To the unfortunate unit correspondents, our condolences for the coming year.

THE INDIAN SIGNAL CORPS.

[*Continued from page 21*]

7th (Medium) Brigade R.A. Section, Muttra—*contd.*

Parky has returned from U.K. leave and the other local lads have returned from the hills—Signalmen Fabian and Skinner complete with B.ii.s and Sigmn Cashmore determined to get his next year. Poor fellow! he did not collect the right kind of cigarette coupons. Old George says "Player's, please."

Armistice Day.—The Brigade Armistice ball was held on the 10th November, and the usual full strength church parade followed in the morning. Much to our surprise, Busty puffed and blew his way to church and back quite intact. We (or I) fully expected something to tear after watching him spend a full half hour in pulling his breeches on. This dress parade must have upset his liver, etc., because I see he is on E.D. once more.

Honours and Awards.—Sigmn Fabian and four of our I.O.R.s would appear rather lop-sided to the casual observer, but on close inspection it is noticed that they now wear the Indian general service medal won during the last big offensive on the N.W.F. Werp, having acquired this new decoration, decided to discard his old one: his 'tache (pre-war S.M. brand) being return to store as "coir p.w." His dog, Wild One, refused to sleep on it.

Query and Answer.—Q: "Has anyone got any cotton wool?" A: "I have some darning wool if that will do." The reply to this was humorously rude, and later the bright lad with the darning wool was heard to say "Oh, I see! you mean wadding."

B.H.H.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Wednesday 21st November.

General.—To commence with I must (belatedly, it is regretted) convey best wishes for the New Year from all ranks of this unit to the Editor and readers of THE WIRE, and express the hope that they have had as good a Christmas as we would have wished them had we thought of it in time.

Successive festive seasons impress upon me more and more that *tempus* certainly does *fugit*—particularly abroad, where the festive and trooping seasons more or less coincide. It sometimes comes as a shock to hear "Well, lads, this is my last one in India," and to realise that another five have been added to yesterday's "seven thousand years."

I have been asked to congratulate the Peshawar District correspondent on the "Time Expired" ditty which was published in the November issue. Incidentally, the one who is so enthusiastic about it does not sail a week to-day. Still, he is right about the poem: it expresses admirably the feelings of the time-ex man and does so in a style not unworthy of Kipling. I suspect, however, that MIIM had a considerable amount of editing to do before its submission.

Shop.—Having recovered (literally) from a bumper Armistice ball, all here are preparing for Christmas and collective training. The latter is on a larger scale than usual this year and is to be followed by a Command review, so there should be plenty of opportunities for the camera men to get material for this column.

Social.—During the month we had the Royal Dragoons regimental sports, at which our neighbours the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals were successful in the open tent pegging. Our own entry was down the course, but as Signals got it, all was well. Mr. Bradford on Emma got through the preliminary rounds of the open jumping and, though unplaced on the final day, put up a good show.

Shipping Intelligence.—L/Corpl Kyle and Signalmen Lawson and McMeechan have decided not to wait until the *Queen Mary* is on the trooping run, and are departing by the *Lancashire* on the 10th January ex Karachi. Mac will be a great loss in terpsichorean circles out here. He was just getting to that stage where he could negotiate corners without having to apologise to his partner, and on the straight—oh, boy! Signalman Lawson will be missed on the track at the next sports. He is really good at anything from 220 yards to three miles, and the more he runs the better he gets.

Ex-troopers will be interested to hear that Sergt. (Pip) Percy has postponed his visit to the U.K. for a further twelve months. The lure of the East again.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Ward S. and White C. from Jubbulpore, after having succeeded in passing fitter class ii. and I.M. class ii. respectively.

Awards.—Pioneer's badge to the Scot who rowed to the Black Sea to fill his fountain pen.

Gardening.—Cultivation proceeds apace. Sigmn Sneddon, at tea time the other evening, with a triumphant flourish produced several diminutive radishes. Not to be outdone, Ratcliff bought a tin of green paint and by a liberal application to the border boards made up for the lack of green foliage. Another enthusiast bought up half of the Cantonment Gardens and had it transplanted. Great thing, this competition spirit!

Tailpiece.—Can't think of one, so with our readers' permission we will have Manx notes this month. NON-NUNQUAM.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

Following the annual meeting of the unit (reported in last month's WIRE) our training season is now in full swing, and in spite of temptations offered during this festive season we are glad to see a good number on parade each week. There is, of course, the additional attraction of the various sports now available to all members of the unit. These are patronised by a keen though small section.

All ranks desire to express to Captain E. Boggis their sincere sympathy in his recent bereavement.

We welcome into the unit Mr. A. P. Jack, who has just received his commission. We hope he will enjoy his Territorial life and its accompanying duties. Our list of officers is once more complete.

On Saturday 8th December we held our eleventh annual dinner with our honorary colonel (Colonel O. W. Nicholson) in the chair—a duty he performs most admirably. Thanks to many recent improvements, we were able to provide more accommodation than on any previous occasion. There was a record attendance, and we were honoured in entertaining a large number of guests. The following list will reveal many old friends of the unit: Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., Colonel F. H. Kempe, M.C., Colonel H. Carter, T.D., Colonel M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., Major H. C. Carey Thomas, J. F. Edmonds, Esq., M.B.E., Captain F. D. Hedley, Captain W. E. Daft, Captain J. C. Rowe, Captain C. R. Fright, Lieutenant J. Whiffin, J. C. Hopson, Esq., and R. H. J. Kepple, Esq. We were very pleased to see Messrs. Fuller, Arnold, Hopkins, Green, Holliday and Woods, who for so many years have been connected with the unit. We hope that those whom we entertained for the first time will also become old friends in turn.

The toast of "The Guests" was proposed by Captain A. Hemsley, T.D., and in his anxiety to avoid a long speech he omitted all reference to the friendly Company banter which is usually revived at each annual dinner. Colonel H. Carter, T.D., responding for the guests, was, however, able to re-introduce the subject through his past inside knowledge, so we anticipate that it will again be alive at next year's dinner. Mr. F. Fuller also replied for the guests in a short but well worded speech.

Colonel O. W. Nicholson proposed the toast of "The Unit," and mentioned the progress which had been made during recent years. He also complimented our commanding officer on his first year of command, which (he assured us) like marriage, was the worst! As we have all been busier this year than ever before, we are rather glad of this assurance; but we do hope that our ideas of "worst" agree with the commanding officer's! Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins replied, and during his speech he asked us to say whether we would like to go to Manston next year. The unanimous "Yes, sir, please" expressed our feelings, but the inclusion of "please" can only be attributed to the training in courtesy we have received from Lieut.-Colonel Wickins during the year.

Immediately after the dinner Colonel O. W. Nicholson presented the challenge cups for this year's competitions. The results were so close in many competitions that honours are fairly even.

The evening concluded with an entertainment, the items of which were supplied by members of the unit and some outside artistes. Captain Hemsley opened the proceedings, and other items were given by Lieut. Whiffen, Sergt Pratt, Corpl Blood, L/Corporals Roper, Burchall and Barrie, and Sigmn Saunders. Corpl Blood's rendering of Anne Boleyn's ghostly escapades in the Tower of London was very much appreciated. We must also mention the unit triplets, who made their first appearance on this occasion and whom we hope will oblige again on other occasions. The outside friends who came to help us were Mr. Bert Gordon (comedian) and Mr. Ernest Burdett (conjurer). The latter was so clever that everyone felt it would be safer if he was not asked to come to any card parties.

The evening passed all too quickly, and we look forward to another re-union next year.

H.S.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—We trust that all members of the Corps enjoyed a very happy Christmas; and in case some of you didn't see last month's WIRE, we again wish you all a most prosperous New Year.

The work on individual training and instructional courses for pre-Christmas Trade Boards is drawing to a close. We wonder how many will get away with it when the test comes off?

Our H.Q. is closing down for training from the 19th December to the 6th January—so that members may, we presume, remain in the bosom of their families every evening to enjoy the fruits of their Christmas draws and the bounteous bounties. The latter were, by the way, recently paid out, and in consequence the line on the unit attendance chart showed a marked ascendancy on the evening of the grand parade.

We omitted to mention last month that a representative party from this unit took part in the British Legion ceremony of remembrance at the Albert Hall on Armistice Day. We gave a little demonstration, and laid a line across the hall and fixed up some teles D.iii. A message was sent by lamp, and a spot of flag wagging was indulged in. It was really great to hear the old heroes shouting the once familiar words "Mind the cable!" and "'Ware wire," and to hear some (who apparently had not heard of the Royal Signals) shouting "Good old R.E.s!"

On Monday 10th December we said farewell to our G.O.C., Major-General R. D. F. Oldman, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who completes his tenure of command in the New Year. He wished us success in the future and hoped we should soon be up to establishment. He remarked that before long we should have all the recruits we want, as he believed the matter of recruits went in cycles and that the time was drawing near for a complete change. We sincerely hope this will come true, as recruiting in all T.A. units in London has for some time been on the downward trend.

Officers.—A very successful dance was held in the mess on the 30th November. Forty-five officers and their guests attended and spent a very pleasant evening.

Sergeants Mess.—We had a most successful evening on the occasion of our dinner and dance on the 17th November. About two hundred officers and Mess members attended with their wives and friends of both sexes, and enjoyed an excellent dinner and a jolly dance afterwards.

This is the first time we have had a dinner to which we could invite ladies, and we are pleased to record that nearly half of those present were of the fair sex.

We took this opportunity of bidding farewell, but not good-bye, to Sergeants Smith and Hall, who were until a few days before members of our P.S. Our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel H. Ll. Howard, M.C., presented each with a watch on behalf of the Mess members and friends, and wished them every success in the future.

There is no doubt at all that this evening was probably the most enjoyable the Mess has ever had at our H.Q. We must have some more of them!

Congratulations to Sergt Sewell W. H. on his appointment as T/C.S.M. vice Sergeant Jack Smith.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to Corpl Burrows J. F., late of this unit, on his joining the Royal Signals, Regular Army. No doubt he finds Catterick somewhat different to Fulham House, but his several years training with the Terriers will stand him in good stead with the real soldiers. We trust he has now become used to the hardness of Army beds.

Social.—The unit dance on the 8th December was well attended and proved a successful evening. We hope our invitation to members of the Corps to attend our New Year's ball will be accepted by many.

Sport.—The unit football team has fixtures for every Saturday throughout the season. We are not winning all our matches, but on the other hand we are not doing too badly. Never mind about the scores!

EFFEMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Officers Mess.—A very enjoyable dance, arranged by the subalterns, was held on the 24th November. It was very well attended and proved a very happy party.

Training.—Senior n.c.o.s instructors course. A departure from the usual dull and lingering winter course is being tried out this year. The scheme consists of a series of 18-hour courses, each condensed into a week. The object of these is mainly to improve assistant instructors in method and style, and at the same time to give them an insight into branches of Signals outside their own particular trade. The task of preparing and carrying through the scheme was left entirely to the permanent staff, and the success of their efforts was marked by the keenness and interest displayed.

Sergeants Mess.—The latest acquisition to the amenities of the mess is a ping-pong table, which is proving a great attraction. Outstanding talent is not very marked, but no doubt will develop in the course of practice. There seems to be a popular impression that part of the game consists in good marksmanship, with the opponent's anatomy for the target.

A carnival dance is billed for the 15th December, but that will have to be reported in next month's notes.

We are very pleased to see C.Q.M.S. Robins on his feet again after successfully parting with his appendix, and also Sergeant Wilkinson, whose injured foot is now making slow but definite progress.

Agony.—Bill Sargent: I really will return that lanyard one of these days.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Winter training is now nearly at an end. Testing is to be carried out by Major T. T. J. Sheffield on Thursday 13th December, and it is hoped that our results will be satisfactory. These will be published in the next issue.

Badminton.—We are deeply indebted to the Gateshead Company for a first class welcome on the occasion of our visit to play them at badminton. We left there with the feeling that, although we were victors at this meeting, they will give us a tussle in the return meeting proposed for some time in January. The actual scores were 14—2 in our favour. It is hoped that this meeting will be a forerunner of others with Gateshead and Darlington.

Boxing.—The competition for the unit boxing cup will be held in our drill hall this year. I understand that the date will be somewhere about the middle of January. Training is proceeding steadily under Sergeant Newton J. E.

Shooting.—We are busy building a team for the S.M.R.C. Territorial Army competition. While results at the moment have been somewhat disappointing, better things are expected in the New Year.

Greetings.—The season's greetings to all Signal units at home and abroad. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—We offer our apologies for being absent from these pages last month, but news having been scarce, it was no use talking and saying nothing.

Before I forget, all ranks of this Company send out their greetings to all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Winter Course.—This is being attended by the usual high percentage. The linemen's course terminates on the 19th Dec. and it is anticipated that at least ten will qualify as lineman C.iii. The operators course goes on until the end of January, when the same result will be expected.

Badminton.—The Company entertained No. 2 Company from Middlesbrough on the 17th November, and a jolly evening it was. After the game—about which, by the way, I don't intend to say too much, 'cos we lost, but only just—we all retired to the n.c.o.s mess, where the beer was good, and we enjoyed a really good concert. But, as usual, all good evenings come to an end. About 11 p.m. we said good night to our guests and promised to visit them early in the New Year, when our team have had a little more practice (we need it, too).

Football.—Although still losing, we are carrying on, our secretary-manager having travelled far and near on the look out for players of talent and failed. What can he expect? All we need is a new centre forward, centre half, left half, right half, two good backs, and a complete forward line, and then we may win a game. Anyway, I congratulate our manager on his enterprise. After all these games, of which only one has been played at home, have we had to ask the Sports Officer for money? A new ground has now been found, we have purchased three balls, and many other items required to run a footer team have been provided from the club funds. Well done!

Sergeants Mess.—On the 23rd November we held our annual dinner and smoking concert, our guest being the commanding officer (Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton) the adjutant (Captain G. B. Bell) and all our Company officers. I think that they enjoyed themselves, for all were merry and happy when going home.

Lost.—It is with regret that I have to report that one or two members have again got lost or strayed. That's the worst of these red setters. We shall have to put down more bait.

Welcome.—We all extend a hearty welcome to our new adjutant, Captain G. B. Bell, and hope that his stay with us will be a very pleasant one!

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—We wish all readers of THE WIRE a happy New Year.

Moves.—Whose turn is it next? Anyway, soldiers don't care. The adjutancy of the unit has changed hands. Captain Brown has left us for sunnier climes, and Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland is busy with those duties which were referred to in last month's notes.

Regimental Signalling Courses.—Fonthill Barracks have had a military appearance during the last fortnight. A number of n.c.o.s from various units have been undergoing an instructors course under the direction of this unit. Their enthusiasm has been so great that it has been a pleasure to instruct them, and we hope that before long we shall have the pleasure of renewing their acquaintance.

Winter Courses.—The first of the unit winter courses is drawing to an end. Who could expect otherwise at this time of the year? But after a short break (just enough time to let the "thick" clear a bit) the second series will commence, and it is hoped that all who have attended the first course and gained so much knowledge will be present. We know it's no joke learning all the mysteries of signalling which an n.c.o. or a signalman has to know, but it has to be done.

Kiddies' Annual Treat.—The usual annual Christmas tree for kiddies took place on Saturday 15th December, and it is hoped to record the events of this happy affair in next month's notes. Judging by the number of voluntary helpers and the decorated hall, it should be a huge success.

Sergeants Mess.—The sergeants' usual monthly dance was held on the 7th December and was again a huge success. These dances are becoming so popular that the difficulty is keeping the numbers down so that dancing is a pleasure. On New Year's Day the usual dinner and dance take place. Gee! nuff said.

All members of the Mess send their hearty season greeting for 1935 to the C.S.O., the D.C.S.O., our hon. colonel, our C.O. and officers, and all their other friends, and wish we could all meet in order to toast the greetings in the good old Scottish manner.

DIV/SIGS.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—The winter courses are proceeding smoothly, and we hope all members will pass the trade test with flying colours.

Arrivals and Departures.—All ranks of this Company extend a hearty welcome to our new adjutant, Lieut. L. W. J. Dryland, and hope his tour of duty with the 51st Divl Signals will be very pleasant.

We extend the glad hand to Sergt and Mrs. Shreeves, posted to No. 1 Company. (Be seein' yer at camp, 1935.)

To our late adjutant, Captain J. M. Brown, M.M., and his family, we wish the very best of health and good luck in their new station.

To C.S.M. Thomas, ex-P.S.I. of No. 1 Company, and his family, all that he could wish himself.

Entertainments.—Our first dance of the season on the 16th November went off without a hitch. The company was select and well up to strength, which also implies that the bar profits were well maintained. I think I can truthfully say everyone present enjoyed themselves.

Our annual whist drive, supper and dance will be held on the 1st February. Invitation cards will be circulated in due course, and we hope to welcome members of the unit from Aberdeen and Stirling. (Note the date, please.)

A smoking concert will be held on the 17th January. Members of the Company and friends (of recruitable age) are invited. Admission free.

Finis.—All members of the Company pass on the old old wish for 1935. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Our Seventy-Fifth Anniversary.—A distinguished company assembled in the officers mess on the 6th December, when the Lowland Signal T.A. and S.R. units held their anniversary dinner. Sir Harry McGowan, K.B.E., LL.D., presided for the first time as hon. colonel of the units.

The following guests attended the dinner: Major-General A. J. M'Culloch, C.B., D.S.O., officer commanding the 52nd (Lowland) Division; Lieut.-Colonel A. H. Menzies, chairman of the Territorial Association; the Lord-Lieutenant of the County (Mr. Alexander B. Swan); Lord Inverclyde; the Deacon-Convener of the Trades of Glasgow (Mr. Francis Beattie); Colonels B. Turnbull and A. P. D. Telfer-Smollett, D.S.O., M.C., commanding the Infantry Brigades in the area; Lieut.-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C., C.S.O. Scottish Command; Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., commanding the Lowland Signals; Colonel J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C.; Lieut.-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, commanding the 51st Highland Signals; and many others.

This enjoyable function marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of the raising of the Lanarkshire Volunteer Engineers in the headquarters at Jardine Street, and during the evening a loyal message was despatched to His Majesty.

A reply, signed by the King's private secretary, was received later in the evening, expressing His Majesty's thanks for the loyal message and greetings.

History of the Units.—In November 1859, the First Lanark Engineer Volunteers were raised in the North Kelvin and Maryhill district. That Company was later incorporated into a Battalion of Engineers, and in 1894 the existing buildings at Jardine Street were built to accommodate it. On the transfer of the Volunteers to the Territorial Force in March 1908, the official name of the Volunteers was First Glasgow Group Royal Engineers (T).

The new units formed under the Territorial Force were the First Highland Field Company Royal Engineers (T) and Scottish Command Telegraph Companies Royal Engineers (Army Troops), consisting of the Scottish Wireless Telegraph Company, the Scottish Cable Telegraph Company, and the Scottish Air Line Telegraph Company.

The names of these Telegraph Companies were changed to Signal Companies in 1913, and it was under that title that they went overseas in 1914. One of the Signal units actually landed in Ostend in late 1914 and was one of the first Territorial units to see service in France. They took part in the first and second battles of Ypres, and saw service in that area throughout the whole war. The Engineer Companies, as Field Companies, saw service in France and were attached to the 51st (Highland) Division, as were the Signal Companies.

Post War Re-Organisation.—The following units served during the war from 1914 to 1919: Highland Field Company, 4th Corps Signals, 6th Corps Signals, 10th Corps Signals, four Airline Sections, five Cable Sections, G.H.Q. Wireless Section, W/T Detachment, Mesopotamia. The Signal Companies were commanded in France by Colonel Gilchrist, D.S.O., Colonel Kerr, D.S.O., and Colonel J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C.

In 1920 reorganisation took place, and the units in Jardine Street were affiliated to the Lowland Division. The units at that time were composed of the 1st Glasgow Heavy Bridging Company, R.E., the 52nd (Lowland) Signals R.E., the 1st Scottish Corps Signals, and the 230th Brigade Signal Section (Army Troops). The 1st Scottish Corps Signals was disbanded. The Bridging Company was also disbanded, and as a Field Park Company for a short time remained in Jardine Street. This was the last actual Engineer unit to occupy these headquarters, which were then turned over completely to the Signal units.

The Supplementary Reserve took the place of the 1st Scottish Corps Signals, and the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals remained as it is to-day. There is now a Supplementary Reserve Signal Company, composed of Air Force Sections, Air Line and Maintenance Sections. The most recent additions are the No. 3 Company and the Headquarters Signal Section of G.H.Q. Signals.

Here's Tae Ye!—To our brother Territorials, Supplementary Reservists, and our Regular comrades we wish a happy and prosperous New Year. Here's tae ye all!

The Rifle Club.—A very bright and practical idea is the Lowland Signal Rifle Club. Our splendid miniature range has been placed at the disposal of all ranks, and the venture is well worthy of support. It will afford excellent recreation, and should cause added interest to be shown in the work of the units during the winter months.

Deas Does It!—It is interesting to note that one of our Territorial comrades, Sigmn Deas W., has left us for the Regular branch of the Corps. We shall follow his career with interest. Sigmn Deas' Territorial experience should stand him in good stead.

Yet Again.—More news of the Sergeants Mess. Negotiations are proceeding in connection with the installation of a radio gramophone. Social functions proceed apace, and everybody and everything is flourishing.

New Brooms.—We heartily welcome Sergeants Armstrong, Baldwin, McAdie and Murray to our permanent staff. We predict for them a happy stay in Glasgow. They can rest assured of our closest co-operation at all times.

Fare Thee Well!—It was with much regret that we bade farewell to C.Q.M.S.s Tracy and Harrison and Sergeants Savage, Knox and Atkinson, who have completed their tours of duty as P.S.I.s. Our hope is that our friends will prosper in their respective new spheres. We retain pleasant memories of each one of them, and feel certain they have taken with them many happy recollections of their sojourn in Glasgow.

Winter Work.—Wireless and other courses are being well attended. The splendid organisation of the courses and the good work of our permanent staff should be productive of satisfactory results.

Novel News.—We introduce our initial Sports Notes in this issue of THE WIRE.

Informative Innovation.—The commanding officer's effort to keep in touch with Post Office developments is a laudable one. There is much in its telegraphic and telephonic activities which is of immense interest to us. The Post Office sound film equipment was placed at our disposal on the 5th December. There was a good attendance of all ranks, and the arrangements made by the Post Office officials and our own organisers were all that could be desired. It is pleasing to note that we have the fullest co-operation of the Post Office in our work. It can well be said that this most original training venture was greatly appreciated by our members. The Post Office officials appeared to be equally pleased. The local Publicity Officer has been enrolled as a subscriber to THE WIRE. Verily, brothers, we progress!

Motor Cycle Club.—A Motor Cycle Club, under the direction of Lieut. Gee, has been formed. The objects of the club combine pleasure with the practical side of motor cycling. There will be pleasant companionable runs, and the technical development of the motor cycle will be studied. Our headquarters will be at the club's disposal. A club badge has been designed,

The club will not be minus social attractiveness. It is proposed to hold a dance at no distant date.

The club has the blessing of the powers that be, and every encouragement will be given. The idea has been enthusiastically received by the D.R.s. Lieut. Gee, however, would be glad to enrol any member of our units who may be interested in the project.

Colonel Arthur Alfred Jayne.—It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Colonel A. A. Jayne, who had had pleasant associations with our units. He won our respect and confidence during his term of office as D.C.S.O. Scottish Command. A man of remarkable energy and human understanding, his loss has left us immeasurably the poorer.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Boxing.—The unit championships are to be held in the drill hall, Stratford, E.15, on Thursday evening, the 17th January. Although the entry list will not close until that day, the time to enter is *now*, for in the drill hall, every drill night, quite a number are tuning up as it were and adding to their experience. They are also getting fitter, and—boxing or no boxing—what's wrong with that ?

As holders of the boxing cup, we are not afraid of any " big bad wolf or wolves," because what we have we mean to hold ; and even if we do not, we shall only fall to rise again. In addition, we have boxers who hope to add to their collection of prizes.

Those members of the Company who cannot take an active part in the ring can—and we know, will—help along those who do, by coming and cheering the potential retainers of the unit championship team boxing cup. Also bring your wives, your daughters, your sons, your friends and your sweethearts!

Training.—No matter how bad the weather decides to be, we have goodly numbers attending the lectures given each drill evening. This attendance speaks volumes for the quality of the lectures, and the lecturers (whose motto is " Onwards ") are to be congratulated.

Company Dinner.—The annual dinner is to be held on Friday 25th January at the Swan Hotel, Stratford Broadway, commencing at 7.30 p.m. We shall have a good attendance, and the committee are working hard to make this event better than ever. Those who were present at our previous dinners may think this impossible, but miracles do happen and (once again) the committee are trying really hard to bring this about. This means that they deserve any amount of backing up. Note the date.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Newton W. G., P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—The wireless fiends have been delving into the mysteries of ohms law, etc., and it is hoped the knowledge they have acquired will be put to practical use in the near future.

The P.T. class is still going strong, and the exponents of the noble art of self-defence are coming along in leaps and bounds.

Social.—The annual dance and presentation of trophies took place on Friday 9th November at the New Municipal Baths, Romford Road, Stratford. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and we take this opportunity of thanking the organisers for a really good show.

Boxing.—The inter-Company competition will be held at headquarters on Thursday 17th January, and judging by the entries from this Company, the members must know that Mac Sennett is in London at the present time.

Miniature Rifle Club.—A club has been formed by this Company, and shoots commenced on Thursday evening 13th Dec. The shoots will be held from 7.0 to 8.0 and 9.0 to 10 p.m. Now, roll up, you marksmen and support home industries.

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—This has continued throughout the month, and in spite of really bad weather we have made no little progress. Short sharp contests are the main enjoyment of the physical training adherents, and they are really enjoyable to onlookers as well as the means of getting rid of that ring-shy feeling in the newcomers.

Social.—A number of members of the Company set sail for Stratford on the 9th November to attend the annual dance and prizegiving. A very pleasant evening was spent. The dance floor was exceedingly good, the band well up to their work, and the hall very cosy. Our thanks are due to those who took opportunity by the forelock and provided the change from Stratford Town Hall. A very good show!

Church Parade.—On Sunday 18th November members of " ours " gathered for the Mayor's Sunday church parade. The usual parade was strengthened by a detachment of Regular Artillery from Shoeburyness ; and comparing the marching, turn out, etc., of both lots, we can safely say that we were at least on a par with them.

Our O.C. on this occasion offered a prize for the best turned out man on the parade. The judging was very thorough, and after really searching inspections the prize was won by Sigmn Bennett L. S. P., who is to be congratulated, especially in view of the fact that he is a really new recruit.

Congratulatory.—Our heartiest congratulations to Sergeant Newton W. G., P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, on being awarded the long service and good conduct medal. " Sam! Sam! pick up thi musket!"

Concert Party.—It is rumoured that Miss Bunch (our little Pansy) is to take the part of the Princess in the forthcoming pantomime for the children's party. This should be well worth watching.

THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Arrivals.—Sergt Tom Sayers has arrived at last from E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, Tidworth, and we hope his stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Sergeant (ex-T/C.S.M.) Collins H. to the 2nd Divsigs, Aldershot, where we hope the holes in the sleeves of his jacket and greatcoat don't show up too much.

Social.—We had a small social gathering in the lecture room on Saturday 8th December and danced away the hours until 11 p.m. Tom Sayers and his Terriers (himself) gave a display of the way in which dance music should be played. A certain young lady asked him if he (Tom Sayers) could read music! We fanned him for thirty minutes, but only a chota peg enabled the dance to continue.

We are commencing a miniature range shooting competition in the New Year, and details will be given later.

These Names Make News.—Pathe Gazette.

TOMASS.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

Owing to misunderstanding, certain notes intended for the December issue were unavoidably held over.

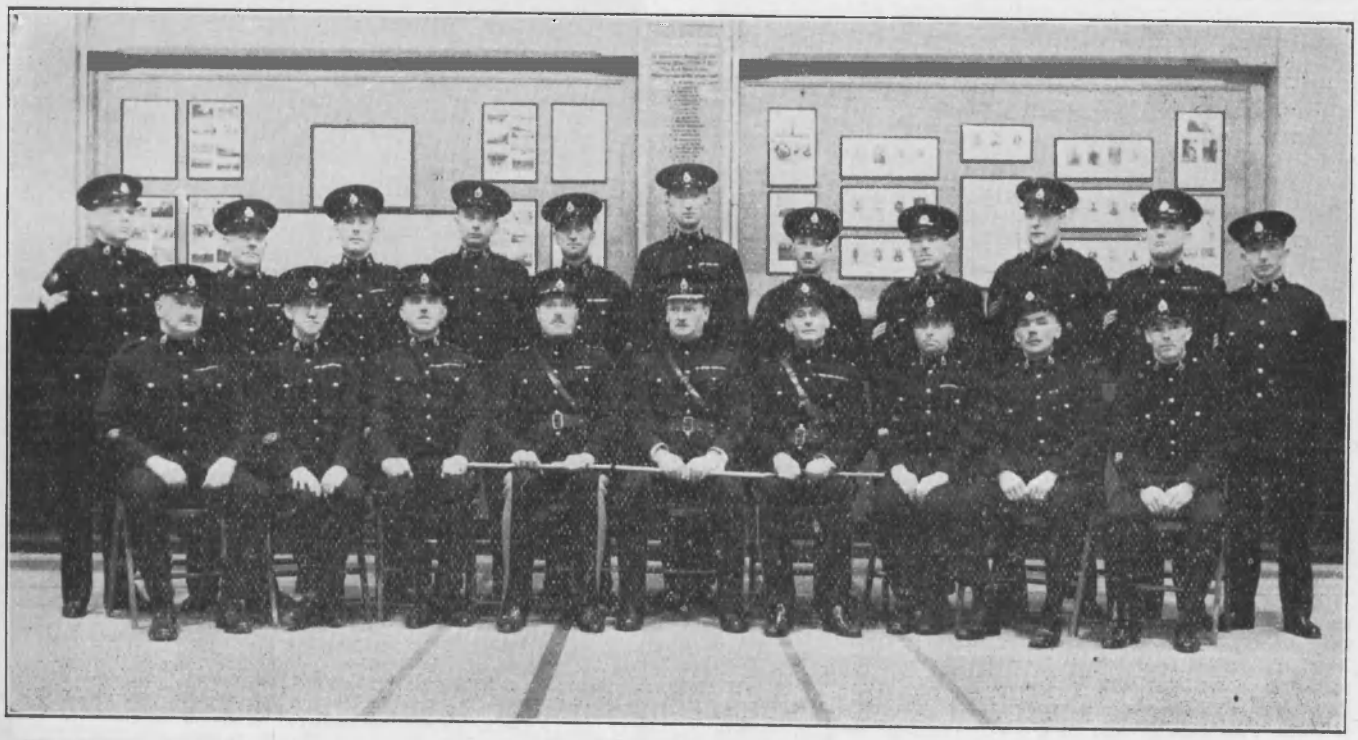
Officers' Promotions.—The unit congratulate Lieut.-Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., on his promotion to Brevet-Colonel ; Brevet-Major A. C. C. Willway on his promotion to Major ; and Lieut. M. M. Cuthbert on his promotion to Captain.

Major V. A. D. Hort has joined the Reserve of Officers (T.A.) after thirteen years service with this unit. He will be much missed by all ranks, but we are assured that we shall continue to see him from time to time.

The unit congratulate Captain F. C. McMurray on the arrival of a daughter.

Recruiting Week.—This is a feature which we think a speciality of the City of London Signals. The procedure is interesting. A shop is hired—in this case Balham High Road, in the locality—and tastefully and suitably decorated to attract the eye and interest of the passer-by. The window of the shop contains articles of equipment, both technical and sporting. Members of the unit

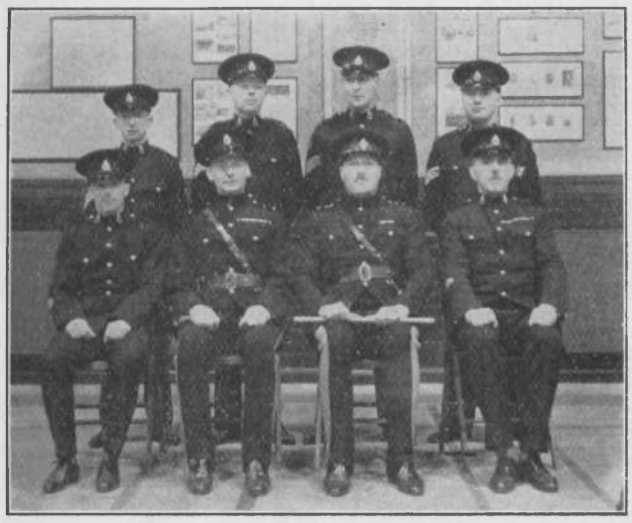
The Commanding Officer, Adjutant, Company Commanders, Quartermaster, and W.O.s, 56th (1st London) Divl Signals, Nov. 1934



The Commanding Officer, Adjutant, Q.M., and members of the W.O.s and Sergts Mess, 56th (1st London) Divl Signals, Nov. 1934

[*Photos by Hubert Davey*]

attend in the capacity of salesmen. They are available to interest enquirers and, if possible, to persuade likely members to visit headquarters. In addition to this, advertisements are put in the local papers and a publicity campaign is organised in various other ways. One held last year produced, directly and indirectly, about thirty recruits. The week 12th—17th November produced an immediate improvement in the strength of the unit, but the full effect will not be felt for some little time.



The Permanent Staff, 56th (1st London) Divl Signals, Nov. 1934
[*Photo by Hubert Davey*]

Individual Training.—Mention of the recruiting week brings to mind the fact that we do some soldiering at Signal House. The individual training season was started on Tuesday 6th November. This year, for the first time, the training is being conducted on a unit basis. A strong team of instructors has been got together, and great results are expected.

Workshops.—M Section are hard at work in making the previously euphemistically known workshops into a "workshop" in fact. Machinery is being installed. M Section work very hard. When are the wheels to go round?

Officers' Ball.—This was held on the 16th November and was a brilliant function. By dint of hard work, the hall was tastefully decorated. A number of members of the unit turned up and helped in various capacities. It was a great success. Amongst the distinguished company present were the following officers of the Corps: Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., Colonel R. Chevenix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., Lieut.-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard and Major R. H. Neale.

Russell-Roberts Collection of Trophies.—Through the good offices of Major H. Tatlow (of the N.A.A.F.I.) and Mr. Burlace (director of J. Rowland Ward) and the generosity of the owners, Signal House has acquired a magnificent collection of sporting trophies. The entire collection has not yet been received, but sufficient are already in position to show what a great improvement will be made in the appearance of the drill hall when the full collection is exhibited.

Prize Giving.—This year, the annual prize giving was combined with the distribution of bounties on the 11th December. Undeterred by the prospect of fog, a very large number of the T.A. and S.R. attended.

Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding the 56th (1st London) Division, very kindly presented the prizes, and in his speech referred in very kind terms to the condition and efficiency of the City of London Signals. He mentioned Mr. Noel Ashbridge (Engineer-in-Chief of the B.B.C.) and Captain S. R. Mullard and Mr. S. Joseph (of the Radio Manufacturers Association) who have given the unit such invaluable assistance.

On the platform with General Commings were Colonel J. Waley Cohen (hon. colonel, Lines of Communication Signals), Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E. (commanding the 56th (1st London) Divisional Signals T.A.), Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allen (commanding the Lines of Communication Signals, S.R.) and Lieut.-Colonel A. E. P. Mudge, O.B.E. (commanding the 2nd Divisional Signals).

After the prize giving the guests strolled off to the various messes for refreshment, whilst members of the unit were employed in the serious duty of drawing their annual bounty.

This was followed by an excellent concert which had been arranged by Mr. John Sharman, director of variety of the B.B.C. The unit owe him and the artistes a very real debt of gratitude for coming down to entertain us: they are all very busy people. The following artistes generously gave their services:—Bertha Willmott, Gladys Keyes, Haver and Lee, Dennis O'Neil, Harry Hemsley, Rupert Hazell and Elsie Day, and (last but not least) Leonard Henry. In addition to the broadcasters, G. L. Driver very kindly gave us an all too short example of his dexterity and sleight of hand.

Lines of Communication Signals, S.R.—The officers' ball and the prize giving being reported above, the only function left to be noted is the S.R. officers' dinner. This took place in the mess on the 3rd December, when Colonel J. Waley Cohen, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Elsdale, Colonel and Mrs. Hitchins, Colonel and Mrs. Ozanne, Major and Mrs. Willway, and Captain and Mrs. Wiseman, were present as guests.

Unit Headquarters, 56th3(1st London) Divisional Signals
Standing—R.S.M. Grant N. and R.Q.M.S. Waite E.T.
Sitting—Captain L. D. Goddard, Lieut. (Q.M.) W. J. Barnes, D.C.M., and Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E.
[*Photo by Hubert Davey*]

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SPORTS NOTES

Corps Rugby Notes.

Royal Signals v. R.M.A.—This match was played at Woolwich in somewhat dull weather conditions on the 14th November, but luckily the rain held off until almost the end. The Shop opened strongly and scored under the posts after less than five minutes play. This was converted. The Corps responded and Lieut. Blum all but scored from a forward rush. The game swung from end to end of the field but neither side could score, and half-time found the Shop still five points ahead.

After the interval 2/Lieut. Stephenson went over, far out, after a good passing movement. Rider's kick was good but it went wide. More mid-field play followed until within a few minutes of the end. Then the Corps took the upper hand forward and Lieut. Blum scored in a melee on the Shop line. The kick failed, and two minutes later the whistle went for time. Result—Royal Signals, two tries (6 points); R.M.A. one goal (5 points).

A feature of the match was the excellent tackling of Lieutenant Blum, who had Rawlence (a very strong runner to mark) well under control.

Royal Signals v. Royal Engineers.—This match was played at Aldershot on the 19th November. Fresh from their victory over the Shop, the Corps fifteen had great hopes of beating the Royal Engineers for the first time on record. This they did not quite manage to do, but they only lost by one point in a really excellent match.

The game was played in fine sunny weather. The whole of the first half was a ding-dong battle with the R.E. having the best of it in the tight. Just on half-time they scored in the corner: an unconverted try. After the interval the Corps were awarded two penalty kicks—one of them an easy one—but both went wide. The R.E. went further ahead with another unconverted try. Then the game changed completely and the last ten minutes were all Signals. 2/Lieut. Stephenson intercepted and ran through for a lovely try which Lieutenant Denholm-Young converted. Following this, the Corps could do anything but score, and the end came with the game still in the Sapper half of the ground. Result—R.E. two tries (6 points); Royal Signals one goal (5 points).

Royal Signals v. Royal Artillery.—Played on the Aldershot Command Central Ground on the 23rd November. The day was a dull one, but luckily the rain held off.

From the start Signals pressed hard and secured the ball from the early scrums, but were unable to score. The Gunners opened the scoring with an interception on their own 25, the try being under our posts. It was not converted. Almost immediately after Rider kicked a beautiful penalty goal to equalise. Some mid-field play and the Gunners scored again. With the score at 6—3 against us, Sigmn Cooper scored a determined try in a melee on the Gunner line. Lieut. Denholm-Young converted to make the score 8—6, with Signals leading. Just on half-time the Gunners scored at the corner. Half-time: Royal Signals 8 points, Royal Artillery 9.

After half-time the Gunners scored twice in quick succession. Half-way through Sigmn Evans scored for the Corps pretty far out, and Rider's kick failed. The Gunners scored once again to make the score 22—11, and this it remained till the end.

It was a good match, but the tackling of the Corps side was decidedly weak. Result—Royal Signals, one goal, one penalty goal, one try (11 points); Royal Artillery, two goals, four tries (22 points).

The Corps XV. comprised: Back, Sigmn Rider (2nd Div.); three-quarters, Lieut. P. Blum (3rd Div.), 2/Lieut. Stephenson (1st Div.), Sigmn Cooper (5th Div.), Lieut. Goldsmith (4th Div.); halves, Sigmn McKenzie (3rd Div.) and Sigmn Robertson (2nd Div.); forwards, Lieut. Denholm-Young (1st Div.), 2/Lieutenant Stead (4th Div.), Corpl Hickmott (A Corps), L/Corpl Fenton (3rd Div.), Sigmn Evans (4th Div.), 2/Lieutenant Linton (2nd Div.), 2/Lieutenant Honeybourne (4th Div.), Corpl Myddleton (Depot Battalion). Reserves, Sigmn West (Training Battalion) and Corpl Wainscoat (2nd Div.).

Injuries.—The XV. have been most unlucky this year as regards injuries. The following players (and possible players) have been injured for all or some of the matches: Lieut. Denholm-Young, Corpl Myddleton, Lieut. Middleton, L/Corpl Mills, Sigmn Robertson, Lieut. Thompson, 2/Lieut. Read. In addition, the following were not available to play at all: 2/Lieut. Gordon, 2/Lieut. Starr and Sigmn Hopcroft.

Royal Signals Rugby Team, 1934

Corps rugby, this season, has definitely improved in the general standard of play. The Sapper match was an excellent one, and the margin of one point shows that there was never much to choose between the sides. Lieut. Blum and 2/Lieutenants Stead and Linton played for an Army Trial XV. on Wednesday 28th November.

Lieut. Denholm-Young, 2/Lieut. Bradley and Corpl Myddleton play regularly for Catterick Garrison XV. The first named now appears occasionally for Aldershot Services XV. 2/Lieutenants Stephenson and Linton, Lieut. Middleton and Sigmn Rider all play from time to time for the Aldershot Services. Rugby in the Corps is on the up grade.

Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—On the 17th November we played the Durham Light Infantry in the second round of the McEwan cup and were beaten to the tune of 8—0.

Hockey.—On the 23rd November we had a friendly match with the 21st Brigade R.A. and after a very close game lost by 2—4. We played the Training Battalion on the 8th December and won by 3—1. Corpl Dale played an outstanding game and scored our three goals.

We congratulate the Dismounted Wing on getting into the final of the Mackworth trophy. The last match has not yet been played.

Boxing.—We entered eight men for the Garrison individual novices competition. Sigmn Dunkin reached the semi-finals of the feather weights, and Sigmn Clark the semi-finals of the welters. Sigmn Morgan was runner-up in the light weights.

Cross-Country.—About twelve teams entered for the Garrison cross-country run. We finished sixth.

Shooting.—The accompanying photograph is that of the Battalion Rifle Club team in the Yorkshire League.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—L/Corpl White, L/Sergt Brown, L/Corporal Poole.

Seated—L/Sergt Salmon, Lieut. R. H. Copeland, Sergt Seabrook, Corporal Walker.

'Ere! 'ave a dekko at 'em. Their exploits aren't in the little blue book. You scholars without second class certificates sweat over trying to memorise what the Signals did in days gone by. Here's some of the things that have been done during A.D. 1934.

After finishing third in Div. II. of the League which ended in April, they were promoted to Division I. of the Summer League, and right well did the fine weather suit them. The drought caused concern to the farmers, but on our range the drought of dropped points was appreciated not only by ourselves but by the league officials and the other clubs in the league. At the end of the season our team had pride of place at the top of the league, but as their aggregate was slightly lower than Huddersfield's, who finished equal on points, the cup was not collected.

The Winter League has commenced and they have won their first match. There are new faces in the team now owing to postings, but we hope that the newcomers will soon become as steady as the men they relieved.

The Burroughs and Watts competition was entered, and the team is now in the third round which ends on the 16th December. We hope they shoot up to form and proceed further along the road.

Sergt Seabrook and L/Corpl Poole have also shot for the Yorkshire County team.

Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—The Catterick Garrison novices individual boxing tournament was held in No. 1 Gymnasium (Le Cateau) on the 12th, 13th and 14th November. The following entered from the Training Battalion: Sigmn Newsham H. middle weight, Sigmn Barlow C. welter, Signalmen Waugh C. and Nicoll A. feather.

In the first round Nicoll knocked out his opponent—Gunner Harrison, R.A.—in the first round; Waugh beat Private Kerr, K.C.S.B., on points; Barlow beat Pte McKay, K.O.S.B., on points; and Newsham was beaten on points by Fusilier Brown, R.S.F., after a very good hard and close fight. In the second round Waugh beat Signalman Keighley of the Depot Battalion, Royal Signals, on points after a close fight; Nicoll was beaten by Sigmn Dunkin of the Depot Battalion; and Barlow was knocked out in the second round by Private Davis of the Lincolnshire Regiment. In the third round Waugh was beaten on points by Private Bennett, S.W.B., after a very close fight.

The Catterick Garrison novices team boxing tournament was held on the 27th, 28th and 29th November. The Training Battalion drew the South Wales Borderers in the first round, but were up against a well trained team and lost by 10—17 points. The results of the fights were as follows:—

Feather weight—Private Bennett beat Sigmn Earle. A very close hard fight.
First string light weight—Private Arthur beat Sigmn Robson. Another very close fight.
Second string light weight—Private Davies beat Sigmn Waugh, who was very unfortunate to lose.
First string welter—Private Hiscock beat Sigmn Openshaw on points.
Second string welter—Private Hay knocked out Sigmn Shillitto in the first round.
Third string welter—Private Cornell beat Sigmn Beard. This fight was stopped in the third round.
First string middle—Private Richard knocked out Sigmn Vitale in the third round.
Second string middle—Sigmn Echlin beat Pte Wood on points.

The Training Battalion team were unfortunate in losing Sigmn Murdoch as first string welter weight, as the shuffle round considerably weakened the team. Their chief weakness was in lack of training, which told severely in the third round of most of the fights.

Rugby.—Since the last issue of notes, rugby has taken a back place to enable Companies to play off their hockey and football games for the Mackworth trophy. The number of replays at hockey was a record. The following games have been played.

14/11/34 v. 2nd Battn Gloucesters, away, lost by 3—13 points.
24/11/34 v. 2nd Battn S.W.B.s, away, won by 11—3.

The two games arranged with the 20th Field Brigade R.A. for 28/11/34 and 5/12/34 had to be cancelled as the grounds were unfit for play after heavy rain.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.—At long last our first round match in the Mackworth trophy has been decided. Although we lost, we have the satisfaction of knowing that we put up the finest fight ever recorded in the history of the trophy. Five matches were played before a decision could be reached.

The deciding game was rather tame compared with the previous four. About ten minutes after the commencement, a defensive error left L/Corpl Hayes in the circle with the ball and an empty goal, and he had the simplest of tasks in scoring what proved to be the only goal of the game. In view of what had happened in the previous games, E Company were quite justified in their

policy of concentrating on defence after the scoring of this point; and although the play was in front of their goal for practically the rest of the game, so well did the backs and halves play that Sergt Lockyer, their goalkeeper, had not much to be anxious about.

Throughout the series of matches our team played remarkably well, and with a little more snap in the forward line E Company would not now be indulging in another series of drawn games with the School.

Since the above match we have played and beaten D Company by two goals to nil.

The remarks of the Peshawar District Signals correspondent have been read with amusement, and comments have passed in the Company. Evidently the standard of hockey played here is not much thought of, or perhaps it is that the N.W.F.P. have too exalted an opinion of their own ability. Lieut. Boileau was surprised to find his team so readily beaten, but he was the first to admit that the better team won and that he thought we had a really good side. The match was played on our hard ground, and of our team Corporal Shipton, L/Corporals Holloway and Turner, and Sigmn Diball have played in India, whilst Boys Murray, Mayhew and Hawley are ex-Sanawar boys. Nuff said.

Association Football.—F Company v. School of Signals. After a splendidly contested game, the School ran out winners by the odd goal in seven. Bouquets should be handed to both teams for the clean and sporting way in which this exciting match was played, hard knocks being given and taken in the right spirit.

The School opened strongly and were a goal up in the first seven minutes. In the course of this hot attack our goalkeeper had the misfortune to collide with the goalpost, and although on his feet, he was too dazed to know much about the second goal scored. Two goals down in ten minutes did not dishearten the team, and arrears were reduced by a goal from Mr. Williams, who profited by a slip in the opposing defence.

The second half proved just as exciting and the scores were levelled by another goal from Mr. Williams, who played a good game throughout. For the first time we took the lead with a fine goal by Boy Harrison, and for a period the game seemed to be turning in our favour. However, with about fifteen minutes to go the School drew level again. It was not until the closing minutes that the School scored another goal to give them the match. Well done, School!

Although the seniors have lost the Mackworth trophy, we live in hope of a replacement for that by our I.M.s lifting the Army Boys' cup. On their displays up to now, we certainly will go a long way in this competition. Although we don't rank any of the team as a star player, they do possess team spirit, which is the *essential* thing. They played the E.F.s—the other boys' team we had entered—and won by 6—1. It is on this showing that we expect great things from them in the fourth round.

Boys' Rugby Football.—On the 8th November a Boys XV played the 2nd Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment Young Soldiers team and drew. The Boys XV were strengthened a little by the addition of two of the cadre. The game was a good one, and in spite of giving away weight the Boys held their own.

On the same day the Colts played the Ampleforth College Colts at Ampleforth. This was a splendid game in which the Boys played really well, particularly in the second half. Thick fog made things a bit difficult and the second half was somewhat curtailed. Ampleforth Colts won by 17—5.

On the 26th November a return match was played against the 2nd Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment Young Soldiers. This time there were no cadre personnel playing, and the Boys played really well to win by 14—3.

On the 8th December a First XV played Richmond School. The latter were playing one master and two old boys to strengthen their side, so the Boys were unable to repeat their previous victory but managed to win fairly easily by 17—0. Shergold (3), Parker and Piddington scored tries, and Piddington also converted one try.

Cross-Country.—We have had no Company fixtures this month, but training has been persevered in by the enthusiasts.

The first two runs in the Garrison Cross-Country League took place during the month, and the following from this Company were selected to represent the Battalion: L/Corpl Blades, Sigmn Warner, L/Corpl Boy Smith J., and Boys Scarsbrook, Silver, Judd, Adams and McDonald.

The runs were held over four and five miles, the going in each being very fast. The boys ran extremely well, and the Company had the satisfaction of providing the first man to finish the course in both races.

The fields in these runs are very big—around four hundred—and because of this and the increasing distance in each run, the younger members of the Company team were not selected to represent the Battalion. It is hard luck on those boys who were "unfruity" for a place in the Battalion team solely on account of their age, but they must remember that we look to them to provide the future unit cracks at all sports (if you don't believe this, buy and read a Corps Diary) and that their turn will come later on when they have grown up.

Royal Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—On Monday 3rd and Friday 7th December the matches for the Willan boxing trophy were fought in the Albuera Gymnasium, and a large crowd assembled each evening to witness some interesting and extremely keen scrapping. There was also the added attraction of the Royal Signals open boxing championships, in which contests a few of the fights brought back memories of the glorious days in '27, '28 and later. Perhaps many of my readers will remember those days and will be able to fill in the rest.

I will deal first with the individual championships. There were not so many entries as there should have been, but those who did decide to have a go certainly tried their utmost to cope with the disparity of numbers, giving such wholehearted displays in the ring that the spectators forgot all about the small number of fights. On the Monday evening there were seven bouts decided, these bringing each weight to the final stages which were fought off on Friday. A brief account of the fighting is here given.

LIGHT WEIGHT—Sigmn Wilson (1st Div.) beat Sigmn Ducker (A Corps). Both men went at it from the start, but the latter tired and Wilson soon began piling up the points and at the end was a good winner.

Sigmn Walker (A Corps) outpointed Sigmn Lymn (1st Div.) after a hearty set-to. Walker scored often with his left, his opponent's guard being a little too weak to keep this clever point-winning punch from its objective.

WELTER WEIGHT—L/Corpl Kennedy (A Corps) was superior to Sigmn Brown (1st Div.) in a bout during which both went about their work in a masterly fashion. Kennedy was by far the more aggressive of the two, and once or twice connected with hooks that staggered his opponent, winning comfortably.

Sigmn Grigg (A Corps) beat Sigmn Reardon (2nd Div.) after a fight that was a difficult one to judge. Both were evenly matched and gave good displays of the noble art throughout the three rounds. Grigg got the verdict, but it must have been only by the very smallest of margins.

Sigmn Barker (2nd Div.) proved far superior to Sigmn Lunt (1st Div.) and won comfortably after establishing a good points lead in the first round. Lunt had a much longer reach than Barker, but it was of no avail, as the latter showed himself to be an adept at in-fighting and thus was never in any difficulty.

L/Corpl Kennedy was again in action in the semi-final against Sigmn Grigg, and once more he won comfortably, his ringcraft and methods of aggressiveness being superior to those of his opponent.

Sigmn Barker, in the other semi-final, did not appear to be troubled by his earlier fight and completely outpointed a fresh opponent, Signalman Botting (A Corps). The latter took drastic punishment, and towards the end the referee stopped the fight.

Finals.

BANTAM WEIGHT—L/Corpl Griffin (1st Div.) beat Signalman Cavanagh (1st Div.) on points. Griffin from the beginning made headway, although he found no mean opponent in Cavanagh. Both were quick to take openings, but Griffin's connections were the more telling, and with a straight left shooting out from his shoulder now and then he was a popular winner at the end.

FEATHER WEIGHT—Sigmn Cox (1st Div.) and Sigmn Homer (A Corps) waged a fast and furious battle for the whole of the

three rounds, never giving up for a moment in their quest for honours. Both tired in round three, but Cox, having the advantage in the previous rounds, kept his lead to win an extremely refreshing bout.

LIGHT WEIGHT—Sigmn Wilson utilised his hard punches well against Sigmn Walker (A Corps), whom he beat after three rounds. Walker took his punishment well but never made any headway, as whenever Wilson got an opening he certainly was not slow in accepting it.

L/Corpl Kennedy (A Corps) beat Sigmn Barker (2nd Div.) on points. This was another close struggle, and a clever show was made by both contestants. Each covered up well, and they were so evenly matched that it was difficult to pick the winner. Perhaps Kennedy got the verdict because he was just a shade more aggressive than his opponent.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—Sigmn Rogers (2nd Div.) easily outpointed Sigmn Spencer (2nd Div.). Rogers took things easy throughout the fight and it was most obvious that he was far superior to his opponent, who, however, gave a plucky display. In round two a hard left from Rogers caught him on the throat and he appeared to find it difficult to breathe. The bell, however, saved him and he came back for the third round as lively as ever, but Rogers was still in his element and won comfortably.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT—Sigmn Chapman (1st Div.) won on a foul over Sigmn Parrish (2nd Div.) in the first round. Parrish was having the better of matters in a fierce tussle but was cautioned by the referee on two occasions for holding, and after the second warning he was told that further repetition would mean disqualification. The first round was nearly over when Parrish again infringed the rules, and the fight was awarded to Chapman, who was on the floor after stopping a terrific jab from his opponent.

The Willan Trophy.

The scores in brief in this competition were:—

First round—2nd Divl Signals beat A Corps Signals by 22—17 points.
Final—1st Divl Signals beat 2nd Divl Signals by 20—19 points.

A Corps Signals v. 2nd Divl Signals.

The results of the bouts in this match were as follows, the 2nd Div. being mentioned first in each case.

FEATHER WEIGHT—Sigmn Anderson lost on points to Driver Lloyd. Sigmn Thirkell beat Sigmn Weech on points after a good fight.

LIGHT WEIGHT—Sigmn O'Rourke lost to Sigmn Goodwin on points. Sigmn Sharkey beat Sigmn Edwards on points. Sigmn Robinson beat Sigmn Binningsley on points.

WELTER WEIGHT—Sigmn Wells was knocked out in the first round by Sigmn Spriggs. Sigmn Humby beat Sigmn Carruthers on points. Sigmn Hurrell beat Sigmn Hill on points. Sigmn Ramsden lost to Sigmn Bond on points.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—Sigmn Holmes gained a points victory over Sigmn Yates. Sigmn Redgrave beat Sigmn Barugh on points. Sigmn Stannard beat Sigmn McDonald on points.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT—Sigmn Steward beat Sigmn Faloon on points.

Final: 1st Divl Signals v. 2nd Divl Signals.

FEATHER WEIGHT—Sigmn Crockett (1st Div.) was just a shade better than Sigmn Anderson. The bout was rather tame. As soon as there was any evidence of in-fighting, both men clinched. Crockett deserved his victory.

Sigmn Thirkell (2nd Div.) kept as cool as a cucumber throughout his tussle with Sigmn Bailey, whose sole idea was to finish the fight by the short route—by means of a terrific right swing, which (needless to say) Thirkell cleverly avoided. The latter was a good winner at the end.

LIGHT WEIGHT—Sigmn Witt (1st Div.) beat Sigmn O'Rourke after a good fight. There was little between the two at the end of round one, but Witt started scoring frequently with well directed blows and, maintaining this advantage until the end, was awarded the verdict.

Sigmn Herman (1st Div.) was superior to Sigmn Ramsden, whom he beat by a fair margin after three rounds. The former was far more aggressive. Although Ramsden tried to box very cleverly, and succeeded up to a certain point, he was hardly a match for the frequency of his opponent's fast assaults.

Sigmn Chilmore (1st Div.) beat Sigmn Robinson on points. The latter gave away a lot in height, but he stuck to his guns gamely. In the end, however, he had to give way to his opponent's obvious superiority.

WELTER WEIGHT—Sigmn Seatter (1st Div.) was lucky in getting a points verdict over Sigmn Wells, as the latter could have ended the fight by the short route in round one had he followed up instead of turning away when he obviously had his opponent at his mercy.

Sigmn Hamilton (1st Div.), after a hard bout with Sigmn Humby, got the verdict by a narrow margin. Throughout the three rounds hard hitting was the order, and both scored several times with hard jabs and hooks.

Sigmn Hurrell (2nd Div.), boxing cleverly throughout, was never in danger of defeat. Sigmn Wilcox, his opponent, was thoroughly outpointed.

Sigmn Robertson (2nd Div.) made short work of Signalman McHugh, who was knocked out in the first round. There were no exchanges whatsoever in this bout. Robertson got to work early and, after flooring his man twice, knocked him out with a hard right hook to the jaw.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—Sigmn Ashford (1st Div.) beat Sigmn Holmes by a narrow margin. There was little between the two men, who mixed it well at the slightest chance.

Sigmn Redgrave (2nd Div.) and Sigmn Alexander had a fierce set-to, and it was evident that the latter wanted it finished as early as possible. From the outset he swept in like a tornado. This method upset Redgrave, who was caught napping and floored in the first few seconds. However, on rising, he was ready for his man and he boxed cleverly, two beautiful lefts making blood run from Alexander's mouth. In the remaining two rounds Alexander kept up his cyclonic tactics, but he found more than a match in Redgrave, who won comfortably.

Sigmn Stannard (2nd Div.) outboxed Sigmn Banham and, from the start of round two, was an obvious winner.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT—Sigmn Steward (2nd Div.) beat Sigmn Tomlinson on points in a fight that was rather uninspiring.

At the end Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O. (our Chief Signal Officer) presented the prizes, and in a few well chosen words congratulated all the boxers on their fine displays. He also remarked on the great improvement that had taken place since the competitions of last year.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—As we so skilfully predicted in the topical pages, herewith are the results of the inter-Company novices and open boxing tournament held on the 28th and 28th November.

NOVICES.

Feather weight—Winner, Sigmn Crockett, No. 1 Company; runner-up, Driver Phillips, No. 2.
Light weight—Sigmn Witt, No. 3; Driver Phillmore, No. 2.
Welter weight—Sigmn Hamilton, No. 2; Sigmn Lambie, No. 2.
Middle weight—Sigmn Ashford, No. 1; Sigmn Alexander, No. 2.
Light heavy—Sigmn Taylor, No. 1; Sigmn Tomlinson, No. 3.

OPEN.

Feather weight—Winner, L/Corporal Griffin, No. 3 Company; runner-up, Sigmn Cox, No. 1.
Light weight—Sigmn Wilson, No. 1; L/Corpl Edwards, No. 1.
Welter weight—Sigmn Lunt, No. 1; Sigmn Brown, No. 2.
Middle weight—Corpl Clarke, No. 2; Sigmn Davison, No. 1.
Light heavy—Sigmn Chapman, No. 1; Driver Hardwicke, No. 2.

Best Losers—Signalmen Smith (No. 3 Company), Hernan (No. 2) and McHugh (No. 1).

Football.—Up to date this game has evoked much enthusiasm and produced the following results.

SENIOR LEAGUE.

v. 2nd Battn The Royal West Kent Regiment, home, won by 1—0.
v. 2nd Battn The Cameron Highlanders, home, drew at 1—1.
v. 13th Field Brigade R.A., home, won by 5—3.

v. A Corps Signals, home, lost by 1—2.
v. A Corps Signals, away, won by 7—0.
v. 13th Field Brigade R.A., away, won by 4—1.
v. 2nd Battn K.O.R.R., away, lost by 0—7.
v. 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps, home, lost by 1—2.
v. 2nd Divl Signals, away, drew at 2—2.
v. 2nd Divl Signals, home, lost by 1—4.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

v. Military Police, Aldershot, away, won by 3—2.
v. 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps, away, lost by 0—4.
v. R.A.P.C. and R.A.V.C., home, lost by 3—6.
v. 2nd Battn Royal West Kent Regiment, away, drew at 4—4.
v. 2nd Battn Cameron Highlanders, home, lost by 4—6.
v. Military Police, Aldershot, home, drew at 4—4.
v. R.A.V.C. and R.A.P.C., away, won by 2—0.
v. 2nd Battn East Yorks Regiment, away, won by 3—2.
v. 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps, home, drew at 2—2.

Not that these results are anything to brag about ; but like the grand old Duke of York's men, we are half way up the " league " and neither up nor down.

Hockey.—The situation regarding hockey is more rosy. We lost two matches before we got into our stride, but from then onwards we preserved an unbeaten record until the 10th Dec. when we were eliminated from the Army cup by the Queen's Regiment ; and by the look of things, last year's finalists will be there again in 1935. Here are the results to date.

v. 2nd Divl Signals, home, lost by 1—5.
v. A Corps Signals, home, lost by 1—4.
v. The Queen's Royal Regiment, home, drew at 2—2.
v. 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps, home, drew at 2—2.
v. 19th Field Brigade R.A., home, won by 2—1.
v. The Welch Regiment, away, won by 4—3.
v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps, home, won by 2—1.
v. Duke of Wellington's Regiment, away, won by 3—1.
v. The Northamptonshire Regiment, away, won by 5—3.
v. The Wiltshire Regiment, away, drew at 3—3.
v. The Cameronians, home, drew at 4—4.
v. The Queen's Regiment, away, drew at 2—2.
v. 11th Field Brigade R.A. (Army cup) won by 3—1.
v. The Queen's Regiment (Army cup) lost by 0—3.

Rugby.—The fixture list has been a fairly heavy one, but owing to injuries, players being called on for other games, and many other reasons, the team has rarely turned out the same from match to match. We have a number of promising players, which augurs well for the second half of the season. A complete list of results is not available, and no victory is apparent in those that are, so to avoid a stormy deputation from the team, I am withholding them.

Cross-Country.—As is usual, training for cross-country running has been hampered by training for and participating in other branches of sport. The three representative runs so far held have resulted as follows. On each of the two inter-unit runs the 1st Divl Signals were first, the 2nd Divl Signals second, and A Corps Signals third. In the Group run the 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps were first, the 1st Divl Signals second, the 2nd Divl Signals third, and A Corps Signals fourth.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Football.—
v. Seale and Sands F.C. drew at 4—4 (Harwood 2, Verlander, Mohrstadt)
v. No. 3 Company 2nd Divisional Signals, drew at 4—4 (Harwood 2, Verlander 2)
v. No. 2 Company A Corps Signals, drew at 3—3 (Harwood 2, Macken) and lost by 1—8 (Harwood)
v. No. 4 Company A Corps Signals, won by 2—1 (Verlander 2)
v. No. 1 Company A Corps Signals, lost by 1—2 (Macken) and drew at 3—3 (Verlander, Chamberlain, Williams)

Our record to date stands as follows: Played 12, won 3, drawn 6, lost 3. Goals—for 40, against 49. The leading goal scorers are: Sigmn Harwood 9, Sigmn Verlander 9, Sigmn Macken 8.

Golf.—Sergt Bishop won a tournament run on league lines, winning 71.8 per cent of his matches. Sigmn Verlander was runner up with 69.4 per cent.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Hockey.—The following unit hockey matches were played during the period 10th November to 10th December.

v. 1st Battalion The Loyal Regiment, lost by 0—1
v. 14th Light Battery R.A. won by 5—2
v. 1st Battalion The Loyal Regiment, lost by 1—2
v. 1st Survey Company R.A. drew at 1—1
v. R.A.F. Netheravon, lost by 1—2
v. 5th Light Brigade R.A. drew at 1—1
v. 1st Light Battalion R.T.C. lost by 3—4
v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. won by 2—1
v. Experimental Establishment, won by 4—1

The team as a whole played well, but the forward line lost its rhythm and on very few occasions were goals scored through good combination. The halves and backs were reliable throughout, but were rarely rewarded for their hard work by seeing their forwards make use of the good openings produced by them. The matches with the Loyals and the R.T.C. were always worth watching, as these games were well contested and the hockey attractive.

The team have gone on leave for Christmas, and it is hoped that the rest will have a good effect in the New Year when we play our first round of the Army cup.

Association Football.—Our unit team keep on trying, but victories do not seem to come our way. We hope for better times in the New Year.

Rugby Football.—We have played three games and lost them all, but we have gained much experience.

In the first game—the second round of the Army cup against the 5th Battalion R.T.C. (cup finalists last year)—our team played a good hard game, with the Tanks a slightly better team all through. They won by 13 points: one drop goal and three tries. Their forwards won most of the scrums, and our threes were a long time before they got moving. Lieut Blum made two brilliant runs along the touch line, and it was only deadly tackling that brought him down each time near the Tank goal line. The game was immensely enjoyed by a large crowd of spectators.

In the second game, against the R.A.F. Netheravon, we could only muster a very weak team and were defeated by 19—8 points. The Air Force side included Naval and Marine officers and were an experienced team. Lieut. Read scored a brilliant try for us, running strongly from well inside his own half. L/Cpl Edwards obtained the other, running over when the referee wasn't looking.

The rugby team are very sorry indeed that Lieut. White, the leader of the forwards, is leaving shortly. I think he is going south to teach West Africans the game.

On the 28th November we played the Exeter Rugby Club on the Devon County Ground. Exeter turned out a fairly strong team against us, including several of their first team players. One of our opponents was R.S.M. Herbert (43rd Divl Signals, T.A.). He has not grown any smaller, and he played as well as ever against us. We thank him for all the excellent arrangements he made for us ; but will he please engage waiters and not pretty waitresses next year ? Two of our young married players were reluctant to leave Exeter that evening! We all enjoyed the trip and game immensely.

Exeter scored first through a misunderstanding between our back and the right wing. We drew level soon afterwards. Sigmn Minns broke away from a line out well inside his own half and then transferred to Sigmn Moxon, who ran strongly to within a few yards of the goal line before giving a perfect pass to Lieut. Read, who crossed for an unconverted try.

The second half started with end to end play, Signals having a fair share of the game. The Exeter right wing then broke through and with a grand effort scored, the goal kick failing. Signals fought back, and from a loose scrum just inside the Exeter half Sigmn McKenzie took a beautiful pass from L/Corpl Goodman and, running brilliantly, beat man after man to ground the ball underneath the posts. We had visions now of taking the lead, but Lieut. Harrison's kick was charged down and the scores were level once more. Some of our forwards were inclined to get offside through being over keen, and from a penalty kick near our goalposts Exeter once more took the lead. Soon afterwards the final whistle went with the scores: Exeter 9 points (one penalty goal, two tries) ; Signals, 6 points (two tries).

This was the best game we have played this season. Exeter were the better side, but there is no doubt that playing against such teams will improve our rugger. Sigmn McKenzie was loudly cheered, time after time, for his relief kicks to touch and for the way he opened out the game.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

East Kent Football League.—November 17th v. Dover, away. After having most of the game in the first half, we fell away in the second and were beaten by 4—1 goals.

November 24th v. Faversham Invicta, at home. This was the return league fixture, and we completed our first double. Again the forwards could not keep up their form of the first half, and Faversham snapped up two quick goals late in the second half. Sigmn Sedgwick was introduced at centre-forward and performed the hat trick.

November 28th v. Chartham, away. Visiting Chartham for this return game, we anticipated another defeat (after losing at home by 2—6) but after a very good game we ran out winners by 4—2 goals. Sedgwick again managed a hat trick.

December 1st v. Betteshanger, at home. This was a very scrappy game, and we eventually won by 3—1.

Kent Benevolent Cup—second round v. Herne United, away. This must be classed as the "scream" of the season. The "Garges" could not play football, but were very good at giving instructions to the referee and our players. Sedgwick helped himself to four (nearly five: after having tricked the goal-keeper, he mistook the corner flag for the goal post!) Cox J. and Foster also scored, and we won by 7—3. We are now in the semi-final of the competition.

The Second Eleven have made a very bad start, having played three games in the Thanet Thursday League and drawn one and lost the other two.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Association Football.—A number of brilliant victories have put the unit eleven right to the fore amongst the giants. I left my readers last month after recording the result of our initial cup tie venture this season v. the Junior Imps F.C. This match, it may be remembered, was abandoned after 110 minutes play owing to bad light. Having jogged your memories, I will now proceed with the good work.

SCARBOROUGH CHALLENGE BOWL—Semi-final replay v. Junior Imps F.C. Played under ideal weather conditions. Signals were prominent right from the start in carrying the play into the visitors' territory, and within five minutes Quilter opened the scoring for the homesters. The Imps retaliated and went near to scoring, but the brilliance of Houghton (goalkeeper) and Stanford (left back) saved many dangerous situations. Just before half time Hawks registered our second goal.

Signals were now out for a convincing victory. Splendid team work and that extra bit of stamina ran the Imps off their feet. Clarke and Steer increased the Signals' lead, but over confidence on the part of our defence allowed the Imps to find the net on two occasions before Hawks and Clarke made the total six. Thus the Imps passed out of this competition, losing by 2—6, whilst the Signals for the first time qualified for the final.

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE CUP—Second round v. Junior Imps F.C. Luck favoured the Signals by virtue of being drawn at home and once again receiving the Imps as their visitors.

The Imps opened up cautiously in an effort to prevent the Signals from repeating the previous punishment inflicted in the challenge bowl tie. No sooner had the Signal forwards received the ball than the Imps tackled. However, Clarke—opportunist that he is—cut in from the right wing and steered the ball into the side of the goal opposite to that where the goalkeeper was positioned to intercept a square pass from Steer, our inside left. The lead was held only for a short time. The Imps, profiting by a defensive blunder, equalised with a shot which Houghton stood no earthly chance of saving. Half-time: Signals 1, Imps 1.

Both teams recommenced briskly, play being carried from end to end. Special mention must be made of a super-human effort of Houghton in fisting the ball over the bar at the expense of a corner. The corner being cleared, our forwards, lying well up the field, took the ball down in perfect combination and once more Clarke repeated his first effort. Play slackened down considerably towards the end, the Imps being at sixes and sevens in trying to equalise. Nevertheless, victory for the Signals was assured when Clarke, again pouncing upon a loose ball, scored a third and incidentally completed his hat trick. Result: Signals 3, Imps 1.

Signals have been drawn at home again in the third round against Scalby F.C. This team was dismissed from the challenge bowl by the Signals earlier in the season.

SCARBOROUGH HOSPITAL CUP—First round v. Oriel F.C. Drawn away to this team, Signals had a light task before them. Over-eagerness on the part of the backs, and even the goalkeeper, to score goals kept the Signals' total down to nine. Sorry, chaps! but I cannot hand out any bouquets. For every goal scored, I am sure two were missed. The Oriel played a good sporting game and lost as sportsmen. Result: Signals 9, Oriel F.C. nil.

Our opponents in the second round, strange as it may seem, are once again the Junior Imps F.C., at home.

WHITBY HOSPITAL CUP—First round v. North Cliff F.C. Incidentally, this cup tie had to be staged on the same afternoon as the above cup tie. Rather than withdraw, the fixture was handed over to the Reserves, who were without a game. Needless to say, the match was played at home—our luck still holding good.

The Reserves, eager to carry on the good work of the seniors and enable them to qualify for the subsequent round, rolled up their sleeves and at half time led by three goals to love. The game terminated in favour of the Reserves, who carried the score to 7—1. This result rather flatters them. North Cliff F.C. in the second half had nine-tenths of the play but could not obtain what counted most. However, the juniors must be congratulated on stepping into the breach at an awkward time and emerging on top.

The seniors resume their league activities on Saturday next, when they travel to Whitby, where a stiff opposition is awaited.

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE: DIVISION II.—Maximum points have been obtained by the Reserves from league fixtures played during October. Results: v. Cayton F.C. won by 19—0 at home; v. Sherburn F.C. won by 6—1 away. The league tables are appended.

Division I.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Scarborough Juniors	6	3	1	2	28—10	8
Filey	4	3	0	1	11— 5	7
Whitby	5	2	0	3	12— 7	7
Junior Imps	6	2	2	2	15—14	6
Pickering	8	1	4	3	13—10	5
Hunmanby	5	2	2	1	14—17	5
Signals	3	1	1	1	5— 4	3
Kirby	5	0	4	1	6—13	1

Division II.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Scalby	7	7	0	0	43— 8	14
Filey II.	8	7	1	0	37—18	14
Signals II.	9	6	2	1	54—12	13
Y.M.C.A.	8	5	2	1	33—17	11
Ayton	10	4	3	3	28—34	11
Imps II.	9	4	3	2	33—24	10
Snainton	10	4	4	2	31—28	10
Corporation	8	4	3	1	24—19	8
Gristhorpe	7	1	6	0	13—27	2
Sherburn	7	1	6	0	8—36	2
Cayton	7	1	6	0	8—45	2
Electric	8	0	8	0	7—52	0

INTER-SECTION LEAGUE.—Little headway has been made in this department owing to inclement weather making the ground unfit for play. There are two results to record. J Section defeated K by 4—1, and M Section beat A by 2—1.

League Table.

	Played	W.	D.	L.	Goals	Pts.
B Section	2	2	0	0	15— 3	4
M Section	2	2	0	0	6— 1	4
J Section	2	1	0	1	4— 2	2
R.A. Sections	1	1	0	0	1— 0	2
A Section	2	0	0	2	5— 5	0
D Section	2	0	0	2	0—15	0
K Section	1	0	0	1	1— 4	0

Apology.—To the R.A. Sections for inadvertently recording their match played against J Section as a victory for the latter team. The result should have been reversed. The league table has been amended accordingly.

Hockey.—Although we still have difficulty in fielding a fully representative team, we have been fairly successful so far this season. On the one occasion when our full team was available, we entered the semi-final of the Northern Command section of the Army cup by beating the Manchester Regiment by 2—1 goals. The game was fairly even, and although both sides missed chances, I think the margin should have been greater than one goal. All the goals were scored in the first half, L/Corpl Webb scoring the first after about fifteen minutes play. Shortly afterwards Lieut Corkelli equalised for the Regiment with a hard shot which left the goalkeeper helpless. A few minutes later Sigmn Thomson scored our second goal after a clever run through. We experimented in this match by playing L/Corpl Dillon at outside left, but for the next round v. the Sherwood Foresters he will revert to his old position at centre forward.

First Eleven results—v. Hessle H.C. (at Hessle) won by 2—1 ; v. Scarborough Northern (away) won by 5—2 ; v. North Riding Mental Hospital (at York) lost by 3—6.

The Second Eleven, at home, beat the Depot of the East Yorkshire Regiment by 4—2.

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Hockey.—The teams have shown great improvement lately, and a number of games have been played: v. I.O.R.s drew at 2—2 ; v. Gujrat College won by 4—3 ; v. I.O.R.s lost by 0—3 ; v. R.A.M.C. won by 7—0 ; v. 1st Divl Signals drew at 1—1 ; v. M.E.S. won by 3—1 ; v. 1st Divl Signal I.O.R.s won by 4—2 ; v. Kirpa Rams drew at 2—2 ; v. Gordon College drew at 1—1 ; v. 1st Divl Signals lost by 0—3.

Soccer.—Section games are in full swing now and some very interesting matches have been played, as well as some representative games. The details are rather too numerous to mention individually, but the average is: Played 8, won 6, drawn 1, lost 1. Goals—for 32, against 9.

Athletics.—We are making a track for our own use, and we hope to be able to report some progress in the physical efficiency tests which will be commencing shortly.

Waziristan District Signals.

Wana Signal Section.

The three Indian Battalions, Cavalry Squadron and Mountain Battery have been changed or are for relief in a short while, so we have not yet sized up their form at sport. The following are the results of recent games.

Football.—v. Combined Indian Military Hospital, drew at 2—2 ; v. Sappers and Miners, won by 2—0 ; v. No. 3 Section 6th A.C.C. drew at 3—3, lost by 0—2 and drew at 1—1 ; v. 20th Lancers, won by 8—3 ; v. C.I.M. Hospital, won by 5—0.

Hockey.—v. 8th Field Ambulance, drew at 2—2 ; v. C.I.M. Hospital, won by 7—2 ; v. 3/14th Punjab Regiment, won by 2—1 ; v. 2/4th Bombay Grenadiers, lost by 0—2 ; v. S Company 3/14th Punjab Regiment, won by 4—2 ; v. 21st A.T. Company I.A.S.C. drew at 0—0 and lost by 0—1 ; v. A Company 3/14th Punjab Regiment, won by 5—4 ; v. B Company 4/6th Rajputna Rifles, won by 3—2.

We have recently obtained a set of boxing gloves and constructed a boxing ring on the Section square, but so far we have not indulged in any pugilism.

At a tennis tournament on the 15th November the Section beat the Garrison Sergeants Mess by 10—6 sets.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Sports.—Inter-Section tennis for the Murray cup has been played off. Many interesting games were witnessed, and much hitherto unknown talent was displayed in some of the more keenly contested and important games. After a win: "Ah, well! Anno Domini, you know, sir. Old age creeps on, but still we can do it." The matches resulted in H.Q. being on top in points, followed by D and K Sections as second and third respectively.

Rugger.—A quickly formed team which had not been licked into shape, and which had not played together before, visited Peshawar District Signals on the 29th November to play their team. A grand match, with very little to choose between either side, was rightly won by Peshawar, who played a far better forward game than we did. The score closed with one unconverted try for Peshawar (3—0). We are grateful to Peshawar for their splendid hospitality and arrangements for our team's well-being.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

F Section, Jhansi.

Hockey.—We have turned out a team and have been fairly successful. Playing against the Brigade Headquarters, we drew at 0—0, lost by 1—2, and drew at 2—2. We were unlucky to lose this rubber. In two games with the 64th Battery, we drew at 3—3 and won by 3—2. Our O.C. is our shining light in this game, and when he was on leave we lost to the 81st Battery by 7—1.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Rugby.—Since the last notes were sent, the Corps has played H.Q. R.A.F. Middle East and won by 14—0 points.

Our next match was in the first round of the Command cup against the 8th Hussars, whom we had previously beaten in a friendly by 5—0. We won this match by 11—6. Determination in the last ten minutes of the game pulled us through and proved what the team can do if necessary.

In the first ten minutes offside against us gave the Hussars a penalty goal. A few minutes later we were awarded a penalty kick, but the ball hit the cross-bar. Another penalty kick for us was charged down, but the referee gave us another chance and this time we registered. Half-time: 3—3.

Early in the second half the Hussars again scored from a penalty kick, and until ten minutes from the end they were pressing and play was confined to our " 25." Then a change came over our team, and Jones made a great run, scoring a try between the the goal and corner flag, though Moore failed to convert. Sigmn Player next made a great run, passing to Moore just in front of the goal, and the latter placed the ball behind the upright. This time Riley took the kick and added the necessary points. The Hussars then pressed until the final whistle but were unable to score. Final score: Egypt Signals 11, 8th Hussars 6.

The following represented the Corps: Maunder, Player, Healy, Moore, Lieut Tucker, Jones, Birkett, Dyason, Riley, Williams, Hack, Parry, Brierley, and Lieutenants Tate and Pellew.

The next match was a friendly against the K.D.G.s which we won by 8—6, Jones scoring two tries and Riley converting one of them.

Our next opponents were No. 216 Squadron R.A.F. Lieut. Tucker and Sigmn Healy did not play owing to injuries. Jones, Moore and Player were outstanding in this match, which we won by 17—6.

SEMI-FINAL COMMAND CUP—v. 3rd Battn Grenadier Guards. Our team lined up as follows: Maunder ; Mitcheson, Player, Healy and Jones ; Birkett and Dyason ; Riley, Hack, Parry, Chadwick, Brierley, Lieutenants Tate and Pellew.

The Guards attacked and held us in our own half, and their inside three-quarter dropped a good goal. From the kick off we attacked, and after four minutes Jones made a splendid run to touch down under the bar. Riley had no difficulty in converting. The Guards then maintained great pressure until half-time.

On resuming we kicked off, determined to hold our lead, and for a time play was confined to midfield. Moore tried a drop kick at goal but just failed. We managed to hold the Guards back until the final whistle and won a great game by 5—4. Thus we pass into the final and meet the Royal Tank Corps on 8/12/34.

After a few days rest we again played the 216th Squadron R.A.F., and after being three points down at half-time we won an exciting game by 16—12.

Other matches played have been v. Cairo Rugby Club, drew at 3—3 ; v. Grenadier Guards, drew without any score ; v. R.A.O.C. won by 11—7.

Results to date—Played 10, won 8, drawn 2. Points—for 90, against 44.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Hockey.—Results of Mamak League matches:—
21/10/34 v. United XI. drew at 1—1 (Larking).
23/10/34 v. Police H.C. lost by 0—3.
28/10/34 v. K.I.T.C. lost by 3—4 (Whitehead 3).
29/10/34 v. H.M.S. *Whitehall*, drew at 3—3 (Whitehead 3).
31/10/34 v. University, won by 2—1 (Farrell, Larking).
2/11/34 v. R.A.S.C. drew at 3—3 (Whitehead 3).
7/11/34 v. H.M.S. *Whitshed*, won by 6—1 (Farrell 2, Erridge, Larking, Whitehead, Austen).
19/10/34 v. H.M.S. *Keppell*, won by 3—1 (May 3).

Played 9, won 4, drawn 3, lost 2. Goals—for 23, against 18. Points gained 11.

Friendlies.

24/10/34 Second XI. v. Incognitos, lost by 1—8 (Erridge).
26/10/34 v. C.B.A. lost by 0—3.
4/11/34 v. Macao H.C. lost by 0—5.
6/11/34 v. Y.M.C.A. " A," won by 2—0 (Erridge 2).

Leading scorers—Whitehead 10, May 7, Erridge 4, Larking 3, Fielding 3, Farrell 3.

Football Results—
16/10/34 v. 24th Battery R.A. (League) won by 2—1 (Roberts, Buttery).
18/10/34 v. R.A.O.C. (League) lost by 2—4 (Roberts, Higginbottom).
8/11/34 v. 24th Battery R.A. lost by 0—4.

Buttery, Roberts, Erridge and Higginbottom have each scored two goals.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Unfortunately, our sports efforts are like our General Notes—short, without even the satisfaction of being sweet. Heavy rains during the middle part of the month played havoc with all our football grounds and, of course, with our fixtures. Only five matches were played, the results being as below:—

v. 4th Battery R.A. (friendly) drew at 1—1.
v. 29th Battery R.A. (" B " League) lost by 0—4.
v. H.M.S. *Basilisk* (friendly) lost by 0—4.
v. 1st Fortress Company R.E. (friendly) won by 3—1.
v. Combined R.A.S.C. and R.A.O.C. (" B " League) won by 3—2.

52nd (Lowland) Divl Signals and S.R., Glasgow.

Football.—Our sporting activities this winter are chiefly confined to football. We look like creating a record in the Glasgow Amateur Football League, and we are being congratulated from many quarters on the success of our team. The accompanying league table should prove of interest to the friends of the Lowland Signals at home and abroad.

GLASGOW AMATEURS FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Lowland Signals	9	7	1	1	35—14	15
Ardenlea	7	6	1	0	24—11	12
Wellington Amateurs	7	5	1	1	32—11	11
Scottish Daily Express	6	4	1	1	16—10	9
Bridgeton Thistle	8	4	3	1	28—24	9
Knightswood Thistle	5	4	1	0	20— 6	8
M. Barr and Co.	8	4	3	1	17—13	7
St. Ninian Guild	8	2	4	2	16—34	6
Milnpark	8	3	5	0	17—29	6
Scot. Auto. Ins.	7	2	5	0	19—24	4
Ashfield Victoria	7	0	5	2	11—25	2
Cardowan	7	0	6	1	8—22	1
Steppes Amateurs	8	0	8	0	10—31	0

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.

2310320	Sergeant New F.	15/ 9/34	16

Appointed Staff-Sergeant (Farrier).

28727	Sergeant (Farrier) Heath A.	10/10/34	12

To be Sergeant.

2314000	L/Sergeant Gordon S.	6/10/34	28
3123511	L/Sergeant McDonald W.	23/10/34	28
2311689	L/Sergeant Osborn E.	1/11/34	27

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2306830	Corporal Hunt J.	6/10/34	29
7870669	Corporal Stevens H.	23/10/34	35
2313893	Corporal Henshaw H.	1/11/34	35

To be Corporal.

2306629	L/Corporal Rafferty H.	7/ 8/34	52
2319257	L/Corporal Woods G.	9/ 8/34	52
2310701	L/Corporal Hunter G.	10/ 8/34	52
2217892	L/Corporal Mulcahy N.	10/ 8/34	52
5608870	L/Corporal Malvern H.	10/ 8/34	52
2316563	L/Corporal Weedon G.	20/ 8/34	52
2314181	L/Corporal Skiffins A.	6/10/34	51
757006	L/Corporal Coles R.	17/10/34	50
2316139	L/Corporal Johnson J.	1/11/34	52

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2319198	Signalman Mitchell W.	9/ 8/34
3519761	Signalman Bailey N.	10/ 8/34
2319061	Signalman Edwards W.	10/ 8/34
2319772	Signalman Ackroyd D.	18/ 8/34
2320945	Signalman Hollingshead A.	20/ 8/34

Discharges.

1857070	C.Q.M.S. Johnson A.	6/11/34	14
2307491	C.Q.M.S. Pennicott A.	17/11/34	16
*2311290	Sergeant Godbold A.	3/11/34	75
1854807	Sergeant Nichols J.	18/11/34	25
2306485	Sergeant Hatherley F.	25/11/34	22
4118165	Corporal Javens P.	20/11/34	34

Transfers to Army Reserve.

1071948	L/Corporal Taylor R.	5/11/34	60
2217523	L/Corporal Kay J.	5/11/34	59
2318143	L/Corporal Barden R.	9/11/34	57
2319147	L/Corporal Stringfellow C.	18/11/34	51
2318987	L/Corporal Smith G.	18/11/34	61

* *Special Roster (India).*

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VOL. XVI.—No. 180 FEBRUARY, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

"Better to possess a well furnished upper part with a good outlook than to be a self-contained flat."

Corps News.—Copy of a letter sent by our Colonels-Commandant to Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.:—

22nd December 1934.

Dear General.—On the relinquishment of your appointment as Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Corps of Signals, we (your successors) are writing on behalf of the whole Corps to thank you for the many services you have rendered to us during the past years in which you have been our head. It is with great regret that we learn that age has stepped in and compelled you to leave the position before any of us were aware of it, and without our being able to give some public demonstration of our feelings towards you such as would have been possible at the last Corps Dinner; though we hope that you will be able to attend the various Corps functions from time to time.

With best wishes from all in the Corps for a peaceful and pleasant future for yourself and Lady Fowler, we subscribe ourselves

Yours very sincerely,
H. CLEMENTI SMITH,
R. HUGH WILLAN.

Copy of Lieut.-General Sir John Fowler's reply:—

30th December 1934.

My Dear Clementi Smith and Hugh Willan.—I very much appreciate the kind things you say on behalf of the Corps on my relinquishing duty as Colonel-Commandant. I feel that the high prestige of the Corps is due to the good spirit of comradeship that exists among all ranks of its officers and men, and to their eagerness by individual effort to increase it. I thank the Corps most heartily for their good wishes for myself and Lady Fowler, and shall always take a keen interest in their doings.

With all best wishes for 1935.

Yours very sincerely,
JOHN FOWLER.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

R.E. Point-to-Point Meeting, 1935: Royal Signals Race.—The above Meeting will be held at Ashbridgewood on the 9th March. For conditions of entry, etc., see Appendix "C" and Rule 11 (*a*) (vii.) in "Rules of Royal Signals Officers' Games Club."

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Civil Employment.—For the information of those n.c.o.s and men who are contemplating discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, we publish in this issue (under the heading of Signals Association Notes) two letters from ex-Signalmen who are now in congenial and well paid employment as a direct result of vocational training. Such letters are considered to be of paramount interest to the uninitiated as illustrating the value of vocational training and conveying the first-hand impressions of ex-Signalmen who have benefited by such instruction (see next page). THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Civil Employment.

Essex, 30th December 1934.

Dear Sir.—I am very sorry I did not write before, but I have been very busy since coming here—sometimes working twelve hours a day ; therefore I have not had much time left for writing. First of all, please let me thank the Vocational Training Centre and my instructor for taking such an interest in me, and for accommodating me with this employment, which means so much in these days.

The way our " boss " feels towards ex-Service men was shown the other week when I asked to be allowed to leave, as I did not altogether like the job I was then on. I gave him my reasons, but instead of " firing " me as I expected, he gave me a much better job as a spot welder—at the same time saying " I like you fellows (meaning three other ex-Signalmen beside myself) and I don't want to lose you."

I therefore " got down to it " in the new job, which I am happy to say is very satisfactory. My wages are usually £3/10/0 to £4/10/0 a week according to the hours I work, and from what I gather the work will be continuous until September.

It would be to the advantage of new-comers from the Centre if instruction in the use of the discing machine could be given in future to all metal finishers, as it is extensively used here.

Thanking you again and wishing the Training Centre a happy New Year.

Yours sincerely, ——— late Signalman,
5th Divisional Signals.

Essex, 29th December 1934.

Dear Sir.—I am sincerely sorry for not having written to thank you for the employment found for me by the Training Centre. May I, however, give you a rough idea of my progress since I commenced work at Messrs. Briggs Bodies Ltd. some six weeks ago ?

I commenced at 1/- per hour, working eleven hours a day. The work for the first few weeks seemed very strange, and I almost despaired of ever being able to pick it up. I put my back into it, however, and was astounded at the progress I made. Even the foreman remarked upon it, and the following day I was put on piecework and earned 23/6. It was a grand start, and I can assure you that it gave me great hopes for the future. Ever since then I have made 15/- to 16/- on each shift. The work is not exactly hard, but one must have determination to stick to it. My present motto is " Never give in!"

In my opinion, a man from the Vocational Training Centre who is a willing worker can make metal finishing a very paying job, but he must understand that he is not just walking into £5 a week employment. It depends entirely upon oneself what amount one earns. There are men here who constantly draw £7 to £8 a week, and it is my aim to do likewise.

The " boss " likes us, says we are well disciplined, and wishes all his men were the same—which is proof that he does consider us as being of some value.

Signalman ——— also found some difficulty in picking up the work and asked the boss for permission to leave. The latter asked him what was wrong, and finally persuaded him to stay. He was offered (and accepted) a spot welder's job, which he is now carrying out to everyone's satisfaction. I am sure that the firm will always accept men from the Training Centre.

Before concluding, may I once again thank you for this situation, and also for the Calendar which will always bring back pleasant memories. I shall always remember the employment clerk's final advice to us: " Roll up your sleeves, and remember that it means your bread and butter." That has often passed through my mind since, when I have been fed up, and it has stimulated me to peg away.

I wish the Training Centre a very prosperous and successful New Year.

Yours faithfully, ———, Ex-Signalman,
4th Divisional Signals.

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-N.C.O. Nottingham	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Electrical Fitter
5	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Lineman
11	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Lineman
12	Ex-N.C.O. Cardiff	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Cardiff	Postman
14	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Postman
15	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Postman
16	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
17	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, Leeds	Postman
20	Ex-Driver, London	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
23	Ex-N.C.O. London	Messenger
24	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Postman
25	Ex-W.O. Bristol	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Postman
27	Ex-N.C.O. Brighton	Postman
28	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
29	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Porter
30	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Hotel Worker
31	Ex-N.C.O. Leeds	Storekeeper
32	Ex-Signalman, Kent	Lineman
33	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Postman
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
35	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Attendant
36	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Attendant
37	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Attendant
38	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Labourer
39	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Chauffeur
40	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Conductor
41	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham,	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
43	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Postman
44	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
45	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
46	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Postman
47	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Builder's Labourer
48	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
49	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
50	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following: —

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from: —

Captain W. U. Tyrrell, R.Signals.
N.C.O.s Mess, No. 3 Company, 50th Divl Signals (T.A.)
Malta Signal Section.
Air Defence Brigade Signals.
W.O.s, S/Sergeants and Sergeants, City of London Signals (T.A.)
Peshawar District Signals.
5th Divisional Signals.

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from: —

Major C. H. H. Vulliamy, R.Signals.
Lieutenant J. A. Cooper, R.Signals.

APPEALS dealt with: —

1	Ex-Sigmn South Wales. Domestic difficulties. Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-N.C.O. Darlington. Domestic difficulties. Grant	2	0	0

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3	Ex-Driver, Brighton. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Dublin. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Newcastle. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Dundee. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Scarboro'. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn Aylesbury. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4	0	0
9	Ex-Sigmn Canterbury. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
10	Ex-Driver, N.Wales. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
11	N.C.O. Canterbury. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	5	0	0
12	Ex-Driver, Leeds. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
13	Ex-Sigmn Wolverh'ptn. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	10	0
14	Ex-Sigmn Suffolk. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
15	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees ...	...	10	0	0
16	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees ...	...	3	18	10
17	Ex-W.O. Hull. Domestic difficulties. ...	Grant	3	0	0
18	Sigmn Bulford. Domestic difficulties. ...	Grant	1	0	0
19	Ex-N.C.O. Manchester. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	7	0	0
20	Ex-Sigmn Glasgow. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	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,

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the February 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 7/4/30.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 16/9/29.

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

Free Tuition in Salesmanship.

The War Office, London, S.W.1, 23/1/35.

Sir.—I am directed to inform you that Robert De Vere Stacpoole, Esq., Principal of the British School of Psychotherapy, 12 Holland Park Avenue, London, W.11, has kindly offered to teach a number of ex-Service men the rudiments of salesmanship, etc., *free of charge*. Those desirous of availing themselves of this offer would be required to attend at the above address between the hours of 9.30 and 11 a.m.

I am therefore to request that you bring this offer to the notice of all ex-Service men who appear to be of a suitable type and mentality in whom your Association is interested.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

L. M. GIBBS, Colonel,
for The Director of Personal Services.

British Contingent Signals, Saar Plebiscite Force.

Saarbrücken, Saar Territory.

Aldershot having already hinted at happenings in the grim grisly dawns, we can pass over our departure from England. The Section actually arrived in the Saar in three portions: advance party, main body and vehicle party. This was not the order in which they started, but that was not our fault.

The advance party had a good trip, but to at least one of them France did not seem the same. There were too many photographers to start with. Then, instead of the old "hommes 40 chevaux 8," third class for the men and—believe it or not—senior n.c.o.s four to a second class compartment. It could not be true! And what a reception at Thionville. Real band—real guard of honour—real breakfast, and "Tipperary" as the train moved out. On arrival at Saarbrücken they found that they were destined for Brebach, a small town on the outskirts of the place, where the Signal Section was to be accommodated by the 1st Battn The East Lancashire Regiment. Quarters. cramped, but dry and warm—almost too warm—were duly allotted. We actually took over a laundry in the basement of a large building which was formerly a miners' rest house. For once, there is a Signal Section with sufficient room to lay out all its stores and be able to get at them all, the signal store being the roomiest place in the billet.

The M.T. vehicle party travelled by road from Calais to Brebach in convoy with two Companies of R.A.S.C., taking four days for the trip. They were shown every hospitality en route by their French brothers-in-arms, and from what we have heard in bursts of confidence we feel sure the story of their journey would make very interesting reading; but we are writing notes—not the introduction to a "thriller."

The main body and vehicle party arrived within a few hours of each other on the 22nd December. Since then we have been hard at work, training and experimenting with No. 1 W/T sets particularly. The country bristles with screening difficulties and power interference problems. Since the ranges are usually well outside the normal for the set, all concerned are having a good time and are learning lots.

The D.R.s started work almost immediately, and all of them seem capable of getting along without the aid of Hugo. Why is it that only policemen are credited with such a reputation in association with "Cooks"?

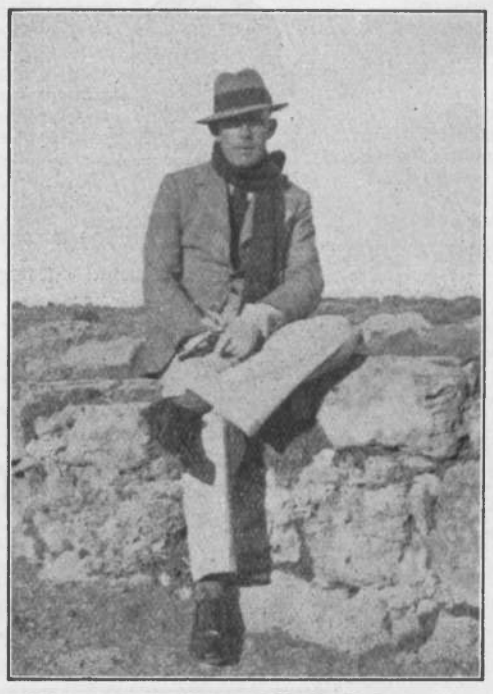
A D.R.L.S. office has been functioning steadily, and a number of people have had to discover that the duties of counter clerk are not so hard as they seem.

Over small excitements like "Stand-to" and confinement to billets we will draw a veil, since you, who read the newspapers a day before us, probably know more about these happenings than we do.

We have not had much sport yet, owing to shortage of playing fields. There was a cross-country run, but most of the runners *and* the dutiful n.c.o. who marked out the course would have been grateful for the loan of an elevator—the slopes are *steep* round here. On the one occasion when we managed to get a football ground, we turned out two complete teams from the Section. We have a ground allotted later this week (11th Jan.) and a friendly has also been arranged with a team from a detachment of the Swedish Contingent for Wednesday 9th Jan. Results and impressions will follow in our next notes, provided the scribe survives refereeing an international game.

We have no Scottish post. Being paid out in francs at 75 to the pound sterling gives everyone such a feeling of affluence.

SAARSIGS.



Salaams to ex-Sergeant T. G. H. Bennett.
(Somewhere in Arabia)

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Brevet-Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney from Bulford to India
Major C. P. Prescot from Tidworth to Bulford
Major D. H. Cunynghame from Aldershot to Tidworth
Brevet-Major R. F. H. Nalder from Catterick to War Office (S.D.6)
Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst from India to Canterbury
Captain L. R. C. Watson from Aldershot to Staff College, Camberley
Captain J. H. Brown from Aberdeen to India
Captain G. S. O'N. Power from Catterick to China
Captain W. H. N. Dent from Darlington to India
Captain W. M. Clapp from Canterbury to India
Lieutenant J. C. Hardy from India to R.M.A. Woolwich
Lieutenant F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson from China to Catterick
Lieutenant W. M. Ponsonby from Scarborough to Aldershot (D Troop)
Lieutenant H. D. Mountford from S.T.C. to School of Signals
Lieutenant N. M. Hay from Canterbury to India (B Corps Signals)
Lieutenant A. B. McVittie from Canterbury to India (3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop)
Lieutenant A. V. Benton from Canterbury to India (Peshawar District Signals)
Lieutenant H. Prince from Aldershot to India (B Corps Signals)
Lieutenant R. B. S. Eraut from Aldershot to India (S.T.C.)
Lieutenant E. B. Elliott from Aldershot to India (2nd Indian Divl Signals)
Lieutenant M. A. Charlton from Bulford to India (1st Indian Divl Signals)
Lieutenant S. J. Dagg from Bulford to India (A Corps Signals)
Lieutenant A. J. E. Johnson from Bulford to India (3rd Indian Divl Signals)
Lieutenant E. C. R. Blaker from Bulford to India (B Corps Signals)
Lieutenant J. H. E. Panton from Aldershot to Malta
2/Lieutenant B. D. Corbett from Catterick to Aldershot (A Corps Signals)
2/Lieutenant P. O. J. Nicholson from Catterick to Aldershot (1st Divl Signals)
2/Lieutenant F. P. Johnson from Catterick to Bulford (3rd Divl Signals)
2/Lieutenant D. E. L. Gardiner from Catterick to Canterbury (4th Divl Signals)
2/Lieutenant D. A. Nolan from Catterick to Scarborough (5th Divl Signals)
2/Lieutenant D. C. Lyall from Catterick to Scarborough (5th Divl Signals)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 14/12/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

51st (H) Divl Signals—Captain J. H. Brown vacates the appointment of Adjutant 30/11/34
Lieutenant L. W. J. Dryland to be Adjutant 30/11/34

War Office 18/12/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain H. R. Firth is seconded for service with the Territorial Army 17/11/34
Captain L. D. Goddard is restored to establishment 17/11/34

War Office 21/12/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Captains are restored to establishment 22/12/34: D. A. L. Wade, M.C., W. A. Dimoline, M.C., L. R. Hall, M.C.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. R. H. Franklin, B.SC., from R.E.S.R. to be Lieutenant 22/12/34

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divl Signals—R. Gibson to be 2/Lieutenant 22/12/34

War Office 28/12/34

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain G. H. Plummer, M.C., to be Major 26/12/34

War Office 1/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—Captain H. Richardson to be Brevet-Major 1/1/35
42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—C. F. Kerr to be 2/Lieutenant 2/1/35

War Office 4/1/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant L. W. J. Dryland is seconded for service with the Territorial Army 30/11/34
Capt. J. H. Brown, M.M., is restored to establishment 30/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel W. T. Todd, D.S.O., T.D., from 55th (W.L.) Divl Signals, to be Colonel 3/1/35, with seniority 12/8/25

War Office 8/1/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. C. S. Scantlebury to be Lieutenant 23/12/34

War Office 11/1/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

J. D. Parker to be 2/Lieutenant 12/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel R. Baron, T.D., receives pay and allowances of his rank 3/1/35
Captain F. J. Behn to be Major 3/1/35

Plain Tales

The Reflections of Minnie.—Nobody ever seems to want to turn me out of an armchair. Jolly decent of the members, but I don't know that I can do anything about it unless my looking so gloriously lazy pleases them. Perhaps they are jealous. That scribbling fellow has brought a dog back with him. I find that it is a lady and inclined to be friendly, so I have allowed her to come in. It is a nuisance not being able to leave odd scraps on my plate for later on: there is never anything there when I come back. Everyone seems to have gone made on Lexicon, a card game—so Tessa says. Tessa is the red setter I was telling you about. I hear that Jack Humphrey is in stables again and knows the name of every horse. It appears to be the same name for each one, but Tessa says I musn't use that word. Aren't people funny? Well, I've promised to meet the ginger cat from the officers mess at eight o'clock. Such a charming man, and what a voice! It is sure to be kippers to-night. Perhaps a whole box. One never knows, does it?

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Correspondence.—Dear B. You missed a good signature tune last month. What about "Leave me alone and let me wander"? Please ask the pay sergeant how much I am in debt. I shall not be coming back. Yours absently, Brog.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

- - - and His Band.—With a spot of luck and a few hard rehearsals, Barleux and his Crochets will be in the picture again. Next week should see all the boys back from leave and working hard to recover the expenses of instruments, clothes, music, etc. I often wonder if people think we make anything out of this band racket. Supposing you are a saxophone player without an instrument. Perhaps you pawned it, together with your dress clothes. You have an offer to join a band. What are you going to do? You can get a good instrument for £25 or less, or a better one for £40. You may even get a second-hand instrument for £12. But all I can say to that is "Tck, tck." Now, a dinner jacket with shirts, collars, ties, socks, etc., say a few more pounds. Right, then. Off we go. How long will it take you to recover your money? You said it, boy.

The boys offer their sincere condolences to L/Corpl George Mitchell (tenor sax) who has just lost his father, a well-known Indian Army bandmaster who was invalided home a short time ago.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Those Schoolboys.—I am indebted to C.Q.M.S. Smith A. for the following, which he assures me came from his sons.

Alf: It says here "Mr. Claude Screeme has been ski-ing in Switzerland." What's ski-ing mean, Bert?

Bert: Don't you know? They call it square-pushing in the Army.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Drive Slowly.—We love our dogs. Much has been said and written regarding the danger to children and old people from fast traffic, and very rightly, too. It is my intention, however, to say a few words about animals.

I have only run over two dogs in my career: one with a motor-cycle and the other with a car (is this a record?) Both dogs lifted up their voices for a few seconds and then died. I can hear their cries yet. Shortly afterwards I was walking, when a woman ran into me with a pram, removing a few square inches of skin from my ankle. There was a child in the pram, so you can't call it poetic justice or anything like that.

How many of you know that in England alone, last year, no fewer than a very large number of dogs were killed outright on our highways? Almost as many were killed on our byways, but of that more anon. This is an increase of several on the figures for the previous year, and is a grave reflection on something. The number of horses killed is very much less. Elephants and giraffes form a minute proportion of the tragic total, which seems to prove that motorists exercise greater care when approaching those animals.

My point is that motorists just don't care. Only a few nights ago, or it may have been days, a man with whom I was driving deliberately ran over a rabbit. He even laughed. Would he

have been so cheerful if he had run into a rhinoceros or other pachydermatous quadruped? I think so, neither.

Take this to heart, and remember that in future, when you are doing about forty-five along a straight and perfectly clear road and a dog shoots out from the side right under your front wheels, now I've stopped for a comma and—oh, heck! what does it matter what I say?

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Great Thought.—Write to your sister on Wednesday.

BARLEUX.

The Long Arm of Coincidence.

Four old comrades happened to meet by chance in Bournemouth during the recent Christmas holiday, and as they had not met previously since 1910, the services of a local beach photographer were requisitioned with the result shown in the accompanying illustration.

Known to their contemporaries as (*left to right*) Bob Williams, George Cresswell, Frank Merchant and Jack Bray, these four veterans have an aggregate of 149 years in the service of the Crown; they possess nineteen orders, medals and decorations; have been mentioned in despatches seven times; and have served in Aden, Australia, Belgium, Cameroons, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Ireland, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somaliland and South Africa. F.V.M.

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.

2306486	Sergeant Stone G.	15/11/34	15

To be Staff-Sergeant (Farrier)

28727	Sergeant Heath A.	10/10/34	12

To be Sergeant.

2312479	L/Sergeant Blower J.	15/ 9/34	28
394244	L/Sergeant Betts W.	4/11/34	28

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2314624	Corporal Hodges R.	15/ 9/34	34
2316925	Corporal Way J.	17/ 9/34	34
1856978	Corporal Clutterbuck C.	21/ 9/34	35
2314251	Corporal Manning W.	4/11/34	35
734810	Corporal Freemantle G.	15/11/34	35
2315136	Corporal Hodgson H.	19/11/34	35
1020056	Corporal Inglis J.	27/11/34	35

To be Corporal.

6711171	L/Corporal Fox S.	15/11/34	52
2318693	L/Corporal Gay E.	15/11/34	52
2317030	L/Corporal Beardmore T.	19/11/34	52
2317433	L/Corporal Watson H.	26/11/34	53
754344	L/Corporal Roberts C.	27/11/34	53

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2315631	Signalman Manton E.	10/ 8/34
2321932	Signalman Armstrong W.	1/ 9/34
2318829	Signalman Hiscock J.	10/ 9/34
2319696	Signalman Raine D.	17/ 9/34
2319488	Signalman Purvis C.	21/ 9/34
2317039	Signalman West G. W.	29/ 9/34
2321177	Signalman Johnson A. W.	1/10/34
2318612	Signalman Oliver L.	2/10/34

Discharges.

2307173	C.S.M. Grant N. W. J.	13/12/34	6
7811747	Sergeant Doughty W.	11/12/34	16
2308821	Sergeant Lannigan T.	19/12/34	20
1850272	Sergeant Rhodes J.	19/12/34	17
2308352	Sergeant O'Connor D.	31/12/34	17
3178863	Corporal Todd A.	19/12/34	43
1424405	L/Corporal Thomson A.	3/12/34	57
33928	L/Corporal Brown R.	8/12/34	54
4114298	L/Corporal Norton J.	17/12/34	50

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2317412	Corporal Newman A. F.	19/12/34	42
2318323	L/Corporal Robinson F.	7/12/34	
2318200	L/Corporal Driscoll J.	19/12/34	54
2319375	L/Corporal Smith H.	20/12/34	
2319578	L/Corporal McGlinchey J.	20/12/34	62
2319863	L/Corporal Taylor J.	30/12/34	61

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Sergeant W. M. Cotterell (Joe)

I am asking the Editor to publish this account of Joe Cotterell's achievements, not omy as a reminder to many who w.tnessed some of his remarkable athletic feats, but also as an incentive to the youngster who has a liking for athletics to try to emulate at least some of the performances which I shall record.

There is no doubt that Sergt Cotterell was the greatest athlete in distance running that the Army has ever produced, and certainly in his best years he was one of the world's greatest. To make this record as complete as possible, I determined to get him to provide me with data which I could not dig up myself—not an easy job, I can assure you.

We must start at Crowthorne in Berkshire, where at the Peace celebrations in July 1919 we find an unknown youth of seventeen years competing in the open mile. It was obvious that he had had some previous training and perhaps some running against his pals, for he finished second. He then went on to run in a race dubbed an open three miles Marathon. The course was twice round Crowthorne, and he again finished second. His own words on this race were: "Beaten by one of my own locals, who, so far as I know, has never run in a race since."

Somebody in the district, apparently with an eye for an athlete, advised him to take up running; but (to quote his own words again) "I thought that if I could be beaten by a local lad, I wasn't much good." But the winner had run before, and no doubt the adviser "knew something."

October 1919 saw Cotterell, at the age of 17½, looking round for a career to take up, and as the R.E. Signals seemed to offer a good opening he joined them at Bedford. After a few days there, he was transferred to the Signal Training Centre at Maresfield Park for a course on the square, etc. In November he turned out for a training run or two, but found life at that time much too strenuous for any sidelines.

Having been at Maresfield about five months and got through drill and riding, D Company (with whom he was serving) paraded for sports, two of the items of dress being *boots* and *cardigan*. After a march of three miles to Camp Hill, they were set to run around a course of about three miles and then march back. Cotterell finished fourth in that run, but he says he probably fell out on the march back.

There were several more runs of that description between then and March 1920, when he entered for the S.T.C. cross-country championship. He says: "I went over with the others from the Company to run. We ran towards Camp Hill, and half-way up this long hill one fellow fell out, and I joined him (hard work going up that hill; nothing doing)." The winner of that race was Corpl (now R.Q.M.S.) Noonan J., whom many of the older members of the Corps will recall as a powerful runner in those days.

In May of that year, during his lineman's course, D Company decided to have an athletic meeting; and in that Company was one Sigmn Jones F. A., an ex-Highgate Harrier and a runner of note at that time. Cotterell entered for the mile and three miles, but (to quote his own words once more) "I naturally thought there was only one runner in it, and that one not me. I decided to run in my socks (never heard of spikes). I reckoned it was lighter than rubber shoes." There were five laps to the mile on the Lake ground, and Jones soon took the lead in the three miles. He was followed step for step by Cotterell, and wondered who it could be in socks hanging on behind him. Joe himself says he wondered how he got there. Anyway, in the last two laps he overtook Jones and won that race—his first win in the Army. Jones was the first to congratulate him and said "Meet you in the mile." He did, but again Joe won. Jones and he became great friends after this, and to quote Cotterell once more: "Encouraged by my great friend Jones, I began to kid myself that I *could* run."

In June of the same year (1920) he entered for the S.T.C. mile and three miles and was anxious to do well, as the first three in these races were to compete in the S.E. Area championships. However, he finished third in the three miles and was hopelessly beaten in the mile. In due course, and after some hard training, he competed in the S.E. Area three miles, gaining third place and qualifying for the Eastern Command three miles race. In this he gained second place to the then Army champion, Sergt O'Neil—thereby enabling him to enter for the Army individual three miles race in August, when he finished fourth.

He seems to have been a little doubtful of the merit of his performances during this athletic season, for he told me that it needed some little persuasion on the part of his friend Jones to get him to take up cross-country racing that season. However, he did so and easily won the Sussex Junior C.C.C. in December of that year.

After this success—although a small one—he decided that cross-country running should be his winter game, and in February of 1921 he ran second in the South of the Thames C.C. race. L. Cummins, the winner, who ran in the Surrey A.C. colours, was afterwards found to be a second claim member and was ru'ed out.

The S.T.C. entered a team for the Eastern Command C.C. race and won it, with Cotterell gaining first place.

Later in the year Cotterell entered for the Southern Counties ten miles cross-country race. This took place at Chingford and was his first big race. As I was particularly interested I took up a position about the half distance, where he told me he was feeling fine and I shouted to him to get ahead and leave the leaders. However, owing to lack of running experience, he decided to stick to his place—about seventh—and make up ground at the finish. But the leaders had other views, and although he might have won the race he only finished fourth.

There was no Army C.C. race that year owing to the coal strike, but the S.T.C. held their own championship, Cotterell finishing first and his chum Jones second.

It may be said that by this time he had arrived in the athletic and cross-country world, but it is clear that only his own determination and grit, aided by a good deal of encouragement from Jones and one or two other sources, got him there. My advice to any youngster who has a liking for athletics and cross-country running is: Do not be discouraged by a failure or two. Always remember that the "cracks" have had their beatings, and stick to it season after season and train hard on the right lines. There's plenty of the right kind of advice to be had in the Corps.

It would be boring if I attempted to give an account of all Cotterell's many races, so I will content myself by giving in tabulated form as many of his greatest performances as I can—I believe it is a complete list—and hope that somebody else will come along to keep the flag flying for the Corps.

1921

Army Athletics—Three miles	1st
Sussex Championship—Three miles	1st
Ox, Bucks and Berks Championship—Three miles	1st
English Championship—Ten miles flat	3rd

1922

Cross-Country—

South of Thames Championship—Seven miles	1st
Southern Counties Championship—Ten miles	2nd
Eastern Command Championship—Seven miles	1st
National Championship (picked for England)—Ten miles	7th
International Championship at Paris	2nd
Army Championship	1st
Inter-Services Championship	1st

Athletics—

Army Championship—Three miles flat	1st
Army Championship—One mile flat	1st
Inter-Services Championship—Three miles flat	1st
Inter-Services Championship—One mile flat	1st
A.A.A. Championship—Four miles flat	3rd
International Championship—Four miles flat	2nd
Sussex Championship—Three miles	1st
Ox, Bucks and Berks Championship—Three miles	1st

1923

Cross-Country—

South of Thames Championship—Seven miles	1st
Eastern Command Championship—Seven miles	1st
Southern Counties Championship—Ten miles	1st
National Championship—Ten miles	2nd
International Championship—Ten miles	12th
Army Championship—Seven miles	1st

Athletics—
Southern Counties Championship—Four miles flat.....1st
English Championship—Four miles flat.....1st
Army Championship—Three miles flat (in record time of 14 min. 40⅕ sec.).....1st
Army Championship—One mile flat (in record time of 4 min. 27⅘ sec.).....1st
Sussex Championship—Three miles flat.....1st
Ox, Bucks and Berks Championship—Three miles flat.....1st

1924

Cross-Country—
South of Thames Championship—Seven miles.....1st
Southern Counties Championship—Ten miles.....1st
National Championship—Ten miles.....1st
International Championship—Ten miles.....1st
Army Championship—Seven miles.....1st

Athletics—
Southern Counties—Four miles flat.....1st
A.A.A. Championship—Four miles flat.....1st
Army Championship—Three miles flat.....1st
Sussex Championship—Three miles flat.....1st

1925

Cross-Country—
In this year he was barred from taking part in the South of the Thames C.C. Championships owing to his running in a previous winning team.
Southern Counties Championship—Ten miles.....1st
National Championship—Ten miles.....1st
International Championship—Ten miles.....3rd
Eastern Command Championship—Seven miles.....1st
Army Championship—Seven miles.....1st

Athletics—
Southern Counties—Four miles flat.....1st
Army Championship—Three miles flat.....1st
Inter-Services Championship—Three miles flat.....1st
Eastern Command Championship—Three miles flat.....1st
Sussex County Championship—Three miles flat.....2nd

1926

Cross-Country—
North-Eastern Counties Championship.....1st
National Championship.....6th
Northern Command Championship.....1st
Army Championship.....1st

Athletics—
Army Championship—Three miles (in record time of 14 min. 33⅘ sec.).....1st
Army Championship—One mile.....1st

1927

Cross-Country—
Army Championship.....3rd
Inter-Services Championship.....1st

Athletics—
Army Championship—Three miles.....1st
Inter-Services Championship—Three miles.....1st

1928

Cross-Country—
Northern Command Championship—Seven miles.....1st

Athletics—
Army Championship—Three miles.....1st
Inter-Services Championship—Three miles.....1st

1929

Cross-Country—
Southern Counties Championship—Ten miles.....1st
National Championship—Ten miles.....3rd
International Championship—Ten miles.....1st
Army Championship—Seven miles.....1st
Inter-Services Championship—Seven miles.....1st
Southern Command Championship—Seven miles.....1st

Athletics—
Southern Command Championship—Three miles.....1st

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During the Army team championships of this year, whilst running for the 3rd Divisional Signals in the three miles race—in which he finished first—he ruptured his Achilles tendon, which put him out of action for the remainder of that season and for the cross-country season of the following year. This injury had a lasting serious effect on Sergeant Cotterell's prowess, and from then onward he had to drop out of the first rank of athletics and cross-country. This did not in the least damp his enthusiasm, and he continued to run for his unit in all team events, scoring many wins in Southern Command, Salisbury Plain Area and Bulford Garrison sports and cross-country events. He also ran on several occasions for the Army against the Universities.

I am unable to chronicle all the minor events for which he holds trophies, but in 1924 he held so many that the townspeople of Crowthorne presented him with a special cabinet in which to keep them. The number has considerably increased since then, and now totals about two hundred medals and trophies.

In addition to the successes above chronicled, he represented England, the Army, etc. as shown below.

Cross-Country—
England in International Championships, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1929.
Army v. Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, 1922, 1927, 1929, 1932 (from 1923 to 1926 there was no race).

Athletics—
England in Olympic Games, 1924. 10,000 metres flat and cross-country.
England v. Ireland and Scotland, 1922—1926. Four miles flat.
England v. France, 1925. 5000 metres flat.
Army v. Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, 1922, 1923, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1930.

A great record, and a great sportsman!

W. CLARK, R.S.M., R.Signals.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Shikar.—In your walks abroad you may meet him wearing a trilby hat. There are many " him's " wearing trilby hats in every walk of life: of that I am quite aware, but this particular trilby hat stands out unique, for between the bow of the band and the hat itself a gaily coloured feather protrudes—and thereby hangs a tale.

It was on a Sunday in late December that the unit in which I have the honour of serving decided to take a rest from the strenuous pleasures of khud climbing, causing nuisances in the ether, waving flags madly in the air, and all the other sweet nothings that tend to make up signal schemes.

The camp was situated in the " blue," as are all camps in the North-West. The usual barrenness of the country was made more evident by the layer of dust that spread over everything, and a keen north-east wind caused one to appreciate the comforts of civilisation some fifteen miles away.

However, neither the dust nor the north-easter deterred three energetic gentlemen from going for " shikar." News was brought in the day previously by a reconnoitring party that the enemy, in the shape of snipe, chikor, partridge, duck, geese or quail (I am giving you the version of each member of that party) had been seen in large numbers about three miles away, in the vicinity of the one and only pond of which this part of the North-West can boast.

Picture to yourself this: the three musketeers, clad in conventional shooting kit, with three muskets and sixty rounds of No. 8, and followed by divers I.O.R.s whose job it was to beat up the snipe, the chikor, etc., etc., in the fond hope of stocking the pot on their return. Enthusiasm was boundless ; so much so, in fact, that it infected another young gentleman who, not having a musket, decided to take a few " shots " with a camera of the massacre that was to follow.

On reaching the scene of action the beaters deployed in a manner worthy of the best military traditions, much to the satisfaction of the " shootists," whose job in life is the study of the art of war and who saw in this a very practical method of " tactics."

Each hidden behind a blade of sword grass, the three musketeers (the camera man had made a detour round to the other side of the pond, facing them) witnessed with great satisfaction the reeds bending over in waves before the advancing beaters, who (crawling on all fours) were thoroughly enjoying the sport! Suddenly a small black object shot up . . . . . the blast of musketry that followed was as good as a machine gun concentration demonstration ; but reports from the front stated that the degree of trajectory of the artillery must have been over-estimated, as the bird (reports later to hand said the unknown was a snipe) had, with little whistles of glee, sunk out of sight on the right flank.

Nothing daunted, the beaters still beat on and then lay still as a " W/T " message was signalled back from the front to say that a bird—reported by a little Pathan boy (who had come upon the scene) to be a duck—was floating contentedly in the middle of the pond and within easy range. Three times during the course of action did the three musketeers concentrate on this objective, and three times did the duck take cover—to finally return and consolidate its position at nightfall!

On returning to camp the party were received with great cheers by their fellow mess members, who had, of course, been looking forward to a wonderful dinner of game for that night.

The extent of the " bag " was as follows—statistics which are indeed worthy of note:—

(a) Three snipe, shot.
(b) One snipe, caught by hand by the little Pathan boy!
(c) One " dhobi bird," shot in mistake for a goose (as neither bhisti nor sweeper would accept this, it was later reported by night patrols as having last been seen as a bone of contention between two jackals!)

Expenditure:—

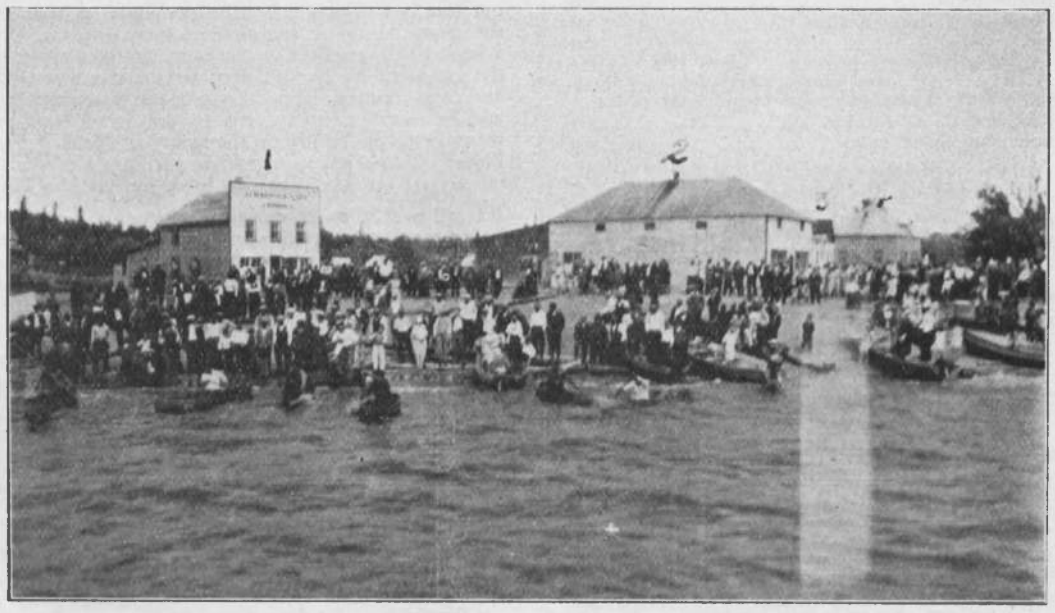
(a) Fifty-eight rounds of No. 8.
(b) One film (which has never been developed, or seen, as far as the writer knows).
(c) Much energy.

Results of the Shikar:—

(a) A " flavour " of snipe for dinner.
(b) The aforesaid feather in the aforesaid hat—the wearer a veritable " Cock o' the walk."
(c) A hearty " Quack! quack!" from the one and only duck on the one and only pond in this part of the North-West Frontier.

Many cheers!

TIM.



Crowds watching a Canoe Race at Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, Canada, on the Annual Sports Day.

1 Athabaska Cafe
2 Hamdon and Alley's Trading Post
3 Mrs. Woodman's Trading Post and Post Office
4 Fred Fraser's Trading Post

[An Article on Life at Fort Chipewyan, with further illustrations, will be published in our next number.—Ed.]

HOME STATIONS

5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS. SCARBOROUGH

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Christmas Happenings.—Peace on earth, etc. Catterick during the Yuletide period was very peaceful. The majority of the Battalion were away enjoying a generous leave. The Battalion children's Christmas tree party was held in the Newbigging Hall on the 13th December—which was certainly not an unlucky day for the children. After a sumptuous tea, the kiddies were entertained by a conjuror and C.Q.M.S. George with his Mickey Mouse films. Lieut.-Colonel St. John then grouped the kiddies and prepared them for the arrival of Father Christmas in a sledge drawn by the pony Patch. Games followed the distribution of presents, and so ended a well organised entertainment.

About a hundred and seventy n.c.o.s and men sat down to dinner on Christmas Day. The toast to the commanding officer and officers was given by old soldier Driver Button. A few more buttons were needed after that, or perhaps a larger size in jackets. The P.R.I. and his staff must be congratulated on producing such excellent Christmas fare. There were no complaints.

Condolences.—It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mrs. Stevenson at York on the 20th December. We sympathise deeply with C.Q.M.S. Stevenson and his family in their great loss.

Congratulations.—These are extended to Sergt Butler and Corpl Gay, who were recently promoted to those ranks. To the Battalion shooting team competing in the Burroughes-Watts competition on getting into the fifth round ; their next opponents are the Ipswich team. To Sigmn Lamb on joining " the ancient order of martyrs." May his married life be a happy one. Lastly, to our sergeant of the P.R.I. staff on being informed that only three glasses were broken during the Christmas festivities ; but *not* to the two recruits who, a couple of days later, dropped a case of glasses—about sixty of which will never raise a head again. Ah, well! Peace on earth, etc. G.E.S.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

[*Received too late for the January issue.*]

General.—The Christmas leave feeling is in the air, and a good rehearsal for the day itself was held in Newbigging Hall on Thursday 13th December, when the Depot Battalion Christmas tree party for the married families of the Battalion took place.

All the squads under training will leave on 24/12/34 for Christmas leave.

We would like to wish all readers the best of luck in 1935.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Blanshard from the Mounted Wing. We hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—L/Corporal Chadwick to A Corps Signals and L/Corpl Deegan to 2nd Divl Signals. We regret their departure, but wish them good luck in their new surroundings.

The fourth n.c.o. drill course concluded on 14/12/34, and the members of it returned to their units fully conversant (we hope) with the doctrine of one, stop ; two, stop ; three.

No. 64 Squad under L/Corpl Deegan passed off the square on the 1st December. Sigmn Coogan won the C.O.'s whip, and Sigmn Craggs was the P.T. medal winner.

Inter-Squad Flag.—Corporal Bennet and No. 65 Squad.

Finally.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Nash E. on receiving the award of the long service and good conduct medal (with usual beer money!)

January 1935.

General.—Readers must excuse the paucity of notes this month, as the writer is still feeling the after-effects of the holidays. We are now beginning to settle down after the Christmas festivities and things are assuming their normal work-a-day appearance. We are still receiving a steady flow of recruits.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieutenant G. F. Houghton from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. We keep seeing old faces arrive in the office from the four corners of the earth en route for civvy street and all those posh jobs (?)

Billiards.—We met D Company on the 11th January but were beaten by 4—2 points.

Cross-Country.—The first inter-Squad run took place on the 9th January, when No. 75 Squad were first.

Weapon Training.—We offer our congratulations to the Battalion team on reaching the fifth round of the Burroughes-Watts cup. We get a certain amount of reflected glory from the fact that a recruit is one of the team.

This Month's Joke.—No. 1 recruit: Do you think they will send me abroad now that I have enlisted ? Barrack-room wit: Yes, if a war breaks out in England.

Finis.—Here's to the next time! EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

We must apologise for not sending the compliments of the season to all units, but—better late than never—we do so now.

The Annual Beano.—About seventy n.c.o.s and men of the Battalion remained in camp during the holiday period, and their Christmas dinner was served in the regimental institute. The preparations were ably carried out by the N.A.A.F.I. staff, and the dinner was voted by all to be one of the best we have had. The menu consisted of roast turkey and stuffing, roast potatoes, potato rissoles, sprouts, beer, mince pies, more beer, Christmas pudding and custard, coffee, fruit and nuts, minerals and still more beer, and cigarettes. The toast to the commanding officer was proposed by our old sweat Sigmn Pledger, the commanding officer returning compliments by wishing all ranks a happy Christmas. The highest praise is due to all who by their hard work made the dinner the great success it was—especially the N.A.A.F.I. cook and her staff. It was surprising to note the number of teetotallers we have on our strength. What did Binnie do with the spirits ?

The Kiddies' Annual Tree.—This much longed for event was held in Newbigging Hall on Tuesday 11th December—and by gum, what a treat! What a large family Father Christmas has. At 4 p.m. all the daddies, mummies and children sat down to a first-rate tea, and this was indeed a great success. You should have seen the fathers eating (myself especially): quite a treat after the usual bread and cheese. After some three-quarters of an hour at the tea tables, we helped to clear the room to allow Santa Claus space when he arrived. (No, Mrs. Lee, I do not know what he does with his whiskers when he goes to bed.)

We were then entertained for about half an hour by a conjuror, and although we could not hear all he was saying (owing partly to the noise made by some fathers playing with their squeakers) his tricks were excellently performed, especially the one with Captain Williams' " tanner." Our C.Q.M.S. also was enjoying himself on the floor playing bricks with the "fire piquet's friend," whilst the C.S.M. was handing fags round.

The kiddies by this time were getting rather tired of waiting for Santa Claus to arrive, but they did not have to wait much longer, for at the conclusion of the conjuring entertainment we suddenly saw Santa Claus and his pages arrive with their sledge, equipped with a sack of toys. You should have heard the shout from the children! C.Q.M.S. Dixon lost his false teeth in the rush, and I " lifted " the C.S.M.'s petrol lighter whilst he was clapping his hands. Santa Claus asked the children if they had been good during the year, and of course the answer was a mighty " Yes!" Every child received a present, and by their happy faces one could see they were highly pleased with them.

On behalf of all ranks of D Company I wish to convey thanks to the officers for this treat ; also to Mrs. Tillard and her lady helpers. Without them, the party would not have been the success it was, and we all realise what a vast amount of work is required to organise a kiddies' treat.

During the tea every child was issued with a squeaker—and my word! what a band we had. Our Corps Band was not in it, as their selections were drowned by those played by the kiddies. Sergt Taylor was playing " Little man, you've had a busy day."

Much fun was caused when the ladies were invited to join in the game of " passing the baby," but unfortunately the babies got decapitated and the judges were unable to tell the black from the white ones. Anyhow, they sorted them out, and the game was won by Mrs. (C.Q.M.S.) Smith, the second prize going to Mrs. C. V. Brunning. Prizes were also awarded to the children for musical chairs.

We must not forget to mention that the Corps Band, under the baton of Mr. R. R. Ricketts, admirably rendered selections during the tea.

A vote of thanks to the officers and their ladies, with three hearty cheers, was called for by R.S.M. Butcher, and by the way everyone responded it was evident that an enjoyable evening had been spent.

So, with the playing of the National Anthem the 1934 children's treat came to a close, and we all drew our balloons and went home. Every child received a bag of sweets and an apple or orange before leaving the hall. An excellent show.

Sunny Climes.—Ack na budgy, or something like that. That's Hindustani for mine's a pint. The following n.c.o.s and men leave us on the 23rd January for service in India, and we trust that they will find the climate to their liking. L/Sergt Patterson, Corporals O'Brien and Washburn, L/Corporals Brunning, Currie and Phillips, Signalmen Austin, Jones, Patrick, Durnan, Poole, Brennen, Page, Peddie, Hale, Leedham, Morrison, Parkinson, Jones and Miscummons.

Other Departures.—The Mayor of Brompton has also left us to undergo a vocational course at Hounslow, pending his discharge after twenty-one years service. We trust he will obtain suitable employment in civilian life.

Signalmen Robson and Adams K. to the Army Reserve in December. The best of luck go with them.

Agony.—Have my shooting cards arrived yet ? No! no! a thousand times, no. We lost.

That's all for now, except to let you know that we won the soccer shield in the Mackworth trophy this year. Details of this great event will be found in the Sports Notes.

We are now closing down. Good! E.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company have returned from Christmas leave and are now settled down to normal training conditions. Those who remained in barracks during the Christmas period had dinner and tea in the institute. The usual " bottle " trick was performed, and all had a merry time. The guard received a parcel from one of the Company, which was much appreciated.

The Postmaster-General announced in the Press that over 2000 trunk calls were made on Christmas Eve. This included a call from a man of the Company, asking if he would be required for guard on Christmas Day. Business must not interfere with pleasure, lad.

Postings.—We are this month losing twenty of the Company, who are being posted to field units. We wish them the best of luck in their new destinations.

Arrivals.—Handshakes to Corpl Clarke C. W. from the 4th Divl Signals and twelve recruits from the Depot. We hope their stay will be a happy one.

Marriages.—Sigmn Bremner has joined the happy roll of C.R.A. He was married to Miss Elsie Watson at Bedale on the 27th December. May all your troubles be little ones, Jock.

Births.—To Sigmn C. and Mrs. Wilson a son, Ian Jeffrey, at the Families Hospital, Catterick Camp, on the 14th November.

Courses.—L/Corpl Philpott attended No. 42 sergeant-cooks course at Aldershot. We are still wondering what an "Aldershot pudding " is like.

Sport.—There is little to report this month. A six-a-side soccer tournament was arranged for Boxing Day, but was postponed owing to the rain. It is hoped, however, to play it off at a later date.

Entertainments.—Readers may be interested to hear that the Dots and Dashes concert party is being revived, and from all accounts it will be a success. Four of the Company are members of the party.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Everyone has returned to Catterick after a very enjoyable leave, and the lines are looking normal again. They are normal in another sense, too: snow has fallen—several times, in fact. We also had the honour of a visit from our cold friend Jack Frost, who left behind him 18 degrees of his personality. A very good start to the New Year.

The events of leave have been told and retold, but except for the fact that Boy Scivier travelled home in a cattle truck instead of an ordinary carriage, nothing out of the ordinary occurred. (A home from home ?)

A boys ride started on the 6th January, but up to date no " bites " have been recorded, and except for the incident in which one boy collided with a forage bin and sustained a black eye in his anxiety to feed the horses (or was it himself ?) there is nothing to report from that quarter.

Sport has commenced again in earnest, and although the pitches are a sea of either ice or mud, games are taking place. The I.M.s are in training for the next round of the Army cup, which takes place on the 26th January.

A cross-country team is also in strict training and has been trying to wear down the moors during the last week.

Whilst we are on the question of sports, we would like to add that the boys are only able to bath three times a week now. Very disappointing to some, but good news to others.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company L/Corpl Webb, who has taken the place of L/Corpl Currie ; also the twenty-one recruit boys who arrived on the 8th January.

Departures.—We were very sorry to lose 2/Lieutenant P. C. Williams, who was an all-round sportsman and very useful to the Company ; also 2/Lieut. P. O. J. Nicholson—we will miss him on the rugger field. Sigmn Manning H. has gone to the 2nd Divl Signals (with a new set of kit).

We Want to Know.—Why a certain n.c.o. is losing seven shillings a week by failing to make an application to the Company office ? We wish him the best of luck,

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Saar.—Much ink has been spilled on this subject since we hastily penned our "Stop Press" last month, and at last we are *seeing* something of our people in the newspapers. We had begun to think they had joined the Silent Service, after the rash promises that were made about keeping THE WIRE correspondent in touch.

Originally it was intended to send a complete Brigade Section—which would have been reasonably easy to form—by withdrawing men from the other two Brigade Sections. Later, however, it was decided to send eight No. 1 set stations. This could only be done by withdrawing personnel from all three Brigade Sections. In addition to this, one light car and two 30-cwt. lorries had to be found for other purposes, to say nothing of five D.R.s complete with bicycles.

Now that the plebiscite is over, perhaps they will find time to put in a bit more work with us on the No. 1 sets. We are intercepting their normal group working, but the strength of signals is none too good and we don't get much beyond calls. Direct working is good and we have heard them on R/T. I suppose, sooner or later, we shall hear them in the canteen.

We understand that a very interesting W/T scheme was carried out in conjunction with the Italian and Swedish Contingents, which left a hearty respect for their operating.

As a lot of the lads have now a glorious excuse for not writing, and much as I deprecate nominal rolls, I don't think one would be amiss here. Captain R. H. R. Steward, M.C., is officer commanding, and Lieut. C. H. Stoneley second-in-command. Sergt Mason, L/Sergeants Napier and Chalmers, Corpl Shaw, L/Corpls Chapman, Steele, Hawkins and Thomson, Signalmen Feakes, Lee, Scott C., Scott F., Smith T., Stanford, Tobin, Wheldon, Whatton, Whitehead, Wain, Humphreys, Chesters, Powell D., Powell S., Johansen, Mansfield, Nation G., Shaw, Stammers, Thrumble, Bliss, Melly, Wood P., Gale and Webb, Drivers (I.C.) Clarke and Melhuish.

We hear that they have played a Swedish team at football and lost by 2—3, so we hasten to counsel them to be of good heart—the Camerons beat us at Aldershot by 4—2. But the bulk of our Saar information concerns the social side and appears to be as enthusiastic as "telegraphese" can be.

Rawalpindi.—Our sympathies to Captain and Mrs. C. D. Hinds, who were unfortunate enough to miss the boat on the 22nd January owing to Mrs. Hinds having to undergo an operation. Happily, the bulletins are now favourable, and we wish them bon voyage on the *Lancashire* when it sails on the 8th Feb.

Geographical.—Sergt Howler ("D" in geography) reads the newspapers. He shewed (pronounced showed) me a leader the other day: "Hundred Italian soldiers bathe in the nude." He wishes me to state that there is no such river in the Saar.

Problematical.—Sergt Howler (not in blue book) has asked me to explode the fallacy that certain married men who draw rations in kind should produce certain monies each month to their mem-sahibs. Apparently it is variously termed C.R.A. or salt and pepper money. He says that it cost him over thirteen shillings to dispose of the theory last month. I gladly give this disclaimer all the publicity it deserves. I didn't make anything out of it last month, either.

Antipodes.—We were glad to receive a letter from ex-L/Cpl Walker W. J. (Box 62 P.O., South Waggon, N.S.W., Australia) asking how best to ensure a monthly copy of THE WIRE reaching him. That's the spirit they breed down under. We have passed his letter to the Editor. Keep on turnin' waggon wheels. Don't write and tell us there's only one "g" in waggon—that's an Army wagon.

JESSAMINE.

No. 3 Company.

Saar: British Contingent Signals.—We wonder how the bold heroes on the Saar are faring, and we will be looking for news of them in the February WIRE. We'll hear all their exploits very shortly, when they return, and no doubt we will have to listen to a lot.

We also wonder if there is really any truth in the rumour that Sigmn Mellowish has married a Gretchen.

Courses.—L/Sgt Handford is to be attached to the R.A.M.C. at Crookham on 19th January for a month's stretcher bearers course. Bear up, Jack!

L/Corporals Reed and Laurenson are now swotting up at the School of Signals, and should rejoin us shortly full of new ideas and with frostbitten ears. Oh! to be in Catterick, now that February's there.

Draft.—Sigmn Hutchins, who bids us a long farewell on the 11th January, will be looking for news of himself under this heading when he begins to settle down in Malta. The "G" draft, who will be moving farther east on 23/1/35, will be looking for a wave from him.

Part Two-ish.—We extend the glad hand to Corpl Ravenhall and Signalmen Morris and Willoughby, lately from Catterick, and to Sigmn Potter from Malaya. Sigmn Renals, recently from China, has attached himself to us for a spot of leave prior to proceeding to Belfast.

Stop Press.—At the last minute Sigmn Hutchins has contracted something contagious—rabies, scabies or babies—and the 2nd Div. *are* pleased! They are feverishly dashing around getting the waiting man for draft ready to take his place. Hard lines, Hutchins! Better luck next time.

LANKA MK II.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

I am a new scribe, and I am afraid these notes will not be very newsy. But some effort should be made to show ourselves in print. Every effort will be made in succeeding months to make the Company notes interesting.

The furlough season having only just finished, nothing of importance has happened recently.

We give a hearty welcome to C.S.M. Purseglove, who joined us early in January, and we hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

It is hoped to produce some useful boxers from this Company, and they are busy training now.

Until next month, this is all we have to say.

PIP.

No. 3 Company.

Drafts.—L/Corporals Collins J. and Webster R. and Signalmen Barnett A., Breach F. and Parker H. embark for India on 23/1/35.

Marriages.—Sigmn MacDonaugh to ——— (who is the lucky lady, Mac ?) Driver Groom to Miss Thompson at Darlington.

Trades.—The following have passed the trade test as o.s.ii.: Signalmen McGowan, Bradley, Ridgeway, Smith N., Ward W. and France. Sigmn Rogers passed the test as a D.ii. D.R. Well done, Red! Sigmn Knott gained a C.ii. lineman rating.

Recruiting.—A certain signalman, while on leave in Worcester, posed as a recruiting official. He has been rewarded with the usual 4/- and is enjoying a further seven days furlough. Is it that you are enterprising, or didn't you like the fellow, Sam ?

Education.—Sigmn Baldwin has gained the second class certificate of education. Hard luck, Albert! Remember Robert Bruce had several tries.

THREECOY.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

The majority of Mess members have now returned from leave, and conditions are almost normal after the quiet holiday period.

The members received the officers in the mess at noon on Christmas Day, and after certain preliminaries all adjourned to the junior n.c.o.s and men's mess room, where Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Barker in a short but appropriate speech wished the junior n.c.o.s and men the compliments of the season. Healths were mutually drunk, and the ensuing musical honours and cheers were given with a will. The w.o.s and senior n.c.o.s then acted as waiters.

On Boxing Day those members remaining in barracks enjoyed their Christmas dinner in the mess at 8 p.m. The presiding

member on this occasion was R.S.M. Grigg W. H. An invitation was extended to the married members, to which some thirty responded.

Following an excellent and well served repast, honour was duly accorded to the loyal toast proposed by the president. "Absent Comrades" and "The Officers" were proposed by the vice-president (R.Q.M.S. Hope C.) and C.S.M. Robertson W. respectively.

The president then, on behalf of the Mess, expressed appreciation of the work of the committee responsible for the arrangements. Sergt Handford, as the food controller, replied with a short, snappy and very humorous speech, which was well received. C.Q.M.S. Ayton then proposed "The R.S.M." and the latter responded in a few well chosen words.

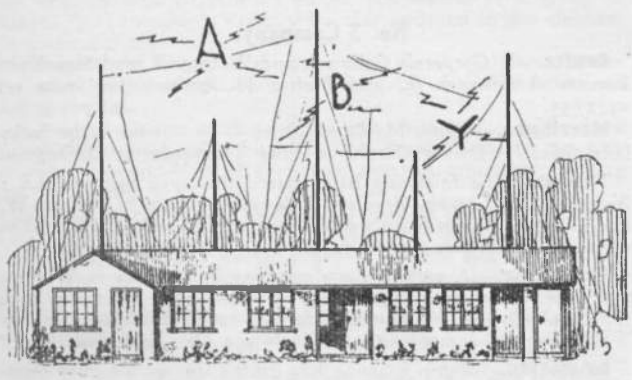
Sergt Bishop G. used the occasion to record the members' appreciation of the work carried out by the entertainments committee and the support given by the married members and their wives. This was heartily endorsed in accordance with the preceding customs of the evening. R.Q.M.S. Hope, on behalf of the entertainments committee, suitably responded.

By the time the health of the single, married and attached members, and possibly others, had been drunk, the company was nicely primed and the artistes could be sure of at least an appreciative reception. The Company accordingly made merry with piano (Sergt Bishop) and song. The chief soloists were C.Q.M.S. Ayton and Sergeants Bishop, Jones, Collins, Thomas and Handford—an all star cast—with large suporting programme, including the ex-boys choir, conducted and led by C.S.M. Robertson.

On the 31st December a very successful carnival dance was held in the mess—but only just! A few more people, and it would have been necessary to utilise a part of the outside surroundings. The hearts of the committee must have been gladdened by such a good attendance. In view of the numbers which attended on that occasion, it was decided to hold the next dance (on the 11th January) in the N.A.A.F.I. This was also an enjoyable evening.

Departures.—R.Q.M.S. Jones E. left us in December for a period of leave, pending discharge. All members wish him the best of luck and good health in the future.

That's about all this time. Switching off now. E.D.S.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling all Cads.—According to Euclid, if one has nothing to write about and a very short time to do it in, the above mentioned one should not be worried. Euclid must be wrong—for I have very little to write and only an hour to do it in, and yet the thought of letting my public down is worrying me immensely. The old grey matter seems to be very languid this morning. I'll have to look at a certain old Manchestonian's face to give it a jolt. Having received the jolt, let's go! As predicted in Old Austin's Almanack for January, Captain H. H. Anthony resumed command of the Company on 9/1/35. As also predicted, but not published, we erected a new aerial within three days. Bluebell and Mansion Polish shares have jumped six points in four days,

Leave.—Our batch of assistant operators from A Corps Signals returned from leave last week. Judging from the hopeless looks on their faces, they had a good time.

Seasonalities.—The Company gardens are now once more the scene of much frivolity. Our superintendent and his willing helpers can be seen every day chasing weeds and worm casts and blowing cobwebs off the trees. Soon we shall be bored by tales of the height to which hollyhocks will grow and why the tulips have not appeared.

Marriages.—Sigmn Harwood H. M. to Miss Olive Jessie Tuttiett at Cardiff on 25/12/34. Dear! dear! we will soon be 100 per cent.

India.—Sigmn Bateman G. (Public Enemy No. 1) has been notified as to his future abode in India. Kohat District Signals are the lucky people to get him, and Ginger is overjoyed at his good luck in going to such a beautiful spot. AUSTIN.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Having only just returned from annual furlough, there may be a little inspiration in the good old stand-by of unit scribes: the jolly old Part Two Order book.

The R/T course for officers and n.c.o.s of the Royal Tank Corps wound up at the end of December, and we all sincerely hope that they enjoyed their stay with us and learned something that will lessen their anxiety during the training period.

The lads of the unit, I believe, enjoyed their spot of furlough immensely—at least, judging by the way they all returned to time (?) I should say they did.

M.T. and D.R. training is in full swing, as well as the second period of individual training. Everybody is now thinking about the formation of the Tank Sections for this year's training season. The orderly room staff are again being bothered with the usual questions for this time of the year: "When are we going?" "Any chance of getting in so and so Section, d'ye think?" and the like. One thing is certain: the winter period in A.F.V. does not seem to last very long, for as soon as one training season comes to an end, we start thinking and preparing for the next. Still, I wonder when we will get to Perham.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We heartily welcome the following, and sincerely hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

Signalmen Byrne J. and Mays W. from overseas on 4/12/34, and Cpl Fletcher E. S. and family from Hong Kong on 4/1/35. Sergt Sharp D. from a spot of duty with the 3rd Divl Signals, and Sigmn Cheffings back to the fold from a tour of duty in Mauritius.

Departures.—Signalmen Byrne J. and Mays W. to F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, who are now attached to the 12th Royal Lancers from Egypt. They were relieved by the 11th (P.A.O.) Hussars just before Christmas.

L/Corporal (Badgy) Norton to civvy street, after twenty-three years service, on 17/12/34. In him we lose an ab'e and efficient tradesman who will be hard to replace. All ranks wish him the best of luck and success in his new sphere.

Sigmn Harrop W. to the Army Reserve on 8/1/35, and Sigmn Baldock on 9/1/35. All our best wishes go with them.

L/Sergt Williams H. B., L/Corporals A'len C., Speakes F. and Chambers T. and Signalmen Fleckney T. and Wallwork H., of F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals (attached to the 12th Royal Lancers) proceeded on detachment duty in the Saar on 31/12/34. They went by road, and embarked at Dover for the Continent on 2/1/35. The papers indicate that they are playing with snowballs and fire at the same time. Phew! what a time we are in for—experiences! Shades of the great coal strike. "When I was in the Saar, etc., etc." Ah, well! I guess we are only jealous, after all.

Corpl Penny and L/Corpl Lafford, also of F Troop, left for the School of Signals on 14/1/35. The best of luck on the course, Copper!

Eyes down and look in!—especially China Signals. Seein' as 'ow I can't blow a trumpet, you must consider this in your imagination as a fanfare. Lo and behold! the great Bugler (or as etiquette demands, Sergt Albert Foley Lake) leaves for China Command Signals on Saturday the nineteenth day of January nineteen hundred and thirty-five. Believe me, he's good, and he cannot be replaced in our hearts. The memory will linger.

though, Bugler. The best of luck and success go with you. When you think of us, thoughtfully fingering your pigtail the while, try to remember a certain Mess smoker and put your pyjamas away out of sight—it would be better thus. China Signals, you have no idea what is in store for you. With Sergt Lake went also two of the best, Signalmen Cox A. C. and Dempsey R.—both useful lads with a hockey stick. Our loss is your gain.

The following leave us on 23/1/35 for the sunnier climes of India. May they prosper in their new stations. Signalmen Jock Paterson (he just thrives on Scotch arguments and jokes), Craig J., Everard J., Brown N. (beware of the new moon, Brownie), Charlton E., Hendry A. (another useful laddie with the curved stick) and Wood A. E. (rugger fiend). The best of luck and a qu(c)alm journey.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Allen J. on his marriage to Miss Frances Thompson at Wolverhampton on 3/1/35. This nearly crept in under "Departures"—from the single state, I presume. Anyway, Jack, let's hope all your doubles are big ones.

To L/Corpl Hubbard F. on being caught in the marital net by Miss Christine Winifred Mitchell on 27/12/34.

To Sergt Archer W. G. on passing his test for op. line B.i., and to the following on snaffling their B.ii. ratings: Signalmen Richards J., Jameson R., Scriven F., Holberton N., Alltoft L. and McGinley J., op. sigs., and Sigmn Wallwork H. elect. fitter.

To Sigmn Blackman R. on obtaining his first class certificate of education.

To U/L/Corpl Chambers T. on starting his climb up the ladder of fame w.e.f. 20/12/34.

To Sigmn (Busty) Thompson on having the pluck to sign on the dotty (sorry, dotted) line for twenty-one of the best.

To Corpl (Alf) and Mrs. Button on the birth of a son and heir at Tidworth. It takes five to make a set of small Buttons, tha knaws, Alf. Mrs. Button was going on fine, but Alf was the worse—he missed his grub!

(M)ad-dition: New Style.—Pay bloke (lost in a maze of figures and columns): "Forty-four bundles of washing at sevenpence per bundle. Er—let's see. Seven fours are twenty-eight; that's two and fourpence—and seven fours are twenty-eight bob, plus two bob carried; that makes one pound ten and four altogether. ——— that blinkin' laundry! fancy, they can't do a simple sum like that—I'll tell 'em something." (Rings up the laundry.) "Hello! that the ——— Steam Laundry? It is? Well, look here. You've made another mistake on this week's bill. You've got forty-four bundles at 7d. down as one pound five and eight. What d'ye say? It's right? How the h——! What's that? Forty-four sixpences are one pound two, and forty-four pence are three and eight. Er—ye-es, so it is; that's right; how stupid of me! I'm frightfully sorry, old man. Yes, can't see how I made such a bloomer—so sorry! Good-bye." He crawls away to his table and feels the resultant warm glow all the afternoon. Yes, boys, it's true—only too true. You'd better watch your pay.

RUSTY.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

I must express regret that our notes last month were conspicuous by their absence. No doubt, I could find many and varied excuses which might or might not be believed. However, I will leave it at that, tender our apologies for the lack of Christmas greetings, and wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

Departures.—Signalmen Fall and Bolton left us during Dec. for Karachi, and we wish them all the best. I am told that they were actually pleased to go. That's the spirit, Fanny; you'll go a long way. Signalmen Rogers, Glew and Williamson left with the January draft, taking with them the good wishes of everyone. We will miss you, George.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand of welcome to L/Corpl Cartledge, who has joined us from India. Signalmen Mactavish, Penman, Nicholl and Somerfield arrived from the Training Battn on the 9th December. We hope they will soon settle down to grooming.

Sport.—Owing to the Troop being rather depleted on account of annual furlough, sport has been put in the background of late. However, to show that we weren't altogether stagnant we entertained B Squadron of the 4/7th Dragoon Guards in our "easy room." After a ding-dong struggle, we cried quits. The Dragoon Guards won the darts and shove-ha'penny, while we captured the ping-pong and the shooting.

We Want to Know.—Why do so many of the Troop regularly propel themselves to and from Calne on a two-wheeled vehicle? Is it purely the love of exercise or a feverish desire to study the beauties of nature that takes those budding Southalls on the road? I wonder! "A marriage is arranged and will. . . . . ." But need I continue? By the way, the record for this trip (if that is the object in view) is unquestionably held by a Scotsman. Twenty-four hours there and back. . . . . Good going, Jock. Still, you did get seven days in which to recuperate, so why worry?

Agony.—Will Paddy drop Nudger a line? Hardwick, believed to be somewhere in India: How about a letter? Bing.

E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Except for the departure of the Saar Detachment on the 31st December, nothing of great importance has occurred during the past month. The bulk of the Troop are at present on furlough and are not due back until to-morrow night. We are looking forward to the prospect of seeing those bright and cheerful faces on Monday morning. What a hope!

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Hubbard F. on his marriage. The details are at present lacking, but we know that he *is* married, and we look forward to seeing him on the Shipton trail in the very near future.

Palestine Post.—Will Lofty Atmeare (somewhere in India) write to Ginger?

Will THE WIRE correspondent of Yu Yuen Road Camp give the ghastly details of Basil's romance at the earliest opportunity?

Simmo: Sorry did not see you—it was probably for the best. Can't sign chits on the canteen in this clime. Rut.

Saar Detachment.—Our foreign correspondent has forwarded a report of the journey to the Saar, and it is with much pleasure that we hand over the wand of office to him. He writes thus:—

Saarbrücken.

We have arrived, chapsies, and take the opportunity of informing you that up to the present everything is tray bong (half-soled English). Since our departure from Tidworth on the 31st Dec., we have had a marvellous time. It is difficult to accurately describe the wonderful welcome we have received at all places

The Channel trip was uneventful; a calm crossing, and the powers that be invested in a new boat for the occasion. On our arrival at Calais, we were entertained by the French Army. The senior n.c.o.s were welcomed at a local cafe, and the troops were taken to the French barracks for a meal.

The trek across France commenced in the afternoon and the first halt was at Douai, where the French Cavalry again entertained us in splendid style (including champagne). We left Douai at 8 a.m. on the following day and proceeded to Charleville, where we were met by a guard of honour. Once again we were the guests of the French Army. The next part of the journey was perhaps the most interesting. On the way to Metz we passed through the old battlefields. At Verdun these fields had been left exactly as they were at the end of the war, complete with dug-outs, old tin hats, etc.: grim reminders of soldiering sixteen years ago. And so to Metz, where we were accorded another wonderful welcome. A fanfare of trumpets greeted us on our arrival, and a military band rendered our National Anthem, followed by the Marseillaise—a most impressive ceremony, and we were genuinely moved by its sincerity and splendour. Then followed more feasting, together with "everything that comes out of a bottle." One cannot conceive what a wonderful welcome we were accorded. The French took us right to their hearts from the moment we left Calais until we arrived at Metz.

Then commenced the final stage of the journey to Saarbrücken. Our reception was quite good, and everyone has treated us very well. Our comfort has been very well considered, the billets being good, very light and airy; good beds; plenty of fuel, etc. In fact, a very good show, with everyone willing to help towards our welfare.

In conclusion, we would mention that the cars of the 12th Royal Lancers put up a splendid show. Considering the length of the run, breakdowns were very few indeed, though the pace of the column was very fast. Our M.B. sets performed some good work. One set was situated at the head of the column and another at the rear. Owing to the short time that we have been at Saarbrücken, it has not been possible to see much of the town ; but we are given to understand that it is quite a big show, where one can make whoopee in ease and comfort. More anon.

BUNKER.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Again, there is little of general interest to report, as quite a large majority of the unit was on leave during December and short leave was also granted for Christmas.

For those who remained behind on Christmas Day, an excellent dinner was served in the canteen by the N.A.A.F.I. About ninety junior n.c.o.s and men were present and did ample justice to the good fare provided. Ample justice was also done to the drinks and members of the Sergeants Mess were kept busy serving, their efforts only ceasing when the barrel ran dry.

The commanding officer and those officers who had not gone on leave were present, and in reply to the toast the commanding officer gave a brief outline of the successful year's work performed by the unit, and thanked all for the hard work and willing co-operation that helped to achieve the results obtained.

The first part of the Big Dig was finished on the 8th December, but unfortunately that is not all, as we have another three weeks to do in March. Six weeks digging fatigue does break into individual training, and makes it very difficult to fit in all we should like to do.

We have to say good-bye to Colonel Penney, who is leaving us for India, sailing on the 23rd January. We are very sorry to lose him, and are grateful for all that he has done for the unit during the comparatively short time he has been here. We wish both him and Mrs. Penney the very best of luck in India.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following new arrivals, and hope that they will enjoy their stay here. L/Corpl Richardson F. and Signalmen Veale E., Lane V. and Lovegrove W. from E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, Tidworth. L/Sgt Policella and Signalmen Leburn C. and Griffiths from the Training Battalion. Signalmen Bunting J., Harrison A., Roberts F. and Wilde D. from India. L/Sergt Ivison from 43rd (Wessex) Divl Signals, T.A. L/Corpl Chidgey from 1st Divl Signals.

Departures.—The following have left us for various reasons, and our best wishes go with them. L/Corporals Robinson F. and Taylor J. and Sigmn Oatley E. to the Army Reserve. Sigmn Manser A. and Sergt O'Connor on discharge. Corpl Davey and Sigmn Baker G. to Training Battalion. Twenty other ranks to India on 13th December per the *Lancashire*.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corporal Roberts to be Corporal w.e.f. 27/11/34. Sigmn Harrison to be U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 1/1/35, Sigmn Mitchell G. w.e.f. 8/1/35, and Signalmen Craig J. and Hutley D. w.e.f. 11/1/35. We extend our congratulations to all of them.

Education.—Congratulations to the undermentioned, who obtained second class certificates at the examination held on the 30th November last: Signalmen Warr A., Quinn J., Barber D. and Nicholson J., and Drivers Corbett W. and Hawkins F.

Extension of Service.—L/Corpl Darby to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Marriages.—Signalman Hurst G. to Miss V. E. M. Beck at Salisbury 31/11/34. Sigmn Sidwell R. to Miss M. I. Barugh at Baldersley 12/12/34. Sigmn Wellard A. to Miss H. M. Jackson at Darlington 22/12/34. L/Corporal Chidgey to Miss D. G. M. Newman at Hale, Surrey, 26/12/34. We wish them all every happiness in the future.

Courses.—L/Sergt Butcher attended a course at the Anti-Gas Wing, Small Arms School, and obtained "Q.1." L/Cpl Pape attended a course at the Army School of Education, Shorncliffe, and obtained "distinguished." We congratulate them on their good efforts.

Sergeants Mess.

I was going to say "all quiet," but to be strictly truthful I must admit that this new game of Lexicon has started a few arguments that are anything but quiet.

The Christmas draw took place on the 22nd December and was very well attended—which was only natural, human nature being what it is. Hope certainly springs eternal in the human breast, but it must have jumped sky high when one lucky soul from Tidworth carried off three good prizes with three tickets. The organisation of the draw was ably carried out by C.S.M. Seymour F., who is an expert at these things.

A certain member, look you! has protested that he does not wish to be mentioned again in THE WIRE unless we record the fact that he has been on the tack for over three weeks. We are happy to corroborate this. Most remarkable!

No further Mess functions have been held since our last notes, but when the lads return to duty we shall make another start.

Our new lino, with its brilliant polish, will slow up a few of the "hotcha" boys and girls.

A number of members have returned to duty. They are looking bronzed and fit, or maybe it is just that they look "browned off."

Our old friend Sergt McIntosh is in the news again. He was carrying a ladder through the lines when some fathead shouted "What ho, Hauptmann!"

Our very good wishes to the following, all of whom we hope to meet again at some future date. Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., and R.S.M. Bramley F. to India. C.Q.M.S. Smith A., Sergt O'Connor and L/Sergt Barnes W. to civilian life. L/Sergt Ivison and family (to whom Bulford is no strange place) are with us after a spell with the Terriers, and are very welcome.

Corporals Room.

The festive season being over, even for Scotsmen, we must now settle down and try to stick to our New Year resolutions.

Like all other activities, billiards has had to take a back seat while leave has been in progress. Now that the majority have returned to the fold, we hope to be able to put in that amount of practice necessary to stave off the attack and so retain that coveted trophy, the Garrison billiard cup (our two trusty supporters are agog with excitement for the fray to commence).

Congratulations to Corporals Coles, Roberts and Johnson on attaining that rank. Also a welcome to L/Corporals Harrison and Mitchell G. on finding a footing on the first rung of the long long ladder.

Without a doubt, the most exciting event of the past few weeks has been a shaking to the foundations of our matrimonial stakes. A rank outsider has swept up, close on the rails, and within the space of a leave span is lengths in the lead. This is a shattering blow. The engagement of Corpl Farmer S. E. (Sam) and Miss P. Woolford (Pat) is announced. Well, well, well! we've had some shocks to contend with. Dicky Dirs (our almost perfect mysogynist) as recently mentioned, gets married. Now, our most confirmed bachelor is on the brink of the great adventure. Good luck to you both, but please give us time to come up for breath before the next move.

Do any of you know Corpl (Ginger) Rowe ? Steady! steady! not all at once. No, he's not gone into voluntary liquidation. You can't even force him to have a pint nowadays. But it's not his drinking propensities that I wish to talk about: it's his service. Having done six years here, he is peeved that he is not yet a barrack fixture. It is understood, however, that he is so permanent that the only thing to do to give him a change is to move Bulford.

As my great friend Henry Hall would say, "Here's to the next time."

BULLER.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Christmas has come and gone. Long live Christmas! The majority of those necessary for stables and duties remained here.

The unit Christmas dinner in the mess room was a great success, and special thanks are due to Corpl Varley, L/Corporal

Evans and their staff for the good fare they served up. The mess was tastefully decorated with Corps colours, and I think the " Wiggins " snow effect on the holly well worth mentioning. The C.O. and officers of the unit were present, and after the various toasts had been drunk the lads settled down to enjoy themselves. In the evening an impromptu smoker was held in the dining hall, and quite a number of people are in the running for radio engagements.

With the New Year individual training started, concentration being made on the M.T. driving and No. 1 W/T sets. The parade ground on the third morning of the course reminded one of Scotland Yard when the taxi and omnibus drivers are passing their tests.

Departures.—During the month these have been many. Of course, as the time of the year suggests, most of them have gone abroad for the winter. Their names are too numerous to mention, but good luck to them in their new stations. Signalmen Wiggins and Cranness have left us for civilian life.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Norcross and Sigmn Dobson from Egypt. Sigmn Howe from India.

Appointments.—L/Corpl Fox S. to be Corporal. Signalmen Evans D. R. and Marjoram H. to be U/L/Corporals. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—With the approach of the training season, a few of the Company are being trained in light car driving and the working of the No. 1 set.

G Section, who have been forming part of the rear party at Colchester, rejoin the unit on the 17th January.

Drafts.—L/Corpl Blanchard and Signalmen Slater, Marr and Tuttle leave us for China on the 18th January, and Signalmen Mulholland, Mullen, Tomkinson, Saxby and Gilchrist embark for India on the 23rd.

Departures.—L/Corporal Parsons posted to No. 3 Company; Signalmen Croften and Illingworth to the Training Battalion, S.T.C.; and Sigmn Esslemont and Driver Weldon to civvy street.

Births.—Congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Jago on the birth of a daughter, Catherine Margaret, at Canterbury on 19/12/34.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corpl Watson H. to be Corporal. Signalmen Ebbage F. and Cotton A. appointed unpaid Lance-Corporals.

Education.—Three cheers for Drivers Hill and Thomas on being awarded the second class certificate of education.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Now that annual furlough and Christmas leave have finished, the Company has commenced to settle down to another year of hard work. Individual training commenced on 2/1/35, and classes of No. 1 sets and operator signals and M.T. courses are in full swing, plus an educational course for second class certificates of education.

Arrivals.—These are few this month, but more are expected before the commencement of Section training. After Monday next the Company will be reduced from 109 to 74, so let's hope that Records will remember us in the very near future. The following are the recent arrivals. May their stay be long and pleasant. Lieut. H. L. Lewis from India, and L/Corpl Heighton from 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough (see Marriages).

Departures.—Corpl Clarke C. W. left us last week for the Training Battalion. He has gone there to impart some of his technical knowledge to budding operators. May you soon settle down, Nobby, and keep your name off that trooping return. Catterick's gain is our loss, to say the least.

Births.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Main W. and his wife on the birth of a daughter on 10/1/35.

Marriages.—East Kent must suit L/Corpl Heighton E., for after a week here he tied the knot with Miss Kathleen Irene Shaw. The usual congratulations are extended.

Trooping.—L/Sergt Purcell S. left us on 10/1/35 for service in the Malta Signal Section. The following embark for India on 22/1/35 to stations as shown: Sigmn Holder W. to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Signalman Leebrick A. to the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Signalman Peacock J. to B Corps Signals. Signalmen Davidson J., Tyers W., Gambie E. and Hockley J. to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals. Sigmn Moase R. to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals. Sigmn Gamble R. to Peshawar District Signals. Signalmen Fisher A. E., Buckles and Todd A. to Waziristan District Signals. Sigmn Hamilton A. to A Corps Signals. Sigmn Stoner G. leaves for China on 18/1/35. To all the above we wish the best of luck. May you soon settle down in your new stations.

Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to L/Corporal Marshall A. E. on being paid for his stripe, and to U/L/Corporal Chatfield C. on his recent appointment.

Courses.—Sigmn Raymond completed an educational course at Shorncliffe on 21/12/34 and returned with a " Q.1 " certificate. Congratulations. L/Corporal Wilbraham H., having passed the Command P.T. tests, has gone to Aldershot for a long course at the Army School of Physical Training. THREECOY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Apologies.—We must tender our apologies for the absence of notes this month. Our excuses are sickness, annual furlough, etc. Till next month, therefore, cheerio! OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

I have read numerous periodicals, amongst other things, during the past month, and most of these were intent on reviewing 1934. It seemed to me an excellent idea to follow suit, and (taking a " peek " and churning what is called a brain) here is the result.

In 1934 there were not a few changes in the N.I.S.C. Our C.O. was the first alteration, and there were two fair-sized drafts to India. To all who are now serving in other stations, we wish that 1935 will see better times or at least as good as in 1934.

Our outstations show very little change: perhaps an aerial or the n.c.o. has re-engaged, but that is all. The forts lost their old Section officer in Captain Jones—that was a big alteration—and the Section is now directly administrated by Belfast. Sergt Davies seems to like the Donegal air, for he still manages to stay at Dunree, although Dame Rumour has it that he is going to try the breezes of Belfast Lough.

The linemen (and we only boast half a dozen) seem to have worked hard. The changes are so colossal that it is quite impossible to record them, and the diagrams were so out of date that we simply had to scrounge a draughtsman to paint some fresh pictures for 1935.

Somehow it seems difficult to dissociate a D.R. from one of those dirty old but rattling good Triumphs. However, our despatch riders are now tootling along on brand new B.S.A.s (and there are no R.U.C. as yet).

Little change can be observed in the stable department except that the stables are repainted; but we hope that we shall really come into line with other units by having M.T. at an early date.

Well, there are scores of other nice things that could be written about 1934. For a small Company of eighty, we haven't done badly. Now let's see what Part II.s have to say.

Promotions.—" Coming thro' the rye."

Postings.—Corporal O'Brien and Signalmen Morrison, Jones, Hale, Parkinson and Miscummons to Catterick for onward passages per serial—to India. We hope the voyage will be pleasant.

Marriages.—Only one. We congratulate Driver Yates on his marriage and wish him good luck.

Inter-Section Moves.—Sigmn Roy from Derry to Armagh on temporary duty. Sigmn Cox from Lenan to Ballykinler. Sigmn Worboys from Ballykinler to Lenan. Sigmn Hunter to Armagh from Belfast.

Jottings.—Found, between Derry and Omagh, one celluloid doll labelled " N.A.A.F.I." Owner can have same by applying through the usual channels.

Lost on the 2nd January, one " sighfar " between Baronscourt and Lenan. Reward offered. Apply Snozzle.

Air Mail.—To Sergt Murray H. (T.A.) Glasgow: I see you got yours, Bob. Tos.

Tailpiece.—A struggle, but that's all. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Training Battalion.

Saturday 15th December 1934.

The absence of notes from this unit for the month of November is regretted, but this was due to everyone being very much occupied in musketry.

Musketry.—This is now a thing of the past, and the results obtained on the annual range course were most gratifying. All the Company, with the exception of one, classified as first class shots and the average was 46.73.

Arrivals.—The family of Sergt Palmer from U.K. Sergeant Marchant and family from U.K. leave, and all looking very well indeed.

The undermentioned arrived during November to attend the class i. I.M. and E.F. courses: Corporals Blake and Manning, L/Corporals Payne and Hoar, Signalmen McQuire, Wright, Owen, Leith, Beech, McCullam, Harrod, Gallacher, Barry and Mackie.

Departures.—The class ii. I.M. and E.F. course of whom we made mention in our last notes.

Entertainments.—The Jubbulpore Amateur Dramatic Society gave three performances of " The Callender " in the regimental theatre towards the end of last month, and according to the critics it was voted one of their best performances. It was definitely above amateur standard and was well received by the large audiences who availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing it. Let's have another one soon.

The fancy dress dance held on the 24th November was a great success, and everyone is looking forward to the coster ball which is on the bills for the 29th December.

Trooping.—Signalmen Robson, McVey and Tindall are due to leave us on the 14th January for transfer to the Army Reserve. Sigmn Markey is also leaving with this party for attachment to the R.A.O.C. at home, pending a transfer to that unit at the termination of his probationary period. " The best of luck to you all " is the wish of this Company.

General.—Our achievements in the field of sport are recorded in the Sports section of this Journal.

In conclusion, we wish all Signal units at home and abroad a happy and prosperous New Year. G.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals.

December 1934.

General.—There does not seem too much of the required material to hand for notes this month, but as this is my last effort as W.RE correspondent for Bekore, I do not want to hand over with a blank sheet to my successor.

Our dining hall has now become a place of great interest in the station. It is certainly a great credit to our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., who originated the idea of brighter meals, and to Corpl Robertson J., who was responsible for the fine drawings. I am sure all old Bekorites would like to have details of the changes.

The first conversion dealt with the sergeants' bunks on the end of No. 3 Bungalow, which are now altered to a fine up-to-date cookhouse. This is a great advantage, as the food does not have to be carried a matter of a hundred yards or so in the open, as previously: it is now served direct into the mess room via hatches in the wall. Above these hatches is an inscription in marble, " Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie."

At the other end of the room, on the main wall, is an 8 ft. drawing in silhoutte, and in twelve alcoves round the side walls are smaller drawings. The background colouring is gold and the designs are in black. At a height of 4 ft. from the floor are tiles in red, black and white. A perfect transformation has taken place, and the old mess room is but a nightmare of the past.

Arrivals.—By the time these notes appear in print our first draft from U.K. will have settled down—happily, we hope. They will be able to afford us welcome assistance during the training season.

Departures.—L/Corpl Harrison and Signalmen Barrell H. and Collett have left us for repatriation to the United Kingdom on transfer to the home establishment. We wish them the best of luck in the promised land.

Deaths.—Our sympathies go to Corpl and Mrs. Walsh in the loss of their youngest son, William Henry, who died at Rawalpindi on 15/12/34.

Entertainments.—The second O.C.A. dance of the season was held on Wednesday 28th November. A large crowd attended and everybody had a very enjoyable evening. We are all pleased to hear that these dances are to be a regular monthly fixture.

Finis.—The Sergeants Mess have again omitted to forward notes for publication. I suppose the usual correspondent has been attending some more elbow raising contests and does not feel up to the mark for using his grey matter.

Corporals Mess.

Great things have been happening of late. The floor, which was of very uneven surface, has now been cemented over, and all members are hoping to be able to run dances, etc., in the near future. The walls look more homely after Jimmy Wild has finished slapping a brush about. Our thanks are due to him for

the fine job he has made of our mess. Other improvements have been made, and it is surprising how comfortable the place is. It has been noticed that far more members are using the mess, and some really jolly evenings are spent there.

Preparations are in full swing for Christmas, which promises to be even more successful than last year. A dinner will be held in the mess on Boxing Night, followed by a dance in the regimental theatre ; and naturally we are hoping for a bumper crowd, as there are no other big functions in the station on the same night.

I am hoping that one of the Mess members will step forward to take over the WIRE correspondent's duties, as I am due for the U.K. in the coming month, and it is greatly appreciated when news can be received at home of members left here.

One member in particular whom we lose shortly is Corporal Robertson J. (late of the S.T.C. band) who is leaving us for transfer to the band of H.M. Scots Guards. We wish you all the best of luck, Jock, and hope you will not entirely forget the Pindi Mess. Jock's one big regret is that his rooti gong will not show up too well once he gets into a scarlet tunic.

A cartoon is enclosed, which we hope Jock will like. The original can be had free of charge (postage extra) from the cartoonist, Fairy.

In conclusion, we wish all at home and abroad a happy Christmas and New Year.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for the January issue]

12th December 1934.

Greetings.—Being rather late for the usual Christmas greetings (which were omitted by accident from our notes last month) we take this opportunity of wishing all WIRE readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

General.—The unit is at present sadly depleted in strength owing to four Sections being away with their Brigades on training: G, J, K, and L Mountain and Infantry Brigade Signal Sections, two being at Sohawa and two at Campbellpore. The two R.A. Brigade Sections were lucky in that an outbreak of equine influenza necessitated the cancelling of Brigade training, so the Lahore R.A. Section will spend Christmas with the unit for the first time for a number of years.

Christmas Festivities.—Arrangements for these are going on apace, and a good programme has been arranged. Further details and notes will appear in our next monthly contribution.

Arrivals.—We welcome into our midst Mrs. Oakes and son, and hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—L/Corpl Debell and ten B.O.R.s left us on the 6th December for that happy and longed for land of Blighty. The wishes of all go with them for a happy and lengthy stay in their new stations. The decorations are going ahead, Tommy, but it will be a roof of many colours when the work is finished.

Entertainments.—The Old Comrades Association held their second dance on the 28th November, but owing to so many being away from the station the attendance was very small. Even so, the dance was voted a huge success and many are asking when the next is to take place. The hall was even better decorated than for the first dance, and the addition of the gold curtains added warmth and brightness. The scene during the dancing was one of colour and beauty. The music was rendered by Matheson's Melody Makers, who did their best to make the evening enjoyable.

Sports.—Notes on this subject will have to be left over till next month, as the representative for this branch of activity is at present away at training camp.

Unit Training Camp.—On the 1st November 1934 the unit marched out from barracks en route to Mandra, carrying out a two-day advance scheme on the way. This started as a normal advance guard and developed into a full attack. The Division was only able to reach Rewat, where it bivouacked that night. The advance was continued the next day, and after an attack on a two-Brigade front the 3rd Brigade (L Section) passed through and captured the enemy position at Mandra, where the Division went into camp.

On the 5th and 6th November the unit practised communications during a staged attack and eventually captured Rewat, where it again went into bivouac for the night. Enemy reinforcements were received during the night, which necessitated a withdrawal to Mandra.

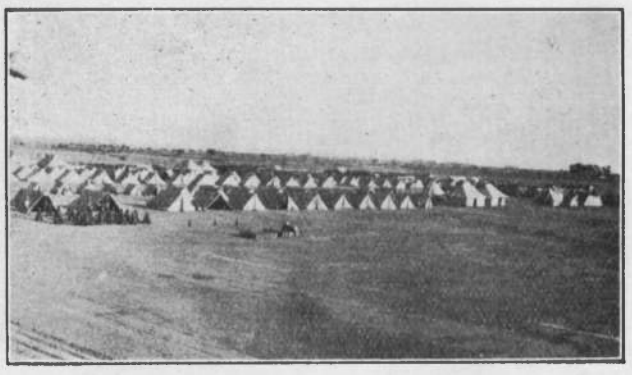
On the 8th communications during a frontier warfare were practised, with Brigade and staging posts at intervals. The only communication from roadhead to Advance Brigade was by W/T, and only that part of the unit which could be converted to pack was used. The enemy were provided by E, F, and the attached

The Commanding Officer with the Remount Officer
after the Veterinary Inspection on Armistice Day.

Corps Cable Sections. A scheme was also run for the practice of D.R.s as signal clerks and making up and despatching dockets.

On the night of the 9th/10th November the unit carried out a night march with an attack at dawn. With W/T silence enforced until the start of the attack, considerable experience was gained in the laying of lines, opening offices, etc., without lights at night.

From the 12th to the 15th the unit carried out a scheme set by the Divisional staff, who supplied a modified staff with an assistant director and a commander with each formation. This scheme was mainly set to practise the unit in its duties and liaison with the staff. The Corps Signals sent out an office, and the whole scheme was on the lines of a signal exercise.



The Unit Camp at Mandra.

The M.T. Park in Camp.

The unit greatly appreciated the work done by the Corps Cable Section which was attached for the period of the camp. During the whole time the unit had the benefit of attached Artillery and Infantry officers, who carried out the duties of Formation Commanders, G.O.C. Division, and staff, thereby leaving the unit officers free to concentrate on the technical side of the situation.

During camp time ample opportunities were given to the Quartermaster to test the feeding arrangements, etc. Many things were tried out, and finally the central feeding system was adopted as being the best. The hay box system was also tested and proved a huge success with three cooks serving at once.

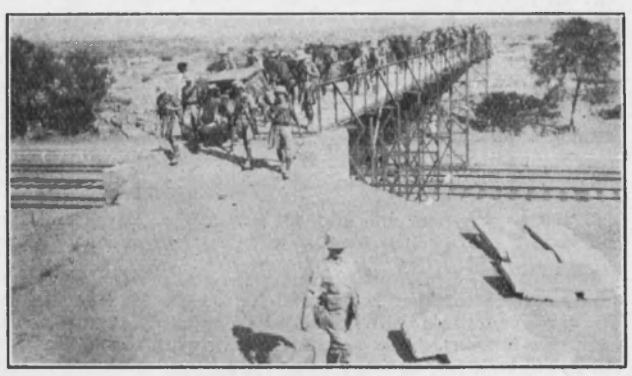
A Day of Rest in Camp.

On the evening of the 15th November L Section marched back to Mandra, ready to start the march to Jhelum to join their Brigade for training, while the remainder of the unit proceeded to barracks, arriving from about 16.00 hours onwards.

During the final three days the advance party became the rear party and cleared up the camp, leaving Mandra at 07.00 hours on the morning of the 15th and passing the remainder of the unit, who were starting the final attack on Rawalpindi.

Very good weather was experienced during the whole period of the camp, which was enjoyed by everybody. Many lessons were learnt and much experience gained by all. ONEDIV.

A D Section Office in action.



L Section crossing a railway bridge during an attack.

F Section crossing the Sohan Bridge.

L Section awaiting orders to advance.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

[These October notes should have been included with those for November which were published in the December issue, but were unfortunately overlooked then. We publish them now, by request, and with them are the December notes just received. We tender to all concerned our sincere apologies for the mishap. —ED.]

1st October 1934.

First, we all welcome Captain L. V. Younie and his family. Captain Younie is taking over command of the Troop from Captain C. M. F. White, who sail this month for the U.K.

After a strenuous khud season the Troop is nearly up to full strength again, and Sections are preparing for a busy training season.

Congratulations to the Troop sergeant-major (T.S.M. Hebberd R. N.) on escaping detection for the past eighteen years and for his services being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. Our worthy Farrier-Sergeant Bellwood W. can now add a capital "S" to his rank and will henceforth be known as Farrier-Staff-Sergt. Congratulations to him also.

Most of the Troop have been making hay while the sun shone during the last six months, and the following are congratulated on gaining higher trade ratings at Upper Topa during the first course. 783962 Sigmn Robertson J. operator signals class i.; 2319900 Sigmn Rork J. operator signals class ii.; and 2318694 Sigmn Adamson L. despatch rider class ii. There will be more from the second course party next month.

Corpl Frawley W. has left us and is now attached to the Rawalpindi Arsenal on transfer to the I.A.O.C. Cpl Gratwicke S. has gone to Saugor for a long rest.

Who Was It?—Who took off his gas mask in the gas chamber and came outside to put it on again? KHANA.

29th December 1934.

During the past three weeks, the unit has been sun-bathing (the water was too cold) at Sambrial. Schemes every other day were the order, and three weeks soon slipped by. We are now settled down in barracks, and at the moment we are looking forward to next year's manœuvres. I could write a book on the affair, but as I am not prepared to take the consequences, I will "let it lay."

Christmas festivities have come and gone. Christmas Day provided the usual "free for all" atmosphere, and even some born teetotallers weakened under the strain.

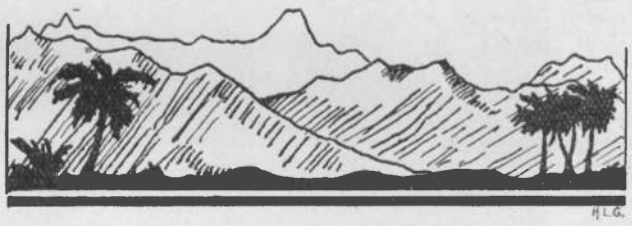
On Boxing Day a tennis at home to the Station provided a very enjoyable afternoon. As it happened, three members of the unit contested the final. T.S.M. Hebberd and Mrs. Younie beat Corpl Milne and Mrs. Owen by 6—0, although some of the games were evenly played out. The Station commander, Brigadier F. Gwatkin, D.S.O., M.C., was good enough to come along and stay for tea, which was served in the gaily decorated B.O.R.s mess room. In the evening the Troop carried on the good work with a dance in the local Palais de Danse. The 13/18th Hussars band was in attendance, and in spite of counter-attractions the dance proved one of the most successful of the season. We are hoping to forward a cheque to the Signals Association when accounts are finally settled. Corpl Milne J. and Signalmen Robertson J. and Marshall T. were responsible for a red-hot day, and I should imagine the Station saw more of the Signals on Boxing Day than during the past twelve months.

On the 27th December a football match and smoker were indulged in, with G Battery Royal Horse Artillery as our guests, After the match, which the Gunners won by three clear goals, tea and dinner were served, and at 7.30 p.m. the fun commenced. It was a non-stop show, and L/Corpl Adamson J. (with the assistance of a few demands for "Order, please!" and the furious banging of a beer bottle) kept the turns going until midnight. With a ready supply of fire water and a never-ending run of songs, recitals and weird stories, I understand that our guests thoroughly enjoyed the show. Apparently our object was attained.

On the 28th December the junior ranks played off a football challenge with the senior mess. Needless to say, the seniors will still be the challenging team, as the junior ranks won the match by the odd goal in five. Sigmn (Babs) Adamson L. was initiated into the attacking line as centre forward, where he saw things for himself, and he is now ready to talk on the subject of forwards at any time. He intends, however, to stay in his own goal area in future.

Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Lawman on the presentation of a son, born at Sialkot.

More congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Holmes W., who has duly received the L.S. and G.C. medal in spite of all his unsuspected or undetected crime. Keep it dark, Q. I am coming for a water bottle cork some time during the next three years, although I stand as much chance of getting it as a celluloid cat chasing an asbestos mouse through a volcano. KHANA.



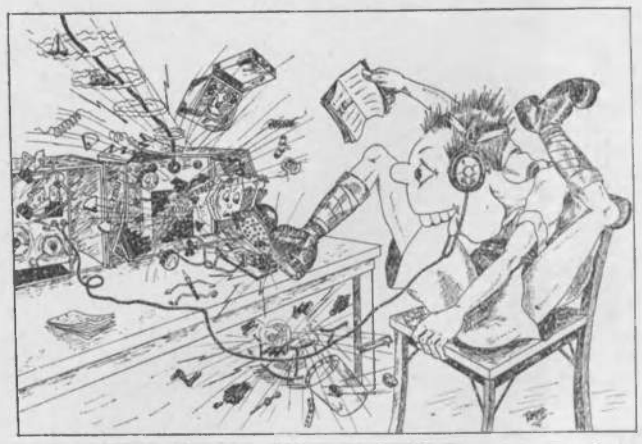
Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Friday 11th January.

I regret that notes this month will perforce have to be very short, owing to paucity of news and pressure of work.

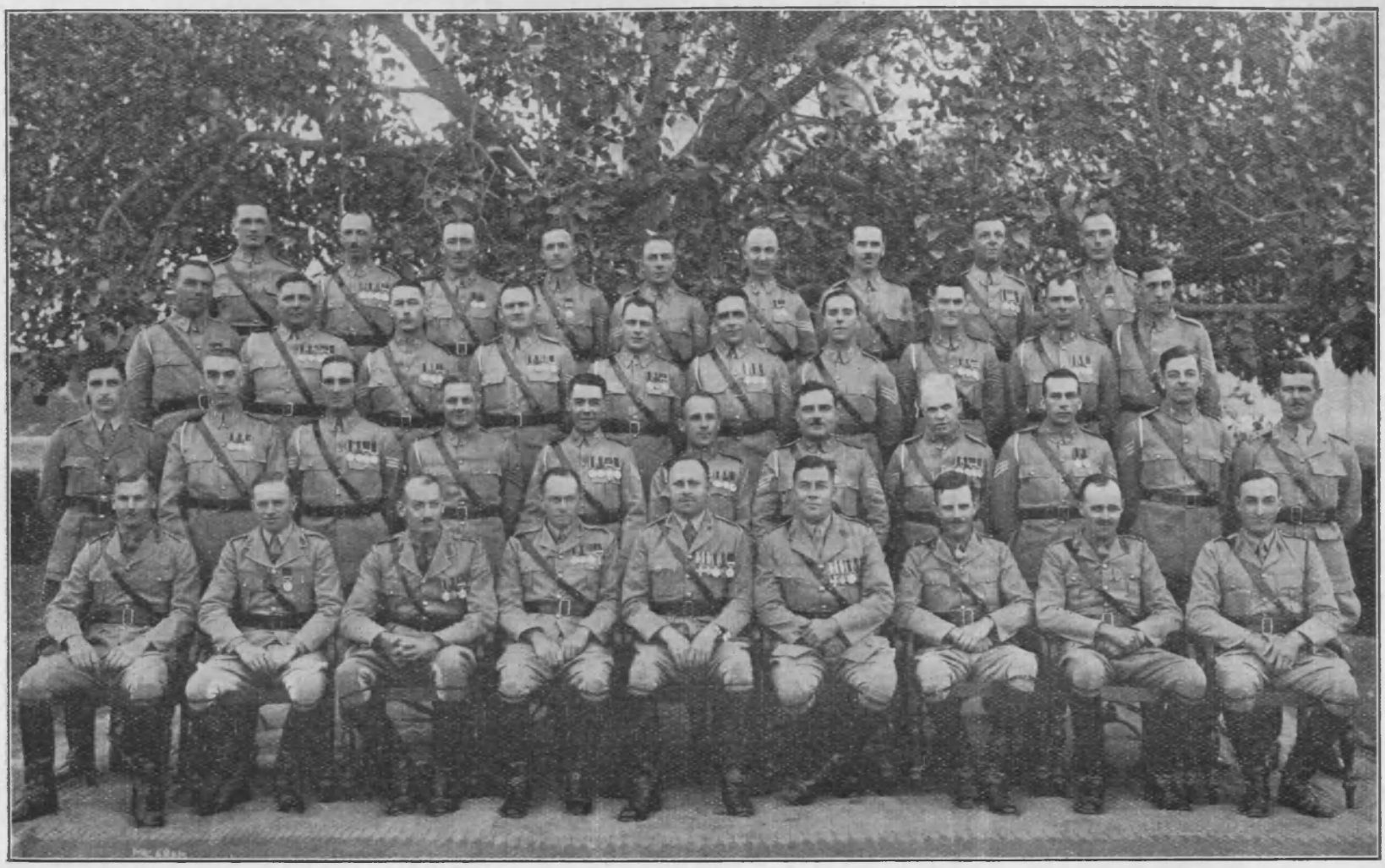
Arrivals.—Lieutenant T. A. K. Howe, 2/Lieut. A. V. Benton, L/Sergt Mullins, L/Corpl Done, Signalmen Houghton, Tipton, Healey, Bond, Lawson, Copestake, Falconer, Durber, Brooks J., Bailey, Stubley, Williams, Bristow, Bourne, Cadwell, Clarke, Day, Grant, Smith C., Turner, Hanlon, Munslow, Easdown, Bowen, Legge, Rankin, Ashworth and Jones W. from the United Kingdom. Welcome to all, and the best of luck until the 1939/40 trooping season.

Departures.—Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst to the 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury. Very many thanks, sir, for the excellent way in which you have brought this station and unit into the limelight—firstly with your compilation of "The Regimental History of Peshawar District Signals, 1911—1932" and secondly



The fellow who was told to send with his other foot!

Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants of Peshawar District Signals, December 1934.



Back row (l. to r.)—L/Sergeants Pattenden A., Grant A., M.M. and Barry T., Sergeant Hoy C., L/Sergeants Moore J., Hayes J. and Tudor E., Sergt Cummins A., L/Sergt Mott H.

Third row—Sergts Wilson E., Cheesman C., Bennett G., Quick P., Snook H. and Ryan P., L/Sergt Webb D., Sergts Wyeth E., Lowrie J. and Prior W.

Second row—Lieut. T. A. K. Howe, C.S.M. Elkington F., Sergt Handley F., F/S/Sergt Agar G., C.Q.M.S. Stainer H., R.S.M. McGregor S., C.Q.M.S. Cooper J., Sergts Powles A., Walker A. and Lewis W., Lieut. A. D. Molloy (Australian Staff Corps)

Front row—Lieutenants W. A. Purser and J. C. Hardy, Captain T. A. R. Scott, Bt.-Major G. S. Hurst, Major W. M. Miller, M.C., Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Lieutenants R. J. Moberly, E. P. Blake and E. Y. Nepean

with " The History of the Peshawar Vale Hunt." The unit's salaams, sir, and best wishes for an enjoyable time in England. The best of luck also to Lieutenant J. C. Hardy, who has left us to go to the Royal Military Academy as a Company officer. Judging from remarks overheard, the P.V.H. lost a good master and a good whip when these two officers left Peshawar. Their places were found very hard to fill.

On the 7th January we said good-bye to L/Corpl Melmore and Signalmen Bagshaw, Beeching, Boulton, Griffiths A., McGowan, Brown J., Parker, Partington and Yarnell—all complete with the I.G.S.M. which they *earned*. Cheerio, chaps! and don't forget us. Also on the 7th, L/Sergt Grant A., M.M., said au revoir prior to proceeding on special furlough to the U.K. Well tried, thou good and faithful servant! Patience assuredly is a virtue.

L/Corpl Mitchell W. leaves us for the home establishment on the 12th January after his second try. His new unit will possess a jolly good hockey goalkeeper and an operator who can operate.

Steps Up and Step-Ins.—Congratulations to Corporals Brassfield V. and Whitefield C. on attaining their full rank, and to U/L/Corpl Barker R. G. F. on his recent appointment. (What about a tick ?)

More next month. MttM.

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters Section, Dera Ismail Khan.

December 1934.

General.—" Brighter D.I.K." And why not ? We certainly can no longer refer to our happy little resort as Dreary Dismal and Dusty Khan. The dreary dismal has certainly been ruled out by the many functions which have been held, and even the clerk of the weather ordered some showers of rain which laid the dust and made it a pleasure to walk about without getting smothered with the usual accumulation of dirt: clean boots all day long, without need to apply the " jharan " before tripping in or sometimes tripping up.

Beautiful weather at the moment. Cool bright days. Rather cold at night (and certainly first thing in the morning on P.T.) with the mountain tops showing their first mantle of snow. So, with the 100 per cent. harmony of the unit, everything goes with a swing, and a few more added to the fold will, I am sure, make it everything that we could wish for here. The few more, I am given to understand, arrive in January and February. Unfortunately some of the old stagers leave us, but we'll excuse 'em and hope that they have a good time in their new stations.

Five remounts have arrived from Saharanpur. and training is in full swing. Peckham, the light draft, is outstanding. I think it was he that must have dashed across the football ground after the rain last Saturday night and left his imprints ; but how he dashed on and crossed the Sergeants Mess tennis court, so far away from the standings, I cannot quite understand. However, somebody has to take the can back for it, so under the circumstances it'll have to be the gee-gee, or failing that, Em-Bee.

Entertainments.—Weekly housie-housie still goes down well in the sergeants mess, and the proceeds have certainly helped towards the children's party and tree, which I'm sure is going to be a splendid entertainment for the kiddies this year. Socials and dances, too, have certainly boosted things up.

The " naughtical " ball held by the D.H.Q. Mess was a slap-up show, held on the ferry boat. Launches were used to convey visitors to the ball room, and caused a bit of a stir in more senses than one (shades of Mississippi!)

Recreational Room.—The transfiguration of the room is a credit to the artist (L/Corpl Poole). The sun—rising mk 1.—in its brilliance, with ceiling and walls with strips of black and amber, can only be compared with this and the last season in D.I.K.

Here every effort is made to augment the Signals Association grants from the unit. On Wednesday 12th December a Waziristan District Signals race meeting was held. Eight anna tote, no place betting. Four anna sweepstake. Ten per cent. of the tote and sweep takings were devoted to the Signals Association. At this, ably assisted by old Joe the tipster, our C.O. had all the luck, but I'm sure it all went into the pool eventually. Incidentally, the tipster couldn't have tipped anything the next morning, and positively refused even a cup of tea.

Here is an example of one of the races, horses and riders:—

First Race: The Indus Plate.

Corporal Wright .....Dazed by Trade out of Mess.
Corporal Watts .....Buckshee by Free Talkies out of Arm Band.
L/Corporal Watts.....Bucked by Profits out of Bar.
Sigmn Matthews W...William by Pedigree Doubtful out of Pindi.
Sigmn Matthews J. .....Foyer by Suggestion out of Office.
Sigmn Finch .....Patience by Training out of Remounts.

Won by Corporal Watts.

Two extra races were held, and a final Derby including the winners of the various races. A very enjoyable evening.

Housing parties and dances are also held in the recreation room and always prove very successful.

Christmas Festivities.—The preparations are causing some work, but so long as the show goes down alright, who cares ? A wonderful programme is on paper, and as everybody seems to be doing his little bit, a very enjoyable Christmas holiday is anticipated. Details and results of these functions will be recorded in our next issue.

Whether the last hot weather and the dust knocking around about that time is accounting for the seemingly abnormal capacity of the signalmen is hard to say ; but if they get through the solids and the liquids being prepared (and the latter racked for them) they will certainly be doing themselves well.

Unit Tennis Tournament.—This is now being played off. Up to the present the following are still going strong. Singles: semi-finalists, Captain Beausang (our M.O.), C.S.M. Bew, Sergt Parker and L/Corporal Foster. Doubles, Captain Allen and Sergt Goodyear, C.S.M. Bew and Sergeant Parker, Signalmen Sucksmith and Killick, Signalmen Davis and Roscoe, Signalmen Chisnall and Campion, and L/Corporals Foster and Bell W.

Last, but not Least.—Christmas and New Year greetings to all.

Bannu Signal Section.

22nd December 1934.

General.—The absence of notes for last month is regretted, our excuse being lack of material.

The Section was out on column training from the 17th to 21st December, returning to Bannu in a heavy downfall of rain. No report is yet to hand, but we have every reason to think that, in so far as the Signals are concerned, the column was a success. W/T communication with aircraft was carried out successfully for a period of two days during the column.

Christmas is in the offing, and we are looking forward to a great time: dances, sports, food and drink. Further news about these celebrations will be written later, and we hope to enclose a few snaps to help to fill up the space.

Our O.C. (Lieut. Severin) is now out of hospital, and we hope he will make a speedy recovery. He will probably return home early in January.

BAIBEE.

Wana Signal Section.

19th December 1934.

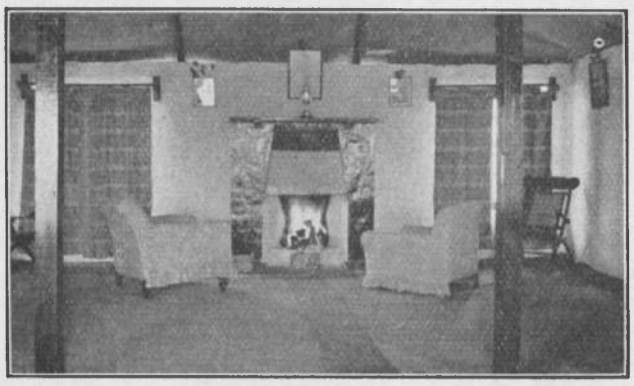
General.—The principal event of the month has undoubtedly been the inauguration of the new institute for our British ranks. Unfavourable weather had interfered with the final preparations for bringing the place into use, but it was a blessing in disguise, for it revealed the presence of certain leaks in the roof which were rectified before the furniture was installed. It also enabled us to get rid of the streaks on the distempered walls. Although the full tally of the furniture had not arrived, we were able to hold a house warming on the evening of the 17th inst. We shall now have a more commodious place for our Christmas festivities instead of being restricted to a gloomy canteen-cum-mess room as hitherto.

The institute, which consists of two E.P. tents with mutti walls, has been named "The Wilson Inn" in honour of Captain F. K. Wilson, our O.C., to whom we owe the inception of this scheme for increased recreational facilities. In his absence in Blighty during the summer, the direction was ably carried on by Lieut. A. T. Sladen, who (when our numbers were small) also "mucked in" with the work.

The Wilson Inn: our New Institute.

At the opening of the institute, a large number of the officers of the Brigade (representing every mess in the Garrison) attended. An indoor games tournament, open to the whole of the station, was organised, but owing to the large number of entries, and partly perhaps to the quantities of malt liquor used at the christening, no one appears to know the results. The accompanying photographs were taken by S/Cdr Gittins (I.A.O.C.) just before the opening of the institute. It is regretted that we found it impossible to take a flashlight photograph of the actual opening ceremony, owing to the large attendance.

The Section had been anticipating a rather chilly time on a four-day column early in the month, but after everything was packed and ready to move off, the column was cancelled at the last minute owing to an outbreak of influenza among the horses and mules of the Brigade. On the one-day scheme which was substituted for it, our pigeons distinguished themselves. Two of them were released with messages. One fluttered to a rock about a hundred yards away and was still perched on it an hour after, while the other, having reached camp in five minutes, declined to enter the loft for another two and a half hours.



Interior of The Wilson Inn.

Before we forget it (although it will be rather late when this is published) we hope that everyone has had a happy Christmas, and we tender to all our best wishes for 1935.

Incidentally, we wish to acknowledge the receipt of a Christmas card from Mr. J. Crichton, late of this Section and (we believe) not unknown in Karachi and Fort Sandeman 'way back.

Our latest dog shooter, a canny Scot, has recently suffered a sad bereavement, for after shooting four "pies" he put their tails in a tin, where another dog found them and *devoured* them. Poor old Mac! another chip gone west.

WANASIGS.

Razmak Signal Section.

December 1934.

Here we are again, bigger and brighter than ever. The Section nearly proceeded on a three-day column during the month, but owing to an outbreak of equine influenza in the Gunners' horse lines we had the good fortune of dodging it. It is rumoured that the locals now gaze on their long-faced brethren with looks of gratitude and heartfelt thanks, as no one appreciated the thought of having to spend a night 'neath the starry Waziristan skies in this freezing weather.

However, to show the Army commander (who was paying us a visit) that ye olde Razmakites were able to deliver the goods, a Brigade scheme was held instead, and as usual a very good show was put up.

Some ten Wanaites gave us the pleasure of their company on the 12th inst. Unfortunately, their visit was a very brief one. Nevertheless, we hope they enjoyed their short stay and that they benefited by the "Secrets of the French Police." Some country when one has to travel a matter of seventy miles to the talkies. What!

Most of the Section have just been inoculated, and judging by the number of beds down, they don't seem to mind much. Glorious E.D.

An Indian rank was asked the other day how many wives he was permitted to have, to which he replied most solemnly: "Oh! the number, it is quite unlimited providing only one at a time are alive."

Feat (the defiler of sick reports) attended a water course during the year. We are told that he had been given to understand that it was a stretcher bearers course owing to his personality as the "ideal cripple." Piles of moans!

The scholastic season has started again, and the Section collegians are seen every evening wending their way towards Razmak University, most of them trying the almost impossible feat of looking like intelligent folk. This study racket has got 'em so much in its grip that Matt junior (always a stickler for "the wight thing at the wight time, old bhoy") in his anxiety to find the old school tie, was actually late for class the other day. The cad!

Well, Christmas will be here again in a few days time (there's nobody stopping it) and (in the words of the prophet) we shall have some nuts; but as man cannot live on nuts alone, our

thirsty thoughts fly to those liquid refreshments that play such a great part in making Christmas six thousand miles away from home seem a little like the old festive season that we used to know 'way back in God's own country. Once again we shall fill the flowing bowl—and I don't mean the wash bowl, either, Chippy. I hope the latter will only be used for ablution purposes this Christmas. Nuff said! toast our absent friends.

It appears so far that Ginger Barringer has the laugh on this year's Blighty wallahs, as he is the only one from this Section who has been selected to go home on the *Lancashire*, sailing on the 10th January. Lucky dog! Still, we take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck in his new sphere. I know we shall certainly miss his cooking, in which line it is felt that he will not be easily replaced.

At long last Chippy has been granted a voc. with the North-Western Railway at the Moghulpura workshops. Anglo-Indian papers, please copy. Unfortunately, he leaves us just before Christmas (did I hear Spud say "Ten chips less"?) but we know that he won't feel this parting much, as after all, it is Lahore that he is going to, and that's saying a mouthful.

Count Shelamac himself passes into the joyful life that is called civil early next month; or rather, he most sincerely hopes to—so these, dear reader, will probably be the last notes from his base pen. (What a relief for the dear reader.)

We were very sorry to lose Sergt Chippy Cadell on the 30th November. He has gone to the Army Signal School at Poona, and the very best wishes of the Section go with him. Where are we going to get those components from now? With bated breath we all wait patiently to hear the world-famous Pinmato wireless set function. It stands at the moment on a table beside my bed, resembling for all the world the "Silent Witness." Some nasty sarcastic youth was heard to say, a few minutes ago, that he had been given to understand that it was originally built by an agent of the Anti-Noise League as a memorial to perpetual silence and was never meant for vile reception.

It is hoped that Sergt Woolhouse is having a good time in Karachi, where he is at present on leave. Ere these notes are in print, he will be back with us again, telling us all abaht it.

In conclusion; the Section wish all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

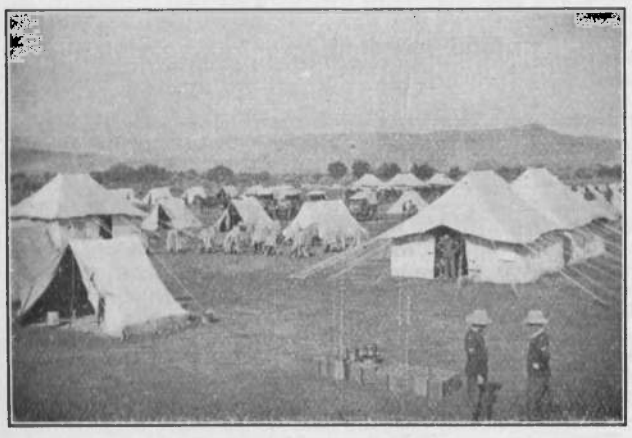
We Would Like To Enjoy Knowing.—Why the Comte always grows a 'tache before proceeding on leave and invariably returns without one? Where Minnie gets to during those brief moments when he is not in bed? How did the Baron manage to teach his dog the hot ash trick? Who has been slinging mutti about lately?

SHELAMAC.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

December 1934.

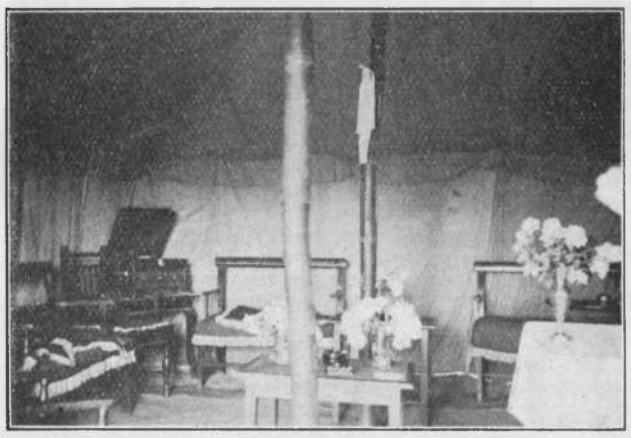
With almost everyone present in Kohat except a coup e of stray U.K. leave merchants, we entered December agog with anticipation because it was Christmas month—and Christmas comes but once a year in India! For the first week, however, thoughts of Christmas (except for selecting, electing and collecting committees) were left very much in the background owing to preparations for a unit camp—the first since we came to the North-West Frontier in 1925 (if Parachinar, our one-time summer residence, can be excluded).



The Camp at Manduri.

After many preparations had been made and our quarterblokes had been reduced to a state of haggard exhaustion, a mountain of baggage on the hockey pitch grand stand signified that K.D.S. was no longer where it was (said he, as from Oireland). The unit lines had been taken over by a guard from one of the local Indian regiments.

The unit marched out on a fifteen mile trek to camp at Manduri, on the 10th December, cheerfully hoping for the order of battle to move speedily, to bring schemes and the whoopee days nearer. A photo of the camp is shown. The large tent in the right foreground is the sergeants mess and those in the centre background are the B.O.R.s mess and canteen. One day saw everybody happily settled in (except, perhaps, the two "tender-feet" who had to wear their chaplies back to front as they hobbled painfully across the camp). A photo of the interior of sergeants mess shows how they "roughed" it.



The Sergeants Mess Tent at Manduri Camp.

Four big schemes were done from camp, besides a T.E.W.T. or two for the officers, the last of which was a thirty-six hour scheme in which Sections had to fend for themselves for the night. That one Section should have chicken stew (the aroma of which was slowly permeating the Jatta Salt Mines) whilst a mess at H.Q. had not even sufficient milk may have been only a coincidence (despite the frisky baggage mules) and may also have accounted for that Section singing happily as they marched over the mountain crests into the dawn (with the same frisky baggage mules).

Each night saw the canteen crowded under the spell of "Dinkydoo," "Kelly's Eye" and "Doctor's Favourite." It was a revelation in Indian smells to enter this tent at night and get the happy reek of fish and chips, cigars, beer, smoking sigrees, and fellows getting a sweat on the top line.

Lieut. E. D. Good, who had just returned from U.K. leave and was on transfer from Rawalpindi, joined us at camp on the 11th December. Though his welcome was somewhat crude—to be dragged straight out to camp—we wish him all that is good during his stay with us. He has taken over command of K Section.

Lieut.-Quartermaster Fegan, owing to sickness, could only join us during the latter half of the camp. It was most unfortunate that of all the tents issued by the Q.M. *his* should be the one that leaked when the rain did come! "Good I-show."

The W/T Detachment joined us at Manduri for camp and then returned to prepare for Christmas, which L/Corpl Bob Parris decided to spend with them.

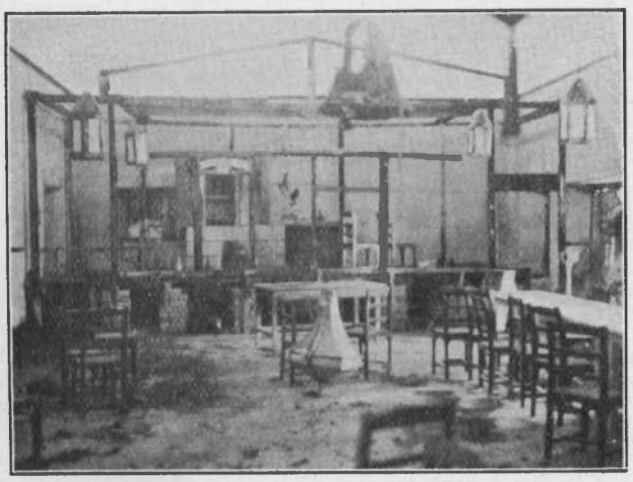
And so for Christmas. We arrived back from camp on the 19th December, which meant that everyone had to work at full speed to get things weaving. Corpl Smith A. T. and a merry gang from his Section soon had the mess room changed from its ordinary aspect into a gaily bedecked saloon bar—which was

the *motif* of the stage portion of the room. A photo is enclosed. The Welcome Inn, although apparently a quiet village ale house, was quite modernised with its flashing sign.

Christmas went off well, though much more quietly than usual, and I suppose most people are glad it is over and are looking forward to the next.

The Mess Room transformed for Christmas.

It was very regrettable that, two days after Christmas—when the B.O.R.s were to have had a dance in the mess room—the decorations should have caught fire and the whole of the superficial interior decoration of the mess room, including the stage, been burnt out. This occurred at 4 a.m. and for many people it was "the morning after the night before." There is little wonder that the buckets of water were not always aimed where they should have been. The persons suspected of the business are the two who can be seen silhoutted in the "pub" but they (poor wretches!) were burned to death. A photo of the mess room after the wreck is included for the information of the old timers of K.D.S.



The Mess Room "after the fire was over . . . ."

The B.O.R.s entertainments committee are to be congratulated on the fact that, despite this set-back, they put the dance on at the Chota Club, and the whole show was voted the best of the season. Again, "Good I-show."

Sergeants Mess.

Our opening dance of the season took place on the 8th Dec. A band, suddenly shaken together after many hours of practice in one week, supplied excellent music in the true K.D.S. jazz style. A goodly attendance and a bright spirit made it a pleasant evening: we hope there are more to follow.

We had a lull in all our arrangements owing to camp. This was followed by a scarlet fever scare amongst the families, and we almost thought that Christmas would have to be very much modified in consequence. The ban was lifted on the 22nd December, however, and all went well.

The mess was decorated with bunting pennants, and all was ready for the Christmas draw on the night of the 22nd. This was well arranged by Sergeants Ivey and Turner. The prizes (about eighty) were arranged as per Selfridge of London—so that the dog could see the rabbit, so to speak. It was good fun. Some three hundred and eighty tickets were sold, and many of the ticket holders were present to witness the draw and take away the spoil. Sergeants Costello and Sprunt made the necessary extractions from the drum and were expert at calling "Blank" for several of the very hopefuls. To see the countenances as "Blank" was called against a person's name was sad indeed.

The children's Christmas tree and bun fight took place on Christmas Eve, with many children and some parents and the officers to join in the fun. The officers, as is their custom, very graciously gave some very good toys, and excellent arrangements for the tree and a real fireplace for Santa were made by Sergeants Dunn and Murphy. We are grateful, also, for the hard work some of the ladies put in on the refreshment side of the show.

The role of Daddy Christmas was ably carried out by the notorious Wally Wagg—our December caterer, by the way—who, if popular with the children at normal times, certainly was the most unpopular guy present, his appearance from the fireplace bringing shrieks of fear from some of the children, especially the wee Jocks frae Edinburgh: but that is understood, as where they come frae they dinna see sich generous folk as Father Christmas. The tree was followed by games for the youngsters, but it is hard to say whether the old young 'uns or the young old 'uns enjoyed themselves most.

An impromptu dance, to give the daddies and mammies a chance, closed the evening. Music was again provided by the band, who had been playing selections during the tea also.

The annual dinner took place on the 26th December, when some fifty members and guests sat down to enjoy a well-served meal prepared by our ex-chef Long John Silver, alias Alfie Costello. We are very fortunate in having such an expert for these occasions. Hygiene is his secret of success—"untouched by hand" (you're telling me). It was a great show, and the social which followed gave ample scope for those who had for days been seeking the Christmas spirit to give vent to happy gurgles and smug smiles of satisfaction.

The month closed with a pagal gymkhana, when the officers and senior n.c.o.s were at home to the Station on the Gymkhana ground. The ground was well arranged as far as tents and chamianas were concerned, and the whole of the stand was gaily decorated with multi-coloured bunting: a gay sight—both messes striving to make a good show, as this was the first thing of its kind for some years. The races went off well, and some good riding and good fun passed the afternoon away all too quickly. In both the officers' and sergeants' messes there was a surfeit of good food, and the guests did full justice to the fare provided. The prizes, provided by the officers, were kindly distributed by Mrs. Abbott, the wife of our Brigade commander.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tuesday 8th January.

This contribution could be started off with the title "How to run Christmas on nothing," or so it seemed when meetings were first held to decide on such festive arrangements. However, after bending several odd funds, having a whip round and appointing a committee consisting of Lieut. Treseder, Corporals Young and Evans, L/Corporals Bellinger and Dangerfield J., and Signalmen Gant, Lloyd and Cornthwaite, we had all that could be desired—somewhat on the lines of the above title.

The week was well filled up with entertainment. A smoker, dance and mounted gymkhana made us wonder what kind of

men our committee really were. In case that statement might be misunderstood, let me add that they really do deserve a pat on the back.

The dance was the " best ever " and, in keeping with the Christmas policy of reversion in duties, the gigolos draped themselves round the bar and the usual inhabitants thereof made a brave show on the floor. Corpl Vollans did his best to spoil the evening, but that was only due to his appearance as Departed Spirits—he caused more than one temporary inebriate to seek assurance that he was actually flesh and blood. The real hit of the evening was Sandy Henning's appearance as Mae West. It took a lion tamer (or Reg Golding dressed as one) to keep the crowd from coming up and seeing him too often. We are promised a photograph of *our* Mae, but the Editor of this Journal must decide if the imitation might involve legal proceedings.

It being understood that a number of wives read THE WIRE, one or two other outstanding events of the festive season must remain memories for those who occasioned or saw them. Anyway, there's no harm in recording that L/Corpl Bellinger sent his false teeth to the wash ; that Corpl Marchant, on seeing there was a stirrup cup at the sergeants mess, attempted to enter his name for it ; and that we know one Slate Club secretary who didn't abscond—it's true, the members did voluntary guards on his quarter for a fortnight prior to the share out.

January Boat.—Units in England are advised to snaffle some of the cream of A Corps who are proceeding there on the *Lancashire*. Some idea of the calibre and distinctions of these men may be gleaned when we say that they include a man who actually ran a farm in Sind, one who has attended the Viceroy's levees, and (so high does his reputation stand with us in that particular direction) a man who can find anything from a needle in a haystack to a seven-figure map reference. Two distinguished musicians are also included.

Seriously, though, we shall find it hard to replace this little crowd. Hoping that it's some satisfaction to them to know it, we'll add that a line in advance will ensure any of them a good welcome back next trooper. What did you say, Wally ?

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Friday 5th January.

General.—I suppose it's up to me to tell all the old H.Q.ites about the Christmas holidays and how they were enjoyed, or otherwise, by the lads in the Company at the present time. Christmas is over and done with now, and although I haven't a very clear recollection of what exactly happened during the period 21/12/34—1/1/35, I will do my poor best.

The Christmas draws in the Sergeants and Corporals Messes were a huge success, and I think that all those who attended them were struck by the smooth way in which they were run. The corporals' draw was easily the better of the two, as they seemed to get a lot more B.O.R.s to take tickets than the sergeants —probably due to the fact that they started earlier ; but it struck me that they had more " go " in them. One doesn't like to be fetched off pay parade to pay for his tickets ; why not go round and collect the money, the same as the corporals did ? The total amount of money in the two draws must have been well over a thousand rupees, and most of us were very pleased to see the single men in the unit winning all the prizes, as last year the married men carried all before them. I hear that the bold B.B. is not going to join in the draws any more, as he had some twelve tickets and only one prize. Still, don't worry, Chips ; your turn will come, and then look out.

On Boxing Day the dog races were held on our parade ground, complete with a tote run by Messrs. Jim Telfer and Laurie Kane, and from reports received it went off well. I was not present, having a much more pressing engagement on (ask Larry or J.H.: they'll tell you all about it). The " Joe dog " won three races and nearly won another, but was bumped. His owner tells me he was thinking of protesting to the committee, but as he was not capable of telling one dog from the other, he has decided not to.

The all ranks dance in the institute was not such a success as it should have been. There were only six ladies present ; the other married people didn't seem to think the dance was their type. It is a pity they don't turn up more to these dances, as they are the only chances during the holidays that the men of the unit have to hold them, and poor attendances are apt to discourage them.

Going backwards. The men's Christmas dinner in the mess room was about the best ever held, and we must thank Mock Turtle for putting up such a good show. We all enjoyed the C.O.'s speech. We shall be very sorry to lose him in the near future, but as we understand he is going to Bulford (and as this unit is composed of 50 per cent. old members of that unit) he won't feel it so much. All the same, our loss is their gain.

The members of the unit were at home to the children just before Christmas, and the party was in every way a success. Captain Barton was Father Christmas, complete with sack and things, and the kiddies were delighted when he made his entry covered with snow. Talking of " father " reminds me of the " uncles." They were not present, but I did see one trying to hide behind the door. The nicest gesture of all was that even those children who could not attend had their presents sent on to them.

Proclamation Day Parade.—After all the practice parades we had, this didn't come off: it rained on the 1st January, and after getting part of the way down to the parade ground we were turned back. We had our own ceremony on the unit parade ground, and after giving three cheers for His Majesty the King we were dismissed. It was rather disappointing, as we had been practising all through the latter end of last month.

Congratulations.—Although rather late, to our able Foreman-of-Signals, C.Q.M.S. Gerrish A. V. on the birth of a daughter, Shirley. I can't remember the correct date, so will leave it at that.

To our football team on getting into the semi-final of yet another cup, although they lost the game. There seems to be something wrong with our team, and one wonders why the younger men in the unit are not given a trial, as the older people don't seem to be able to do anything with the ball when they get it.

Also to No. 1 Company football team on handing out such a hiding to No. 2 Company, and to the men in this Company on doing likewise to the same team.

Postings.—The posting (mentioned in last month's issue) of Sergt Snow H. has not yet taken place, so the members of A Corps Signals can sweat off for just a little longer.

Arrivals.—None, but Tubby Lay is hoping to join our happy band some time in the near future. A new draft of B.O.R.s from the U.K. is expected on Sunday, but none of them will be coming to this Company.

We Want to Know.—Who pinched the battery of the workshops hooter ? Where did the Three Musketeers go on Boxing Day ? Why does a certain corporal turn a vivid red whenever anyone mentions the word " daddy " ?

Agony.—Again to Sigmn McCallum: You owe me five of the best, D, for writing this stuff.

R.C.D.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The festive season has come and gone, and the Company is preparing to knuckle down for a further year of schemes, camp and demonstrations—the whole of which, we hope, will result in our retaining the kudos bestowed upon us for efficient performances in the past.

The Christmas dinner and subsequent fare were thoroughly enjoyed by all, and everybody feels thankful to the messing committee for putting in such hard work and making it a very creditable turn-out. We will have to excuse them this onerous duty in the future.

Included in the Christmas programme was a concert kindly arranged by Mrs. L. G. Phillips, which was well attended and greatly appreciated by everyone present. A fancy dress ball was held in the institute. L/Corpl Snell as a Stone Age he-man took first prize, while Sigmn Clayton as Al Jolson and Sigmn Walsh as a Spanish caballero won the second and third respectively. Consolation prizes were also distributed to those whose efforts were not in the prize-winning category.

The dog races attracted a lot of entries, and great rivalry existed between owners. The only disappointing thing about

these races was that there weren't half so many fights as was expected.

Arrivals and Departures.—Firstly, the Company extend a hearty welcome to Captain C. E. Sketch from Rawalpindi and 2/Lieut. E. B. Elliot from U.K. Captain Sketch becomes O.C. Company w.e.f. 3/1/35 and officiating commanding officer (vice Captain G. H. Plummer, M.C., on posting to the home establishment) w.e.f. 7/1/35.

The following have just arrived from the U.K. and are at present segregated until such time as they feel their legs: Signalmen Brown, Byron, Eburne, Madder and Thackray. It is hoped that their stay in the unit will be a long and pleasant one. Roll on, 1940!

L/Corporal Jock Routledge and Signalmen Murray and Howe departed in peace for U.K. in December, and now we bid our adieux to Signalmen Shorty Ashton, Flowerday, Hewitson and Reid—all about to sail the right way. Good luck and all the best from everyone.

Sigmn Bowey proceeds on a course at the Army School of Cookery at Poona on the 9th January. It is hoped that the outcome of this will be a different design of rissole for breakfast at spring camp, and that stuffed tomatoes (on one of which the Company once marched sixteen miles) will be dispensed with entirely.

Appointments.—Congratulations are showered on L/Sergeant Lunniss and U/L/Corpl Holland on attaining those ranks during December.

Educational.—Corpl Staerck A. E. distinguished himself in passing in maths, English (C) and physics (E. and M.) towards the special at an examination in Quetta during October last. Well done, Pythagoras!

Scottish Corner.—Horsman, somewhere in India: What about a word from you? Katie, No. 2 Squad.

I cannot vouch for the authenticity of the following and believe that it is a "tall one." One of the junior n.c.o.s said that he drank a whole lot of beer during Christmas—so much, indeed, that when he pricked a blister which was raised on one of his fingers (through the extensive use of openers, bottle, beer, one of) the said potent liquid flowed therefrom.

Recruiting sergeant: "That's right, my lad. I'm glad you've decided to join up. The Army will give you good food, clothing and pay. Now, what will you sign on for: six and six, or eight and four?" Expectant soldier: "I'd much prefer 8/4, please, sir."

PRESSY.

Sergeants Mess.

The usual Christmas draw took place on the 22nd December. Many names were called out, but few were chosen to collect prizes.

The dining members did quite well in the "eats" line, and are still (29th December) having chota Christmas dinner parties.

The single—or to be more correct, dining—members had their annual dinner on the 23rd December, the following being some of the items: Tomato soup, fish avec sauce, roast goose, roast pork, ham, tongue, potatoes, cauliflower, peas, apple sauce, white sauce, plum pudding with brandy sauce, mince pies, jelly, custard, coffee, cheese and biscuits, and liquid refreshments. Now blow!

A very enjoyable Christmas dinner for members, families and friends was held on the 26th December, followed by a dance to which an invitation was extended to the corporals. Carols were sung between the dances, and everyone appeared to enjoy the fun—except, of course, peaceful inhabitants (if any) living within a radius of five miles or more.

The above notes give the impression that we (especially the so-called single members) did nothing but eat. That is quite correct, although some did find time to *purchase* a chota top.

Corporals Mess.

Years may come and years may go, but Christmas '34 will live for ever. Many thanks to the various units and numerous individuals for kind Christmas and New Year greetings.

During the period of Christmas festivities, the mess certainly looked its best (decorations by Taff, Jenn and Taff; lighting by Spaff, Titch and Spaff).

Our lawyers (some say liars) Lewis, Lewis, Lewis and Lewis (with Baker as sleeping partner) having successfully placed the case before the C.O., permission was granted to the juniors to run their own bar. The bunk adjoining the mess was converted into an old-time pub "The Dodrop Inn" (where you don't drop out). This, by the way, was the last case briefed by our famous lawyers before resigning. Lew No. 1 has now transferred to the Marines (?); Lew No. 2 has taken unto himself the preposition "Uncle"; and Zack—nuff said.

December 22nd—2.30 p.m.: Chaos. Where's Taff? What's Larry done with those coolies? Who's got the brooms? Where's the draw committee? and so on. 5 p.m.: Draw due to start. 5.15 p.m.: The ladies of the draw committee roll up complete with perm wave (Rs.20 brand). 6.30 p.m.: Won the last bottle of ski (whoopee!) 9 p.m.: Dance in the mess. What a dance! or was it? Can't remember much after zero hour. Judging by the number of fat heads and the amount of spouting next morning, it must have been the best celebration since the days of Adam.

December 23rd, 24th and 25th—Faint recollections of "Dodrop Inn," where the Navy went ashore.

December 26th—The juniors joined the seniors after dinner. I leave it to the seniors to have the say about this. I must, however, mention that it was on this date that our famous lawyers (before mentioned) went bankrupt. Thanks to the seniors for a very enjoyable evening!

December 29th—Buffet dance. Far more dance than buffet, but nevertheless a huge success.

December 30th—Buckshee night; and were we all there?—or were we not? According to reports, there were never so many members in the mess before or after. A great night indeed; ask Chippy. And who won the non-stop carioca?

December 31st—Gala night. The Admiral, first and second officers, and various other officials and non-officials welcomed all aboard. Trunky Homer and his Gin Sling Kings were in the best of form. Dancing went with a swing and many swigs. The old year ended with Larry fancying his chances under the mistletoe. Out went the lights, down came the balloons, bang went the pig (thank heavens) and in walked Darky Pip (why he couldn't stay outside, I don't know). The New Year commenced with "Auld lang syne" and an orgy of kissing.

Questions.—Who went to the Queen's on the night of the 25th for four chickens and a couple of loaves of bread because he felt hungry? (I don't call that hunger!) Who was transferred to the Egypt Signals? (ask the Blue Nile King). No. 309—who, where and what? Why, Uncle Lew? Why wouldn't Spud leave the dance floor? Who let the gate crashers in? Can Charlie valeta or can he valeta?

Bullets.—Price of love: ten chips. War cry: "Hic!" Dodrop Inn: Disastrous.

Finis.—Not yet. After effects. Katzenjammer.

O'HOOLIGAN.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

[Received too late for the January issue.]

Sunday, 16th December 1934.

General.—It is hoped that readers will accept our apology for the absence of notes recently. We have no excuses to offer.

Though rather belated, we wish all readers and also our Editorial staff a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The months of November and December have proved a very busy time for the administrative staff and committee representatives, in view of so many changes taking place and the arrangements for social functions. It would appear that this has been a record period for entertainments, especially after the long absence of the married population from Loralai during the summer session.

On the termination of Chautair summer camp we were left with very little time to arrange all the farewell do's, in view of so many old faces departing from the Zhob. Only through unsparing efforts on the part of those responsible has everything gone off with first class results, and it is felt that those who have now departed have more than appreciated it. Well done!

On behalf of those who were present, we take this opportunity of thanking Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn (officer commanding) for the very fine party which was held on the 7th December to bid farewell to those leaving us and to greet our new arrivals, and for the services of his valued chauffeur—for had there been no car at the disposal of the guests, they would be still " rolling home." (This is assumed by appearances next morning, when some were seen rolling away towards Harnai railway station at 06.00 hours with the gallant chauffeur still at his task.) We still feel the sting of those banana fritters, curry puffs and other Indian dishes, not forgetting those ill-famed Chicago devils.

Entertainments.—The opening dance of the season took place on the 13th October in the Royal Signal Institute. This proved a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In view of the draft leaving us on the 10th November, a social farewell held on the evening of the 9th comprised dancing, indoor games and a treasure hunt, the latter being an absolutely new item on the entertaining programme. This proved a rather interesting event in pairing off couples (one of either sex) to roam around the cantonment, searching for seven clues which were very crudely imbedded in seven verses of prose well compiled by the O.C. and copied in duplicate by his clerk. When the O.C. parks his car in the mule lines and attempts to change its designation to one of those long-faced friends, I think that puts the tin hat on it. Would you mistake a car for a mule at 22.00 hours ? Then it's time you went . . . . . .

On the 5th December *the dance* of the season took place, when everyone in the Station was not only invited, but " rolled up " (presumably on account of the two senior n.c.o.s who were bidding us " Cheerio!" on completing their tour in the Zhob). This proved beyond doubt a great success, and the ovations given by members present were greatly appreciated by all.

Western Command Exercise.—During the period 22nd/24th October the Section continued to uphold communications within the Zhob in the absence of the O.C., who was called upon to proceed to Quetta to take part in the above exercise. In view of the high spirits on his return, we presume everything went off satisfactorily.

Inspections.—The D.A.D.O.S. Western Command carried out his annual inspection of the Section on the 5th December, and although a dance was taking place in the evening to celebrate the authorised holiday given for the Duke and Duchess of Kent, a first class show was put up.

The A.D.V.S. Western Command also paid us a visit on the 11th December, presumably to see how the animals were enjoying life in the Zhob.

The Chief Signal Officer, Western Command (Lieut.-Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C.) again visited us and carried out his annual technical inspection on Sunday 16th December (to-day) and we feel sure that the high report received on his previous visit was renewed.

Annual Musketry.—This took place on the 3rd and 4th December, and with the exception of a couple of thirds—no names, no pack drills—our high standard was maintained.

Arrivals.—From 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, Corporals Cooper H. (and wife) and Malvern H., Signalmen Bonds D., Clarke E., Fisher N., Lapsley T. and Moad J. From A Corps Signals, Karachi, Sergt Bosworth and wife, L/Sergeant (Tich) Cosens G. and Corpl Hodge C. We hope their stay in the Zhob will never be regretted.

Departures.—To A Corps Signals, Karachi, Sergt (Jim) Pout A. and family, L/Sergt (Tubbie) Ward D., M.C. and Corporal Francis A. To 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, Corpl Cooper W. and family and Sigmn Smith E.—the latter being at present on furlough in the U.K. and granted an extension until January 1935. To the United Kingdom, Corpl (Thelma) Todd A. for discharge, U/L/Corpl Howard N. for transfer to the Army Reserve, and Signalmen Byrne J. and Cotton E. on transfer to the home establishment. We wish all of them every success and happiness in their new spheres.

It is with profound regret that we say farewell to our old acquaintances, especially to Mrs. Pout (the " mother " of the Section) and Mrs. Cooper, not forgetting Joyce, the little assistant, whose untiring efforts to make the Section a happy family will always be one of our happy memories. In their places we have two " young mothers " whom we feel sure will spare no efforts to uphold the good work done by their predecessors.

Hospital.—It is also with regret that we bid farewell to one of our new arrivals, Sigmn Franks H., who, after a short spell in Quetta Hospital, is to be transferred to the U.K. on the 19th December. We wish him a very speedy recovery, and also L/Corpl McCann R., who is at present in Quetta.

Agony.—The O.C.'s Urdu class.

Things We Want to Know.—What's in those Indian banana fritters ? Who said " I know I'm drunk, but can't do anything about it—I've no ortority " ? What are Chicago devils ?

Congratulations.—We would like to compliment the football team on reaching the final of the Beetham football cup, though they were beaten by 3—0. We wish them every success next time.

BLOSSOM.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Monday, 26th November 1934.

General.—With the advent of the cold weather and the issue of blankets E.I., most of the time is now being passed by the personnel of this Detachment underneath the aforementioned extra issues. It is certainly a struggle to get out these mornings, but the Sarge has strong objections to breakfast in bed.

The installation of a new wireless set in the institute has done a great deal towards brightening up our evenings. This set was built for us by Sigmn Byrne (Paddy), who left for the home establishment this month after many cries of " Roll on," and is proving a success. The results obtained are excellent except when visitors are present, but needless to say we are still waiting for last week's football scores from home.

Sport.—I regret to announce that once again we were the runners-up and not the winners of the Beetham football cup.

In the first round we met the Loralai Police and scraped through by 2—1 goals, thanks to the excellent display given by our goalkeeper, S/Sergt Spinks (I.A.S.C.), who undoubtedly saved the game for us. This was the first occasion on which our team had played together, so perhaps there is a bit of excuse for some of the mistakes that were made.

In the second round, again we had to re-organise the team. L/Corpl Howard unfortunately had to leave to catch the boat (he said that it would take more than a medal to make him miss that!) This time our opponents were B Company 1/7th Gurkhas, and we had no difficulty in winning this match by 4—1 goals. The Gurkhas were leading by one—love at the interval, but in the first ten minutes of the second half we scored three goals. Sigmn Shields opened with a nicely placed shot from the right wing. Sigmn Donnelly got a couple of nice quick ones, after which the B.O.R.s did everything but score. In the closing stages S.S.M. Smith (I.A.S.C.) scored the final goal.

The team were now playing more together, although at times the shooting was very erratic, but we fancied our chance against the Gurkhas H.Q., who were our opponents for the final. Things did not work out to plan, though, and in the end we lost by 0—3 goals. The game was fast and fairly even, but the better team won—so now for the Baird cup, and here's hoping that we do better. After the match we entertained the Gurkha team and officers, and everyone had a jolly good time.

Last night (Sunday) we had our weekly hockey match against the British officers of the Station. By some strange fortune we managed to win by 5—2 ; and let me add, it is the first time in the history of hockey that this has happened. However, they will see us off well and truly next week, so why shout about winning once ?

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand of welcome to L/Sergt (Tich) Cosens, who has joined us from Karachi, and we hope that his stay will be long and sweet.

Departures.—By the time these notes appear in print we shall have said our last fond farewells to our Section sergeant, L/Sgt Ward, who is returning to Karachi. Perhaps you will save the pice now, Tubby. Everyone wishes you the best, but how about handing over the throne now that a new king will reign ?

Things We Want to Know.—What did Jackie do with that big pay ? Why " Love is the sweetest thing " ? (perhaps Darkie can tell us that). Why I was made scribe ?

Situations Vacant.—Urgently required, one or more skilled nap and brag players to compete against Donnelly and thus save the Section from complete bankruptcy. References not essential.

APOZAI.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Thursday 29th November 1934.

General.—At the time of going to press two-thirds of the Detachment are still planning the schedule of their six months leave in Blighty. "Roll on" is the pass-word nowadays, and subjects relative thereto form the general topic of conversation until the "binders" are overcome by Morpheus.

Next comes the welcome thought of a change to our H.Q. at Loralai for Christmas, and the festivities connected with that and the New Year celebrations. According to information received, there are some reliable people attending to the extra messing and entertainments, and we are sweating on hearing the tables groan and creak in supporting the weight of the goodly viands thereon.

Although our stay in this corner of the world has been shorter than the usual tour for Hindubaghites, it has been quite enough, and a return to the civilisation of Loralai will be a good move.

Departures.—One dog (Spot by name) to join his canine friends at Fort Sandeman. I thought I'd go stark staring mad if I hadn't that dog for a pal, but I know full well he has a master who will look after him and not utilise him as a rugby ball just while things are a bit slack (no names, but I never met a Jock from Pompey before).

Arrivals.—One Phillips four-valve all-wave receiver, kindly lent to the Detachment by our O.C. We look forward to many enjoyable hours in listening to the broadcasts from the Empire Station. We doff our helmets (W.P.) to you, sir, in a humble effort to show our appreciation of the interest you take in your men who are out on detachment (holding 'em back), and as long as the "valve blowers" are kept at Sandeman we can assure you that your set will be well looked after.

Explanation.—I trust that I may creep away with this feeble attempt, but to tell the truth I have just returned from a spot of leave in Quetta. This being the end of the month, I have my little job to do up here and I am pushed for time. Before closing, however, I would like to wish the best of luck to all those who were not slow to remind me that they had only eight days to go. Tiki Nugent.

Tail-End.—Barbed wire does not a prison make, nor window bars a cage.

JAYCEE.

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

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

21st December 1934.

The Company has just concluded a merry round of schemes, including route marches and an occasional practice review parade, the idea being to prepare for the Delhi stunt. At the moment, however, schemes have faded in the background (until that Delhi march) and the immediate question is "What are we going to do for Christmas?" What does one usually do? Except for a few whose season's greeting will be "How do you jew?" the festive season promises plenty, while it is safe to say that there will be more on hand (and tap) than in previous years.

Early in the month of November the last hill party came home. Those men who had spent nearly nine months in Ranikhet were despatched with all speed to the M.I. room for prickly heat treatment, and it is worthy of note that these gallant Eskimos have braved the torrid heat of November and December on the Plains with remarkable fortitude.

Although our notes are short, it does not mean that we are not doing things. In fact, we could float a WIRE on our own, but fair's fair and Christmas is here.

Congratulations.—We heartily congratulate Corpl Cairns on having attained that rank, and Corpl Turner, who left us only a short while ago.

Departures.—Corporal Turner (Spud) to Waziristan District Signals. Sigmn Bruce to Muttra.

Deductions.—"Where is the . . . . . line?" Slight pause for investigation, and then "On the cable wagon, sir."

THE OFFICE FLY.

It was the little office fly
  Who spread his wings one morn
And on the O.C.'s coat did spy
  A tiny crumb forlorn.

It was to get his morning meal
  He flew and buzzed around;
He really didn't mean to steal,
  Though starving, I'll be bound.

It was an angry O.C. man
  Who gave vent to an oath;
Said he, "I'll kill him if I can—
  That fly, or flies, or both."

The O.C. whirled round in his chair;
  A document he seized;
One moment, fly a-nibbling there—
  The next, a fly deceased.

'Twas to our little office fly
  The O.C. did this sin.
I sometimes wish I had not sent
  That application in.

—P.E.R.

No. 2 Company.

December 1934.

General.—We are now in the middle of the collective training season. F and G Sections are at camp with their Brigades, and E Section has just returned from Brigade training to prepare for the Delhi manœuvres which take place in January next. The wireless personnel of J and K Sections spent a short time with their Brigades, getting acquainted with the No. 1 set, and are now back to spend Christmas in Meerut.

Christmas promises to be as enjoyable as in previous years. A cabaret concert has been arranged, employing local talent, and although the items have been kept rather secret we are looking forward to a very pleasant evening. I say the items have been kept secret, but we do know that it is to have a Spanish atmosphere, although the rumour that they intend to get a real bull on the stage to take part in a bull fight seems quite unfounded.

Arrivals.—Gunners Simms and Guest from the 6th Field Brigade R.A.

Departures.—Signalmen Dunn, Trewhitt and Smith A. R. to the U.K. No doubt, they will have a merry Christmas!

F Signal Section, Jhansi.

We are still enjoying life under canvas here, and so far the weather has shown us great favour.

Now that our new Brigade has settled down, everything is running smoothly—even our O.C.'s car. We have not yet lost a night's sleep, although one or two have kept very late hours in trying to show Jhansi the steps detailed every week by Jack Payne in "Tit-Bits." As for results, they seem to be doing pretty well, for even the O.C. has threatened to go and see what the attraction is at La Scale every week.

Training has been on general Artillery lines of work, and Raikes Range should bring back memories to quite a number of old-timers of this Section.

By the time these notes are published we shall be in camp at Badapur, preparing for the big fight (manœuvres) and the Delhi review. In fact, some are even polishing their medals now.

We have had our fair share of victories at hockey; in fact, they are too numerous to mention.

We spent a very enjoyable afternoon in playing the R.A.M.C. at tennis, and just managed to win the laurels by the odd game, the result being 32—31. Our champ tried to make the score 28—28 before tea was served, but after it was over our i/c A.B.48 totalled up and pronounced us victorious. Trust a cook orderly! Still, our champ did not worry: tea was over.

We may be lucky and able to send some notes next month; but if not, you will hear of us back in the fold of the Division.

The 25th Field Brigade R.A. Signal Section at Jhansi, December 1934
O.C.: Lieutenant S. G. Humphries.

Agony.—Farrier-Sergt Hinchcliffe of the 12th Field Battery R.A. (now in Jhansi) would like a line from Sergt Squires (Squibo) ex-Peshawar District Signals. HAGGIS.

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

18th December 1934.

General.—As most of the locals' Christmas arrangements have been upset by the events related below, this year the Section will have to make the best of a bad job. But as we are all super-optimists, our stockings will be hung up just the same.

On our verandah and in the stores one sees the usual pre-manœuvre activity, i.e. the manufacture of long ropes of cable, the re-wiring of office boxes, and the digging out of our cooking utensils. Incidentally, all this is made very interesting by the running fire of talk about "How we did it last year," etc. But I want to know why these people always have Christmas and camp running together, because so many people look unfit for manœuvres immediately after seasonal celebrations.

Rabies.—Banger's dog Teddy (or Edward the One, as I have heard him called) was isolated on account of suspected rabies, but this did not prevent some of the locals from coming in contact with or getting bitten by him. Brave lads! they sought to soothe the savage beast. Ginger started the game by getting bitten on the mits, and about last (but not least) Busty was bitten on the paunch. The rabied wallahs—six in all—are now in Agra, having a course of needles and making whoopee in general in their non-rabied moments. All the lads sincerely regret the death of the dogs Teddy (Corpl King's) and Brownie (Sigmn Bentley's). Both were shot by order of the medical officer.

For Blighty.—Sigmn Donohoe has left us for a short stay of "so many days" in Meerut until his boat sails. We are sorry to lose him, and we all wish him the best of luck in civvy street, where he hopes to find rows of houses ready for plastering.

In his place we have an old acquaintance in Sigmn Bruce, winner of many contests. We hope that his stay with us will be long and pleasant, and that he will always have large and sympathetic audiences. HEAP.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Saturday, 29th December 1934.

General.— Christmas, festivities:
Festivities, beer:
Beer, head:
Head, ideas:
Ideas, notes,

No! this is not a Sitwell poem. There are too many punctuation marks for that, but any way, the capital letters are in their correct places. It is merely the association of ideas. If you read it through carefully, you will (or should) realise that festive carousals are not conducive to good literature. If you do not, then read it through again—this time backwards. If you still do not, then help yourself to my aspirins—we're soul mates.

Our holiday programme went through with the usual swing. The corporals set the ball rolling with a dinner and smoker; then there was a cabaret show for all ranks; next came the Kiko Club (a wine-bibbers' society) show; and, finally, the sergeants' annual dinner and dance. All were unqualified successes, and should be reported in full in the notes of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals.

On Christmas Day the Troop junior n.c.o.s and men had their usual dinner. The fare, decorations, etc., were all excellently arranged by Corporal Lourie, assisted by Sigmn Leonard. The Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command (Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Vyvyan) was present and spoke a few words appreciative of the work of Signals in the Command. He concluded by saying that this would be his last Christmas in India and hoping to meet us all again at home. A wish which we all heartily reciprocate, sir.

Immediately after the holidays our hearts lightly turned to thoughts of camp—but only *very* lightly at first. I will not harass you with the sordid details of manœuvres; it will suffice to say that the Troop moves out on the 6th January, and those who have not succumbed from exposure and Shakapura biscuits will return about the 5th February.

Promotion.—L/Sergeant Thomson to that rank (page 35). Congratulations.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant A. B. McVittie, Signalmen Jacobs T., Forrest G. and Akehurst W. are all due to join us early in January. We hope that they will all be settled down comfortably by the time these notes appear in print.

Departures.—Signalman Frettingham left us on the 22nd December for six months special payment furlough to the U.K.

L/Corpl Kyle leaves us this week for attachment on probation for the I.A.O.C. He will not now sail in January, and his cabin-de-luxe (complete with hammock) on the *Lancashire* will be taken by Sigmn Martin J. The departure of the latter will be an irreparable loss. An intrepid shikar, as he would be the first to admit, his knowledge of wild beasts and their habitats is extensive. Also a gifted raconteur, his jungle anecdotes (which he frankly confesses are mild to what he *could* tell) hold his

listeners spell-bound from start to finish—always providing, of course, that they wait for the finish.

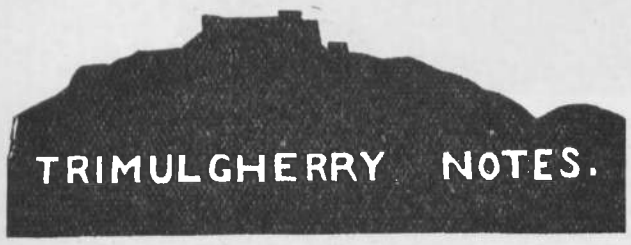
Cookery Hints.—This week I am giving you a recipe for bachelor cake. Take a pair of sparkling eyes, plenty of money, one brewery and a marriage licence. Burn the licence over a quick fire as soon and as long as possible. Spread the money evenly over as much of the brewery as it will buy. Next introduce the sparkling eyes to your nearest enemy. Then write and plead with Records not to post you to Scarborough.

Perplexities.—Despatch rider A leaves the orderly room at 9.0 a.m. for the Brigade office, returning at 9.30. Despatch rider B leaves at 9.0 a.m., returning at 10.15. If B has fair crinkly hair and the nursemaids air the kiddies at 9.45, why does the chicken cross the road? This is for our readers' amusement only. No solutions should be sent in.

Tailpiece.—" We were so attached to each other," as the monkey said when he lost his tail in the circular saw.

NON-NUNQUAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.



4th Indian Divisional Signals.

December 1934.

At the time of writing the manœuvre period is on us, so that we are concerned with such things as improvised Sections, neutral Signals, etc. The Southern Command are holding manœuvres, and the unit has moved out to Homnabad and Sastapur, leaving behind a very small representation.

First of all, we have arrivals to report. Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) has taken over command of the unit. We welcome him and Mrs. Pocock, and hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

Lieut. R. C. B. Stuart has also arrived here. He came from Karachi, and a welcome is extended to him. Remaining with us only a few days, he left to take command of G Signal Section at Mhow.

Lieut.-Q.M. T. Jones and his family have returned from Blighty leave, and we are glad to see them back.

Only one relief came to us this time on the trooper: Sigmn Heatherington. May he also like Trim and its inhabitants and settle down quickly.

By the time these notes appear, more arrivals will have come. Sergt and Mrs. Moult and Sergt Gibbard are expected. May they soon get re-acclimatised. Don't tell us too much home news!

Lieut. H. O. Pargeter goes home on leave. Having just had a " basinful " of manœuvres with his recently Indianised Section, no doubt it may just save him from having grey hair.

C.S.M. Kingman and family leave us for Jubbulpore, and Sergt and Mrs. Brewer for Quetta. May they all enjoy their new stations. In relief of Sergt Brewer comes Sergeant Kelsey and family. The same is expressed towards them.

Last, but not least, Sigmn Hennell C. left for the U.K. on being invalided. We hope he will soon get well and settle down somewhere to his satisfaction.

Inspections.—On the 8th and 9th November the Signal Officer-in-Chief (Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.) and the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command (Lieut.-Colonel P. B. D. H. Foot) inspected the unit during a two day stay. The 4th Indian Divl Signals must have looked very impressive as it spread itself out, trying to appear at its best and also like a full size Div.

The H.Q. Section B.O.R.s, I think, were the best. One line of be-ribboned sergeants and C.Q.M.S.s, armed with revolvers, and at one end two conspicuous figures, the bold farrier and an I.M. Truly an impressive display: two rifles amidst revolvers.

However, the usual tennis at home was held, and we hope the Signal Officer-in-Chief was satisfied with all he saw.

Obituary.—It is with deepest regret that I insert the following. On the evening of the 2nd December Signalman Arthur Staples Phillips passed away in the British Military Hospital, Trimulgherry, having been ill only a few days. He fought hard against typhoid fever and internal hemorrhage, and had two blood transfusions.

The late Signalman A. S. Phillips.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his mother, brothers and sisters; it is even more sad when we remember that they were looking forward to his return this trooper.

Sigmn Phillips was better known in Ahmednagar, where he had been stationed on and off duty during his five years tour. A fellow with many redeeming features, among which were his love of animals and a keen interest in photography; a thrifty chap, with a sunny disposition, and never happier than when hiking—all of which made him a popular pal and one who will be missed by all who knew him.

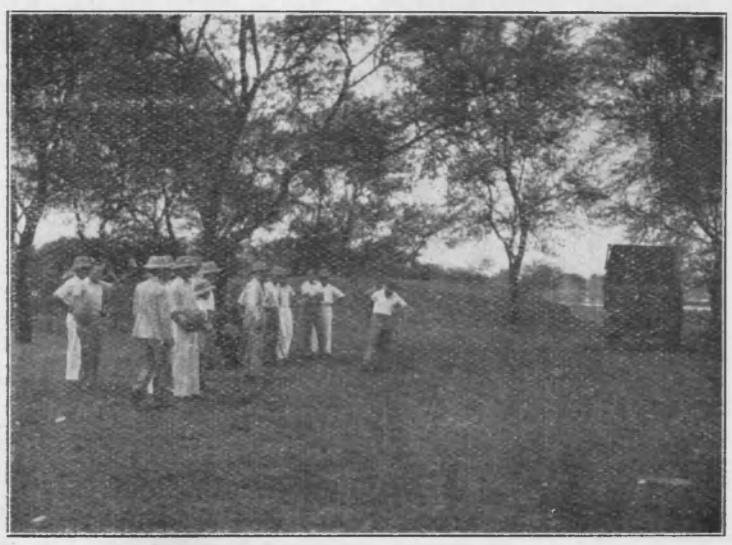
The unit was unfortunately on manœuvres at the time, and it is our great regret that a party could not be sent in to accompany the funeral cortege. Signals were, however, represented by the small number of n.c.o.s and officers left behind and the married families. The 1st Battalion The North Staffordshire Regiment buried him with all military honour.

Christmas 1934.—Our Christmas this year has been real good—in fact, a red letter one. I feel quite safe in saying that never before in the history of the 4th Div. has the spirit of conviviality and good cheer so radiated from everyone in the unit.

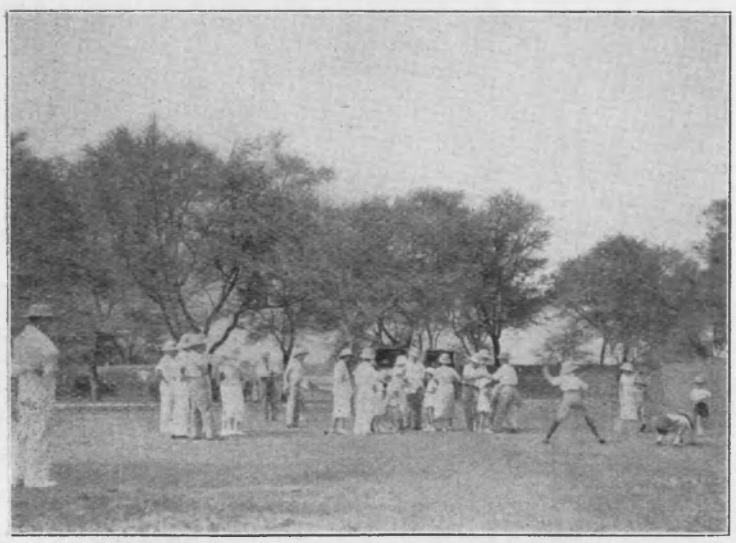
It started with our kiddies' treat. I call it " kiddies' " because it primarily was intended for them, but it developed into an all ranks affair in which many novelties were introduced. C.Q.M.S. Hore, as Santa Claus, donned the proverbial flannelette and crept out of a gigantic cracker to distribute gifts. Prior to this, all the kiddies were informed by means of radio-set and broadcast (oh! that Scotch accent, Jock!) that he was on his way to them. And they were all called up by name—quite a B.B.C. touch. This was a great success, and it is hard to say who enjoyed themselves the most: the kiddies or the others. In any case, in these days of precocity one wonders if the youngsters believed all they saw and heard.

Christmas "Pastimes" with the 4th Indian Divisional Signals.

"Ringing the Bottle" successfully.
Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock on extreme left. Mrs. Tucker is the other competitor.



L/Corpl Barnett taking a Penalty Shot.



Cocoanut Shies: Young Bill Hore having a duffy.

Waiting for the word "Go."

Carol singing round the bungalows was the next venture. I think I must hurriedly pass over this: somehow or other, it was not a complete success. What was wrong ?

On Christmas morning, cheered presumably by rum and coffee, everyone proceeded in column (as we say in the Army) to the hockey ground, where the all-in-cum-football-cum-hockey-cum-rugby, etc., was held. The costumes, besides being in some cases rather brief, were quite original, and it was a good thing that no prizes were offered. The ensembles were *tres chic*! Many dinky two-piece (or were there three ?) creations were noticed, and the Marina touch gave many an air of dash and risque. One poor misguided fellow (our correspondent was told) even discarded his " tash " to be in the picture, as it were—skirts and all. In fact, someone was heard to say he looked positively naked.

After having pulled ourselves together and our clothes apart, a sedate band of sixteen men sat down to dinner (this time in their blues) and after the usual toasts were drunk, full justice was done to the dinner.

The families were then visited and the evening was spent in a social and dance, the R.A.F. being our guests for that evening and subsequent days.

Next morning, a popular race meeting was held, and it will not be out of place if we print the race card.

FIRST CHRISTMAS MEETING—FORDIV. SIGS. TRIMULGHERRY.

First race—Improvised Stakes.
- Itvax by Hecud out of Gasot
- Me Sir by Geefive out of Watch Me
- Not a Blemish by Hahoj out of Route March
- Leadswinger out of Hospital by Bad Luck
- Asti out of Not You by Cable Commander
- Pay Out by Farrier out of Hahoj Line

Second race—Gunrock Hurdles.
- Sweating out of Our Big Ship by In March
- Payment Leave out of Indulgence by Best Tale
- In the Picture by Map Reference out of Tactics
- Sortie by Lesta out of I.L.O.
- Ek Anna Chah out of Busty by For Two Annas
- Mallam Nay out of Orders Given by Don't Want To

Third race—Fordiv. Scurry Plate.
- Through by Assistance out of Volume V.
- Arnines out of Stock by Wireless
- Staff out of Patience by Special Idea
- N.Y.D. out of Usual Return by On Admission
- Watch Me out of Man by My Stamp
- Kerosine out of Khana by In Camp

Fourth race—Trimulgherry Handicap.
- Cutlets Again by Blue Air out of Dining Member
- Condemnation out of Necessity by Efficiency
- Pay Branch out of Cash by No Sweep
- Fathead out of Bar Beer by Feroze
- Sore Bones out of Many by Hockey Match
- Here's Hoping out of As Good a Time by Next Year

This also was a complete success ; quite a lot was lost and won on the tote.

The junior n.c.o.s held their outing, and 'tis said all five of them enjoyed themselves immensely but were a little bit lonely. The female element would, no doubt, have made things livelier (see snap). The fifth member, L/Corpl Small, wishes me to say that as he held the camera, the bottle and glass must represent him.

The Sergeants Mess dinner was held the same night. This brilliant function was attended by several guests, and many nice things were said over the table.

Tennis was the feature of the next day: the unit v. R.A.F. I think the unit won. That evening a whist drive, etc., was held. The etc. was, I think, the more popular.

On New Year Day the whole unit (B.O.R.s) spent the day at Jidimatla, a local beauty spot famous for its camp reminiscences. Cocoanut shies, races, shooting and the usual grub stakes were indulged in. It would not be out of place to put on record that this was the first picnic of its kind to be held in this unit in which everyone participated. The commanding officer and Mrs. Pocock and a band of hard workers are to be congratulated and

The Junior N.C.O.s Mess Outing.

(*l. to r.*)—L/Corporals Missen, Barnett, Simmonds and Goodwin.

thanked heartily for such an innovation. It is to be hoped that there will be more later.

A W/T Section went again to Bombay for their annual outing: on the coastal shoot. No doubt they will return covered with glory and sun tan, and tell us how they enjoyed Bombay's diversions.

Major F. L. Gordon (A.I.R.O.) paid us a visit for training, and it is hoped that he enjoyed his brief stay in the unit.

Corporal Alexander went away on a pleasure trip. Madras was his chosen spot: A.F.I. camp, etc. I quite expect he enjoyed the etc.

The Usual Congratulations.—To the following " skollers ": Corpl Broom R. on gaining his special certificate ; Cpl Watterton, L/Corpl Missen and Sigmn Wood on getting a subject towards the special ; Corpl Tupper, L/Corporal Small, and Signalmen Constantine, Spare and Williams (3rd Indian Div. please note) on getting their firsts (Corpl Tupper, pay branch, was given a "D" in maths—we wondered how he managed to work the weekly akkers out so well) ; Sergt Tucker (keep it up!) on getting map reading, L/Sgt Copp English and geography (what about Irish?), Sergt Limb English, maths and geography (always expect Q Branch to get one more), and last, but not least, Sigmn Green on getting a "D" in Urdu.

Also to Corpl Tupper (what, again ?) on reaching that dizzy height and elevation to the elite.

Manœuvre and Other Cameos.—Things seen and heard. " Oh, that Tiger—where's that Tiger ?" Crooning " F." Our lineman-cum-farrier imitating Jenny. " Oh! those tashes!" Roughing it—rupees 5 per day: " What! chicken again!" " Much too comfortable." Those temperamental tennis champs (did I hear aright that there is a racquet for sale ?) And who is the lady who outshone as well as outshot her hubby ? (rumour tells me that she might take over his job as musketry instructor, as according to her merits she deserves. No names—no Mrs. P.)

S.V.M.

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 42.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

" Christmas comes but once a year." . . . . . The children —and grown-ups, too—can rightly say that in 1934, at any rate, there never was such a happy rollicking time as the Christmas party on Friday 21st December. The spirit of the season was abroad. Happy smiling faces, kindly unselfish hearts, willing eager hands—all were there to give this occasion the importance it deserved. Just for once in the year we all became children and believed in fairies. That "gulli-gulli" man: what wonderful tricks he did, and how our eyes ached through watching him so closely, fascinated by his wizardry. And the games: what fun they were. But we were missing some folk very badly. Colonel Bald and Mrs. Mansergh could not be with us because they were ill ; yet they must have been with us in their thoughts, for they sent along a happy Christmas message through Mrs. Bald and Colonel Mansergh. " May you soon be well again, and a happy Christmas " was our message to them.

Then came the great occasion: tea. If we had been thrilled before, the sight of the gorgeously decorated room and the tables loaded with scrumptious " eats " of all kinds thrilled us still more. What fun there was in pulling the crackers, unrolling and wearing the pretty hats, and reading those sentimental messages found in the crackers.

Night was falling, and we could see flakes of snow upon the windows ; there were stars also. Just when we began to wonder what was going to happen next, the sound of jingle bells came to our ears from afar off: the night was so still and clear that sound travelled easily. Then round the corner came a wonderful sleigh drawn by a wonderful horse all aglow with twinkling lights, and in the centre of the sleigh Father Christmas with loads and loads of parcels. How we jumped for joy and cheered! it was all so lovely. Soon we were back in the room in which we had had tea ; then some big curtains were drawn aside and we saw Daddy Christmas again, standing by a huge Christmas tree loaded with treasures, twinkling things and little lights. How we did cheer! the great moment had arrived and our cup of happiness was full to the brim.

So ended the unit Christmas party, and many dreams were dreamed that night of pretty dolls becoming lovely ladies and toy motor cars changing into " Bluebirds." The thanks of everyone are due to the officers and members of the Sergeants Mess for providing the presents ; to the ladies who decorated the Christmas tree ; to Captain Wheatley for his admirable impersonation of Father Christmas ; to Sergt Barnham for the lighting effects ; to Cpl Hughes for his magnificent sleigh ; to those who decorated the room ; and to the many others who so willingly gave their help to make the party a success.

No. 1 Company.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia, 3rd January.

Draft Scenes.—Time 11 a.m., weather warm, draft leaving for U.K., band, crowds, and a rousing cheer.

Time 6 a.m., weather cold and windy, draft leaving for U.K., one C.S.M., one sergeant (draft conducting), one sergeant (guard commander), one sergeant (spectator) and ten men. Faint cheers from draft.

Another draft away to civilian life and its perils: Signalmen Brierley, Hebb, Davies F., Aveling, Vallis, Leng, Gregory, Cody and Shortt, to whom we wish the best. The draft were able to walk unaided. A noticeable feature was the absence of the pals of the week-end performances. In the words of the poet, " Live and learn."

The Company commenced the first big scheme on the 2nd inst., the idea being to consume as much food as possible in four days ; at least, one would think so from the quantities being loaded.

For the information of the last draft. C. of E. challenge cup: No. 1 Company 4, B Squadron 8th Hussars 1.

Congratulations to the Corps rugby team on reaching the final of the Command cup. A hard and clean game. The Tanks played up splendidly in the second half to turn possible defeat into victory by 11—8.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergt Wintermere, who now walks round with packing under his third stripe. The same tunics will do, anyway, Windy.

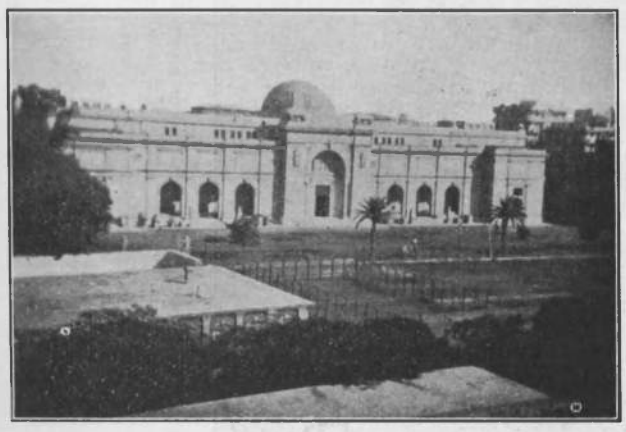
K Section : No. 3 Company.

We try again, and open up to wish all members of the Corps all they wish themselves and a prosperous and happy New Year.

We have again taken possession of the Chadwick cross-country cup, presented by Captain C. A. H. Chadwick (now adjutant to the Training Battalion, Royal Signals). Though we have several times obtained the championship, we have never before held this cup. (It was easy, sir.)

Training.—Everything is quiet, for we are standing at ease for Brigade training, though the boys are busy preparing for a spell on the blue, relieving No. 1 Company on out-stations. They are polishing and bobbing, for they are determined to take a couple of firsts in the gymkhana to be held this month.

Troopers.—I mean " boats "—not the others—and the cry is " Roll on!" People here say it is cold, but I bet it *is* cold where you are, Dobbin and all the other ex-Kayites. TEACHER.



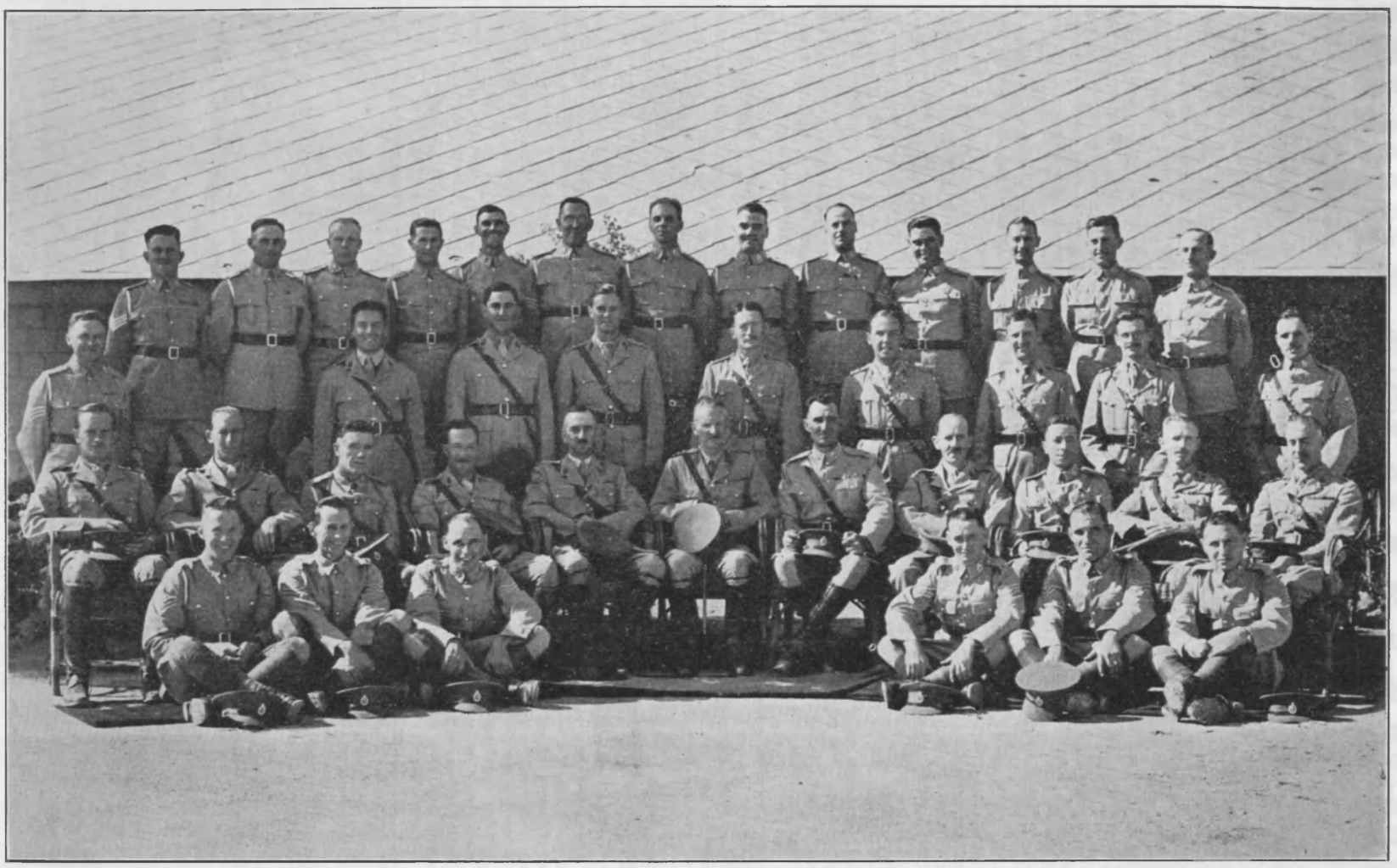
The Cairo Museum.

The Kasr-el-Nil Bridge, Cairo.

[*Photos by Sigmn Beckley J. Egypt Signals*]

Officers, Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers serving in Nos. 1 and 3 Companies Egypt Signals on the absorption of those two units under one formation to be known as

Egypt Signals, 1st April, 1934.



Back row (l. to r.)—Sergts Stevenson W. and Crockford A., L/Sergts Newberry O. and Smith T., Sergts Lewis S., Lawrie J., Dodman C. and Dunn F., C.Q.M.S. Gaffney W., Sergts Cornish W. and Norcross N., L/Sergt McLoughlin F., C.Q.M.S. Kendall A.

Third row—L/Sergt Stibbs T., Lieuts. E. R. N.-W. Nannev-Wynn, G. Mellor, N. de La P. Tate, A. B. Ruck, D. A. L. Dwyer, F. H. Pellew and W. G. Tucker (Adjutant), C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Rushworth V.

Second row—Lieut. E. S. Cole, Capt. M. S. Wheatley, C.S.M. Markham W., Capt. C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C., Brevet-Lieut.-Col. G. E. Mansergh, M.C., Colonel P. R. Bald, D.S.O. (C.S.O.), R.S.M. Dorrington A., Major H. V. von S. Thorne, C.S.M. Deyermond H., Brevet-Major E. J. Murphy, Captain (Q.M.) J. Finmore.

Front row—Sergts Walker H., Barnham H. and Hague F., L/Sergts Wintermere H. and Ball T., Sergt Levy D.

K SECTION CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM.

First we have the ginger bloke—
  Chambers is his name ;
He's been running here in Egypt
  Ever since the Signals came.

Number Two, I'm telling you,
  Is the one and only Jim ;
He's the lad for Ovaltine—
  He eats it by the tin.

Our Number Three is Dyason ;
  He's nimble on his feet,
But you should see him in the mess room—
  By gosh! that man can eat.

Four is our friend Bibby ;
  He mucks in on the tote,
But he says he's on the jew now
  And waiting for the boat.

Number Five is Dransfield
  Of death or glory fame ;
We used to think Kaye Don was fast
  Until our Wilfred came.

Six—we have Young Dobson ;
  Rabbits he used to breed,
But now he's home in Blighty,
  And the lads all had a feed.

Number Seven is only Me,
  But then I'm getting old ;
And the boat is due next April,
  So I have just been told.

Eight is Smiff D. H.
  Of the Company charging shop,
Who thrives on H_2O
  And never spills a throp.

Nine is young Tim Healy ;
  His complexion's almost black ;
I.R. is his trade, lads—
  He makes the A sets, ack.

Ten—we got the local sleuth—
  Beresford is his name ;
But let me tell you this, chaps:
  As a cop he's just a flame.

Next comes our Section Serg,
  Well up to the fore ;
But he's nearly ninety-six now,
  And his running days are o'er.

Lastly comes our masseur,
  The great Surcingle Joe—
The best all-round man in Egypt,
  With a figure like a pro.

And they're the lads who won the cup
  And brought it into K ;
We leave it there when we go home,
  And there it's got to stay.

—F.H.

Sergeants Mess.

Christmas Eve.—As is usual at the festive season, the time-honoured soccer match between the officers of the unit and the members of the Mess took place on Christmas Eve, with the result that the officers become for one year the proud possessors of the Vamoose cup with its cherished adornments of remnants of old R.E. and Signal ties. (Optimism prevails, as the writer was particularly requested to insert " one year.")

The game was worthy of a broadcast by George Allison, a noteworthy feature being the capable refereeing of Sigmn Brier'ey, who had perforce to demonstrate his knowledge of hockey, rugger, soccer and diving during the proceedings. The try by Mr. Tate was a masterpiece no less than the throw-in to the seven yards line by Joe. The goalies are worthy of mention—Duggy Hague marshalling all that came his way with gusto and a hat, whilst Busty Hicks (as keeper for the officers) played a noble part.

Tall tales followed as we enjoyed the drinks supplied by the winning team—an old-fashioned custom very much appreciated.

Christmas Day.—Chukkers (not to be confused with chuckers out) and chuckles went very well together on this day, for the polo teams of officers and sergeants provided us with more amusement than even George Robey could have supplied. It is difficult to say whether the long noses and cherry picker outfits of the officers were preferred to the harlequin kit of the sergeants, but both attracted the ladies, judging by the clicks of the cameras. Hurlingham might like notice of the question " Is polo played with hockey sticks and with donkeys as mounts likely to become fashionable ?" Whether it was the "Ride him, cowboy" tactics of Mac, or " There ain't going to be no more movement " of Sergt Smith's mount, or that clarion cry " Which goal are you defending ?" and its heartbreaking answer " None—I'm defending my honour " of Lady Grock, the fact remains that the show provided fun for us all.

Boxing Day.—The dining members of the Mess had their Christmas dinner celebration on this day to avoid interference with the Christmas Day dinner of the unit, and " legs eleven " was the number round the table on this occasion. The guests of the evening were Q.M.S. Jessop, R.E., R.S.M. Dorrington and R.Q.M.S. Smart. A very happy little party, at which reference was made to the departure of Teddy Markham and how much he would be missed, as also those others who would be leaving the Mess in the not distant future. A very old friend of the Mess in Mr. Jessop (of our mother Corps) spoke of happy R.E. days. We were delighted to have him with us and hope he will come again. The menu cards caricaturing each diner were excellently produced and reflected credit on the designer, L/Corpl Brelsford.

New Year's Day.—R.S.M. Dorrington, R.Q.M.S. Smart, and C.Q.M.S.s Gaffney and Kendall were the guests of the Corporals at their annual dinner on the 1st January—it was impossible to have it earlier. Thank you, very much ; we enjoyed everything —your eats, drinks, smokes, yarns, songs and company. R.S.M. Dorrington, on behalf of the guests, thanked the Corporals for their invitation and said it was a pleasure to be amongst such a happy crowd. He believed Egypt Signals was one of the few units in the Corps which boasted of a corporals' dinner ; may it long continue. R.Q.M.S. Smart proved that we were the backbone of the Corps, for if you take the " l " out of the life of us " Corpls," what do you get ? The answer is easy. I hope none of those who were there will try to imitate that S.O.S. yarn in practice—not in peace time, anyway.

Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes from this Section for the past few months. It seems that all the Troopers can concentrate on are troop ships. But in future we will endeavour to keep in touch with all old Troopers.

Since the beginning of the 1934/35 trooping season, a good number of the old hands have left us for Blighty. We wish them the very best in their new surroundings. With the coming of April we shall be saying good-bye to two more of the old brigade. We shall then be more or less a new Section, but nevertheless we shall try to carry on the good work.

Sport.—The standard of sport in the Troop is very high, considering we are only a small unit, and the old Troopers will

Signal Troop, Christmas 1934.

be pleased to hear that we are improving every day. We have just lost a good sportsman in Sigmn Jones, who has left us for U.K. The newspaper out here described him as the finest rugby player in Egypt, and we are proud to say that he was a member of our Section.

Departures.—The following have left us for the United Kingdom: L/Corpl Chadwick, Signalmen Jones, Barlow, Bates and McKune. The best of luck, chaps. We'll be seeing you bardin.

Information.—Anyone requiring information on the old P.P.s or the Cyprus campaign (1931) should write to the Signal Troop. We still have left an old sweat who will be only too pleased to tell you about the time " when men were men," etc. He can't help being good.

Agony.—Bill Rushton, last heard of at A Corps, Aldershot: What about a line, Bill ? Ginger F. K.

Will Alec Rae, late of L Section 1st Div., now somewhere in Ponky, please drop a line to Bob, c/o Signal Troop ?

Tailpiece.—Who tried to rid the Troop of their one and only crooner by putting him on the spot ? (Shame on you, children.)

Speshul!—Will Joey Skidmore, late of the Faith, Hope and Charity Combine, please drop a line to Hope and Charity of this Section ? F.J.P.K.

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

General.—Well, folks! after searching high and low for our notes in last month's WIRE and also in this month's, but without success, I thought I would make an attempt to write some myself. Critics are asked to see me in the vestry after the service.

Last month another sporadic contest took place in the canteen between the British Police of Jaffa and ourselves, for the possession of the Beer-monti indoor games shield. The evening was concluded with a sing-song. Amongst the songsters present Lusty Lawson gave a song without words: it was good, because he had forgotten them. The Coppers shone a trifle and gave many good turns. After a scrum down we decided we would all go to bed, so after much grouping, crouping and groping we retired to the land of nod.

Celebrations.—The Christmas and New Year celebrations went with a swing, a swig and a twist, the combined effects of which we are still feeling mentally, physically and financially.

Christmas morning saw the usual hard play at the officers' and sergeants' ends of the soccer pitch. Sigmn Hibbs Swann, in the goal at the men's end, found time to go into the hinterland prospecting for mushrooms, and was astonished to find on his return that the other side were preparing to make use of his goal. His save was gallant and would have been effective if he had not seen two balls and saved the wrong one! The final score was two goals to one in favour of the Men's Mess. The remainder of the holiday was spent in the approved manner—anyhow, everyone seems to be making gallant resolutions for 1935.

The home-going draft promoted a farewell carousal which finished in an abnormally orderly manner. The British section of the Palestine Police were well represented and provided a few very enjoyable turns. Stewagain Simpson rendered his (not our) old favourite " Under the spreading chestnut tree." Our charming soprano Ernest George Parsonage (that's the name he signed on the menu cards) obliged us—also for the last time. We eventually sang " Auld lang syne," still perpendicular and quite conscious.

Up to the time of writing our new caterer has reported no increase in the number of complaints. His name is Cooke, and we hope he can.

Comings.—A hearty welcome is extended to Major Gravely and family, and it is hoped that they will enjoy a happy and lengthy stay in the unit.

Goings.—We have already said good-bye to Major But'er, who has left us for the Experimental Station, Woolwich. We hope that he has now settled down there.

The annual draft from this unit will have reached the United Kingdom ere now. Amongst those to be missed are "Neveragain" Simpson, " Good old Pompey " and " Roll on " Cooper, not forgetting my comrade in arms Corpl Len Field. May they find the climate to their liking, as the one they have left behind is abominably wet just now.

Twins.—The despatch rider of this unit has been blessed with a pair: two of the latest model twin B.S.A. motor cycles have arrived. The medical officer has reserved a corner bed for future occupation!

Jumps.—Congratulations to L/Sergeant Bill Masters on his appointment to that rank. We trust the buttercups have had a drink on this.

Wireless Calling Blackdown.—Old pals, why don't you answer me ? Tut.

Things We Would Like to Know.—What driver in the Corps went for a twenty miles drive with his carburettor float in his pocket ? (surely not the Blonde Venus!)

Why did Roddy stagger in the canteen and order a steak sandwich without bread ?

What inspired our choir boy to emulate the nightingale, climbing a tree to sing carols ?

Why was the wrecker so near to us at Christmas ?

Q.R.U.TUT.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 11/12/34.

General.—The usual opening: not much of note this month. If the troopers didn't arrive and depart, there would be almost nothing at all to write about.

Trooping.—On Monday the 26th November there was great activity in the unit lines. Nine fellows who had just about given up hope of seeing England before April 1935 found themselves warned to embark on the 28th. Randolph was the first one to be ready ; all his kit went into a sea kit bag and half a G.S. bag. The *Somersetshire* sailed on the 29th, taking twelve of the old draft. The fall-in was worth seeing, Chapman in particular being a sight for sore eyes. It was necessary to charter a lorry to take the draft down to the pier, and a good job they did go by lorry. We were sorry to see them go. Christmas won't seem the same without Ginger Brown around. But, of course, every boat that leaves here brings ours a bit nearer.

The *Dorsetshire* arrived next day from the North, bringing us ten Tientsin Signals who are to stay here until March, chiefly to help us in sport! The boat departed the same day, taking Sergt and Mrs. Farley home after four years in Hong Kong.

On Saturday 1st December Corpl and Mrs. Fletcher left us on the *Carthage*. We wish them all the best in Blighty.

That's all about troopers until March, when the next one departs. I shall not be writing about that one.

The New Draft.—Since the arrival of the Tientsin draft, the N.A.A.F.I. beer sales have risen considerably. Wully Henshaw is allowing himself to be pushed, pulled and led astray ; at least, that is his version of it. That famous hockey, cricket, football and skittles exponent, Mick Addis, is now one of us, and the N.A.A.F.I. rebate next quarter should be worth having. All the draft are bouncing lads. Jock Cunningham and "Ari " Hoare in particular would make good advertisements for any system of compradore messing. It looks like being a merry Christmas after all.

Sport.—The hockey team was considerably weakened by the loss of L/Corpl Cross and Signalmen Whitehead and Erridge, but it was restored to strength again the next day by the arrival of Signalmen Addis and Marsh. *The China Mail* put it thus: " Northern Interporters to aid Signals in Hockey League." Boggy was going to order a dozen copies, but the blighters spelt his name wrongly.

The football team was also weakened by the loss of Jock Cord. It will be a long time before we get another keeper like him.

All that's left now is to say that the last week has been very cold ; and if England is colder than this, my sympathies are with the draft arriving home in January.

Arrivals.—On 30/11/34, L/Corpl Woolcot, Signalmen Hoare, Marsh, Cunningham, Burch, Oakey, Easterbrook, Addis, Martin and Potesta, to stick around until March and make themselves useful.

[*Continued in column 2 page 87*]

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

The annual children's party was held at headquarters on Saturday the 5th January. About two hundred and fifty adults and children were present, and the drill hall looked very gay with the lighted Christmas tree and other decorations. The entertainment committee are to be congratulated on a very popular event. C.Q.M.S. Powell again excellently filled the role of Father Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Philip Moore were largely responsible for the entertainment, which was much enjoyed. The addition of a horse " made up " by two members of the unit was a star turn. An impromptu dance followed the party. A photograph appears below.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brook's Bar, Manchester.

It is regretted that notes for this unit were not available last month. This was due to the unit scribe having left us, and once more the present writer has had to stage a " come back "—being ordered (not requested) to get on with the job. The P.M.C. who did the ordering was in a bad mood. I think the Christmas festivities had got him, and he had returned to piles of unpaid bills. Norton had also let him down badly over a little " something," so perhaps he can be forgiven for being a bit liverish.

I take this opportunity, although late in the month, to wish a happy New Year to all in Signals, and especially to those who have been connected with this unit in the past. May your shadows never grow less.

Quite a lot of reporting has to be done of events round about the festive season.

Officers.—The annual ladies' dinner and dance was held in the mess on the 15th December. Headquarters had been made to look quite festive by many willing hands, and especially have we to thank Lieut. Barber for the excellent results. Victor goes to a great deal of trouble over these decorations, and spends days at H.Q. in getting the place ready ; and when it is all over, he spends more days in endeavouring to get his expenses back from the P.M.C. He now thinks the P.M.C. must be a near relation to our Hebrew friend Julian Rose.

About sixty officers and guests sat down to an excellent Christmas dinner, after which our C.O. (Colonel Ashley) made a short speech in which he welcomed the guests. Then followed the toast of " The Ladies " and a neat little speech in reply by Miss Ashley. Dancing was later indulged in, and of course little trips were made to the bar, with Dan a good five lengths ahead of the others. Everyone voted the dinner one of the best we had ever held, and we must not forget a word of thanks to Sergt Jones for the able way in which he conducted things below stairs.

Arrivals.—We are very pleased to welcome into the fold three new officers in 2/Lieutenants R. H. Clegg, P. G. M. Lee and C. F. Kerr, and we hope their stay with us will be long and happy. These additions to the strength will cause a good deal of extra work at camp in the way of kit inspections, etc., and I can see Dan having to hold two midnight parades instead of the usual one—so roll on, camp.

We are also pleased to extend the glad hand to C.S.M. Spong H. C. (late of 2nd Divl Signals) as P.S.I. No. 3 Company, and Sergt Greenall J. E. (late of Eastern Command Signal Company) as P.S.I. No. 1 Company. We hope they also will have a happy time during their stay with us in Cottonopolis.

Sergeants Mess.—On the 29th December the Sergeants Mess children's party was held, this function being one of the high spots in the year's festivities. A really good tea opened the proceedings, and everyone appeared to do full justice to the fare provided. After tea Sergt Etheridge took over the duties as " father " of the party, several of the children giving songs, recitations, etc. After this the C.O. (Colonel Ashley) rigged up his cinematograph and showed two films of Charlie Chaplin and Mickey Mouse—and didn't the kiddies enjoy it! Then came the great event of the evening: the arrival of Father Christmas. First of all, we heard him calling on the wireless " I am now over Lewis's," " Now I can see Stretford Road," and then "Ah! here is Brooks's Bar, and I am now landing in the field outside the drill hall "; and the great moment of all when Father Christmas and his aeroplane shot through a paper screen right into our midst. What a surprise for everybody! The old gentleman

The A.D.F. Signal Children's Party, 1935.
[*Photo by The Non-Flash Banquet Photo Company*]

then got down, and each child received a present from him. Thus ended a thoroughly enjoyable evening for both young and old.

On New Year's Eve the Sergeants Mess held a dance, when about two hundred members and friends spent a very enjoyable evening in dancing to the strains of Messrs. Mamelock's band.

On the 5th January the annual all ranks ball was held at headquarters, and thanks to the efforts of the Q.M. (Mr. McVittie) and his band of helpers, this function went with a swing. The music was provided by our own military band under the baton of Band-Sergeant Hayes, and by the look of things I think the bandsmen enjoyed themselves every bit as much as the dancers. Prizes for the spot waltz were presented by the commanding officer. It must have been well after midnight when many weary but happy people wended their way homeward, having missed the last trams.

Company Hot-Pots.—Once again the season arrives for the hot-pot suppers. This favourite Lancashire dish never fails to draw good attendances. No. 2 Company have already had their "do." No. 1 Company follow on the 19th January, and No. 3 Company on the 26th. These are the occasions when peppermints are in great demand, for it is said that members' wives have threatened their hubbies with divorce proceedings if they come home smelling of hot-pot, beer and pickled onions! However, these functions are held primarily to aid recruiting, and as each member may bring a guest—preferably a would-be recruit—we are looking forward to our numbers being increased as a result.

Birth.—To Sergt A. and Mrs. Wooldridge a son, Gordon, on the 27th November last.

Tailpiece.—Wedding bells are to be heard early next month, but I mustn't let the cat out of the bag yet. You will have to wait until the next issue for details; and if you are very good little boys, I may promise to try to get a picture into the next issue. T.A.H.L.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter,
December 1934.

Editorial.—There are several items of interest to chronicle this month. As from the 1st inst. the unit has been re-organised on the lines of a Regular Divisional Signals, and the main changes concern Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, which are now located in Plymouth and Exeter respectively. No. 2 Company remains at Southampton, together with Nos 224 and 225 F.A. Signal Sections.

Changes have also taken place amongst our P.S.I.s. T/C.S.M. Purseglove and Sergt Ivison have rejoined their units, and Sergts Barraclough and Watt have come to us. To the former pair we say "Thank you for all the help you have given us," and to the new arrivals we extend a warm welcome.

Sergt Stone G. E. has been appointed T/C.S.M. and we offer him our heartiest congratulations. As we go to press I learn that he has been promoted on the Corps roster to C.Q.M.S.—a cause for further congratulations. As No. 3 Company are now in Exeter, C.S.M. Stone is taking up his abode with them. The Plymouth Company will feel the loss very greatly, as he had made himself one of them. However, Plymouth's loss is very much Exeter's gain. Having been in personal touch with C.S.M. Stone since he joined the unit—he was my P.S.I.—I can hand him over to Exeter with complete confidence that they will find in him a real friend as well as a first-rate instructor.

Individual training is now well under way, and after the holidays are over we shall get once again into harness.

No. 1 Company held a most instructive and well supported exercise for officers and n.c.o.s on the outskirts of Plymouth on the 16th December, when the weather was most favourable. There was marked keenness amongst all who attended, and the remark was overheard in several quarters that it was a pity it was not possible to have such an exercise once in every two months.

As the scribes in Nos. 2 and 3 Companies are still in hiding, one can only surmise that they are collecting their news for the next publication.

To all members of the unit (past and present), their families and friends, to all members of the Corps, and to all comrades, we wish a very happy Christmas and the best of good luck in 1935.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

We are extraordinarily pleased to record the promotion of Sergt-Major George Stone. Those of us who know that S.M. Stone missed his Regular promotion by remaining in Plymouth to help the Wessex Signals are more than delighted that he has now been rewarded.

The opening lecture of the junior officers and senior n.c.o.s course on the 6th December promises well for its success.

The change of nom de plume for the writer has not coincided with the best of luck, as at the time of writing he has been given orders by the M.O. to remain in bed for the next fortnight. Despite this personal handicap, he wishes the whole unit a happy Christmas and success in the New Year.

Arrival.—To Major and Mrs. Cornelius, our congratulations on the arrival of a second "Spark." ONECOY.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter,
January 1935.

Editorial.—Through a miscalculation of dates by one of "ours," last month's notes did not reach the printers in time; but, thanks to the kind offices of the Editor, they are included in this issue (as originally prepared) to preserve our sequence.

Two Companies have already held very successful annual dinners, and the third is about to take place.

Training proceeds, and the operator classes are well patronised. One is hoping for several new groups—either E or above—not only from the operators, but also among the linemen and other trades whose turns follow.

Boxing is holding the attention of the enthusiasts at the moment, and intensive training is taking place. We hope to send up a team to represent the unit at the Winchester tournament next month. May they meet with as much or more success than in the effort at Dorchester last year.

Miniature rifle shooting is also receiving marked attention. Those few who failed to qualify last year, and the recruits, should avail themselves fully of the splendid opportunities offered in each Company in respect of expert coaching and free practice. The rest, i.e. the individual effort, should be easy.

A hearty welcome is extended to Mr. R. Gibson on his appointment to a commission in this unit.

Mr. G. K. S. Edwards, at present with our parent unit, the 3rd Divl Signals, writes from Bulford that he is having a good but busy time. Good luck and a first class report!

Congratulations to Sergeants Watt N. and Barraclough A. on their appointment as local w.o.ii.'s (local C.S.M.). MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

We have already had our first Sunday exercise as No. 1 Company and enjoyed the new experience. Needless to say, solutions to problems were suggested with some caution. No. 3 Company, we know (in the very experienced and capable hands of S.M. Stone) will quickly settle down to their new tasks.

Incidentally, although it is our loss and Exeter's gain, we are extremely glad to know that S.M. Stone's services will be retained for the unit, and we hope to see him often again in Plymouth.

We extend a hearty welcome to our P.S.I., Sergt Watt, who has a difficult task ahead of him, and we hope his period in the unit will be a happy one.

Congratulations and best wishes for the future to Mr. R. Gibson, our new subaltern.

Mr. G. K. S. Edwards is attached to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, for a fortnight this month.

En Passant.—O.C.: "Aren't you re-engaging, Kelly?" Kelly: "No, sir; I've just got married." O.C.: "Well! we are all married" (indicates self, C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S.). Kelly: "Ah, well! perhaps you're not so happy as I am!" (Collapse of O.C., C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S., but on recovery, someone—who was it?—said "Wait till you've had twenty years of it, my lad, and you'll be coming to join up again.) ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Ah! here we are again. Mercury's kind encouragement and coaxing by the old scribe have induced a tyro to break the suspense—hence Begbie will now make his debut. Unfortunately, there is much to be said in a short time, notwithstanding the space available.

Firstly, we are more than delighted to learn of Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing's appointment as our honorary colonel. A very warm welcome awaits him and his successor (Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh) on their visit to Southampton.

Congratulations, R.Q.M.S., on your promotion to Lieutenant-Quartermaster. Well done! Consequent on the au revoirs, etc., considerable gloom settled upon Hamilton House, but we are pleased to say that it has been partially dispelled—the powers that be having acquired the services of our old friend Jim from Bulford, who is now well at home. We sincerely trust he will thoroughly enjoy his period of duty; likewise his pal Jock at Devonport.

Although the Company have been fortunate in obtaining the services of another old friend, we have felt it hard to part with a very popular P.S.I. (C.S.M. Purseglove R.) who is returning to the 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot. He came to us in November 1929 and has had the privilege of seeing us at full strength. Eulogistic references to the P.S.I.'s work with the Company were made at a smoking concert held at Hamilton House to bid him farewell. Musical honours were accorded to Ron, and the O.C. (Captain A. S. F. Fane) asked him to accept a gold watch as a token of appreciation and regard from all ranks—the watch being appropriately inscribed. We part with the greatest regret; but we are sure he will "come up and see us some time." We wish him every success.

Continuing the series of congratulations and regrets, etc., we have lost our C.S.M. (Harry Hoare); but, speaking metaphorically, we have not—as it is apparent that we shall see him frequently but in a different sphere. Harry was what we term a "founder member" of the Company, having joined up on its inauguration in 1922 under the command of Captain Grist. Having filled the last page of your service book, Harry—Finis coronat opus (good luck to you)—we all wish you the best of luck.

Congratulations, Jack, on your promotion to C.S.M. Keep the machine tuned and make things buzz.

At our fifth annual dinner, held at Price's Cafe, Southampton, on the 12th January, Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing, who recently relinquished the command of the unit and who is now our honorary colonel, introduced his successor, Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C. The gathering of about one hundred gave him a very enthusiastic welcome.

Apart from all officers of the Company and headquarters staff, there were with us Lieut.-Colonel Humphreys (County Association secretary), Alderman F. Woolley, J.P., H. H. Mears, Esq. (head postmaster) and Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D. (a previous Company commander at Exeter).

The toasts and speeches were well received, and in the responses the importance of the Territorial Army in general and the Signal branches in particular was stressed. It was pointed out very clearly that no organisation was complete until it had a first-class system of inter-communication. Emphasis was also laid on the fact that within the space of a few years our Company had increased its strength in a remarkable degree. Our commanding officer eulogised his predecessor's sound policy and system of training and command, and stated that he proposed to carry on where Lord Basing had left off. The local Press gave us a very excellent "column," but space prevents more than the above extract being submitted here.

Training news is deferred until the next issue. BEGBIE.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Since our last appearance in these pages we have had a change of P.S.I.s. We said good-bye to Sergt Ivison just before Christmas, and made him a presentation on the night of our Christmas prize-giving. We all wish him the best of luck, and trust he is not finding the change too exacting.

In his place we welcome C.S.M. Stone G. E. He was well known to us as the Plymouth P.S.I., and with the change-over he comes to No. 3 Company in the same capacity. It is a great advantage to have one we know, especially with the strange work we are now trying to handle. There is, however, no reason why we should not go to camp fully equipped with all the knowledge we need to put up a good show. It is very pleasing to see the keenness that is existing within the Company, and it is hoped that the very few who are still a bit shy will soon put in their usual regular attendance.

Operator classes are in full swing. The tests will soon be on us, and linemen will then have their classes and tests.

The n.c.o.s are due for a Sunday exercise without troops on Sunday 3rd March, and it is hoped that every n.c.o. will turn up to get early experience of the new duties.

At last, it appears the workmen have seen enough of our drill hall and we shall now be able to go back into it. It had been hoped to run a smoking concert on the night of the prize-giving, but as the drill hall was not ready we were unable to do so. For the same reason the Christmas party has had to be postponed. We were delighted to have with us at the prize distribution Major Western, Lieut.-Q.M. West and the R.S.M. We all appreciate very much the keenness and interest that Major Western still shows in us, and it is very encouraging to have his good advice.

Company dinners are now on us. We very much regret being unable to go to No. 2 Company's celebration, but we wish them every happiness and assure them we were with them in spirit (Irish is the popular brand in Exeter). We are hoping to be able to send a representative to No. 1 Company's dinner in Plymouth, and again we are assured of a very cheery evening.

THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

eneral.—The results of the Trade Board held in respect of the pre-Christmas training are indeed very gratifying, and both those who were "boarded" and those who trained them are to be congratulated.

Now the pre-Easter training period is in full swing. Classes for individual and recruit training have been formed for Monday evenings, and paid courses for n.c.o.s, linemen and operators are being held each Thursday and on alternate Sundays. We may as well mention that pay and ration allowances are admissible for every six hours work performed while in attendance at these courses. Further, travelling allowance to and from H.Q. is payable in addition. Jam on it—both sides!

There is one redeeming feature about these paid courses: it does ensure a good attendance. Apart from that, however, London Signals should not require any reminder of their obligations when one finds a fruit-bearing cable pole at almost every street corner.

We are pleased to report that recruits are steadily joining up and more than counter-balancing the discharges. We notice this recruiting business is becoming quite a family affair lately. Two of our last-joined youngsters are sons of serving sergeants—both members of the S.R. That's the way to bring 'em up—following in father's footsteps, as it were.

On Friday, 11th January, at our annual prize giving, we had the great pleasure of being entertained by the famous Roosters. They were, of course, their exceptionally good selves, and judging from the general remarks from the audience of some four hundred, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themse'ves. Immediately prior to the interval, the distribution of prizes took place. Mrs. Fleming, the wife of our hon. colonel, Colonel J. G. Fleming, C.B.E., D.S.O. (who was, unfortunately, not well enough to be with us) kindly consented to present the cups and medals. No. 1 Company carried off the inter-Company musketry and the inter-Company Trade Board cups. No. 2 Company also secured two awards, G Section having won the inter-Section efficiency cup and F Section the cable competition cup. G Section also won the No. 2 Company inter-Section efficiency cup. L Section were awarded the No. 3 Company cup for the inter-Section inter-communication competition.

Before the prizes were presented, our C.O. offered a welcome to the several distinguished guests, and briefly told the assembly some facts about the unit, its functions and its members. He stated that this would be the last time he would have the opportunity of speaking to them officially (he is, we regret to report, leaving us this year owing to the termination of his tour of duty as C.O. of the unit). Before he concluded his remarks, he especially thanked the ladies (the Territorial "widows," he called

them) for allowing their menfolk one evening to themselves each week. He assured them that they were well looked after.

Sergeants Mess.—Things have been rather quiet for the past few weeks, but we shall be getting busy again during this month, and we hope to have more to write about next time.

We were specially glad to have a visit from our old comrade Sergt Jack Smith, of the A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth.

If Sergt Hall, of A Corps Signals, sees these notes, we would remind him that we shall be more than pleased to see him when he is next in town. We take this opportunity of tendering our deepest sympathy with him in his sad bereavement. It was with regret that we learned of the death of his father, who has been connected with military bands since he was sixteen years of age and at one time served with our mother unit, the Royal Engineers.

Social.—Our New Year's Eve ball was an enormous success, and everyone spent a real rollicking evening—night and part of next morning. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Training.—The second in the series of courses for senior n.c.o.s is due to commence on the 20th January. This course will be on the same lines as the previous one, but will deal mainly with signal office duties. A course for switchboard operators is also in progress.

History of the 48th (S.M.) Divl Signals.—Captain E. A. James has supplied a much felt want by recording "The History of the 48th Divl Signals (T.A.) and its Pre-War Predecessor Unit." The book has been compiled from official records and Captain James' personal experiences, and reviews the history of the unit from 1908. Review: "Everybody in the unit should take an opportunity of reading this volume, and we offer Captain James our congratulations on his effort."

Sergeants Mess.—Several social events have taken place during the past month. First there was the carnival dance on the 15th December, which proved a great draw and provided a very enjoyable evening. We enclose a photograph taken during the proceedings. We might mention that several Mess members wanted to have this re-taken as they were not in it!

The children's party took place on the 5th January, and this was greatly enjoyed by the children (of all ages, young and old!) An excellent tea was provided, and afterwards presents were distributed to all the (young) children. An entertainment was given in the drill hall, and finally the kiddies were allowed to romp about to their hearts' content.

Interviews with Famous Men.—No. 3: Baron de Barney (of Branson's Cross). Being rather short of "copy" for the month's notes, I made up my mind to interview some famous personage, and it being a Tuesday (and a foggy one at that) I decided upon His Excellency Baron Barney. In due course I presented myself before the great man (great, might I add, not excepting the Falstaffian sense of the word). As I entered his sanctum, I observed him seated by a table and with every evidence of inward contentment poring over a large book.

This bulky tome, as he presently revealed to me, was the life's work of an old friend and comrade in arms of his, by name Sergeant Mason, and bore the intriguing title of "Tales and how to tell 'em." It was a true record, he went on to explain, of a series of incredible adventures which the two warriors had experienced together.

So amazing, indeed, were some of these experiences that, when relating them to others, he was sometimes greeted with incredulous smiles and even jeers. But he was prepared to overlook these lapses from good taste, for the younger generation were at best an impudent crowd. He recalled with a shudder how on one occasion in camp, as he retired to enjoy a siesta after a particularly exhausting day, his person was made the object of a crude outrage and he awoke to find himself tied to his bed, "decorated" to resemble an Indian chief in war paint.

The mention of decorations brought up the question of his military career, and he explained to me that although he was a man of great modesty, he had to admit that he had during his service been the recipient of a number of medals and had hopes of winning some more; adding that he thought a great show of

The 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signal Annual Dance at Cateswell House, 1934.
[Photo by the courtesy of "The Birmingham Gazette"]

decorations awarded merely for length of service, as was practised by some people of his acquaintance, was very bad form.

As a marksman he assured me that, given a good rifle, he had no rivals, although the mere lust of killing revolted his innermost feelings—for beneath his stern appearance there beat the heart of a little child.

As a point of interest he then informed me that he considered himself rather an adept at forestalling the future with the decks, and that he could vouch for at least two occasions when his prophecies had come true—one when he foretold a dark prospect for someone just when the electric lights fused, and the other at Winchcombe when he accurately predicted rain for the following day. He offered to forecast my future, but time was getting on, so (voicing my profound thanks) I left him to his studies.

GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and No. 3 (W.R.) Company, G.H.Q. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—The absence of our notes last month is regretted ; and as an excuse might only make matters worse, it is hoped an apology will suffice.

With the coming of the New Year, training re-opened in earnest. Classes have been formed and are being run on practically the same lines as last year—from January to March being set apart for individual training, and the remainder of the season up to camp for sectional training. The adjutant set the ball rolling on New Year's Day by giving a lecture on the aims of the training, and he spoke very highly of the success of last season's venture. He emphasised, however, that the unit still needs operators, and the main object of the three months course is to satisfy that want. A Trade Board will examine all candidates in the subjects covered, and we hope to be able to report " all passed " by the end of March. The adjutant said the general efficiency and esprit de corps of the unit was fully appreciated by the Divisional and Northern Command staff, who had reported in glowing terms on the work done last year.

Three Sunday morning parades are included in the individual training period ; and in the months between April and camp, in addition to week-end camps at Arthington, there will be a special paid course of selected operators, who will have junior operators attached to them for pair work—which will be known as " father and son " working. And so, having returned to the plough after the Christmas festivities, a full season has to be tackled.

Annual Camp.—This year the annual camp will be at Redcar, from the 28th July to the 11th August, during which time we shall have the 46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals as neighbours. We look forward to a happy time, with plenty of competition both in work and play.

Annual Ball.—Though rather late with the news, we find this event took place as far back as the 14th December. The drill hall was splendidly decorated by our hard working P.S.I.s, and there was an attendance of close on four hundred. Sergt Thornton's Lido dance band was largely responsible for the success of the affair, and his crooning over the mike made many of us wonder whether he will not one day forsake his stripes for a job as Bing Crosby's understudy. Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., and Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., were present.

Truth is Stranger. . . . . .—The arctic nature of the recent weather has brought its troubles. The 6th January, when the first of the Sunday ack emma classes was held, was particularly chilly (witness the following). Instructor: " When I send T you are getting B, and when I send B you are getting Q. How's that ?" Junior operator (desperate with trying to memorise the Morse code): " Well, sergeant! it's because I keep getting mixed up between the sounder and the chattering of my teeth!"

Officers' Ball.—Our drill hall was turned à la Française on the 11th January when the officers' ball was held. The old hall has seen many changes, but never before has it been a " Continental pavement " as it was that evening ; and the smell of kippers was something new to the rafters. Shops, sun blinds, cafes and a Moulin Rouge transformed it into a place " somewhere in France," and every credit is due to the splendid artistic talents of the committee. A dozen or so large round tables, each with an orange and black sunshade over it, completed the street scene—made the more realistic by two life-like lamp posts and the inevitable dog in the vicinity of one of them. A meal of kippers and bacon and eggs at midnight added to the festivities. Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. McLaren received the guests. The hon. colonel (Colonel W. Boyle) and Mrs. Boyle, Colonel G. Bray (Deputy Chief Signal Officer) and Mrs. Bray, and Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Campbell were present, and the list of guests also included Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate (Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command), Colonel G. H. Walton (commanding the 50th Divl Signals), Captain E. Levitt (adjutant, 46th Divl Signals), and a large number of officers and their ladies from other Territorial organisations in and around the city. The whole affair was an unqualified success.

Complaint.—A lady attending the annual unit ball lays a complaint that her dress was torn by an officer's " spears." We presume the lady meant spurs, and she has been informed that the offending gentleman must have been someone of " lance " rank.

Obituary.—It is with very sincere regret that we record the death of ex-R.S.M. Brown, D.C.M. (late R.E. and R.Signals) known far and wide as Buster. He passed away at Leeds during the month. The sergeant-major left the Service some seven years ago, when his tour of duty with this unit ended, and he will be well remembered by the older members, particularly for his fine horsemanship. He was a splendid fellow, and we mourn his passing.

TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—Now that all our festivities prior to and at Christmas have been happily and successfully completed, we can settle down to the completion of winter training in real earnest. This ends on the 30th January, when we hope that a good percentage will successfully pass the necessary tests.

Annual Company Supper.—This was held on the 28th Nov., and as in previous years it proved a great success. We are indebted to our commanding officer, Colonel G. H. Walton, for his presence and the encouraging words he spoke regarding the efficiency of the unit generally. During his speech the C.O. paid great tribute to this Company for the good work put in and the progress made during the last year, and the appreciation shown by the Press in publishing everything verbatim.

During supper our R.S.M. was noticed making a graceful exit, but his return was heralded with much applause when it was made known by Captain E. Glover that a congratulatory telegram had been sent to H.R.H. Prince George and Princess Marina on the eve of their marriage.

During the concert that was held after supper, a reply to our telegram was received from His Royal Highness, thanking the officers, n.c.o.s and men for their kind wishes. This gave cause for everyone to " let rip," and it's remarkable that the D.C.A. were not approached to re-roof the drill hall.

Christmas.—There are not many who remember clearly all that happened during these festivities, but they must have been very successful for that very reason.

The ceremony of cutting the cake on Christmas morning, carried out by Captain E. Glover (our O.C.) proved a very enjoyable function—so much so that several hubbies returned home to a cold Christmas dinner.

Our sympathies were extended to " our Bill," who went to the barrel on Boxing Day morning to find that remaining drop was " off." Never mind, Bill ; the barman did come to your rescue.

Combined Children's Tree.—It is a question as to who enjoyed this the most: the parents or the kiddies. It was a very successful treat, and the excitement of the children amply rewarded Lieut. Smith and the committee for all their hard work.

N.C.O.s Mess.—So many enjoyable evenings were held here that I hardly dare to mention them all ; but I should like to mention just one, because it was a farewell to two members whom we could ill afford to lose—Lieut. G. Smith (promoted) and our P.S.I. (Chips). However, we wish them all the very best in their new spheres.

Boxing.—The inter-Company boxing (Dent cup) is being held at the drill hall, Middlesbrough, and by the time these notes appear we are hoping the cup will be safely in our possession again.

Agony.—Hector, Reggie Crouch and Sailor Haines: All the very best. What about a line ? CHOTA.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—The first half of the winter training, which closed on the 13th December, was enjoyed by all concerned. That the training was successful was shown by the number of tradesmen who succeeded in gaining ratings. The tests were conducted and supervised by the second-in-command, Major T. T. J. Sheffield, who expressed himself as highly satisfied with the results. We congratulate the successful candidates, and hope that next time will see the runners-up pass as well.

A course for switchboard operators and counter clerks will commence toward the end of January, and further successes are looked for.

Christmas Festivities.—The usual functions were again held in the drill hall at Christmas. The children were entertained with a treat and the usual Christmas tree ceremony. It was noticed this time that Father Christmas did not lose his head dress and expose his bare cranium, as has been done in the past. Mr. Phil Whitcombe's children's concert party gave an entertainment in the afternoon, and this was thoroughly enjoyed by all, including the grown-ups, who (judging by their smiles) were having a good time. As usual, the catering was done by the Company, and we offer our thanks to the ladies who gave their help and contributed to the success of the function.

On Christmas morning, our usual cake-cutting ceremony took place. This was attended by the O.C. Company and officers, and we were also honoured by the presence of the second-in-command, Major T. T. J. Sheffield, who replied to the expressions of goodwill by the O.C. Company.

I would also like to mention that we were visited by one of our ex-corporals who was on leave from the Training Battalion, Catterick Garrison. To you, Sigmn Craggs J., we extend our hearty wishes for your future welfare.

Badminton.—In the sphere of badminton we are still going strong. Owing to the Christmas holidays there was a lull in match playing, but now we are in full swing again. The team visits the Darlington Company in the near future, and a good match is expected.

Boxing.—The competition for the Dent cup takes place in our drill hall on Monday 28th January. We hope to put a team into the ring against the other Companies. Results will be reported in the next issue. A good night's sport is being looked forward to.

Annual Training.—It is now known that we are to go to Catterick for our annual camp this year. The period chosen is from the 28th July to the 11th August. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—The past month has been a period of jollity, but we are now beginning to settle down again and get on with something more serious: *e.g.* (New Year resolutions) I'm going to be an operator before next camp, I'm never going to tell a lie again, I'm going to put in more drills, etc.

Children's Christmas Party.—This was held in the drill hall on the 26th December and was again a great success, being attended by a large gathering of children, fathers and mothers. Games were arranged for the kiddies and the mothers in the way of competitions. The winners were: Lucky number 113 (Mrs. Watts); smelling competition, Mrs. Whinship; hidden treasure, Miss Jessie Wilson; musical chairs, Mrs. Reid. Tea was served at 4.30, after which we all retired to the n.c.o.s mess, where the mothers got talking about camp in 1935, week-end camps, drills, etc. It's very funny, the interest the wives take in the—I'm sorry! I nearly said pay, but it's not that—only, what time did Jimmy get back, and was he wet ? Anyway, it's pleasing to see their happy faces at least once a year.

Training.—The linemen's winter course terminated on the 19th December, and we all congratulate the following on passing out as full-blown linemen Group C class iii.: Driver Lisle S., Signalmen Flynn F., McCaughey J. and Moore T. The remainder of the class have volunteered to attend at the drill hall until the end of the month, when they will be given a further test.

The operators' winter course is still going on, but this is due to terminate at the end of the month, when it is hoped that some good results will be obtained.

Badminton.—This sport has been very quiet during the past month owing to the fact that the hall was being decorated for the n.c.o.s ball on the 18th January, but it is hoped that we shall start again soon after that function is over.

Football.—Our team is still in existence, but owing to the inclement weather of the past week or so, we have had to put the ground out of bounds. Our manager informs me that he has at least one player of note (a centre-half). I hope he is telling the truth, as he is one who said he would never tell a lie again. By the way, one of his New Year resolutions is that the Gateshead Signals will win the Gateshead District League cup in 1935. We shall wait and see. I reminded him that we had never won the inter-Company cup in camp, so he said that we shall win that, too. Easy now, you other Companies; please don't get the wind up.

Boxing.—The tournament for the Dent cup is due to take place in the drill hall at Middlesbrough on the 28th January, and we are hoping to retain it for another year, although I hear a faint rumour that we shall not. Well, that's the spirit we want. Let's all win it *before* the contest, but may the best team take the cup home with them afterwards.

Good-bye.—It is with regret that we are about to say good-bye to our affiliated Supplementary Signal Sections owing to their being disbanded, but we are hoping that some, if not all, will join our happy band. A big welcome awaits you all. If you do go out for good—and to those who go to other S.R. units—here's wishing you the best of luck.

Sergeants Mess.—We are to hold our annual ball on the 18th January, and we are hoping that it will be the same success as last year.

Medal Awards.—We congratulate Corpl Campbell A. on being awarded the B.L.M. (biggest liar medal) at a recent smoking concert in the n.c.o.s mess. Said he to all: Gentlemen, last week I attended a concert, and there was a conjuror who performed the following trick. He took a hook and a bucket, hung the hook in mid-air, filled the bucket with water, hung the bucket on the hook, covered the lot with a black cloth, got his magic wand and said some magic words, removed the cloth, and —believe it or not—the bucket had gone and there was the water hanging on the hook.

Heard These ?—(At a recent Trade Board). Officer: How would you test a telephone 110 ? Other rank: Put a D.iii. on it. Officer: What do you know about a Q and I ? O.R.: It tests cells and . . . . . Officer: Yes; and what else ? O.R.: If you test a metallic circuit, the needle will swing to the left; and if you test an earth return circuit, the needle swings to the right. Officer: Next, please.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—The festive season has now passed and everyone is back to normal routine. The second series of winter courses is in full swing, and before their termination recruit training will commence.

It is anticipated that the annual inter-Company shoot will prove keener than ever. No. 2 Company seem to think the cup is their private property. What about having something to say with regard to this, Nos. 1 and 3 ?

Old 51st Divites will be surprised to learn that Sergt Cormack has relinquished the duties of caterer to the Sergeants Mess. His place has been taken by Sergt Allan, who is equally famous. His slogan for all is "Come up and see me some time." I personally see him too often!

Owing to someone taking a fancy to the Sergeants Mess billiard balls during the hectic season, billiards at present is a very colourful affair. Have a heart, someone. The poor old snooker balls will soon be beyond recognition.

Kiddies' Christmas Tree.—The annual H.Q. and No. 1 Company Christmas tree at Fonthill Barracks on the 15th December proved a huge success. Colonel R. J. Nicol kindly acted as Father Christmas—no light task, seeing that he had over ninety toys to distribute to youngsters. Uncle Jack from *The Daily Record* kindly appeared with more gifts and helped in entertaining the kiddies (?) between the tea interval and the presentations. The C.O., second-in-command and officers of No. 1 Company also attended, and I think they enjoyed the show as much as the kiddies. Thanks are expressed to the hon. colonel, the C.O., officers and friends for their interest and support, which enabled the treat to be made such a success. Thanks are also expressed to Mr. Warrender for his conjuring tricks, to the voluntary band, Master Patterson, and those who helped with the decorations, etc.

It may seem odd to express such wishes in WIRE notes, but these regimental functions must never die, and it is hoped that all unit readers of our Journal will be always ready to see that the good work is carried on.

Hogmanay.—Many heard the hour of midnight strike. That's all, folks.

New Year's Day.—Why should I have to try to remember all that took place on this day? One event is outstanding: the annual New Year dinner and dance held by the w.o.s and sergts at Fonthill Barracks. What an enjoyable night! Complexions don't count—do they, Tommy? Rollo was apparently in fine form—the sheikh!

Officers' Ball.—The Territorial officers in the city and county held their annual ball in the Town and County Hall on Friday 11th January. The Highland Divisional Signals were fully represented on this occasion. The officers and their guests dined in the mess at Fonthill Barracks prior to the ball. DIV. SIGS.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—The only item of importance to report this month is the result of the Kirkcaldy inter-unit miniature rifle shoot held on New Year's Day. In spite of many big heads after the serious business of first footing, the lads of our Company excelled and we walked away with the challenge cup, together with four silver medals and five of the individual prizes. Well done! we must now see that the cup remains with the Company indefinitely.

Entertainments.—Our second dance of the season, held on the 14th December, was a great success, in spite of several other dances of importance being held in the town on the same date. All our officers were present, as well as our adjutant from Aberdeen and officers of the Black Watch.

Our dances here are all the rage
In this hustling, bustling age.
Folks think *they're* fast. We have them beat—
You don't find us glued to a seat,
But twirling round and round the floor,
Or getting bunged out through the door.
We just come back again and try
To "put one over" on that guy:
You know him? No?—our P.S.I.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals and S.R. Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Regimental Gathering.—The regimental gathering took the form of a dinner held at headquarters, to which all ranks were invited. After a sumptuous repast, the members were addressed by Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., Major Cumming and our adjutant (Captain Giblin). The speeches were of a high order. The commanding officer expressed satisfaction with the year's work of the units. A concert followed, to which the best of our local talent contributed. We are once again indebted to our permanent staff. The arrangements were splendid, and nothing was omitted that would be conducive to our enjoyment.

Lucky Lads.—We are informed that more attention than ever is to be paid to the already flourishing Men's Club. An effort is to be made to add to the accommodation of the club, and other reforms are contemplated which should add to the amenities of the premises. The idea is a very commendable one. The commanding officer's ambition is to make the club a real homely meeting place for the lads and thereby to maintain an all-the-year-round interest in the units and their work.

Sergeants' Salute.—The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess saluted the New Year by holding a smoking concert in the mess on New Year's Night. The function was most successful. A dram, a song and a toast were the order of the evening. Houston howled —singers sang—drouths drank. We toasted the Corps. We toasted ourselves. Here's tae us! wha's like us?

Concerning Changes.—There have been important changes recently in connection with our S.R. units. However, changes are lightsome, and we follow the work of readjustment and rearrangement with much interest.

Likely Lads.—We note the transfer to our Territorial units of members of Infantry units. We wish the lads well, and trust they will soon become accustomed to their new environment.

Recruiting Rewards.—The prizes to be awarded in connection with the recruiting campaign are well worth seeking. We do not contemplate much difficulty in filling up our ranks. Our camp film is to be displayed at picture houses in the city, and everything possible is being done to attract the best type of recruit.

Egypt Errs.—The absence of Egypt Signal notes is giving rise to anxiety, even in this far-off land of the heather. A naturalised Scotsman named Honest John would much appreciate a word from the land of the Pharaohs.

Press Privilege.—We hope in the near future to contribute to "The Services" columns of *The Glasgow Evening Citizen*. The perusal of these columns should prove of interest to many of our members.

All Set.—Our notes for this month's issue are of necessity brief. An atmosphere of quietude reigned before and after the festive season. However, things have now got going for 1935. Already there are signs of the commencement of training. We hear that we are to encamp in Fifeshire in July. So once again the ball is set rolling. There is every prospect of a good year ahead for the units.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Individual training is now in full swing. The attendances are much larger than in previous years. All are showing great keenness, and every effort is being made to give them a good knowledge of signal work.

Congratulations.—To 2/Lieut. G. B. Lloyd on passing his Certificate "A" promotion examination; also to C.S.M. Maynard, who has qualified for the long service and good conduct medal.

Social.—The children's Christmas tree party was held on the 29th December and was voted a great success. The entertainments were excellent, and the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Nearly four hundred mothers and children sat down to a fine spread. After tea, Father Christmas made his appearance and presented each child with a suitable present. This duty was very well carried out by Sergt Baxter H. P.

The officers and the w.o.s and n.c.o.s met in a games tournament on Wednesday 5th December. This was a most successful evening, and much keenness was shown in the competitions, although (true to Army traditions in these affairs) the result was a draw.

The w.o.s and n.c.o.s held their New Year ball on Monday 31st December. The commanding officer and Mrs. Seel attended, as did most of the officers, and all had a most enjoyable evening.

The officers of the unit held their annual dinner at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff, on the 8th December. Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., J.P. (honorary colonel) attended, as did Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C. (the commanding officer) and some eighteen other officers. During the evening, a piece of plate was presented to 2/Lieut. G. B. Lloyd on the occasion of his marriage.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

Headquarters.

Greetings.—Although belated, we wish all members of the Corps (at home and abroad) happy days and prosperity in 1935.

Promotion.—Congratulations to Lieut. (Q.M.) C. J. Sharp, D.C.M., on his promotion from R.Q.M.S. on the 1st November last. The Sergeants Mess have lost " the father of the Mess," but we have one consolation: he is not far away. His advice on Mess matters has helped us in many ways, his one object being its welfare, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for his untiring efforts. His commission has been well earned. He readily gives his advice to all and everyone on unit matters, and his thoroughness has earned him the phrase " It must be his own private property we are signing for "—a real quartermaster.

Boxing.—We have a good programme: Unit boxing championships at Stratford on the 17th January, the Essex young soldiers boxing championships at Walthamstow on the 26th January, and the Divisional boxing championships at Bedford on the 9th Feb.

We think our team will go a long way this season. We will soon find room for the extra " pots," and hope to give a good account of ourselves when the next issue of notes appear.

Children's Christmas Tree Party.—The annual Christmas tree and party for the children of members of the 54th Divl Signals was held at The Green, Stratford, on Saturday 29th December. Between sixty and seventy children spent a most enjoyable evening. Twelve of these were guests nominated by His Worship the Mayor of West Ham and the Rev. P. Sowerby, Vicar of St. John's, respectively.

The party was honoured by the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of West Ham (Alderman and Mrs. Blaker) who entered into the spirit of the evening by sitting down to tea with the children. The Rev. Mr. Sowerby, after " grace," also joined them.

After tea Captain D'Alva in his ventriloquial entertainment introduced the well known Spud Murphy, who with his cheeky smiling face and saucy retorts to his manager kept his audience, young and grown ups, in a constant roar of merriment. Then followed good old Punch and Judy. Punch, as usual, got no sympathy from the audience. Romps, balloon scrambles, streamer battles, distribution of fruit, etc., and the stripping of the well loaded Christmas tree, filled up the evening. Then came the finale with the arrival of Father Christmas, who had a present and a box of chocolates for each child.

Major F. A. Manley, T.D. (second-in-command, 54th Signals) thanked the Mayor and Mayoress for their kindness and interest in being present and adding to the enjoyment of the children. His Worship responded in a cordial manner which gained the warm-hearted approval of his young audience. The subsequent cheers for the Mayor could not have been louder.

Major and Mrs. F. A. Manley deputised for Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D. (O.C. 54th Signals) and Mrs. Rayner. This is the first of the ten Christmas tree parties held by the unit which Colonel and Mrs. Rayner have missed. But the receipt of a telegram during the course of the evening showed they were both present in spirit with the party.

The thanks of the whole unit, parents and children are due to Sergt-Major Hooper, M.B.E., Mrs. Hooper and their daughter, for the tremendous amount of time and labour spent by them in making the party a success.

No. 1 Company.

Greetings.—We wish all members of the Royal Corps of Signals, both Regulars and Territorials at home and abroad, a really prosperous and happy New Year.

Reflection.—The year 1934 has passed away, but we go on and on with dances, dinners, a children's Christmas party, boxing competitions, and—well! it has to be, training. But, looking back, we cannot afford to grumble much as a Company, because 1934 has been rather kind to us. We have progressed along the right lines in training and sports, and the strength, although not satisfactory, is increasing. So we can look forward to this New Year with confidence.

General.—The children's Christmas party held at The Green on Saturday 29th December was voted an excellent show. The organisers and committee are to be congratulated on the manner in which the arrangements were carried out.

We are looking forward to the results of the inter-Company team boxing competition which is being held in the large lecture hall on Thursday 17th January, because much speculation prevails as to who will be the future holders of the cup. Nos. 1 and 3 Companies are the favourites, but No. 2 may still have something up their sleeve. Anyway, we shall soon know.

Our own annual dinner takes place this month, as everybody knows, and we are anticipating a record attendance as well as the " best ever " dinner.

Training.—Commencing this month are the officers and n.c.o.s instructor classes. These are really the groundwork for the individual training classes which follow.

Congratulatory.—Heartiest congratulations to Lieut. (Q.M.) C. J. Sharp, whose promotion to that rank has been fully earned.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Greetings.—We wish all members of the Royal Signals, both Regular and Territorials at home and abroad, a very prosperous and happy New Year.

Reflection.—Looking back on 1934, we have very little cause for complaint, the only fly in the ointment being lack of numbers. But we are determined that this shall be remedied this year, so we are facing 1935 full of confidence, and whatever happens we are determined to keep our end up.

General.—The children's Christmas party at The Green on the 29th December went with a swing and reflected great credit on the organisers, who got through an extraordinary amount of hard work to ensure such a huge success.

Training.—The officers and n.c.o.s instructors classes commence on the 14th January, prior to the O.R.s trade evening classes. These classes are the pivot on which the unit's training revolves, and it is hoped that every advantage will be taken of them.

Congratulatory.—Heartiest congratulations to Lieut. (Q.M.) C. J. Sharp, D.C.M., on his promotion to that rank. Well done, sir! it was well earned.

Wo Want to Know.—What were the thoughts of a certain P.S.I. on the conclusion of the recent Notts Forest v. West Ham football match ?

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Greetings.—We commence our notes by wishing all members and ex-members of the Royal Signals, both Regulars and Territorials, a happy and prosperous New Year.

Training.—This is an old and familiar heading. We are usually training for something at all times, and this time it is chiefly physical.

Our aspirants to boxing honours are still sticking to their instructor, and at the time of writing I can only hope that they haven't put on too much superfluous flesh during the Christmas holidays. The inter-Company competition takes place at Stratford, and we are hoping for the best. We are grateful to those local employers who have agreed to let several of their employees leave early in order to be present. Again, we hope for the best.

Social.—Our annual children's party takes place on Saturday 5th January and promises well. Our friend Sergt Bradbury has been very busy with scene building and painting, and putting his amateur theatrical troupe through their paces, so we are all looking forward to a good show. (Now, Pansy, don't forget your lines.)

Congratulations.—All ranks of No. 3 Company join in congratulating Lieut. C. J. Sharp (our Quartermaster) upon his recent elevation to that rank. Our wishes, though rather belated, are none the less sincere, sir.

THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—On Wednesday 16th January we commence an officers and n.c.o.s instruction class. In doing this we hope to bring our instructors up to scratch for the Group E classes which commence on the 28th January. It is hoped that as many as possible will come along and try their hand at a Group E. Remember, lads, it's the first step of the ladder—and oh! so easy.

Social.—A social gathering of the clan was held in the lecture room from 8 p.m. to midnight on New Year's Eve. The attendance was good considering that every other clan in Bedford had

one as well. The usual handshakes and wishes took place at 23.59 hours (B.B.C.) but it was 01.30 hours (B.B.C.) before the chucker out got cracking.

We are to hold a dance every Saturday for the benefit of Tom Sayers and his Terriers (himself), so that he can get a bit of piano practice.

Observations.—I have just bought a wireless set and, having fixed it up in the front room, decided to spend Saturday listening to all the Continental stations. This is what I heard.

Luxemburg: You will now hear "The smoke—gets in—your eyes."
Warsaw: "Into your eyes the smoke gets."
Rome: "The smoka gets ina your eyesa."
Paris: "The smoke—puff—your eyes get into."

Thinking perhaps an English station could give me a change, I switched on to one and softly through the ether came crooning "The smerwoke getsin yourrr eyezzz." The set makes a fine piece of furniture! TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool.

It will doubtless afford as much gratification to readers of THE WIRE as satisfaction to ourselves to see the 55th Div. in print once more. An attack of quinsey took our former contributor by the throat, and a deputy has only just been found.

It is regrettable that in the first of our notes we should have to record the retirement of our commanding officer, Colonel W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., T.D. Col. Dodd, who has the Croix de Guerre and was mentioned several times in despatches, has completed twenty-five years with the Signal arm of the Service. In deploring his departure, we congratulate ourselves on acquiring a worthy successor in Colonel R. Baron, T.D., who came to us from the R.A.S.C. At a very enjoyable farewell dinner held at the Constitutional Club, we took official (but certainly not actual) leave of Colonel Dodd. A silver casket formed the outward sign of our affection and esteem for him.

We are now in the thick of social activities. Hot-pots, dances and billiard matches all loom up and promise to be as good fun as ever. These events help to set off the training season with a bang.

For some time there has been talk of new barracks. Things are moving with a vengeance. At any time now we may expect to hear that building is to commence. Events may be speeded up still more by the fact that our present premises form part of a condemned area.

The Times has recently published letters from various Territorial officers, pointing out the discouragement under which the T.A. has to carry on. Amongst others, a good suggestion was made that playing fields should be provided for the men. This would obviously be a very sound scheme and one guaranteed to raise recruiting 50 per cent.. besides improving the physique of the soldiers and helping to keep them fit.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals and Lines of Communication Signals, S.R.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

There is but little to chronicle since the last WIRE notes were sent in. Christmas is holiday time. and that is one excuse.

Regimental Dance.—The first all ranks dance organised on a unit basis was held on the 29th December, and was a very considerable success. The hall was tastefully decorated, a very good band was engaged, and comic hats were distributed to the two hundred odd dancers who attended. Everyone enjoyed themselves, and we hear that the dance paid its way. This is surely a good enough reason for having another one.

Children's Party.—Through the kindness of Colonel J. C. Denison-Pender (hon. colonel of the T.A.) and others, Mrs. Ozanne was able to organise the first children's Christmas party. About eighty children and their parents were able to accept the invitation, and the party was voted a success by all. Colonel Ozanne, Lieut.-Colonel Allen, Major Willway and other officers and their wives turned out to assist and, aided by some wonderful work by the permanent staff, made the party go with a swing. May this become an annual function, please ?

The 7th and 8th January were the first drill nights of 1935 for the S.R. and T.A. respectively. A surprisingly large number turned up for each. Old hands say the attendances are well above the average for the time of the year, which augurs well for a 100 per cent. camp attendance.

Arrivals.—The latest addition (?) to the P.S. is T/C.S.M. Angell, late of the S.T.C. Training Battalion. If you meet him, don't mention either "heads" or "work." C.O.L.S.

Other Units Abroad—Hong Kong Notes.

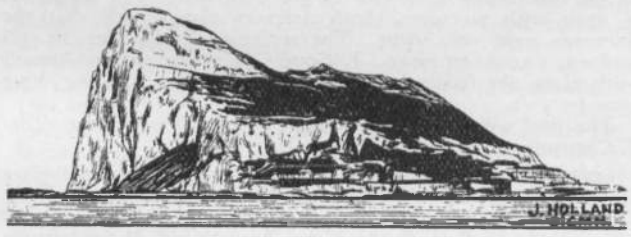
[*Continued from page 78*]

Departures.—On 29/11/34, L/Corpl Cross, Signalmen Whitehead, Neale, Cord, Stanley, Brown, Erridge, Taylor, Chapman, Renals, Higginbottom and Williams, and L/Corporal Grundy (R.A.S.C.). On 30/11/34, Sergt and Mrs. Farley. On 1/12/34, Corpl and Mrs. Fletcher and Pam.

Agonies.—Pip, Southsea: 150 degrees in shade in summer and 60 below in winter. Ain't that enough to make anyone grow like Mussolini ? Ari.

Jock Cameron, Egypt: What about that letter ? Henshaw.

Till next time. MATA HARI.



Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 1st January.

Events of interest during December were confined to the customary seasonal festivities. The married families were entertained to tea in the barracks on Thursday 20th December, the men's dining room, profusely decorated, being utilised for that purpose. After tea was served the Christmas tree burst into illumination, and this was the signal for the descent of Father Christmas from the chimney in all his glory. Gasps of astonishment were heard when the old man brought a well laden sledge into the room, increasing perhaps when the various packages were undone. We take this opportunity of congratulating Sailor upon his initial and very successful impersonation of Santa Claus. After the distribution of presents, both parents and children joined in seasonal frolics. The scarcity of the children made this perhaps a little difficult, but in spite of this every one thoroughly enjoyed the fun. We would like to know who won the race after the departure of the married families.

Having heard "Roll on, Christmas" so often repeated in barracks during the past month, we were truly thankful when the 25th *did* arrive. That day found all the unmarried members of the Section and attached men, with healthy appetites, prepared to do full justice to anything set before them. Dinner was served by the married other ranks and was attended by the commanding officer, Captain B. H. House, accompanied by Captain Hudson, R.N. (retired), late commander of the Local Defence Flotilla. Captain Hudson said it gave him great pleasure, having met Signals so often, to be able in person to extend his greetings to the members of the Gibraltar Signal Section. With a few well chosen and pertinent words, the commanding officer wished everyone the season's greetings, together with success in the coming year. L/Corpl Poulton, with commendable brevity, made a suitable reply on behalf of the diners.

The thanks of all should be given to the voluntary committee —Corporal Hayden and Signalmen Blake and Goodanew—who worked so hard before and during the festivities to make this Christmas one to be remembered by all. We can truthfully say their efforts were attended by success.

SPORTS NOTES

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

[Received too late for the January issue]

Football.—On Wednesday 28th November we had the pleasure of a visit from the Green Howards in a return match. Both teams were composed of recruits, and we witnessed a game full of thrills. Signals opened the scoring after ten minutes, but then lost their centre forward with a displaced knee-cap. Despite this piece of bad luck our men kept the game going, and increased their lead after thirty minutes. At half-time the score was still 2—0, and we went further ahead shortly after the resumption. The Green Howards never lost heart, however, and their persistent attacks were at last rewarded. The whistle blew with the score at 3—1 in our favour. Both teams later sat down to tea in the N.A.A.F.I., and the evening was spent in comparing notes to the disadvantage of nobody except, perhaps, the poor old Squad commander!

No. 71 Squad (L/Corpl Daly) won the inter-Squad shield for December, beating No. 67 Squad (L/Corpl Payne) in the final.

Hockey.—The Wing played D Company in the second round of the Mackworth trophy on the 3rd December. The result was a draw with no score. Both defences played well, but the forwards were very inept. The replay took place on the 7th and was a good fast game. L/Corpl Gay in goal covered himself with glory, the forwards played up much better, and the Wing won by 3—2.

The final will take place in January and will be against either E Company or the School of Signals.

Cross-Country Running.—The Wing obtained second place in the final result of the Mackworth runs over three, four, five and six miles. This was a very satisfactory achievement, and we congratulate their trainer (Corpl Bennet) and all the recruits who put up such a good show.

The first and second Garrison inter-unit runs took place during November. The Depot Battalion team, mostly composed of recruits, obtained sixth place on each occasion, beating our Training Battalion, the Royal Tank Corps and the Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Small Bore Shooting.—The Mackworth shooting competition is with us again, and we have improved on our position last year by wins over F and E Companies and the School in the first half of the season. The scores are given below:—

v. Mounted Wing, lost by 744—748
v. D Company, lost by 730—754
v. F Company, won by 748—708
v. School, won by 744—723
v. E Company, won by 745—653

In the inter-Squad competition, No. 68 Squad (Cpl Spearpoint) beat No. 67 (L/Corpl Payne) by 52—46 points. It is hoped to hold this competition monthly.

Congratulations to Driver Walker on scoring a possible in his Empire test—the first for three years, we are told.

Billiards.—During November we had a good time, beating the Mounted Wing (Sergt Brown H. W. was the cause of another "cert." coming unstuck) and the School. We are third in the league at present.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—Our Company team has been playing very well this season and won the Mackworth shield by defeating the School of Signals in the final by the odd goal in five, after leading by 2—0 at half time. What a fight! This was indeed a grand match from a spectator's point of view, and the teams are to be congratulated on their clean and sporting play. Our scorers were Sergt Wheeler, L/Corpl McCunnin and Corpl Smith, the winning goal being scored from a free kick. Sergt Wheeler, our dashing centre forward, held his line together admirably, and he was very unlucky not to score on numerous occasions.

After the match the shield was presented by the Commandant, Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. We were then entertained to

D Company Team, winners of the Mackworth Association Shield, 1934-35.

Back row (l. to r.)—Signalmen Holtby and Murdock, L/Corporal Fry (captain), Corporal Smith, Signalman Lambert, L/Corporal McCunnin.

Front—Signalmen Lewis and Darragh, Corpl Boniface E. R., Captain E. G. Sinnott, L/Sergt Curtis, Signalmen Tant and Parker.

tea by the School of Signals, and our thanks are due to them for the excellent spread.

We are now in the Garrison knock-out competition, and are hopeful of going a long way.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Football.—Only two matches have been played so far in the second half of the season, and the results are as follows: v. D Troop Cavalry Signals, won by 9—3 (Sgt Harvey 5, Verlander 2, Macken, L/Corporal Mohrstadt); v. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals, lost by 2—6 (Corpl Chamberlain, Verlander).

Hockey.—v. 1st Divl Signals, lost by 1—3 (L/Corpl Abbott).

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Football.—There is little news to report this month, as the unit retired from Scarborough on the 26th December for a spot of furlough. Nevertheless, there are two games to report: a cup tie and a Division I. fixture.

The latter, played on the 19th December against Whitby F.C. away from home, resulted in a decisive win for the Signals by 5—2 goals. This was really a brilliant win—the second of the only two victories that the unit has gained over Whitby on their territory in five seasons of League football.

Signals, adopting the short passing method that has so surprisingly favoured them this season, registered three goals in twenty minutes without reply, Hawks (2) and Steer finding the target. Towards the close of the first half, a kick and rush attack found a Whitby forward in possession within the goal area and, bundling his way through the Signal defence, crashing the ball past Haughton from five yards out.

On the resumption, Signals found the turf too cut up for close play and so resorted to long passing, which opened up the game. A wing to wing passing movement produced a fourth goal from the head of the Signal centre forward Smith. A lapse on the part of our defence then enabled Whitby to score a somewhat simple goal. Whitby, now encouraged by reducing the arrears and assisted by vocal support, carried the play into the Signal territory, the defence undergoing a gruelling fifteen minutes. Clarke, on the right wing, finally subdued the new life Whitby had put into their attack by scoring the fifth and last goal for Signals. The end came with Signals attacking.

SCARBOROUGH HOSPITAL CUP: THIRD ROUND.—Scalby F.C. visited the barracks on Saturday 12th January, with a large crowd of supporters, intent on avenging the defeat they sustained at the hands of the Signals in the challenge bowl competition.

Once again our policy of short passing proved very successful. Regardless of the heavy going, Signals revelled in the mud and at half time the score board read: Signals 3, Scalby 0—thanks to the efforts of Baines and Clarke, and a Scalby defender who unluckily diverted a shot past Southwick (his own custodian).

Scalby's solitary goal came from a penalty for a doubtful tackle by a Signal defender which the referee thought fit to penalise. This point came to Scalby with twenty minutes to go: a little too late for them to get on terms, but not too late to give the Signals a thoroughly harassing time. Scalby certainly deserved a second goal by virtue of their storming attacks in the closing stages. The final whistle came as a great relief to Signals, worthy winners by 3—1 goals.

I should have mentioned earlier that the Signals fielded four reserves owing to regular members of the team still being away on furlough. However, the reserves rose to the occasion and did all that was expected of them.

The fourth round of this competition is due to be played on the 26th January versus Duncombe Park F.C. Little is known of this club except that it heads Division I. of the York and District League at the moment. The winners of this game will have to meet Whitby F.C. in February.

TRANSFERS.—I much regret to report the imminent departure of one of the most promising players of the game whom we have had the good fortune to bring out. Sigmn Stanford J., left full back, sails for India on the 23rd January for service with the 1st Indian Divl Signals. Accompanying Stanford will be Sigmn Lester R., inside right of the second team.

Sigmn Quilter H. also sails on the 23rd, bound for the 3rd Indian Divl Signals. As an inside right, he is a real worker and an asset to any unit team.

To China we hand over Sigmn Sinclair D., who will, no doubt, do well with our Hong Kong football team. He sails on the 19th January.

I feel sure that the footballers of this Div. will join me in thanking these fellows for the good work they have done in assisting the unit in its many victories during the current season, and wish them every success with their new units. Bon voyage!

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Football.—v. R.A.M.C. lost by 2—3; v. 15th Field Brigade, won by 3—2; v. Christchurch Old Boys, lost by 0—2; v. 15th Field Brigade, lost by 2—3.

Hockey.—"A" team v. G.I.P. Railway, lost by 1—2. "B" team v. U Field Battery, lost by 0—5. Sergeants v. Attached Section, drew at 1—1; v. U Battery, lost by 0—1.

In the Younger cup competition the Sergeants beat the Corpls by 2—0.

Cricket.—Signals 183, G.C.F. 120. Signals 52, 1st Battalion King's Regiment 199. Signals 80, G.C.F. 48.

Younger cup—Corporals 97 for seven, Sergeants 44.

Annual Sports.—The results of the annual sports meetings held from the 29th November to the 5th December were as follows.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

100 yards—1 Sigmn Keenlyside (10⅘ sec.), 2 L/Sergt Ellison, 3 L/Naik Mohd Sarwar.

High jump—1 Sigmn Govindaswamy (5 ft. 7 in., S.T.C. India record), 2 L/Sergt Ellison, 3 Sigmn Shamsher Singh.

880 yards—1 Sigmn Strutt (2 min. 12⅖ sec.), 2 L/Naik Mohd Yusaf, 3 Sigmn Rowley.

120 yards hurdles—1 L/Sergt Ellison (17⅘ sec.), 2 Sigmn Harnam Singh, 3 Sigmn Bourner.

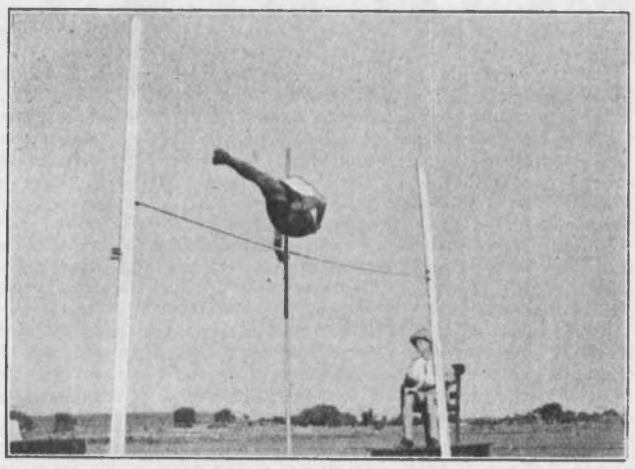
220 yards—1 Sigmn Harnam Singh (24⅘ sec.), 2 Sigmn McVey, 3 L/Sergt Ellison.

Long jump—1 Sergt Mathews (19 ft. 1½ in.), 2 Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart, 3 Naik Mohd Aslam.

Putting the shot—1 Corpl Cosstick (28 ft. 10¾ in.), 2 L/Naik Haq Niwaz, 3 Sigmn Shamsher Singh.

440 yards—1 Sigmn Strutt (56⅘ sec.), 2 L/Naik Venkatasulu, 3 Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart.

Throwing the hammer—1 Sergt Bramwell (70 ft. 3½ in.), 2 Cpl Cosstick, 3 L/Naik Inder Singh.



Sigmn Simmonds breaking his own Pole Jump record of 9 ft. 1 in.

Pole vault—1 Sigmn Simmonds (9 ft. 3¼ in., S.T.C. India record), 2 Sigmn Haigh, 3 Sigmn Karnail Singh.
One mile—1 L/Naik Mohd Yusaf (5 min. 11⅕ sec.), 2 Sigmn Karnail Singh, 3 Sigmn Harnam Singh.
Victor Ludorum—L/Sergt Ellison, 13 points.

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1st, A Company, 45 points ; 2nd, B Right Half Company, 26 ; 3rd, D Right Half Company, 16 ; 4th, D Left Half Company, 15 ; 5th, C Right Half Company, 13 ; 6th, C Left Half Company, 11 ; 7th, B Left Half Company, 4.

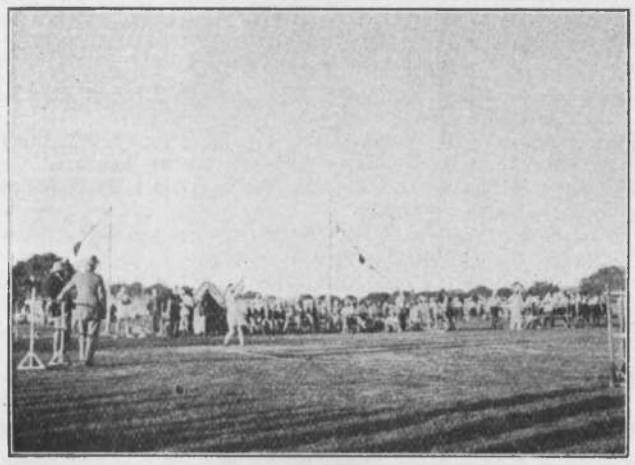
400 yards relay—1, A Company (Signalmen Keenlyside, McVey, Hampton and Smith A.) 45⅖sec. ; 2, D Right Half Company ; 3, C Left Half Company ; 4, B Left Half Company.

880 yards relay—1, A Company (Signalmen Keenlyside, McVey, Hampton and Smith A.) 1 min. 44⅕ sec. ; 2, D Right Half Company ; 3, C Right Half Company ; 4, C Left Half Company.

Mile relay—1, A Company (Signalmen Rowley, Nelson, Keenlyside and Strutt) 4 min. 7 sec. ; 2, D Right Half Company ; 3, D Left Half Company ; 4, B Left Half Company.

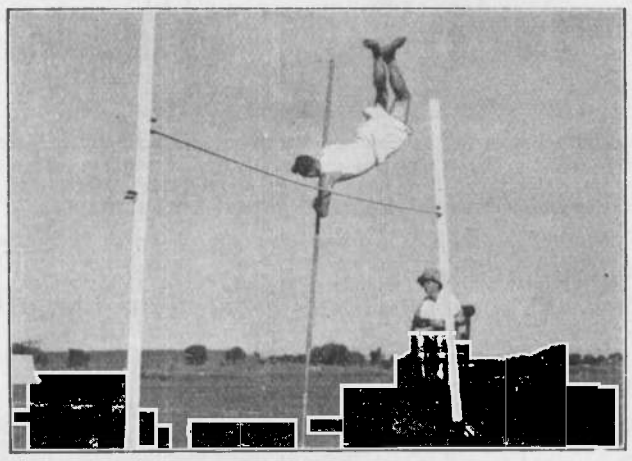
Two miles relay—1, A Company (Signalmen Strutt, Rowley, Dean and Bourner) 9 min. 34⅗ sec. ; 2, B Right Half Company; 3, D Right Half Company ; 4, D Left Half Company.

Mile team—1, B Right Half Company (Signalmen Naranjan Singh and Karnail Singh, L/Naiks Inder Singh and Bhag Singh) ; 2, C Right Half Company ; 3, A Company ; 4, D Left Half Company.



Corporal Cosstick Throwing the Hammer.

Three miles team—1, B Right Half Company (Signalmen Harnam Singh, Karnail Singh, Naranjan Singh and Sher Singh) ; 2, C Left Half Company ; 3, C Right Half Company ; 4, D Right Half Company.
480 yards hurdles relay—1, A Company (Sergt Ellison, Signalmen Bourner, McQuire and White) 1 min. 19⅘ sec. ; 2, C Left Half Company ; 3, D Left Half Company ; 4, D Right Half Company.
High jump—1, B Right Half Company (Signalmen Shamsher Singh and Govindaswamy) 10 ft. 8 in. ; 2, A Company ; 3, D Left Half Company ; 4, D Right Half Company.
Long jump—1, A Company (Sergeants Mathews and Ellison) 37 ft. 8 in. ; 2, C Right Half Company ; 3, B Right Half Company ; 4, D Left Half Company.
Putting the weight—1, A Company (Corpl Cosstick and Sigmn Markey) 59 ft. 4½ in. ; 2, B Right Half Company ; 3, D Right Half Company ; 4, C Left Half Company.
Throwing the hammer—1, A Company (Sergt Bramwell and Cpl Cosstick) 124 ft. 5 in. ; 2, B Right Half Company ; 3, C Left Half Company ; 4, D Left Half Company.
Pole vault—1, A Company (Signalmen Haigh and Simmonds) 18 ft. ; 2, B Right Half Company ; 3, D Left Half Company ; 4, B Left Half Company.



Sigmn Haigh P. breaking the S.T.C. (India) Pole Jump record with a jump of 9 ft. 6 in.

Medley relay—1, A Company (Signalmen Hampton, McVey, Rowley and Strutt) 3 min. 59 sec. ; 2, C Right Half Company ; 3, D Left Half Company ; 4, B Left Half Company.

Central Provinces and Berar Olympic Championships.

120 yards hurdles—1st, L/Sergt Ellison D., 16⅗ sec. (record).
Long jump—2nd, L/Sergt Matthew F. 19 ft. 3¼ in.
High jump—2nd, L/Sergt Ellison D. 5 ft. 6 in.
440 yards—1st, Sigmn Strutt, 55 sec. (record).
880 yards—1st, Sigmn Mohd Yusaf, 2 min. 7 sec.
440 yards relay (teams of four, each 110 yards)—1st, A Company Royal Signals (L/Sergt Matthew F., Signalmen Keenlyside A., Hampton G. and McVey A.), 48 sec.
440 yards relay (teams of three, 220, 110 and 110 yards)—1st, A Company Royal Signals (L/Sergeant Matthew F., Signalmen Keenlyside A. and McVey A.), 47⅕ sec. (record).
Mile relay (four×440 yards)—2nd, A Company Royal Signals (Signalmen Strutt, Rowley H., Keenlyside A. and McVey).

Having won five events and being placed second in three others, the Royal Signal team won the Victor Ludorum trophy.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

OCTOBER NOTES (overlooked in previous issues)

Football Results—

1/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, won by 2—1
8/9/34 v. Dorset Regiment, away, drew at 1—1
13/9/34 v. Detachment R.A.M.C., away, drew at 4—4

17/9/34 v. Garrison Military Police, away, drew at 2—2
21/9/34 v. H.Q. Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, drew at 2—2
25/9/34 v. H.Q. Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, lost by 1—4
27/9/34 v. Detachment R.A.M.C., away, won by 2—0
29/9/34 v. B Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, lost by 1—2

The team included Sigmn Adamson L., goal ; L/Corpl Connor G. (captain) and Sigmn Alderman R., backs ; Signalmen Grant A., O'Connell F. and Mackie P., half-backs ; Sigmn Bass J., L/Corpl Adamson J., Sigmn Robertson J., Sergt Standen R. and Sigmn McDonald J., forwards.

Hockey Results—

4/9/34 v. C Squadron 13/18th Hussars, away, lost by 1—4
5/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, won by 3—0
7/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, lost by 1—3
14/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, won by 11—3
16/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, lost by 4—5
20/9/34 v. Hodson's Horse, away, won by 7—1
22/9/34 v. Cantonment Club, away, lost by 0—1
28/9/34 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, drew at 1—1

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Cricket.—Herewith are the details of a few matches played within the last month.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS.

Sergt Ryan lbw b Jackson	13
F/S/Sergt Agar b Jackson	11
R.S.M. McGregor lbw b Jackson	1
Captain Scott lbw b Jackson	31
Lieutenant Nepean c and b Jackson	5
Corpl Fraser b Jackson	2
Sigmn Moseley c Cottrell-Hill b Carruthers	0
Sergt Cheesman b Carruthers	3
Sigmn Seager b Jackson	0
Sigmn Blaikie b Jackson	0
Sigmn Fallows not out	2
Extras	5
Total	73

THE BORDER REGIMENT.

L/Sergt Duffy c Agar b Scott	4
L/Corpl Bateson st Ryan b Nepean	1
Lieutenant Cottrell-Hill c Cheesman b Nepean	1
Pte Wilson b Scott	0
Major Carruthers b Scott	33
Lieutenant Spedding b Scott	5
C.Q.M.S. Jackson c Blaikie b Nepean	7
Sergt Macauley not out	8
Pte Goodchild b Scott	2
Corpl McDermot b Scott	3
Pte Lilley b Fraser	0
Extras	8
Total	72

Signals won by one run.

Bowling—Nepean three wickets for 27, Scott six for 34, Fraser one for 3.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT SIGNALS.

First innings.	
Lieutenant Warren c Parmanand b Rajinder Nath	7
Sergeant Ryan c Som Nath b Rajinder Nath	10
Sigmn Moseley not out	67
Corporal Fraser c Dwarka Nath b Rajinder Nath	0
Sigmn Roberts b Kishen Lal	5
R.S.M. McGregor c Mohd Shareef b Parmanand	16
Sigmn Blaikie b Kishen Lal	0
Sigmn Yarnell b Parmanand	1
Sigmn Seager b Parmanand	0
Sigmn Huggett S. b Parmanand	0
Sigmn Wilson b Parmanand	1
Extras	20
Total	127

Second innings.	
Lieutenant Warren c Diwan Chand b Mohd Shareef	13
Sergeant Ryan c Amar Nath b Kishen Lal	44
Sigmn Moseley run out	3
Corporal Fraser not out	17
Sigmn Roberts c Wistwa Nath b Kishen Lal	14
Extras	12
Total (for four wickets, declared)	103

FRONTIER SPORTS CLUB.

First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Som Nath b Seager	8	c Warren b Fraser	4
Mohd Shareef b Seager	0	c McGregor b Yarnell	24
Fazal Mahmud b Seager	17	run out	13
Kishen Lal c and b Fraser	0	b Seager	8
Rajinder Nath run out	7	c McGregor b Fraser	5
Dwarka Nath c Huggett b Fraser	0	c Warren b McGregor	3
Parmanand c Huggett b Fraser	2	c Blaikie b Seager	18
Diwan Chand absent	0	c Moseley b Seager	9
Wistwa Nath c Yarnell b Seager	7	c Yarnell b McGregor	5
Amar Nath not out	11	not out	7
Tulsi Ram b Seager	0	c Yarnell b Roberts	1
Extras	3	Extras	7
Total	55	Total	104

Signals won by 71 runs.

Bowling—Fraser three wickets for 19 and two for 23, Seager five for 34 and three for 18, McGregor two for 23, Yarnell one for 24, Roberts one for 0.

COMBINED R.E. AND ROYAL SIGNALS, PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Lieut. Jenny c Moran b Smith	7	st Wooten b Kingston	31
Sergt Ryan b Moran	28	c Wooten b Moran	21
Lieut. Grove b Smith	38	run out	29
Lieut. Foster b Smith	14	c Rivett-Carnac b Smith	12
R.S.M. McGregor b Smith	10	st Wooten b Smith	7
Captain Scott b Kingston	34	c Moffat b Smith	16
Lieut. Knox b Kingston	22	b Kingston	3
Sergt Minns b Kingston	55	c Wooten b Smith	2
F/S/Sergt Agar b Kingston	0	not out	9
Lieut. Nepean b Kingston	0	b Kingston	3
Corpl Fraser not out	5	b Kingston	3
Extras	8	Extras	2
Total	221	Total	138

2ND BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.

First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Lieut. Bunbury lbw b Scott	31	c McGregor b Nepean	0
R.Q.M.S. Coulter b Scott	3	b Scott	0
L/Corpl Kingston run out	26	b Scott	0
Lieut. Moffat lbw b Scott	0	st Ryan b Nepean	58
Lieut. Moran not out	21	lbw b Scott	15
S/Sergt Smith c Grove b Nepean	0	c Grove b Scott	22
Lieut. Rivett-Carnac b Nepean	3	b Fraser	18
L/Corpl Lilley c Scott b Nepean	5	c McGregor b Minns	15
Pte Wooten b Scott	0	c Jenny b Fraser	0
Pte Lilley b Scott	26	c Nepean b Fraser	1
Sergt Hunneybell run out	3	not out	0
Extras	20	Extras	9
Total	138	Total	138

R.E. and Signals won by 83 runs.

Bowling—Lieut. Grove no wicket for 14 and none for 21, Capt. Scott five for 49 and four for 51, Lieut. Nepean three for 42 and two for 28, Sergt Minns none for 6 and one for 3, Corpl Fraser none for 7 and three for 26.

Waziristan District Signals.

Bannu Signal Section.

The following games have been played during December, and by the results it will be seen that we have held our own at both these sports.

Football—

2/12/34 v. R.T.C. won by 3—1
5/12/34 v. B.H.Q. won by 4—0
7/12/34 v. Bannu Gentlemen, won by 3—1
11/12/34 v. R.T.C. lost by 1—2

Hockey—

1/12/34 v. B.H.Q. won by 10—0
3/12/34 v. R.T.C. won by 6—3
4/12/34 v. B.H.Q. won by 6—0
6/12/34 v. Bannu Police, drew at 1—1
9/12/34 v. Wazir Club, lost by 0—1
10/12/34 v. Bannu Police, lost by 1—2

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 1 Company.

Cross-Country.—The unit team again put up a splendid show in the Command run, finishing second to the Royal Scots Fusiliers. Corpl Broadley (1st), Sigmn Davies (2nd) and Sergt Cotterell (4th) were the first three home for Signals. Six men in the first nine looked a certainty, but by remarkable packing the Fusiliers managed to confound all the forecasters. Corporal Broadley and Sergt Cotterell still have a big say in the athletic world. 3rd Divl Signals, please note.

No. 3 Company.

Hockey.—This game has maintained its popularity within the unit, and the general standard of play has much improved. This improvement has been particularly noticeable in the Section games for the Pritchard cup.

The results of friendly matches have been quite satisfactory, but neither Company nor unit teams are yet up to tournament standard, mainly through a lack of experienced and goal scoring forwards.

In the first round of the Command tournament the unit team met that of the 12th Royal Lancers, last year's runners-up, and were defeated. In the Small Units tournament for the Delaney cup, both Company teams were defeated by the R.A.S.C. Corps team, last year's winners and this year's runners-up.

In the second round of the Shell cup tournament the unit team was beaten by that of No. 4 Flight, Flying Training School, R.A.F.

Sigmn Hartley was selected this season to play at outside right for the Army against the R.A.F. The Army won by 2—1 goals.

Results to date—v. R.T.C. lost by 1—3, v. R.H.A. won by 4—1, v. R.E. lost by 0—1, v. R.A.S.C. lost by 1—2, v. R.T.C. won by 4—1, v. Light Brigade R.A. won by 7—2, v. R.A.O.C. won by 3—1, v. 12th Lancers lost by 2—5, v. R.A.S.C. drew at 2—2, v. No. 45 Squadron R.A.F. won by 6—0, v. N.F. drew at 1—1, v. R.A.S.C. won by 4—1, v. K.D.G. won by 6—0, v. R.A.S.C. lost by 1—2, v. Y.M.C.A. won by 6—2, v. N.F. won by 3—1, v. No. 104 (Fighter) Squadron R.A.F. lost by 2—6.

The following have played regularly to date for the unit team:—Lieutenants Tucker and Ruck, L/Corporals Brelsford and Trout, Signalmen Delicate, Metcalf, Cox, Davis, Dixon, Hartley, Bunce and Moore, Driver Seymour.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Cricket Results—

19/11/34 v. Queen's College (friendly) won by 9 runs
28/11/34 v. R.E. (League) lost by six wickets

Football Results—

29/11/34 v. 40th Company R.E. (League) lost by 0—9
3/12/34 v. R.A.O.C. (League) lost by 0—1
6/12/34 v. R.A.S.C. (League) lost by 0—2
10/12/34 v. R.A.M.C. (friendly) drew at 0—0

Hockey Results—

16/11/34 v. C.M.H. (friendly) won by 5—2 (Whitehead 3, Erridge, Shove)
18/11/34 v. St. Andrew's (friendly) won by 3—2 (Erridge, Neale, Whitehead)
21/11/34 v. C.M.H. (friendly) won by 3—2 (Martin 2, Whitehead)
23/11/34 v. Radio (friendly) lost by 1—2 (Higginbottom)
27/11/34 v. R.E. (League) lost by 0—5
4/12/34 v. H.Q. 1/8th Punjabs (friendly) lost by 1—3 (Farrell)
5/12/34 v. Garrison Sergeants Mess (friendly) won by 4—2 (May 2, Farrell, Larking)
11/12/34 v. C.M.H. (friendly) won by 4—2 (Farrell, May 2, Addis)

Gibraltar Signal Section.

We have now completed the first half of the football programme, and we take this opportunity of congratulating the players who have so ably assisted the unit in its football revival.

"B" League fixtures are now a thing of the past. The first three placings were:—No. 27 Battery R.A. 10 points, 1st (Fortress) Company R.E. 7, Royal Signals 6.

We understand that this has been our most successful season in League football for some eight or nine years, and but for an unfortunate lapse at the last hurdle (against D Company, 2nd Gordons) our position would have been better. Rain again interfered with our fixture list, and only the following games were played during the month:—

v. H.M.S. *Blanche* (friendly) lost by 1—2
v. H.M.S.s *Cormorant* and *Shamrock* ("B" League) won by 3—1
v. 1st (Fortress) Company R.E. ("B" League) drew at 1—1
v. B Company 2nd D.C.L.I. (friendly) won by 3—1
v. A Company 2nd Gordons ("B" League) drew at 1—1
v. D Company 2nd Gordons ("B" League) lost by 0—5

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BRIGADIER H. CLEMENTI SMITH, D.S.O.
Colonel-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, 1935

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. XVI.—No. 181 MARCH, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

"If you don't know how to kill time, why not work it to death?"

Apropos Editorial Notes in our January 1935 issue. With this publication we present our readers with a photographic supplement of BRIGADIER H. CLEMENTI SMITH, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant of the Corps vice Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (retired).

:: :: ::

We regret to announce the death of Major B. Hussey, M.C., who passed away suddenly on the 1st January of this year at Eldom Bury Lodge, Saffron Walden, Essex. Major Hussey was first commissioned to Royal Engineers (Signal Service) in the early days of the war, and continued to serve in Royal Signals when the latter became a separate arm of the Service in 1920.

He was awarded the Military Cross whilst serving with the Guards Division, and had the distinction of being promoted to the rank of Major at twenty-one years of age. After the war, Major Hussey served with Royal Signals in Russia, and was later transferred to Ireland during the Sinn Fein Rebellion. He then proceeded to Khartoum with the Sudan Defence Force, and finally returned to the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, from whence he retired in August 1931.

The funeral took place, with military honours, at Great Chesterford Church on Saturday 5th January.

:: :: ::

Wireless Operators.—With a view to providing our wireless operator and wireless electrician readers with full information regarding civil employment facilities, we publish on page 95 of this issue a letter from J. H. Webb, Esq., Principal of the British Radio Engineering College.

Mr. Webb invites correspondence from those who contemplate taking up wireless work as a profession on leaving the Service, and offers special inducements to Royal Signal applicants who are desirous of entering for one of the courses of instruction in which his College specialises. (See also advertisement on page 99.)

:: :: ::

The attention of all WIRE readers is directed to Signals Association Notes on page 94 relating to the inauguration of two new Branches in the Birmingham and Southampton—Portsmouth areas.

By the time this issue of the Magazine is published, we have every reason to hope that yet another Branch will also have commenced operations at Exeter.

This activity illustrates a concerted effort which is being made to extend Provincial representation; and by the time our North of England friends have thoroughly established themselves in the Yorkshire area, we shall have gone a long way towards the achievement of that object.

WIRE readers still serving—who perhaps do not yet realise or appreciate the importance of the Branch movement and its progressive growth throughout the country—should give special attention to the "Situations Found" column which is an established feature of the Corps Magazine.

More Branches mean more job finders and (it is to be hoped) more and better situations for Association members when they leave the Service.

It behoves us all, therefore, to do what we can to encourage the movement; to look upon Association membership whilst serving as a duty; to continue that membership when discharged; and to see that those of our Old Comrades who have momentarily

lost touch with their Corps Association are at least urged to renew their membership, and to participate in a movement which is for the good and well-being of all members and ex-members of the Corps as a whole.

:: :: ::

Royal Signal Officers' Dinner Club.—The annual dinner of the Royal Signal Dinner Club will be held on the 17th May 1935 at the Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, 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 EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Royal Signals Old Comrades Association: Southampton—Portsmouth Branch organised as a sub-Branch within the Southern Command Area, under Salisbury.

Having successfully launched a Branch of the Old Comrades at Birmingham (vide Editorial Notes in the January issue of THE WIRE) we have now turned our attention to the Portsmouth locality.

The first General Meeting of the Southampton—Portsmouth Branch was held at Portsmouth on the 19th January 1935, when approximately forty ex-members of the Corps were in attendance.

A very interesting and stimulating address was given by the President, Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, who was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for coming such a distance and for the interest he displays in the Old Comrades movement generally.

Although newly formed, the Branch already boasts of forty-nine members, and there is every indication that many more will be enrolled in the near future.

Since their appointment, the Committee have succeeded in accommodating four applicants with congenial employment, which alone illustrates the keenness displayed in tackling the situation.

The meeting decided that arrangements for an Annual Branch Dinner should receive the Committee's consideration, and it was suggested that the first of such functions should take place as early as possible during the current year.

The Southern Command Branch are now responsible for two sub-Branches within their area, viz. Birmingham and Southampton—Portsmouth, with good prospects of a third materialising at Exeter in the near future.

WIRE readers are asked if they will kindly broadcast this information amongst their relatives and friends, with a view to putting the new Committees in touch with all ex-members of R.E. Signal Service and Royal Signals residing in the areas mentioned. Keep in touch with your Corps Association, and when you need their help, they will do their best to secure suitable employment for you.

Those living in the Southampton—Portsmouth area are cordially invited to communicate at once with the Hon. Branch Secretary, Signals Association, Army Signal Office, Government House, Portsmouth.

SAPOCA.

Birmingham Branch.

As notified in this column of the December number, the inaugural meeting of the Birmingham Branch was held on Wednesday 30th January at the Crown Hotel, Corporation Street.

Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. Southern Command) was Chairman, and the meeting was honoured with the presence of Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (C.S.O. Southern Command) who had journeyed from Salisbury in order to give the Branch a send-off. Other senior officers present were Colonel J. W. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D., Colonel O. D. Smallwood (Officer Commanding Troops, Birmingham), Colonel P. H. Keeling, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth (commanding 48th Divl Signals) and Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C. (Branch Treasurer).

The Chairman opened the proceedings by explaining the object of the meeting, viz. the formation of a Birmingham Branch of the Signals Association, and told the meeting of the preliminary steps that had been taken in (*a*) obtaining permission to form the Branch and (*b*) in calling the meeting. Colonel Martineau also introduced the officers present, and then invited Colonel Bradley to address the meeting.

Colonel Bradley very clearly explained the objects of the Signals Association in general, and advised the meeting as to the ideals to be aimed at in the Birmingham Branch. Some of his special points to the Branch were:—

(*a*) To foster our Army friendships and help each other, and particularly the discharged Regular soldier returning to civil life.
(*b*) To get work for our men.
(*c*) To build and maintain a good reputation in the city.
(*d*) To keep the National Discharged Soldiers Association well informed as to the Branch requirements in employment.
(*e*) To assist, from the Central Committee, any member who fell on hard times.

Colonel Bradley concluded by expressing a hope that the Branch might be able to organise a party to attend the Annual Re-union at Bulford.

Judging by the ovation which greeted his speech, it was evident that the meeting very much appreciated having Colonel Bradley as their guest, and that his advice was much valued.

Colonel Danielsen then spoke. He congratulated Colonel Bradley on his excellent speech and clear-cut explanation of what should be the Branch ideals, and pointed out that we must foster that spirit of esprit de corps which we learned so well whilst serving. He said we were all members or ex-members of a Corps of which we were justly proud, and that we must keep this pride of regiment alight.

Colonel Keeling, in a few well chosen words, stressed the point that we must get into touch with the young ex-Regular soldier who returns to the city on discharge; and further, we should make every endeavour to ensure that every serving Signalman from Birmingham knows that the Branch is here and will welcome him on his return to civil life.

Colonel Smallwood and Messrs. Needle, Moseley, Thom, Sorrel and Whitehouse also spoke.

The Salisbury Branch O.C.A. sent a message of greeting and good wishes for the success of the Branch, which was read by the Chairman, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to send a suitable reply.

A vote of thanks to Colonel Bradley was proposed by Colonel Holdsworth in a very neat speech, and seconded by Major Totterdell.

Thus the Birmingham Branch has come into being. Watch us, you serving Signalmen who hail from Birmingham, and come and see us when you return to civil life in our city.

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, Yorks	Postman
2	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey	Lineman
3	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Indoor Porter
5	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
6	Ex-N.C.O. London	Motor Driver
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Extra
8	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Houseman
9	Ex-N.C.O. London	Clerical Timekeeper
10	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Kiosk Cleaner
11	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
12	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Electric Wireman
14	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lorry Driver
15	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
16	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Electric Wireman
17	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Switchboard Operator
18	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
19	Ex-N.C.O. Brighton	Painter
20	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Servant
21	Ex-N.C.O. London	Lineman
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Warder
23	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Servant
25	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman

26	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
30	Ex-Signalman, Devon	Electrician
31	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Electrician
32	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Driver-Salesman
33	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	Lineman
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
35	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
37	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Valet
38	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Clerk
39	Ex-Signalman, Kent	Postman
40	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
41	Ex-Driver, Chatham	Postman
42	Ex-W.O. Salisbury	Sub-Manager, N.A.A.F.I. Inst.
43	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Wireman
44	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	P.O. Engineering Dept.
45	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Milk Roundsman
46	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Exchange Operator
47	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	P.O. Engineering Dept.
48	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Garage Hand
49	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Electrician

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Major R. H. R. Neale.
"Anonymous."
Signal Training Centre, Catterick.
Mr. A. C. Brown, Venezuela.
G Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals.
Kohat District Signals, India.
Southern Command H.Q. (from Tidworth Tattoo funds).
Royal Signals Association, Tidworth Branch.

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
2/Lieutenant G. D. K. Woolrych.
2/Lieutenant P. D. Gracey.
2/Lieutenant M. David Price.
2/Lieutenant M. Stonestreet.
2/Lieutenant C. A. Henn-Collins.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Darlington. Domestic difficulties.	Loan	£5	0	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Ashton-under-Lyne. Temporary difficulties	Grant	1	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Reading. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
4	Ex-Driver Birmingham. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Southsea. Domestic and business difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
		Loan	3	0	0
6	Ex-N.C.O. Manchester. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-Driver Margate. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	10	0
9	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn London. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
11	Ex-Driver Manchester. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
12	Ex-Sigmn Sheffield. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
13	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham. Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0
14	Ex-Sigmn Darlington. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
15	Ex-Sigmn Oldham. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
16	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	5	0
17	Ex-N.C.O. Hounslow. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
18	Ex-N.C.O. Darlington. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
19	Ex-Sigmn Wembley. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
		Loan	2	0	0
20	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
21	Ex-Sigmn Hants. Domestic difficulties ...	Grant	1	0	0
22	Ex-Sigmn Yorks. Temporary difficulties...	Loan	5	0	0
23	Ex-Sigmn Scarboro'. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	5	0	0

(*Signed*) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Wireless Telegraphists and Operators.

The British School of Telegraphy Ltd.
179 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir,—There is really only one outlet for wireless operators after the Postmaster-General's certificate of proficiency has been obtained, and that is in the MERCANTILE MARINE SERVICE. The wireless stations on shore are controlled absolutely by the General Post Office, and the operators are engaged from the staff at headquarters.

With regard to the Mercantile Marine Service, the chief employer is the Marconi Company. In addition, a few shipping companies such as the Union Castle Line, the Bibby Line, the Anchor-Brocklebank Line and the New Zealand Steamship Co. Ltd. engage their own operators.

THE MARCONI COMPANY.—I understand that this Company has a fair waiting list. It is, however, being gradually reduced—so much so, that I know several new operators have been engaged this year. Preference is given to those who have been awarded the first class certificate.

Further, there is the question of age. Although there is really no age limit, the Company does not care about engaging men who are approaching thirty years of age. The reason is this. Generally, the age of a wireless operator when starting is about nineteen, and the result is that in the majority of cases the operator who is in charge on board ship is below thirty years of age—in many cases, about twenty-five. Consequently, you will appreciate that it is a little irksome for an elderly man—or should I say an older man?—to take instructions from a younger one. I am aware that in some instances the older man has said that he does not mind so long as he can get a situation, but this has not been found to work in practice.

Unless, therefore, some influence is brought to bear, it is somewhat doubtful about getting an appointment. And I may remark, in regard to this question of age, that when one of your men has returned to civil life he must reckon on a year to complete his training and obtain a situation. It may not be so long, but it is as well to be on the right side.

SALARY.—Irrespective of age, the student who has just obtained his first class certificate must begin as a probationer, and the salary at the commencement is round about 6/10/0 per month for the first six months and £7/0/0 per month for the next six months, rising to a maximum in the majority of cases to £12/12/0 per month. In a few cases—where the operator is fortunate enough to secure a position as first operator on a first class ship—the salary goes up to £17 or £18 per month. The figures mentioned are exclusive of maintenance, which is free on board. One could, on that basis, say that the commencing salary is *equivalent* to £150 and the maximum to about £300 per annum.

For some time past, all operators in the service of the Marconi Company have had to take from one to two months leave *without pay*. I do not know how long this will last: it depends upon shipping. If that increases, then the leave without pay will stop at once.

COMPANIES EMPLOYING DIRECT.—In general, the remarks appertaining to service in the Marconi Company apply to these Companies. There are one or two differences. For example, the *Union Castle Line*. The operator must hold the first class certificate. The salary at the beginning is £8 per month, rising to about £20 per month. In the *New Zealand Steamship Co.* the salary is on the basis of the Marconi Company. But neither of these Companies have leave without pay. It is permanent employment with pay. *The Anchor-Brocklebank and the Bibby Lines* have the same scale of pay as the Union Castle Line, but as their ships are "one operator" only, they engage men who have been to sea. Therefore, students leaving the School have no chance of getting a position with either of these Companies.

In conclusion, the position is this. Inasmuch as Companies prefer to engage young men at the beginning, say up to twenty years of age only, it might be a little difficult for men leaving the Royal Corps of Signals to obtain posts as wireless operators in the Mercantile Marine Service. There is very little chance of getting a post as a wireless operator on shore.

I would, however, remark that those men who have a good knowledge of wireless telegraphy, and would require only from

two to three months coaching to pass the P.M.G. examination for the first class certificate, would be well advised to obtain the certificate, as such qualification is most useful. It gives a man a status and places him above the ordinary run of those who are seeking employment.

I find that I have omitted to mention another source of employment for marine wireless operators, i.e. *the International Marine Communication Company Ltd.* The foregoing remarks equally apply to this Company.

Should any of the men leaving the Corps be round about twenty-five years of age, then I have no doubt, if they wished to go to sea as wireless operators under the conditions above mentioned, a position could be found for them.

RADIO ENGINEERING.—In my opinion, this industry or profession offers far better scope. It is developing each day. There are plenty of vacancies, and there is no "dead end" in regard to the position one may attain. The period of training is very short—only ten weeks—and men from the Corps could easily learn the subject. They would not be too old, as the writer has placed men in positions, after training, up to the age of forty.

The wages paid at the commencement are round about £3 per week, and there are plenty of opportunities to take a live interest in the profession and have a good technical knowledge of the subject. As an instance of this, I have trained at my College and placed in positions one hundred and forty-four students since June of last year.

You may have noticed that the B.B.C. have definitely decided to embark upon Television. This will mean an increase in the industry, and as it will be done by means of "short waves" those men who have some knowledge of wireless telegraphy will have ample opportunities to improve their position should they wish to do so. The television apparatus will form part and parcel of the present broadcast receiver; or to be more accurate, it will be an addition to the set. This will call for more skilled men.

Personally, I would advise men leaving the Royal Corps of Signals to embark upon radio engineering. There are definite positions after training, ample opportunity for advancement, good wages, and shore positions instead of being away at sea for indefinite periods.

I hope that the information I have given is what you require. Should there be any additional particulars upon which you would require enlightenment, please let me know and I will reply fully.

I remain, yours faithfully,

For THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF TELEGRAPHY LTD.
(*Signed*) James H. Webb, Manager
(also Principal of The British Radio Engineering College)

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Sykes from Tidworth to India
Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney from Bulford to India
Lieut.-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy from London to India
Major J. C. McDonald from London to Aldershot
Major G. H. Plummer from India to Bulford
Major D. H. Cunynghame from Aldershot to Catterick
Captain C. L. Morgan from Aldershot to India
Captain D. A. L. Wade from Aldershot to India
Captain L. R. Hall from Aldershot to India
Captain C. D. Hinds from Aldershot to India
Captain W. M. Clapp from Canterbury to India
Captain W. A. Scott from Scarborough to India
Lieutenant J. Vickers from India to Bulford
Lieutenant G. C. Nelson from Tidworth to Bulford
Lieutenant D. C. P. Hall from India to Catterick

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

War Office 22/1/35

REGULAR FORCES—

Captain R. C. Woodbridge is seconded for service on the Staff, 11/1/35
Captain L. R. C. Watson is seconded whilst a student at the Staff College, 21/1/35
Lieutenant D. White is seconded for service under the Colonial Office, 29/12/34

ESTABLISHMENTS—

Captain R. C. Woodbridge, R.Signals, to be Staff Captain, S.T.C. 11/1/35

War Office 25/1/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Wilfrid Manners to be 2/Lieutenant 26/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—R.Q.M.S. Frank Tebbs to be Lieut. (Q.M.) 26/1/35
52nd (L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. B. Dalrymple to be Lieut. 12/12/34

War Office 29/1/35

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Major J. C. McDonald, M.C., R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of D.A.A.G., War Office, 21/1/35
Capt. C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C., R.Signals, to be D.A.A.G., War Office, 21/1/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain B. B. Kennett is restored to establishment 11/1/35
Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham, M.C., is seconded for service on the Staff, 21/1/35
The undermentioned 2/Lieuts. to be Lieutenants 28/1/35:—M. A. Charlton, G. D. B. McKean, T. T. S. Cooke, L. Whitbread, R. E. Crawford, H. C. Daniel, D. N. Deakin, T. J. F. Fuller, D. A. Pringle, A. B. Boddam-Whetham, B. J. Walker.

ESTABLISHMENTS—

S.T.C.—Captain B. B. Kennett, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Staff Captain, 11/1/35
School of Signals—Captain G. S. O'N. Power, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Instructor (Cl. C.C.) 18/1/35
Lieut. H. D. Mountford, R.Signals, to be Instructor (Cl. C.C.) 18/1/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain D. C. M. Johnson to be Major 5/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry Divl Signals—J. G. Potter to be 2/Lieut. 30/1/35
44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Lieut. J. H. V. Charlton to be Captain 28/11/34
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. T. C. Chilton to be Captain 4/1/35
Lieut. A. B. Moore to be Captain 4/1/35

War Office 1/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. A. J. G. McNair to be Captain 31/1/35
The undermentioned University Candidates to be 2/Lieutenants 2/2/35, with seniority as stated against their names:—
2/Lieut. A. L. Atkinson from General List T.A. 1/9/32, next below A. J. H. Fisher
2/Lieut. M. Stonestreet from Supplementary Reserve of Officers, R.Signals, 31/8/33, next below D. C. Lyall
The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the R.M.A., to be 2/Lieutenants 31/1/35:—B. H. P. Barnes, J. D. Elliott, H. B. de M. Hunter. P. G. Gracey, C. W. M. Young, M. D. Price, C. A. Henn-Collins, G. D. K. Woolrych, P. G. Curry, D. Mansel.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—R.Q.M.S. William O'Brien to be Lieutenant (Q.M.) 1/2/35
48th (S.M.) Divl Signals—B. J. Rowe to be Lieutenant (Q.M.) 1/2/35

War Office 5/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain E. G. W. Pearse is restored to establishment 29/1/35
Lieut. J. C. Hardy is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Officer of Company of Gentlemen Cadets at the R.M.A. 29/1/35

ESTABLISHMENTS—

R.M.A.—Captain E. G. W. Pearse relinquishes the appointment of Officer of Company of Gentlemen Cadets 29/1/35
Lieut. J. C. Hardy to be Officer of Company of Gentlemen Cadets 29/1/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. J. F. V. White to be Lieutenant 30/12/34
A. S. W. Mitchell to be 2/Lieutenant 6/2/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

56th (1st London) Divl Signals—R. V. Price to be 2/Lt. 6/2/35

War Office 8/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Major C. H. H. Vulliamy, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of G.S.O.2, War Office, 4/2/35
Captain (Brevet-Major) R. F. H. Nalder, R.Signals, to be G.S.O.2, War Office, 4/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain and Brevet-Major R. F. H. Nalder is seconded for service on the Staff 4/2/35
Lieut. A. Hill to be Adjutant vice Captain W. A. Scott, M.B.E. 8/2/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry Divl Signals—G. A. Watson to be 2/Lieut. 9/2/35
53rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. G. B. Lloyd to be Lieutenant 13/11/34

War Office 12/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain G. S. O'N. Power is restored to establishment 18/1/35
Lieutenant H. D. Mountford is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Instructor, School of Signals 18/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. R. A. Lees to be Lieutenant 13/2/35

War Office 15/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—

Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., half pay list, late R.Signals, to be Colonel 15/2/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Lieutenant-Colonels, on completion of four years service as Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel, are placed on the half pay list:—
A. G. J. Copeland, 14/2/35
R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C. 15/2/35
R. V. Montgomery, M.C. 15/2/35

The undermentioned Majors to be Lieutenant-Colonels:—
Brevet Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C. 14/2/35
C. H. H. Vulliamy, 15/2/35
H. A. J. Parsons, M.C. 15/2/35

Major T. B. Gravely is restored to establishment 15/2/35
Captain E. S. Heffer retires on retired pay 15/2/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. C. J. Gill resigns his commission 30/11/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L.) Divl Signals—2/Lt. J. B. Lindsay to be Lt. 13/11/34

10th Divisional Signal Company R.E.

The fifteenth annual re-union dinner of this war-time Company was held at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday 19th Jan. Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., R.Signals, who commanded the Company for some time during the war, presided. The guest of the evening was Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, who served with the 12th Corps Signals and was closely connected with the 10th Signal Company during the period in which the 10th Division formed part of that Corps. A very representative crowd of the old Company, from all parts of the country, attended.

Colonel Wemyss congratulated the members present on the enthusiasm which made it possible to hold such successful evenings for so many years after the Company was disbanded. He gave a few details regarding the combined manœuvres on the Yorkshire coast during last summer. The majority of the members present had taken part in the landing at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli, in 1915, and were very interested to hear that nineteen years later (almost to the day) a landing had been made on the Yorkshire coast for the purpose of training. It was also gratifying to learn that the Royal Signals engaged in the show were so successful with their wireless communications. Colonel Wemyss also gave a very interesting account of the Royal Signals Association reunion held at Scarborough last June. We were pleased to hear that the 10th Divl Signals were represented by C.S.M. Ecuyer J. Colonel Wemyss has now obtained the addresses of the 10th Signals Reunion Club members, and it is hoped that next year several of them will be able to attend.

Replying to the toast of "The Visitors," Colonel Hitchcock said he was very pleased to be amongst men with whom he had been so closely connected for a couple of years during the war. His account of the difficulties experienced in maintaining communications from Salonica with the 10th Division during the first few weeks that the Division was in Serbia was most interesting.

We had as visitors Messrs. King and Andrews (of the 9th Corps Signals (Suvla) and later, the Desert Mounted Corps Signals, Palestine), Mr. Abbot (of the 49th W.R. Divl Signals) and Mr. H. Richardson (of the 66th Field Company R.E., 10th Division).

Letters regretting inability to attend were received from Major Barker, R.E., Major Webb and Captain Smith of the 10th Signals, Capt. Darling, R.Signals, R.S.M. Rose, D.C.M., and many others.

The next annual reunion will be held in London in January 1936. J.J.G.

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Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O./496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the March 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 7/4/30.

(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 16/9/29.

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

Rawalpindi, 10th February 1935.

To the Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I regret that in the WIRE notes from this unit which appeared in your January number, we gave the impression that the Rugby XV. who played at Calcutta came entirely from this unit. The team was a Northern Command Signals one, and should have been so described both in our notes and under the photograph.

I have to thank the other Signal units in the Command for allowing their players to go, and for their financial help.

Yours faithfully, J. S. YULE, Lieut.-Col.
Commanding B Corps Signals.

Swindon, 18th February.

To the Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I recently purchased a business which has not turned out a success, and for the benefit of members of the Corps who may on discharge contemplate investing their savings in a similar manner, I tender the following advice:—

(1) Do not accept agents' figures as being correct, as many firms take their clients' word and do not make any attempt to verify the information.

(2) Unless the seller of a business can produce accounts signed by a chartered accountant, do not place any faith in his books.

(3) If chartered accountants' figures are not available—and they very rarely are—then go through one year's receipted invoices and add them up, divide the total by four, and accept that as the approximate gross profit for the year—from which there must be deducted all overhead expenses before arriving at the nett profit.

Yours faithfully, W. HAYWARD, ex-R.Q.M.S.

Reminiscences.

Telegraph Company, R.E., winners of the Royal Engineers Football Challenge Shield, Aldershot, 1905-06.

Back row (left to right)—C.S.M. Cadwell, Sappers McLean, Hicks and Cussens, Corpl Gallagher, C.S.M Glue
Middle—Sapper Crook, Lieut. H. Clementi Smith, Sappers Anderson and Bostock
Front—Corpls Beatty (captain) and Hayburn, Sapper Weeks, Drivers Phelps and James

= = Plain Tales = =

Reflections of Minnie.—I don't speak to the ginger cat from the Officers Mess now, but there—you wouldn't be interested.

I asked Tessa how she came by her name, and she tells me she is named after some famous character out of a book called "The Constant Pimpernel" or "The Scarlet Nymph," by Oliver Twist or someone. I never can remember names. Rather dull, don't you think? Not so exciting as being named after Minnie the Moocher, who had *all* sorts of adventures. I do wish people wouldn't circulate so many rumours about me. I am still single, and intend to remain so. Perhaps it is my bad temper. There's that cat from the N.A.A.F.I. who calls himself George. He wears wide flannel trousers that conceal his boots, and is the sort of boy you'd expect to find at the Garrison Institute dances. He need not bother to bring me his silly old fish heads.

:: :: ::

Odd Notes.—We were very interested to learn that Corpl Jock Robertson is going to the band of the Scots Guards. Only a few days ago, we were reading that instrumentalists were required for the band of the Royal Signals, but then, Jock should do well with the Scots Guards. He is a fine clarinet man. On the same page of THE WIRE, we read about B Corps Signals' new dining arrangements. The idea of an inscription over the hatches is good, but not new to us. During the war (the real one, we mean—sit down, I.G.S. men) one of our bright lads decorated a similar hatch in coloured chalk with the motto "Fons et origo malorum." The cook was very proud of it, too. Later on, someone translated it for him, but it was too late. George had gone up the line.

It is only fair to let Harrow boys and flat rate men know that it means "The source and origin of our miseries." It would have looked so much better if we had left it for you to find out for yourselves, but we're not bad lads, really.

Hallo! what's this on page 80? Johnny Wooldridge a daddy. Well! well! Heartiest congratulations to Sgt and Mrs. Wooldridge.

:: :: ::

Educational.—Many people have asked us to give lectures on general subjects, but we have always had a good excuse to back out of this unnerving business. They insist that one who has travelled all over the world and back again should pass on his accumulated knowledge, if any. There is no doubt that one does pick up some extraordinary facts in one's travels.

When we were in Mexico a few weeks ago, we were astonished to discover that cochineal is an insect. You know what cochineal is used for, don't you? Housewives put it in those blanc-mange things that remind us so much of pink flannel nightdresses. This cochineal insect lives on the opuntia plant and sucks the crimson juice of the fruit. They are dried and sent to Europe in large quantities, the native packers laughing fit to bust.

Tripping lightly from Mexico to Ceylon, we discover a few facts about ivory. Ivory from Ceylon never turns yellow. The natives import large numbers of old pianos and remove the keys. These are melted down and made into teeth for elephants. The black notes are used for making dots on dominoes. Even the spaces between the keys are utilised. These are fitted between slats of bamboo and emerge from the factory as sun blinds. Sometimes things go wrong in the factories and the machinery shrinks. This is due to the climate. There is always a lot of climate in Ceylon. Nobody can do anything about it. When this happens, the factories turn out macaroni. A macaroni is a vermicelli's father. This, by an association of ideas known only to ourselves, brings us to China. This will startle you. We actually went ever so pale, ourselves; honest, we did. The best Indian ink comes from China!

To be continued. We don't know why.

:: :: ::

Another Chance.—Commencing to-day. Further staggering and altogether amazing episodes from the life of Ukann Larfe and his pals. Read these Press opinions. "Dear sir.—Unless a remittance ——" Oh, blow it! Not that one. But never mind; let's get on.

"But, Monsieur Larfe, it is of the utmost importance that you accept our commission. Aperitif, in fact."

Ukann Larfe ran his fingers through his hair and removed a couple of cigarette ends. He was about to speak when his visitor pushed him back into the chair with a large boot.

"Listen, mon ami. My Government has heard about your last case, but we have worse detectives in our country. You are the man for our job. Recover the plans of this invention for running aeroplanes on tinned milk, and you will be rewarded beyond your wildest dreams."

"I never dream," said Ukann quietly. He started surrep—surr—furtively to count the coins in his pocket, and then sprang to his feet. "I'll do it!" he cried. After a while he stopped crying and escorted his visitor to the top of the stairs. Carefully throwing the man over the rail and listening for the inevitable dull sickening thud without which no story is complete, he dashed back to his room and began to pack.

"Hi, garcon!" he yelled, as a waiter passed the door.

"M'sieur?"

"Parlez vous français?"

"Mais, certainement, m'sieur," replied the astonished waiter.

"Well, gather this lot together, float down to the station, register the whole bang shoot through to Ligny St. Flochel, and tell 'em I'm coming along pronto. Malum that?"

"Je ne comprends pas m'sieur."

"Don't mention it, old man." Ukann dashed out of the room, slid down the banisters and cannoned into a messenger. The man picked himself up and wiped the blood from his nose with a table napkin. "Monsieur Larfe?" he asked.

"Yeah. That's me. Give us it 'ere." The celebrated detective read the cablegram and turned deathly pale. "Have heard news coming right away bringing Faceache and Lord Elpas reserve decent rooms all forgiven Hermione."

"Now, how on earth have they discovered all this?" asked Ukann, as he sank wearily into a chair. He ran his fingers

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through his hair and removed some more cigarette ends, as he idly studied the constant stream of visitors in the lounge.

"Don't move, monsieur. I have something to say to you."

Ukann glanced in the mirror opposite and saw a very beautiful girl standing behind him. She was holding a revolver into his back with an air of calm detachment.

HOLD EVERYTHING UNTIL NEXT MONTH. DON'T MISS THIS.

BARLEUX.

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 Sergeant.

2319403	L/Sergeant Butler W.	19/11/34	28
2310914	L/Sergeant Wintermere H.	26/11/34	28
724953	L/Sergeant Pearce E.	1/ 1/35	28

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2312123	Corporal Lunnis R.	6/10/34	29
1859054	Corporal Thomson H.	24/10/34	35
1856984	Corporal Masters W.	15/11/34	35
7811348	Corporal Jervis J.	20/12/34	35
2312548	Corporal Andrews N.	1/ 1/35	35

To be Corporal.

2315648	L/Corporal Tupper T.	6/10/34	52
5987834	L/Corporal Drury C.	23/10/34	52
2316738	L/Corporal Turner R.	24/10/34	52
2315879	L/Corporal Cairns J.	26/10/34	52
2315959	L/Corporal Pawsey H.	1/12/34	53
2561192	L/Corporal Hall R.	1/12/34	53
2314284	L/Corporal Davies M.	1/12/34	53
2316941	L/Corporal Best W.	20/12/34	53
2314133	L/Corporal Hamilton A.	20/12/34	53
2316222	L/Corporal Smith F.	20/12/34	53

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2320467	Signalman Lomax W.	7/ 8/34
2316081	Signalman Abbott W.	25/ 8/34
2318612	Signalman Oliver L.	*15/ 9/34
2319693	Signalman Adams J.	2/10/34
2319324	Signalman Shove R.	4/10/34
2319618	Signalman Spong F. G.	6/10/34
5379356	Signalman Kings L.	17/10/34
2317468	Signalman Mullins T.	18/10/34
2318800	Signalman Paul E.	23/10/34
738884	Signalman Lavender R.	23/10/34
2318665	Signalman Milligan R.	24/10/34
2319989	Signalman Spriggs R.	26/10/34
2313508	Signalman Thomson L.	29/10/34
2320032	Signalman McCunnin P.	30/10/34
2319818	Signalman Cross C. E.	31/10/34
5094924	Signalman Fletcher A.	31/10/34

*Shown in previous report as appointed 2/10/34, now antedated.

Discharges.

2306305	C.Q.M.S. Robertson W.	1/ 1/35	14
2306493	C.Q.M.S. Smith A.	21/ 1/35	15
1409469	L/Sergeant Barnes W.	20/ 1/35	31
2315396	L/Sergeant Evens J. V.	23/ 1/35	32
2312063	L/Corporal Clark K. H.	15/ 1/35	62

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318255	L/Corporal Farrell L.	9/ 1/35	
2319401	L/Corporal Debell S. R.	17/ 1/35	55
2318276	L/Corporal Coker E.	24/ 1/35	57
2319431	L/Corporal Cross P.	26/ 1/35	
2318127	L/Corporal Chadwick F.	30/ 1/35	53

Much Ado About Nothing.

Transportation.—A friend of mine, the other day, produced a Greek silver coin that was dug up during some recent excavation work in the Kurram Valley: which valley, you may or may not know, is very near the Afghan border. Depicted on one side of the coin was a magnificently embossed "tin-hatted" Greek warrior, riding a quadruped; the quadruped obviously being of the same species with which we are so familiar to-day. It was a toss up whether it was a horse or a mule. But the thing that struck me most was that two thousand years ago, when Alexander the Great was having a little sortie in this part of the world, he utilised the same means of transportation as we do to-day; and even in those days his soldiers wore "tin hats."

Now, it has been said that the horse is man's best friend. That may be in some parts of the world, but in this particular spot on the globe the mule comes first—and last; and woe unto him of the N.W. Frontier who denies the fact.

A mule is the offspring of an ass and a horse, and from what I've seen of him, he's more ass than horse. In books of animal lore he is stated to be a low, stupid kind of chappie, his chief characteristic being obstinacy. Obstinate—yes; but stupid—not on your life! Why, he has more artfulness and cunning in his little brainbox than a dozen horses in their larger ones together.

Watch him on the picket line (from a distance, of course!) and you'll see him chewing the head collar from off his mate next door. If he sees you, he'll stop immediately and be as mulish as a mule can be until your back is turned once more. Like the Indian goat, he'll eat anything from paper to nails, his speciality being nice new horse-rugs. He has even been known to eat the complete new blanket lining of a horse-rug during the course of one night (so the havildar i/c horse lines has informed me on horse rug inspection!) This propensity to consume anything from the seat of one's breeches to the topee on one's head caused the authorities, many years ago, to do away with the provision of "shoes, mule"—much to the satisfaction of the iron-hearted farriers whom one sees taking a constitutional round the lines occasionally.

The stupid fellow (the mule; not the farrier), in his hatred of all things British, is in his element on any day in any unit which is proceeding out in the blue. Whilst the Indian ranks are loading him with a pack saddle and an expensive W/T set, his docility is marvellous to behold; but as soon as he catches sight of a British ranks topee, the yearning instinct to consume overcomes him—and to see him careering round the lines, with a W/T mast waving like the mast of a ship in a rough sea, is a perfect joy.

His one gala day per mensem is the day on which the veterinary officer inspects all the animals with a view to once and for all deciding to cast some of the eighteen or twenty year old members of his tribe (the mule's; not the vet's) which this unit unfortunately possesses. For some days previously he has been walking about dejected and lame, but when it comes to his turn to trot past the man whom he knows can sign his death warrant, up will go his tail and head, away will go the Indian rank leading him, and our friend the mule, with high-stepping friskiness and ears pricked up, will career around the lines, being eventually joined by half a dozen of his fellows who could not resist the temptation to join in the sport. Tattersalls isn't in it, and the vet's remark "Like two-year-olds" is received with a certain amount of chagrin by the C.O.

Yet with all his ass's faults, he has more than horse sense. He'll go anywhere where a human being can get a foothold, and that is saying something here in the N.W.F. Many's the lad who would go cold and hungry o' nights if it were not for the "kacha," and although he's a bit of a curse at times we wouldn't be without him. In fact, he's thought so much of that recently, on a fifteen mile march, a lad had to fall out with *sore feet*, but before he fainted as the ambulance came to pick up the pieces, he cried "A mule! a mule! my kingdom for a mule!"

Which proves beyond doubt that history repeats itself. TIM.

[**Stop Press**]—Received too late for inclusion in this issue: Unit Notes from 1st Indian Divisional Signals (Rawalpindi), H.Q. Eastern Command (Naini Tal) and No. 1 Company 3rd Indian Divl Signals (Meerut), and Sports Notes from A Corps Signals (Aldershot).—ED.

The Hughes Telegraph.

In the cable room of the Central Telegraph Office, a peculiar-looking but ingenious apparatus functions to a few Continental offices where there is not likely to be much work.

On sight one is inclined to expect a musical instrument, for, as will be seen by the photograph, we are confronted with something very similar to a piano-keyboard. There are the black and white keys, and the operator seems to be playing a tune in slow time.

But we only hear a series of whirring noises ; and on looking closer, we find that the keys are lettered. The whole board consists of twenty-eight keys. They accommodate the twenty-six letters of the alphabet, and provide for changing from letters to figures or vice versa.

By depressing the various keys representing the letters required, it is thus possible to telegraph messages which are received in printed form at the other end of the line.

This apparatus has been very popular on the Continent. Indeed, it was once the principal means of transmitting cross-Channel cablegrams, and skilled operators could dispose of a great number of messages.

The Hughes telegraph was invented by an American professor, whose name it bears, and who received many honours from the rulers of many countries. Incidentally, we have to thank this gentleman for presenting us with the microphone.

It is interesting to note that the technical operation of all modern mechanical telegraph apparatus is based on that of Professor Hughes' invention.

But, comparing the two instruments, one would find it hard to believe that the modern teleprinter is an offspring of its cumbersome forefather.

W.T.L.

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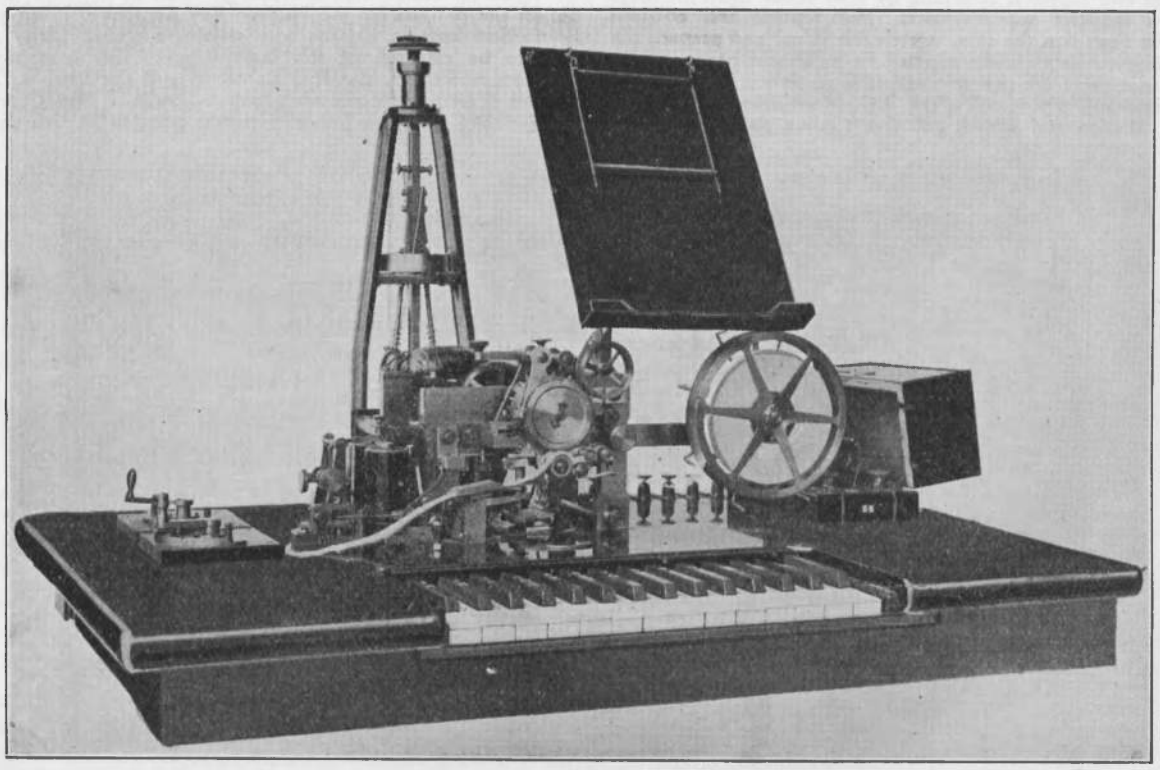


The Hughes Telegraph Keyboard.

[*Photo by the courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.*]

Fort Chipewyan, Alberta.

(Pronounced Chip-why-an ")

Five hundred miles north of Edmonton, in the rugged beautiful lake district of Alberta, is found one of the oldest settlements in the Canadian West: Fort Chipewyan on Lake Athabaska.

Long before Toronto was even dreamed of, Fort Chipewyan was a great fur trading centre, the nucleus of the vast regions tributary to Lake Athabaska which are inhabited by valuable fur-bearing animals. Here, in 1788, came that famous explorer and fur trader Alexander MacKenzie, who made Fort Chipewyan the base of his history-making trips down to the Arctic in 1789 and overland to the Pacific in 1793. To his cousin Roderick MacKenzie goes the credit for building in 1787—88 this fort that was soon to become the key to the North and one which is to-day the greatest fur collecting fort west of Hudson Bay.

In the past few years this area has been a hunter's paradise. Foxes, muskrats, beaver, lynx, mink and many other valuable fur-bearing animals are trapped in large numbers. The extent of the catch may be estimated from the fact that the royalty paid to the Government on furs taken at Fort Chipewyan in 1934 amounted to over $20,000. The catch in muskrats alone was over one hundred and fifty thousand, many trappers securing more than a thousand rats in a comparatively short time.

Three time a year the population—approximately three hundred and fifty, of which three score (including children) are white—is increased by the hundreds of Cree and Chipewyan Indians who come in at Christmas and Easter to sell their furs, and in July to get their treaty money and buy their grubstakes for the coming season.

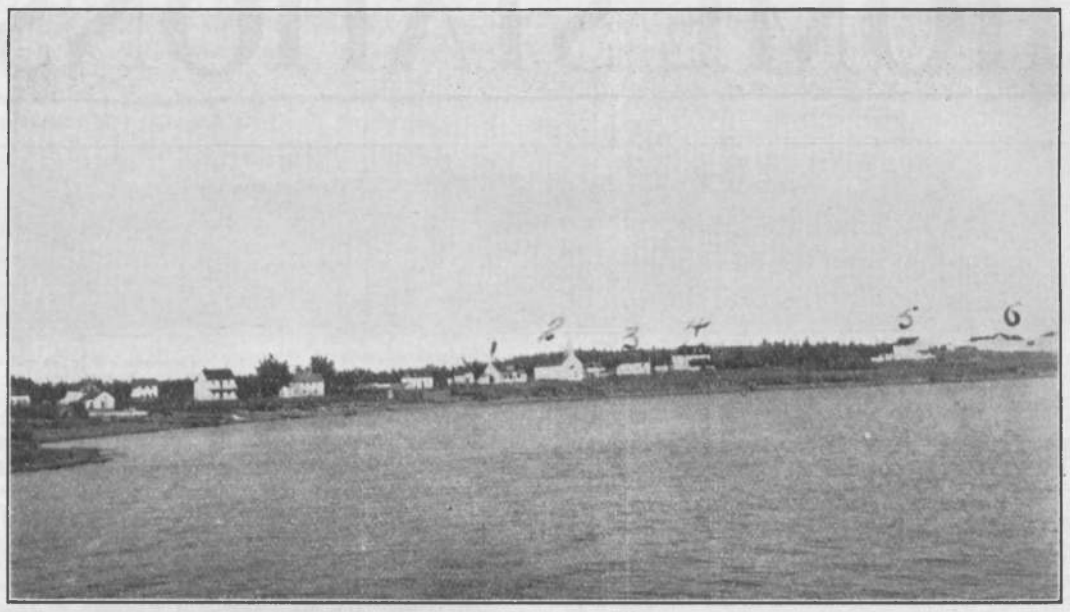
After treaty time is over and the Indians have returned to their homes, most of the traders leave for the " outside " to get their new supplies. During the summer months business is practically at a standstill ; there is also a period during the year when, were it not for the white people here, Chipewyan would be a " deserted village." In the spring, when the rat season is open, fully eighty-five per cent. of the population leave the settlement for the delta region of the Peace River and Lakes Mamawi and Claire. Whole families depart by dog team with their tents and supplies, returning by boat about the 15th May, when the muskrat season closes. The women and children during this time skin the rats, stretch the skins, and prepare the food, which consists chiefly of muskrat meat and bannock.

At present there are two restaurants (one owned and operated by a Chinaman), a post office, the R.C. Mission and school, the Anglican Mission and school, and five trading posts, the oldest of which belongs to the Hudson Bay Company, who have been bartering and buying furs here since 1790.

Colin Fraser, a well known old-timer of the North-West, at his trading post, Fort Chipewyan, which he has been operating for almost half a century.

Colin Fraser, the eighty-five year old nephew of the explorer Simon Fraser, has been operating a trading post at Fort Chipewyan for almost half a century. Back in 1870 he was a scout on the prairies for the Hudson Bay Company, being sent ahead to find friendly Indians with whom to trade. Many a thrilling tale he can tell of the buffalo hunt, the hardships of the pioneer settlers, the Riel Rebellion and the final settlement of the West. He possesses a valuable relic of Fort Garry days in the bagpipes of his father, who was piper to Sir George Simpson,

Radio Station and Living Quarters, Fort Chipewyan, Alberta.



The Eastern End of Fort Chipewyan.

1 Anglican Mission House 2 Anglican Church 3 Anglican School 4 Indian Agent's House 5 Hudson Bay Manager's House 6 Hudson Bay Company's Buildings

Governor of Rupert's Land a hundred years ago. Isadore Simpson, a grandson of Sir George, spends many months each year in the fort and is a head man of the Chipewyan tribe. It is interesting to know that Sutherland, MacDonald and McDermit Streets in Winnipeg were named after the forefathers of men living to-day at Fort Chipewyan.

Within the last few years the cloak of isolation that shrouded this fort has been removed, and quickly it is yielding to the white man's influence. Three factors have brought about this change: the aeroplane, radio (broadcasting) and wireless. In 1929 the first mail plane arrived, and since then a weekly mail service has been maintained except during the six-weeks period of " freeze-up " in the fall and " break-up " in the spring. At present this fort is one of the best paying aeroplane bases of the airways. Every year thousands of dollars worth of valuable furs are shipped out by plane and tons of merchandise brought in. Moreover, it is a refuelling point for the planes flying passengers and equipment to the mining fields of Great Bear Lake and other parts of the North. The Hudson Bay Transportation Company passenger and freighting boat *Northland Echo* and the Northern Transportation Company boat *Mable D. and C.* call at Fort Chipewyan weekly.

In July 1933 the wireless station was installed, and this has proved a great help to those in the settlement, especially the traders. A few years ago, if one wanted to return to civilisation in the winter one had to make a long hard trip by dog team. To-day, one may radio for a plane from Fort McMurray in the morning and be in Edmonton the same evening. Fur market reports, etc., can be obtained from the " outside " within a few hours. [*To be continued*]

The Roman Catholic Mission, showing the Holy Angels Convent (built sixty years ago) and the more recently constructed Chapel in the background.

HOME STATIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP — *Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

There is little to record this month in the way of general news. The work of making the Wing a home from home continues. Gone are the days when we had to lie on our clothes to crease them, and roll up our civvies into a suit case. Large cupboards (or wardrobes) for civilian clothing have been installed in each barrack room, and since the installation of our steam press everyone is walking about with that razor-like crease in his clothing.

Entertainment.—For their respective contributions to our enjoyment of life, we have to thank those hereafter mentioned. The promoters of the recruits boxing competition ; our novices gave a fine display of boxing on three occasions, details of which can be found in the Sports pages. The N.A.A.F.I. concert party for a first class show in the Newbigging Hall. The Corps Band for another of their delightful concerts. The Sergeants Mess committee for a day out at Sunderland, when we saw the Sunderland v. Everton cup match. The promoters of various indoor and outdoor sports.

Departures.—Sergt Strawbaum L. has left us for a comfortable civilian billet with the Terriers at Derby. L/Corporals Rolls and Froggatt, both of whom worked under Sergt Strawbaum in the orderly room, have gone to Rawalpindi and Kohat respectively. Our corporals request Kohat to take great care of the latter. Sigmn Cosgrave is now undergoing a course of vocational training in his home town of Hounslow, where he will complete twenty-six years service. To all who passed through from overseas to civilian life, we wish good luck.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

I think that, in the first place, an apology is due to the readers of THE WIRE. Our notes have for some time been conspicuous by their absence. We have no explanation to offer.

General.—The latest acquisition in the Battalion is a steam pressing plant, which is being very ably operated by Signalman Cooper W. understudied by Sigmn Barker E. Everything we possess in the way of kit is now being pressed (we are living in an era of creases). Then we get the polished floors. It is really surprising what the application of bees-wax, stain, etc., will do to an otherwise moth-eaten floor. The burning question is, which is the lesser of two evils: bumping or dry scrubbing. However, as wardrobes are being thrown in with the bees-wax, I think bumping is being voted the lesser.

Courses of Instruction.—The Stable Management Course has now broken up after a stay with us of about three months, and all the members have dispersed to their respective units. I hope they enjoyed their stay, and I am asked by the junior n.c.o.s of the Wing to thank them. After all, they did lengthen the duty roster.

Recruit Cosgrave has decided that he doesn't like the life of a soldier (after twenty-six years) and has gone to Hounslow to learn all there is to know about the painting, etc., of coaches. We wish him success when he does eventually don civvies.

Shooting League.—Inside information has it that the Wing is leading in this sport in the Mackworth League. No doubt, the position has been attained through the good shooting of the weapon training staff headed by Sergt Seabrooke ; although we were rather nervous in the last match, when L/Corpl Poole only obtained 95.

Arrivals.—We are pleased to welcome F/S/Sergt Vanstone and L/Corpl Routledge, who have joined us from India. The recruits who have joined us are too numerous to mention individually. It is hoped that their sojourn here will be to their liking.

Outings.—A bus party of cadre members of H.Q. and Mounted Wings proceeded to Leeds on Saturday 9th February, ostensibly to see a football match between Leeds and Huddersfield. I don't know what the ultra-attraction was, but I believe everyone bought a newspaper on Saturday evening so that they might not appear too ignorant on their return to camp. However, everyone voted it a real good day out.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Introduction.—In order to keep our notes going in future, we have managed to dig up a spare-time author. So I appeal to you all, when reading these notes, to take them in the spirit in which they were written.

Ponky Wallahs.—As usual, we had our annual gamble on the Stock Exchange. This time we bought twenty-one Indian draft shares at par. Luckily for us, our purchase finished up in a satisfactory manner, showing neither profit nor loss. However, at one time it looked as if we might lose thousands, as Tubby took French leave and our recruit clerk had a terrible sweat on. Then an old friend of ours took it into his head to have a few days rest, so straightway he strolled down to the hospital and demanded entrance. Once again the waiting man was in sore straits, and became so fed up that he has already changed with our Company storeman if and when he should be selected again in the Indian draft market: he has decided that the inoculation is not worth the candle. However, we wish the " heat wavers " the very best of good luck and hope to see them in the very near future. Please ask B.B. (262) whether he has decided to sign on.

Other Departures.—Although these are numerous, we can spare a line or so for the favoured. Sergt Smale (A.E.C. and joke originator) has left us for a tour of the Saar, but whether he intends to remain there, one cannot say—just yet. Of course, our ex-author, soccer manager, pay boss, and general mucker-in —the one and only Corpl Boniface—left us to take over the reins of D Troop. Naturally, there were many tears spilt over this departure, especially by Lolly, who used to share our equipment. Remember the old song, " Bring back, oh! bring back, oh! bring back my Bonny to me." We tender our good wishes to all who have left us, and hope they like their new stations.

We are sorry to lose Lieut. H. D. Mountford to the School of Signals, and 2/Lieut. D. E. L. Gardiner to 4th Div., but wish them a very pleasant stay in their new stations.

Arrivals.—We welcome 2/Lieutenants Curry and Elliott, and wish them a very pleasant stay. We also welcome our new pay

n.c.o. (Corpl Jones H. W.) from D Troop, L/Corpl Cannings E. from 1st Div., L/Corpl File from A.F.V. Signals, and all others who have come to us. We sincerely hope they are looking forward to spring drills.

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Bennington L. and Axson G. on being appointed U/L/Corporals. Don't forget that spud cleaning parades are at 5.30 p.m.

To Sergt and Mrs. Taylor T. on the birth of a daughter. To Corpl and Mrs. Smith E. B. on the birth of a daughter.

To Sigmn Adamson on attaining "distinguished" at the Aldershot School of Hygiene.

Personal.—Lew, Quetta: Believe Sam at Bulford will soon have to carry his accumulator and ration bag. Tich.

Joe: Did you enjoy the hour at the spring waters of Harrogate?

Super-Congratulations.—Tinkle, tinkle, tinkle. What a lovely set of bells. Sorry! it is only our new generation of medal bearers. We congratulate the following on receiving their dhobi marks and service medals:—Captain H. Hart, M.C. (I.G.S.), Sergt Wheeler E. (L.S. and G.C.), Sergt Wheeler A. G. (I.G.S. clasp), Sergt Miles H. (I.G.S.), Sergt Taylor T. (I.G.S.), Cpl Patching F. (I.G.S.), L/Corpl Allen J. (L.S. and G.C.), and Sigmn Griffiths R. (I.G.S.) May there be church parades every Sunday!

Transfer.—We regret to announce that we are losing our recruit waiting man, who is leaving to take over the reins of the "Gee up, Neddy" Squad. Home, Pete (alias dear Harold) and don't spare the hosses.

Red Hot News.—To Bonny: L.B. is stopping his V.A. Shall we make him parade at 2 p.m? M.C.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Company, of congratulating the Company hockey team on their success in beating the Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, in the final of the Mackworth hockey tournament. Their convincing win of 5—2 goals was the best performance they have put up this season. Our forwards rose to the occasion and their solidity paved the way to success. Lieut. D. W. Burridge completed the hat trick, and Corpl Saunders and L/Corpl Hayes were the other scorers. A special word of praise must be given to the defence, who came through severe pressure with flying colours. We have had some rare tussles in this tournament, and the success was a popular one.

The experiment of polishing the floors has been a success, so our official rat catcher may be seen at any time (complete with one bumper per man per room) developing his biceps and voice. The rumour that a beauty chorus has been engaged is strongly contradicted. The cadre hut is open for inspection and may be seen at any time on application to the commissionaire.

Postings.—Sergt Lockyear and Signalmen Bainbridge, Carter and Dove to China. Sergt Champion, our chief clerk, to the Scottish Command Signal Company. L/Sergt Policella to the 3rd Divl Signals. We welcome L/Sergt Waight from the 4th Divl Signals, and twelve recruits from the Depot Battalion.

Courses.—Corpl Holland E. attended a course in fire fighting at Aldershot and qualified as an instructor.

F Company, Training Battalion.

The clerk of the weather duly fulfilled his duty at the beginning of February by sending down the snow in large quantities. The snow coincided with the arrival of the R.E. boys from Chatham to play our No. 3 Section soccer team in the fourth round of the boys' Army cup. We did our best to make them feel at home, but the weather did its worst.

We congratulate No. 3 Section team on winning a very hard game, fought out in a blinding snowstorm. After the match we spent a very enjoyable evening in the Boys' Club with a whist drive and dance under the able management of L/Corpl Blades and Corporal Powell.

We all welcomed the snow with open arms. Druggon Hill and Fern Hill were transformed for a few days and assumed the aspect of a Swiss landscape, with tobogganing in full swing. Having no Belisha beacons in Catterick yet, there were quite a few collisions between pedestrians and the down traffic, but except for a cut arm the exchanges were only a few bruises and quite a number of "blessings."

Oh! I nearly forgot. There was another accident. One member of the party forgot to "duck" as he came through a gap in the hedge, and naturally—having tried conclusions with a branch of a tree—he came off the worse with a damaged nose.

Much to our disappointment, a rapid thaw set in that night and so ended our first winter sports meeting; for we are still looking forward to some more snow but fewer broken windows. I expect someone may wonder where we procured our toboggans, but to the other ranks who have most recently been in Catterick let me give a clue. A corrugated iron shelter overlooking one of our sports fields was rather battered about by the high gales peculiar to Catterick, and quite a number of the iron sheets were blown down. Several toboggans were borrowed from workshops, but I think the make-shift ones carried the day *and* the majority of the boys participating in the fun.

Not having been isolated so far this year, we thought we were going to miss any such occurrence, but L/Sergt Harrison decided otherwise and contracted scarlet fever. He seemed to time it rather well, for he was just able to draw his pay before leaving for hospital. Much to the disappointment of some, training is unaffected by this case, as the only affected ones are the recruit boys.

Departures.—During the month the following left us for field units. Signalmen Morey J. and King V. to 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. Signalmen McDonald and Purvis (the Cigarette Card King) to 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. Sigmn Sullivan L. to 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury. Rumour has it that the last named is thinking of setting up a jeweller's shop on the expiration of his service.

Arrivals.—L/Cpl Mitchell W. from Peshawar District Signals, India. He proceeded on leave immediately—lucky dog!

Medals.—The Indian general service medal has been presented by the Brigadier to Sergt Solly W. and L/Corporals Russell M., Turner E. and Holloway W. Judging by the remarks made, the Church of England roll is to be raised by one in order that full view may be given to the medal received.

Marriages.—There are two in the pending tray at present.

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ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Departures.—We were all very sorry to take leave of R.S.M. Eves J. A. who ended a twenty-six years contract with the Army on 20/2/35. There can be little doubt that it was a great wrench for him as well. R.S.M. Eves had a long association with Aldershot, both in the 1st and 2nd Divl Signals, and was well known and respected by all. He had a sympathetic ear and an uncanny knack of knowing when to function on its findings. Our two football teams have lost a dictator who knew what he was dictating as well as a friend whose quiet tips were worth listening to. While football was his forte, he was very interested in all the unit's sports—particularly mounted events—and was leader in the unit tent pegging team. As we go to press, there are a few ceremonies yet to be enacted in this respect which will

have to be chronicled in next month's WIRE. In the meanwhile, we part with the hope that R.S.M. and Mrs. Eves are now flourishing in Liverpool.

The Upward Trend.—Our congratulations to Corpls Hamilton A. and Smith F. A. on their promotion to that rank. The latter is sorry he cannot celebrate this with the Palestine Police.

L/Corporals Adams J. and Steele J. have been awarded the pay of their rank and, incidentally, have left rungs vacant for Signalmen Brown C., Butler T. and Dollimore C., who thus commence the unremunerated first step of the long trail. All power to their elbows!

Embarkations.—C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) and Mrs. Ayton embarked for Ceylon on 19/1/35. Diagrams of the accommodation (X marks the spot) on the private packet which conveyed them made their appearance before their departure. We envy them their good fortune, hope they realise it, trust they will evade the malarial epidemic, regret their hurried dash at the last minute, and wish them all the best in their new quarters.

Meanwhile, Corpl Brice (fresh from a Foreman-of-Signals course) is functioning in place of C.Q.M.S. Ayton.

Arrivals.—2/Lieut. P. O. J. Nicholson has joined us and proceeded on an M.T. course. We extend him a hearty welcome, and hope to see him on the sports field in the near future.

Civvy Life.—We hear from ex-C.Q.M.S. Johnson A. that he is now settled as a super-postage clerk, with a colossal A.F.P. 1940 and a juvenile staff, with an old established firm in Peterborough. We are afraid to recommend your patronage in case it's bills he sends.

If ex-L/Cpl Snow (of Falastin fame) got the wireless operator's job concerning which we advised him to write to the General Secretary, we would like to hear from him.

Mrs. Malaprop.—Sergt Howler (not in the blue book) says it is not often he has to criticise the B.B.C. on their grammar, etc., but he took strong objection to a passage in a recent broadcast when Wales were playing somebody at rugger or something. Apparently, the announcer said there were crowds of Welshmen in the town and that they were singing in the streets, which was characteristic of the race. Indeed to goodness, look you—I mean to say.

Plebiscite.—We learned how to spell that word the other day, and can't refrain from using it here, just to forecast that all our Saar Contingent are home again, with stores checked, deficiencies small, pay big, and on leave, long ere you read these notes. This is more than a pious hope.

Tailpiece.—There may be some Sports Notes of ours on another page, but don't bank on it. Read all the way through, and don't leave this lying about for your buddy to read. Let him buy a copy! JESSAMINE.

Another "International."—The accompanying photograph shows a team from the Saar Contingent Signal Section and a German team from Ensheim. The match was played in six inches of snow and the German team won by 6—3. Judging by facial expressions, one would imagine the figures were reversed. But that is all to the good. The referee looks as if he didn't understand what the Saarlanders were saying about him—but he did!

J.S.M.

No. 3 Company.

Individual Training.—This still continues, and upgradings will be many at the end of the month—we hope. Seldom has such keenness been displayed by operators on training as by those on the present course. They are attending for extra instruction every evening entirely of their own volition.

In Our Garden.—Dianthus barbatus and some thalictrum dipterocarpum have been newly dug in. No. 3 Company's lines form a short cut to the medical inspection room, but we hope the sick parade will refrain from crawling all over our mammoth verbenas and venidium fastuosum. Sigmn Forrest, our 'opeful 'orticulturist, got all these names from the seed packets. We wonder!

Discharge.—Our best wishes for his future, and high hopes for a speedy return to good health, go with L/Sergt Evens on his discharge from the Service after a prolonged spell in dock.

One Down.—C.Q.M.S. Hall, after suffering with some sort of bug in his blood for some time, has had to have a toe amputated at the Cambridge Hospital. We trust that he will soon be out and about again, and none the worse for the deficiency.

Farewell.— The unit grieves
For R.S.M. Eves,
For twenty-six years
A soldier in spurs,
And now he's a civvy—
A poor blooming civvy.
But he can still have his say
If he joins the T.A.
Good-bye—and luck, sir!

LANKA MK.II.

The "International" Football Teams mentioned above.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Training proceeds steadily. The equitation and remount training classes are carrying on well under the able control of our O.C. (Captain Knowles) and Corpl Elmes, and now surprisingly few " bite the dust." Anyone requiring jockeys should apply to the C.S.M., who will willingly allot a likely National rider. This is as it should be, as we shall soon be the only " horsey " Company in the unit.

M.T. training, too, is going steadily forward without any major collisions or bumps.

The C.S.M. reports a number of applications for " Engineer Training," vol. i. 1929 (Drill) and the n.c.o.s can be see daily perusing this interesting publication in anticipation of the drill and duties course which is due to start shortly. I trust they will all enjoy themselves.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome and a brush and curry comb to Drivers Ansett, Moddrell and Ward, and Signalmen Amis, Grice, Harris, Swift, Wells and Riley (ex-rat). May they have long grooming hours with this unit!

Departures.—Signalmen Baker, Hyde, Phillips, Nicholson R. and Robinson H. left for India on 23/1/35. We wish them the best in their new stations, and hope they will carry the traditions of 2nd Div. with them.

Congratulations.—We heartily congratulate the unit boxing team on reaching the Command semi-final. We feel particularly proud to have supplied five members of the team. We meet our friends the Sappers in the semi-final.

Much to our surprise, with a scratch team we won the first inter-Company cross-country run, and hope to win the next two.

Scotsman's Paragraph.—2318761 Bert would like to hear from 23189co c/o the above address. Postage refunded.

The Educated Army.—A certain n.c.o. asked " What time is the two o'clock parade?" The same n.c.o. said to Driver R. " Have you got the key to the harness room?" Driver R.: " No, I haven't got it." The n.c.o.: " Well, lock the harness room up." Who was the n.c.o?

Agony.—Mae West of Reading would like to know if a certain storeman of the Company is in possession of a feed bag?

Conclusion.—This will do for the present. We should require a whole page if we did not cease this frivolity! Spring (drill) is in the air, so we feel like nothing on earth—in fact, just like " Jimmie." Nuff said. PIP.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Most of the Company have had their annual furlough and are settling down to make themselves proficient for the coming training season.

Quite a number are on individual training, whilst the remainder are doing their utmost to become efficient motor drivers and mechanics under the able leadership of Sergt Hay, who has just returned from Feltham, where he certainly accounted for himself very well.

Naturally, we still have a few who are keen on looking after our remaining horses until such time as they are transferred to the Remount Depot.

Drill and duty courses for the n.c.o.s will be starting very shortly, and from all accounts one particular student has already entered the following preface in his note book: " In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love and heavily to ' Engineer Training,' vol. i."

A word of praise is due to the unit boxing team for their splendid achievement in reaching the semi-final of the Aldershot Command inter-unit team boxing competition. This Company was represented by five entrants. Before these notes appear in THE WIRE they will have fought the semi-final v. the Royal Engineers, and I feel sure that all ranks will join me in wishing them every success as a representative team for the final.

Departures.—The following have left us recently, and we wish them the best of luck in their new stations or spheres of life. Corpl Camon F. to D Company, Training Battalion. Signalmen Pearce H., Parker H., Barnett A. and Breach F. to India's sunny clime. L/Corpl Collins J. to civilian life, having taken his discharge to enter civilian employment.

Arrivals.—Drivers Lawton and Mansfield from the Depot Battalion. At present they are on furlough, but on their return we hope to find an improvement in our sporting abilities.

Births.—Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. Smith on the birth of a son (Digby Goddard) at Aldershot on the 15th January. Who said that our schoolmaster could not produce a special?

Berths.—Sergt Williams is still waiting for one, and is rather peeved that he may eventually have to sail on the *Queen Mary* or remain as a boxing instructor.

C.R.A.—A certain married lady asks that all should vote for the Conservatives at the next General Election, as she has received no C.R.A. since the Conservative Government went out of power.

CYB.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

General.—The majority of the members have now returned from leave, and we expect to be able to produce in the near future two teams—one football and one hockey—capable of giving a good account of themselves.

We were well beaten by the officers on the miniature range early in the month in the remaining event of the Mudge cup, which goes to the officers with a margin of four points to the good. All members congratulate the officers on their success, but hope to reverse the final result next year.

Entertainments.—The entertainments committee continues to stage fortnightly dances and occasional whist drives.

Movements.—The best wishes of the Mess are extended to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Ayton, who sailed for Ceylon in January, and to Sergt Ellerbeck J., who left for Aberdeen for a further tour of duty with the T.A.

In place of the latter we welcome Sgt Shreeves from Aberdeen, and trust he will find Aldershot to his liking. There are no more moves at the moment, although R.S.M. Eves J. will have left us for civil life before these notes appear in print. More about this anon.

Saar Force.—We were pleased to see an account of the Saar Signals in the January WIRE, and to learn that they have been able to indulge in a certain amount of sport.

As You Like It.—Boxers (overweight) would be well advised to take a ride in a Riley 9, the property of a certain Mess member, since hitting tailboards of lorries is a certain method of weight reduction and a real tester for nerves. This was the experience of certain of the 2nd Div. boxing team who were proceeding to London for Turkish baths. Only the car, however, received a k.o. (a real body blow).

Summary of Fight—Round 1: Boxers to respective corners (of car). The driver took full advantage of all the openings that presented themselves and avoided the onslaught of approaching vehicles. This round ended quietly with the boxers gaining confidence. Round 2: Preliminary dodging of neutral vehicles—driver sees red (rear light of lorry)—hit in the eyes by oncoming headlights—perfectly timed smack at tailboard of stationary lorry—opponent many cwts. overweight—clean k.o. of car. Referee (local policeman) announces fight over. Occupants of unconscious car go up several weights in cars and return home by bus. There they learn of the k.o. of the Insurance Company. Heigho!

No more this time, so good-bye.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

I am sorry that this unit has not forwarded any notes for the last two or three months—more especially as this is now the second month of the New Year, and my good resolution of "Notes every month " has gone by the board. Anyway, here goes!

Technical Training.—This will be a thing of the past when these notes appear, and the brainiest will have received that most welcome thing in life: a drop more pay. If not, they will be hoping for the best.

Courses.—Captain H. M. Sylvester, M.C., our commanding officer, is at present at the School of Signals on a officers refresher course. L/Corpl Aldridge M. is busy at the R.A.S.C. School of

Driving on an M.T. driving and maintenance course. Sigmn Merchant W. is learning the intricacies of a chef's job at the School of Cookery, Aldershot.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Hodgson H. S. on his promotion to that rank w.e.f. 19/11/34. To Sigmn Alexander P. on his marriage to Miss Beatrice Alice Bunyan at Yorktown, Surrey, on the 15th December last. To Sigmn and Mrs. Austin on the birth of a son, Trevor William Thomas, at Bagshot on the 21st December. To L/Corporal Joyce R. (Busty) on his marriage to Miss Eva Mary Basham at Dunton Waylett, Essex, on the 5th January. Have you told her about rainy days yet, or the one about C.R.A., Dicky? (India papers, please copy.)

Departures.—We have said goodbye to the undermentioned, who sailed for India on the 23rd January, and wish them the best of luck in their new stations. Corpl Beard C. to 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta; L/Corpl Robinson and Sigmn Forster to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut; and Sigmn Banks to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the fold. Signalman Taylor from China. Corpl Field L. from Sarafand. Sigmn Kirk R. from Malaya. Corpl Ient A. from Malta. Signalmen Phillips, Ashton and Byton from India. The last named has left us for the Army Reserve (that's one the S.T.C. didn't get). Sigmn Knight K. from Training Battalion.

Attachments.—We have had 2/Lieut. J. E. Rodgers (R.Signals S.R.) with us for fourteen days annual training from the 13th to 26th January. We hope his time with the unit was well spent.

Calling Sarafand.—What the t-t-o-o-t are you t-t-to-o-t-t-ing for, Tut?

That's all. J.M.G.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Have you ever seen a supposed athlete caught out? If you haven't, you should come and see our cure for premature swelled heads—to wit, annual efficiency tests. Things went very well until the mile, and then things didn't go too well for some. The poor despised married men of the unit actually showed their single comrades a thing or two when it came to the mile. Before these tests, we had some extraordinary runners in the unit; now, we have only some extraordinary excuses left. Ah, well! lack of training, etc., must have some effect.

The unit is at present in the throes of refresher courses of drill. Believe me, we did require refreshments—at least, after the junior n.c.o.s had given their version of "In Town To-night." Instead of communication drill, I think it should be called a brief course of training for would be paper-boys and spectators.

When the drill is over, we embark on a short course of gas training. The instructors-to-be are already being put through their paces—or should I have said, gas masks. Highly technical words are being bandied about in the mess, and if one wants a chair beside the fire one has only to shout "Gas!" and there is a rush for respirators. Oh, yeah!

Steel Helmets.—No! this is nothing to do with the old German organisation. At least, I don't believe Tich meant it to be. You see, Tich had to check his stores, and finding that he was ten steel helmets up, he proceeded in the dark evening to park them away in a nice hiding place. Came the dawn. Tich's stores were being checked. Then out of the blue—or at least, so it seemed to Tich—an awful voice said "You're ten steel helmets down. Can you account for it?" Poor Tich! no wonder he is showing the ravages of old age so soon.

Cherry Park.—Great news, boys! Tidworth, as becomes an up-to-date resort, is to have a park. Yes! a real live meeting place for soldiers and nursemaids. Whether it is a scheme to keep Tommy more at home and offer him an attractive alternative to the delights of Salisbury and Andover, or whether it is to snaffle a greater percentage of the tourist traffic, I know not. But I do know this: it is a great scheme. Applications for transfers to Tidworth will be dealt with in strict rotation. I don't think that there will be a shortage of nursemaids in Tidworth any more, either.

Social.—The Royal Signals (Tidworth) Ladies' Social Guild still keeps up its activities, and the members held their usual successful monthly meeting in the Institute the other afternoon. We don't know much of what goes on at these festivities, as on these occasions the husbands have to stay at home and push the pram; but we understand now why the meetings are always held on Wednesday afternoons!

(M)ad-dition: New Style.—The S.P.B. (senior pay bloke) wishes me to amend last month's notes under this heading. It appears that several nasty-minded persons are of opinion that it was the S.P.B. to whom the notes referred. Stuff and nonsense! bunkum and balderdash! etc. The idea is not even worth entertaining. Why, the S.P.B. was on furlough—a perfect alibi. The pay bloke referred to was his not-so-able assistant, who was acting for him whilst he was on leave. Still, even the mighty have been known to fall, and I believe the bump is much harder. Not being one of the mighty ones, I don't know; but my bumps have not yet been so very severe.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Dempsey R. on passing his test for instrument mechanic A.ii. on 11/1/35. To Corpl Pawsey H. and L/Corporals Dale M. and Lafford E. on promotion or appointment as shown. More power to their elbows! To Sigmn Burke C. S. on re-engaging for twenty-one of the best. To L/Corporal Potts John on being mustered within his trade.

Departures.—Driver Heale W. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, on 19/1/35. Sergt Winteringham R. to Feltham on an M.T. course. L/Corpl File W. to the Training Battalion, Catterick, on 7/2/35. The best of luck, Bill. Send us a bit of christening cake, won't you? L/Corpl Reed A. to civvy street on 25/2/35. All ranks wish him the best of luck and success in his new job.

2/Lieut. G. H. K. Hewlett to Aldershot for a course in M.T.

Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., left us for India on 28/2/35. All ranks wish him Godspeed, the best of luck in his new station, an excellent voyage, and a good bag on his next shoot. The married families, especially, wish to thank Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Sykes for all they have done for them, and hope they will have every success in their new station.

Major C. P. Prescot also left us, for Bulford, on 17/1/35. His stay with us was not very long, but we all hope that it was an enjoyable one. All ranks wish him the best of luck and success in his new station.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following to our little spot on the Plain, and hope their stay will prove a long and enjoyable one. L/Corpl Lamont W. and Signalmen Marshall E. and Smallwood W. from India on 31/1/35. L/Cpl Moore S. C. from the Training Battalion—you see they can't stay away from the old unit. Drivers (I.C.) Morris J., Pierce J., Sides R. and Wysman W. from the Training Battalion.

MacIsaac's Postbag.—John, Malay: No reply to chitty? Musket Sam. RUSTY.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—I have just awakened to the fact that it is fast approaching the 16th of the month, and that it behoves me to put pen to paper and let the world at large know how the Troop is faring. I used to think it was a simple matter to write WIRE notes (that is, before I had anything to do with it) but now I dread the passing of the days and the need for gathering fresh material. The Troop on the whole is usually quite generous in supplying me with choice and snappy pieces, but unfortunately very few would pass the censor. Anyhow, here are the main items of interest.

Signalman Rogers.—Our one and only George. I used quite a lot of space last month in wishing him good-bye and good luck on the start of his seven thousand miles sea trip, and now I have to waste a lot more and explain that he is still with us. The truth of the matter is that he has been making friends with the eye specialist, who considers George would do better for himself in civvy street. Highbury will be richer by one shilling per week in future. I am told it takes exceptional eyesight to see Alec James score three goals.

Arrivals.—We welcome L/Sergt Cheverton from the Training Battalion and Sigmn Scholefield from India. May their stay be a happy one.

Sport.—The football team have been going great guns recently, winning their last three matches in convincing style. D Troop,

please read and inwardly digest . . . . . we are visiting you on the 16th March.

Congratulations.—To our G.O.M. of cricket, Sergt Honnor, on being presented with a cricket ball, suitably mounted on a stand, kindly given by Captain C. W. Knight in commemoration of his feat in capturing a hundred wickets last season. Well played, sergeant!

To Sigmn Halliday on successfully passing the Board of Selection for the Metropolitan Police. It has been noticed for some time that he has been cultivating the "peeler's strut." All the best, Les, and don't forget the Troop when they visit the Great City. What the eye doesn't see, you know?

Agony.—To Bill in Nigeria: Thanks for your letter; it was most interesting. If you are hard up for a stamp next time, send the epistle C.O.D. I will pay. Toby. E.T.P.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Owing to the temporary absence of our regular scribe—who at present is living a life of ease (?) at the School of Signals—I deputise, hoping that my effort will be accepted as an indication that the Troop is still going strong rather than an attempt at journalism.

Life is certainly very uneventful at present, this being the individual training period. We are approaching the finishing stages, which means that the hopes for that next rating are more or less definite—one way or the other!

Departures.—Corpl Penny and L/Corpl Lafford to the School of Signals to attend the n.c.o.s wireless course.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Byrne J. and Mays W. from A.F.V. Signals. We trust that their stay with us will be a long and a happy one.

Congratulations.—To Corporal Pawsey H. on attaining that rank. To L/Corpl Lafford on losing the "U." The date of the celebrations will be announced in due course.

Saar Detachment.—Here are a few remarks from our representative with the detachment sent with the 12th Royal Lancers to the Saar.

Saarbrücken, January 1935.

Hello, lads! here we are again. This time I can give you more news about the place, the people, and (if you are interested) the beer, as we are now more used to the situation here. Why, we have quite a fair command of the language even—we can call for four beers with the greatest of ease!

It would be very difficult to decide which nation has more warmly welcomed us, for the Germans, like the French, have really accepted us splendidly. Looking around Saarbrücken today, one would hardly believe that less than twenty years ago the place and its people were involved in the Great War.

The day of the voting was the quietest we have had—no apparent disorder or strife: just like an ordinary Sunday at home. The Squadron was accorded the honour of escorting the urns containing the votes to the Town Hall. It was with complete satisfaction that we read in the local papers that the behaviour of our troops met with the admiration of the resident people. Everyone was in bed by twelve o'clock that night, and the only incident noted was that the kiddies were amusing themselves by pelting the armoured cars with snowballs!

Now that the vote is all over (I was going to write plebiscite, but I can't spell it) we are getting more into routine, settling down to normal barrack life. Last Sunday we had a church parade and were complimented by the Brigadier on our turn out.

Our entertainments have been well looked after here. The N.A.A.F.I. concert party has been doing its stuff—some of it hot stuff, too. They have visited our billet twice and have given us a really good show each time. I understand that they have now gone home and that the N.A.A.F.I. talkies are coming out. From this, you can see that we are not isolated or glum in any shape or form.

Now lads, for a shock. Ask any of the detachment the safety precautions associated with the revolver and, believe me, you will get the answers, for revolver training is in full swing. Is it a shock—or is it? But, there, we must keep up the Troop average. I should just hate to fail now, even though Freddie does get the young soldier's medal.

Other technical training is being carried on, and some of our leisure hours are taken up by an occasional game of football. We have other recreation in the evening, but it costs two francs a bottle. It's a wise cork that knows its own bottle!

Congratulations on the news of Harry de Pawz getting his second yard of tripe. Guess he will be joining the A.A. now.

I have heard that the Bluebird is purring like a pussy when Coates is around. How much?

We Want to Know.—Who really holds the non-stop record from Tidworth to Aldershot? and whether Cooky really believes it?

Does the T.S. chariot still adorn the Troop parade ground?

Has the Troop more money these days?

What Wilsden's feelings were when he dodged it?

If H. de P. likes rising at 6 a.m. to arrive at Tidworth per the Bluebird by 8.30 a.m?

If fourteen gallons was enough to take him to Portsmouth and Bruton?

Whether Jock the Pen is going to write?

Appreciation.—Great help in the provision of signal stores for training was obtained from the Saar Force Signals. Sergeant Napier went to endless trouble to fix us up. BUNKER.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Yesterday, the 14th February, brought to a close another chapter in the history of 3rd Divl Signals, as we said good-bye to Lieut.-Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., on the completion of his tenure of command. The end of command is a sad thing in the life of any unit, but I think it is especially so in this case. Those who have had the privilege of serving under Colonel Naylor fully realise what he has done for the unit during his four years of command, and how he has had the interest of every individual at heart. There are many who have left us, either to serve with other units of the Corps or to take up duties in civil life, who will look back on their days at Bulford as some of the happiest in their lives.

Colonel Naylor, in his farewell speech to the unit, expressed the hope that any who happened to meet him in days to come, whether wearing the red cap of a staff officer or the bowler hat of a civilian, would not hesitate to make himself known to him.

In the same way as our Colonel had the interests of all ranks at heart, so Lady Mary Naylor worked indefatigably in the interests of all families of the unit. At the last parting, on Wednesday 13th February, she was presented with a bouquet by Mrs. Harrison (wife of R.S.M. Harrison) on behalf of the wives.

We all wish Colonel and Lady Mary Naylor the very best of luck in the future, and hope that we shall see them amongst us again, not only on official and semi-official occasions such as sports and at homes, but on any odd occasion when they happen to be in the vicinity.

To-day—the 15th February—a new chapter opens with the advent of Major C. P. Prescot, who takes over command of the unit. We extend to him and to Mrs. Prescot a very hearty welcome, and we hope that their time here will be a very happy one.

General.—Since our last notes we have been inspected by our new Divisional commander, General Finlayson, who is no stranger to many of us. He expressed satisfaction in what he saw.

We are well under way with individual training, but have unfortunately to think of another two weeks Garrison digging fatigue—which I think is peculiar to the station and is definitely a bugbear to training.

Sergeants Mess.—We were absolutely staggered to discover that the WIRE notes were due again. Pulling ourselves together with a couple of quick ones, we dashed about and verified that L/Sergt Fred Southwell had become the proud father of Shirley Jeanne. Mrs. Southwell and daughter are making good progress. Hearty congratulations.

Stopping only for another couple of quick ones, we record a very successful whist drive and dance in the mess on Saturday 26th January. Well attended in spite of the cold and snow. Yes, real snow. The all ranks dance on Thursday 7th February was another triumph for Signals. The amplifier kindly loaned by A.F.V. Signals was a great asset, but we have decided not to encourage any more crooners.

Somebody wants to know if babies should be named after the C.S.M. of the Company to which the fathers belong. He said "Ee Ee," but whether he was sneezing or just insinuating, we couldn't be sure.

Heard in the bus last week.—"Shut that blinking window." "What's up, mate? are yer cold?" "Yes, I am." "Well, you do what the quarterbloke told me to do when I asked him for a bit more coal." "What's that?" "Turn yer blinking collar up."

Now a couple of quick ones before we go all athletic and tell you about our successes and things.

Billiards.—In the Garrison Sergeants Mess Billiards and Snooker League, we are at present runners-up to the 5th Light Brigade R.A. We hope to at least hold this position, though if it be at all possible we will quickly jump in and take the lead. Probably the last match of the season will decide this issue.

Our last match resulted in a win by six games to two against our old friends the Royal Engineers, but we have still to play them on their own ground. Further information will be given later, with the final results.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following new arrivals, and hope they will enjoy their stay in Bulford. Signalmen Baldwin H., Baxter E., Froud F., Gask E., Lawson J. and Saunders C. from overseas on 31/1/35. Sigmn West from the Training Battalion on 31/1/35. Signalmen Anderson, Barker, Balsom, Bowden, Guy and Hartley from the Training Battalion on 30/1/35. Drivers Crook, Sayer, Stalker and Watters from the Mounted Wing on 22/1/35.

Departures.—Signalman Light J. to Chisledon on 18/1/35 to undergo a vocational course. Signalmen Paine A. and Robertson G. to the Army Reserve on 24/1/35. C.S.M. Eyres to A.V.T.C. Hounslow, L/Corpl Goodman to A.V.T.C. Chisledon, and Sigmn Thomas to A.V.T.C. Aldershot, all on 4/2/35. L/Corporal McGivern to the South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section on 29/1/35.

Marriages.—We congratulate the following on taking the bold step, and wish them every happiness in the future. Sigmn Morris to Miss A. Push at the Parish Church, Damersham, on 15/12/34. Corpl Farmer to Miss D. N. Woolford at Amesbury on 26/1/35. Sigmn Mudge G. to Miss D. E. Pope at Portwood, Southampton, on 8/12/34.

Births.—To Sigmn and Mrs. Lewis a son (Terence George Seymour) on 17/12/34. To Sigmn and Mrs. Spearman a son (Geoffrey Charles) on 13/1/35.

Appointments.—The following were appointed L/Corporals on the Corps Roster on dates shown: U/L/Corporals Fenton G. 1/11/34, McGivern 6/11/34, Harrison A. 27/11/34, Surfleet G. 8/12/34, Black E. 31/12/34.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Again there is little of interest to report, except that the courses are still in full swing. One M.T. course and one No. 1 set course have been passed off and are again studying the one horse-power machine for the benefit of their health. In addition, a D.R. course has commenced; and this year, for a change, everyone is mounted on a new B.S.A. None of them have so far given Malcolm Campbell fears for his record, but plenty of them are dying to.

The newly appointed lance-corporals are undergoing a course in drill and duties.

Departures.—Quite a large draft left the Company in January for service in India and China. Our very good wishes go with them, and the best of luck in their new stations. C.O.M.S. White has also left us for the 44th (H.C.) Divl Signals, T.A. What did you do with the famous dog, Blanco?

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, who have joined us during the month. Corpl Dangerfield, Signalmen Howe, Beckett, Flowerday, Lamb, Wild and Wilkins from India, and Corpl Skitt from the 5th Divisional Signals.

Courses.—The following have rejoined from courses as shown. L/Corpl Holsey, M.T. course at Feltham. L/Corporal Walton, stable management course at S.T.C. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

Introductory.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new Company commander, Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst, from Peshawar District Signals. We hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

General.—The Company is now looking forward to the forthcoming training season. Sections hope to be partly mechanised before they proceed on training, and with the introduction of No. 1 sets in Artillery Sections, the training should be vastly more interesting than in former years.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Bell, Gallagher, Howcroft, Painter and Parry from the S.T.C., Catterick, and Sergt McEwan from the Scottish Command.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Newman to the 48th Divl Signals, Birmingham. Driver Wilson S. to civilian life.

Boxing.—Congratulations to Sigmn Walker on being selected to represent the Army in Kent in a triangular contest to be held at Margate on the 22nd February. Sigmn Walker has also entered for the Army championships this year. The best of luck, Mickey; and may you carry a horseshoe in each glove. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Individual training is still in full swing. The second course in M.T. and No. 1 set commenced a fortnight ago.

J and L Sections commence Section training on the 18th March, followed by unit exercises in preparation for the Divisional signal exercise to be held on the 2nd and 3rd of May. K Section commence Section training on the 30th March, and after taking part in the above exercises they will commence training with the 3rd Medium Brigade R.A. During May we are going to Hythe for musketry, and then back again to unit and Brigade training.

Last week the monthly competition shoot was held at the miniature range, and L and J Sections are to be congratulated on securing second and third places respectively. H.Q. Section are also to be congratulated on securing first place. The individual scores of the top three are as shown:—

H.Q. Section 377 (Lieut.-Q.M. H. S. Shave 84).
L Section 375 (Sergt Marchant 87, Sigmn Kells 84).
J Section 362 (L/Corpl Howard 83).

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the Company. May their stay be long and pleasant. Sigmn Barringer J. from India. Sigmn Field W. from the Training Battalion.

Births.—Congratulations are extended to Corporal and Mrs. Hampton P. on the birth of a daughter (Edith Moira) on 9/2/35, and to Signalman and Mrs. Sedgwick C. on the birth of a son (Anthony Le Roy) on 19/1/35.

Courses.—The following have returned from courses since the last publication. Corpl Scratcher J. is to be congratulated on being top of his M.T. course and returning with class A qualification. Sergt Boon F. gas course. Sigmn Nunnick A. cooks course. The results of the gas and cooks courses are not yet to hand, but will be published next month.

Sigmn Mudie A. departed on 2/2/35 for a sanitary course at Aldershot.

We hear that L/Corpl Wilbraham H., who is at present on a P.T. course at Aldershot, met with a rather bad accident whilst doing exercises over the "horse" and has been excused duties for the past fortnight. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he may be able to finish the course. He met with a similar accident at Kasauli in India whilst on a long P.T. course. We hope that he will come back with crossed swords.

Congratulations.—To Corporal Tupper T. (4th Indian Divl Signals) on his promotion and on earning a "D" in mathematics.

JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Once more we start a New Year with the best of intentions, and once more we see them disappearing before the year is very old, so we continue where we left off.

The furlough season is drawing to a close, and only a few odds and ends are away from the unit at present.

Individual training proceeds, and those who were successful are beginning to reap the fruits of their labours. This has been

especially noticeable amongst the drivers (H.T.) some of whom now belong to the exalted class of signalman. Educational training is also well under way, but it is unfortunate that the demands of the Saar include Sergt-Instructor Smale (A.E.C.) Evidently they tried hard to manage without him, but couldn't. He left Scarborough a single man!

Social.—The Women's Welfare continues to flourish, and in spite of the furlough season they have continued to meet. The cake-making competition provided only two entrants. Why? Surely, such healthy husbands are walking advertisements of what can be done in the culinary line, and judging by the number of families who attended at the children's Christmas party there should have been enough cakes made to feed the five thousand.

Whilst on this social question, what about those Friday night dances? Why such a poor attendance by our own people? Admitted, there are outside attractions; but likewise, there are six other days in the week. These affairs need organising, and those responsible like to see a reward for their labours. What about a bumper attendance to show your appreciation?

Marriages.—The season reached its height on the 12th Feb. with the wedding of Miss Christine Mary Thornley, of Scarborough, and Lieut. W. M. Ponsonby, late of this unit and now with D Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Aldershot. No doubt, readers will have already seen reports in the fashionable papers which cater for such events. We therefore content ourselves with wishing the happy (see photograph) couple all the best of health and luck in the future.

Of course, there are others to report. Here they are. Corpl Barnicott A. to Miss Ethel Vincent, 15/12/34. Sigmn Scriven T. to Miss Ada Tate, 22/12/34. Sigmn Quilter to Miss Sarah Elizabeth Anderson, 22/12/34. Signalman Roden A. to Miss Violet Hoggarth, 1/12/34. Sigmn Parker D. to Miss Clara Ellen Fishburn, 22/12/34. L/Corporal Grafton J. to Miss Lillian Eves, 22/12/34. L/Cpl Webb C. to Miss Mabel Thornton, 26/12/34. Sigmn Howland (Busty) to Miss H. D. M. Coleman, 24/12/34. Not so bad! Others are to follow, and there are plenty of girls left to suit all comers.

Births.—Congratulations to the following on recent happy events. To Cpl Brunton-Douglas a daughter (Dorothy) and a son (James Edward). To Sigmn Russell a daughter (Barbara Charmaine). To Sigmn Kingdon a daughter (Joan Ellen). To Sigmn Cooke a son (Roger David). To Driver Patterson W. a daughter (Shirley).

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to all newcomers. May you all enjoy your stay and have a beneficial tour. Corpl Skiffens from S.I.C. Defences Signal Section. Signalmen Butler W., Cook T. S., Farrer P., Scully J. and Heaton P. from the Training Battalion, 15/1/35. Driver Owen from the School of Signals, 8/1/35. Signalmen Harrison W. and Murray J. from India. Drivers Allott and Hague from the Depot Battalion, 22/1/35. C.Q.M.S. Wilson and family from the Depot Battalion, 19/1/35. Signalmen Higginbottom R. and Williams C. from Hong Kong. Signalmen Ayres and Spencer from Shanghai Signal Section. Signalmen Allen W., Dislev A., Northall N., Palfreyman A. and Whitehead J. from the Training Battalion, 29/1/35. Signalmen Blair N., Conway P., Clarke F. J., Dunn G., Flooks J. and Gale C. J. from the Training Battalion, 29/1/35.

Departures.—To those who have gone or are about to go: Thanks for your services. Remember, do unto others, etc., and you won't go far wrong. L/Corpl Heighton to the 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury. Sigmn Britnor W. on discharge by purchase. Sigmn Keene J. to the School of Signals. Sigmn Watson W. to the Training Battalion. Corpl Skitt G. to the 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury. Corpl Daw R. to the Training Battalion. Sigmn Cooper W. J. on discharge. Sigmn Nicholson W. on premature transfer to the Army Reserve.

Medical.—Captain P. Jennings, M.C., left us for a short stay in the Military Hospital, York, suffering from jaundice with complications. The " complications " I cannot spell, so we will leave them there. According to the latest bulletin Captain Jennings' condition is improving, and an early transfer to the Officers' Convalescent Home at Cowes is indicated. All ranks wish him a speedy recovery and return to duty.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Ponsonby start life together.
[*Photo by Walker's Studios, Scarborough*]

Agony.—To Sigmn Metcalfe (Peglinus): What about a line to 2321455 Sigmn Harrop? (The latter is jewing up, but only on the quiet.)

Extract from ——— Company Orders: "The attention of all rugby 3/8 layers is drawn," etc. . . . . For rugby read boxing.

At last we have the true definition of a soldier. Extract from a recently received communication: "Soldiers will in future be admitted to football matches for sixpence. They will enter the ground by the gate reserved for the *unemployed*." OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

Social.—The outstanding event of the winter session was a dance in the gymnasium given by the commanding officer (Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C.) and Mrs. Wemyss to the officers, warrant officers, senior n.c.o.s and their wives. It was very well attended and a most enjoyable evening was spent, the end coming all too soon.

Marriages.—Nil at present. There are one or two on the brink, and they will no doubt be taking the plunge in the very near future. One member was heading in that direction, but he has just managed to retire gracefully to Belfast. Too bad (or should I say, too good?) Unless things alter we shall soon be possessed of but one bachelor, and he doesn't fancy being the only single member. How he comes to be overlooked is beyond me; or it was before the corporals' dance—now I am not sure. Still, he will have to hold the fort until the return of Sergeant-Instructor Smale from his German-cum-French holiday. After that, who cares?

Complaints.—Several members of the Mess complain of the bad habit of crooning, morning, noon and night. All that can be heard from our musical box is "My kid's a crooner. Boo boo boo." I have heard lots of other B.s, but I shouldn't class that as crooning. No, no; a thousand times, no.

Reliefs.—Sergt Toogood has proceeded to Ireland (plus car and dog) in exchange with Sergt Tosdevin. Sergt Morris, the rugby enthusiast, has departed to the Signal Training Centre to take up the duties of educational instructor vice L/Sergt O'Flannagan (the famous Michael, don't yer know). As both the new arrivals are married, we continue the race for a hundred per cent married unit. The best of wishes to all. May their stay be a long one. (I wonder what construction will be put on that sentence?)

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

There is exceptionally little of note to record this month, and as far as January was concerned it was a blustering month of rain, storms and fog. The storm era was perhaps the worst, since two of our aerials were carried away: one of them at Londonderry and the other at Omagh.

The linemen of the Company, under Sergt Betts, have gone to reconstruct the cables and instal some brand new ideas at our foreign station.

Our furlough season is still in hand, and people seem to do nothing else but come and go, as 'twere. However, we all return to settle in our respective ruts, so there is nothing more of general interest.

In, Out and Through.—Sigmn Renals arrived from China via Aldershot and entertained the lads to romantic tales of the Far East, even offering to introduce us to mah jong. We hope he will like Ireland just as well.

Sergt Tosdevin, after spending some five years with the unit, left us on the 12th February for Scarborough, where he intends to stay and complete his twenty-one. We wish him good luck and all the best with J (?)

In his stead we have L/Sergt Toogood, who arrived on the 13th February from Scarborough, complete with car and dog. He knows N.I.D. and has already settled down, but his ultimate niche is to be Dunree. Too bad! we hope you will like it.

Inter-Section Moves.—Sigmn Rowden from Baronscourt to Belfast. Sigmn Whitters from Belfast to Dunree. Sigmn Watts from Dunree to Baronscourt. L/Corpl Raine and Sigmn Hunt from the forts to Omagh. L/Corpl Dickenson from Omagh to Lenan. L/Corpl Whilding from Armagh to Belfast. In short, there has been a re-shuffle to commence the New Year.

Jottings.—As WIRE correspondent, I sat in the dining hall, listening to scraps of conversation in hope of getting something for this column. Here is the result—rather jumbled, too. "Irish cows are the best . . . . Sidney doesn't know her . . . . anyway, Mae West is . . . . a picture for old people . . . . alright, I'll go to the Ulidia." Needless to say, it was a hopeless task, so I returned to normal and contented myself with bread and cheese.

Tailpiece.—Till next month, adieu. HEC ME.

S.I.C.D. Signal Section, Spike Island.

General.—A three months absence from THE WIRE makes one wonder (even in a small Section) where all the changes come from. This issue will undoubtedly be like Part II. Orders, but I must risk that.

Sigmn Baker C. S. arrived on the 14th November last in relief of Sigmn Dove J. W., who has left us for China Command Signals (just fancy that, after nearly fourteen years at home).

Sigmn Miller T. W. left for the 5th Divl Signals at Scarborough on the 4th December, and Sigmn Sant arrived in relief (after what appeared to him a Cook's tour of England and Ireland) on the same day.

On the 17th January C.Q.M.S. White A. (our Foreman-of-Signals) left for Bulford en route to Jamaica. We wish him and Mrs. White all the very best in their new station, and hope they will never forget Spike Island, but (to risk using a stereotyped phrase) our loss is Jamaica's re-gain.

Corpl Skiffins A. H. to the 5th Divl Signals on promotion, and Sigmn Hopgood A. to A Corps Signals, Aldershot, are the next moves to record; and then came Sigmn Norbury from the Medway Fire Command (Sheerness) Signals on the 24th January.

The latest arrival to date is L/Corpl McGivern W. H. from the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, on the 29th January in relief of L/Cpl Wright F., who by now should be in Karachi.

To each and all we bid hail or farewell respectively. May those who have left have as good a time in their new stations as they did at Spike (sez me!)

On the 12th February we have a local movement to note. Signalmen Hirt S. J. and Baker C. S. are relieving Signalmen Pemberton W. and Nightingale W. at the Isle of Rain (Bere).

L/Corpl Spong F. G. found a niche in the Hall of Fame on the 6th October 1934, when he received the pay for his tape. Congratulations! But we had to send the Duke down to help you celebrate.

At the present time we are minus a Foreman-of-Signals, but his arduous task is being performed by L/Sergeant Morley W. A. assisted by Corporal Crow L. E.

In the sporting line we are doing our best. We find four or five players for the H.Q. hockey team, and so far they have won two out of three matches. Five players have a place in the soccer team, and up to the present they have won one out of three cup matches. The Garrison rugger team also have five players from the Signals, including Sigmn Sant, who makes a good scrum half.

LANKA MK.IV.

[*Stop Press.*]

23rd Divisional Signal Company.

The fifth annual re-union of old members of the Company will be held at Carr's, 264 Strand, London, at 6.30 for 7 p.m. on Saturday 23rd March, when Lt.-General Sir James M. Babington, K.C.B., K.C.M.G. (the Divisional commander) hopes to be present. The chair will be taken by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C. All old members of the Company should write for further particulars from the hon. secretary of the 23rd Divisional Signal Company Association, H. Hobsbaum, 95 Elgin Mansions, Maida Vale, London, W.9. Dinner tickets: Members of the Company Association 4/6, others 5/6.

A copy of the "Vade-Mecum," containing full information, an instalment of the Company's history, lists of addresses, etc., may also be obtained on request by old members of the Company.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Monday, 4th February.

We commenced the Christmas festivities with the B.O.R.s dinner on Christmas Day, and it was a wonderful show. They sat down to dinner about 12.45 p.m., the C.O. and the officers arriving a little later. The usual speeches and toasts were given. We were all very touched with the C.O.'s speech, as this occasion, he said, would be the last on which he would be with us. He is retiring from the Army, and we shall all miss him very much, but we wish him the best of luck in his new sphere.

It is rumoured that Sigmn McCarthy was up all night preparing his speech as the oldest soldier. Well done, Mac! we enjoyed it. Great credit must be given to Corpl Lambird and his staff for the excellent dinner they prepared, and also to Signalmen Simmonds and Bourton for their splendid efforts on the mess room decorations. The senior members of the unit waited on the men at dinner, and it was voted by all a great success.

In the evening the B.O.R.s held a smoking concert, and the talent produced was amazing. I believe that Signalmen Strutt and Hampton were on the sick list for a couple of days after their realistic Apache dance.

On Boxing Day the B.O.R.s had their annual outing to Happy Valley, where they spent a very enjoyable time, returning to barracks at 6 p.m. I can safely say that this was one of the best Christmas holiday programmes we have had, and much credit is due to the Company committee for their splendid work in the organisation of the various shows.

On Saturday the 29th December we held the annual coster ball, which really lived up to its name. The room was decorated with lots of old clothes lines on which were draped ladies' and gentlemen's underwear, which made it look like one of the London alley ways. A cabaret was run by C.S.M. Price. The turns produced were excellent, and the Nerbudda Club very kindly helped to make the show a success by producing some good turns with Mrs. J. E. F. Paton, who sang beautifully. Captain Ellis of the 15th (Indian) Lancers kept us roaring with laughter with his ventriloquistic doll. Captains Nicholls and Orr nearly brought the hall down with their farcical duet, which evoked great applause. L/Cpl Howard (R.Signals) and Corpl Rankin (17/21st Lancers) made a great hit with their latest song "The Lotus Pool." It must be mentioned that L/Corpl Howard wrote and composed this song; he has registered it at home, and hopes that it may be published in the near future. Sigmn McVey got the first prize for the best gentleman's fancy dress costume, and Mrs. Maguire for the best lady's fancy dress. Altogether the ball was a tremendous success, and the hall was packed to its utmost.

Now that the festivities are over, the Company are back to work again. By the time these notes are in print, we shall have lost a few members who are leaving us for home establishment and civil life: Signalmen McVey, Simmonds, McCluskey, Tindall, Markey and Robson. Sigmn McVey is one of our noted sportsmen who will be greatly missed in our athletic team this year, and we wish him the best of luck in civvy life. Sigmn Simmonds is better known as the Company artist and the S.T.C. (I.) pole jump champion, and we shall all miss his pleasant smile and gallant efforts with the decorations. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new spheres.

The cross-country season has commenced, and our O.C. (Capt. L. C. Boyd) organised a Company run on Saturday 4th January. About fifty runners started over a course of four miles, Sigmn Rowley being the first man home. Our O.C. showed some of the younger members of the Company how it should be done, coming in twenty-fourth. Well done, sir! A noted D.R. sergt was on the course, but he was only handing out chits to the runners as they passed him.

The Company football team are well down to training for the Brigade cup ties. We have a good team this year, but are still on the look out for talent. Units, please note.

Arrivals.—The glad hand is offered to the following new arrivals from U.K.: L/Corporal Paling and Signalmen Barran, Clarke, Cockcroft, Davies, Hancock and Williams. May their stay with us be a long and happy one. We also welcome back Q.M.S. (F-of-S) King V. and C.Q.M.S. Weller, M.M., from U.K. leave, and C.S.M. Kingman and family from Trimulgherry.

Marriage.—News flashed across the blue that C.Q.M.S. Weller, M.M., has taken unto himself a wife at Birmingham. Congratulations, Sam.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Cooke (Reggie) on his promotion to that rank. Everything comes to those who wait. How long was it?

We Would Like to Know.—Who keeps a special drinking suit of blues, and where? Who was the crooner on the C.S.M.'s doorstep at 2 a.m. on Boxing morning? Who tried to shoot a peacock with a lethal ball? Why did a shikar with more than forty years experience return from a shooting trip of the junior n.c.o.s after the first day's shooting? MUTT.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

I must apologise for the absence of our notes in previous months. However, better late than never.

December has been a very busy month for the Mess with sports and social functions. On the 13th December we played the officers of the unit at cricket in the annual inter-Mess tournament cup, and we got a nasty hiding. We lost the toss, and the officers decided to put us in first. We knocked up a score of 160, leaving the officers just one hour and three-quarters to bat. They opened their innings with Captain L. C. Boyd and Major Pavey, and these two excellent batsmen passed our score in a few minutes over the hour, and then the match was declared. It was rather a shock to us, because we thought we had the match in our pockets. Well done, the officers!

Match No. 2 was the tennis, and again we got a licking. The officers having such brilliant players as Colonel Copeland, Captain Boyd and Major Murray, we were well out of the running, but we played well. However, we were no match for the officers, who won easily.

This leaves three more games to be played: football, hockey and shooting—and we have to win all three to retain the trophy. Now then, what about it, sergeants?

On the 19th December, amid a death-like silence, our one and only Mick performed his usual feat of hanging the brick. Need I say that he rose nobly to the occasion? This operation over, Christmas was declared upon us—which was greeted with loud applause and great shouting for bearers.

The Christmas draw took place on the 20th, followed by a dance which was a great success.

The kiddies of the unit had their day on the 21st with a Christmas tree and tea party. Slides and donkey rides were provided for the children, but I noticed that many mothers and "uncles" were showing the youngsters how it should be done. Uncle McCormack transformed a motor car into a boat and delighted the kiddies and himself with some joy rides. Bram and Mutt, our usual clowns, entertained everyone during the afternoon with their comical antics on a mule and gave them a marionette show just before the Christmas tree became the centre of attraction. Father Christmas (Captain Nicholls) arrived in his well known style through the fireplace, must to the astonishment of the kiddies.

On the evening of the 26th the Mess held its annual dinner. Jokes and much laughter aided the digestion of a glorious spread. A dance followed, and everyone was full of good spirits.

We Want to Know.—What does M.B. mean? Who forgot to issue the hats at a certain dance? MUTT.

Corporals Room.

Having won the soccer match so easily and thus obtained first leg in the Younger cup, it was hoped that this good luck would continue; but the sergeants gave us an unanticipated fright by

winning the hockey by 2—1, Sergeants Bramwell and Ellison doing the necessary. We were revenged, however, in the cricket: Sergeants 45, Corporals 47 for no wicket. Both the tennis and the shoot went, as expected, to the senior Mess, and so the cup remains with "our betters" until 1936—perhaps!

The Christmas dinner and smoker was a huge success, and the committee are to be congratulated on their skill in running things. Several members, during the holidays, took advantage of the good shooting locally and did rather well. The agent (?) in India for Bertram Mills bagged and bragged quite a lot, and presented us with his photo (herewith) before going higher up (ahem!) He suggested the title shown under it.

"Bring em back alive."

The snooker competition was won by L/Corporal Dean, who played some really good shots to beat Corpl Cosstick by two games to nil.

Arrival.—L/Cpl Paling from the United Kingdom. Welcome.

Departure.—To the higher sphere: Cpl Cooke to be L/Sergt.

Q.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for the February issue]

Friday 11th January.

General.—The festive season is now over and things have once again settled down to the normal routine. Some very good sport was witnessed and enjoyed by most of the unit. A good programme was arranged, the principal items of which were:—

Saturday 22nd December—Sergeants Mess Christmas draw.
Sunday 23rd—Free and easy night in B.O.R.s dining hall for single men.
Monday 24th—Children's Christmas tree and tea.
Tuesday 25th—B.O.R.s dinner.
Wednesday 26th—Corporals Room dinner and dance.
Thursday 27th—Children's cinema and tea, and O.C.A. invitation dance.
Friday 28th—Sergeants Mess dinner and dance.

The Sergeants Mess draw passed off quite well. The blanks were numerous, but the prizes were well worth having and several were lucky, Mrs. Blower and the single members being well to the fore.

The free and easy night for the B.O.R.s proved a huge success. With the bar available, the talent obtained sufficient courage to come forward and try their hand, and the evening was enjoyed by all present.

The children's Christmas tree and tea were held in the sergts mess and regimental theatre respectively. This year the tree and tea were provided by the officers, the Sergeants Mess doing their part on Thursday. An excellent tea was provided, after which a number of the elders amused the children with a few games until it was time to proceed to the sergeants mess for the distribution of the presents from the tree. Then a move was made to the home fireside for the children to see what some of the toys were made of!

The B.O.R.s dinner passed off in great style. The dining hall was tastefully decorated, for which credit was due to L/Cpl Swinson and his band of helpers. The toast to the officers having been given, the officiating C.O. replied with a few appropriate remarks. The process of feeding the inner man was then commenced, the senior n.c.o.s carrying out their annual mess orderly duties in fine 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 the Corporals Room held their annual dinner and dance. The dinner was excellent and the dance, which lasted from 22.00 hrs. till 02.00 hrs., was voted a great success; and many were the wishes for a happy New Year which one received.

On Thursday the 27th, another treat for the children was provided by the Sergeants Mess. This took the form of a special children's matinee at the New Lansdowne Cinema and tea in the sergeants mess. Transport in the form of "yellow perils" conveyed all families and senior n.c.o.s to the cinema, where Krazy Kat and Wheeler and Woolsey had the children in roars of laughter. After the show, all again loaded themselves into the lorries and proceeded to the sergeants mess, where an excellent tea awaited them, after which the children were allowed to run wild for a short time and then away to dreamland tired but happy.

In the evening the O.C.A. again took a hand in providing entertainment for the other ranks in the form of an invitation dance. Commencing at 21.30 hours, the evening was filled with good dancing, music, gaiety and laughter. The dance was voted a brilliant success, and great credit is due to the committee and helpers for putting on such an excellent show. At 2 p.m. the last dance was announced, after which all left reluctantly for a well-earned rest.

As the Sergeants Mess dinner and dance will be reported by the Mess scribe, I will simply say that an excellent evening was spent by all present.

Our Short Story.—This is just a brief narrative by an old Pindi-ite, recalling the changes that have taken place in this cantonment in the last seven years. It may be of interest to some who were here about that time, and will give them the chance to say "What a change since I was there in 19— . . . ." [This item, headed "Rawalpindi Revisited," was put into type for inclusion in the Preliminary Section, but pressure on space in an already enlarged number compels us to hold it for a later issue.—ED.]

Arrivals and Departures.—A hearty welcome is extended to the ten B.O.R.s who arrived from the U.K. on 6/1/35.

All the best wishes for the future go with the draft of eight B.O.R.s who left us for new spheres of activity in the U.K. We hope that Shoey still manages to find plenty of news.

We Want to Know.—What was the attraction at Dina for the B.O.R. who, after four years, suddenly visited the pictures four times in succession? Don't blame me. ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

We welcome our commanding officer and Mrs. Duvivier from leave in England, and heartily congratulate them on their marriage. The same is extended to Sergt Hopkins, and we hope it will not be long before Mrs. Hopkins joins him in this unit.

Recently the Troop celebrated Christmas and, as is usual when so many willing folk are ready to help, everybody had a most enjoyable time. The entertainments which followed were quite good, and consisted of treasure hunting, dog racing and a comic football match. In the racing our doggie friends showed great ability and demonstrated how the grid should be jumped. That

old Army custom of entertaining the married families to tea was carried out by the members of the Sergeants Mess, and a most happy time was spent by all present.

Nearly everybody starts the New Year with some kind of resolution, and the Troop is not behind in this respect. It had resolved to see the New Year in, and did so—but the number of years seen was open to question. A very successful dance was held in the Institute on the evening of the 5th January, and the T.S.M. is to be congratulated on giving the cakes away, even if it was not according to plan.

Many things claim our attention, and horse shows are among them. In the Peshawar Vale Hunt show, we entered a team which was successful in obtaining second, third and fourth places in the handy hunter competition and third place in the open jumping. At the Nowshera Horse Show, although our team tried very hard, the only success gained was by Lieut. G. S. Knox on Starlight, which took first place in the polo pony event. A set-back doesn't worry us, and our eyes are wide open for future competitions.

Former members of the Troop will be sorry to hear that one of our best horses (No. 14) unfortunately had to be destroyed. This animal could always be relied upon to bring back something from any show in which it was entered.

During the past few months our football and hockey teams have been very busy, and although no cups were collected, the high standard of the Troop has been maintained both in play and team spirit. Whilst on this subject, we congratulate the 1st Divisional Signals on winning the Rawalpindi football tournament.

Training is in full swing, and many schemes have been carried out during which that old question "Have you any fags?" has often been heard.

Riding school is held twice a week, and nearly everyone in the unit is engaged in keeping his knees on the saddle. This is not the only riding practice obtained, for apart from this several members of the Troop attend the local Hunt meets.

Educational training has not been overlooked, and in a recent examination L/Corpl Strong and Sigmn Clark passed in three subjects, and Sigmn Leith in two, towards their first class certificate. It is very pleasing to note that the two former condidates each obtained a "D" in maths. RISI.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Friday 8th February.

The plinth shown in our new heading illustration was kindly presented to the Troop by Captain C. M. F. White when he relinquished command of the unit.

Although it is late in the season, I would like (on behalf of the Troop) to reciprocate the Christmas and New Year greetings from numerous units and ex-punchers who sent cards. These include Captain R. W. Morgan, Captain C. M. F. White and Corporals Gratwicke S. and Frawley W. (the last named n.c.o. now being in the I.A.O.C.)

Congratulations to our Troop officer, Lieut. K. C. O. Bastyan, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Patricia Riley at Patna during the Christmas festivities.

Things have been looking up somewhat, and the mythical October boat duly arrived to take home Signalmen McDonald J., Alderman R., Burrell F. and Cox R. for civvy street, Signalman Smallwood W. for the home establishment, and Sigmn Case I. for vocational training. Great distress was observed at their departure, especially in the horse lines. Linnet does not get his own way so much nowadays.

Reliefs have started operations, and we welcome Sigmn Preston T. from B Corps Signals, Sigmn Chappell F. from the 1st Indian Divl Signals, and Signalmen Price F. and McLeod N. from the Waziristan District Signals. We shall be busy now investigating football possibilities. We still, however, require a goalkeeper by the next boat from home—21st February.

Promotions were comparatively numerous during the month, Corpl Connor G. and L/Corpl Brown G. obtaining rungs on the proverbial ladder.

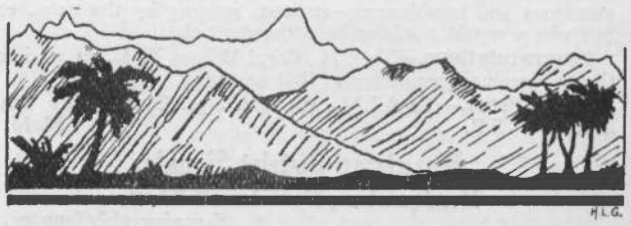
Sigmn Mackie P. has left us for a fitter's course at Jubbulpore. We expect to see the S.T.C. football team at least in a theoretical final of the Durand tournament this year. We are planting a rose bed round the pitch, Jock.

During the month a Tennis Club handicap was won by T.S.M. Hebberd R. N., who (at minus 15) beat L/Corpl Donovan S. (plus 15) in the final by 6—2, 6—1.

L/Sergt Kenny H. continues to throw the hammer about the Punjab, and a few days ago he broke the Lahore District record by 10 ft. with a throw of 112 ft. 4½ in. Good for you, Pip, but not quite good enough yet.

To Chief Constable, So'ton: Two unknown characters leave this district on the 9th March, and it is requested that a suitable force attends the So'ton quayside to conduct them back to jail.

Heard during the month—"Are you ready for feeding, Tich?" "Whose turn for stables on Sunday?" KHANA.



Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Blessed is he that expecteth nothing, because he will not be disappointed. I approached the unit WIRE contribution box this month with expectations. They were rudely shattered. Upon unlocking the said box, I found five expended matches (I.P.), one empty Player's cigarette carton, one Scissors coupon (handed to the jemadar sweeper to help him to get a towel), a butt end of a copying ink pencil which had found its way from Czecho Slovakia (handed over to the orderly n.c.o.), and two chota spider's webs (left there in accordance with regulations). Perhaps, next month, I will be inundated with contributions!

Departures.—C.S.M. Elkington F. and Corpl Kennedy J. to U.K. for discharge. L/Corpl Peacock F. and Sigmn Chadderton W. (complete with chota pail, I.G., and spade, digging) to Scarborough. Signalmen Gladwin J. (hockey fame) and Huggett S. to the home establishment. The best of luck to all. (If you wish to acquire a copy of the next chapter in the unit history, let us know.)

Sigmn Baker W. to Calcutta for a vocational training course in electrical refrigeration. Kindly return with some molars, Bill, so that you may tell us all about it. (N.B.: For the information of those who suffer an enforced domicile in India and are due to leave the Service next trooping season, I would strongly recommend a course in electrical refrigeration. Not only do the firm who undertake the training put themselves out to help you, but they do their best to find you employment either in India or the home country.)

Books Worth Reading.—"This was Ivor Trent" (Claude Houghton); "But Even So" (Snaith); "The Strange Boarders of Palace Crescent" (Oppenheim); "Bulldog Drummond at Bay" (Sapper); and the "London Series" by H. V. Morton.

General.—The enclosed fake photo-sketch is of Sigmn Gardner, of piano fame. Five hours of continuous playing, without music, is his record.

At present, with few exceptions, the unit is carrying out the hardy annual schemes, but this year they seem to be more numerous and troublesome—at least, judging by the ticks, etc. But where would a soldier be without a tick?

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corpl Wilson T. L. on attaining that precarious appointment. Roll on, 1940, Tug?

Gaelic Press.—To A.J.N., 4th Div. Sigs. Canterbury: What about it? S.P. MIIM.

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters, Dera Ismail Khan.

Saturday 26th January.

General.—And so another Christmas passes, and all that is left to do is to think about it; and I'm sure the majority will not forget it for some time to come. The harmony remained 100% and everything went off as per programme.

The dance and Christmas draw arranged by the junior n.c.o.s proved a thoroughly enjoyable affair. Needless to say, some were unlucky in the draw but still managed to keep up a happy appearance by giving their appreciation to the dance, from which the ladies went home to sleep the sleep of the just after being kept going for three and a half hours to the sounds of the "still going strong" revellers.

On Christmas Eve the children's party was held in the sergeants mess, tea being provided before the entrance (down the chimney) of the dear old chap who is outstanding on these occasions. And well he did his stuff, too! After the toys had been duly distributed by the aforesaid dear old chap, the side shows came into their own—and here, the older children seemed to think it was their turn. Quite a number of our bright young things thoroughly enjoyed having their hands read, and not a few appreciated the lucky dip, bursting the balloons and guessing advertisements, to say nothing of a little game of fishing in which numerous appropriate "fish" were landed. It was marvellous how Father Neptune knew all about it! The toddlers duly toddled home about 7.30, and the remainder toddled—well, I really couldn't say when.

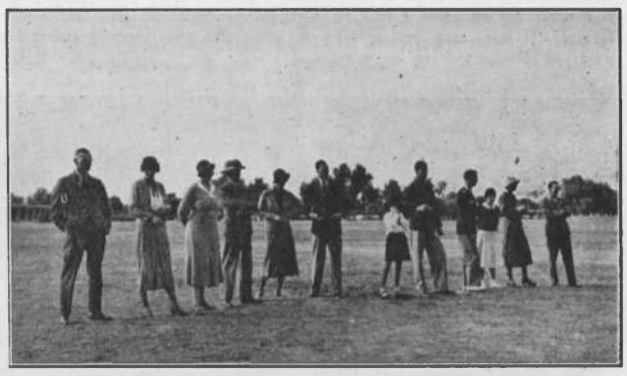
"Nuts and May" at the Sergts Mess Children's Christmas Party.

Next, of course, came the bhurra din. A treasure hunt started about the same time as the Sergeants Mess members commenced *their* treasure hunt to the Officers Mess. Sigmn Thompson won the real affair, and the members of the Sergeants Mess won some bottled beer and iced cake on the other affair; and after drinking the officers' health, they duly started on the iced cake. Now, I ask you!

The officers then visited the married families, complete with "eyewash" glasses; and having completed the annual tour, they arrived at the B.O.R.s dining room in time to see the lions fed. Here our C.O. told them their fortune, the B.O.R.s replying to the effect that he was the finest "trump" in twelve armies and in the usual manner raising the roof with the lusty "ones."

After the officers' departure, the lads carried on with the eats (they were also allowed a little to drink). However, all good things come to an end, and after a little snooze the recreational room again proved its worth, the multitude indulging in a smoking concert with music provided by L/Corporal Foster's panatrope. An excellent day, appreciated by all.

The married families were kept pretty busy throughout the day by the usual callers, all of whom seemed to be very happy and pleased that they had called.



Preparing for the Chicken Race at the Pagal Gymkhana, Christmas 1934.

And so to Boxing Day. Here we had rather a busy morning, preparing for the pagal gymkhana which commenced at 2.30 p.m. But the odd jobs perfected a pleasant afternoon, in which the following events were entered for or witnessed (as the case may be):—I.O.R.s sack race, B.O.R.s four-legged race, children's race (under 10 years), children's race (over 10 years), calling stakes, chicken flurry (for pairs: lady and gentleman), I.O.R.s atta amble, penning the donkey (teams of three, mounted), relay medley (teams—sack, cycle, camel, barrow, and final with bullock cart; sergeant driving the whole team), old comrades' stagger (one yard start for every year beyond eighteen years service).

At night the Sergeants Mess annual dinner was held. Ladies were invited, to add a little glee to the already gleeful party. The dinner was run by C.Q.M.S. Steed and Corpl Jarvis, and I think the best way to describe its success is to say that I'm sure the pair of 'em must have had some previous experience. The dance following was one of the best this season, although I am given to understand that the floor was too slippery in places; but the entertainment committee assure me that only the normal amount of "soapstone" was put down. Strange!

Children's Race at the Pagal Gymkhana.

On Thursday the 27th December the officers invited the n.c.o.s to a games party. Deck tennis, badminton and tennis were played. Unfortunately, the n.c.o.s had not come prepared for the tennis part of it. The error was soon rectified, however, for the husbands dashed back in the adjutant's car to change and bring along their wives' shoes and racquets, so everything turned out A.1 at Lloyd's. Again we had some more iced cake, but it seemed a lot better, somehow, with tea.

On Saturday the 29th the junior n.c.o.s ran a tea party for the youngsters and trotted them along to the pictures, L/Corpl Watts arranging a matinee show with the " noise " at the local talkies. They returned well laden with sweets and fruit, and the local chemists have only just replenished their supply of California syrup of figs.

Aspros, too, had a big run after the junior n.c.o.s annual dinner and social evening, held on Sunday the 30th. The dinner was excellently arranged by the messing fellow, and later all shivered across the maidan to the junior n.c.o.s room, where the senior n.c.o.s were entertained. The light refreshment served, unfortunately, proved too heavy for one of the company who rendered "Asleep in the deep."

The last item on the entertainment list for 1934 happened in 1935. However, the New Year's ball held in the sergeants mess on the 2nd January was an enjoyable show and well patronised in spite of New Year resolutions of " Never no more," etc.

This terminated one of the best and most enjoyable Christmases I have spent in the Army, or for that matter anywhere else. Here, I think, I must let you all know that the band excelled throughout the Christmas. How they stuck so many late nights and penny ices, I'm dashed if I know.

Wana, please note. The festive season having passed, we *have* got back into harness.

Why go to Switzerland ? . . . . . Come to Razmak!

Razmak Signal Section.

Now that the Christmas festivities are over and we are once more hard at graft, the chief topic of the day is the big boat and the number of days left before we embark on it. These calculations vary from Spud's fifty to Matt's seven hundred and fifty days (Leicestershire readers, please note).

We had a rather seasonable Yuletide this year in that it snowed heavily about the 21st December—when, of course, the usual rugby-cum-football and snow battles were held.

The Razmakites had a very enjoyable Christmas, starting with a smoking concert on Christmas Eve which was strongly attended by all ranks. Our late O.C. (Lieut. P. J. Palmer) and his party were present and did much to make the evening enjoyable. Spud does not remember this function—at least, until it was time to go home and everyone started claiming overcoats. On this occasion, the universal spirit of goodwill prevailed so strongly that one of the revellers went so far as to lead Kitty (the Section mascot) astray by pouring " blue niles " down her throat—much to the disgust of L.C., who was forced to come to her rescue.

Christmas morning, in the time honoured style, heralded fat heads and firm " Never again " resolutions. We had the usual church parade, which everyone who was detailed gallantly attempted to attend. Sick parade, on this eventful morning after the night before, would have been far more appropriate!

Joe Barringer (how we miss him!) and his able band of chefs stumped up a marvellous spread which was much enjoyed by all. Special credit for the catering arrangements is due to L/Corpl Jock Shepherd, whose lively interest in the whole bunderbust helped to make things as much like Christmas at home as was possible.

Several of the old 'uns were heard to remark that it was by far the best Christmas they could remember in the history of the Section. (Old cook orderlies, now blow!)

Brigadier J. S. Marshall, D.S.O., O.B.E., visited us during dinner, and in a few well chosen words expressed his great appreciation of the excellent work carried out by Signals in this Brigade during his short term as commander. L/Sergt Isaac, on behalf of the Section, suitably replied, and his health was drunk to the toast of " The old Brig."

On this occasion we could not help but think of our old and much esteemed " boss," Brig. A. M. Mills, C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., who—although he left the Brigade a good time ago—proved that he had not forgotten us by sending the Section a Christmas card in which he referred to the lads as his personal bodyguard and said " Though I cannot be with you in person this Christmas, remember that I shall be with you in spirit at your Christmas dinner." This tribute to the Section was much appreciated by all ranks, who felt that their many labours both on column and in camp had not been in vain—especially those who knew and personally worked with the Brigadier. It is sincerely hoped that his appreciation will be an inspiration to future Razmakites, for in this Section we have a good name and a very high standard of efficiency to maintain.

Christmas afternoon was spent rather quietly in anticipation of the house parties which were to be " thrown " by the Uper and Nichee Bungalows respectively. It was at these functions that most of the good resolutions went to the winds and confidences were so freely exchanged (Gwen-Nita, please note). Sigmn Swede Jessup, ably assisted by Signalman Taffy Rigby, rendered an excellent duet, though neither of them seems to remember this serenade—I don't blame them. (Good old Sussex by the sea.) Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening, and if there is anyone who says he didn't, you can be assured that he only had himself to blame.

On Boxing Day further effects of the festas were felt, but this did not deter the locals from turning out for soccer. At about 10.30 (by the " lights ") the lads started to pull themselves to pieces and wend their weary way up to the Durham ground, where after the regulation period of play the unfortunate Scarlet Backs were defeated by the Old Sweats by three goals to one. It must be said that some of the younger set assisted the sweats in gained this victory. The S.B.s clamoured for a return match, but their opponents weren't having any. (I understand that the challenge is still open.)

Another and even more enjoyable smoker was held under the arrangements of the staff on New Year's Eve. It was on this occasion that we took the opportunity of wishing adieu and bon voyage to those lads who will not be with us next year.

It is with regret that I have to report that some of the best of our lads are leaving us this trooper, and we join in wishing them the very best of luck and happiness in the future.

The new draft—God bless 'em!—have not yet arrived in the Section, but when they do they can be sure of a great welcome,

as we are awfully obliging chappies and always ready to show the way to the canteen and tell of our thrilling (though often not quite authentic) experiences.

There have been no columns since the end of November, owing to the extreme climatic conditions in and around this "largest monastery in the world" (as one of its famous commanders once termed it). Oh, to be in comfortable Peshawar!

Congratulations.—To Headquarters Section on winning the local soccer tournament. Come up and see *us* some time, and don't forget to bring the piala. We quite pride ourselves on our football team these days and feel that we would need some whacking.

To L/Sergeant Ferdinando on attaining that rank. Have you amended the little blue book accordingly, Ferdy?

To Sigmn Barton on his highly courageous action in signing on for another five years in the country.

To No. 2320738 (Fred) on using his influence in getting posted to Aldershot.

We Want to Know.—Whether anyone in Kohat gets music now that Corpl Weeks' super is working? Whether Mac won the Durand whilst on Christmas leave? How Chippy is getting on at Moghulpura? Has Peggy still got the paper bag?

SHEILAMAC.

Wana Signal Section.

The festive season having passed, we are now getting back into harness. The weather being unpropitious, we have had to cancel two columns recently. Do I hear moans of disappointment?

The Christmas programme passed off very much according to plan. The British ranks of Wana—or most of them—visited the various messes on Christmas Eve and made the night hideous with alleged carolling. Some fell by the wayside, but (as Kipling would say) that is another story.

Christmas Day (1934) at Wana.

On Christmas morning the B.O.R.s of the Garrison played the officers at soccer and beat them by 4--2. Both sides fielded a scratch team. The weather was not too promising, but it cleared up in the middle of the morning.

During dinner we were visited by the Brigade commander, Brigadier T. Milne, D.S.O., and his staff (Major S. Greeves, M.C., and Captain R. W. Tobin of No. 2 Wireless Company, Karachi, fame), who accompanied Lieut. A. T. Sladen, our officiating O.C., to tender the season's greetings. The band of the 4/6th Rajputana Rifles (Outram's) played selections during dinner. Our sincere thanks are due to Lieut.-Colonel R. P. T. Ffrench, M.C., and the officers for their kindness and thoughtfulness, which was very much appreciated.

On the morning of Boxing Day there was a five-a-side basket ball tournament, which certainly filled up some of the spare time.

There was one very interesting moment in the Christmas Day Empire broadcast when the Chelsea pensioner recalled that 'way back he marched into Waziristan from the base at Kohat. (Now, Kohdist, what about it?)

The Wilson Inn, Wana, on Christmas Day, 1934.

We gratefully acknowledge Brigadier Milne's New Year gift of a tin of cigarettes to every B.O.R. in the station.

The annual Proclamation parade was held on the 1st January, the Section being under the command of Lieut. A. T. Sladen.

We have at long last acquired a piano, and its arrival was celebrated by a sing-song in the Wilson Inn on the evening of the 6th January. Practically all the officers of the Brigade, from the Brigadier downwards, were in attendance. The feature of the evening was Lieut.-Colonel Ffrench's performance on the instrument. The evening was a great success, and it is hoped to make these musical gatherings a monthly function.

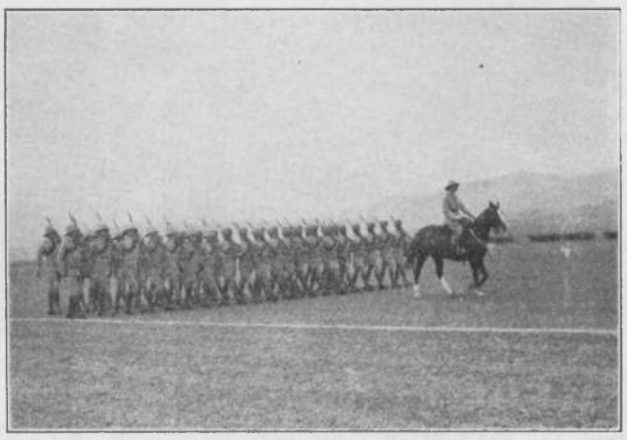
This is the very latest. The senior fitter entered the shop and found one of his satellites in difficulties over a soldering job. His complaint was that after two hours of effort he could not get the solder to take. The burra-chiz examined the job and then exploded: "You . . . . . ! you aren't using Fluxite, but *Lavender brilliantine*."

One of our linguists had occasion to check the sweeper for raising too much dust and said "Bahut hasti joa." Whereupon the sweeper replied, "Sahib, angrezi nahin janta."

Having seen our September notes published in the December number of THE WIRE, we are moved to hope that our New Year greetings in our last batch of notes may reach print in time for '36. [May hope realised make the heart grow glad! Those greetings were duly published in our last number.—ED.]

We regret to lose Lieut. A. T. Sladen, who after a stay of ten months has departed to the fleshpots. During his time with us he took a very active part in the sports of the Section.

WANASIGS.



Wana Signal Section, 1st January, 1935.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Thursday 7th February.

In Which We Moan about January in General.—A quiet month, always, is January—simply because Christmas takes some getting over, pockets are woefully empty, balance credits have dwindled, entertainments committees are worn out, and New Year resolutions hold one somewhat in check. We do not mind its being a quiet month—we expect that—but why it should be a miserable and dismal month, we know not.

Rain and sleet, drizzle and hail and even snow, with very little sun, seem to have been our share for January. Our land of sunshine and sand has become a district of darkness and a morass of mud. Colds and red noses, flu and husky voices, together with a scourge of measles which has threatened to wreck any programmes for our entertainment, have been prominent.

Medical (?) Advice.

The invitation outside our hospital " Go dead slow " (see photo herewith) seemed almost a welcome outlet (though we prefer a quicker exit than sneezing to death or " coughin'." With the restrictions mentioned above, our bright shows have been almost suppressed and we are looking forward to February with " valentine " enthusiasm.

The Big Dig.

Even the Big Dig, which seems to be a universal peculiarity with Signals, is no more. Yet, lest it be forgotten and we never find another one (the fates forbid!) here is a shot of the diggers at work which can inspire our posterity.

In Which We Tell of Changes in Personnel.—This dirge would be incomplete without telling of the wailing of the family at our recent departures.

Captain E. V. F. MacSwiney and his wife have left us for Meerut. Captain MacSwiney said good-bye to the men at Christmas and to the n.c.o.s at a games night in the sergeants mess.

The scales have swung in a different direction with a vengeance, however, for Captain J. H. Brown, M.M., huge and genial, has replaced Captain MacSwiney as adjutant. That he is capable of dealing with weighty matters was evident in the Section tug o' war, when he was anchor man (the immovable object) to H.Q. Section (the irresistible force).

We have sent Cpl Smith A. T., L/Cpl West J. and Signalmen Humm H. and Baxter E. home to U.K.—the first two to the home establishment and the last two to Army Reserve. They have done their share, and we are sorry to lose them. May their days ahead hum, and may they find bax-ter do as they go west to a land flowing with silk and money.

Sergt Howard and Sergt Wall W. and family rejoined us from England early in January, but they have shaken the Kohat dust from their feet for good and aye—the former going to the Signal School, Poona, and the latter to the Centre at Jubbulpore to join old friends.

Signalmen Akehurst W. and Burns J., two dashing D.R.s, scorched away to Meerut on permanent transfer during the month. We hope the change " merruts " their approval. D Section missed Dead-Eyed Joe as their centre-forward in the Section football.

L/Corpl Talbot F. has gone to Ambala to improve his puny (?) physique on a P.T. course. I s'pose he'll get the unit on the run when he returns.

Sigmn Bolton D. has been posted to B Corps Signals (and consequently to Karachi) but is held on command until the 27th February. For such a transfer he should draw hard lines pay.

The latest arrivals—a draft of eighteen B.O.R.s—came to us on the 7th January and have been duly initiated by the old soldiers (?) with yarns as to the various mileages which separate Kohat from respective camping places. How the draft—which includes Corpl Rice and Signalmen Howard, Bruce, McIntvre, Cass, Hood, Greenwood, Green, Hoare, Hvett, Hunt, Johnson J., Rennie, Everitt, Kercher, Clarke, Fry and Collings—tackles these miles (if and when) will form the history of the future.

In Which We Tell of Items of Interest.—The Proclamation parade on the 1st January went off well and produced complimentary remarks from our G.O.C., who specially remarked on the marching of No. 1 Company in the march past. Two more old soldiers became lop-sided when Sergt Turner A. and Corporal Bishop J. were presented with their L.S. and G.C. medals on this parade. C.S.M. Spracklen R. and Sergt Murphy G. have also been awarded theirs, but so far carry only the ribbon.

The Demonstration for Siamese Officers.

On the 17th January K Section, together with detachments from A and C Sections, staged a demonstration arranged by District H.Q. for five Siamese officers, who appeared to be very interested in all they saw and were especially thrilled at being allowed to splatter intimacies (which sounded like a conglomeration of crochets, quavers and sparks) over the No. 1 sets. Snaps taken during the demonstration are, of course, treasured by those

who took part in it. The Siamese national anthem " Owa Tana Siam " was *not* sung whilst they were present.

The improvised R.A. Section has been training under Sergeant Ivey J. and went to camp with their Brigade for seven days at Dhoda. All went well, and we understand that their letters home are now on the lines of a Brigade control form.

Rodeo: A long heave ——

Rodeo: —— and over she goes!

On the 16th January we celebrated our unit birthday, as the 8th (the pukka day) was inconvenient. A day's programme of musical rides and I.O.R.s wrestling, fancy hockey and football matches, and a whist drive, to say nothing of the Herculean pulls at tug-o'-war, was arranged and passed off well. Special commendation is due to the junior ranks for their excellent and original turnout for a football match (with variations) which was ably refereed by Spindleshanks Alfie of the Mae West curves, whose leadership turned us (and his umbrella) inside out with laughter.

More honour was gained for the unit by a very much improved toy soldiers' guard mounting show which was staged as an item at the Games Club cabaret dance. They topped the bill, swept the floor, and gained unstinted admiration.

A weekly whist drive has been happily organised by L/Sergts Springett and Sprunt. These have helped to pass away a night quite brightly every week, and we are hoping their popularity will not wane.

Meanwhile, the usual interesting features of barrack life, including inspections, drills, etc., go on apace. A new amusement has been found in the shape of polishing windows with a razor blade (try it; it is good fun: every fag a pain—sorry! I mean a fag for every pane).

Each Friday sees the unit (or at least, those who need practice in marching?) on a rude—ahem! route march. During these perambulations we amuse ourselves with rodeo displays (see photos herewith) and in giving the donkeys and ourselves mud packs—it all improves our looks, dontcherknow.

In Which We Congratulate Deserving Cases.—Corpl Smith A. and Sigmn Angus D. are to be praised for well and truly answering all questions put to them on a Trade Board; they have consequently become class i. men.

Sergt Dunn A. romped through a specialist clerk ii. paper as an additional qualification.

L/Sergeants Sprunt and Dean and L/Corpl King have gained their first class educational certificates. Sergeant Ivey J. and Signalmen Burns and Race have obtained some more bits o' theirs, too.

L/Sergt Jones and Signalmen Bevan and Price J. successfully scrubbed off bits o' their specials from the programme, and are waiting to enter the lists again. (J'espere.)

L/Sergt Benson H. now dons civvy clothes as a mark of esteem and gratitude to the Officer i/c Records. He is welcomed to the sergeants mess as an asset at table tennis and darts (his tiddley wink needs a little more practice).

And so on to February—only twenty-eight days less to cross off. Whoopee!

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Perfectly Authentic.—Instructor: " What is an isosceles triangle?" Corpl ——: "A six-sided triangle."

General Post.—For the benefit of old A Corpites, we have to state that, in addition to our eastern landscape having Honeymoon Lodge to contribute to its beauty, we now how an imposing double-decked edifice in the shape of a W.O.i.'s quarter (not to mention three other little grey houses) nestling at its foot. Those who remember the spectacle caused by the illuminations on the occasions when Honeymoon Lodge was occupied might be interested to hear that the R.S.M.'s burning of the midnight oil is very nearly as spectacular. Anyhow, it's not much longer that we shall gaze upon these sights. It is decreed that we shall move to Rawalpindi—B Corps coming here. Nobody seems to mind much, providing that we can take the Lido and the Club with us. Our married members have additional worries in that they will be keeping two homes going and then only be a husband for six months of the year; but as L/Sergt Cole would say, " Who wouldn't be married?"

Boxing.—We never seem to be complete without a bit of boxing news. At present preparations are going on for the Western Command team championship. We hold this championship, and although not quite so strong as last year, I am informed (Pat Mills gave me this exclusively) that it's going to take a good team to stop us from going to Rawalpindi. In view of the unit moving there, he evidently has good grounds for saying that.

Sigmn Warburton ably upheld his reputation by retaining his Bombay Presidency feather weight championship. The newspapers went into ecstacies over his display, which by all accounts was a splendid one. In the final he fought with only one hand (his right thumb having been badly damaged) but his brainy boxing gained him an easy points victory. Hard luck, Warburton, that you didn't lift that All-India Services title.

Thirty Years Ago.—I suspect that it was while having a dig out prior to packing for Rawalpindi that the R.S.M. unearthed an old football group. Several photos of old timers have been published in THE WIRE from time to time, but I think that this one of a sports group is unique. How many of those depicted play nowadays, I wonder? Mr. Bayliss thinks that Captain (Q.M.) W. A. Gallagher will be especially interested in the R.S.M.'s photo. [The photograph referred to will be found under " Reminiscences " on page 98 in the Preliminary Section, where we are glad to give it the prominence which it merits.—ED.]

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

No. 1 Company.

Monday 4th February.

Divers stout fellahs—to wit, we two—have decided to see if we can turn out something nifty in the way of notes. Being devoid of grey matter, it is extremely doubtful if they will be sensible. Still, kuchch fikker don't. We are in the Urdu-Pashto-Alu and thank you class—so eyes down: look in: every egg's a bird.

Having gouged the sleep from our eyes this morning and having breakfasted successfully on rissoles, egg and mash, we were able to look around and assimilate the beautiful surroundings. These were unfortunately marred by sundry lines (permanent, we had hoped) lying hither and thither—in fact, everywhere where anyone should normally be able to walk with safety and without fear of bodily injury. It seems as if a few flakes of snow had fallen during the night and the poles had tried to dodge them—unsuccessfully in some cases, since one or two had given up the struggle entirely and had got "down to it." A bulletin issued at four o'clock (16.00 hours in India, to you Blighty folk) reported that the situation was rapidly improving. One daring optimist stated that the system would again be in order by the time the Jubilee celebrations take place.

It would seem that vocational training is now open free, gratis and for nix to all single members of the unit. The snag is that there is only one course available: that of painting. This created a dilemma at first, as it was found rather awkward to use lamp shades as rests while cleaning boots. Frenzied screams rend the air as Smith, in borrowed blues, incautiously walks too near a recently painted box, kit, B.T. Paint shares have certainly soared in the last few days. Needless to say, these revels are not held in aid of the widows and orphans or of the home for destitute sergeant-majors. However, enough for the nonce of this harrowing tale. Any clothhead should guess the reason for such a display of undiluted energy.

Our gram-guzzling geezers and bhoosa-bolting bays presented a dejected and forlorn appearance the other morning when their old friend Corpl Gummy Geere was not amongst those present when the matitutinal corn was issued, he having departed the day previous to Corpsigs at Pindi. Our best wishes go with him. Corpl Trew, to whom our best wishes are also extended, relieved him—but not in stables: he has been posted to Ambling Ack. Poor soul!

It is thought that if fifteen men, good and true, can utterly rout fifteen other men, good and true (On, Signals, on! Feet! feet! Heel it back!) an outsize in pialas will come their way. This being the case, a deputation of optimists has been sent to Karachi—the jousting ground—its hopes being to annex the aforesaid piala. We wish them the best of luck.

Hoarse gasps, lolling tongues and dragging feet proclaim the fact that cross-country running is now really in earnest. But this pastime is not considered so enervating as marching order parades.

Only one has availed himself of the money-saving medium of notes—the awful message concluding this month's effort.

Sigmn Hamblett: Grace may be appropriate at meal-times, but between meals forget it and drop Ginger a line. TWO RATS.

Sergeants Mess.

The fifth of January saw the arrival back from long leave of S/Sergt Jagger, Sergeants Keepen and Gudgeon, and families, all looking very fit and eager (?) to resume work.

Calling all cars (?)—wanted, male named Snowy, in connection with speeding between Sibi and Jacobabad in a carriage—to wit. a motor car—thereby endangering the life of his better half and also that of an innocent passenger—to wit, one named Eynott (waz you dere, Sharlie ?) When last seen, the car was passing Canal Road gate No. 252 on the way to Karachi. The above refers to Sergt Snow, who after a stay of many years in Quetta has forsaken us and found new friends at Karachi. A good man gone west—sorry! south.

Corporals Mess.

Now completely recovered from a very hectic Christmas (hic!) it is my painful duty to refer to last month's notes, which were somewhat unfinished owing to the rather foggy state of our brains (if any). The following is in continuation.

The one and only Henry (some call him Michael) otherwise known as Faraday, was actually caught in the sacred edifice of the junior n.c.o.s mess with the top button of his tunic undone. Let's hope he appears in a more soldierlike manner on board the *Lancashire* on 9/3/35, when he embarks for the land of collar studs and cuff links. Good luck, Henry, old bean.

During Christmas, as always, Joe Baddeley gave us a real overdose of the "When I was in Jubb" story; but thanks to the Officer i/c Records, Wazdist must now swallow that Jubb medicine of Joe's. Still, we miss his bald patch in our mess.

The price of love is now Rs.20 and not Rs.10 as stated last month. He says he lost it in the guard room, but comrades don't believe him. By the way, Bill, did you ever find that handbag ?

Gummy Geere departed for Pindi just in time to miss the snow: snow six feet deep, icicles twelve feet long, sixty degrees of frost, no water, tons of coal. Think of a number, multiply by ten, divide by two, and—how mortifyin'! I simply can't get the correct answer. Corpl Trew arrived in place of Gummy just in time to see the collapse of the unit permanent line system, and is now waiting for Murdah Ghar to entomb us all.

Frosty Cooper's famous jug, having gone to the barrel many times too often, has now been replaced by a low-down bottle (Johnny Walker). What an insult to the once celebrated jug!

We all wonder what Jimmy Rawson did with his floating kidney before he went to the Masonic Hall. Still, that (as Jimmy said) is the best of having an M.O. as a pal. What a pal!

The mess, just now, is more of a morgue than a mess. Charlie brings up such morbid subjects as death and the life hereafter; Trunkey studies intermarriage; whilst Pressy, otherwise called Stanley, sweats on that March boat. Marshall, being C.S.O.'s clerk, won't converse with the common mob; and Williams B. has a permanent liver because he can't win at table tennis. The absence of Spud Murphy—now on his way to the Union Jack Club, London, prior to a long hike round the I.F.S.—completes the dismal and barren effect in this one-time happy little home.

We are now looking forward to summer, when we might get some sun and a few tennis at homes.

Questions.—The unit band ? Sunshine ? Why did Larry cancel his leave ? What caused the collapse (complete) of the unit permanent line system ? Who owns that ginger cat ? Where are the Mess records ?

Rabbit pie for dinner: I'm off. Don't come up any time: I won't be at home. LARRY O'HOOLIGAN.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Sunday 27th January.

Arrivals and Departures.—The Detachment serving at Hindubagh during the last three months of 1934 decided that Loralai would be a good spot to celebrate the festive season. The party (L/Corpl Smith and Signalmen Taylor and Johnson) pushed off for their journey during a blinding snowstorm on the 23rd Dec. The less I say about the journey, the better. I happened to be one of the party, and the manner in which that lorry slid through the Killa-Saifulla pass was an education. We eventually drew up outside the new bungalow at Loralai, and were very grateful for the hot drink which our O.C. (Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn) had thoughtfully provided for us. We were fortunate enough to have creased our slacks that evening, as our Q.M. very kindly invited us to dinner. It was quite a novelty to get down to some really good civvy food. I am not sure, however, if Q Branch and the O.C. had wangled things and that there was an ulterior motive in this invitation, because the O.C. arrived after dinner, complete with music, and we were inveigled into choir practice in preparation for community singing on Christmas Eve. However, with the aid of a little lubrication, we managed to put up a decent show and spent a very enjoyable evening.

Sigmn Eley arrived from Karachi on the 31st December. To him we offer the glad hand, and trust he will enjoy his tour in the Zhob. He was rather unfortunate on his journey from Karachi, as I understand that he spent a couple of days on Sibi station. I suppose there are worse places, though—at least, according to L/Corpl Burke. However, I am sure that our new friend formed a good opinion of the Section, and it was not long

before he was preparing his glad rags for our New Year's Eve ball.

Last, but not least, we again extend the glad mit—to L/Corpl Hicks, who makes this his first station abroad after successfully dodging the draft for no less than ten years. He is finding several things new, especially the language: his French-cum-Urdu translations are worth recording.

L/Corpl McCann returned to the fold after spending a hectic Christmas in hospital, and we have learned from him just how far one bottle of beer goes between ten wards. After a few days he took his game leg to Sandeman, where we hope it will soon become a real " understanding."

Signalmen Byrne and Moad have left us for Hindubagh, so maybe " This little nigger gets a drink these days."

Corpl Norman has vacated his office chair and is now selecting a quiet horse for himself at Risalpur. We wish him the best of luck and happy days in his new sphere.

Christmas Eve.—A fine social and dance was arranged for Christmas Eve. Our O.C. officiated at the piano, and we spent a pleasant hour in murdering the popular successes of 1927 and " Good King Wenceslas." As the revellers became imbued with the party spirit, they took to the floor and danced well into Christmas Day.

Christmas Day.—On the morning of Christmas Day the n.c.o.s and their wives were invited to the O.C.'s bungalow, where they spent a most enjoyable time.

Our Dining Room on Christmas Day, 1934.

Christmas dinner was served in the evening, and this was a credit to the hardworking committee under whose supervision it was prepared. Even the chaps who are going home next year admitted it was a very good show.

The Christmas festivities wound up with a comic football match, arranged and carried out in the time-honoured fashion with novelty piala and governed by the rules of every other known game.

Boxing Day Fun at Loralai.

New Year's Eve.—The New Year fancy dress dance, which is destined to become a tradition, was an occasion to be remembered by all who were fortunate enough to be present. The costumes were both novel and artistic. The first prizes were won by Mesdames Bosworth and Cooper, and Messrs. Clarke and Moad. Everyone spent a most enjoyable night, assuring one another that any year with such a good start could not be anything but a glorious success.

Boxing Day Fun at Loralai.

On the 5th January the Loralai Club was at home to the British other ranks in Zhob, giving a tea and dance at which all the Section spent a really enjoyable evening and left feeling that this was a fitting end to a happy Christmas.

NOTA BENE.—The accompanying photographs illustrate to some extent our Christmas celebrations, and undoubtedly form the best part of these notes.

Social.—On the evening of Saturday 19th December a social was arranged by the entertainments committee as a farewell do for Corpl Norman. Some very amusing indoor games were arranged, including Kim's game, which we played in the dark. We are still convinced that the banana was a sausage. During the interval coffee and sandwiches were served, and our O.C. took the opportunity to speak to Corpl Norman on behalf of himself and all present. Mention was made of the good work which this n.c.o. had done for the Section during his tour of duty. Although he worked behind the scenes, he had been its mainspring, as it were, and had managed to pull us through our little troubles since we have been formed into an independent unit. Once again, Bloss, old chap, we wish you the very best of luck and trust you will favour us with a letter to tell us all about the famous Cav.Div.

General.—Now we have left the whirl and gaity of Yuletide and the New Year behind us, we have put our nasal organs (large and small) down to the grindstone and find that 1935 has brought along a job for each and all of us. I myself am having a frantic time with our Newell short-wave set. We find that this particular set does some very strange things, and I have been unjustly written down as a " valve jonah "—which is all wrong, and my friend Buck Taylor will prove to you that there is no such thing as justice in this world. However, roll on, that boat. It is only a matter of a few weeks now, but I sincerely hope there is really something in these nightmares, and that one morning I shall be able to work the set and report nil interference from the L.C. group.

The Truth.—A certain chap told the O.C. he was glad he was being posted, because there is not enough work to do in the Section. As Connie says, " there is one born every minute." Never mind, Johnnie, old chap; you will be able to sling the old camera in Quetta (unless the W.E.S. prove a real hard working crowd).

We wish you the best of luck, Philip (I know you won't mind my calling you by that name just this once) and hope the next four tomato seasons pass quickly.

Scribe's Corner.—To L/Cpl Goodman C., late Kohat District Signals: Have not heard from you for many moons. Shall be home in April, so come up and see me some time. L/Corpl Smith J. C.

Our quarter-bloke, Sgt Bosworth, has qualified for a telegraphic address, and " Loggv, L.I." should find him o.k.

Finis.—Next year. JAYCEE.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Now that the Christmas holidays are over and everyone has settled down to face another year in this country, work is the order of the day. Our prospects are quite bright with the promise of numerous inspections in the near future, but having seen so many of them, we feel that we are quite able to keep up the good name of the Section.

The holidays passed off in the same old Zhob style:

" Barmaid, fill the flowing bowl—
Fill the bowl right over."

Judging by the amount of aspirin powders afterwards consumed as chota hasri, I should imagine that the good red wine flowed too freely. Personally, I have not a very good recollection of the subject.

On Christmas Eve we were entertained by the officers of the station to a tennis and whist tournament, followed by tea in the club. Although the B.O.R.s failed to carry off any prizes in the tennis, Sigmn Jamieson won the first prize and Sigmn Kinsey the second for the whist. Having previously palmed a few aces, Jammy stated that it was a shame to take the prize ; in fact, it was too easy. After tea we proceeded to show the officers the correct way in which table tennis should be played, but something must have gone wrong with our champs, because we were seen off one after the other. The only thing at which we excelled was beer drinking, Bartlett declaring that he was willing to give any person six pints start and see them under the table.

All thanks are due to L/Sergt Cosens for the excellent Christmas dinner, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all except himself. Unfortunately, he was ill and unable to take part in any of the celebrations.

Sport.—As before mentioned, the Section were well beaten at tennis by the officers (good-bye to all our hopes of the Davis cup). Later, however, we had our revenge, beating them at hockey by three goals to one, and again at football by four goals to one.

Through the kindness of the Political Agent in Zhob, the Section were invited to a gymkhana held in the lines of the Zhob Militia. Sigmn Kinsey volunteered to ride a camel in the camel, man and horse relay race. As the gun announced the start, he successfully got the camel to its feet and went at least five yards —and that was his downfall. He said the saddle slipped. Maybe it did, but it is a fact that the way in which he hit the deck was enough to make any acrobat jealous. From information received, he has now definitely cancelled his transfer to the Camel Corps.

Arrivals.—Corporal Hodge, to take over the Fort Sandeman telephone system—and can he guff! Sigmn Elev, who is going to show us the correct way to charge a battery. Both from Karachi.

Departures.—Corpl Francis to A Corps Signals. Sigmn Kinsey to Hindubagh. The picket is not manned so well now.

Appointments.—Sigmn Goodhand to be gigolo No. 1 in place of Sigmn Kinsey. Sheffield papers, please copy.

Agony.—Lost, a left-handed key, operators, for the use of. Will the finder please return to Sigmn Donnelly of this Section ? Give the lad his key, Jackie.

Roll on, Ock. APOZAI.

Hindubagh Detachment.

General.—Corpl Malvern and Signalmen Kinsey, Moad and Byrne fell in on the 2nd January for a tour of duty in this Zhob pleasure resort. For some of us, there is nothing new; for others, having their first look round, there is the hope that it is their last. Loud shouts of denial on one hand ; ayes on the other.

Complete with Newell short-wave set, Sigmn Gibbons (Slim) paid us a flying visit from Quetta and was so struck with the beauties and comfort of this spot that he said he would like to do a tour here. Ask him, folks, and see where you land ; and while you are about it, ask him why he brought towel and soap with him.

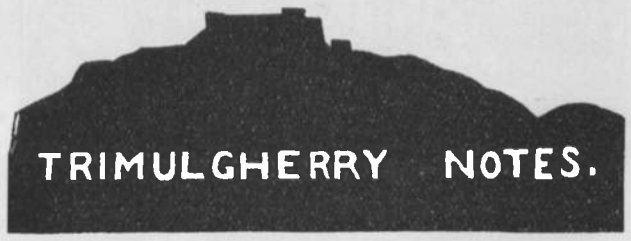
We have had an epidemic of mastitis since our arrival. The root of this evil is rain, snow and frost, plus part-worn mast gear. It has helped somewhat to turn us into first-class erectors and linguists. Can anyone please explain why masts always fall during the night ? We went so far as to sit up, looking through the window to see who was pushing it over. Of course, it did not fall. No! but the halyards broke on the other end. For real live pleasure, let me recommend trying to climb a nice high pole to thread a new halyard through the pulley when the temperature is 17 degrees. Moad, with all his binding experience, had to give it best.

A Company of Gurkha Rifles have now taken over the defences of this place. It was a sight to gladden a hockey player's heart to see 'em turn out for football on a nice newly-laid hockey ground! Some day we may get a unit here which plays both hockey and footer. We may then see the foundations of a second ground laid, but till then I'm afraid one will have to do duty for all. There was even talk of flooding it, to give the rugger players a little high diving ; but owing to a shortage of water, that fell through.

Just Listen!—Scene, the railway station at Fort Sandeman. Time, ten minutes after the evening train is due to leave for Khanai via Hindubagh. Two second class coaches: No. 1 with one Indian gentleman, and in No. 2 three Jemadars proceeding on leave. Two B.O.R.s have to travel on the train. Where would you park your bodies if you had been the B.O.R.s ? That's where we did: with the Indian gentleman in No. 1. Though no sleeping accommodation is guaranteed, his bed was already at the " stand at ease." You can imagine that he was very pleased to see us! The guard and the stationmaster did their best for him—but why should we go in a carriage that was already packed ? " Why ?" did I ask ? We were calmly informed that the occupant of No. 1 was a civilian and so had bought a ticket. We and the occupants of No. 2, being soldiers, were travelling on a warrant and so were *entitled to no consideration whatsoever*! Now I know why the War Office publish pamphlets re kindness to natives while travelling.

We Want to Know.—How is it possible to burn a month's issue of coal in ten days when there are only twenty-four hours to a day ? The date of Sergt (Tubby) Ward's wedding—if any ? Who can I detail as scribe next month ? HAM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY



4th Indian Divisional Signals.

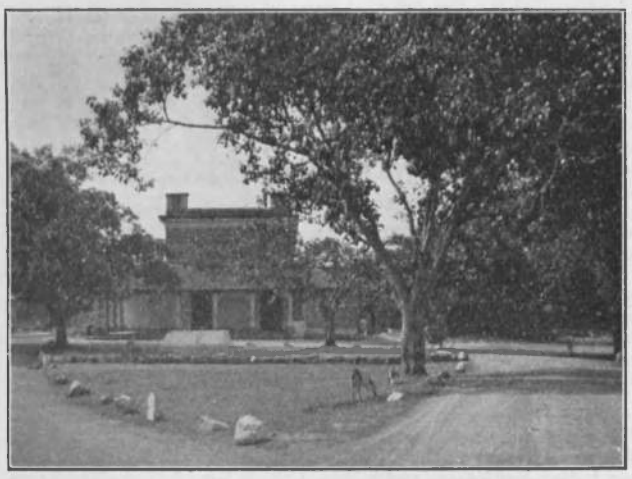
Friday 1st February.

General.—Having got over our revelry at Christmas, we again drop back into our normal shell and commence a new year with such delightful diversions as musketry, gas, individual training, and so on.

At the time of writing, K. F and G Sections are again on manœuvres—K and F at Lakhnadon, a resort near Jubbulpore, and G at Mhow.

K Section has become Indianised. A complete Section of Dogras have been received from the 1st Indian Divl Signals at Rawalpindi in exchange for Madrassis, but it is still necessary for a small number of B.O.R.s to remain with them. Having had some myself, I do hope they enjoyed their sixty odd miles to the camp.

As predicted, A Section duly returned from Bombay, looking very fit, as the accompanying snap shows. One might be forgiven for thinking that a photo of film stars on location had inadvertently crept into THE WIRE ; but, dear readers, 'tis only the local lads at Beach Kandy, Bombay, having a rest after their arduous duties,



Entrance to the Unit Lines at Trimulgherry.

Several arrivals should be reported. Lieut. Van der Goot joined the unit from G Section, Mhow. He will, however, be leaving very soon for Peshawar, and we hope he will enjoy his new station. Sergt Kelsey and family arrived from Quetta, and Corpl Adams on attachment from Poona. May they all enjoy their stay with us.

"A" W/T Section on Coastal Practice at Bombay.

Wedding bells were rung in far-away Cork, and we congratulate Sergt Gibbard, the bridegroom. He has returned to us, alas! alone.

Repatriations.—Here is the boat list. Know any of 'em? If so, please save a corner bed or a bench on the Embankment, as the case may be.

Our one and only Monty Wells to the Army Reserve—City Police, Netley or Colney Hatch (undecided).

The following to the home establishment: L/Cpl Barnett, M.M. (will some Div. save him a place in their football team? his toes are itching), Signalmen Bailey, Constantine, Gray, Given, Packham, Spare, Walker and Johnson. All to continue soldiering for at least a little while.

Then we have the payment furlough wallahs, Sergeant Limb, Corporals Brown and Varley, and Sigmn Thorpe.

Sigmn Francis left us in January for the Army Reserve. May he get a decent berth somewhere.

Several fresh diversions have recently been inaugurated in this unit. Golf, that splendid game—visions of St. Andrew's!—has

4th Indian Divisional Signals Orderly Room, Trimulgherry.

caught on with several enthusiasts. If one could only miss hitting the water buffaloes or the rocks, one's handicap would be improved, no doubt.

A badminton court was ceremoniously opened by the police and sanitary n.c.o. and a member of the dafta staff, amidst great applause (we couldn't hear ourselves speak, but we did hear someone pass the fruit). It was declared well and truly opened.

Two tennis tournaments were recently held by the B.O.R.s Club. The first was against the Sergeants Mess and we (the B.O.R.s) were beaten by one game. The other, against the B.M.H., we won by 115—94 games.

L.S. and G.C. medals have been awarded to Sergeants Tucker, Palmer and Brewer. How do they do it? S.V.M.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

[We tender an apology to F Signal Section's secretary. Owing to manœuvres, these notes were overlooked at Trimulgherry.]

Andora Camp, 21/10/34.

General.—I must commence this month's notes with an apology for our non-appearance in print last month. But strange as it may seem—and I know some people will not believe it—I was too busy owing to the preparations which had to be made for the annual war. In fact, WIRE note day arrived and departed before I had time to look round. However, I will do my best to make up for the deficiency now.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain F. K. Morton, who arrived to take over command of our little band just before our departure from Jubbulpore. We hope your stay with us will be a long and happy one, sir.

Musketry.—The annual course was fired on the 10th October with great success, all ranks becoming first class shots—with the exception of one; but for fear of causing tears I will not mention his name.

Our John (or Dead-Eye Dick as he has since been christened) scored 61 out of a possible 65, but unfortunately for him there has been no mention of silver spoons or five spots this month; or if there has, we have not heard it.

Camp.—As previously predicted, we have had to leave our burrow in Jubbulpore and sally forth into the wide open spaces. and we are now having a fine time (?) in camp with the 3rd Field Brigade R.A. at Andora.

We left Jubbulpore with many sighs and heartbreaks early on the morning of the 17th October, having loaded the horses and stores the previous evening, and after a very monotonous journey (consisting chiefly of waiting for the train to move on) arrived at Sholapur on the 19th. There was then a march of twenty-five miles to Andora. I do not know very much about this myself, but if anyone requires further particulars I can put them in touch with a lad who can give them.

Continued at foot of page 133

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

Great days, the 21st, 22nd and 23rd January (eight down is the clue). All the king's horses and all the king's men, the dulci-megaphone tones of R.S.M. Dorrington as assistant chief marshal, and the hunting horn blasts of Sigmn Beveridge are included by special request.

As pride of Section occupied a prominent place in the minds of competitors and spectators alike, the Section providing the prize winner is shown after each name.

You would have agreed that the turn out of riders, chargers, draught and pack on Monday the 21st was especially good and provided the judges with a difficult task. The smart, compact and business-like appearance of the pack ponies was attractive.

Driver Perree (H.Q.) on Colonel Mansergh's Sandy was awarded first in chargers, with Driver Dennis (K) on Mr. Tate's Kirby second. Then L/Corpl Webb (J) with Doris and Sigmn James (K) with Annie Laurie as first and second in riders. Wheel pair honours went to Driver Hirschfield (B) with Binnie and Bonny, and Driver Roebuck (B) was second with Bob and Bill. Lead and centre, Driver Hall (B) with Bertha and Breda, and Driver Seymour (B) with Busty and Bindle, were first and second. L/Cpl Barron (K) took the pack first with Gin, followed by Sigmn Moore (J) with Hengist. Driver Chalker (K) deserved his special for a pair of mules.

M stands for Major Murphy and his able assistant Sergeant McLoughlin, on whose shoulders fell the task of organising the gymkhana for our pleasure.

Kind of easy day this, the 22nd. Eliminating heats for drivers (H.T.) and the final of other ranks in jumping competitions. The former not so exciting as it might have been, but the O.R.s jumping gave us something to think about. Sergt McLoughlin (B) on Twister, with eight faults, was first, and L/Corpl Watson (B) second on Annie Laurie, with sixteen faults. By winning this

Driver Seymour with Busty and Bindle

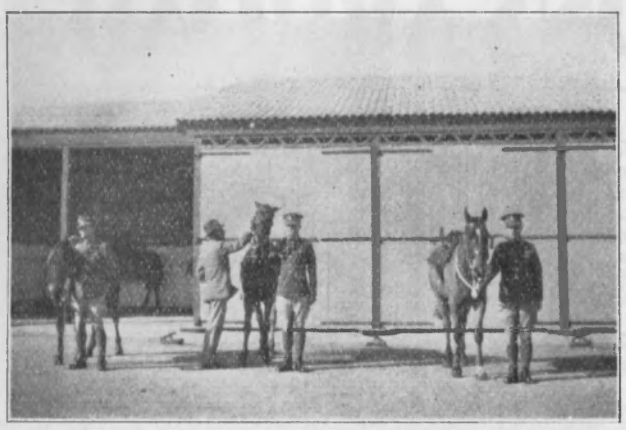
Driver Chalker with Snow and Snowy

Driver Hall with Bertha and Breda

Driver Dennis with charger Kirby

Driver Perree with charger Sandy

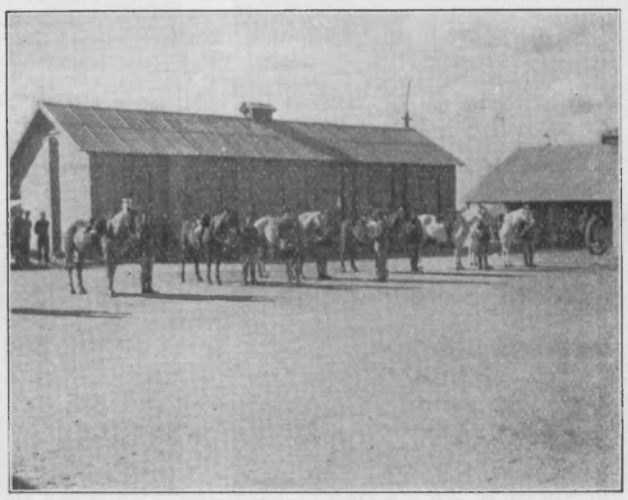
Driver Hirschfield with Binnie and Bonny



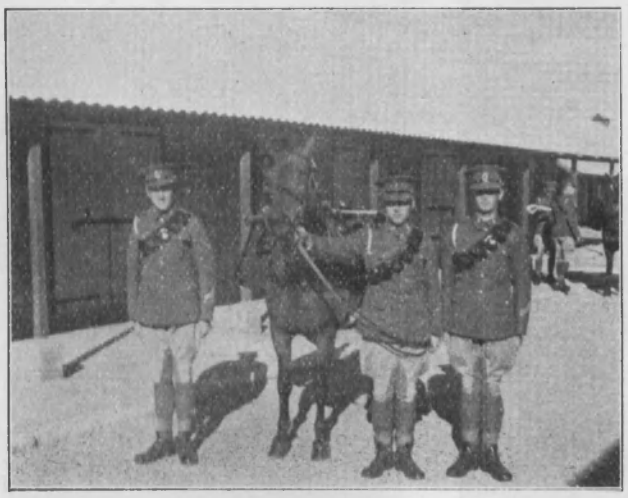
Sigmn James (K Section) inspected by Colonel Bald, C.S.O.

J Section, second best turned out Pack Horse

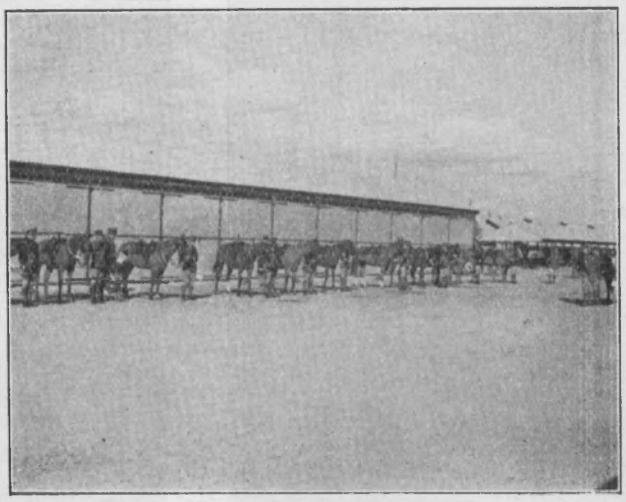
Driver Rosebuck with Bob and Bill



Turn out of Chargers



K Section, best turned out Pack Horse



Turn out of Riders

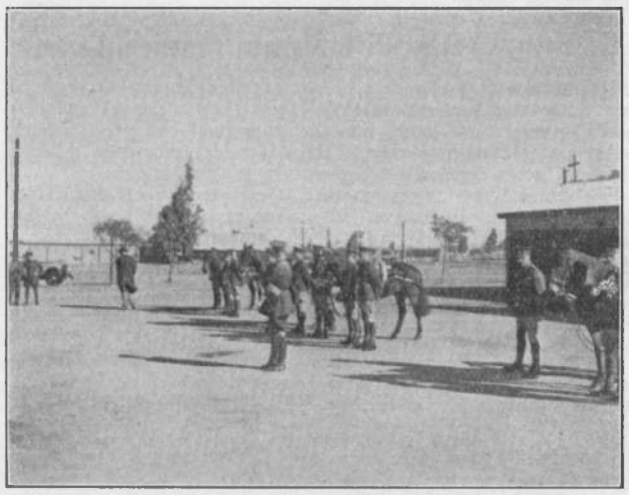
event the Sergeants Mess challenge cup passed into the hands of Mac.

Here comes the bride—the " b " is silent as in " sting." They rode up all eager for the fray on this the last day, and to our dismay Command beat J, Troop beat H.Q. and Tanks combined, and B beat K and followed it up by knocking out A. The Command having further accounted for Troop, they were left to combat B in the finals of wrestling on horseback.

The afternoon programme was very full. It commenced with the finals of drivers' jumping, won by Driver Hughes (B) on Bruce, with Driver Roebuck (B) runner-up on Bill.

The tricky motor cycle event went to L/Cpl Parry (Command) with Corpl Henshaw (Command) not far off, the mounts being 33382 and 34082 respectively. Balloons were far harder to pop on a mo-bike than bursting tyres, but riding the plank was easy.

The officers handy hunter competition went to Major Murphy on Jane, with one fault, Mr. Mellor's Twister (six faults) getting second place—the open ditch being the cause of the trouble. Colonel Mansergh's charger, with Major Murphy up, gave us a show of his paces and leaped well, but was not counted in the competition.



Turn out of Pack Horses

An interlude for tea here interrupts the programme. The hot sun of this January afternoon makes it doubly welcome: both the tea and the interlude—nice word that.

Next came the final of wrestling on horseback, and after a great show B Section were defeated by Command. The plucky (and literal) hanging on of the lone hand of B Section was greatly applauded.

The families event brought many entries from all ranks and their wives. The men folk are voting for throwing rather than getting the ball. Some dust is still flying about, but that was all part of the smoke-scream. Mrs. Dorrington with Sergeant Stevenson went away with the prize in this item. Dog hurdle race—a short course and very quickly over, with Driver Hall's Floss the winner. Then to the wrestling on man-back—a grim affair in which Sigmn Mitcheson (Command) on Beardall had the better of Sigmn Taylor (B) on Lamb. That big bad bear after the little lamb again.

And so our mounted sports for 1935 came to an end. Nothing now remains except to thank all who gave their time and thought towards the success of the show, especially Mrs. Bald for presenting the prizes, and Colonel Bald (C.S.O.) and Major Bamford (R.A.V.C.) for their valuable assistance in the judging.

J Section : No. 3 Company.

Tuesday 5th February.

General.--Months of news has grown into enough material for at least one paragraph, so (as the bookie said) we're off.

Talking of bookies reminds me of a couple of kites who regularly supply a well-known firm of accountants with their hard earned ackers. This habit, however, is not limited to K Section, as J boasts of a partner in that well known racing couple Skin 'em and Slide. Inside information leads me to believe that the clerks at the tote look forward to this easy beer money each week.

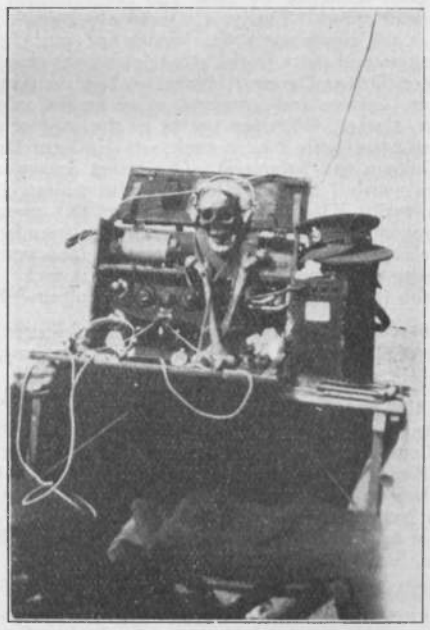
The Signal gymkhana was held last month, as reported elsewhere. Financially speaking, it was a howling (?) success: the entrance fee being (1) nix and (2) mafeesh. Each event was heralded by a fanfare of one note (varying tone) admirably played by Duke Beveridge. (We wish to state, in fairness to him, that he is not in J Section).

We will refrain from tabulating our victories. Doubtless, K will supply an overwhelming paragraph upon all and sundry that even I cannot compete against, but ex J-ites will know all about these packs, both past and future.

A remarkable event in which most of us took part was at 16.00 hours (tea time) when everyone seemed to disappear in the direction of the mess room (J in the lead). After all, hard worked men must keep up their constitutions.

From the 21st until the 30th January our morning P.T. consisted of drill parades before breakfast. I believe we finished up remarkably well in the drill stakes, but it's good to get over it.

Entertainments.—On the 1st February the R.A.F. had their annual pageant from 2.30 p.m. until after tea. Our grand stand was the wall near the cemetery, with a good view of the display. For an afternoon's entertainment, it was certainly good to watch.



One of the Elite.

Some of the elite honoured Beni-Yusef Camp with their presence from the 7th until the 17th January and came back looking healthy and brown(ed). Judging from the number of eggs eaten whilst there, someone seemed to have an interest in a poultry farm across the Ramelieh (was the interest confined to eggs ?)

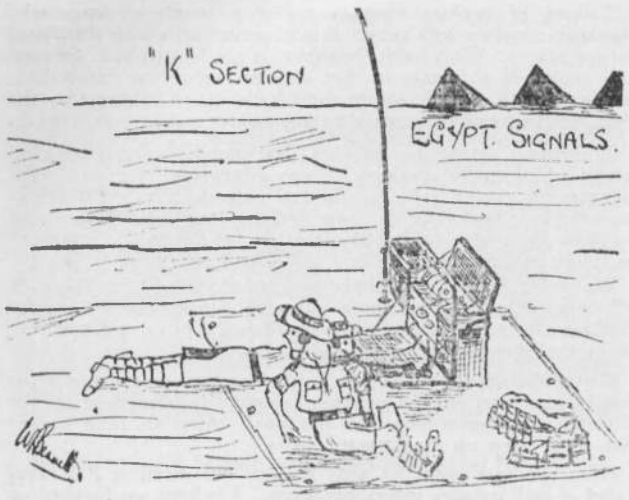
Arrivals.—Three more kittens, and maybe another litter by the time these notes appear.

Education.—To our locals who are studious, we wish good luck when the 1st comes along.

Agony.—To Joe in Waziristan: Still ticking? Cado and Wrinkle.

Tailpiece.—'Ee reckon 'ee finished an' all, then, boy.

ABDUL.



Apologies.—I must apologise for the absence of the photograph of the Section cross-country team which should have been published in the February issue.

Horse Show.—Our annual smartening up of the horses and saddlery, etc., took place on the 21st and 22nd January. Though things had been scratched by sand and other things, it was a glorious shine all round. This year's show was a great deal more interesting, as the competition was keener and plentiful. For a start, we took second place in the officer's charger class with the O.C.'s charger (Driver Dennis). Next we had the battle of the packs between J Section and ourselves, as we are the only Sections with pack W/T sets. With ten points in the lead of the next, we took first prize with No. 2 pack set (L/Corpl Barron and Signalmen Gidman and Summers). Our mules Snowy and Snow lined up next with J Section's (ours in the winter, J's in the summer—so really K) and Driver Chalker (K) managed the "specially for mules." Again we struck our friends J in the single rider class. Though our opponents obtained first, we had the consolation of having two K's in the final pick. Results: L/Corpl Webb (J), Sigmn James (K), Sigmn Holbrow (K).

Condolences.—The Section forward their condolences to L/Cpl Chidgy, late of this Section, on his marriage. Anyway, Chidge, the best of luck and happiness to you both.

Heard at the Show.—Voice over the megaphone: "L/Corpl ———." Answer in the distance: "How say."

D.R.: "Come over to No. 1 Company. We'll teach you how to ride." (Please remember, Pip, that we in No. 3 Company taught you how to walk, let alone ride.)

Have you heard (perhaps he told you himself) that a certain ex-boy has at last obtained his place in the Army rugby team? Haven't you, Sam?

Agony.—Sigmn Bennett R. C. (Catterick): Is paper scarce in England? How about a line to Egypt? Same address.

SCHOOLIE.

Polygon W/T Station.

Or should it be Polygon Radio? Some say it is Polygon High Power Super-Station, and the member of our community who had his letters addressed to The Army in Egypt High Speed W/T Station is even now endeavouring to conceal his blushes. But enough! The staff here are very sorry that notes have been omitted for some time past, but our only reason for writing now is to let you know that we effectively caned J Section at hockey. Another excuse is that one about the ink—but, avant!

We have just emerged victoriously from a four days bender. To visualise all the W/T fans earthing aerials when Polygon was blasting (and blasted) was quite appreciable. Our condolences (?) to the R.A.F., of course. They never stray on to our wavelength (I mean, off it).

The advent of a nine hole golf course in the compound has added to our pleasure. To see our cook addressing a tennis ball with a hockey stick, preparatory to driving over the engine room roof, is another of our amusements. Tees nine inches high are nothing to him, and his lack of form at the ancient game is easily set off by his fluency. He was heard to say he learned his British whilst he was a bargee on the Aldershot Canal.

Our old superintendent (Sergt Hague) has left us to help the Company to carry on. We understand the C.S.M. has learned a lot. His place has been taken by Sergt Nicholson, to whom we extend a hearty welcome. L/Corpl Williams has also left us, his services being commandeered to take a lorry to camp. His place has been taken by Joe Wrench, who needs no welcome, being quite at home with his kippers and tripe and liver suppers.

Of course, I must tell you our cook's name. Anybody know Dickerson? He was out here before. Who called that—(eh? oh, I'm sorry!) We also have Chesty's brother, Alfi Saunders, here too. He has not been here before. Well, that's all at present.

Urgent.—Anybody know a chap called Bor-ee-ham? A dame has just asked for him on the phone. Oh, it's Bobby, is it? Hold on, deary; I'll get him.

Agony.—He was only a class ii. operator, but, oh! how that chap couldn't cook!

PAA.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Prologue.—If the readers of our excellent Journal have been wondering what has become of G Troop, they can at last set their minds at rest. We have, like the proverbial bad penny, again turned up. "For how long?" some wonder. For good, I hope. That is: notes regularly every month.

The whole Troop, from our O.C. down to Mick (Sergt Guile, please note) are all present. We have another addition to our canine world: a certain animal which looks like a dog (but I have my own opinion) and answers to the name of Jeff. When Mick and Jeff come to a scrap, one wonders if they are vieing for the honours of Troop mascot. Mick gets in his long service in November of this year.

Departures.—We are very sorry to say good-bye to Bailey, Cruickshanks and Foulkes, who had all been with us since the beginning of our Troop history. The best of luck to them in their civilian life.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Perrins from F Troop, and Sigmn Rogers from the 2nd Divl Signals, and hope they will soon grow to love the East.

Signal Scheme.—The chief event of December—not counting Christmas, of course—was a three days desert scheme in which th entire Troop took part. With our 11th Hussar drivers we numbered forty, and for three days we worked, walked, ate and slept unusually well. Among other things, we took a handsome supply of extra rations (which we bought ourselves) for the occasion.

We left Helmieh on the morning of the 17th December, and after a good day's run we bivouacked for the night at a point about five miles north of Gebel Qatrani. Tarpaulins were stretched between the lorries to make sleeping quarters for the party, and a substantial hill behind us kept out most of the wind.

The following morning we were up with the lark, so to speak. That day we had decided to combine grim duty with pleasure, and armed with maps we set out on foot in search of the monastery of Deir Abu Lifa. Three of the cars conveyed us to our starting-off point, leaving the other two in the bivouac under the wings and watchful eyes of Corpl Neal and Proudlock. We packed rations into haversacks and scrambled aboard the cars.

After travelling over some rather rough country for about five miles, we parked the lorries on the top of an enormous cliff—leaving Brooks and Catigen to look after them and have tea ready on our return. We descended the cliff—which was about one in three—and arrived on a kind of plain below, dotted with some hefty cliffs, crags, ravines, gorges and fairly large rocks. We threaded our way around, over and through these obstacles, and emerged on to more or less open country. We carried on for about three miles and arrived on the top of another cliff. Some of us rested here and had a look round. Directly ahead of us we could see an isolated rocky hill—the site of our monastery—and

beyond, Lake Qarun. Beyond the lake, on the horizon, we could just discern the cultivation of the Faiyum. Away to the right of the lake there were old Greek ruins. Unfortunately, a careful investigation revealed nothing of the monastery but very indistinct and worn foundations. But not far away was a square stone building—an old fort or defence post, with the walls still standing. Dotted about, too, were deep wells, bored presumably by the monks of ancient days. There were many interesting things to see, and the natural scenery itself compensated for the absence of the monastery.

The return trip of six miles, with a rise of seven hundred feet, was hard work, and some felt at the time that it was much more a case of grim pleasure than grim duty! Our return home on the next day was quite uneventful.

I am afraid we have taken our full share of space, so no more can be said now. In any case, little enough has happened.

PAT AND M.

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

Gene:al.—Whang ho, bung ho, and what ho, folks! If no news is good news, there is extremely good news from this corner this month. But, seriously, we can report no arrivals, departures or marriages.

We must announce that an expanse of hitherto virgin land has been hoed, fenced and prepared for a grand rabbit farming enterprise. We (that's the Press) were courteously invited by the directors to inspect this great innovation, and we cannot but express our profound admiration of the delightful buildings constructed entirely from N.A.A.F.I. soap boxes and disused petrol tins. So far, each rabbit has its name suitably painted above its door (Tiger Lil, Tiger Tim, etc.) but I can foresee grave difficulties when the families arrive.

A short time ago we were entertained by one Professor Max (not of brewery fame) who claimed to have come from Paris ; at all events, he spoke French. Four beer barrels supported his stage, but one small shandy was sufficient to support the mag:cian,

Give credit where credit's due.

who provided us with a very successful evening's enjoyment. On the completion of some of his tricks, he kindly offered an explanation of their manipulation—and they looked so easy. One of his tricks was to swallow a number of razor blades and extract them from his mouth, suspended on a length of cotton. I am convinced he was terribly cut up to find a little difficulty in the latter part of this act. The professor made a charming conclusion by hypnotising his wife. One sergeant was heard to mutter " If only I were as capable!"

The accompanying sketch is the only evidence we have concerning the billiards marker's report of a missing flat iron. Was it borrowed for physical culture, or to put an immaculate crease in the offender's trousers ?

Jumps.—Congratulations to U/L/Corporals Swann J. and Whitaker E. on attaining that appointment. And they were such good fellows!

Open Apology.—Our scribe was inveigled into assisting the bar attendant on the occasion of a pleasant Saturday evening at our W.O. and Sergeants mess.

(*a*) Amid the chattering of the whist players a very fortunate person was heard to call " M.C.," and (mistaking this for "J.C.") he hurried with due zeal to the scene with a John Collins cocktail.

(*b*) During the interval refreshments were provided, and one gentleman, whose speech proved a little indistinct, asked that a " different sandwich " might be brought for his lady friend. In response to this, a "dripping sandwich" was delivered. Perhaps there is no need to repeat the lady's remark. Q.R.U.TUT.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

[Received too late for the February issue]

Pulau Brani, December 1934.

Introductory.—It was unanimously agreed by all members of Signals on this little island that it was about time the achievements of this small Detachment were conveyed to the outside world. Therefore, let it be so—and so it shall be—through the medium of THE WIRE. I am given to understand that this is our first attempt for the last year or so to crash the gates of THE WIRE offices.

Perhaps, first of all, it would be just as well to introduce ourselves. There are just eleven of us—but say, girls, what an eleven!

Now, first and foremost, on his throne
Is Sergeant Watmore, all alone ;
He's one and all, rolled up in one—
Pay and quarter, father and son.

And next upon this list of mine
Is Badgy Morton, i/c line,
And old Joe Holmes, our skating beau—
Around this isle you should see him go!

Then comes a good old Scotsman—
Jock Currie to his pals—
Well known on this old island,
Especially 'mongst the gals.

Ah, here is old Dick Hubbard,
" The champ " just out from home,
And Section Q.M. Twitchen,
Who does nothing else but moan.

And then there's poor old Peter Weeks,
Who's just about due to go—
He's time expired ; but when he's off,
Nobody seems to know.

Now poor old Eggy Pearson,
With his operators three ;
I'm sure old Eggy's " batchy "—
He has a right to be.

Tich Blunt does all the talking
Right through the blooming day ;
He's never in a hurry,
But never stops to stay.

And then there's old Slim Parkin,
As good as good can be ;
He doesn't smoke, he doesn't drink—
But eating! boys, *can* he ?

And last of all there's Chatfield T.
Some reckon that I'm mad ;
But don't believe it, boys, says I—
I'm really a good lad.

Now that's our jolly Section—
The lads of old P.B.
If you think you have a better,
Well, trip along and see.

General.—Having introduced ourselves after a fashion, we will now proceed to bore you with a brief description of our general work.

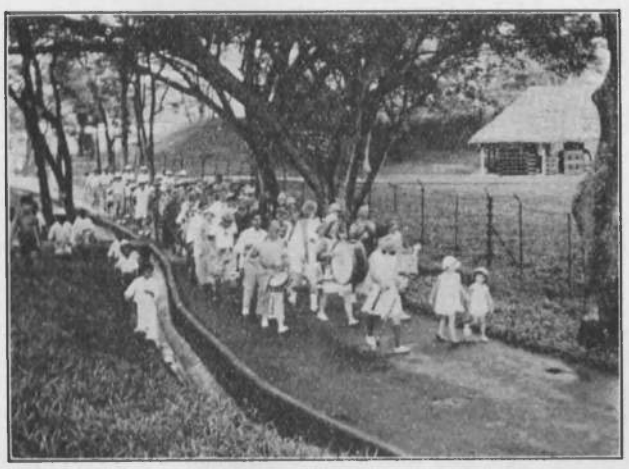
The administrative side of things is ably carried out by Sergt Watmore (n.c.o. i/c one and all and everything), Sigmn Weeks (our Section clerk) and Sigmn Twitchen (the typical moaning Army quarterbloke). Still, the last-named is very hard worked and sought after, so one might overlook that point.

Our linemen, naturally, have the responsibility of maintaining line communications on and between this island and surrounding districts. One might add that there is never cause for complaint —naturally so, with L/Corpl Morton and Sigmn Holmes doing their stuff.

The Rhythm Boys pose for "The Wire" prior to marching off.

The operators, L/Corpl Pearson and Signalmen Chatfield, Blunt and Parkin, are employed on coastal defence, working in conjunction with the R.A. and R.E. The sets in use are the C. mk. i.—not too bad, but pretty ghastly. However, with a certain amount of grooming and coaching, they continue to function. The number of sets on charge is seven, which the operators try to share between themselves at the rate of 1.75 sets per man, plus a few odd coils and whatnots.

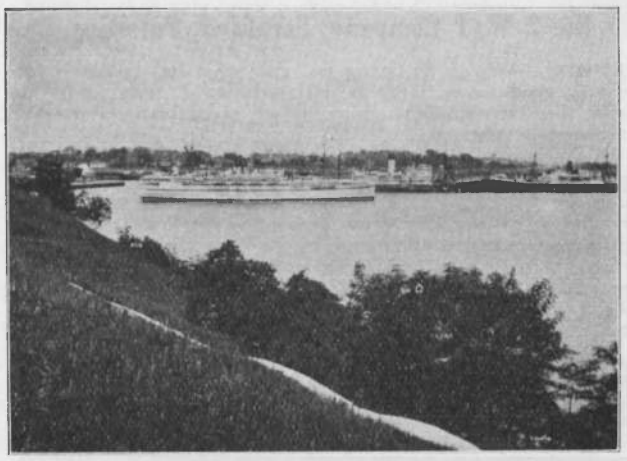
Signalmen Currie and Hubbard are the local instrument smashers, Jock dabbling in the mysteries of charging as a spare time hobby.



The New Draft, headed by the Rhythm Boys, marching to the Bungalow.

Arrivals.—Per the *Dorsetshire*, Signalmen Chatfield, Hubbard and Parkin. The occasion was celebrated by a day's holiday and (after the old Malayan custom) a grand blank blank in the canteen. Roll on, the new draft next year. The accompanying snaps will, I hope, convey to readers the type of welcome extended. Yes, we even had a jazz band, locally known as the Rocker Evans Rhythm Boys.

Musketry.—Our annual course was fired on the Bukit Timah ranges on Sunday 18th November, when we demonstrated the fact that we are tradesmen *only*.



H.M.T. "Dorsetshire" leaving Singapore Harbour for China.
Photo taken from the Signal Bungalow at Pulau Brani

Departures.—We are sorry to record the departure of three very popular lads in L/Corpl Lindsay and Signalmen Potter and Kirk. The whole Section join in wishing them the very best of luck, bon voyage, and a merry Christmas aboard the luxury yacht *La Dorsetshire*.

Signals Association Dinner.—The annual dinner, which was attended by all ranks of Royal Signals on the island, was held at the Union Jack Club, Singapore, on Friday 30th November. An excellent dinner was provided, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The signs were evident. We wonder if there is any truth in the story that Sigmn Scott E., on the way back to Blakan Mati, fell into the shark-infested waters, and that the sharks didn't appreciate the smell of beer (it was Tiger, too!) 2nd Divites, please note: it's the same old Scotty of old.

Dance.—A successful dance was held by the Royal Engineers in the lower bungalow on Saturday 1st December. We were treated to some exceedingly fine guitar music by the Royal Hawaiian Trio, and also a grand display of the Black Bottom (hula hula dance) as it really should be done. On the whole, another very enjoyable evening was spent.

We Wonder.—Who were the people marooned on a lonely lighthouse during a sumatra 'way out in the China Seas? Their only means of communication was by wireless to the nearby W.D. launch (s.s. *Moonstone*) and so to the Pulau Brani W/T Station. Special mention should be made of the n.c.o. W/T operator aboard the *Moonstone* who, although overcome by sea sickness, maintained communication throughout. He was seen to cover the distance 'twixt set and bulwark in times which would have done credit to any world champion sprinter.

Advert.—For sale or hire, rain—bags of it! Will prospective customers please phone the C.S.O. Malaya Command or the n.c.o. i/c Detachment, Pulau Brani?

Conclusion.—And so, for a little while, we creep back into obscurity, wishing our readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. (Better late, etc.)

Correspondence.—Sigmn Ruddock, India: How about a line? Scotty. KITCHI ORANG (T.B.C.)

Thursday 10th January.

General.—" Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work " says the Old Book, but " Seven days shalt thou labour and do much work " is apparently the Commandment which best suits this little mystic island of the East.

The largest exercise ever held in Singapore took place recently. The British Navy were attempting to land troops on Singapore Island. Signals played a very important part, as usual. For many days previously the W/T operators were busily employed in fitting Naval Reserve launches with ghastly looking machines, later known as C mk i. sets. Quite a lot of testing and accounting for parts " lost at sea " took place. That is apparently the favourite excuse on tool inspections these days: " Must have been lost at sea, sergeant."

To get back to the serious side. So far as Signals were concerned, I think the whole scheme was a success, and all we ask now is that none of the Great I Am's in H.Q. will hold another such scheme for a few years or so.

An Eastern Lament.

(Recited by Signalman Scott E.)

I'm sick of the Chink and the Tartar ;
  I'm sick of the Jap and Malay ;
And far-away spots on the chart are
  No place for yours truly to stay.

I've had plenty of under-sized chicken
  And milk that comes out of a can ;
The East is no region to stick in
  For this one particular man.

I'm weary of curry and rice all
  Mingled with highly spiced dope ;
I'm weary of bathing with Lysol
  And washing with carbolic soap.

Oh, Lord! for a wind with a tingle
  And an atmosphere pure and serene ;
Oh, Lord! once again just to mingle
  With crowds who are white folk and clean,
To eat without fear of infection,
  To sleep without using a net,
And throw away all my collection
  Of iodine, quinine, etcet.

To hear all the noise and the clamour,
  The hurry and fret of the West,
I'll trade all the Orient glamour
  That those lying poets suggest.

They sing of the East as enthralling,
  And that's why I started to roam ;
But I hear the Occident calling--
  Oh, Lord! how I want to go home!

Christmas.—" Christmas comes but once a year, and with it comes plenty of free beer." The signs were evident during the Christmas period. The ball was first set rolling when the carol party set forth on Christmas Eve. " The First Noel " could be heard coming from various parts of the island. " The Last Noel " was not tucked safely in bed until well after 4 a.m. the following morning.

The dinner served on Christmas Day was absolutely beyond criticism. Finer fare could not have been provided, and our heartiest thanks go to all those responsible. Our special thanks are due to Sigmn Lofty Twitchen, who pranced in and out between the tables with fruit and wines just like one of those Nippy girls at Lyons Corner House. (You know where to go when you have finished your pontoon, Twitch.) We also thank L/Corpl Pearson who, although bleary eyed, served the drinks from behind the bar. (The Pearson Piercer cocktails are already famous, Eggy, old boy.)

New Year's Eve was celebrated according to custom. During the evening a concert was given by the lads, everybody in turn getting up and giving a number. Of course, the best turn of the evening was the " scat singing " attempted by Signalmen Blunt and Chatfield. Tich, why waste your time in the Army? (hacha, hacha, bo do de oh do).

Scotsman's Corner.—Richards, Tidworth: A line would be very welcome. Tich.

4th Div. Canterbury: Digger Hubbard, champ and Empire builder, sadly relinquishes said title, having met in the canteen certain Sappers who kindly relieved him of it.

Clinky, Palestine: Stick it, pal, and keep smiling. Prodders.

Wally, 4th Div.: Still living. Tich.

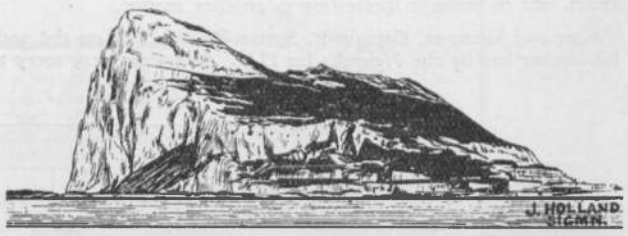
Paddy, 3/2nd Div.: Still hoping for a line. Busty.

Seen and Heard.—Ha ha ha Peter on the hockey field: " Leave it to me." Result: they scored. Ha! ha! ha!

A certain very dark good-looking young signalman was recently seen, whilst under the influence of drink, passionately kissing none other than—well, a certain dapper young sergeant. Tut! tut! Scotty. Fancy making a nice sergeant the subject of your embraces. By the look on the sergeant's face I really believe he enjoyed it. " Love thy neighbours."

And so, while this love exists between us all, I bid you farewell. All the best to all readers of THE WIRE from the Malaya Signal Section. BARON (T.B.C.)

Accident.—We are sorry to report that our O.C., Major H. N. Brown, met with a nasty accident just before Christmas. He was on a reconnaissance for the combined exercises when he caught his leg on some rusty barbed wire whilst jumping a ditch, and unfortunately severed an artery. He is now under treatment in the Singapore General Hospital, and we all wish him a speedy recovery.



Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 6th February.

We sometimes wish that the day for compiling WIRE notes came like Christmas, only once a year.

There is little of general interest to record this month. Day succeeds day without even the excitement of a marriage to upset the even tenor of our way.

We said good-bye to many sporting friends on the 15th January, when the 2nd Battn D.C.L.I. left for Malta en route for Blackdown (yes, it does seem Irish, but—) in the *Nevasa*. In common with the rest of the Fortress, we wish them continued popularity and success in their new station.

On the same date we welcomed our first draft of the season in Signalmen Turner H. and Foster J. from the Eastern Command Signal Company, Dover; Signalmen Adams R. and Wiseman H. from the Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown: Signalmen Rodda J. and Fulford H. from A Corps Signals, Aldershot; and Sigmn Buck J. from the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. We trust that their stay on the Rock will be a pleasant one. From what we can see, they have settled down very quickly and will no doubt very efficiently relieve the time and tour expired men when those fortunates (?) embark for the U.K.

Incidentally, our first " homer," Sigmn Waller R., left us on the 30th January. He was fortunate enough to secure a passage on H.M.S. *Hood*. He leaves us to try his skill against the dole, and we wish him the very best of luck in his new endeavour.

Malta Signal Section.

[Received too late for the February issue]

Command Signal Office, Valletta, 8th January.

General.—Well! here goes. I've been seated here for the last twenty minutes, chewing the end of my pen and gazing at our last month's notes. The trouble is that Corpl lent A. V., who has so ably conducted our corner in THE WIRE for the last four years or so, has handed the job over to me now that he is returning to the United Kingdom. It strikes me now rather forcibly that it is not quite so easy as it looks. I have plenty to write about, but to make it interesting is another matter.

First and foremost, Captain R. Sutton-Pratt left us on the 30th November last by the *Neuralia* for U.K. We were very sorry to lose him, but were consoled by the fact that Captain D. R. Paterson is his successor. All the Section, including the civilian employees, gathered to wish Captain R. Sutton-Pratt and his family the best of luck, goodbye and bon voyage.

Christmas 1934.—The whole Section had a really wonderful time. We thank the messing staff of the 32nd (T) Company R.A.S.C., to whom we are attached, for the excellent menu and arrangements. Invitations extended to the single personnel were too numerous to be accepted, and the hospitality of the married families was at its usual height. We wish to thank all who sent the numerous Christmas cards and greetings we received. Sax, Peggy, Knocker, Chappy, Bill Dunn and other ex-Maltaites, please note that a few of us gathered at the club (in bounds now) on Christmas morning and indulged in a few reminiscences of bygone Christmas days and sittings beside the Mediterranean (blue). Another note of interest to them will be that Mr. Truscott is still among us, hale and hearty as ever.

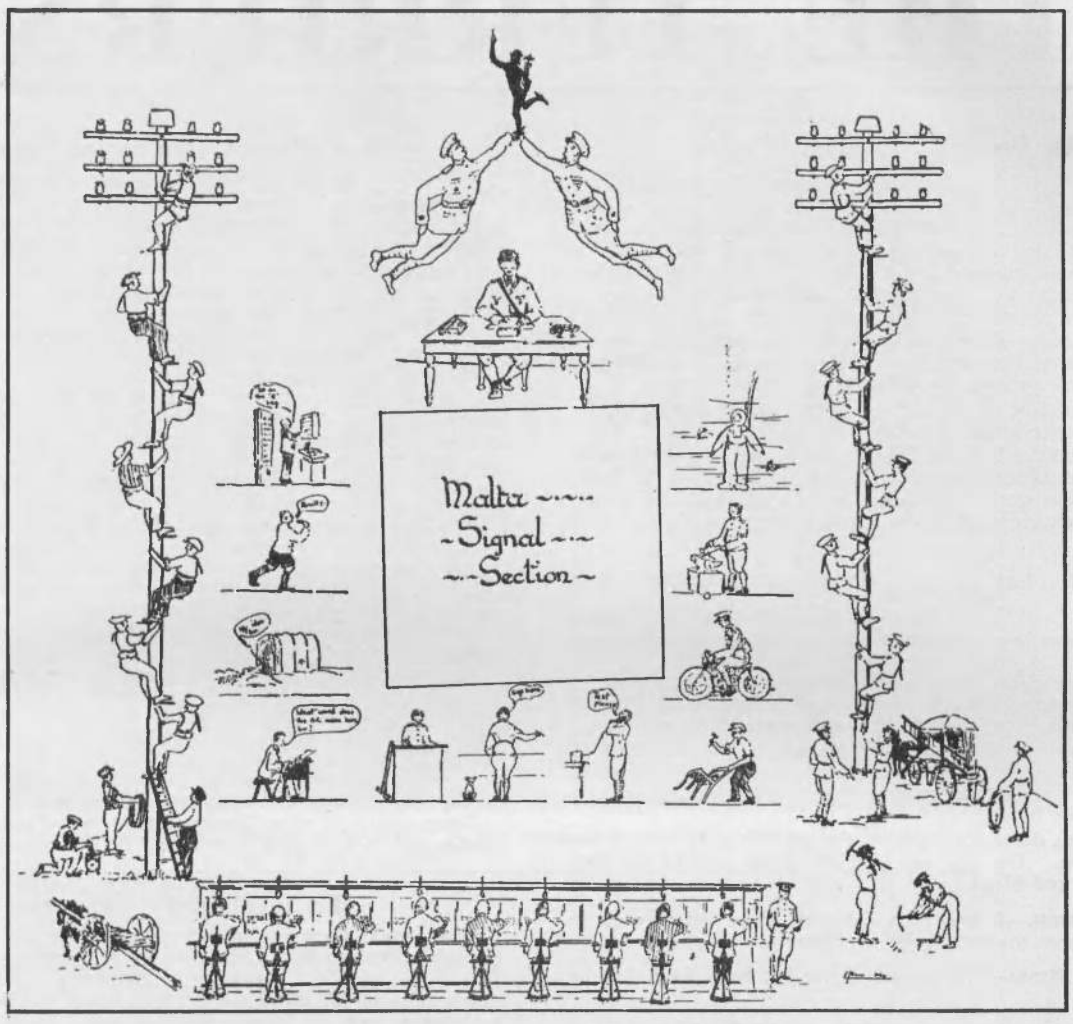
Departures.—By the time these notes appear, Corpl lent A. V. and Signalmen Attewell, Lyons and Revill will have left us. The Army Reserve will be strengthened by the last named three, and the first mentioned will be . . . . . .

Malta Command Small Arms Meeting.—Our last notes predicted—what? Well, they have done it! The Staff and Departments rifle team won the Small Units cup for the second time. Included in the team were Captain D. R. Paterson, Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R., M.B.E., Q.M.S. Goodridge C. R., M.M., and L/Corporals Russell J. W. and Drake F. from this Section. Herewith is a photograph of the team. Corpl lent, who is seen behind the cup, was squadding n.c.o. for the team at the meeting. Once again, well done! and the best of luck for the next time.

Rumour.—Tug Wilson, of Bulford: Is it true that you are again for India? If so, when? Received this rumour from the last trooper that visited here. Hec.

Our Greetings.—We send a card drawn by Mrs. E. Flynn, Q.A.S. (wife of our Foreman-of-Signals, Q.M.S. Flynn) showing all branches of the work carried on by the Section in Malta. We very much appreciate her clever work and gift. RUSS.

The Staff and Departments Rifle Team, winners of the Small Units Cup



Mrs. Flynn's Epitome of Signal Duties.

4th Indian Divisional Signals—F Signal Section, Jubbulpore

Continued from page 124

Ahmednagar was one of the places at which we had to await the railway's pleasure, but this halt was considered by all to be too short owing to the fact that K Section, who are stationed there, turned out to meet us armed with a supply of real S.M. char (tea) and some sausage rolls which were enjoyed by all. I have been asked to convey the Section's thanks for the welcome, K. It was much appreciated, and we sincerely hope to be able to return it some day. I will give you a tip before I go any further, though. Look after the person who made the rolls. Such remarks as " I have been looking for years for a cook who can make sausage rolls like that " and " They were the best I have had for a long time " lead me to believe that he will be kidnapped at the earliest opportunity.

The hustle and bustle of our arrival has almost died down, and we are now waiting to collect our share of the laurels or wagon wheels, as the case may be.

Our green sun jhules, trimmed and stream-lined in yellow, are the talk of the Brigade ; in fact, the colour has affected some people and made them green with envy. At least, I presume it is the colour. Of course, the fact that our horses are the only ones in camp which can boast of such things may have something to do with it.

Andora Camp, 9/11/34.

A thoughtful individual has just mentioned WIRE notes to me, and I realise that it is time they were sent away.

Very little of interest has happened since my last effort. We had four or five days of rain, which turned the camp site into a quagmire and did not improve our opinion of Andora and the camp generally. The horse lines were here to-day and there to-morrow, but fortunately we did not have to change our address, and as the place has dried up now everything has become normal again.

The " war " proper is yet to come, but I hope to be able to give an account of our doings next month, providing we arrive back at Jubbulpore in time.

Howlers.—We had two helio terminals working the other day, and three aeroplanes happened to circle round the camp while this was going on. In the mess tent, a little later, one bright young Gunner was heard to remark, " I saw the Signal Section sending wireless to those planes this morning." I don't suppose you will believe this. I should not if I had not heard it myself.

Note.—To Joe Barringer, exact whereabouts unknown: Am now condemned for eight ; expect a further sentence of four, John'o.

Tailpiece.—That's all.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

The training is progressing in all branches of work, and on Wednesday 6th February we were pleased to welcome the Commandant and officers from the School of Anti-Aircraft Defence. A demonstration was given that evening, and the improved lay-out in connection with the Air Defence communications proved effective.

Additional improvements are being made at headquarters by the Territorial Association, and we are very grateful for this help in making the rooms much more attractive.

A Miniature Rifle Club has been formed, and every facility for musketry practice will be given.

The Westminster Branch of the Old Comrades, Signals Association, will hold its annual dance at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 6th April, at these headquarters. Tickets 1/6 single, 2/6 double. A hearty invitation is extended to all old comrades and friends.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brook's Bar, Manchester 16.

We have now begun to settle down again after the Christmas holidays. All Companies are getting a good attendance on their respective drill nights, and trade training is going with a swing. Everyone is eagerly awaiting the arrival of spring and looking forward to getting out into the country for week-end schemes.

A three weeks operating course commences on the 17th Feb. and it is hoped to train a few more men up to Group E standard, or higher. However, we will let you know the result of this after the Trade Board.

Another unit dance was held on the 9th February, and it was a great success. The next one (the last of the season) has been fixed for the 2nd March.

Annual Camp.—It has been definitely fixed that we go to Caernarvon from the 9th to the 23rd June.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual dinner has been fixed for the 9th March.

Wedding Bells.—Our adjutant, Captain H. E. M. Swan, was married on the 2nd February to Miss D. Addis at St. James Church, Birch-in-Rusholme. All the officers of the unit attended and formed a guard of honour at the church. Colonel W. S. Ashley acted as groomsman. After the ceremony, the P.S. and members of the Sergeants Mess towed the bridal car from church to the bride's home, where the reception was held.

O.C.A.—The 42nd Divl Signals Old Comrades Association are holding their annual reunion and supper at the Thatched House Hotel, Manchester, at 6.30 p.m. on the 23rd February.

Supplementary Reserve.

No. 1 (E.L.) C.M.A. Signal Section held a very pleasant hot pot supper and social at headquarters on the 2nd February on the occasion of Sergt Brotherton's retirement from the unit and, incidentally, from military service. Bill is held in high esteem by all ranks, and his departure will be a great loss to the unit.

The late O.C. Company (Major G. Hamilton), the present O.C. (Captain S. R. Bower), and Lieutenants Ellis and Barber were present, and all were loud in their praise of Sergt Brotherton's ability and initiative. These sentiments were fully endorsed by all present.

During the evening a presentation was made to Sergt Brotherton in recognition of services rendered, and the good wishes of every individual member of the Section go with him to Ellesmere Port Post Office, where he has now taken up duty.

Our new permanent staff instructor, Sergeant Coleman, was introduced to us, and we wish him a happy time amongst us.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Each Company has been getting down to it in respect of the operators special classes, which terminate shortly with the trade grouping of a good list of candidates. One Company produced two outstanding operators last year, and we are looking for a repetition of this performance, with the difference that the number may be increased.

Special instructional lectures for subaltern officers and senior n.c.o.s are also about to terminate, and in this connection the permanent staff are to be thanked for the hard work they have put in, not only in preparing a most comprehensive and interesting programme, but in dealing with each subject in a most excellent manner. The spade work behind the scenes in such cases is nearly always overlooked.

The special classes for linemen are now commencing, and great keenness is being observed.

The officers of the unit foregathered at Basingstoke on the 10th February for the first of a series of T.E.W.T.s, and everyone voted it an excellent show. The commanding officer terminated the exercise with a few apt words on the great value to be obtained on these occasions. The problems set were designed to produce solutions which would create discussion on the various principles involved.

We were delighted at the attendance of our hon. colonel (The Lord Basing), who very kindly welcomed us to tea at his residence. We seized this opportunity of presenting him with a silver salver (suitably inscribed, and bearing the signatures of all officers of the unit) in token of his services to the unit generally during his command, and to the officers in particular. Lady Basing joined him in a charming acknowledgment.

Congratulations to 2/Lieutenants Fenwick and Edwards on passing part one of their Certificate "A" examination.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

The annual Company dinner was held in our drill hall on Saturday 26th January. About eighty were present to enjoy the first dinner of No. 1 Company in Plymouth. Our commanding officer (Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.) was welcomed with enthusiasm, and in a happily worded speech he encouraged us to continue in upholding the high traditions of the unit. Unfortunately, both our colonel (The Lord Basing) and Major Western were unable to attend, but other guests included Captain R. T. Cooke (R.A.S.C.), Captain M. Bawden (D.C.L.I.), A. R. Crookes, Esq. (Post Office) and Dr. V. Curtain (Company M.O.)

Sergeant-Major Stone G. E. (our P.S.I. for the past three years and now at Exeter) was presented with an inscribed silver cigarette box as a token of the esteem with which he is regarded by the whole Company.

The Coley cup, awarded to the most efficient all-round signalman for the past year, was presented to Sigmn Dawe G. C., who richly deserved the honour.

Headquarters was represented by Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., Mr. Herbert and Mr. Boulger, and No. 3 Company by Lieut. L. E. O. Evans and Sergeants Gregory and Allen.

It was learnt that Mr. Herbert (our R.S.M.) is leaving us shortly. We are very sorry to hear it, but we wish him the best of luck in the future.

The road journey to Basingstoke for the week-end T.E.W.T. was a rather trying affair for the three officers in Mr. Gibson's car. This trio did not arrive at The Red Lion until 8 p.m., and were fortunate to be in time for dinner. It was too late, however, for the boxing trip to Winchester, and a dull (?) evening was spent in Basingstoke. It is not known to the writer what happened on the return to Plymouth, but it is understood that they were home for breakfast!

As I close, news comes to hand that our unit secured seventeen points at the Divisional boxing tournament at Winchester on the 9th February. We are delighted with this result, as the five entrants for the unit hailed from this Company. We are sorry

Captain and Mrs. Swan "supported" by the 42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals on their Wedding Day.

[Photos by The Brompton Press Bureau, Nottingham]

.hat the other Companies could not produce additional entrants on this occasion. The five members of the team and their points are:—

Sigmn Darch H.—7 points (defeated in the final).
Corpl Prout E. A. C. H.—5 points (defeated in semi-final).
Sigmn Phillips J. H.—3 points (retired injured).
Sigmn Pike R. A.—1 point (retired injured)
Sigmn Williams H. L. K.—1 point.

They are all to be warmly congratulated on the performance, and particularly Sigmn Darch, who secured the first medal for the unit.

Our sympathy is extended to Corpl Dear B. and Sigmn Dawe G. C.—both of them keen boxers—who were prevented through illness from participating in the tournament.

ONECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—Pre-Easter training is still going strong, and classes are being well attended. The number on parade on drill nights is not so good as it might be, but perhaps with the coming of lighter and warmer evenings a few more of our hardy stalwarts will brave the elements and show up now and then!

We understand that it is now definitely decided that we shall go to Falmer, near Brighton, for our annual training from the 28th July to the 11th August, both dates inclusive. Many members of this unit will not be strangers in a strange land around there.

Our new G.O.C., Major-General C. G. Liddell, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., visited us on Monday 11th February and inspected the unit at work.

Officers.—The officers technical course is proving extremely popular, and the consequent improvement in their technical knowledge is rapidly becoming obvious. Moreover, the increase in lecturing and instructional ability is very gratifying indeed.

Five officers are attending a tactics course at the London District School of Instruction, with a view to taking their promotion examination in a few weeks time.

A dance was held in the mess on the 25th January at which forty-three officers and their friends attended. It was voted as one of the most enjoyable and successful of the Mess dances. The Mess committee, who worked very hard, are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

Sergeants Mess.—On Friday 25th January we were entertained by Messrs. Moss Brothers to a games tournament at the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's Lane. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and play at various games was indulged in until closing time. We got a severe hiding this time, Moss's beating us by 26—18.

The Mess ball held on Friday 1st February was an enormous success—far more than was anticipated. More than three hundred and fifty officers and Mess members and their friends attended and enjoyed a really wonderful time. With the exception of two short intervals, dancing was practically continuous from eight o'clock on Friday evening until 1.30 on Saturday morning. We had a particularly fine band, complete with microphone and lady crooner—quite the Ambrose touch!

We are very glad to learn that C.S.M. Bill Sewell is on his feet again after having lost his appendix. Cheer up, Bill; it won't be charged against you, and you need not worry the quarterbloke for a replacement.

Social.—Our unit dances on the 19th January and 9th February were both successful and jolly events. Why not come along on the 16th March to our St. Patrick's carnival dance? You will be very welcome, and you can then hear (quite easily) *our* crooner. She's not a blonde nor a brunette—she's White. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Sergeants Mess.—LADIES INVITATION DINNER. The Mess committee have once again produced that little bit of difference that goes to foster the social and entertainment value of the Sergeants Mess.

On this occasion it took the form of an excellent dinner, which (if I may use a popular expression) went down very well indeed. It was admirably organised, and everything went off without a hitch. Not only did the fifty odd who assembled round the festive board enjoy every dish served up, but a few souvenir hunters froze on to the menu cards and proceeded to collect autographs—and, incidentally, pithy remarks in not a few cases.

This little gathering was also notable for a presentation to the guests of the evening, Lieut. (Q.M.) and Mrs. B. J. Rowe, as a mark of esteem and appreciation of the excellent work done by them for this unit during the lieutenant's tour of duty as R.S.M. Mr. Rowe's speech in reply to the presentation address produced great laughter from the guests. I am sure the advice and hints on how to approach the Q.M. on all occasions were much appreciated and will in due course be transferred to the little red book for future use. On behalf of the Mess I take this opportunity of wishing Lt. (Q.M.) and Mrs. Rowe the very best of luck, health, prosperity and everything else in the future. We are indeed sorry he has left the Mess, but on the other hand we rejoice to know that he has only done so to go " upstairs."

We extend a hearty welcome to our new R.S.M. (Mr. Newman) and his wife. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Furthermore, may their lawn grow, or should I say " take root "?—for at the moment he is striving very hard to transform the riding school field into his back garden. However, sir, when your lawn is finished we expect to be invited to the opening ceremony, and on some future occasion to a round of clock golf.

Marriage.—Corpl Parsons J. to Rose Emma Powell at Birmingham on the 11th February. The usual congratulations to the happy couple and the best of luck. MIC.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Another month, full of activity, has come and gone, and all that remains of it is that the WIRE scribe has to rack his brains (if any) lest he should forget anything or anybody.

The individual training course is occupying the attention of all. So far—and it is now nearly half over—the general interest has been well maintained, and when the course comes to an end in March we hope to see a big batch of " passed " after the Trade Board is over. Three Sunday morning parades are included, and on the 3rd February there was a grand muster, there being one hundred and thirty on parade, great benefit being derived from the three hours continuous working.

A special parade was held on the 23rd January, when the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, General Sir Alexander Wardrop, accompanied by Major-General G. H. Jackson (G.O.C. 49th Division) visited the barracks and saw some of the classes at work.

There is also in progress at the moment a fortnight's living-in course for regimental signallers from the Infantry Battalions and R.A. Brigades in the Division and for M.T. drivers.

S.R. Re-organisation.—The re-organisation of the old G.H.Q. Signals (of which No. 3 Company was attached to this unit) gives us cause to be very proud and honoured, in that the headquarters and Nos. 1 and 3 Companies of the new R.A.F. Signals are now housed in these barracks. No. 2 Company is in London and No. 4 in Birmingham. Hitherto, there have been quite a number of R.A.F. Signal Sections dotted about the country, but this is the first unit of R.A.F. Signals that has been formed. The unit will be commanded by Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D., who is promoted to that rank w.e.f. 1/1/35. We offer him our hearty congratulations, and sincerely trust that he will rapidly recover from his present indisposition and return to his new command fully restored to health. No. 1 Company will be commanded by Captain I. R. Sutcliffe, and No. 3 by Major F. S. Morgan (whom we welcome from Royal Signals S.R. " not in units "). May he have a long and happy stay with us.

Our hearty congratulations are extended to the following on being promoted as under:—2/Lieut. White to be Lieutenant 30/12/34; Sergt Heptonstall A. to be C.Q.M.S., and L/Sergeants Booker and Rochford to be Sergeants, w.e.f. 1/1/35.

More S.R. News.—The manly chests of Signalmen Corcoran M. and McGuinn E. are now adorned with the efficiency medal, S.R. or Militia; and in wishing them all the best, may we remind them that there are still plenty of bars for them to go after.

T.A. Promotions and Appointments.—There has been unusual activity in the " stripes " department this month, as this list shows. Outstanding among these is that of R.Q.M.S. Tebbs

F. to be Lieutenant (Q.M.) 26/1/35. Hearty congratulations, sir, and a long and happy life. More congratulations to the following. Appointed L/Sergeants: Corporals Feeley J., Bennett G. and Stacey K. G. Promoted Corporals: L/Corporals Hall S., West J. and Thurlwell A. E. Appointed L/Corporals: Signalmen Cox G., Mitchell H. W. L., Whittaker E., Abbott H. and Smith W. 205th Medium Artillery Signal Section—Appointed L/Sergeant: Corpl Whitelev A. (unpaid). Promoted Corporal: L/Corpl Thornhill H. J. Appointed L/Corporals: Signalmen Parker G. and Preston J. W.

Inter-Company Transfers.—With effect from the 1st March, Lieut. Hey leaves No. 1 Company to take command of E Section No. 2 Company; Lieut. A. D. Woodland returns to D Section after a spell with A; and 2/Lieut. J. O. Crabtree is transferred from No. 2 Company to No. 1 to take charge of A Section.

Signals Association.—With the New Year a determined effort has been commenced to get working in Leeds a sub-Branch of the Northern Command Branch of the Signals Association. Sub-Branches have also been started in Darlington, Scarborough and Derby. Mr. L. W. Green, our ex-R.S.M., makes a welcome reappearance in the barracks as hon. assistant secretary, and he is doing great work to get the Branch going. So far we have secured forty-eight members, but more are coming in each drill night. A meeting of members will be shortly called to discuss the running of the Branch.

Sergeants' Ball.—This, the last of the Christmas functions, took place in the drill hall on the 25th January. As ever, the affair was an outstanding success and there was a full attendance of officers and sergeants, past and present. The committee's strenuous work in arranging the function was well rewarded by the splendid time everyone enjoyed—not the least by Benny Lee, whose exposition of dances old and new (partnered by the R.S.M.) showed some of these rumba fiends the *real* thing. TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—The second half of the winter training has now commenced. A course of six weeks duration for switchboard operators and counter clerks is being run by C.Q.M.S. Gibson J. (as instructor) for Group E and N.F.R. ratings. This is being well attended and some good results are being looked forward to. A course of four weeks duration on drill and duties, under A/C.S.M. Milross, is also being held for senior n.c.o.s. This, too, is well attended, and again good results are anticipated.

It is now definitely known that our next annual training is to be held at Catterick Camp from the 28th July to the 11th August.

Badminton.—As reported in our last issue, we had an engagement with No. 1 Company at Darlington. This was kept on Wednesday 30th January, and a very enjoyable night ensued. The result of the match was in our favour by 8—6.

Boxing.—On Monday 28th January the boxing tournament for the Dent cup was held in our drill hall at Lytton Street. After some excellent fighting, the cup was eventually won by No. 3 Company of Gateshead. No. 2 Company were second and No. 1 third. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

General.—The operators winter course is still going strong. It is due to terminate within the next two or three days, when we are hoping for some good results.

Recruiting.—This has been very brisk for the last two weeks. We have had some dozen recruits on a month's probation, all of whom I think will be taken into our fold.

Five members of the Supplementary Reserve Signal Sections which were disbanded at the end of last month find the call is too great for them, and are joining the Company. We welcome you all.

Football Supper and Smoking Concert.—This was held in the drill hall on Saturday 2nd February, our chief guests being Captain R. S. Wight and Captain J. G. Hopkins. This supper was held chiefly to try to get the footer players of the Company to join our club, and their friends to join the Company—in other words, a recruiting supper—the result being that three men have now been attested from among the invited guests.

Old Comrades Association.—We have now some thirty members from the Company and also a few ex-Signals and ex-R.E. Signals. Any n.c.o. or man of the Company wishing to join should see the P.S.I., who will explain the functions of the Association and its purpose. Any present member desiring a membership badge can have one from the P.S.I. for a shilling.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

Training.—Winter courses for this Company will terminate on the 21st February, but voluntary classes will continue on Monday and Friday evenings until Company training commences. We shall be pleased to see any members of the Company on those evenings, especially those intending to take the Trade Board test.

Entertainments.—On Thursday evening 18th January a Company smoking concert was held in the drill hall. I believe this is the first time an attempt has been made to run such a show at Kirkcaldy. It was voted a complete success and, providing enough support is given by members of the Company, it will become an annual affair.

A representative of the local paper attended and the following appeared in *The Fifeshire Advertiser* on the 19th January:—"An effort to enlist recruits for the 51st (H) Divisional Signals of the Territorial Army met with a hearty response in the drill hall on Thursday evening. The entertainment, mainly a smoking concert, was also designed for the enjoyment of the Company, and judging by the spontaneity of the applause there was little doubt of this. During an interval in the programme Captain A. T. Wood recorded the thanks of the Company to the entertainers, who were drawn principally from the ranks, and took the opportunity of presenting four silver medals to C.Q.M.S. Bease, Sergt Marshall and Signalmen Brown A. and Williamson, winners of the New Year shoot.

Our annual whist drive, supper and dance was held on the 1st February and proved a great success. Colonel E. B. Reid came all the way from Aberdeen to attend; our adjutant (Captain Dryland) called in on his way back from leave; and Captain Cochran and Lieut. Gray were here from No. 2 Company, Stirling.

All entertainments are now finished until the 1935-36 season commences. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Officers' Dance.—This is one of the star events of the Officers Mess social season, and it took place in the mess on the 18th January. Several distinguished guests were present, including Lieut.-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C., C.S.O. Scottish Command.

Coming Events.—These are already casting their shadows of pleasurable anticipation. We are all setting to work with a will. Our training camps are to be at Aldershot, Yorkshire and Fireshire. Variety galore! We look forward with great gusto to the summer and autumn of 1935. There will be great times of training and preparation. There is every prospect of a happy year ahead.

The Lord-Lieutenant.—Lord Provost Sir Archibald Swan witnessed a demonstration at Jardine Street on the 5th February. Our distinguished visitor appeared to be greatly pleased with all he saw. Sir Archibald's remarks were complimentary and most encouraging, and he expressed himself well pleased with our recruiting progress

Graceful Gesture.—A desire has been expressed by the Men's Club that the senior n.c.o.s should join them in a combined social gathering. The invitation has been accepted by the w.o.s and sergeants, and every endeavour will be made to arrange what should prove to be a most pleasant function.

Rifle Club.—The club continues to display much activity. Excellent B.S.A. rifles have been purchased, and ambitious projects are now being considered.

Spade Work.—Our headquarters are a beehive of industry on drill nights. There are wireless, linemen's and visual courses. Our permanent staff are working with a will. The courses are shaping well and are being well attended. There is some prospect

of a Radio Club being formed. The wireless room has been renovated and presents a spic and span appearance. Everything is being done to encourage wireless enthusiasts.

Railway Rumblings.—Captain W. J. H. Campbell (commanding the Glasgow Detachment, Railway Telegraphs) informs us that all is set fair for the detachment's training.

Arrangements have been made for a Glasgow representative to attend the Railway Signals reunion dinner in Manchester.

Promotions.—We hasten to congratulate C.S.M. Luke, C.Q.M.S. Macphee and L/Sergt Burgess on their respective promotions. All three have done splendid work for the S.R., and we record their reward with satisfaction.

Ambitious Attempt.—The attempt by the W.O. and Sergeants Mess to further ensure the success of their social season is an ambitious one. A gala theatre night, including supper at a well known city restaurant, is being arranged and the number of guaranteed subscribers to this function has already exceeded our expectations.

Jack Gray.—We are distressed to learn that ex-R.Q.M.S. Gray is not very well. It is good to know that Jack Gray's many friends are keeping in touch with him through the medium of comrade Wilson Maxwell.

Obituary.—We learned of the death of ex-C.S.M. Shand J. (late of the S.R.) with very deep regret. Poor old Jock suffered long and sorely, though there were very few who knew it. We will long remember John Shand. He was warm hearted and generous, and we will always connect his name with the early happy years of the S.R. Signal units in Glasgow.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

Headquarters.

Training.—During last month a course was held at Stratford, Southend and Bedford for prospective officer and n.c.o. instructors. The selected young n.c.o.s gave a good account of themselves.

The T.A. instructional staff have taken over the paid evening classes for all ranks. These commenced on the 28th January and will continue for eight weeks. The percentage of 60 is very good; late work and attendance at other evening classes are preventing the remainder from attending.

Boxing.—A full report on the unit's boxing activities since our last issue is given in the Sports Notes and therefore my notes here will be brief.

The unit championships, held at Stratford on the 17th January, provided us with fifteen fights. Boxers were graded in A and B sections—A being beginners, and B those who had boxed for the unit or were more experienced. Entries were limited to ten per Company. Nos. 1 and 3 Companies entered full teams, but No. 2 Company could only find two competitors. In some of the contests, the fighting was so keen that only a fraction of a point divided the men when the final gong was struck. The officials were:—Referee, Major J. McConville, M.C. (adjutant.). Judges, R.S.M. Dowie F. J. and Mr. A. E. Kenyon (late R.S.M. of the unit). Lieut. R. E. Jarvis acted as timekeeper. No. 1 Company retained the cup with 27 points. No. 3 Company had 23, and No. 2 Company 6.

The Essex young soldiers boxing championships were held at the headquarters of the 7th Battalion The Essex Regiment at Walthamstow on the 26th January. This resulted in a win for the Essex Group A.A. Searchlight Companies R.E. with 18 points, 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals obtaining 14. We entered a full team, but on weighing in the team had to be re-organised. With the exception of the middle weight, each man had to go up into a higher weight, bringing in our fly weight for bantam. They all put up a very good show, and we must congratulate Sigmn Dunce of No. 3 Company on winning the feather weights.

The 54th (E.A.) Divl boxing championships were held at Bedford on Saturday 9th February. We hoped to have a full team, filling all weights from light heavy to fly, but it was disappointing to hear two days beforehand that our light heavy was unable to turn out. With visions of carrying home the replica of the Scarbrough cup, we set out for Bedford on Saturday morning. We were unsuccessful, being runners-up to the 4th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. The team did remarkably well in finishing second out of the thirteen teams entered. Sigmn King returned as fly weight champion, and Sigmn Marden as runner-up in the light weights. Well done, No. 1 Company! Lieut. C. Nettleship (officer i/c boxing team) is convinced that he will provide the winning team next year.

Congratulations.—To C.S.M. Stone G. E. (P.S.I. Exeter) on his recent promotion. Well done, George! I have been wondering where you were. Dowie. HQRS.

No. 1 Company.

Annual Company Dinner.—As previously advertised in THE WIRE (and in *The Stratford Express*) this was held at the Swan Hotel, Stratford Broadway, on the 25th January. An excellent year of progressive work was celebrated by seventy members of the Company and guests, under the presidency of the O.C. Company, Captain J. L. Lilley, who was supported by the former C.C. of the unit (Colonel P. J. Bowling), the second-in-command (Major F. A. Manley, T.D.), the adjutant (Major J. McConville, M.C.) and other officers of the unit. It was regretted that our commanding officer was absent owing to his being so busy in the north of England, but our consolation lay in the fact that he was with us in spirit. Good for No. 1! You backed up your social committee to such an extent that everybody was highly delighted with the show, and this dinner excelled any other we have held—considered to be an almost impossible feat. One who is to be specially thanked for his very hard work is Corpl Hooker J., and we take this opportunity of mentioning him. Good for you, Jim! May you carry on the good work!

Boxing.—Again No. 1 Company has occasion to pat itself on the back. After a hard tussle, chiefly with the team produced by No. 3 Company, we retained the inter-Company boxing cup by a margin of four points. We congratulate our whole team; to mention individuals would be unfair. Well held, No. 1 Company!

In the Essex young soldiers team competition, we could do no better than score 14 points against the eventual winners' 18; but again the team fought very hard, and we congratulate them on the spirit shown. Congratulations, too, to Sigmn Dunce, of No. 3 Company, on winning his weight. A coming lad, this.

Training.—The paid evening classes are going just as they should: that is, excellently. The attendances are good, as are the instructors, and the work is carried out efficiently, smoothly and beneficially to all concerned. A record Trade Board is anticipated this year, believe me—which augurs well for the annual training camp. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—The paid evening classes commenced on the 28th January. The Company is fairly well represented, but we should like to see more members taking advantage of this training, to fit them for the year's work ahead.

Boxing.—The inter-Company competition was held at headquarters on Thursday 17th January. Some excellent fights were witnessed, and we congratulate Nos. 1 and 3 Companies on an extraordinarily good show. No. 1 Company were just a little too good for No. 3 and won the trophy by four points. Congratulations to Sigmn Dunce of No. 3 Company on his success in the Essex young soldiers competition. He is no "dunce" in the art of leather pushing and fought three excellent fights to win his weight.

Miniature Rifle Club.—The Club is going strong and some very enjoyable shoots have taken place. During the past month we have had our friends of the Old Contemptibles over on several evenings, and endeavoured to show them that they are not the only people who can get possibles. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Social.—We opened our social activities of the year with the annual children's Christmas tree party, which took place on the evening of the 5th January. After tea (a very successful repast, presided over by C.Q.M.S. Smeeton and a willing band of workers) the children were entertained with a real variety show. A troupe of clever dancers (all juveniles) was produced by Lieut. R. E. Jarvis; community singing was organised by Club members in fancy dress; and Sergt Bradbury W. wound up the bill with his version of Aladdin and his lamp. A very entertaining show.

We are grateful to Sergt Bradbury for his efforts which produced a really good playlet, complete with scenery, lighting effects, etc., out of practically no material at all. The distribution of toys from the Christmas tree by Santa Claus brought a very enjoyable evening to a close ; and to judge from the patience with which parents had to prise their offsprings from the drill hall, the kiddies were prepared to have " made a night of it."

Training.—We have just commenced our paid evening classes, and though our numbers aren't as strong as they might be, we hope to increase as time goes on. For the present the lads are keen to increase their efficiency, and we are getting some good work done.

Boxing.—All members of this Company join in congratulating No. 1 Company on retaining their firm hold on the unit boxing cup. We enjoyed a splendid night's sport and would have been really grateful for just five more points. Judging from remarks heard in the charabanc when returning to Southend, No. 3 Company is to march en masse to Stratford in 1936 and put in two men against one from each of the other Companies. Our thanks are due to all members of the boxing team who tried so hard to regain the cup for us. Well done! better luck next year.

Congratulations to Sigmn Dunce, who did so well in the inter-Company boxing competition, and again scored a hat trick in the young soldiers boxing competition at Walthamstow. For a " dunce " he seems to be pretty good in any old corner. We hope he will have the same success when he appears in the Divisional championships.

Company Dinner.—This convivial meeting took place at Garon's Banqueting Hall on the 14th January. With the exception of two or three members who were unable to attend owing to working late, we had a hundred per cent. attendance. After the dinner, the company were entertained by popular concert artistes who made things go with a swing (thanks, Harry! I've borrowed it again). The evening was brought to a close by the distribution of prizes won by various members of the Company. A very pleasant evening. THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—The officers and n.c.o.s course having finished, we have started the paid evening classes for all ranks. The attendance to date is a bit shaky, averaging ten per drill night, but as all the lads have not been rounded up yet, we hope to get more. It's funny, how they hibernate during the winter months.

Social.—We now have a new club room, the old one being turned into the Section offices. The new offices are much larger, so no doubt the P.S.I. can fling his weight about more. The new club room is also larger, and is in the process of being furnished. To date we have three pictures and " Jimmy." As it is also used for the lecture room, there are two tables. The curtains which graced the old club room have been sold to the caretaker for half a dollar: a bargain—for the Club.

Boxing.—Bedford Detachment congratulate the team on being runners-up in the 54th Division championships.

Births.—Congratulations to our O.C. on becoming a father for the first time. A son—nine pounder—and all's well.

News.—Listened in all last week and never heard " Smoke gets in your eyes."

Tip for Quarterblokes.—Take one puttee, cut in half, sew a bit of tape on the half that hasn't any, and lo! a *pair* of puttees.

Another Tip.—Take two pouches, lineman (complete), declare to the poor sap who looks after them that a screwdriver is missing from each, and lo! *two* screwdrivers.

Another Ti. . . .—Oh, alright! TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7.

Among the events which have happened since the last notes were written, the Regimental hot-pot held on the 19th January at the Bluecoat Chambers, Liverpool, must take pride of place. As always, this affair proved most successful, and a goodly crowd enjoyed every minute. The chief guest of the evening was the Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Alderman F. T. Richardson) who, being an old P.O. telegraph expert, naturally found himself in complete sympathy with Signals. He made a most appropriate and sincere speech, in the course of which he expressed the hope that our strength (at present about 100 below par) would improve rapidly. Trophies competed for during the year were presented by the Lord Mayor, and Colonel W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., T.D., presented the efficiency medals.

It is my pleasure this month to record three promotions. Captain F. J. Behn received his Majority, and Lieutenants T. C. Chilton and A. B. Moore may now wear three pips. The writer smiles when he recalls the commencement of the T.A. careers of these three youngsters, and how through many a scrape he has brought them at last to the comparative respectability of their present ranks. However, to these worthy and deserving gentlemen our hearty felicitations ; and mine's a beer, please.

One of our new captaincies arose from Captain F. J. Behn's promotion, and the other from the retirement to the Reserve of Captain G. Drewry. We are exceedingly sorry to lose Captain Drewry—he is a cheery soul and a very bulwark of the Mess. Let us hope that he will not quite desert us now.

There is also another addition to the Reserve, which now must be almost as strongly numerically as the serving Mess. 2/Lieut. J. A. Morris, whom we knew only a short time, has " been and gorn and left us." Luckily, the hopefuls on the waiting list seem to be of good calibre and will, no doubt, fit in gracefully and perhaps (in time) even efficiently.

This winter, there has been a series of extremely interesting lectures by various officers of exalted rank on Signal Services during the war on various fronts. The latest was given by Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., D.C.S.O. Western Command, who instructed an attentive audience on " Signals in the Palestine Campaign." As the colonel pointed out, the title was somewhat unfortunate, as previous lectures had been headed " The Signal Service at ———." The lecturer said that he did not believe for one minute that the " Service " had been intentionally omitted, and went on to dispel by his most entertaining talk any doubts which might have existed on that score. The chief point brought home to me from Colonel Llewellyn's lecture was that gentleman's intense love of the Fullerphone—an instrument on which he would, I gathered, be prepared to stake his life.

One or two important events take place before the publication of our next notes. On the 16th February comes the Divisional boxing tournament, for which we have entered a team. Good luck to them! I hope, next month, to be able to record some successes. Last year we had one finalist in the welter weights in Sigmn Weild, whom we hope will do even better this time.

Our Prescot Company is holding its annual sergeants dance on the 22nd February, and doubtless this will be as good as ever—those who have been to a Prescot dance know how good that is.

The officers' ball takes place at the Adelphi Hotel on Friday 1st March. This function will no doubt equal its predecessors in charm and gaiety. Perhaps, even, Mary Ventris will describe some of the ladies' gowns.

I cannot close these notes without recording the change in command of the Supplementary Reserve Company which trains at these barracks. Major B. L. Bastin was well known and liked by the T.A. in Liverpool, and we extend to his successor, Major D. C. M. Johnson, our best wishes for a successful tenure of command. FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

General.—While a great deal of work is done at this headquarters both during and after working hours, there seems little to chronicle except items of a purely social character.

Officers' Dinner.—This function was held on the 23rd January, and a large and distinguished company appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Sergeants' Dance.—This was held on Saturday 26th January, and was noteworthy for the arrangement of tables round the hall, which with the extremely lavish decorations assisted greatly in causing a record crowd to dance on till well after midnight.

Workshops.—Under the able guidance of C.S.M. Angell the wheels now go round, and a mahogany paper weight was turned to commemorate the date (27th January 1935). C.O.L.S.

SPORTS NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—There were about fifty entries for the recruits competition held in the Blood Tub from the 28th to 31st January. Quite a large number of the points went to No. 73 Squad, who carried off the shield.

The following were the results in the finals. Feather—Sigmn Green ; runner-up Sigmn Naylor. Light—Sigmn Roden ; runner-up Sigmn Donnelly. Welter—Sigmn Fell ; runner-up Signalman Hart. Middle—Sigmn Taylor ; runner-up Sigmn Beverley. Light heavy—Sigmn Burnell ; runner-up Sigmn Bush.

At the conclusion of the competition Lieut.-Colonel St. John presented the shield to No. 73 Squad, and silver and bronze medals to the winners and runners-up respectively. Lieut. G. F. Houghton and Q.M.S.I. Wilcox and staff must be congratulated on producing an excellent display.

Shooting.—The Battalion team is still going strong in the Burroughes and Watts competition. In the third qualifying round we beat Stirling by eight points. In the first round proper we fixed Guardbridge and qualified for the second round by the narrow margin of one point. The result of our match in the second round against Ipswich is not yet to hand.

In the Yorkshire League (Div. I.) we started off badly, but our recent achievements have taken us towards the top of the league. The following is the league table, with eight matches be be fired.

	Won	Lost	Aggregate	Points
Bradford "A"	9	1	5927	18
Huddersfield	6	4	5908	12
Depot Battalion	6	4	5886	12
Hull Electricity	6	4	5885	12
Doncaster	6	4	5876	12
Bradford "B"	5	5	5892	10
Doncaster Comrades	4	6	5895	8
B.O.C.M. Hull	4	6	5865	8
Atlas and Norfolk	3	7	5365	6
Rotherham	1	9	4539	2

Outdoor Sports.—Many of these have had to be cancelled owing to inclement weather. Rugger—v. R.A.F. Catterick Aerodrome won, v. 2nd South Wales Borderers lost, v. 20th Field Brigade R.A. lost. Soccer—v. 20th Field Brigade R.A. won. Hockey—v. Gloucester Regiment drew.

We sympathise with Dismounted Wing in losing to E Company in the final of the Mackworth trophy.

Headquarters, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—On Wednesday 30th January the Training Battalion played the 2nd Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers in the first round of the Catterick Garrison senior cup competition.

The Training Battalion started off very well and looked as if they had every chance of winning. The forwards were getting the ball and the three-quarters were handling well. Towards the end of the first half 2/Lieut. Gordon, who was playing at full back, made a splendid run and was well backed up. He passed to McKend, who gave an inside pass to enable 2/Lieut. Bradley to score. The try was converted by West, and at half time the Training Battalion were leading by 5—0 points.

In the second half the K.O.S.B. came into their own. They made a forward game of it and proved too heavy for the Training Battalion forwards. The K.O.S.B. forwards repeatedly took the ball down the field to the goal line and heeled for their halves to score. After the K.O.S.B. had scored two goals as a result of these forward rushes, the Training Battalion were awarded a penalty from which West scored, making the score 10—8. After that the Training Battalion forwards began to tire and the K.O.S.B. scored two more goals and a try. The game ended in a win for the K.O.S.B. by 23—8.

E Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Sport.—The Band hockey team entertained the Richmond Ladies hockey team in a friendly game at Scotton and were defeated by 8—5 goals. A huge transfer scoop was carried out before the match, with the result that the ladies had L/Corpl Hayes and Sigmn O'Connor on their books. The ladies' goals were scored by Paddy.

The Band and Cadre football team travelled to Billingham to play the Tarton F.C. and were defeated by 6—2 goals after a good game. The play was fairly even during the first half, but on the resumption the home team had the advantage of the wind and found the net five times.

The Company team played the School of Signals and were defeated by 3—0 goals. The rugger team also failed to register a win, being beaten by F Company by 15—0 points.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—On Wednesday 23rd January two XV.s took the field against Richmond School. The First XV. played at Richmond and the Second XV. on Scotton ground.

The First XV. had the advantage of the wind in the first half, and Smith scored early. It was only in the last five minutes of the game that our opponents scored. Neither try was converted, and the final score was therefore 3—3. Our XV. was badly disorganised by the absence of six regular players—one playing for the S.T.C. and the other five left out owing to the fourth round of the Army soccer cup being played three days later. Both the forward and three-quarter play was erratic. However, considering the above and the fact that our opponents included two masters and a Sandhurst cadet on their side, we didn't do too badly.

In the Second XV. game F Company played a really good game against a more experienced and heavier side, and several boys showed good promise. Deane scored a splendid try after a good tussle on our opponents' goal line, and the score at half time was 3—0 in favour of F Company. Soon after half time Richmond scored a penalty goal, followed soon after by a try. A further penalty awarded to Richmond gave them another goal and left them winners by 9—3 points.

On Monday 4th February the First XV. (less Harrison) played a team of young soldiers from the 2nd Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment on Scotton ground. This was a practice game to get the team together, after a long spell of football, before the Ampleforth and Stoneyhurst matches. In the first half the game was scrappy and neither side scored, but in the second half F Company forwards settled down to it and obtained possession of the ball in most of the set scrums. This gave the three-quarters a better chance of handling the ball. Towards the end of the game Offord intercepted a pass from a Gloucester man and scored a beautiful try between the posts, but the try was unconverted. This was the only score, and F Company won by 3—0.

TRAINING BATTALION AND S.T.C. MATCHES.—We must congratulate L/Corporal Boys Luscombe and Shergold on being selected to play for the Training Battalion in the Garrison rugger cup against the K.O.S.B. and for the Signal Training Centre against Ampleforth First XV. Luscombe played forward and Shergold scrum half, and in the match against Ampleforth they both scored tries. This is a great triumph for them at the end of their boys' rugger career. We shall expect to hear more of these two in the future.

The Boys First XV. match against Ampleforth Second XV., due to be played on the 9th February, had to be postponed owing to a case of scarlet fever in the Company.

Boys' Army Football Challenge Cup.—In common with the remainder of England we were in the grip of the cup tie fever. No. 3 Section, Training Battalion, R.Signals, played R.E. (Depot) Boys in the fourth round of the Boys' Army cup at Catterick Camp on Saturday 26th January. The weather conditions were very unfavourable, and for a good part of the game wind and snow badly spoilt the standard of play.

The R.E. boys won the toss and started with the wind and snow at their backs, play commencing in ding-dong fashion. After ten minutes, however, Cornish got away on the left wing and put in a good centre, which Gamble diverted into the net. From the kick off Terrey gained possession and passed through

to Lander at inside left, who tapped the ball out to Cornish, and from the latter's centre Harrison, in a melee in front of the R.E. goal, netted our second goal. Although two goals in arrears, the R.E. never lost heart but played well until a few minutes before half time, when their efforts were justly rewarded. Their inside right gained possession about twenty yards out and with a beautiful lob reduced the leeway.

The play at the commencement of the second half was rather disconcerting, largely owing to the Arctic-like conditions which predominated throughout the afternoon. Halfway through this period Verlander, our inside right, sent across a high centre which Harrison headed past the opposing goalkeeper to score our third goal. Shortly afterwards Harrison received the ball from Lander and, working his way past the two backs to the right of the goal, shot on the turn to plant the ball in the top left hand corner of the net. Unfortunately, the referee blew for offside just as our centre scored this exceptionally good goal—of a type in which he is very adept. Our boys continued pressing right up to the end, but no further scoring took place. Final result: Royal Signals 3, R.E. (Depot) 1.

We must congratulate the R.E. on the good show they put up under (to them) distressing conditions, especially as they were away from home. Although the weather spoilt what would have been an excellent game to watch, good support was given to the cup team.

In the next round we meet the Royal Tank Corps from Bovington Camp, and are to play at Aldershot.

Cross-Country Running.—This year the Company entered a boys team in the North-Eastern Counties championships (youths section). The run was held in Stewart Park, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, on the 9th February. The course was of three laps, each of one mile, over entirely flat grass land and no "natural" country—which is quite different stuff to Catterick. There were nine teams competing, each consisting of seven runners, with the first four home to count.

The team ran exceedingly well to get fourth place, with the scoring four finishing fifth, sixteenth, twentieth and twenty-second. Boy Butler ran a very sound race to finish fifth, and might have done even better but for an unfortunate collision with a tree near the finish of the run when well placed for a "go" at the leading men. Next year we hope to do better in this event, and as the team will practically all be eligible to compete again, the winning of both the team and individual places is our goal. The team consisted of Boys Butler, Lander, Cornish, Silver, Scott, Adams and Cullen.

Owing to the North-Eastern Counties event clashing with the third Garrison League run, F Company were only represented by one runner in the Training Battalion team for the latter event; but they got on very well without our runners, finishing fourth—which is their best performance for a long time. F's sole representative was the first Signal runner to finish, so perhaps we helped them a little.

Those members of the Company who are intending to turn out in the running team are warned that the standard is high—and next year will be higher, we hope. Success in this, perhaps the hardest and most exacting of all sports, only comes to those who are willing to train conscientiously and regularly. Natural ability counts for practically nothing in modern athletics; it is the fit, well trained athlete who succeeds—*not* the natural runner who is slack in training. Now is the time to start preparing for next year's competitions, so chuck away the forbidden Woodbine (you too big boy) and get your eyes down to it, for it certainly is worth while.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.—We seem to have found a few hard nuts to crack since last we produced Sports Notes, but we're nothing if not truthful. Here is the whole ghastly truth.

Senior League.—v. 2nd Battalion Cameron Highlanders lost by 2—4, v. 2nd Battalion East Yorks Regiment drew at 1—1, v. 1st Battalion South Staffs Regiment lost by 4—5, v. 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps lost by 0—2, v. 1st Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment lost by 2—3.

Junior League—v. 1st Battalion South Staffs Regiment lost by 2—3, and the return match away lost by 0—5.

In the Inter-Unit League we have played the 2nd Divl Signals and A Corps Signals, and lost by 1—2 and 1—4 respectively; but we still have hopes of reversing things in the return matches.

Cross-Country.—Of the five runs to be held in the Inter-Unit League, three have been decided in our favour, but the 2nd Divl Signals have to be out-run once again before we can rest on our laurels.

Rugby.—After a reverse from the 2nd Divl Signals, the rugger has developed in a more propitious manner. We have won two games in succession, and hope to continue in this vein:—v. 2nd Divl Signals lost by 3—5, v. Norfolk Regiment won by 22—0, v. Ox. and Bucks. L.I. and Royal Irish Fusiliers won by 7—0.

Billiards.—Our programme in the Command Billiard League has been completed. Seven matches were played, five of which were won and two lost. We managed to account for the 2nd Divl Signals, the 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, R.A.M.C., Military Police and Cambridge Hospital; whilst A Corps Signals and R.A.O.C. proved too much for us. L/Corpl Sweet is to be congratulated on showing these results of his captaincy, and also on producing the highest break (46) in our encounters.

Hockey.—Plenty of material and no paucity of friendly games have enabled us to experiment freely with the team, and we can now produce a good representative side. During the last two months we have played nine friendly games and two Army cup matches.

In the second round of the Army cup v. the 11th Field Brigade R.A. we had the better of a fairly good game, winning by 3—2. In the third round we met the holders, The Queen's Regiment, and lost by 0—3. In this match the Queen's were undoubtedly a superior side, thought our centre forward admits that he struck a bad patch.

Results of friendly games—v. West Yorks Regiment won by 4—1, v. R.E. Aldershot (away) lost by 0—2 and (home) won by 3—1, v. Welch Regiment won by 2—1, v. Royal Irish Fusiliers won by 3—1, v. Northamptonshire Regiment won by 4—2, v. Fleet Hockey Club (away) drew at 4—4 and (home) won by 7—3, v. R.A.O.C. (away) lost by 3—6, v. Wiltshire Regiment (home) won by 3—1. In the latter match four of the regular team were unable to turn out. That's not an excuse—it's an indictment!

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

General.—Since the leave season ended, we have had quite a strenuous time with boxing, football, cross-country, etc. The boxers especially have been working hard, but the long period of training was well rewarded, as they reached the semi-finals of the Aldershot Command inter-unit competition. The fact that they only had to fight one match to reach that stage does not make it less meritorious. The Coldstream Guards were our victims in the second round, but in the semi-finals we met extremely stiff opposition in the R.E. Aldershot. The Sappers showed themselves well versed in all departments of the noble art, but the final score of 26—17 points in their favour flatters them just a little. Still, we have hopes for next year, as several members of our team were novices and they appear to be very promising.

In the Aldershot Command Senior League our football team are doing very well, having lost only two games, and thus are well placed in Division II. We have several games to play yet, and seeing that we have played the leaders (the 2nd Battalion R.T.C.) twice and defeated them on each occasion, our hopes for the championship of the Division may quite possibly be realised. Our side is capable enough of rising to the occasion. Still, I'll be able next month to state more definitely how the position lies, as we are nearing several important matches.

Boxing.—2nd Divl Signals v. 1st Coldstream Guards. This match in the second round of the Command inter-unit team championship was decided in the Marlborough Lines theatre on the 23rd January, and it provided excellent entertainment for the large crowd that assembled to witness it. The Guards were unable to find the necessary bantam weight and two feather weights, so they started with a deficit of six points, but they struggled along really well and at the end the score stood at 26—16 points. Our side have to be heartily congratulated on their performance as, with the exception of two, all gave away height and reach, but this disadvantage did not deter them in any way. On

nearly every occasion they boxed their way to victory, an odd knock out or two intervening to break the list of points victories. The results were as follows:—

Signalmen Skidmore, Anderson and Thirkell had walk-overs—the former in the bantams and the latter two in the feathers, the Guards failing to produce men of those weights.
Sigmn Reardon lost to Guardsman Wood on points.
Sigmn Duncan beat Guardsman Galway on points.
Sigmn O'Rourke lost to Guardsman Haywood on points after a very close fight.
Sigmn Barker had a comfortable points victory over Guardsman Bosworth.
Sigmn Robertson knocked out Guardsman Putt in the first round.
Sigmn Stannard lost to Guardsman Wright on points.
L/Corpl Wright knocked out Guardsman Davidson.
Sigmn Rogers beat L/Sergt Watton on points. This was the best fight of the evening, both boxing scientifically throughout the three rounds. Rogers was always on top.
Sigmn Redgrave was knocked out by L/Sergt Pegg.
Sigmn Steward beat L/Corpl Kane on points.
Sergt Wheeler beat Guardsman Daniels on points.
Sergt Parker beat L/Corpl Portass on points.

2nd Divl Signals v. R.E. Aldershot.—This match was decided in the Command Boxing Centre, Albuhera Barracks, on Friday 8th February, before a large crowd of spectators. Throughout the evening some excellent scrapping was seen, and quite a few knock outs were delivered. As I've said, the Sappers won comfortably, but were lucky to have such a big margin in hand when the last fight ended. The results were as follows:—

Sigmn Thirkell lost to Sapper Brockett on points.
Sigmn Goldfinch lost to Driver McKay on points.
Sigmn Sharkey lost on disqualification to Driver Hardy. This was rather severe on Sharkey, as he was definitely on top. It seemed to be his stance when fighting that brought him disqualification.
Sigmn Reardon was knocked out by Driver Shepherd in the first round.
Sigmn O'Rourke lost a good fight with Driver Whitehead on points. There was little separating these two when the final gong went.
Driver Hassell was knocked out by Sergt Morrell in the first round.
L/Corpl Wright was knocked out by L/Corpl Marshall in the first round.
Sigmn Humby suffered a like defeat at the hands of Driver Rogers.
Sigmn Robertson and Corpl Mitchell had a good set to, and had Robertson gone for his man in his usual way, he would have won. As it was, he contented himself by boxing and let his opponent do the attacking, whereupon he lost the decision.
Sigmn Rogers was unexpectedly beaten on points by L/Corpl Hatch.
Sigmn Spencer won on the disqualification of L/Corpl Gower. The latter started off like a whirlwind, but Spencer kept his head and boxed cleverly; and I may say he would have won had his opponent not been disqualified.
Sigmn Steward lost on points to L/Corpl Hughes.
Sergt Wheeler showed that he has lost little of his old cunning in knocking out Sapper Leggett in the second round.
Sergt Parker was knocked out by Corpl Wright in the second round.
Sigmn Barker boxed cleverly to gain a comfortable points decision over L/Corporal Buckley.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—S.P.A. League. Commencing 1935 at the bottom of the league with four points, we had hopes of improving on such a bad start—but so far our hopes have not been realised. The first match, on the 30th January, against the 6th Medium Brigade R.A. resulted in a loss by 0—4. Then, on the 11th February, we lost to the 5th Light Brigade R.A. by 2—3 after leading at half time by 2—0.

Bulford Garrison League.—No. 2 Company are still doing well in this league and are within one point of the leaders. They have also knocked out teams in the first, second and third rounds of the Bulford Garrison cup, and are due to play in the semi-final on the 23rd March.

Nos 1 and 3 Companies have not done quite so well in the league and cup. Both were knocked out in the first round of the cup, and are now about half way up the league table. Some of the arrivals from India should help to give them a leg up.

Section League.—Each Company has its Section League, and the winning Sections of each Company are due to play off on the 11th March for the "champion Section." The leading Section of No. 1 Company at present is D. Nos. 2 and 3 Companies keep very quiet as to their leading Sections.

Rugby.—Results of matches played during January: v. R.W.F. drew at 6—6, v. R.E. Bulford won by 8—0, v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A. won by 26—3.

Hockey.—The last month has not been a very active one for our hockey team. Bad weather and the winter leave period have caused most fixtures to be cancelled. We regret that the Army cup again eluded us when we lost to the 5th Battalion R.T.C. by 1—2 after a very exciting and strenuous game.

Cross-Country Running.—Unfortunately, the team this year is sadly depleted. Several of our best runners have been drafted abroad or have finished their service. However, the team that is left is a very game one.

The only fixture so far was on the 9th February at Epsom, when the team ran in the South of Thames cross-country race. The result was rather disappointing, thanks to a long bus ride before the race. However, valuable experience was gained by the new members of the team, and all ran very pluckily.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Association Football.

Relationship with the local clubs was restored upon the return of the unit from annual furlough on the 19th January. A New Year's gift, in the nature of a defeat, was bestowed upon us by our very familiar neighbours the Junior Imps F.C. in a cup competition, a report of which appears in another paragraph. The departure of Sigmn Stanford overseas presented a problem in the defence which had to be solved. However, Corpl Badham stepped into the breach and has ably played himself into the left back berth. Some difficulty is being experienced in trying to convert half backs into inside forwards, and our forward line at the moment is therefore experimental.

Second Round, Scarborough and District Cup.—For the fourth time this season, Signals were opposed to Scarborough Junior Imps. Previous to this encounter Signals had defeated the Imps twice (a replay being necessary in the second game).

Signals won the toss and gave the Imps the advantage of a fresh down-field wind. Play was not up to the usual standard, mainly owing to the slippery state of the ground, a heavy shower of rain having presented itself just prior to the kick off. Chances of scoring came to Signals times without number, and a substantial lead should have resulted. Hafl time score: nil.

Within five minutes of the resumption Signals scored through Hawks. The Imps rallied and equalised soon after. The wind now abated and Signals, tiring, allowed the Imps to register three more goals—by break-aways, I will admit, but nevertheless, not against the run of play. Final score: Signals 1, Imps 4. Our exit from the competition at this early stage was really a blessing in disguise, as successive victories in cup ties had congested the league programme, which has for two months been at a standstill.

Fourth Round, Scarborough Hospital Cup.—The visitors to our barracks on the 26th January were Duncombe Park F.C., at present the leaders of the York and District League. Readers may recall the gale that over-ran the country about this period, and above all days Saturday was chosen by the weather clerk as the one for its zenith. It was extremely doubtful whether play could be commenced owing to bad ground and above-ground conditions.

A start was made, however. Signals won the toss and, assisted by a 60 m.p.h. wind, registered five goals in twenty-five minutes. The game became a farce. Goal kicks taken by Duncombe Park were carried back over the line by the gale, resulting in corner kicks for Signals. A sudden blizzard put an end to

Duncombe Park's discomfiture—players, referee and spectators leaving the arena in less than even time.

REPLAY.—Conditions in the following week were much more favourable when Duncombe again came to our barracks to decide the issue. In the first fifteen minutes the teams appeared to be evenly matched, each side scoring a goal—Smith scoring for Signals. From a rising drive twenty-five yards out, Johnson put Signals ahead. This was the turning point for Signals, and just before half time Clarke scored from close in. Upon the resumption, it was obvious to all that Duncombe Park were being outclassed in all departments. The issue was put beyond doubt when Steer, after a brilliant individual effort, scored a goal—with Alec James written all over it. Result: Signals 4, Duncombe Park 1.

Fifth Round, Scarborough Hospital Cup.—Played at Whitby on the 9th February, with Whitby Albion Rangers F.C. as opponents, this tie terminated in a victory for Signals by 5—1 goals. Unfortunately, I could not be present owing to scouting activities (in other words, giving the Reserves a leg) so a detailed report will not be forthcoming. A correspondent writes "The soldiers played football as near to professional standard as could be wished," and that speaks for itself. As a tailpiece, I might mention that goals were produced by Corpl Gibbons (2), L/Corpl Smith (2) and Sigmn Steer.

By way of a change, the First XI. receive Whitby at the barracks this week in a Division I. league fixture. Two points will send Signals up amongst the leaders, and—well, more about this next month.

The Reserves.—Signal Reserves faced the Corporation F.C. away from home, in their first league match this year, on the 2nd February and were rather badly beaten by 3—1 goals. Admitted, Signals were a depleted team, but by all accounts they missed chances of scoring goals.

Playing at home to Scalby F.C. the following week, Signals sustained yet another defeat. Scalby are the worthy leaders of Division II., having extended the First XI. in cup ties earlier in the year. A draw would have been a fair result rather than a 3—2 defeat.

Inter-Section League.—Sorry, chapsies! I am all for it, but the weather clerk just isn't, and that is the main reason why inter-Section soccer activities have been temporarily suspended. Divites past and present know all about the unit ground at this time of the year, and one match per week is now the order of the day. Bear up! next month should find terra firma a shade more substantial, and then—yoicks! tally ho! and on with the fun.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Golf.—The final of the Maguire open singles, over thirty-six holes, was contested by L/Corpl Lewis (1st King's Regiment) and W.O. Instructor McGregor (A.E.C.) and won by the former by 4 and 3.

We have had two further matches against the Gun Carriage Factory Golf Club. In the first encounter each side won five games and halved two; but in the other game the G.C.F. were easily our masters and won comfortably by 10—3 games, with one match halved.

Monthly bogey and stroke competitions are now being held and are proving very popular. Sigmn Newell won the stroke with 91—12=79, and with a lowered handicap also took the bogey with 2 down.

The Christmas pagal competition produced some exciting golf. Members found that to putt or drive with a strange club was no easy matter, and often the little pill refused to budge. Alcohol is a wonderful stimulant, but not for golf. In this competition each member had to draw for a club, which was used by him throughout the course, and some very amusing and enjoyable results accrued. The winning team were:—Sigmn Sanders (captain), Sergeants Nokes and Whittington, and L/Cpl Richardson.

"Browns" have now been put down, and the game has become more popular and interesting in consequence. We hope in the near future to have an eighteen hole course which we can say will be one of the best in the Central Provinces.

Waziristan District Signals.

Razmak Signal Section.

Football.—The results of football matches played during the last month are:—v. Transport Section D.C.L.I. won by 4—1 and 6—1, and lost by 1—4; v. C.I.M. Hospital drew at 1—1; v. 2nd Light Battery R.A. won by 4—2 and drew at 3—3; v. H.Q. Wing D.C.L.I. lost by 2—4; v. Transport and Employed D.C.L.I. won by 6—0; v. Band D.C.L.I. won by 3—1; v. Royal Tank Corps won by 6—0; v. 2/6th Gurkha Rifles won by 5—0; v. D (M.G.) Company D.C.L.I. won by 3—2 and 3—1: v. Signallers D.C.L.I. won by 4—2; v. Left Wing, Tochi Scouts won by 6—2.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Football.—Plenty of football has been played despite inclement weather. We have played six matches with outside teams, the results of which were:—v. Shining "A" won by 2—1 and 4—0; v. 6/13th F.F.R. lost by 1—3; v. R.A.F. won by 2—1 and lost by 0—4 and 1—3. Goal scorers in these matches were Jones 4, Barrett 3, Drummond 2, Robertson and Moore.

In addition to the above, a lot of inter-Section football has been played, and the inter-Section tournament for this year resulted in K Section winning the football cup. After all matches had been played, three Sections (K, D and H.Q.) were equal on points. It was arranged that these should play off a knockout tournament. H.Q. met K and lost after extra time by 0—2. The final match, between K and D, was a real Kaye Don affair, as K had previously lost to their old rivals. The game was ding-dong for the first twenty minutes, with no score, but K took the lead with a goal which was followed by another. D retaliated with a goal to liven up the proceedings. After half time either D fell to bits or K found their form, for goals piled on to a final count of 8—1. Goals were scored by Barrett (3) Luckhurst (3) and Robertson (2) for K, Pask being the scorer of D's only goal. So t'coop comes to K for a year.

Hockey.—This started with a rush after the Christmas break, and only a few of the numerous matches are mentioned:—v. R.A.F. won by 3—1, drew at 3—3, and lost by 2—4; v. 4th Light Battery won by 2—0; v. 20th Medium Battery won by 4—2; v. District Headquarters won by 3—1; v. 6/13th F.F.R. lost by 1—4; v. 3/12th F.F.R. won by 3—0 and lost by 1—2; v. 12th Mountain Battery won by 3—1. In many of these matches we have been helped by Lieut. G. U. Finney, who is i/c sports and a good goal-getting forward.

INTER-SECTION HOCKEY.—Three matches have been played so far for the Murray cup, which also includes a hockey cup.

A Section beat C by 1—0 after a hard clean game, and also beat H.Q. Section in a good game by the only goal. H.Q. had bad luck and missed a few goals, whilst Lieut. Addenbrooke managed to score an opportune one just in time to give A the full points.

The third match was a thrilling one, in which the holders (K) met Jaldee J., our two famous I.B. Sections. It drew many spectators, who witnessed a clean and thrilling game. J Section owe their success mostly to the unit hockey wizard, Sigmn Vidia Parkash. K were naturally a little peeved, as this I.O.R. (who was mainly responsible for their winning the cup last year) was only posted from K to J this year. Moreover, our Sue caught Peter (K's manager) secretly, scientifically and quietly planning his team to beat J the evening before the match. Our Sue hastily passed on his "griffin" to Jonah of J, who also planned swiftly, scientifically and surely. Jaldee's victory and Kalamity's defeat were definitely due to Sue, sez 'e—and he is quite satisfied with a "Thanks, Sue, ole pal."

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 1 Company.

Football.—The Company team have a reasonable chance of bringing the first soccer trophy to Egypt Signals for five seasons. The team have had several changes owing to departures, and the following have done duty in the C. of E. cup: Sigmn Clayton, goal; L/Sergt Ball and Sigmn Smith, backs; Sigmn Eccles, L/Cpl Kenneally and Sigmn Delicate, half-backs; Sigmn Bulman, L/Cpl

Singleton and Signalmen Mitcheson, Mawson and Gant, forwards. Signalmen Mascn, Tomes, Boreham and Cox have also played in friendlies.

Results—First round: No. 1 Company 4, B Squadron 8th Hussars 1. Second round: No. 1 Company 5, W Company Northumberland Fusiliers 1. Third round: No. 1 Company 5, H.Q. Wing Northumberland Fusiliers 1. The semi-final is to be played on the 28th February.

It will interest old members of the Company to know that Mitcheson has proved one of the best centre forwards we have had: fifteen goals in five matches. This is chiefly due to the combination of the remainder of the team. L/Sergeant Ball has developed into a first class back.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Our success on the football field continues. The results below prove that our position in the league table at the end of December was not a mere flash in the pan. Our victory over D Company 2nd Gordons, who trounced us to the tune of 5—0 in December, was particularly pleasing. We expect to play the decider during the current month, when both teams will be all out for victory.

v. B Company 2nd D.C.L.I. drew at 2—2
v. H.Q. Wing 2nd D.C.L.I. lost by 1—2
v. R.A.S.C. lost by 3—4
v. Battalion Signallers 2nd Gordons won by 3—0
v. D Company 2nd Gordons won by 3—1
v. No. 28 Company R.A.M.C. won by 1—0
v. Details 2nd D.C.L.I. won by 2—0
v. H.M.S. *Bulldog* won by 2—1

Our full football programme to date reads:—Played 26, won 12, lost 9, drawn 5. Goals—for 48, against 51.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Boxing.—The Company, as expected by its members, retain the Dent cup for a further period of one year w.e.f. 28/1/35, having travelled to Middlesbrough on that date to take part in the battle with Nos. 1 and 2 Companies and won it by six points. Well done, No. 3!

The 50th (N.) Divisional boxing tournament took place in St. George's Drill Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 8th and 9th February. The unit again won this tournament—by four points—and considering the number of teams entered, we did very well indeed. This Company send out their congratulations to the officers, n.c.o.s and men who so nobly defended our title as champions of the 50th (N.) Division.

In 1932 we had no team in this tournament. In 1933 we entered a team and were runners-up on our first entry. 1934: champions. 1935: champions. It's surprising, what can be done when you try.

The following is the placing of the first five:—50th (N.) Divl Signals, 6th Battn Northumberland Fusiliers, 7th D.L.I., 4th Battn Northumberland Fusiliers, 50th (N.) Div. R.E.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals, London, E.15

Unit Boxing Championships.

Under 9 stone, "A" Class—Sigmn Rix (No. 1 Company) beat Sigmn Matthews (No. 1) on points. Sigmn Stigant (No. 1) beat Sigmn Leathers (No. 1) in second round. Final: Sigmn Stigant beat Sigmn Rix on points. Each fight was well fought.

Under 9 stone, "B" Class—Sigmn Dunce (No. 3) beat Sigmn King (No. 1) on points. Sigmn Gordon (No. 2) bye. Final: Sigmn Dunce beat Sigmn Gordon on points. Dunce was a worthy winner.

Under 10 stone, "B" Class—Sigmn Marden (No. 1) beat Sigmn Bygrave (No. 3) on points; very little between them. Signalmen Barsby and Smith (No. 3) and Booker (No. 1) byes. Semi-finals: Sigmn Marden beat Sigmn Barsby on points, and Sigmn Smith beat Sigmn Booker on points. Final: Sigmn Marden beat Sigmn Smith on points. The contestants were very evenly matched.

Under 11 stone, "A" Class—Semi-finals: Sigmn Cain (No. 3) beat Sigmn Bennett (No. 3) on points; two promising lads who can use a straight left with effect. Sigmn Pexton (No. 2) beat Sigmn Carty (No. 3) on points; fought very hard—both men well done up at the finish. Final: Sigmn Cain beat Sigmn Pexton on points. Pexton fought a repetition of his previous bout, and at the end of the third round both were hanging over the ropes, worn out.

Under 11 stone, "B" Class—Semi-finals: Sigmn Fry (No. 3) beat Sigmn Lees (No. 3) on points; Sigmn Griffiths (No. 1) bye. Final: Sigmn Griffiths beat Sigmn Fry in the second round.

Over 11 stone—Sigmn Griffiths A. (No. 1) beat Sigmn Fuller (No. 3) in the first round.

No. 1 Company were winners with 27 points. No. 3 scored 23, and No. 2 six. The boxing throughout was very keen and competitive, the standard was higher than for the last two years, and more entries were forthcoming, No. 3 Company bringing five reserves. Major F. A. Manley, T.D., presented the cup to the O.C. No. 1 Company and prizes to the winners and runners-up in each weight. He commended all the competitors on their keenness, and said he hoped all present had enjoyed the evening's entertainment.

Essex Young Soldiers Boxing Championships.

In this competition we entered a full team, but were rather unfortunate on the weighing in. The results were:—

Bantams—Sigmn King lost on points to Private Morely (6th Essex) in the semi-final.

Feathers—Sigmn Dunce won this weight, beating Sapper Cullander (Essex Searchlights) in the first round in the first series. In the semi-final he beat Private Stevens (4th Essex) on points, and Gunner Bentley in the final on points.

Lights—Sigmn Gordon drew a bye in the first series and lost to Sapper Stokes (Essex Searchlights) on points in the semi-final. Had he kept on his feet in the last three seconds, he would have won the fight.

Welters—Sigmn Marden lost to Sapper Stokes W. (Essex Searchlights) on points in the first series.

Middles—Sigmn Griffiths lost to Bombardier Paveley (175th Heavy Battery) on points in the first series.

Result—1st, Essex Group A.A. Searchlight Companies R.E.; 2nd, 4th Battn Essex Regiment; 3rd, 6th Battn Essex Regiment and 7th Battn Essex Regiment tied: 4th, 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals; 5th, 175th Heavy Battery R.A.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Boxing Championships.

The team did better than expected of them in the Division, and we must congratulate them on finishing second to the holders, the 4th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. Thirteen teams entered for this competition. During the afternoon session our men won their way to the semi-finals of each weight. The evening commenced with the team still complete and in a good position on the score board. The 4th Northants had a full team of eight, whereas the unit could not fill the heavier weights and had to rely on six competitors. Those looking on did not think Signalmen Dunce (bantam) and Griffiths R. E. (welter) lost their fights, but this is not for us to decide: the referee thought otherwise.

Fly weight—Sigmn King beat Boy Crane in the semi-final, and Private Tee (4th Northants) in the final. Well done, King!

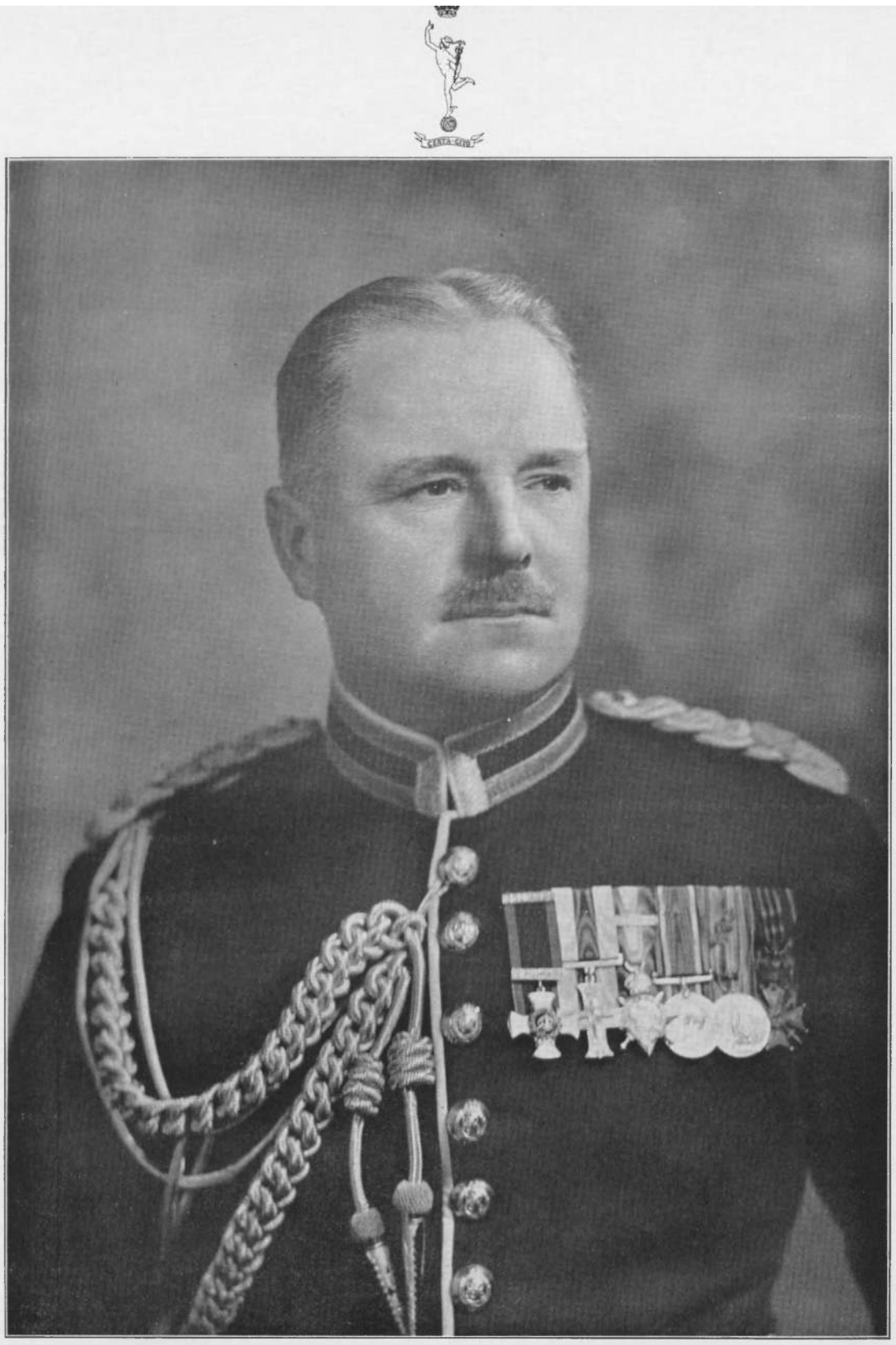
Bantam—Sigmn Dunce lost to Private Cook (1st Cambs) on points in the semi-finals, after a good fight. Cook won the weight.

Feathers—Sigmn Gordon put up a wonderful show against Corpl Bowyer (1st Cambs) but caught a stray right which terminated the fight. Bowyer is a very good boxer and easily won the final.

Lights—Sigmn Marden beat Private Wait (1st Cambs) on points in the semi-finals, but lost in the final to Private Foster (4th Northants). He was knocked down twice in the first round, and had not got over it when, in the second round, he received another to the point which took him off his feet. A good loser.

Welters—Sigmn Griffiths R. E. was unlucky to lose on points to Sergt Badman (7th Essex) in the semi-final.

Middles—Sigmn Griffiths A. lost to Pte Haskins (4th Northants) in the first round, running into a beautiful right.



BRIGADIER R. H. WILLAN, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.
Colonel-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVI.—No. 182 APRIL, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

"Until you have put on a smile, you are not properly dressed for the day."

The King has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Colonel (honorary Brigadier) H. C. Smith, D.S.O., retired pay, late Royal Engineers and Royal Corps of Signals, as Colonel-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, with effect from the 30th November 1934, in succession to Lieutenant-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., retired pay, late Royal Engineers, who has attained the age limit for the appointment.

His Majesty has also been pleased to approve of the establishment of Colonels-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, being increased by one, and of the vacancy thus created being filled by Colonel (temporary Brigadier) R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., late The King's Royal Rifle Corps and Royal Corps of Signals, with effect from the 30th November 1934.

The representative Colonel-Commandant of the Corps for 1935 is Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., whose photograph was published in last month's issue. With this publication we present our readers with a photographic supplement of Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

It is notified for the information of all concerned that, with effect from the 11th March 1935, Colonel T. H. L. Spaight, D.S.O., succeeded Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., as Administrator of the Signals Association Benevolent Fund. Will Branch Hon. Secretaries and Unit Representatives please note this change?

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Forty-Eight Years and Still Going Strong.—On page 155 of this issue, under the heading of "Reminiscences," we publish a photograph and record the Service particulars of one of our oldest Old Comrades.

It was forty-eight years ago that Sapper Collyer J. enlisted in the Royal Engineers at Aldershot. Discharged to pension in 1908 after twenty-one years service, he was appointed Lands Caretaker under the War Department in the Aldershot District, and finally retired on reaching the age limit in 1931 after forty-four years continuous service.

"Jim" is still a regular visitor to the annual Aldershot Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades; and in recording his lengthy association with Signals we express the hope that he may long be spared to stimulate the rest of us with his cheery presence on all Reunion occasions.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Exchange.—Subaltern serving in India, due for repatriation 1935—1936, is willing to exchange with Officer posted to India during trooping season 1935—1936. Applications in writing to "Subaltern P.," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Royal Signal Officers' Dinner Club.—The annual dinner of the Royal Signal Dinner Club will be held on the 17th May 1935 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.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

We are indebted to Mr. A. S. Jenner for an interesting group photograph depicting the Telegraph Staff of Bloemfontein Post Office, taken during the South African war in August 1900. The photograph is the property of ex-Lieutenant C. J. Jenner, R.E. (Signal Service) who, during the South African war, was Sapper

R.E. and served under Lieutenant-General Sir John Fowler (then Captain R.E.), the central figure in the group. [See page 160]

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Royal Signals Display.—This is to be given at the Royal Tournament, Olympia, from the 9th to the 26th May. The officer in charge and members of the Display Party hope that all past and present members of the Corps (both Regular and Territorial) will pay a visit to their stables and motor cycle pits at the conclusion of the performances. These stables and pits are situated at the Blythe Road entrance to the arena.

:: :: ::

Our May Issue.—Our Printers have pointed out to us that the Easter holidays this year will make an awkward break in their arrangements for the May number, and that if the issue is to appear on time, it will be necessary that all copy should be in their hands much earlier than usual. Will Unit Correspondents please, therefore, despatch their notes to reach this office not later than Saturday 13th April.

:: :: ::

The Delhi Review.—We have received a few interesting notes on this function, together with a diagram and a newspaper cutting concerning it. Unfortunately, the cutting was incomplete—the essential part being missing. We therefore await the arrival of the latter portion before we can publish this welcome contribution.

:: :: ::

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.

:: :: ::

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)

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

O.C.A. Branch Formed in Exeter.

Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (former C.O. 43rd Wessex Divisional Signals T.A.) and his provisional Committee, consisting of Captain H. D. G. Foord, Lieut.-Q.M. F. F. West, M.M., Messrs. L. J. Cousins, F. Dunn, G. H. Stoneman and Sergt A. H. Allen, with Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., as Hon. Secretary, have been busy during the past month in connection with the formation of a Branch of the O.C.A., to be known for the present as the Exeter and District Branch; and at the second meeting, held on the 12th March, satisfactory progress was reported. It was decided to hold a General Meeting early next month, when the President (Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.) who has been so anxious to get a Branch going in Exeter, is to be asked to be present. It is hoped to organise a reunion in Exeter later in the year.

Several very encouraging letters have been received from members of the "old crowd," and there seems to be every prospect of a strong and active Branch in Exeter. It is very encouraging to find that the old spirit still lives, and that old soldiers refuse even to fade away.

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, Manchester	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
3	Ex-N.C.O. Swindon	Electrical Wireman
4	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham (Salisbury and District Branch)	Farm Hand
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Kitchen Hand
6	Ex-N.C.O. London	Attendant
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
8	Ex-N.C.O. London	Film Super
9	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
10	Ex-Signalman, Kent	Lineman
11	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Lineman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
13	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Handyman
14	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Handyman
15	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Motor Driver
16	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Lineman
17	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Polling Clerk
19	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Lineman
20	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Bus Conductor
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Machinist
22	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Valet
23	Ex-N.C.O. Manchester	Cotton Operative
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
26	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.
2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, India.
5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.
Peshawar District Signals, India.
B Corps Signals, India.
Mr. A. C. Lennox, Canada.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Norwich. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£1	10	0
2	Ex-N.C.O. London. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	5	0	0
3	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
4	Sigmn Catterick. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Wilts. Domestic difficulties	Grant	3	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Dundee. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O. Southampton. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
8	Ex-Driver Hove. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
9	Ex-Driver Nottingham. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	0	0

(*Signed*) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps Hockey.

A Subalterns side played the Shop at Woolwich on Saturday 16th February, and an excellent game resulted in a win for the Shop by 7—4 goals.

Before the game, the majority of the Corps side lunched at the Shop, having first been most hospitably received in the Staff House.

The game was played in a very strong wind on a rather heavy ground. Playing with the wind, the Corps led at half-time by 2—0. Actually, the team were pressing almost continuously in this half and were rather unlucky not to have scored another goal.

Fifth Annual Reunion Dinner of The Association of R.E. Despatch Riders (affiliated to The Signals Association) held at the Cannon Street Hotel on Saturday 23rd February.
[*Photo by Rawood Ltd.*]

Early in the second half, the Shop scored their first goal and the Corps quickly replied with two more. [Three of the Corps goals had been scored by Bradley, while the fourth was scored from a penalty bully taken by Gray.] For some time play was very even, but during the last quarter of an hour the strong wind against which the Corps were playing began to tell, and the Shop forwards, who were exceedingly fit, combined really well for the first time. This led to six goals being scored by them during the last fifteen minutes of the game, chiefly owing to the inability of the Corps backs and halves to clear the ball on the heavy ground against the strong wind.

The Corps side was:—Goal, D. M. Smyth ; backs, D. C. Lyall and P. A. Watts ; halves, M. D. Price, J. E. S. Sanders and A. F. McGill ; forwards, P. E. M. Bradley, J. B. Adams, W. J. S. Gray, D. M. Burridge and P. C. Williams.

Captain J. E. S. Walford kindly acted as umpire.

Arrangements have been made for this game to be held annually on the third Saturday in February.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Quakes.—" The epicentre of the earthquake was estimated to be about 4000 miles away." So said the seismologist of Bomcutta Observatory in *The Kurram Kourier* the other day. This was followed two days later by the news that, as no information had been received from any of the world's known quake centres, it was presumed that a submarine disturbance had occurred somewhere in the Pacific Ocean.

Being a student of geology as far as the earth's crust is concerned, I consider the statement to be a purely mathematical presumption on the part of the seismologist. If he had only phoned up this portion of the N.W. Frontier or, better still, sent us a message by pigeon post (we have a training stable of pigeons here!) he would have heard to his entire satisfaction, and in plain soldierly language, that the " centre, epi " of quakes, tremors, shakes and shudders was decidedly nearer to Calcutta than his jolly old seismograph registered.

From the point of view of the warrior, quakes are split up into three categories: (i) Earth quakes, (ii.) alarm shakes, and (iii.) annual inspection shudders—which when conjoined, as sometimes happens, are known in two simple words as ruddy shocks.

It was on Sunday the 3rd February, at 7.45 a.m., when No. (i.) occurred. Suddenly a terrific blast of wind sprang up, followed by an unearthly silence and then the devil's own rush of human forms from barrack rooms, bunks and officers' quarters on to the wide open spaces, whilst the buildings creaked and groaned and the ground rocked. One gets a frightful feeling in the pit of one's tummy, and one's legs refuse to function without a herculean effort. Oh! it's a delightful sensation.

There are amusing incidents, of course. Being a Sunday, the majority of the troops were having a lay-in after a strenuous (ahem!) week's work, and the fancy dress parade of those clad in little short shirts outside the barracks will be talked of for years. A C.Q.M.S.—one of whose jobs in life is to organise the laying out of crazy pathways with jagged lumps of concrete—was seen nipping along those said pathways, half-shaven, a towel girt around his waist, and *barefooted*. His cries to heaven were heard above the roars of laughter from the troops, and I was told that he *wasn't* saying his prayers!

A young officer dashed from his rooms in *black* pyjamas (no wonder there was an earthquake!) and ran round to other officers' rooms, shouting " Come out, you fellahs! there's a bally quake on." The only answer he got was " Get to ——— out of it and let a fellah die in peace "—morning after the night before feeling, I presume!

Domiciled in an upper storey, I did the next best thing and dived under the bed. Being a fearless individual, I haven't mentioned that to a soul!

No. (ii.)—Before we had time to put on our pants (as the saying goes) at midnight one night, the *alarm* sounded. The orders re alarms are very concise and easy to remember. All one has to do is to appear in a helmet and boots, and it doesn't matter two hoots about any other clothes. All ranks make a dash to the armoury to collect arms and ammunition, and it is only the seriousness of the situation which precludes the parade from being

highly amusing. This is more apparent after the " Dismiss " has sounded, for one can hear remarks such as " I say, chaps, did you see Sergt ——— with his memsahib's dressing gown on ?" What a sight for the gods!

On this occasion it was noted with glee that " Q " could not find the key of the ammunition box until he had divested himself of nearly all his clothing—when he found it had worked, by some unknown means, around the seat of his pyjamas. He was heard to remark, after making profuse apologies to the C.O., that he felt a cold shivering pass through his body. Whether that was due to his disrobing in the chill night air, or to wind up, we do not know.

The tit-bit of the night, however, was the sergeant who appeared at the armoury after everyone else was at alarm stations. Slowly collecting his revolver, he went over to the rack where hung rods, cleaning, pistol, and was heard to say " I wonder which is mine out of this lot ?" What "Q" said is not on record.

No. (iii.)—Before we were allowed to come up for the third time, we were suddenly informed that the G.O.C.'s annual inspection would take place three days hence. This was a month before it was due, as all manœuvres had been cancelled owing to equine influenza (even the noble animals know a thing or two!) As usual, no one worried in the slightest degree. No one ever does worry for the G.O.C.'s annual inspection (?)

It was only after the mighty morning was over that faces which had looked grey whilst the agony was in progress regained their original colour, the sun shone, our pigeons coo-eed, and " Q " smiled—actually *smiled*.

And the pictures that night in the one and only cinema showed " The earthquake in Bihar and Orissa," followed by " Falling for you "! How true it is, saith the prophet, that not *all* quakes are faithfully recorded by seismographs. TIM.

- - Plain Tales - -

Ours is a Nice 'Ouse.—One must get about sometimes, even in these days, when every other person is " on the tack " or saving up either to get married or leave the Service, and therefore a broken reed so far as " whoopee " is concerned. A few days ago I shook the dust from gent's natty headgear and popped over to Aldershot. Called on some old friends, a married couple with two children—a boy and a girl, aged eleven and seven years respectively. Aldershot is always very well spoken of, especially by those who have left it for good. I was disagreeably surprised to locate my friends in some depressing-looking quarters rejoicing in the high-sounding name of Jerome Square. I thought possibly the interior might not be so bad after all. The inside of a quarter is usually what the occupants make it. My hopes were soon dashed, for I found that this family of four had but one bedroom—and not a big bedroom, either. Three beds completely filled it, and entrance could only be effected by removing one's boots and walking over the beds. Well, I guess a roof's a roof for a' that ; but you lucky people at really good stations such as Catterick or Bulford should draw some sort of comfort from this.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—I see they have installed a new sausage machine in the men's cookhouse at Bulford. Quite a lot of people are expecting Barleux to make funny remarks about it, but he confided to me that it was a serious matter and certainly not one that lent itself to humour. We cats have noted with some relief that the wholesale destruction of our species has eased off since this machine arrived. This may be just to restore the confidence of the troops. On the other hand, it may be due to the fact that Mr. Bramley has gone away.

I suppose you didn't see that spotted lady dog the other Sunday, did you ? She created quite a diversion during the church parade and had to be rescued from the unwelcome attentions of an admirer. No one ever rescues me.

George has been round again. He is my young man from under the N.A.A.F.I. hut. He has only one eye and about half an ear, but his heart is good and his voice is not too bad, really. He brought me a lovely piece of liver the night before last. Ah, me! as well marry him as anyone, I suppose. Tessa says she wouldn't mind being a bridesmaid, if only for a good laugh. I'm sure she is being sarcastic—the nasty aristocratic thing.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Sussex Note.—Many of you will remember the Rector of Maresfield, the Rev. A. C. D. Ryder, and will be pleased to know that he still enjoys good health. He celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday quite recently. He was a familiar figure in Maresfield camp and village during our time, but he can look back a long way, for he has been Rector of Maresfield for thirty-three years. Old Maresfielders will surely congratulate Mr. Ryder on his health and record, and wish him " Many happy returns."

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Higher the Fewer.—If some of the people who write letters to the newspapers, boasting of the autographs they possess, could see mine, they would cut up their straps. So they would. I have been offered the most extraordinary sums for them. But, no! what is money to me ? All right, have it your own way. The very first one I take out of the box is worth —o-o-o-h, you'd never guess. It is that of Sir Gregory Paunchley and is dated 1521, just after the battle of Sheffield Wednesday. You can still see the blood on the corner. Here's another I wouldn't part with. Signature of Henry III. to a letter instructing his bankers with regard to " puttynge ye socke inne itte." Perhaps you doubt my word ? Well, here's one that no one can read: an order on an Italian firm for a fiddle to replace one burnt during a fire in Rome. It is thought that this may be worth a *lot* of money.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Ukann Larfe.—" Now, Monsieur Larfe, perhaps you will listen a little. Yes ?" The girl slipped the pistol into her stocking and seated herself beside Ukann. He began to fidget a little. His wife might arrive at any moment. One never knew with Hermione. She would think nothing of chartering an aeroplane and charging it up to his account.

" Please keep still, Monsieur Larfe," said his beautiful but unwelcome companion. " Will you promise to drop this case and go right away ?"

" Well, mademoiselle, to be quite frank, no. Or putting it another way, if you follow me, no."

" You realise that this means your death ?"

" Man can die but once," replied the fearless detective with a smile. Well, perhaps not exactly a smile.

" Will you come up to my room for a moment, Monsieur Larfe ?"

" Come now, my dear girl. What do you take me for—a sort of Joe Soap ?"

" I do not know Monsieur Soap."

At this point Ukann Larfe lost his temper and manners, for it grieves me to record that he pushed the lady into a large wooden tub containing some sort of a plant. Not content with that, he forced her face into the damp soil and left her.

Only just in time, too, for as he turned to walk towards the entrance of the hotel, a large piece of soggy turf struck him across the face and hurled him into the arms of a stout lady who had begun to pass behind him. The two collapsed ungracefully, and it was some time before the detective could be extricated.

When he was able to sit up and look round, there was no one in the lounge. " That's funny," he said aloud. " Only one person could chuck a turf like that." With Ukann Larfe, to think was to act. With one bound, he was out on the pavement. With another, he was in a taxi. " Drive round the park," he ordered, and went to sleep.

In a top room of the hotel, a woman peeped through the curtains at the departing taxi. Her beautiful face was marred by a ferocious scowl. She picked up a steel poker and tied it in a knot. Darkness descended rapidly, and the night life of Jamais Suer began. A distant clock struck ten. Another, even more distant, struck nine. Que voulez vous ?

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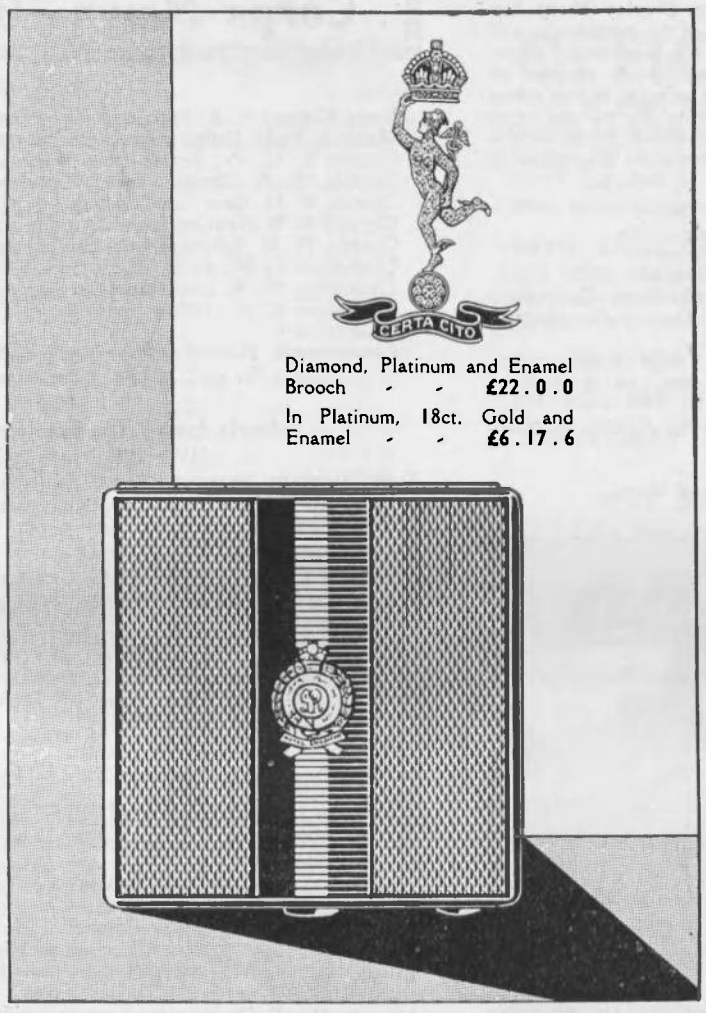

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Sterling Silver Flapjack with Regimental Colours in Enamel, and mounted with Silver badge. 3 x 3 inches - - - - - - - - £2.15.0

Cigarette Case to match, 2⅞ x 3⅜ inches - - - - - - £3.5.0

The Regimental Badge and Colours can be shown in a variety of ways on Flapjacks, Cigarette Cases, Cigarette Boxes, etc., and we shall be pleased to submit particulars upon request. Illustrated brochure on application.

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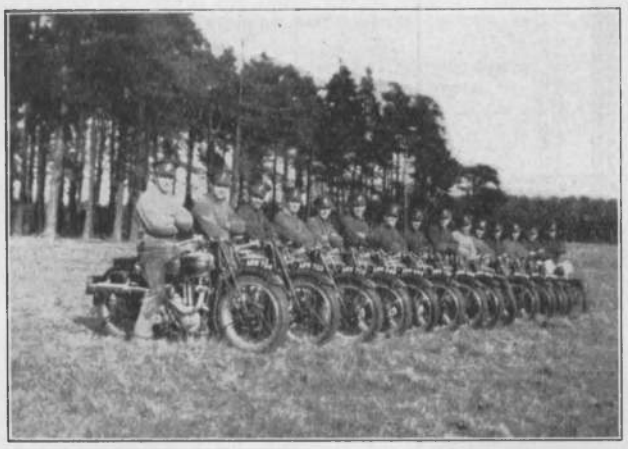
The above Advertisers support our Magazine. Will our Readers please support them in return?

Royal Signals Display.

Since our last appearance in 1934, the Display Party has changed considerably. Nearly 70 per cent. of the performers will be appearing in public for the first time. The winter has therefore been a hard one for us, and a considerable amount of individual practice has had to be carried out at night in the riding school. We have now just started on piecing the various items together, ready for the Royal Tournament which starts on the 9th May. In addition to the Tournament, we are also going to the following places.

April 24th and 25th—Ayr Agricultural Show.
June 6th and 7th—Suffolk Show at Halesworth.
June 10th—West Malling Show at Aylesbury.
June 12th and 13th—Essex Show at Halstead.
June 15th—South Durham & North Yorks Show, Darlington.
June 19th to 21st—Lincoln Agricultural Show at Grantham.
June 29th—Coventry Hospital Carnival.
July 6th to 13th—Northern Command Tattoo at Nottingham.
July 20th—Messrs. Steel, Peech and Tozer, Ltd. at Sheffield.
August 5th—Chester-le-Street Show.
August 28th and 31st—Signal Training Centre Mounted Sports and Gymkhana.
September 4th—Reeth Show.
September 18th—Altrincham Agricultural Show.



The illustration shows the new fleet of sixteen Triumph motor cycles which arrived last week. They are 250 c.c. O.H.V. models. We did two long running-in trips. On Sunday 10th March—an icy cold day—we went to Penrith, Kendal and Ingleton. On the way home we were all nearly blown off our machines. On Tuesday 12th March we made a tour through York, Whitby and Redcar. The motor cycles went very well, and we can certainly recommend them to anyone who wants a speedy touring machine.

The Display Party this year consists of:—

Officer in charge, Lieutenant H. N. Crawford.

Mounted Party—Sergeant Hill, L/Corporals Gosnold, Jones, Glynn and Dakin, Drivers Pearce, Houghton, Proudlock, Johnson, Meikle, Lowe, Radcliffe and Cochran, Signalmen Lipscombe, Magilley, Guidera, Snelling, Heath, Beardmore, Hewitt and Armstrong.

Motor Cycle Party—Corporals Patching and Turner, L/Corpls Fry and Major, Signalmen Pescod, Tompkins, Irvine, Lowe, Moore, Vitale, Echlin, Murdoch, Colton, Dickson, Turner, Macgregor, Boddington and Lewis.

C.S.M. Young will be accompanying us to Olympia.

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION ?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on page 146 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock from Scarborough to India
Major E. P. C. Collin from Canterbury to India
Captain E. G. W. Pearse from Woolwich to India
Captain W. A. Dimoline from Aldershot to India
Captain R. H. Gem from Catterick to Gibraltar
Captain B. B. Kennett from Catterick to Egypt
Captain H. M. Sylvester from Blackdown to Aldershot
Lieutenant G. M. de M. Blum from Bulford to Egypt
Lieutenant M. A. Lloyd from Scarborough to Egypt
Lieutenant F. H. Pellew from Egypt to Uganda (A.D.C. to Governor)
Lieutenant R. G. Yolland from India to Scarborough
2/Lieutenant T. de B. Miller from Aldershot to Blackdown

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 19/2/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. G. H. Foss resigns his commission on appointment to a commission in the R.A.F. 31/12/34

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—G. G. Graley to be 2/Lieut. 20/2/35
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. A. J. Sones to be Lieutenant 13/11/34

[War Office 22/2/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel 1/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry Divl Signals—Lieut. E. O. Bleackley resigns his commission 1/2/35
43rd (W.) Divl Signals—R. D. Nash to be 2/Lieut. 23/2/35
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—2/Lieutenant N. C. Pearson to be Lieutenant 17/2/35
47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—S. W. Dolbear to be Lieut. (Quartermaster) 1/2/35
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—Colonel S. M. Newell, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D., vacates the appointment of Hon. Colonel and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform 23/2/35
Col. W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., T.D., to be Hon. Colonel 23/2/35

[War Office 26/2/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—J. A. Eves to be Lt. (Q.M.) 21/2/35

[War Office 1/3/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—E. W. G. Harris to be Lieut. (Q.M.) 1/3/35

[War Office 5/3/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. W. Hawking, from 49th (W.R.) Divl Signals, to be 2/Lieutenant 4/2/35, with seniority as in the T.A.

[War Office 8/3/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—J. R. B. Truman to be 2/Lt. 9/3/35

[War Office 12/3/35]

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. R. S. Smith, M.C., D.C.M., from Royal Signals, Supplementary Reserve, to be Captain 11/3/35

[War Office 15/3/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain F. S. Morgan to be Major 1/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry Divl Signals—D. B. Murray to be 2/Lt. 16/3/35

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O/496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
14th March 1935.

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.

*2310994	Sergeant Stather R. W.	28/1/31
2310574	Sergeant Bremner R.	3/3/31
2306529	Sergeant Woodcock N. J.	3/3/31
*2312911	Sergeant Packman W. J	26/3/31
2311362	Sergeant Udell L. C.	11/4/31
*1859026	Sergeant Simmonds F. T.	20/6/31

*To be absorbed into 50% establishment from 5% on promotion.

Home and Abroad 5%. India 4%. Class 15.

2308363	Signalman Wood F.	———
2314223	L/Sergeant Parker W. A.	16/10/29
2309861	Corporal Vine J. C. T.	19/10/29
2310568	Corporal Blight G. I.	31/10/29
2200858	Corporal May C.	31/10/29
2313712	Signalman Young F. C.	8/11/29

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

Rawalpindi Revisited.

I have just arrived back in Pindi after an absence of seven years. The weather is glorious; the sun is shining brilliantly from a cloudless sky, and from snow-capped Murree comes a cool breeze. Last night there was a keen frost and the sky was lit with stars.

It is Christmastide, and the shops around Dalhousie Road are crowded. Christmas trees and parties are being held in the afternoon, and dances in all the messes and clubs at night. The Cantonment presents an animated scene, and the race course, Topi Park and the open country beyond the rifle ranges are, in comparison, quite deserted. Football, hockey, tennis and cricket matches are taking place in every barracks, and strings of race-horses and polo ponies are being exercised along the Mall.

Visiting the old haunts, I found that the Cafe Royal has changed its name and is now Kuhn's Swiss Cafe. Lintott's has grown into a huge place, with a dance floor second to none in the Punjab. Tea dances are held there several days a week. A rather smart restaurant, "Colonello's," has sprung up next to an electrical showroom opposite the G.P.O. Harjas Rai, Abdul Rahman, Wilsons, Kirpa Rams, and most of the old firms are still flourishing. Kirpa Ram is dead and the place is now kept by his sons. Jamsjees have given place to Spencers, and Juggat Singh and Sams have moved out of their joint compound to make way for a block of shops. Sams, by the way, has developed into a high class restaurant in Edwardes Road, close to two cinemas which have opened recently, and is quite a fashionable resort.

The old Lansdowne shows some very good up to date pictures and still does well, but I see the Rink (now called the Elphinstone Cinema) is closed. There must be more picture palaces in Rawalpindi than is economically justified, for I see that one has been built in the Lal Kurti Bazaar but up to the present has failed to open.

The Lal Kurti is just a little tidier. The road in some places has been broadened, the drains have been covered in, and a new market and a dispensary have been built. L. C. Ram the photographer, Chaddha and other notables are still going strong, but they don't shout after one so much.

Cambridge Barracks is looking more green. Hundreds of trees have been planted and a large number have taken root. It was once quite open, but is gradually being enclosed. All the vacant ground has been taken for sports fields or buildings. Permanent barracks have been built for the Indian ranks on the ground between Golf House and No. 9 Married Quarters, and also behind D Div. guard room and on the space at the top of the Lal Kurti next to the Veterinary Hospital. Opposite the Treasury, bungalows are being built for the quartermasters of both Signal units.

The one-time orderly room and workshops of No. 2 W/T Company have now become a very elaborate cookhouse and dining hall for B Corps Signals, and what was once the Signal Park is now the men's canteen, corporals room and regimental library. There is a plunge bath in the old engine house, but it is only open in the summer. Sumptuous slipper baths and hot water are available, however, in the annexes to the bungalows.

Cookhouses and fuel stores have been built behind No. 8 Married Quarters. Otherwise, there appears to be little improvement. Of course, they now have electric lights instead of gas, and in the hot weather fans instead of punkhas. The floors are cemented, and the back verandahs have been bricked up, making an extra room, but I imagine the quarters are as dark and gloomy as ever. In spite of their forbidding appearance and lack of convenience, though, they are always filled. In fact, nearly all the sergeants' bunks on B Corps side have been handed over to married families. Cookhouses with Afrikander stoves and bath rooms with running water have been built on the verandah; so four rooms should make commodious dwellings, certainly more comfortable than the tents.

The sergeants mess, together with the theatre, takes up No. 20 Bungalow. Shoey Vanstone has developed a patch of ground in front into a shady garden, which I imagine would be very pleasant to sit in on a summer evening. The mess is lofty and spacious—too spacious now, perhaps, and very often empty. Nearly all the members are married, and very few can afford to drink except on festive occasions. As a result, the bar fails to keep the mess these days: it takes less in a month over the counter than it formerly made as profit. Our subscriptions have been increased accordingly to 12 annas a day for messing and Rs.5/8 a month for various funds.

Photographs of old Mess members adorn the walls (I wonder where they are now?): Bob Spalding, Tommy Hatton, Fred Freeman, Bob Priest, Bill Cooper, Jack Stone, Yorky Thorpe, Jim Browne, Baldock, Trill, and Shoey Taylor. I believe that Jock Hutchison is still with the Ordnance in Karachi; and George

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LONDON, W.C.2

SEND FOR COMPLETE MILITARY CATALOGUE (T.W.)

Ward is at the Arsenal here, but I haven't seen him yet. One of our old friends, Shoey Abrahams of the I.A.V.C., was recently posted to Quetta. Spud Murphy is still at Command Headquarters, and Major Newton has crossed the road to B Corps.

The more things alter, the more they remain the same. A turn of the finger brought back Major Smelt, Major Smitherman and Captain Sketch ; and very soon, I believe, Lieut.-Colonel Vulliamy is expected. Perhaps Aggie Weston will come with A Corps from Karachi. Q.M.S. Mitchell is back in the Corps. Jerry Wells turned up one day as a Foreman-of-Signals—and a good one at that. Muir, Bygrave, O'Connor and Choulerton are all here. In fact, you need not walk very far before meeting one or other of the 1920—1927 crowd.

Feroze the contractor, Dhobie Abdullah, Durzie Ali Mohd, Thakur, Muttree and all the other bearers are still here. They know the name of every sahib who has been and gone, and to them they send their bara salaams. S.W.J.

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.]

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2311587	Sergeant Hamlin H.	22/1/35	16
1856116	Sergeant Bond W.	1/2/35	16

To be Sergeant.

2309741	L/Sergeant Toogood F.	15/1/35	28
2308070	L/Sergeant Finley F.	1/2/35	28

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2311002	Corporal Benson H.	15/11/34	35
2316204	Corporal Cooke R.	15/11/34	35
2316449	Corporal Baxter J.	15/11/34	35
2313755	Corporal Ferdinando J.	26/11/34	35
2312652	Corporal Yates E.	27/11/34	35
2317253	Corporal Spearpoint F.	22/ 1/35	35
2314900	Corporal Wilson H.	24/ 1/35	35
2314757	Corporal Richardson G.	1/ 2/35	35

To be Corporal.

2318390	L/Corporal McLaren A.	†23/ 8/34	51
2318017	L/Corporal Whitefield C.	4/11/34	52
2564557	L/Corporal Connor G.	15/11/34	52
547471	L/Corporal Brassfield V.	15/11/34	52
2307840	L/Corporal Baker W.	1/ 1/35	53
2319428	L/Corporal Trudgett E.	1/ 1/35	53
2318707	L/Corporal Green G.	1/ 1/35	53
2316297	L/Corporal Mulholland F.	15/ 1/35	53
2314307	L/Corporal Russell M.	21/ 1/35	53
2316785	L/Corporal Johnson J.	22/ 1/35	53
2313794	L/Corporal Moody R.	24/ 1/35	52
6338999	L/Corporal Turner E.	1/ 2/35	53

Discharges.

2307703	R.S.M. Eves J.	20/2/35	3
1855268	R.Q.M.S. Jones L.	2/2/35	5
2306487	C.S.M. Rowe B.	31/1/35	6
2306503	C.S.M. Harris E. W.	12/2/35	7
1850339	Sergeant Strawbaum L.	1/2/35	16
1858971	Sergeant Curtis W.	2/2/35	15
2306271	Sergeant Brotherton J.	3/2/35	19
*7143929	Corporal Murphy J.	1/2/35	78
2306500	Corporal Diggins H.	5/2/35	27
2309059	L/Corporal Collins J. D.	25/1/35	60

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318314	L/Corporal Ball W. G.	21/2/35	58
2318329	L/Corporal Reed A.	25/2/35	56

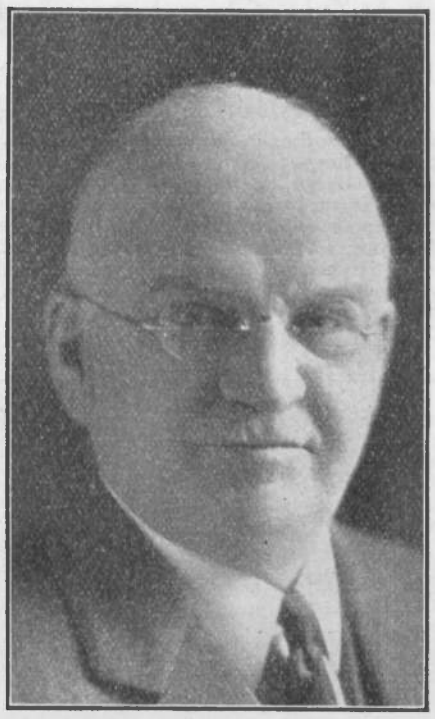
* *Special Roster, India* † *Antedated without pay.*

" Every picture tells a story." [We think this must be the cross-country team mentioned in the February notes of K Section, Egypt Signals.—Ed.]

The Maple Leaf Tour to Canada.

Under the auspices of the High Commissioner for Canada, and organised by the Director of Canadian Trade Publicity in Great Britain, the Maple Leaf Tour to Canada (10th August to 16th Sept. 1934) proved an outstanding success. The experiment of taking nearly seventy-five representatives of the food distributive trades in Great Britain to Canada, to study at first hand the methods of production of foods in Canada and how they are grown, processed, packed and graded for both home and export markets, under the rigid pure food regulations of the Canadian Government, has already resulted in a better understanding between Canadian exporters and British buyers. This mutual understanding has been backed tangibly by the placing of some large orders for various Canadian food commodities.

On the 18th August Canada welcomed to her shores the members of the Tour, who arrived at Quebec on the C.P.R. liner *Montcalm*. They were met by a committee of the Montreal Board of Trade, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. K. Smith.



The Hon. G. H. Ferguson, K.C., High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain.

On the 20th August the members of the Tour were the guests of the Hon. J. Antonie Grenier, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Quebec Province. The party drove to Oka, where the famous Oka cheese is produced by the Trappist monks. Later an inspection was made of the orchards and dairy farms of the Sulpician Fathers. In the afternoon Montreal harbour and cold storage plants were visited.

On the 21st August visits were paid to the plants of W. Clark Ltd., producers of canned foods ; Wilsil's Ltd., hams and bacon ; and W. M. Lowney Ltd., confectionery manufacturers.

The delegates then had two busy days at Ottawa, the capital of Canada, being received on the morning of the 22nd by the Hon. R. J. Manion, Minister of Railways and Canals. The Dominion Government entertained the delegates to luncheon at the Chateau Laurier, and the geniality of this gathering will long be remembered. The Hon. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, presided. In the afternoon a visit was made to the home of Chateau cheese, and the party were received by Doctor E. S. Archibald at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa. The day was brought to a close with an enjoyable motor tour of the Gatineau hills and valleys adjacent to Ottawa,

Arriving at London, Ontario, on Friday 24th August, the members of the Tour were entertained by the Mayor and Board of Trade. There was a great gathering at the civic luncheon, including the representatives of the Sons of England, St. George's Society, St. Andrew's Society, St. Patrick's Society, the Cwmrodoriam (Welsh) Society, and many of the Fraternal Clubs. Visits were paid to the plants of The Kellogg, The Canada Biscuit, and The O-Pee-Chee Confectionery Companies.

At Niagara Falls the members of the Tour were the guests of Mrs. Harry Oakes at her beautiful residence, Oak Hall, overlooking the famous Falls. A pleasant boat journey across Lake Ontario brought the visitors to the completion of the first leg of their journey at Toronto at 11.45 p.m. on Saturday 25th August.

The second week was devoted to visits to the industrial plants at Hamilton of Canadian Canners Ltd., McLaren's Ltd. and The Vi-Tone Company, and at Toronto of The Campbell Soup Co., The Swift Canadian Co., Sherriff's Ltd., Crosse and Blackwell Ltd., and many others. In Toronto the visitors were guests at the Canadian National Exhibition—the largest annual exhibition in the world. Other visits were paid to Belleville, the centre of the cheese making industry, and the party toured the Thousand Islands by boat.

Into two short weeks had been crowded a rushed itinerary. As many of the industrial plants in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario had been visited, business connections were made in every city. British importers met Canadian exporters personally, and the amazing hospitality of the latter, together with that of the Local Governments, Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, the Dominion Government authorities and Fraternal Clubs, made the visitors feel that they were indeed brothers across the sea and that the main objective of increasing this inherent friendship, both personally and in business, had been achieved. Members of the Maple Leaf Tour will never forget their visit to Canada.

Canada, to most of us, is not so well known as it should be. We know that corn-on-the-cob and maple sugar come from Canada ; that it is a vast country and sparsely populated. But Canada is a country of opportunities—a young country enthused with the energy and vitality of youth ; alive and alert to her wonderful possibilities and keen to develop her almost limitless resources. Canada is a great producer of foods, and as her own wants are merely one-sixth of the quantity produced she must develop export markets ; and her inherent patriotism urges her to cultivate the British markets before going further afield.

The Maple Leaf Tour is a historical development of intra-Empire trade, and it has a significance far transcending the actual event. If there was one slogan voiced by the members of the Tour, it was the necessity of reciprocal trade within the Empire and more of it. On the occasion of the Dominion Government luncheon to the visitors at Ottawa, the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, said: " On behalf of the Government of Canada I ask you gentlemen, business men from all parts of the United Kingdom, to be frank in your criticisms and indicate how you believe trade between ourselves can be fostered."

Some idea of the outstanding importance of the Tour can be gleaned from the fact that the visitors represented British firms which annually buy more than £30,000,000 worth of Canadian food products—canned meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, poultry, hams, bacon, flour, breakfast cereals, jellies, confectionery, and many other products too numerous to mention here.

A most interesting feature of the Tour was the presence of eight young men—all assistants in stores in Great Britain—who were awarded the trip as prizes by the High Commissioner for Canada. They won the trip in competition with over 2500 others from every section of the food trades in the U.K.

Buyers who went with the Maple Leaf Tour have expressed their difficulties and explained their troubles to Canadian exporters, with the result that there is to-day a feeling of mutual understanding and confidence between those who visited Canada and the exporters whom they have met. Probably never before has Canada been so near to her British brothers engaged in the food industries. Large orders have been placed which possibly are the precursors of bigger requirements, and it is not too much to say that an era of Anglo-Canadian trade has been started with boundless possibilities of development.

Reminiscences.

A CONTRIBUTION FROM A MEMBER SERVING IN KOHAT DISTRICT SIGNALS.

From time to time, in various issues of THE WIRE during the past decade, photographs of various units of the pre-war Signal Companies R.E. have been reproduced.

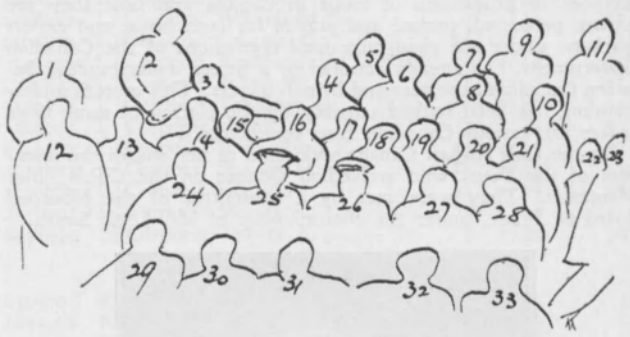
It may be of interest to the readers of our Journal to know that only one Regular Signal Company R.E. was serving abroad when war broke out in 1914: the 7th Signal Company stationed at Roberts' Heights, Pretoria, South Africa. This unit, under the command of Lieut. E. A. Osborne, R.E., with thirty-seven other ranks, twenty-three horses, wagons, etc., left Cape Town on the 21st August 1914 and eventually landed at Zeebrugge, Belgium, on or about the 4th October after spending a fortnight at Lyndhurst, where the unit was made up to war strength.

The accompanying photograph shows the unit on board the s.s. *Briton* on its way home. Only two of those shown—Fegan and Stannard—returned to Haynes Park in April 1919 with the 7th Signal Company, the remainder having been either killed, wounded, or transferred to other units. Two are still serving: Lieut. E. A. Osborne, who is now Brigadier, Cairo Brigade, Egypt, and 2nd Corpl Fegan, who is a Lieutenant-Quartermaster in Indian Signals.

Out of six n.c.o.s under Lieut. Osborne's command in 1913, three are now serving Quartermasters: Captain Winton (1st Divl Signals, Aldershot) and Lieutenants Anderson and Fegan (Indian Signals). Both Winton and Anderson left the unit in 1913 for the home establishment, after serving a period of five years or more in South Africa.

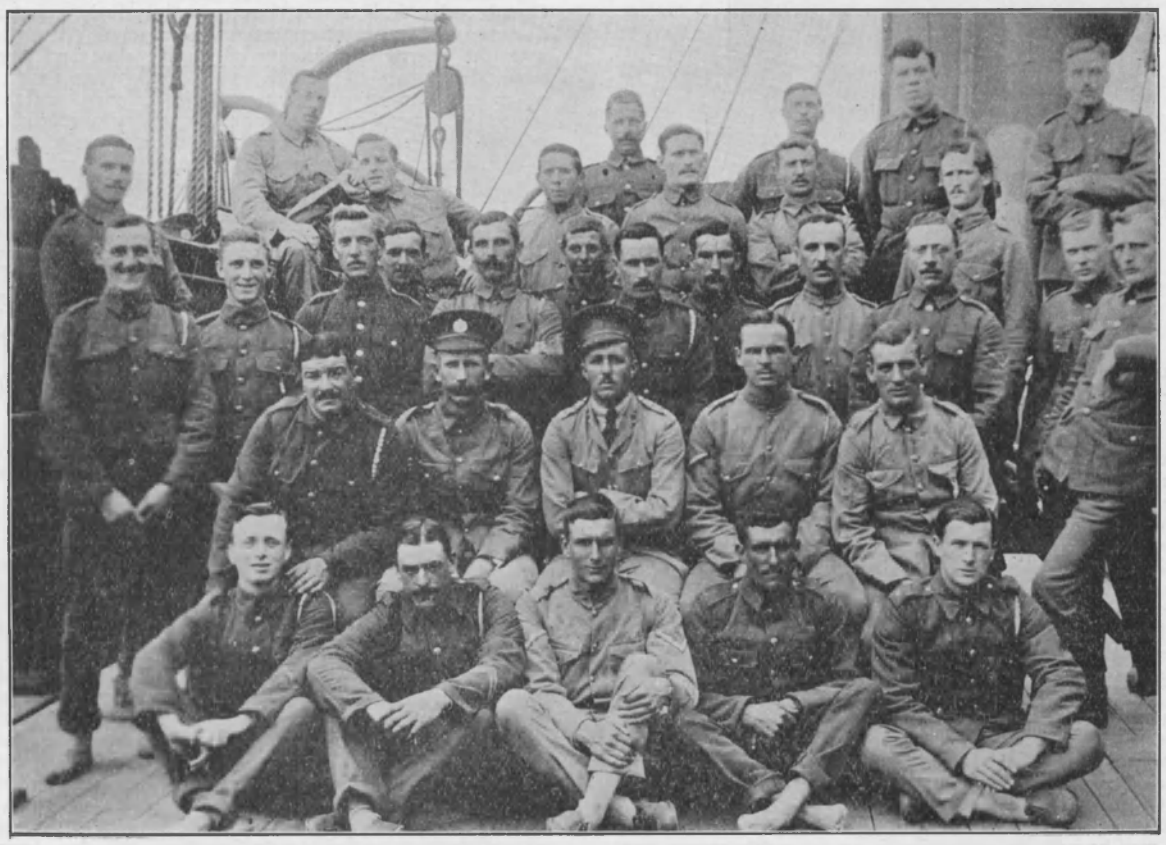
The 7th Divl Signal Company R.E., as it was termed when made up to war strength, served in France until September 1917 and was then transferred to the Italian front, where it remained until after the Armistice, when it was sent home under the command of Captain Wishaw, R.E. (now a Staff officer at Army Headquarters, Simla, India) with Fegan and Stannard as C.S.M. and sergeant respectively, for disbanding.

I wonder if many of the Corps know that a relic of the 7th Signal Company R.E. lies in the wagon sheds of the Mounted Wing, Catterick, in the shape of an old cable cart of Boer war fame. (It was there two years ago.) ZUID AFRIK.



KEY DIAGRAM TO PHOTO.

1 Sapper Hurford, 2 Sapper George, 3 Sapper Jarvis, 4 Driver Corcoran, 5 Sapper Keen, 6 Sapper ——, 7 Sapper ——, 8 Driver McBain, 9 Sapper Lough, 10 Sapper ——, 11 Sapper ——, 12 Sapper Ward, 13 Driver Mason, 14 2nd Corporal Lunn, 15 Sapper Mathieson, 16 Sapper ——, 17 Driver Stott, 18 Driver Hegarty, 19 Sapper Stannard, 20 Driver Steele, 21 2nd Corporal Laycock, 22 Driver ——, 23 Corporal Willis, 24 Driver Duncan, 25 Sergt Sinclair, 26 Lieutenant E. A. Osborne, 27 2nd Corporal Fegan, 28 Sapper Blissett, 29 Sapper Minion, 30 Driver Smith, 31 L/Cpl Smith, 32 Driver Woods, 33 Driver Brooks.



The 7th Signal Company R.E., August 1914 (see Key Diagram for names)

The Palestine Police.

BY MOUNTED CONSTABLE R. C. V. MOTT, M.B.E.
(Late B Corps Signals)

When Palestine was occupied during the Great War by troops under Field-Marshal Lord Allenby, the Turkish Administration no longer functioned and the country was placed under martial law. A Military Governor, with a small staff of officers, was appointed to each town of importance, and efforts were made to carry on essential Government services.

In accordance with the Turkish system, the investigation of crime was carried out by Public Prosecutors. At first, only Town Police were enrolled ; but later, authority was obtained for the enlistment of mounted personnel in the rural areas. These two Forces were known respectively as Urban and Rural Police.

On 1/7/20 the Military Administration was replaced by a Civil Government, and under Sir Herbert Samuel (the first High Commissioner) the Police Ordinance was passed. Prior to the enactment of this Ordinance, there was no proper legislative authority under which the Police could act. The Force was now under the command of Colonel Bromley of the Indian Police. Palestine was divided into three administrative districts—Northern, Southern and Jerusalem—to which the Police had to conform. Each of these three districts was under the command of a District Superintendent of Police.

In May 1922, owing to serious disturbances at Jaffa and in the surrounding districts, it was decided to create an armed reserve which could be used to assist the Police in the event of abnormal situations arising. This Force, known as the Palestine Gendarmerie, comprised some five hundred Palestinians under the command of British officers. In addition, seven hundred men and forty officers were drafted out from England and became the British Gendarmerie. The majority of this draft were recruited from the famous Black and Tans, and they were undoubtedly a tough lot.

In 1926 it was decided to increase the strength of the Police and abolish the Gendarmerie. A British Section of the Force was established, consisting of one hundred and fifty n.c.o.s and constables. Subsequent to the riots in 1929, authority was given for a further increase in both the British and the Palestine Sections. The strength of the Force at the present day is 650 British Police, 1550 Palestinian Police, and 263 warders. The Force is under the command of a British Inspector-General, assisted by two Deputy Inspectors-General. There are fifty-seven British officers and eighty-nine Palestinian officers and inspectors.

The country is divided into five Police Districts, each commanded by a British D.S.P. or D.D.S.P. These districts are sub-divided into Divisions, which fall under the command of an Assistant-Superintendent of Police—usually British, but in some instances Palestinian. The five districts are Jerusalem, Nablus, Southern, Northern and Gaza ; the latter includes Beersheba.

Conditions of service for the British Police are as follows. Age, under twenty-six years ; height, 5 ft. 9 in. ; chest, 35 in. normal ; must hold an Army first class certificate and exemplary character ; and preferably ex-n.c.o.s. Applicants must be strongly recommended by their C.O.s. Candidates are first interviewed by the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London and, if successful, are granted a free second class passage and rail journey to Jerusalem. Engagement in the first instance is for a period of three years. Pay is at the rate of £11 per mensem, together with free rations, uniform, accommodation and medical attendance. The uniform is blue during the winter months and khaki during the summer.

The British Training Depot is at Mount Scopus, Jerusalem. The training period lasts three months and embraces drill and musketry, Arabic, Law and Police duties, Lewis gun and revolver, and first aid. At the end of this period recruits are examined and, if up to the required standard, are drafted out to Divisions as foot constables. Men who have had previous mounted experience may, if desirous, apply to be placed on the Mounted Reserve; and subject to their passing a test, they are then placed on the Reserve until such time as a vacancy in the Mounted Branch occurs, when they are absorbed into the strength.

When a constable has passed his qualifying language examination in either Arabic or Hebrew, and provided he has at least six months service, he becomes eligible to sit for the proficiency pay examination in Law and Police duties. If successful, he is granted an allowance of £1 per month.

The duties of a foot constable are practically the same as those of a home policeman. The mounted man's duty is varied and consists of patrols by day and by night, visiting villages, etc. It is easily the best branch of the Force.

It is of no use a man joining the Force with the impression that he is going to lead the life of the Colonial Mr. Sanders of fiction: disillusionment will be quick. But if he is prepared to work hard, he will find his job both good and interesting.

The British Police work in co-operation with the Palestinians, and all stations are under a Palestinian Inspector.

The personnel of the Force is of first-class type, half of the strength being public school men, whilst the ex-Service element is drawn from every regiment in the Army, as well as an occasional sailor or marine. The ex-members of Royal Signals serving in the Force are Foot Constables Corbett, Pritchard and Hill, all ex-Sarafand ; Mounted Constables Mott, M.B.E., and Smy, ex-India ; and Corporal Matthews, late I.U.L. B Corps Signals.

If any member of the Corps would like any further information and will write to me c/o THE WIRE, I will be pleased to give him any information possible.

Reminiscences.

EX-NO. 22068 C.Q.M.S. J. COLLYER.

Enlisted in Royal Engineers as Sapper at Aldershot	31/ 8/87
Transferred to 1st Telegraph Battalion R.E.	—/11/87
Appointed Lance-Corporal	28/10/91
Promoted Second Corporal	23/ 9/93
Promoted Corporal	1/ 4/96
Promoted Sergeant	21/ 2/99
Promoted Troop Q.M.S.	1/ 2/01
Discharged to Pension	30/ 8/08
Served with the Ashanti Expedition	1895—1896
Served in South African War	1899—1902
Mentioned in Despatches	1901 and 1902
Re-enlisted for the Great War	23/ 9/14
Served in Ireland with 10th Signal Company R.E.	1914
Transferred to 23rd Signal Company, Aldershot	1914
Served in France with 23rd Signal Company and 2nd Army Signal School	1915—1917
Mentioned in Despatches	1916
Discharged	—/11/17

Medals—Ashanti Star, " Queen's " and " King's " South Africa, General Service, 1915 Star, Victory, and L.S. and G.C.

Fort Chipewyan, Alberta.

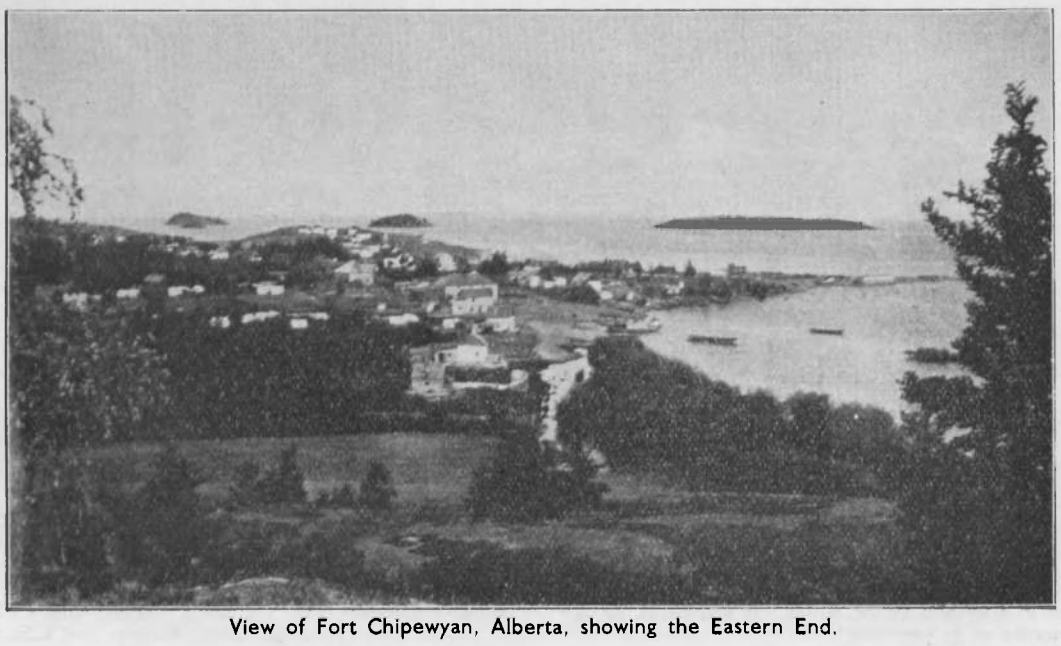
[Continued from the March issue]

Two Dog Teams, with Fort Chipewyan to the right in the background

One of the oldest of the eight white-washed red-roofed buildings on the Hudson Bay Rock, built about sixty years ago and the Post manager's residence for nearly half a century, is used for the wireless station and living quarters for the married operator and his wife. Water for the station is obtained from the H.B.C. well, a chore boy being hired to haul water daily. In the summer, tenders are laid for the fuel which is obtained from the woods at the back of the settlement or from the white spruce groves along the river. Although this whole area is wooded, good wood must be brought in from a distance of twenty miles and consequently is expensive. Most of the natives get their supply from the driftwood washed ashore or rafted in.

For lighting purposes in the settlement, kerosene and petrol lamps are used most extensively, there being only two buildings with electric lighting plants.

Were it not for the distance from the outside, Fort Chipewyan would rank with Canada's foremost summer resorts. Here is scenery which equals that of the Thousand Islands, and a greater variety of sports than found at many resorts. Yachting, fishing, swimming, tennis, ski-ing, skating and snow shoeing are popular recreations. It is a hunter's paradise for the shooting of ducks and geese. Moose and caribou are also hunted in large numbers, the southern shore of Lake Athabaska being the farthest limit in that direction to which the caribou roam. Chipewyan

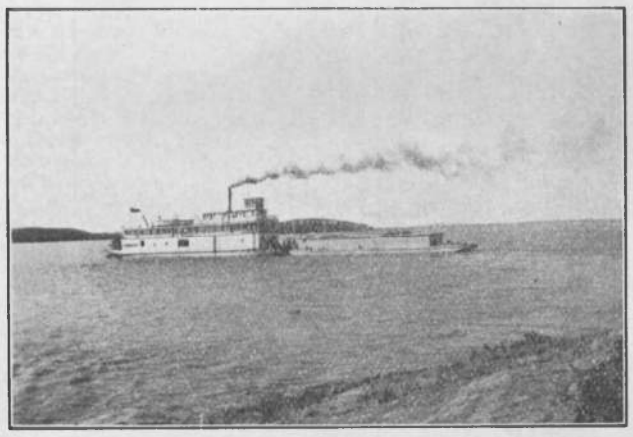


View of Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, showing the Eastern End.

Indians are sometimes referred to as the "caribou eaters," as this meat is their chief food.

Not only is Chipewyan a great fur trading centre. It has possibilities of becoming a great mining, fishing and lumbering centre. Copper and nickel are found extensively on the north shore of the lake, but are not being mined at present owing chiefly to the over-supply of those materials. Whitefish, jackfish, pickerel and trout are found in abundance in the lake, and there are two commercial fisheries a short distance from Chipewyan. Saw mills located near the fort supply all this area with lumber.

From the wooded hills just south of the fort there is a magnificent view. Below lies the little settlement, picturesquely situated at the base of granite rocks. To the east lies the vast expanse of Lake Athabaska; to the north the rocky, spruce-covered islands which shelter the little bay around which the settlement stretches for nearly two miles. The water in this bay is as warm as that found in lakes five hundred miles to the south. This is due to the shallow water and the long hours of sunshine which we have here in the summer. Plant growth is extremely rapid in this season. Almost all the common garden vegetables and flowers are grown successfully; lettuce and radishes grown in the open garden are ready for use by the first week in June.



The s.s. "Northland Echo,"
The Hudson Bay Company's Transport, on its weekly call at Fort Chipewyan.

The natives of Chipewyan show great skill in making the skiff —the type of boat best adapted to the waters of Lake Athabaska. Practically all the skiffs used for hundreds of miles around are made here. Whereas the native men excel in the making of skiffs and canoes, the women are especially skilful in working with moose and caribou skins. The Hudson Bay Company deem the bead work done at Fort Chipewyan to be the finest in the North, and a large exhibit of this handicraft is shown at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dog teams are used by the Indians and white men for transportation during the winter. Ordinarily, in a cross-country trip a team of five dogs can travel on an average five miles an hour for ten hours, pulling a load of five hundred pounds. Lake travel is even faster, a good team averaging sixty-five to seventy miles a day. However, good dogs are good only as long as they are well fed. Seldom are they fed on anything but fish—three fish per day is considered a good ration.

A great work amongst the natives is being carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission, which has been ministering to the needs of the people here for sixty years. The 15th August 1934 commemorated the diamond jubilee of the coming of the Sisters of Charity. On the cliff overlooking the Mission stands a high wooden cross erected by Father (later Archbishop) Tache on the 2nd September 1847. Not only have the missionaries looked after the religious and elementary education of the natives, but until the coming of the Government medical officer in 1931 they were the sole source of help for the sick and injured. At present there are about ninety resident Indian children at the Mission, with a staff of twelve sisters, two fathers, three priests and several brothers.

The Anglican Mission, which was established over forty years ago by Bishop Bompas, holds regular Sunday services, with a Sunday school in the afternoon. The church is a well built modern structure, and on entering one is struck by the beautiful interior, many of the furnishings of which were donated by former bishops and friends in Eastern Canada. Last year the W.A. of eight members was successful in raising $200, a large part of which was spent on the upkeep of the Mission House—one of the most modern buildings in the settlement, boasting electric light, a hot-air furnace and an indoor pump. A two-roomed non-denominational school is also conducted by the Anglican clergyman.

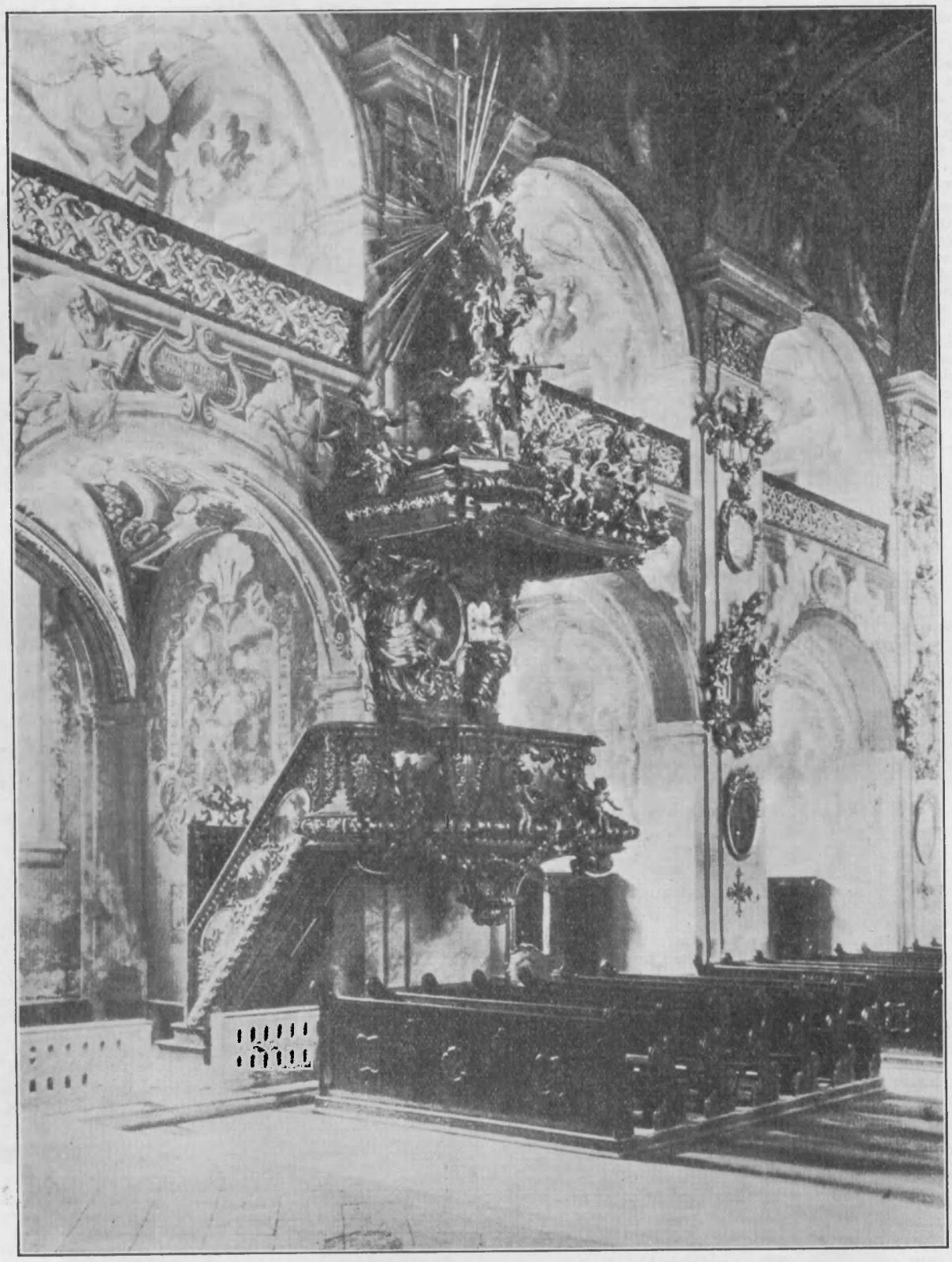
Telegraphing Pictures.

By W. T. Lowe and E. Phillips.

Illustrations by the courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

The plant for running the Siemens-Karolus Picture Telegraph apparatus which is in operation at the Central Telegraph Office occupies three rooms. One room contains the operating instruments, another is devoted entirely to banks of secondary cells, and the third is fitted up for developing and printing the received photograph.

Telegraphed from Copenhagen to London.
A fine specimen picture.



Telegraphed from Munich. Note the wealth of detail.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

Transmitter and receiver are separate. Both are contained in metal cases which measure about three feet square. On the top, a smaller metal case holds the actual sending and receiving gear. A motor for driving the mechanism is placed inside. Amplifiers and other necessary details adorn a control panel, and the operator keeps in touch with the station to which he is working by means of a telephone connected to this panel. A "picture call" is booked in the same way as a telephone call. This contributes in no small measure to the charges on the tariff.

Components consisting of a photo-electric cell, a spot-light lamp, a tooth-edged disc, Kerr cell, etc., are employed.

The matter to be telegraphed is clipped on to a metal cylinder. This revolves continuously in front of the photo-electric cell. The spot-light lamp directs a beam of light upon the surface of the picture, and the tooth-edged disc rotates in the path of this light.

In the Siemens-Karolus Picture Telegraph the photo-electric cell is made in the form of a ring. The light passes through the central hole to the picture.

So that the light shall be focussed on the picture, a lens is mounted just behind the cell, the whole system being mounted on a screw. The screw is revolved by gearing with the driving motor.

We now place the cell close to the cylinder on which the picture is clipped. If the light-tight case could be removed, you would see the cylinder revolving and the photo-electric cell and lens gradually moving downwards. Point by point the picture is being scanned by a spiral of light from top to bottom.

If a telephone be placed in circuit, we should hear a burbling note similar to that experienced in television.

Preparatory to reception, a film is clipped on to a cylinder in the dark room. This is then enclosed in the light-tight case, which has a shutter. When the case is placed in the receiver, the shutter opens.

Focussed on the film through the lens, light from the spot-lamp passes through an optical system of Nicol prisms and a Kerr cell, and the variations in light-value due to incoming currents passing through the Kerr cell affect the photographic film, point by point, according to the light and shade in the picture being transmitted.

The film is then taken into a dark room, developed, fixed, washed and dried; about thirty minutes being required to turn out the finished print.

Incidentally, the light-spot at both ends traverses a surface of about 7 inches by 10 inches, or 18 by 25 centimetres—the size of the cylinders in use. The area of the whole surface is approximately 450 square centimetres. The spot-light covers four lines to each millimetre of depth. This approximates 100 lines to the inch, and therefore 720 lines from top to bottom complete the picture.

Each spot of light is contiguous with the preceding one, so that the finished picture shows no sign of roughness.

The total distance travelled from top to bottom by the spot of light is 661 feet, and it takes twelve and a half minutes for a full sized picture.

The two accompanying specimen illustrations are reproduced exactly as received on the apparatus, except for the necessary reduction in size to fit these columns.

—From "The Wireless Magazine."

Do Elephants Remember?

He lay back in the long low verandah chair facing into the setting sun, which hung low over the horizon—huge, golden yellow, like to a harvest moon. The western sky was an infinite mystery of colour, faint green like fairy meadows, starred here and there with pearly white clouds as of flowers, upon which the setting sun added petals of rose. As the sun sank it crimsoned, and then the shadows in the hills were purple like heather. Slowly, imperceptibly, the darkly blue mist of dusk filled the heavens and, reaching out tender fingers, placed the appointed stars, quivering. For a splendid moment the sun poised on the horizon while it gathered the failing legions of light, a risen breeze sighed contentedly through rustling leaves, darkness fell with tropical swiftness, and a faint glow from the western rim reflected a glory that was gone. Sundown: the prized hour of the day in the lands of the East.

He lay still for a moment in quiet peacefulness. A cricket from the darkness chirped a few notes in shrill scales before the chorus joined in. When the headlamps of a car swung into the gateway, he arose and switched on the lights.

"Hoo-dee?" "Kar-ee-bu!" Cheerful voices, cool white clothes, the tinkle of glasses. Shaded lights, restful to sun-tired eyes. Little ripples of laughter. Africa's hour: sundowner time.

"My turn this evening for a story?" The voice of the host arose above the conversation.

"A true one?"—laughingly queried.

"Leave that to you to believe when I finish the telling. Before I begin—Boy!" Dainty appetising toasties were deftly served.

"I was always rather sceptical whenever I heard or read anything about elephants and the memories they are supposed to have: the lurid tales of them retaining within their great grey heads the knowledge of a wrong or slight done to them by some attendant, or a Zoo visitor, and after the passing of years taking a frightful vengeance upon the persecutor. These yarns I classed with the lion and mouse fable of childhood, the hunter who drew the thorn from the lion's paw and its happy sequel. They had, I repeat, left me cold until one day Jason, a white hunter, told me his story. I met him a few days after I had arrived in Mombasa—a new comer to the Colony—and I hung fascinated upon his words, and believed.

"The tale began from the time when he was in charge of a shooting party from England: a party which had silken tents, soft pillows and eiderdowns, and lots of bottles; also all sizes of shining shot-guns and rifles that made him break the tenth Commandment. The safari was for the benefit of a certain young Lord—er—shall we say Haw-Hawleigh, for he was of that type then, though he is changed mightily since. His guardians sent him to East Africa on a shooting trip to get him out of the range of smiles of a lady in the chorus—an ambitious lady. Yes! sent him here to kill wild things far more useful and picturesque in nature than his chorus girl or himself.

"Jason said it used to amuse him to see the youth slip in his monocle and put on washleather gloves before taking the gun from a bearer. He did his best to restrain him from blazing away at every little 'tommie' or dik-dik that flicked a tail in the vicinity of the camp.

"Though they were in lion country, a tracker brought word one evening that elephants were in the vicinity. So the noble lord must also have an elephant. He must shoot one so that the ancestral hall should be adorned with crossed ivory tusks; so that mighty feet should be stools for tender seats, or umbrella stands—bring down to earth in death a great grey form unchanged from dim ages, unchanged from the time when the noble lord's forbears were bubbles in the slime, or at best hanging, ringtailed, from a branch.

"They shot an elephant. At least, Jason did, though the other thought that it was his true aim which brought it crashing down in its tracks. It was in the early morning, and the forest was cool and dim like a cathedral. The llianas hung down like twisted bell-ropes, great ferns and velvet green moss wreathed the tree trunks, and pale fantastic flowers curled up, seeking the sun which shot swords of gold through the laced tree tops.

"Close to the herd they got, as the near crackle of branches warned them; closer still; then the noise of feeding ceased. Silence for a moment before a shrill trumpet blast shattered the air. There was the roar of heavy rifles, a crashing deeper in the forest growing fainter, and the herd was gone. One of their number, however, was left behind: a huge grey mound lying amongst the forest undergrowth.

"As they approached carefully, they became aware of a scraping scuffling noise and squeals as of rage. Lying pinned beneath the head and tusks of the dead beast, a baby elephant struggled to escape. Jason restrained his employer's desire to shoot it with the expressed intention of having the skin stuffed and placed in the ancestral hall. The youngster was released from its undignified position, securely bound, and taken to camp.

"A lengthy period was now passed in the camp, for the noble lord sulked in his tent with a touch of fever, or sun, and thought he was going to die. During this time Jason tenderly calmed and fed the captive—so much that it would follow him and come at his call. Sunny days and weeks of peace, and Jason grew fond of the animal which became his shadow.

" Then, one day, from the forest came a shrill trumpeting. Restlessly, urgently, it was repeated. The captive swayed towards the forest, ears wide stretched and trunk uplifted. It ran restlessly about, then came to Jason and ran trunk-tip over him, trembling, hesitating. Jason sensed its fears. The call from the forest came louder, nearer, and Jason made up his mind. Taking an ear in his hand, he led the young animal slowly towards the edge of the forest and in amongst the trees. His keen eyes saw a huge grey shadow coming swiftly towards them. Releasing the ear, he ran behind and with a mighty heave urged the youngster forward, then swiftly sprang away and ran for camp. A glad note in the final trumpet call told him of the re-union.

" Time passes quickly in Africa, and the sequel passes to Mombasa years later. There Jason sat despondently on the hotel terrace and slowly sipped a cool drink, while his tired eyes blinked at the brilliant sunlight. Slowly recuperating from an illness which had left him pale and weak, he brooded moodily. Shooting safaris were rare happenings at the moment, and his finances were so low that soon he would be compelled to sell his guns to pay the hotel bill, growing daily to alarming figures. Hopefully his eyes searched the notice board for names of new arrivals whom he might know. His attention was caught by the announcement that a circus, newly arrived, would give its opening show that evening. A nostalgia to see and be among the animals he knew so well impelled him to make a mental note to visit the performance.

" He went early to the circus that evening and sat, hunched and disconsolate, on the bare rough board in the front row of the cheapest seats. Sadly he watched, and a great pity filled his heart as he saw the splendid beasts wearily doing the petty things that delight the weird intelligence of mankind. Tawny majesty, sinuous stripes and lithe spotted leapings, the crack of a whip, the low snarlings. Suddenly he felt sick of it all and decided to leave.

" As he rose from his seat an elephant entered the arena, and he sank back again with a queer thrill. Huge and majestic, covered with glittering trappings, a resplendent howdah on its back, its long curved tusks polished, gleaming and tipped with scarlet, the noble animal stately paced around. As it passed along, silent as a shadow, the little silver bells on the fringe of the tapestries tinkled. Its long trunk curled and uncurled, then swept the audience, who swayed back with affected cries of fear as it passed by them.

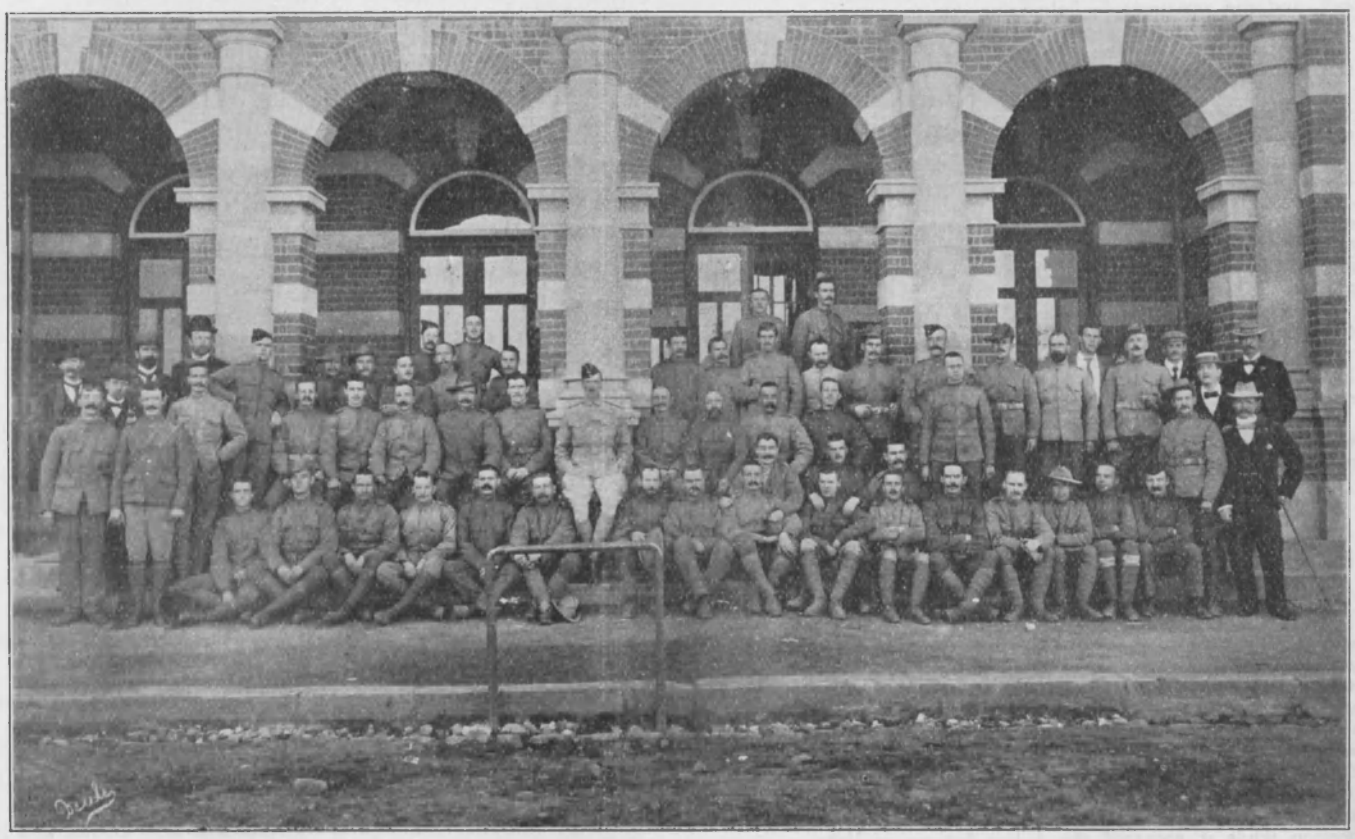
" When it reached Jason, the trunk-tip ran over him and towards his pockets, and he sat still. Suddenly the great animal stopped its pacing and its head swung towards him. Tenderly, lovingly, the tip ran over him, searching, halting. Then a great trumpet blast rang out. Up swung the mighty trunk and, seizing the mahout perched above, it flung him into the sawdust. Back it came and tenderly encircled the wasted form of Jason. Up out of the cheap hard seats it raised him ; high above the spellbound throng it carried him ; into the glittering howdah it placed him. With stately pace and upcurled trunk, as if to sense a form well loved, the elephant circled the arena. Around and around it went, still with mighty trumpet soundings ; then once more it stopped. Back reached the waving trunk ; high again swung Jason ; then softly he was lowered and gently placed on the velvet cushions of the most expensive seats, next to a man who sat with gleaming eyeglass and shining shirtfront.

" ' Lord Haw-Hawleigh ! '

" ' Jason ! the very man I have been looking for.'

" An elephant had shown its gratitude." PETRUS.

Reminiscences.



The Telegraph Staff, R.E., outside Bloemfontein Post Office, August 1900.

The central figure is Lieut.-General Sir John Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., who was at the time a Captain in the R.E.

HOME STATIONS

5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

D Company, Training Battalion.

D Company calling once again! For the benefit of those who have left us, spring is in the air and all rifles are being drawn out of store—sounds ominous. Still, I hope we are all capable ; but, of course, we have one or two exceptions.

Everything seems to be brightening up these days—from barrack rooms to sports. Of course, we have our barrack room floors polished! why shouldn't we ? And for the benefit of those who will stay out late: tread warily on our miniature ice rinks, otherwise—well! " I saw stars."

Enquiries.—Who is the spark of life and laughter who is drawing our recruit clerk to Northampton ? Nobby, Quetta: What about my letter ? Rennie.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Simpson T. (2nd Divl Signals) on attaining the rank of paid.

Agony.—Our rugby forward on being taken to the M.I. room in a wheelbarrow after a rugby match with the Mounted Wing.

Regrets.—We regret to announce the departure of our beloved orderly corporal to the 5th Divl Signals. Many tears were shed over this brilliant capture of the 5th Divs, but there was one person who was rather pleased—and he has already been to the tailor's. Good luck to you, Corpl Bolshaw. Long may your tour extend ; but do not go out too far when you go for a swim. Look out, 5th Divs! you have a coming international soccer player.

We extend our good wishes to Sgt Wheeler A. G. (discharged), Sigmn Lambert T. (to Army Reserve) and Sigmn Yates J. W. (compassionate grounds) and trust that they will find their new spheres of life to their satisfaction. Our only other departure was Sigmn Bradley R. to the 2nd Divl Signals.

Arrivals.—To Sigmn Knott (2nd Divl Signals) and all others who have joined us, we wish a pleasant stay.

Personal.—F. West (Bulford): We have some rugby notes for you. Please note that L.B. is not in F Company. What about a letter to your old pals ? Nobby.

Lost.—At Billingham, one set of false teeth. Will the finder please return to the Company office runner ?

Billingham.—As will be seen in the Sports Notes, a party of thirty went to the above-mentioned place. After the match we embussed to Stockton and participated in high tea (the room downstairs being full). Completely invigorated, a party of us made a tour of the market place and various other resorts and then went to the Palais de Danse, where we met our comrades in distress. According to reports, there were some " wyld antics " on the balcony of the Palais. Everyone is asking: Who were the two persons who could not stand the strain of the dancing and sat down on the dance floor ? We do know that one was an M.C. and the other was—well, he was Ginger and had M.T. feet. Finally, after a very enjoyable evening, our shepherd (minus a dog) succeeded, after a very harassing time, in collecting his weary flock and we returned to " Home, sweet home." M.C.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company has experienced a rather dull month since the last issue of notes. Two squads have arrived from the Depot, and in return we have given them two men. A bit short on this side, I admit ; but I've heard that the exchange was in order. To field units, No. 189 Squad and a bit of No. 188. To name them is asking a little too much ; and if I did, the Editor would probably ask if I'd care to pay a small tax on the paper I'd literally consume. However, if the suggestion were put forward at the next conference, why shouldn't we have a special posting report on one page of THE WIRE so that those who cannot sleep at night can read them over and over till they get toothache? Of course, it would benefit those who never see or hear of their pals and are probably miles away from a post office, where the mails are delivered only once a week. However, the less said—nought will be done and nix happens.

Postings.—L/Sergt Powell, our boxing trainer, football referee and cadre manager, has left us for the 5th Divl Signals at Scarborough. We wish him all the very best, and hope that he'll do for Scarborough all that he has done for us.

Sigmn Turner, one-time cook, has left us for Bulford, and he whispered to me " Fame in India after the next trooper." From me you can have, if you want it, a buckshee " mossy " net for the postage in return ; and from the Company the best of wishes, cheers, and all the advice from your Section sergeant. If you get a relief, don't take it. Remember the slogan " Go to it, Slick, and watch the bottom of the gangway."

As a contrast, we have Sigmn Howard posted to us in his place. Fair exchange ; no swindle—so make yourself at home, just like the others.

Band.—L/Corpl Williams (Cloggy) has been granted permission to continue in the Service for another year over his twenty-one. Apart from that, he is a very silent man ; but he assures me that he is fully aware of what he has done. I was under the impression that it was a Jubilee medal he wanted ; but after twenty-one years service that's a child's trick, and he already has a chest-full—so, as far as we are concerned, we wish him good luck.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—During the last month the Company has had rather a quiet time, with a reminder from the weather clerk that the snow is still hanging around. The Sergeants and Corporals Messes were the most afflicted by this fall of snow, as some of the members of the Sergeants Mess were seen rolling huge snowballs around the lines: evidently a competition of some sort between the two Messes. In return, the Corporals were seen to use the windows as exits, as their doorway seemed to be a welcome resting place for a huge drift of snow.

A dance was held in the Club to enable some of our dancing daughters to shake a leg. We regret the loss of our former scribe, but—now a full-blown signalman—he is recuperating in dock. We wish him a quick recovery—unfortunately, not sufficiently ouick to assist us in our rugby tie with the School. To Boy Sheppard, after his accident on the rugby field, we also wish a complete and speedy recovery, and hope that he will in no way be inconvenienced whilst on sick leave. L/Sergt Harrison has returned from his confinement in Darlington Isolation Hospital

and is now enjoying a week's rest to recover his normal faculties (commonly known as legs).

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to 2/Lieutenants M. Stonestreet and C. Henn-Collins. Already Mr. Stonestreet has proved an asset to the rugger team: he can show his opponents a pair of clean heels. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

In our list of arrivals we also have the I.M.s football team, who seemed to think they went down to Aldershot on a rest cure; but now the word "Tanks" is strictly taboo. Bad luck, I.M.s! better luck next time.

Welcome to Sigmn Potts from 5th Divl Signals, although he only lived over the way. His posting entailed moving from Marne Lines to Gaza Lines, but it is a long journey up here every morning.

Departures.—We regret to lose L/Corpl McLaven, who has gone to Tidworth. Look out, Tidworth! he's an ex-D.I.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Apologies are tendered for the absence of our WIRE notes for the last two months.

Arrivals.—We extend a glad hand to the following arrivals, and hope their stay in this unit will be a pleasant one. Driver Cross from D Troop. Sigmn Booth from A.C.S.C. Signalmen Arkless, White, Yates and Markey from India. Sigmn Brett from the 4th Divl Signals for attachment to us whilst undergoing a vocational course.

Departures.—L/Corporal Vigurs A. to the Depot Battalion. Sigmn Nicholson W. to A.C.S.C. Driver Keeling R. to the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough (certain members of the Cable Sections will miss Claud in his capacity of courier; we all wish him the best). Corpl Edwards F. T. to H.Q., S.T.C. Catterick (the unit office staff greatly regret his posting, but congratulate H.Q. on their acquisition of a fine tradesman and comrade). Sigmn Aylett to the Training Battalion.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following are appointed on the Corps roster: Lance-Corporals Kunath, Watkins, Tant A. and Robertson. Where's that little blue book? Congratulations to all concerned. Sigmn Spriggs is also congratulated on the attainment of a dog's leg.

Transfer to Army Reserve and Discharge.—The following have left us on transfer to the Army Reserve and discharge. We wish them every success in civil life. L/Corporals Jury W. A. and Ball W. and Sigmn Cheetham. C.Q.M.S. Lawrence A. G. discharged.

Marriages.—The undermentioned marriages took place some time ago. Corpl Beardmore T. to Miss Rose A. Nash at Birmingham, 1/12/34. L/Corpl Robertson to Miss Edith May Berry at Aldershot, 15/12/34. Sigmn Smith T. E. to Miss Alice Poole at Northampton, 22/12/34. Cpl Hickmott to Miss Muriel Anderson at Birmingham, 26/12/34.

Births.—To L/Corpl and Mrs. Harvey a daughter, Pamela Jean, at the maternity unit, Aldershot Hospital, 27/1/35. To Sigmn and Mrs. Ward R. C. a son, Brian Ronald, at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, 13/2/35.

Extensions and Re-Engagements.—L/Corporals Harvey and Robson to complete twelve years with the Colours. Corporal Durand re-engages to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

The Unit at Present.—Boxing has broken out like an epidemic. Many have succumbed to its spell; others to the attacks of their opponents. Participants in the various bouts are commended on the way in which they fought. Although knowing little of the noble art of fisticuffs, they fought gamely and well. Black eyes are very plentiful, and here and there a nose is tending to flatten and an ear to swell.

The novices competition uncovered many potential champions who will, we hope, put A Corps Signals on top in the Army boxing championships. The Chief Signal Officer, who very kindly presented prizes to the winners, gave a speech in which he congratulated the fighters and also A Corps Signals on their recent sporting efforts. He said they were already making their presence felt in sporting circles. He wanted them to go on, so that once again A Corps Signals would be recognised as worthy opponents and could be relied on to give a hard clean game.

The unit has to thank Major Spencer for much of the increased enthusiasm, for his unfailing interest and personal efforts have done much to engender a sporting feeling in all.

The Company boxing competition held recently was won by No. 1 Company. It is the firm contention of many of the personnel of this Company that the stables breed tough men. But what when mechanisation takes place?

The wave of boxing which has swept the unit has caused a sort of secret society to be inaugurated. The sign is as follows. Extend the fingers of the right hand, at the same time placing the right thumb on the side of the nose and snorting. Thus, you will be inundated with invitations to cups of char and men will speak warily and even deferentially to you. You will become one of the Fraternity of Boxing Lads.

Cross-country running has brightened up considerably. The unit team has taken part in the Command young soldiers and the Command inter-unit runs, our positions being fourteenth and nineteenth respectively.

Agony.—To Taffy Davis (975) Karachi: Frankie and Johnny now a solo effort. Charlie (974).

The originator of these notes has decided to change his nom-de-plume, and henceforth will be known as shown by the signature appended. B.B.26 know the reason for this change.

RAMROD II.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Departures.—We expressed our sorrow on the departure of R.S.M. Eves J. A. last month, and promised to chronicle the farewell ceremonies in this issue. The smoking concert in the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess I can confidently leave to the scribe of that institution. He has certainly plenty of material to work on. So have I, and I deplore my inability to do it justice.

No. 3 dining hall lost its serried ranks of dining tables and took on a theatrical look between 5.30 and 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 21st February. The efforts of our amateur scene shifters were very praiseworthy.

L/Corporal Green and his band, assisted by Corpl Smith and Sigmn Parsonage (ex-Bomonti shield champions) provided half an hour of infectious and catchy tunes which sent the N.A.A.F.I. bar into a turmoil in lubricating lacerated larynxes and tortured tonsils.

Irrigation being completed, the assembled Company—bordering on three hundred—re-seated themselves in anticipation and were not disappointed. Two friendly artists from neighbouring units opened their lungs *and* the proceedings to such an extent that it looked as if the audience wanted them there for the rest of the evening. Sergt Thomas then gave a masterly delivery of "The Dandy Fifth," and had to respond to an encore with "The Hindu Paradise." L/Corpl Fensome staged a novelty boxing match in which he was both challenged and challenger (and unseen) at the same time. This produced roars of laughter as his dummies took turns in slaughtering each other.

Colonel R. E. Barker then mounted the platform and said quite a lot in eulogy of R.S.M. Eves. That the sentiments expressed were shared by all present was amply demonstrated by the very frequent and sustained "Here! here's!" This hearty testimony to his sterling qualities, and the vocal evidence of the good feeling which followed him into civil life, deeply affected Mr. Eves. He expressed his appreciation of the send-off and his sorrow that the dread day had arrived which necessitated parting with so many staunch friends. He also—very naively, I thought—remarked that he didn't realise he was such a good fellow.

After the "Jolly good fellows" and "Hoorays" had died down and throats had been again subjected to short routine, the band got under way again. Signalmen Robinson and Hernan obliged with songs and Sigmn Hamilton provided a step dance, while the Hill Billies gave a demonstration in harmony.

The surprise item of the evening was introduced to an expectant audience when Horse, Army No. 30091 (our Nobby) made his way

between the cabaret tables to the stage to the strains of "Old Faithful." He duly "made a back" for Mr. Eves and looked round proudly while the assembled company sang "Old soldiers never die." En passant, it may be of interest to note that Nobby is twenty-four years of age, hardly knows what a sick report is, and (*sic*) knows cable work better than most subaltern officers. He served in France during the war and is now (in honourable retirement) the common property of all ranks of the 1st Divisional Signals.

Nobby having been escorted home—it must not be forgotten that he toasted Mr. Eves with a bowl of beer and a ham sandwich—the proceedings got under way again. Sigmn Parsonage gave his inimitable imitation of a violin and a soprano solo, and (continuing the Near Eastern effect) the author of "The Wog Wedding" revived the tale of Achmed Sabona. By this time everybody wanted to sing, and the mouth organ band led the way admirably till the closure was applied.

We are happy to be able to end this report with an extract from "The London Gazette," and we are sure that old 1st Divites will echo our "Well done, sir!"

"London Gazette," dated 26/2/35.

T.A., Royal Corps of Signals—55th (West Lancs) Divl Signals.
J. A. Eves to be Lieut.-Quartermaster, 21st February, 1935.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Hamlin H. and Sgt Finley on their promotion to those ranks.

Reunion.—2/Lt. W. J. A. Nicks (R.Signals S.R.) has reported for a short attachment, and brought the sad news that ex-R.Q.M.S. Ted Horgan died a few weeks ago. It will be remembered that he settled in Uckfield and ran a poultry farm. Brighter news is the information that Sam George, Jim Jarvis, Joe Bowker, Bill Henson, Ted Darlow, and Uncle Tom Cobley and all are still keeping their end up. We have asked Mr. Nicks to present our salaams on his return.

Sergeant Howler Speaking.—"If I had produced a futuristic drawing of Napoleon receiving the lance stripe, the Editor would have turned it down, believing it was the child of an unbalanced mind—and he wouldn't have been far wrong. Similarly, them's my sentiments on the colossal monstrosity which Jacob Epstein has produced. I consider it is dumb insolence to the theme, the stone, and the British public."

Comment.—I shall have to re-arrange my opinion about Sergt Howler (not in the blue book).

Civvy Street.—Signalmen Goldsack and Banks have both left us for billets in civil life with Messrs. Briggs Bodies, Dagenham. Good luck to both! If they can bag jobs for any more bodies, we shall be happy to accommodate them. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Command.—We offer a welcome to Major J. C. McDonald, who has now arrived from London and assumed command of this Company, and our best wishes to our departing Company commander, Captain G. W. Odell.

General.—Now that everyone has had his furlough and Sigmn Maxfield is out of hospital, we have almost a complete Company again. Our parade states now seem quite respectable compared with those lean weeks at the beginning of the year, when they resembled nothing so much as the dividend sheets of Littlewood's football pools.

Quite a lot of people have been upgraded, trade tested and mustered in higher ratings of their trades, and the results on the whole were excellent. Promotion amongst the junior n.c.o.s has also been at par, there having been a sharp upward movement of lance-corporals and several unpaid ranks converted. Congratulations to all concerned.

Whilst all this has been going on, several enterprising young soldiers have been attending school for their firsts, and we hope to announce their success in next month's issue. The old school tie element seems to have promoted a general demand for higher culture, and some surprising gems of literature have emerged in our barrack rooms.

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Amongst other books, "Engineer Training" and "Small Arms Training" have been in great demand, and may often be seen propped against the coffee pots at the breakfast table.

Arrivals.—We have had few arrivals since the last issue of notes, but to those who have arrived we extend the usual welcome, and trust that they have by now located the Company notice board.

Departure.—There is only one departure to record: that of C.S.M. Harris, who terminated his Colour service recently and is now Lieut.-Quartermaster to a Territorial unit in London. Although several of us are too young to quote his exact service with this unit, we are sure that those who knew him here as C.Q.M.S. and later as C.S.M. will join in wishing him every success. We regret having to announce that the regimental barber's receipts are now considerably shrunk.

Courses of Instruction.—Numerous n.c.o.s and men have now rejoined us from various training centres, whilst the return of other enlightened students is eagerly awaited. When spring arrives, we shall have an exponent of every mysterious art peculiar to the fighting forces.

The latest Professor to return to the fold is none other than Willie Wiles, who has undergone an intensive course in stretcher bearing. Needless to say, he obtained a high percentage of marks; no doubt, his natural ability in adopting the horizontal position won him some merit. At the moment of going to press, his prowess with the stretcher has received little attention, but we hope that an opportunity will occur shortly for a practical demonstration.

In an exhaustive interview with the Professor, we managed to glean three essential points which the potential stretcher bearer should bear in mind. Firstly, that when it is intended to carry a person on a stretcher, an eye must be cast over the canvas to see that it is attached to the poles. Secondly, be sure that the poles are attached to the canvas and vice versa. Lastly, always endeavour to get a second person to hold the other end of the

stretcher when lifting it from the ground. The Professor has offered to give free tuition in this fascinating pastime to any interested person. Those who find difficulty in acquiring the desired state of *rigor mortis* should start training now.

Personal Column.—EXCHANGES. A young and progressive oxy-acetylene welder wishes to exchange a blow lamp for a suit of plus fours. Write now to Box No. 239, stating your measurements in terms of micro-farads and plus fours.

DANCING. Molly gives dancing lessons daily in the N.A.A.F.I. salon from 5.15 to 6 p.m. Carioca a speciality.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The junior n.c.o.s drill course has just finished. The seniors are getting their eyes in on their course and are, I am sure, enjoying themselves—the weather being extremely bright at 6.30 a.m. Musketry has commenced, and each day we see the sharp shooters doing their stuff. Driving drill for the H.T. has also commenced.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Waugh C. from the Training Battalion. As he has proceeded on furlough, we haven't had the chance to give him his brush and curry comb yet ; but it awaits him.

Departures.—Nil. This is a change!

Congratulations.—We congratulate our cross-country running team on winning the inter-Company trophy, particularly as it was so difficult to find a team. We really thought we should be beaten, but our " scratch " people turned up trumps.

We should like to congratulate the Boys team from the Training Battalion on the good show they put up in the Army cup match played here last week. It was a hard match, and it was a pity that both teams could not win.

We Want to Know.—Have the parties discovered the green " white "-wash yet ? If the blondes in Guildford have a greater attraction for E Section than brunettes in Brighton ?

Conclusion.—This appears to be all we can find of this month's news, so until next month we will dry up. PIP.

No. 3 Company.

Agony.—In our last notes we stated that the Company was shortly to be mechanised, but much to our regret we have been instructed to read " November 1935 " for " shortly." However, no one seems to be very upset about this tragic news, as one can still hear the stable party greet their horses in that friendly manner known only to that clan.

The individual training season has now finished, and the Company is steadily preparing for the hiking season.

As You Like It.—In case the personnel of L Section are curious, Sigmn (Busty) Bradley did not apply for posting from K because L had been mechanised. He was merely afraid of meeting the ice cream vendor at " The Pin Cushion " during the coming scheme season.

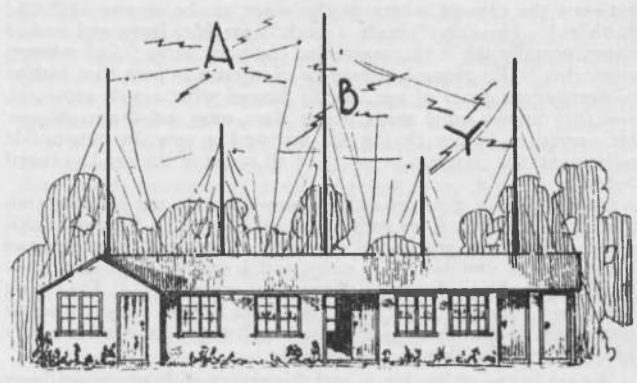
Courses.—The junior n.c.o.s of the Company (L/Corporals Funnell and Miller) have just completed a drill and duties course under the able instruction of the R.S.M. Smokee does know now which hand to salute with, thanks to Dusty. Now that it is all over, both the above mentioned are repeatedly reminded how lucky they were to have been selected to attend the course.

Sergt Brunton is at present undergoing an M.T. course at Feltham. Bad luck, sergeant! limbers have no starting handles.

Education.—Congratulations to Sigmn Large on gaining the second class certificate of education. Albert, why did you spoil that wonderful run of regular attendances ? Jimmy (Emblem) is so lonely now, but is somewhat consoled when he gazes at those splendid drawings on the schoolroom desks. Driver Atkings passed in all but maths. Remember Bruce, Tommy.

Arrivals.—Signalman Bradley R. and Driver Thompson from Catterick, and Sigmn Featherstone from A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth. We hope their stay may prove to be a long and happy one.

Departures.—Driver Groom to the Mounted Wing, Catterick. Sigmn Robinson to the A.F.V. Signals, Tidworth. Sigmn Knott to the Training Battalion, Catterick. A.F.F.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling All Cads.—Having let my public down last month, I feel it is my bounden duty to conjure up a few notes this time. News, like money, seems to be very short. I can't blame soccer pools for the lack of news.

Postings.—Sigmn Nicholson W. joined this unit from A Corps Signals vice Sigmn Booth W., who departed to that Company to do a few guards, etc.

Old Soldier.—Sigmn Macken W. honoured us by extending to complete twelve years.

Gone Away: Are You Listening ?—Sheik Mohammed Lal Bateman, our speedy draughtsman, left us on 23/1/35 to smarten up Kohat. As his boat left during such beautiful weather, we are all hoping that he had several bouts of seasickness. My own personal hope is that he met a dust storm as soon as he landed!

Extra Pice.—Our worthy friend Willie, of Clan Abbott, received the pay for his appointment as Lance-Corporal from 25/8/34. We have had much pleasure in initiating him into some of the duties of an n.c.o., and have managed to get him dressed up in full regalia on several occasions with bandolier, etc. Likewise, our fanatical comrade of the Tribe of Stanley takes a step nearer the top by attaining the dizzy height of Lance-Sergeant w.e.f. 13/2/35. Congratulations to both of them.

Fish Cakes (for want of a better heading).—The palm, wreath of laurels, or whatever prize may be going this month, must be handed to " Bodyline " Bill Williams for getting our worthy superintendent and myself to search the Station for an inductor-meter. I am beginning to suspect that I have senile decay setting in. Our esteemed draughtsman was also caught: he spent a considerable time in hunting for a rubber-headed hammer.

Chief Tea Swozzler.—Sigmn (Forked Lightning) Sinclair has lost this title. No election was needed to nominate a successor, because within four days of being posted to the Company " Snake in the Grass " Nicholson firmly established himself at the head of affairs by being in the first wave on eight successive occasions. He stands like a statue, watching the kettle boil. AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

All About Us.—Fred in the village has reopened the doors of his tea shop. It is a great blessing ; his hot dogs and tea, steaming and sweet, have a most soothing influence on us all. I wish I could persuade Enoch Pritchard to resume his visits here, but he will not—and to this I attribute his deplorable crotchetiness of late. Enoch has no reason to be bad tempered ; the Belle of Bracknell looks on him with a more than friendly eye, and we all know what that means.

Oh, Enoch! oh, Enoch! beware of the day
When the damsel shall meet you in bridal array,
For a trip to the altar I see is thy fate—
Now, please, do be careful before it's too late.

Motor cycles and their owners are becoming a perfect pest in the unit. In addition to Coombe (dear Henry), Buxton, Clarke and Bennett create the most devilish racket at the time when ageing and decrepit old soldiers like myself are seeking a well

earned siesta. By the way, it is a piece of poetic justice that, having travelled far from home on the back of Coombe's machine, the infernal thing should burst into flames and leave us to walk back.

Signalmen Caulfield, Bennett and Tyler have gone up a notch in their trade—D.R.—which is very much to their credit and will, no doubt, be celebrated in due course in the time-honoured manner.

We have done remarkably well in the Air Defence Brigade hockey knock-out, defeating combined C and H.Q. Companies 1st A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E. by one goal to nil in the semi-final. We travel to Portsmouth some time this month to meet the winning Battery of the 2nd A.A. Brigade R.A. in the final. Our hopes run high. Sergt Bloodworth, please note.

Our Inillustrious Living.—No. 1: Sigmn Coombe L. F. It is just about two years ago that I first set foot in Blackdown. I had left that delightful place Singapore, and was a sadly disillusioned man. On the same day there arrived in the Company two recruits from the Depot, Coombe and Crockett. Of the latter I have little to say; but Coombe—dear Henry—what a boon and a blessing he has proved to us all.

The other day, over a cup of tea in "The Teapot," I talked to Henry. "What," I asked, "is the secret of your amazing success? Why is it that you, a mere recruit, occupy such a prominent place in our workaday life?"

Henry sipped his tea gracefully before replying. "Well," he stated modestly, "I don't know. I simply can't help being what I am. What I don't know about wireless, motors, horses, sport, drama, literature, music and flappers isn't worth knowing. There is one thing I excel in." "And that?" I asked. "The raising of the downy fungus that adorns my upper lip at various periods of the year," he replied.

And looking at my friend, I saw that he was in process of growing one of those unique facial embellishments. Yes, I thought, his moustache is a masterpiece; it is the making of Henry. Behind its silken shield, he is free from the rebuffs of his fellow men. But by this time we had emptied our cups, and Henry was striding towards the door. "Let us away!" he cried in that regal manner of his, and I followed him outside to our waiting push bikes, and off up the road we went. E.F.M.

Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Rumour has it that we shall, in the very near future, cease to exist as Armoured Fighting Vehicles Signals and that our designation will be "the Tank Brigade Signals." If that is so, it will be the fourth title which this unit has had since its inception in 1928 as the Mechanised Force at Bulford. Since that time, it has borne the title of Cavalry Divisional Signals, and now—Tank Brigade Signals. Of course, we have also been called many other things, but we won't bother about those at present. Our Sections will lose their titles of Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Tank Signal Sections and will become B, C, D and E Sections.

No. 4 Tank Signal Section is being sent to the 4th Battn Royal Tank Corps at Catterick, to be attached to them permanently as No. 6 Tank Signal Section. F Troop, Cavalry Divl Signals, which at present (although away from this unit and attached to the 12th Royal Lancers for all purposes) is still being administered as part of this unit, will cease to belong to this unit and will in all probability be attached permanently to the 12th Royal Lancers. Anyway, time will tell; and as you may guess, we are all excited and wondering what our new jobs, if any, will turn out to be.

Congratulations.—To the undermentioned on acquiring the ranks shown against their names. Corpl Mulholland F. promoted to that rank w.e.f. 15/1/35. L/Corpl Chambers T. appointed w.e.f. 15/1/35. Signalmen Richards J. and Ashford R. appointed U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 27/2/35. More power to their voice boxes!

To Corporal Button R. on having the courage to sign on for twenty-one of the best.

To L/Cpl and Mrs. Adkins on the birth of a daughter (Elizabeth Joyce) at Tidworth on 25/2/35. Papa will get some exercise now, all right. I must say that he has started early—but will he keep it up?

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following to our happy band, and hope that their stay with us will a happy

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one. Sigmn Marley H. from the Training Battalion. Signalman Robinson from the 2nd Divl Signals. Sigmn Gear from overseas.

Departures.—Lieut. G. E. C. Nelson to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. We were all sorry to see him go, but hope that he will enjoy the best of health and success in his new station.

Sigmn Featherstone E. to the 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot. (Happy days, Feather!) Signalman Henry D. to the School of Signals. Corpl Sharp D. and Sigmn Crebbin T. to the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. (Have a paddle in the briny for me, won't you ?) Sigmn Parnell H. on attachment to the 2nd Battn Royal Tank Corps, Farnborough. (It is getting quite an annual scrounge, this.) Sigmn King L. D. on attachment to the R.A.O.C. Depot, Hilsea, with a view to transfer. (Storemen were the bane of his life—and now he wants to be one! There's no accounting for tastes.)

O.C.A. Dance.—The unit was well represented at the annual dance of the Salisbury Branch of the O.C.A. in the Cadena Cafe, Salisbury, on Friday 8th March. Forty of the unit attended, and everyone was well pleased with the results of the hard working committee's efforts. Many said that it was the best dance they had been to for years. Everything was as it should be—the floor, the hall, the band, and the company. The social atmosphere was very high, and as a result the company enjoyed themselves so well that the evening passed all too quickly. When are we to have another one, Mr. Cole ? One a year is far too little—what about one a month ?

Fallacies Exploded.—These important-looking office chaps *are* clever—to the layman. This sounds highly technical (doesn't it?): "Return of motor cars and motor cycles stored in barracks and/or washed with water from W.D. supply (paras. 373, 416 (a) and 410 (b) S.T. and B. Services and A.C.I. 546/23)." Pause to let that soak in.

Well, Sherlock Bill has investigated this complicated affair, and this is his report. "The above paragraphs of S.T. and B. Services deal with (i.) the emptying of dustbins, (ii.) the vulcanising of tyres, and (iii.) the rendition of vouchers!" So they aren't so important as they look, are they ? What is more, they do not seem to have much in common with the return referred to. But you must admit that it makes the return look a lot more important, don't you think ?

Things We Ought to Know.—Who was the man who wanted to clean the eyepieces of his gas mask and found a tube of tooth-paste in his haversack ? Is he wondering what he did with his anti-dimming outfit ?

Whose head is so near his feet that, when he gets a pain, he doesn't know whether it's earache or a corn that's troubling him ?

Who started the rumour that the unit clock—which, by the way, stands about eight feet from the ground—is going to be raised so that Lofty doesn't have to bend down when he alters the hands ?

RUSTY.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We have had very few happenings of interest since our last notes, and so we shall not take up much space.

This time of the year (for us, at any rate) is the most difficult, as we have to fit in so many things at once. What with a three weeks dig, preliminary musketry, practice for the King's Jubilee parade, training of Artillery Signal Sections, and another period of I.T., it is not too easy to fit in the pieces of this jig-saw puzzle. However, we must not grumble. The week-end of 9th March was about the coldest on record, even for this place ; and we can imagine old members of this unit, who are now serving abroad, smiling to themselves when they read this.

Having nothing more to add, we will say good-bye until the next time.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following new arrivals, and hope they will enjoy their stay in Bulford. L/Corpl Palmer from E Troop, Cavalry Divl Signals, 5/3/35. Sigmn Turner from the Training Battalion, 12/3/35.

Departures.—Driver Simms to the Depot Battalion, 14/2/35. Signalmen Legge and Evans to the A.V.T.C. Chisledon, 4/3/35. Driver Ford transferred to the 1st Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment, 6/3/35. Sigmn Heward to the Training Battalion, 12/3/35.

Marriages.—We congratulate Sigmn Bramley on taking the bold step when he led Miss W. L. K. H. White to the altar at Cardiff on 25/2/35. We wish them every happiness in the future.

Births.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. West a daughter, Ann Margaret, 1/2/35. To Lance-Sergeant and Mrs. Southwell a daughter, Shirley Jean, 5/2/35. To L/Corporal and Mrs. Cowe a daughter, Margaret Simpson, 1/3/35. To Corporal and Mrs. Coles a daughter, Lila, 5/3/35.

Appointments.—Corpl Wilson appointed L/Sergeant 24/1/35.

Sergeants Mess.

It is all very well to have nothing to write about when one is a free lance, because then one merely proceeds to write about nothing. When, however, the notes come under the above heading, the boot is a kettle of fish of a different colour. Or have I misquoted ?

The recent spell of cold weather tends to lower the attendance in the mess on Sunday evenings. Just as we were beginning to liven up, too!

A large consignment of new library books arrived a few days ago and promptly vanished into the bunks and quarters. There is an advantage in being " on the spot " sometimes.

We offer a hearty welcome to L/Sergeant Wilson, who has wrenched himself away from the Corporals Room.

There being nothing else of terrific interest—unless you consider it unusual for a certain C.S.M. (look you!) to be on leave again—we will all go and have a small one.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General Unit Notes.

There is little to report of the past month's doings except that individual training is nearing the end, and that we start Section training on the 18th March.

It had been hoped that the mechanisation of Nos. 2 and 3 Companies would have been completed by this date, but we are sorry to say that this is not so. Up to the present the light cars have not arrived, so it seems that the 1.B Sections will still be doing a bit of footslogging with A sets. In the absence of office trailers, the three ton lorries of D Section have been fitted out as signal offices. They appear to be a great improvement on the 30 cwt. lorries which we have had in the past.

At last, the M.T. garages are finished and handed over to Companies. They are really fine buildings and well equipped, and it will be a great relief to get our M.T. out of the open riding school where it has been kept since the unit arrived in Canterbury.

We were all very sorry to take leave of R.S.M. Beattie A. H., who left for India on the 22nd January after having been with the unit four years. There can be little doubt that it was a great wrench for him also. R.S.M. Beattie, after his long association with the unit, was well known and respected by all. He was interested in all our sports, especially football. A dinner in his honour was given in the Sergeants Mess, and a smoker in the Corporals Mess, prior to his departure. We all wish him and Mrs. Beattie the best of luck during their stay in India.

Major E. P. C. Collin also left us on the 14th March for service in India. We all wish him the best of luck in his new station.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to report that, on the 9th March, Mrs. Catchpole (wife of Sergt Catchpole E.) passed away after a long illness. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sergt Catchpole and his two children.

In December, a Social Club (under the presidency of Mrs. Henderson) was formed for the wives of the 4th Divl Signals. The first meeting was held in January of this year. After tea a presentation of a hand-bag and writing case was made to Mrs. Beattie (wife of the R.S.M.) on her departure to India. The February meeting took the form of a whist drive. Miss Ottaway (Garrison nurse) gave a little talk which was much appreciated. For the March meeting, Mrs. Payne kindly offered her services to help with dressmaking problems. After tea a very interesting talk was given by Mrs. Lister (Hon. Secretary of the Mothers' Union, Canterbury) on her visit to the Passion Play at Oberammergau. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all members present.

Corporals Room.—Since moving to Canterbury, the social side of the Mess has improved considerably. This is mainly due to better facilities.

Our opening function was a smoking concert on Thursday 17th January. This was in the nature of a farewell to R.S.M. Beattie, Corpl Nicholson and L/Corpl Blanchard. We greatly regretted their departure, and in the R.S.M. we have lost one who has always taken an encouraging interest in the junior n.c.o.s. Excellent turns were given by R.Q.M.S. Payne, songs and monologues; C.S.M. Pearce, song; C.Q.M.S. Norcross, monologues and ! ! ! !; and L/Sergt Hunt and Corpl Cowell, syncopated numbers. The R.S.M. told a few interesting stories; Corpl Nicholson obliged with a monologue; and L/Corpl Blanchard gave us that well worn *classic* "She was poor, but she was honest." But, oh, Ginger! doesn't your larynx need oiling, or was it lubricated too much?

On the 21st January and the 18th February we held carnival dances in the Gymnasium, both of which were highly successful and aroused much local interest.

Our next dance is being held on the 19th March, but more of that in our next month's notes. (Yes, you *will* hear from us again next month.)

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Company is looking forward to the commencement of Section training on the 18th March. It will be quite a change to leave barracks for schemes, etc., and the country around Canterbury seems appropriate for it. Map reading will be a little difficult this year, as after our long stay at Colchester it was possible to find some places blindfolded.

On the 12th March we said good-bye to our Company commander, Major E. P. C. Collin, who left us for India. The best of luck in Peshawar, sir.

Arrivals.—The following have joined the Company during the month. Sergt Cowan from No. 2 Company. Sigmn Knowles from the S.T.C. Sergeant Varley from No. 3 Company.

Departures.—Sigmn Green to the S.T.C. Sergeant Pearce to No. 2 Company.

MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Again, there is little of general interest to report. All efforts to find items of interest for these notes have met with little response except plenty of suggestions.

Arrivals.—Drivers North and Norcup from No. 1 Company. Driver Parton from No. 3 Company.

Departures.—Sergeant Cowan and Sigmn Shillaker to No. 1 Company.

Marriages.—Signalman Redman E. to Lily Beatrice Shelley at Colchester on the 26th January. Accept my apologies for the belated announcement. What about a slice of the wedding cake for Nobby?

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corporal McConnell on getting paid for his stripe. What about those flowers?

Extension of Service.—L/Corporals Russell and Locke and Driver Merrick to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Deficiencies.—Hay nets in E Section.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Now that individual training has only a few more days to live, Sections are busy in getting ready for the Section training which commences next week, and the usual overhauling of A sets and testing of instruments can be seen daily outside the respective Section stores.

During the present individual training season, as many people as possible have had courses on the No. 1 W/T set and/or M.T., and good results have been obtained. Unfortunately, no upgrading courses could be arranged this year except one for class II. D.R.s, owing to the above mentioned courses being held—so those who were looking forward to an increment of pay will now have to wait until next year.

Death.—The Company extend their deepest sympathy to Sergt Catchpole E. and his family in their sad bereavement of wife and mother.

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Arrivals.—The undermentioned have joined the Company recently and are now settled down. Signalmen Hope, Swain, Steele, Williams, Field, Little and Barker—all from the S.T.C.

Departures.—Signalmen Hetherington R. and Brett H. B. left us on 1/3/35 for vocational courses at Hounslow and Aldershot respectively. Sigmn Merritt has also left us for twenty-one days, but he will return with a complete kit on the 27th March.

Marriages.—The Company congratulate L/Corpl Ware A. on his marriage to Miss Mary Kathleen Sheppard at Canterbury on 20/2/35. (*Karachi Gazette* and *Quetta Chronicle*, please copy.)

Courses.—The following have returned from courses with reports as shown.

Sergt Boon F., gas course—distinguished.
Sigmn Mudie A., sanitary course—distinguished.
Sigmn Nunnick A., cooks course—very good.

L/Corpl Wilbraham H. has now recovered from his accident at the Army School of Physical Training, and has been selected to appear at the Royal Tournament in the A.S.P.T. Display team. Well done!

JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—This time of the year appears to be one of the few "in between" periods. Individual training and furlough are both nearing an end, and the close of the trooping season approaches. The remaining single men of the unit can look forward to another summer beside the seaside.

Owing to the cold weather of late, it is rather fortunate that Section training has not yet commenced. In addition, the cold will provide ample excuses for those marksmen who fail to reach their normal proficiency when the rifle ranges are visited next week. Scalby ranges can be very cold at times: I understand the coldness on summer evenings can be vouched for by many.

Medical.—All ranks are pleased to see the cheery face of Capt. Jennings back in barracks, and hope that he will soon be fully recovered.

Marriages.—Only two have so far been reported this month, although others have taken place. The accompanying photograph shows Sigmn A. and Mrs. Newton embarking on a new lease of life which we hope will prove to be entirely to the satisfaction of both—and there is no reason why it shouldn't. I understand that mention of the fire piquet was responsible for the smiles. Best of luck, and thanks for the cake.

Sigmn Dunbar G. also decided that he had been single long enough and so entered into a life partnership with Miss Maude Wardell. Congratulations, if it's not too late.

Births.—Our congratulations are offered to the following on their recent increases. To Driver Hopwood a son, George Arthur. To L/Corporal Cooper A. D. a son, David Harold. To Sigmn Loutitt D. a son, William Sidney.

Courses.—Our congratulations are also offered to L/Corporal Lancaster and Corpl Kelly, who attended a stable management course and finished first and second respectively. Here's the best!

Movements.—During the past month movements have taken place with unfailing regularity, and we welcome to the fold all who have recently arrived. To those who have left, we wish the best of luck in the future.

Arrivals—Cpl Welsby, Signalmen Holmes R., Keene J., Vercoe H., Cation E., Openshaw D., McCann J., Saunders L., Adcock A., Crebbin T. and Locker S., C.Q.M.S. Millross F., L/Sergt Powell H. B., Corporals Bolshaw W., Monaghan D. and Sharp D.

Departures—Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., to B Corps Signals. Lieut. M. A. Lloyd to Egypt Signals. Signalmen Steenson J. and Potts C. J. to Catterick. Sigmn Reid F. W. to the Army Reserve.

Billiards.—The Northumbrian Area final, between L/Corporal Powner H. of this unit and L/Corpl Hird T. of the Depot, East Yorks Regiment, took place on Wednesday 13th March in the sergeants mess. After seeing the match, I realise that I know less than ever of billiards (I knew nothing before) and so I am not competent to criticise the excellent play witnessed.

The match was of two hours duration and resulted in a win for L/Corpl Powner with a score of 494 against his opponent's 478. The chief breaks were: L/Corporal Powner 30, 40 and 54, and L/Corpl Hird 30 and 32. Suffice it to say that it was a very good game and greatly enjoyed by the many spectators. Lack of space prevented a larger attendance.

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Our furlough season is rapidly drawing to an end, and once more the Company is beginning to collect at headquarters. The line party have returned from their station, looking very strong.

Usually, the climate is anything but good in Northern Ireland, but the continued absence of heavy rain leaves one wondering. At any rate, that ghastly sounder line hasn't gone "dis" for weeks.

Obituary.—It is with regret that we record the death of Sigmn Percy Renals at Dunree on the 4th March. Although only recently joined from China, his stay promised to be very popular. The funeral took place at Londonderry on the 7th March. Our sympathy is extended to his relatives and friends in the Corps.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate Sergeant Toogood on his promotion to that rank, and L/Cpl Thompson J. on receiving pay for his appointment.

Inter-Unit Moves.—Sergeant Toogood from Belfast to Dunree. Sergt Davies from Dunree to Belfast. L/Cpl Raine from Omagh to Londonderry on temporary duty. Sigmn Davidson J. from Belfast to Baronscourt. Sigmn Inskip from Dunree to Belfast.

Mainly for . . . . ?—With the advent of the 500 watt set, there has been considerable interference with the local listeners. But that isn't all the row. Someone persists in blowing a trumpet almost outside our boudoir—truly a hideous noise; but as a sage remarked, "One cannot expect a jazz band at two bob a day."

Besides such things as moustache growing, there is a craze in the Company at the moment for marth-organs, syncopated love lyrics and Guinness. Ye gods!

Owing to one of the wireless ops taking a Government official's car for a taxi at one of our rustic out-stations, the authorities have very kindly placed a lorry at our disposal. Although not quite so good, a decent lorry beats a Henry of ancient vintage at any time.

Mail.—Sergt T.: Not overlooked. Tim: Doped, but writing soon.

Tailpiece.—Pretty awful; but till next month, adios.

HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Departures.—On the 18th January the personnel of the S.T.C. said good-bye to Lt.-Colonel A. G. J. Copeland, late commanding officer, who left the Station on his retirement from the Service. He was given a great send-off by all ranks of the S.T.C. The roads leading from the Cecil Hotel to the railway station were lined by British and Indian troops of the S.T.C., and as the Colonel's car came past, three hearty cheers were given. The S.T.C. Pipe Band played the car to the station, where the Colonel was met by officers of the unit who had assembled there. As the train pulled out, the Pipe Band played appropriate music.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our midst R.S.M. Beattie and family from the U.K. ; also six B.O.R.s who accompanied them. We hope they they will find Jubbulpore an ideal place in which to spend a restful five years holiday.

Shikari.—It is understood that an order has been published in the Central Provinces to the effect that certain birds may not be shot by parties in the jungle. However, this rule has recently been contravened—whether by design, or accident, is doubtful ; nevertheless, it occurred. A bird of a rare species was seen. It has been ascertained that the correct name for this bird is "Lam," and it is regretted that this harmless creature was only wounded (sorry! for " regretted " substitute " fortunate "). The bird was brought to barracks, but has not been caged and is now roaming about free.

Social Life.—The fortnightly whist drives and dances, which have been a feature in the S.T.C. for a considerable time, are now no more—for the present, at least. Owing to lack of musicians, the S.T.C. dance band has had to be disbanded until such time as more instrumentalists can be obtained. (Records, please note: all contributions in this direction will be gratefully received.)

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sgt Humphrey on reaching the stage where he is permitted to wear a belt, S.B. (Be careful how you break your revolver, Pop. Save the bits: they all go to make a weapon.)

Births.—Spring is in the air, and the marriage allowance roll shows an appreciable increase. Congratulations to the undermentioned on being presented with broadcasting sets as shown. To L/Sergt Arnell a daughter, Sylvia Anne. To Corpl Edge a son, Terence Michael (put him in the Royal Engineers, Tommie ; the medical profession is full). To Corporal Wheeler a son (we haven't yet received the dhobi mark). To Sergeant Fishwick a daughter, Peta Valoria. Mine's a pint!

Annual Inspection.—The Brigade Commander held his annual inspection of the unit on the 18th February. As far as is known, he was quite satisfied with all he saw. (Ask the n.c.o. i/c cookhouse ; he knows.)

Lost and Strayed.—L/Corpl Croucher of this unit would like to hear from Frankie Kneller, last heard of at 2nd Div. Aldershot. L/Sergt Matthew would like to hear from Jack Stone, last heard of at Catterick. I would like to hear from that rich uncle of mine.

MUTT-CUM-GOODY.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

By the time these notes are in print, the Mess will have lost one of their most popular members in R.Q.M.S. (Michael) Wensley. His well known " Good morning!" and " Have you heard this one?" will be missed by all who know him. Owing to his going away, there is a dissolution of the friendship between two great pals, as it is a well known fact that one could not mention Mick without also mentioning Spotty, his dog, because he was his pal. Time is a great healer, and we are certain that Spotty (who is a great lover of food) will be pacified on his coming on the strength of the ration stand.

Spotty was my pal. He was white, black and tan.
Everywhere that Michael went, Spotty carried the can.
At all the functions Michael went to, his entry at the door
Was forestalled by his famous dog, squatting on the floor.
Up or down, in or out—where'er you chose to go—
You'd always find Mick and Spotty just so and so.
One often wondered if that pair were really going dotty.
But everyone will certainly miss Mick and his famous Spotty.

MUTT.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for the March issue]

Tuesday 12th February.

General.—The unit is once again together in Rawalpindi with the exception of F Section, who are with their Brigade in Lahore.

The detachment which was out at the Machine Gun Concentration Camp at Jhablat returned suddenly to Pindi, owing to a wet spell which set in at the end of the month. All are now busy preparing for the signal exercise which takes place from the 18th to the 20th February, when the whole of the unit, with the exception of a few, will leave barracks for two days strenuous work. With the help of a few of B Corps Signals, we hope to keep the name of the Corps on its high pedestal of efficiency and to retain the good name of the unit.

Entertainments.—In this sphere, very little has been done during the past month, mainly owing to a great number of the unit being away on training camps and partly to the spell of bad weather which set in at an unlucky time ; but we are hoping to have more to report in the near future.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Swinson on attaining that rank, and to L/Corporals Faircloth, West, Woolls, Launders, Dickenson and Bundy on attaining the first rung on the ladder to fame. (One of the above was overheard asking when the pay was likely to come along.) To L/Corpl Crimes on attaining the extra pice.

Departures.—C.S.M. Westwood to 4th Indian Divl Signals, Trimulgherry. Signalmen Jacobs and Chappell to the 3rd and 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troops respectively. To all, we wish all they wish themselves in their new units.

We Would Like to Know.—Who suggested trying water on the counterpoise of the No. 1 set to obtain better results?

ONEDIV.

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters Section.

Monday 4th March.

Our spirits have been dampened of late owing to the weather, which up to the present has not been at all kind. We get two or three bright days and we imagine the change is to be permanent, only to be disillusioned by a heavy sandstorm or pouring rain. We are in training now for Pindi Week and hope to " cart " something this year.

The teams are being trained by Lieut. A. T. Sladen, and all are putting in a great deal of hard work. Out-Sections have sent along their best sportsmen, and we have appreciated their company. There has, of course, been some good hockey, football and tennis with the arrival of the newcomers, the " city gents " and local talent having to take a back seat whilst so many B.O.R.s are competing.

A social evening held in the recreational room turned out a good show. As usual at these affairs, things were very quiet to begin with, but livened up wonderfully when some of the dark horses came out of their shells.

Why Bing Crosby has not captured L/Corporal O'Donnell for crooning purposes, I can't imagine. Still, as he goes to the Army Reserve in the near future, his name may very soon be blazoned in electric lights along the Great White Way. The inimitable Gracie Fields has an ardent fan in him, anyway, especially in

" Singing as we go." Sigmn Roscoe, also, is worthy of note, although I'm afraid that the censor might be just a little dubious about passing him as fit for a production at the Palladium ; but if the Old Vic were " old vicking " these days, probably he would just scrape through.

The Band, of course, did their little bit again and helped considerably early on when things were a bit dull. The M.C. (L/Corpl Matthews) was kept busy in digging people out, and seemed to get caught up in a lot of barbed wire now and again in the Wana corner. Razmak, I believe, also had some barbed wire knocking around, but it certainly was not so evident on this occasion. Still, these lads will have their little jokes. Come to think of it, talking about barbed wire reminds me of when . . . . leave it at that! Incidentally, Chirpy would insist on singing. One of these days, I'm sure, we shall meet that ukulele dream girl of his.

Razmak Signal Section.

It seems that Razmak will never see the sun again. We have had the misfortune of experiencing one of the severest winters ever known in the history of the camp. It has snowed almost continuously since New Year's Day, and it appears that it is going to do so for some time to come. Nevertheless, we have tried to make the best of a bad job and have had some quite enjoyable times in snowballing, etc., not to mention a grand trek almost to the distant pipe line through a ten inch depth of untrodden snow.

We heartily welcome our new Section officer, Lieut. R. M. Adams from headquarters. Being a very keen sportsman, he will be a great asset to our hockey and basket ball teams this summer. We sincerely hope that his stay with us will be long and happy.

Our late O.C., Lieut. R. G. Yolland, has left us for the home establishment and a course at Cambridge University. We take this opportunity of wishing him the very best of luck and success in all his undertakings.

The draft, having arrived at last, are hereby extended the glad mitt of welcome to our midst. It is sincerely hoped that they will soon settle down in their new sphere of life. They are by name Signalmen Briggs, Crosley, Hallam, Hughes (Cyclone) and Morrison.

The Section strength was rather depleted during the early part of last month owing to quite a number of the lads having gone down to D.I.Khan for sports trials, prior to proceeding to Rawalpindi for Signals Week. I am pleased to relate that seven Razmakites have been selected to represent the unit at Pindi next month.

The Section proceeded on Razcol on the 23rd February with the idea of being out for five days, but owing to the unkindness of the clerk of the weather this period had to be curtailed, and after numerous unexpected baths—to say nothing of snow and several most uncomfortable nights in the open—they staggered back on the 26th and, even as I am writing, are taking advantage of a well earned rest.

The Blighty-going wallahs, L/Corporal Barton and Signalmen Shepherd, Dunlop W. and Murphy, left the love nest on the 1st March for D.I.Khan, prior to proceeding to the port of embarkation. " Good-bye and good luck " are the wishes of the Section. Come out again and see us some time!

Congratulations.—To U/L/Corporals Barton, Preston and Pyne on their appointment to that rank.

To B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.—The local lads would very much like to know whether L/Corpl Bailey's No. 2 set memories of Razmak are as tender as his feet. Don't forget to tell the lads in Pindi what the Frontier looks like, Eric.

We Would Like to Know.—Whether Minnie crept into his new unit as silently as he did out of this one? Whether spurs definitely improve the appearance of column order? Whether Ginger Barringer has forgotten where the old Section is stationed?

SHELAMAC.

Bannu Signal Section.

Prologue.—The Section reporter has been promoted to represent Bannu Scotland Yard, and his responsibilities now weigh so heavily upon him (or rather, his arm) that he has been compelled to relinquish his post as recorder of events happy and otherwise, and has nominated the writer as his worthy successor.

Friends, Romans and countrymen, I make my introductory bow, and you'll keep your presents till later (the later the better ; or please yourself, the higher the fewer!)

General.—The worthy successor submits the following. He was not here during the time of the festivities, so he does not take all the cans.

Christmas has come and gone again, and now that everyone has recovered from the after effects (who said " What about Boozy ?") we are busily getting down to work—and how the lads grouse about it!

The Christmas festivities were carried out in fine style and were a great success. I must congratulate all who took part in the preparations, etc., on their hard work in making things go. Special mention must be made of Sigmn Barran (Aldershot, please note): the mince pies he made were second to none. However, I will not say too much about it, or he is sure to develop a swollen head.

Various toasts were given, including one to our late O.C., Lieut. I. St. Q. Severin. I am sure everyone will join me in wishing him a speedy recovery from his unfortunate illness. I believe he is Blighty bound shortly. Anyway, good luck, sir!

We have had several dances, including one in the local cinema, given by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier F. H. Maynard, M.C. It was a splendid evening and was enjoyed by all. The big feature of the evening was the refreshments. These were abundant, as one of the locals discovered (oh, Jerry!) We are hoping there will be more of these festive occasions in the near future.

Section Part II.s.—My own unaided efforts! Two of our leading lights have left us. Sigmn Beever to the U.K. for transfer to the Army Reserve. The best wishes of the Section go with him, and we hope he will make a great hit in civvy street. Our star turn Boozy, alias Baldy, alias Topper Brown, has gone to Headquarters Section. Dear Boozy! how we shall miss him! and what a pity we shall not be able to watch him marching to and fro under those whitewashed arches, doing his two on and four off. But don't worry, Boozy ; the canteen is on the 'phone now, you know.

The latest arrival in the Section is Sigmn Fielding. He may be famous some day. At present he struts around with a pencil behind his ear and a frown upon his honest (?) brow, looking very officious. Late at night he burns the midnight oil, trying to sort out the mass of keys on his infernal machine (Q.M., please note!)

Sport.—To afford amusement and to improve the standard of billiards in the Section, a ladder has been formed (personally, I think the president of the committee owns a number of shares with the canteen contractor, judging by the number of games played). However, it is proving a great success, and it should be considering that the advertising manager is none other than Sigmn Voice Kitson—the name speaks for itself. (Did you hear that, Quetta Signals ?)

A word about hockey. The number of games played by the Section recently is enormous—so much so that we have lost all record of results. This is our only worry, as we are now unable to tell the world about our famous eleven. The word " famous " should really be given to our popular centre half back, Corporal Dewhurst. He played against the international hockey player Dhyan Chand—and did he make rings round him? Ask any one of the spectators who were present at the match.

Grouses.—The Section have just returned from another column, and many are the moans. You see, dear reader, it rained—and thereby hangs a tale.

The column had returned to camp for the night, tents had been erected, everyone was trying to settle down, and then the rain came. You people who think you have soldiered on Salisbury Plain should try Waziristan if you want real stormy weather. However, " it never rains but it pours," and soon someone exclaimed " My feet are wet!" and a voice from the back of the tent: " That's nothing ; I'm *all* wet!" Then, with a rush, the flood came under the flap of the tent. This caused the disturbance. Some scrambled to save their boots ; others vainly tried to put on their puttees ; feet were put into the wrong socks ; and a general uproar ensued. Half an hour later, order being restored, someone said " Where's Jerry ?" and a weak muffled voice answered " Here, in the shallow end!"

Our O.C., Lieut. J. M. C. Hoblyn, was gallantly rescued from what might have been a watery grave. Water had accumulated around the bivouac he had erected and eventually burst through the wall, forming a miniature lake. Diving operations were commenced to salvage his kit, which had slowly submerged. We are still in doubt as to whether it was all retrieved.

Memories.—A malicious and ill-timed story is being handed to and fro here in Bannu amongst certain n.c.o.s. It appears that a certain n.c.o., now at Razmak, was once on a Proclamation parade when, about half way through the proceedings, the Brigade commander gave the cautionary word "Feu—de—." This, to the amazement of all concerned, was answered by a bull-like roar from the ranks of the Royal Signals: "Sir!". . . . and a newly-made lance-sergeant rushed up to the Brigadier, thinking (rightly or wrongly) that his name had been called! Yes, reader, it was the one and only Ferdie (Billingsgate papers, please copy).

Riddles: Parlour Type.—Who used a field dressing for a pillow on a recent column? Who filled in the T.H.I. of a message: "five minutes past one"? Who sent the pilot a kiss on air co-operation? And who was the person who sent a Christmas card to Topper R. M. from 2nd Divl Signals, Quetta, without adding his handle? (many thanks from Topper to the unknown donor).

Finale.—Cheerio till next time.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

"Valentine" month ("Thank goodness! it has only twenty-eight days" say those who are due for home) came in with leaden skies and snowshoes on its feet, but it went out with the fragrant perfume of flowers abloom. In the place of icy blasts and dullness, we have been given rose petals and bowers of flowers. (In sooth, even the correspondent seems to be getting sentimental.) It is, however, incumbent upon me to mention all this, because our last notes were a whine about the bleakness of the weather and Kohat in general. February has seen all bans regarding measles lifted, and happy children now trot to school; and incidentally, the pleasant notes of "All things bright and beautiful" herald our first works parade as it falls in—as heretofore.

Another draft of eight has joined us from U.K. This included Corpl McLean, L/Corporals Froggatt and Mitchell, and Signalmen Bateman, Evans, Murphy, Prentice and Wood. These have all been posted to their various Sections and have settled down to the life of the unit with its fire and inlying piquets, its alarm patrols, and the many other intriguing subtleties which go to make up the patchwork of action in a unit situated, as we are, somewhere on the fringe of the Empire. We welcome them, and trust that the starkness of our surroundings will not clash too harshly with the snug comforts to which they have been accustomed at home.

Sigmn Griffiths has joined us from Meerut in place of Sigmn Burns, who left us for Meerut early in the month. L/Corporal Talbot has returned from the shrine of small jumps, and has since been converting enthusiastic (?) youths to the jerky cult.

L/Sergt Sharples, bristling with tactical knowledge and the ability to discriminate between facts and factors, has returned from the "S" Course and has tactically arranged a leave in U.K. With him have gone L/Sergt Starling, Corporals Shove and Ray, and Signalmen Hayter and Bevan. Sigmn Cooper has decided to chance his arm in civvy street, despite the fact that he had over sixteen years service to his name. We wish him well, for he has served us well in work and sport since he joined us. We also waved farewell to our King—alias the Brigadier or the General—who has gone on furlough for six months to show Scotland how it should be run.

Corpl Weeks A. has graciously consented to give his services to the Army to complete twenty-one years. It is such mighty decisions as this which help to swell that mystical crowd of men who never die but only fade away.

The ranks of the truly great have been swelled by L/Corporals Johnson and Shannan, who have recently been made up to that rank.

Lieut. J. T. Addenbrooke has successfully delved into some of the intricacies of "Main Hun" and has passed the lower standard Urdu examination.

Many sighs of relief were heard when, after hectic arrangements had been made for Brigade and District manœuvres, we found that both of those had been cancelled owing to equine influenza being very prevalent. The horse has rightly been called man's best friend. This left us somewhat "in the air" as to what to do with the month which had been allotted for these exercises, but much semaphore, many traffic schemes, and amateur cycle corps busy on map reading stunts, have usefully filled in a busy time.

A unit scheme which threatened to leave one or two Sections buried in a bog after a heavy overnight storm is now only a memory; but to have to scrub saddles, bathe mules, and dig wireless sets out of a morass of mud (and then get 'em working) was no joke at the time, though no one can doubt the element of thrilling novelty in such a show!

In view of the cancellation of manœuvres, the G.O.C.'s inspection was put forward some weeks, and busy burnishing, swift sand papering, peppy polishing and violent varnishing were to be seen. As the fateful day approached, sinister forms could be seen stealthily washing in shaving mugs (burnished bowls must *not* be dulled). Cigarette ash was carefully collected in match boxes and carried outside, lest spotless coal bins and the cork lino on the floor (?) should be sullied. All passed off well, as we hoped, and although the day was sultry and showery, the general cleanliness was gloriously evident and all spare files were gathered up in the busy maw of a traffic scheme.

This month has seen the Quartermaster and his staff in the throes of checkings, additions and calculations. Annual stock-taking and the quinquennial census of animals and vehicles have caused ledgers to be thoroughly checked and all stores to be labelled and docketed—not to mention that Quartermasters have grown 'aggard and footweary as they tramped from room to room, from stable to stable, carefully ticking off horses and armchairs, mules and almirahs, yakdans and bedcots, in one comprehensive sweep.

A concert party in embryo is getting together to arrange a show early in April. Of this, more later—but the strains of its warb'lings form the background of our entertainment as we sit to write our letters and while away our evenings.

A fine Apache dance was put on in the sergeants mess early in the month, and most of the Station enjoyed the night. An all ranks dance was also featured on another happy evening, when our jazz band functioned at the S. and D. Club. These items, together with the weekly whist drives, the R.A.F. Patiala sports, a point-to-point meeting in which Signalman Leach W. won the B.O.R.s race and Sergt Brett the tote double, all helped to pass a bright month into the annals of unit history.

Now we are busy preparing horses and men for Signals Week at Rawalpindi—our training in this respect being somewhat helped by the inter-Section cross-country run for the Murray cup and the approaching District sports. K Section easily won the cross-country run with a good-running team which even surprised themselves. This been reported a little more in detail in our Sports Notes.

K Section has also topped the bill in musketry scores for the year, and thus gains another fifteen points towards the Murray cup. (Pardon the supreme modesty of the scribe, but truth must stand!)

Serge has been discarded for drill, coal fatigues are again receding into the dark abyss of the ration stand, and so we go on towards individual training, the warmth of an approaching summer—and the Ides of March. We sincerely hope that, as we send down our teams for Signals Week, we shall be able to say (with Cæsar) "Veni, vidi, vici." Until later, vale.

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

A Corps Signals, Karachi.

Comings and Goings.—Thirty-five new arrivals were welcomed from the *Dorsetshire* in February. This was something of a record in the way of drafts. It was also noticeable for the return of one who found cricket, hockey and an indefinable something in India too much to resist: we refer to L/Corpl Thomas L. His is a very welcome return, and we trust that he finds everything as he left it. Should Wally D——— happen to read this, he can rest assured that it will be the same for him.

As against the arrivals, we have a set-off of five lance-corporals and six B.O.R.s to the United Kingdom. These are accompanied by Sergeants Macfarlane (and family) and Andrews, L/Sergeant Ward and L/Corpl Bowyer for various spots of leave. It may be of interest to note that this is being written two days before the departure of the *Lancashire*, and Tubby Ward hasn't cancelled his passage—yet!

It's a bit of a wrench, but we've really had to part with Jug Hudson at last. There never was a graph plotter quite like him, and although his claim that he could have been home three years ago, had he drawn all his graph lines in a continuous one in the direction of Blighty, may be a trifle exaggerated, the drawing office is the poorer for his departure.

Our most important loss is that of our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C. During his command, he has done much to make things pleasant for the unit. His changing of our drab surroundings by the creation of the Unit Club and gardens is perhaps most outstanding. In moving to Rawalpindi, we regret parting with these more than anything else. (B Corps, please note that the gardens and pool opposite the unit orderly room are affectionately known to us as Fort Helps.) The Corps in India suffers a loss in the realm of boxing with his departure—a bit of luck, and we'd have gone one better than being runners-up in last year's all India team championships. In the Stadium, Colonel Helps leaves both the civil and military population of Karachi with a unique centre for this sport. We wish you the best of luck and a happy retirement, sir.

Athletics.—In holding inter-Company athletics, we didn't intend making a big show, but the interest shown was surprising. Judging from the attendance of the native element and the praise bestowed by the visiting R.A.F. 440 yards relay team, Lieut. W. B. Rowett made a great success of things. The organisation was perfect, and we appear only to have lacked his presence in not having held an athletic meeting for a long time. Considering this, some very good performances were put up—notably Signalman Dawton's effort of 5 ft. 4 in. in the high jump. No. 2 Company B.O.R.s were good winners, but competition in all events was very keen. With some serious training, we expect to be heard of in more ambitious circles shortly.

Agony.—L/Corporals Bellinger and Freeman are desirous of knowing whether Busty Rogers finds a rickshaw in Singapore capable of carrying him. They further want to know if his memory ever strays to a certain rickshaw ride in Reading.

S.W.B.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Friday 1st March.

General.—The absence of notes for last month is regretted, but what with the G.O.C.'s inspection and various other things, well! we didn't have so very much time—and there *are* some people in this unit who *do* work. I know this sounds like a fairy tale, but come down and see me some time (yes, any time) and you'll be surprised.

The G.O.C. Baluchistan District held his annual inspection on the 11th February, and we believe everything went off all right. So far, no cans have been dished out; so I think I'm right in saying that it was a success. Everything in this unit was inspected, and everything looked lovely; but it's surprising, the number of things one has to hide whenever an inspection comes along.

Route marches by Sections have started, and very soon spring camp will be on us. This year, it is from the 2nd to the 30th April. One hears that there are not going to be any week-end leaves during the whole period. This will affect the married people somewhat, but a whole month out in the blue will do us any amount of good. Livers and things will not be so frequent, as the air of Bostan, combined with life under canvas, will bring a bloom to the whitest of cheeks. Seriously, though, spring camp isn't quite so bad as some people seem to think, and after seeing the sports programme, I think it will be every bit as good as last year's.

The Signals Association held another whist drive in the regimental institute on the 25th February, and we were sorry to see that there were only three ladies present. Still, another dance is being held in the near future, and one hopes that the attendance will be much better.

A number of B.O.R.s have arrived from Waziristan District Signals, and we now hear stirring tales of life in the N.W.F.P. I don't mind betting that a few schemes and route marches and other things will soon make them wish that they had stayed on the N.W.F., as the Quetta-ites are noted for their toughness—ask Zac or Lew. But they are extended the glad hand, and we hope that their stay in the unit will be a happy one—and long.

The new draft arrived from the U.K. on the 16th February, and again we hope that their stay will be a happy one, though this time we know that it *will* be long. Just fancy! 1940—phew!

Congratulations.—In all sincerity, this time, to the unit football team who played the Queen's Regiment in the semi-final of the Western Command cup to-day. They were beaten by 2—0, but the score does not in any way indicate the run of play, and our lads were very unlucky not to win. We lost our centre forward in the first ten minutes, and played the remainder of the time with only ten men. The football was really very good, and every individual member played on top form—including the old 'uns. How's that, Charlie?

Again, to No. 1 Company on drawing at 2—2 with the supposed unbeatable No. 2 Company (apparently, unbeatable is only a boast). I hear from No. 2 Company scribe that the No. 1 Company team was composed of members of divers Companies; but as I watched the match and didn't see any other than No. 1 Company men playing for them, I can't quite make that out.

Postings.—At long last, Sergt Snow to Karachi, after being held on command for some considerable time. We hope that both he and Mrs. Snow are settled down in their station by now. It's rather a pity that A Corps Signals are moving to Pindi in the near future. Karachi is so bracing!

Corpl Lay and Signalmen Benson, Greaves, Gallaher, Greathem, Hay and Patterson. Corporal Lay and Sigmn Benson have been attached to our happy band for some time, whilst the other people come from various places. Tubby Lay has taken over the duties of pay corporal from the renowned L/Corpl Nugent, and short pays are the order of the day—or rather, were the order.

Departures.—Sigmn Bunny Webb to No. 2 Company. After being in this Company for a great number of years, he has decided to find the pleasures of life in a pukka Section. Why?

We Want to Know.—Who turned on the water? When are the men of No. 2 Company going to carry out their threat and wipe up the remainder of the unit at football? Why didn't Larry go on leave? Roll on, spring camp.

Agony.—Writing this stuff. After my last attempt, certain people approached my post with the intention of telling me some "stuff" but thought better of it—pity!

R.C.D.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We do not propose to make excuses for the recent lack of notes: we have run out of them. In any case, it is like the usual letter home—not much news this month: will write again soon.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergt and Mrs. Gudgeon from leave in the U.K., and hope they had a good time; also Sergt Ramsden and family from Karachi. The undermentioned arrived from the U.K. on 23/2/35, and we are awfully sorry that we had to greet them with a big roller: Corpl Beard, L/Corpl Currie, Signalmen Dart, Davidson, Dowding, Gleeson, Holt, Hale, Jones, Saxby, Keenan and Williams. Everybody hopes that they will enjoy their short tour in Quetta (only five years)—but "Tempus fugit."

Congratulations.—To the unit football team on putting up such a fine fight against the Queen's Regiment in the semi-final of the Western Command football tournament. Although beaten, they were by no means disgraced. We lost L/Corpl Lewis R. through injury ten minutes after the start, and Sigmn Denholme played on after sustaining a badly cut head. It was not until late in the game that the Queen's managed to score, and I would particularly like to congratulate L/Corporals Johnson and Parker and Corpl Rawson on a very fine game. How they managed to hold the Queen's so long, nobody knows; they certainly earned their pay that day. I would also like to congratulate Signalman Denholme on a very plucky game.

Literature.—Certain n.c.o.s and men can be seen sitting round the fire every night, reading the latest in books. Are they snappy?—or are they snappy, Jimmie?

Heard on a Trade Board.—" A carburettor is like a water closet." " A Q and I is a detector with three terminals—Pip, Squeak and Wilfred."

Wo Want to Know.—Has Uncle Lew R. gone to Lahore yet? Who is the n.c.o. with those finely chiselled features?

GRIGLE.

Corporals Mess.

Imagine one of those scenes, you blighty wallahs, in any one of the numerous tropical pictures with which a believing public is fed from time to time. Then pick out the scene where a 2½d. clerk sits, bathed in honest sweat (provided he *is* an honest clerk), swatting flies by the million and vainly trying to dodge the billions of mosquitoes; and, believe it or not, you are all wrong.

After a keen spell of frost and a hefty fall of snow, we have just had an overdose of rain (almost worse than Manchester or Belfast). Not a fly anywhere, excepting perhaps a few two-legged ones; and the only buzz is not that of mosquitoes, but Trade Boards, leave parties and—sorry! I must leave the rest to your imagination, if any.

Once upon a time, we used to get all the latest news at break-time from Pressy, alias Stanley Evans. Alas! the miserable wretch has deserted us, having wangled a passage to the U.K. on the 22nd February—exactly one year before he was due. However, he had a well deserved punishment, for his travelling companion was the one and only W.G.S., who transferred to the Army Reserve because red tape would not let him wear the old school tie.

Arrivals from the U.K. regret not having brought a few suits of serge S.D. to these sunny (who said so?) climes. After all, Rs.20 is considered a lot for a suit of plain clothes (in these days of 30/- tailors); but Rs.20 for a suit of serge—robbery with violence, they call it. I won't, and can't, tell you what I call it. I here see an opening for some enterprising individual with the necessary dough: "The Rs.15 tailors. Blue patrols made to measure, etc., etc."

Paddy Burke, who joined us from the Zhob, thought he could play table tennis until he met some of our experts. However, he does get a chance now, for Pip Pearson has gone on six months leave (ex India) and Will Billiams is spending two months in the muscle factory at Ambala. I am sure that he will be showing us his back muscles when he returns.

Jimmy Rawson has gone for a period of six months (also ex India). Some say he went to. . . . Don't count your chickens before they are hatched, so wait and see. Zack Baker to U.K. for a rest cure. Don't forget your boots, Zack!

Social events in the mess: nil. A weekly whist drive at the Queen's mess is rather good, but the attendance leaves a lot to be desired. The prizes are good, if you don't win the booby, as I did last week.

Rumour has it that the unit band is going to function again. It's high time. This place at present reminds me of Crusoe's desert island, with only one bright spot: Friday—not Man Friday, but just plain Friday (pay day).

Bullets.—

Embarrassing moment	Winning the booby.
Football	"Ay, ay (eye, eye) sir."
No. 307	Mess funds.
April	Spring Camp (Bostan).
Cloth-heads	Auditors.
Charlie	On the tack.
Bottom of the League	Corporals Mess.

That, meine damen und herren, concludes our broadcast on the third transmission. We will call you again in one month's time on the same wave length, when we will commence our programme with that well known tune " Oh, you nasty man."

By courtesy of O'HOOLIGAN.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Wednesday 27th February.

Erewareagain.—Once more we revert to type and commence with earnest apologies for troubling our " gentle readers." We thank all those people who have so far neglected to write and tell us how bad our notes really are.

We have had snow in Loralai this month, and our photographer would have given us some snaps of "the silent township enveloped in its mantle of purity " but for the fact that the shutter of his camera froze up with the intense cold. (Copyright is strictly reserved by Arctic Articles Limited.)

Someblokeshavecome.—From the U.K.: Sigmn Parker H., late of No. 3 Company, 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot. We all wish him a happy Indian tour.

Scmeblokeshavegone.—We have said farewell to L/Corporal Burke and Sigmn Johnson—the former to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, and the latter to the Wireless Experimental Section. Our good wishes go with them both in their new spheres.

During the month we were visited by a party of stalwarts from Quetta, led by L/Cpl Spafford. Their visit can only be described as a " trenormous " success. During their stay they contrived to entertain us very well, and our thanks are hereby conveyed to them, particularly in regard to that excellent variety artiste Willie Walsh.

Even as I sit here, a lone soldier is hurtling along the Loralai road at a steady ten miles per hour. He is L/Corpl McCann, who is returning to us after a stay in Fort Sandeman. It is anticipated that the standard of shove-halfpenny in Loralai will improve 100 per cent. in the next few months.

Inspections.—The G.O.C. Western Command inspected the unit during the month, and we believe he thought we made a good show.

Thisistheend.—Cheerio! HITLER.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—From the 29th January to the 1st February we had the pleasure of the company of L/Corpls Spafford and Paul and the inimitable Willie Walsh, who forsook the comforts of Quetta and braved the hardships of the Frontier at Fort Sandeman for a few days. We expect they are now enlarging upon their experiences to the less travelled recruits in Quetta and telling them they held 'em back. We are doubtful if they even saw an angry man, if we except the marvellous exhibition of in-fighting (and insulting) given by Slasher Bonds, who (when roused to warlike mood by Steel and Coulson's Elephant) is always ready to give us Buttercup Joe. At least, he will oblige with it after two pints; but after three, he simply forces it upon us. We trust the Quetta personnel enjoyed their visit to Fort Sandeman, and assure them we were glad to have them with us. Their visit became the occasion for the reunion of some old friends and was celebrated with much rejoicing and some " womp."

Lance-Sergt Ward D., M.C., " ex-King of the Zhob."

Under the influence of the aforementioned, many people came out of their shells and burst forth into song. " Spaff " broke his caste and sang his one and only song (*¾!"£&"*) which hitherto has been exclusively reserved for Christmas festivities. We all enjoyed songs rendered by that well known entertainer Willie Walsh, who was assisted by Corpls Cooper, Bartlett and Hodge,

not to mention Sigmn Donnelly, whom we all thought was a dark horse—at least, not exactly a horse, but dark. The problem of stopping Buck Taylor from giving us " Ilkley Moor baht 'at " was solved by allowing him to act as M.C., and (fortunately for all present) Harry could not remember anything about the wilds of Australia.

Nothing further has been done about the enlarging of the Institute. However, the builders are hard at work, and there is now a wee hoose on the hill side (straight three). We sincerely hope that Jackie will not turn this one into a reading room or rest house.

Inspections.—The Area commander held his annual inspection of the Zhob, arriving in Fort Sandeman on the 14th and departing on the 17th February. Everyone did his bit towards making the place look smart, and we were gratified to receive a good report from the General. Corpl Bartlett and Signalmen Fortes (that's me), Goodhand (Gigolo No. 1) and Eley formed the mobile W/T detachment. They looked very smart in their marching order, and we hope their performance lived up to their uniform. This is only the first of the string of inspections which we get at this time of the year, and shortly we will all be smartening up again for the next one, which takes place in four days time. Such is life on the N.W.F.

Sport.—The inclement weather which kept us indoors for the greater part of last month has, we are glad to say, now cleared up. We have taken advantage of the improved conditions by playing both football and hockey. We appear to have suffered from the inactivity of a couple of weeks and our play was not up to the usual standard, but we are quickly recuperating and show better form now. With this, and the return of L/Corpl McCann to the world of sport, we hope to give a better report next month. In fact, I have heard that the officers of the Station are trying to sign on new talent.

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love and tennis. With the exception of the Gigolo, the thoughts are in vain, but the desire for tennis is appeased every evening. Arnold thinks that Perry will be easy ; and Bonzo is undefeatable —or at least, he thinks so. He was overhead to remark on the court " If any man can beat me, bring him here ; I will beat him." I think he prefers two ounce gloves. We can picture our readers in Jubb and imagine their reactions, could they but see this champion going out for a round of golf.

Agonies.—Tommy Holden: How come? Cos. No more, only the Slasher. We wonder how the late King of the Zhob is faring in exile in the Blighty Cantonment. FORSET.

Hindubagh Detachment.

The weather, except for a couple of bright spells, has been pretty awful of late, and snow and rain have made the roads impassable for most of the time. In spite of this, our little holiday resort has been quite crowded.

For instance, a party of three B.O.R.s from Quetta visited us and, with the help of a couple of n.c.o.s of Zhob Signals, did their best in aiding the O.C. to give the officers of the Garrison some insight into the progress of W/T during the last few years, and a little demonstration of No. 1 sets (R/T) in use on a column. Everything went off well, although marred by a wet day. The state of the roads prevented the party from travelling further, and they had to while away the time by wearing out our tiddley-winks in a vain endeavour to win the championship of Hindubagh. We would like to know how they fare on Quetta diet after feeding like lords here (and remember, Spaff, canteen hours are still in vogue). We thank them all for helping us out during our period of continuous watch, which was occasioned by a visit to the Zhob of the General Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Command. Owing to the state of the roads (once more) his visit was postponed for a few days, and then he had to make the journey by rail via Sibi to Harnai and thence to Loralai and Fort Sandeman by car. His visit to Hindubagh was cancelled.

The dirty weather was responsible for the following good 'un. The operator on duty went to open up, but found the receiver and transmitter " dis." Common fault: aerial thick with snow and shorting on mast. He shakes it off and returns to the set, to find the receiver still " dis," but, switching over, finds the transmitter o.k. On switching back, he finds the receiver o.k. " I know what happened," says he. " The radiation knocked the last bit of snow off." And I heard a fellow say " What's the good of coming to India if you're going to get Blighty weather ?" Some people are never satisfied.

All the attached personnel are hoping to bid farewell to India for six months during the forthcoming trooping season. We take this opportunity of wishing Sigmn Kinsay bon voyage. May he have a good time. He is due to sail on the 9th March per the *Lancashire*, and he hopes to return to the Zhob at the end of his furlough.

There is one thing we have to be thankful for here: we have none of those " Roll on, Oct " people amongst us. They are all " next year-ers."

To Dutchy, from Binder: Does it make your arms ache, and does the 99.9 help you to bear up ?

We would like to hear from L/Corpl Smith H., who left Quetta for the Army Reserve during this trooper. Also from Signalman Williams J. J. Has he joined the pros, and have they moved that parting ? H.A.M.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Badarpur.

No. 1 Company.

[*Received too late for the March issue*]

Wednesday 16th January.

The Company left Meerut on the 31st December for Badarpur, the well known camping ground about eleven miles south of Delhi. The journey was made by route march, with halts at Begumabad (seventeen miles), Ghaziabad (fourteen miles), Delhi Fort camping ground, and so on to Badarpur on the fourth day.

The weather—extraordinarily cold—has been kind so far, with only one day's rain on the journey from Ghaziabad to Delhi Fort, but even that did not prevent half the camp from trooping to the talkies in Delhi.

On arrival at Badarpur camping ground, we were not long in settling down to doing things with white stones and gravel walks, etc., until a few hours work gave the impression that we had been in camp for weeks. Jock Orr, Joe Pallett and other old Divites might be interested to know that the forge is still under the same old tree. Other distinguished signs occupy their old sites.

For the most part, we have been walking around with wideawake airs. Snakes were very abundant when we arrived: they, too, preferred the warmth and comfort of the tents. Up to date, six snakes have fallen to our bag, not to mention a few other more delicious morsels—the result of clever stalking by our shikaris.

During the period, a few happenings worthy of note have helped to pass the hours between killing snakes and laying lines. One morning, the piquet n.c.o. asked the R.S.M.'s bearer if the R.S.M. was in—and if he was, would he let him have a guard report. So the bearer went in to the R.S.M. and said " Sahib, the piquet commander wants an Army Form B.160." While putting up a tent, a sergeant asked the bearer for a small peg, and the bearer (mistaking his need) brought him a chota peg!

Although it is unusually cold, this camp is not much different from any other. We have a long way to go, and a cold time before us, e'er we reach Delhi again and the E.C. Review.

Meerut, Tuesday 26th February.

General.—The Company returned from manœuvres and the Eastern Command review early in February, and were soon settled down again in barracks. The camping period was easily forgotten in the general movement of barrack routine, plus the comforts and joys for which many had sighed while at camp.

Although manœuvres come regularly each year and are just as regularly laid aside to give place to the summer routine, this last camp has been something out of the ordinary and likely to be remembered for a long time. It was the first time in the service of many of us that manœuvres finished with such a grand finale, and on the Eastern Command review on the last day of January it was noticeable how extensive the exercise must have been with

[*Continued on page 177*]

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

February.

General.—As this month is no exception to the rule of "nil happenings," I find it a little difficult to chronicle anything at all. Nothing seems to change, except perhaps people's tempers and the weather. The latter is improving and getting quite warm. We are looking forward to a very warm summer.

Collective training is drawing to a close, and then we shall be re-initiated into the mysteries of "Close the disengaged eye," etc. These wise sayings are for our benefit, but hearing them over and over again (as often as half a dozen times a minute) we begin to wonder if our benefit features in it at all. However, it all helps to increase the weekly ackers on which everyone seems so keen these days.

Inspections.—On the 28th February the 11th Hussars were visited by their Colonel, Major-General T. T. Pittmann, C.B., C.M.G. A parade was held, in which we took part. No words of praise reached our ears, but we presume that everything was up to standard.

To F Troop.—Although a little late in the season, we duly congratulate you on having become attached to one of the finest regiments in the Army. Our loss is definitely your gain. They did all manner of things to help us: to wit, they showed us Egypt, taught us to shoot, and invited us to all their do's, generally making us feel one of themselves.

Further, it grieves us to know that we shall never again hear the pure English language as spoken by Mr. Porter (Fien jif Jaffa) nor be able to augment our weekly income with the help of Mr. Kidston's reliable inside information. It is also very doubtful if we shall ever again have the wonderful pleasure of seeing Bayoumi picking up paper on the square. Indeed, rumour hath it that he is now an honoured member of the Sergeants Mess.

In conclusion, F. On the few occasions when notes from us do appear, don't fling your unwanted copies of THE WIRE into your highly burnished coal tub, but hand them over to the 12th Lancers. We are conceited enough to think that they will always be glad to hear of us. We look forward to hearing regular news of them through their excellent journal, to which we hope to become subscribers.

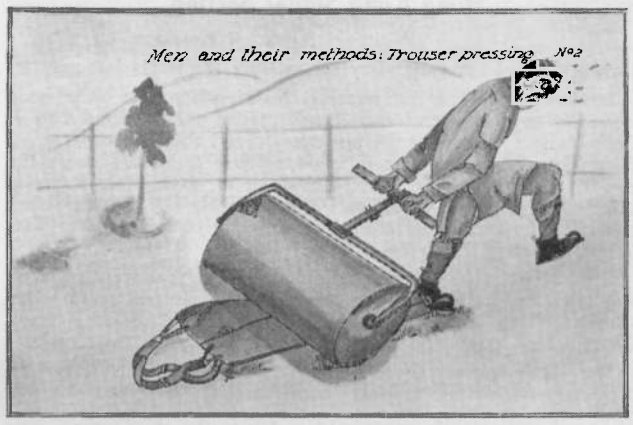
Conclusion.—Parting salaams until next month. JACPAT.

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

Air Officer Commanding's Inspection.—This induced a desperate attempt to attain the necessary high immaculate standard and to display our old school tie.

For several days prior to this event, not a vestige remained of the tranquility and sanity which once reigned supreme in our little unit; the serenity had completely disappeared. Instead, we were overtaken by panic and plunged headlong into grave turmoil. Corners that for ages had been shadowed by gigantic cupboards, or bundles of forgotten papers, were relieved of loads of dust and dirt; though we abhor dehumanisation, spiders' homes suffered harsh and hasty demolition. People who normally seemed content with terra firma were scaling ladders to clean what are now discovered to be windows and fanlights—some so excited that they were missing the rungs and performing the most amazing but devastating acrobatics (all's Wells that ends Wells) at the expense of an occasional window pane. Even this provided a spice of humour in a moment of despair. Billets, workshops, stores and offices alike had been transformed to resemble vocational training centres. Latent talent came to light, and one could have witnessed budding operators toying with brush, Brunswick black enamel, and some variety of heating stove; and ambitious clerks conjuring with smoothing planes and six foot tables. Garden rollers and mattresses were dragged to the rescue, and anxious operators could be seen zealously pressing tunics and replacing dented buttons.

In the heat of the moment, one harassed friend was heard to enunciate: "If I had spent my six and three-quarter years Army service in civilian life, I should now have been Prime Minister" ("Premier of what?" we are still asking ourselves). But, dear boy, we must console ourselves with the fact that Army training fits us for the time when we no longer require the Government pittance.



However, this activity proved not in vain, since the Air Officer Commanding (Air Commodore R. E. C. Peirse, D.S.O.) expressed his approval and delight in our preparation. He remarked upon the well ventilated sleeping quarters, and his appreciation is our satisfaction and reward for hard work, laborious buffing, sleepless nights and terrible anxiety.

Then, too, the High Commissioner (His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wauchope, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.I.E., D.S.O.) found time to view our industrious camp. He uttered a few kind words in admiration of our charming flower beds, and expressed his delight in finding a number of our community labouring with their rabbit ranches, vegetable patches and poultry. These hobbies gave him great pleasure, and he expressed interest in their progress and activity. Our golf course and the clever way in which it had been plotted provided another commendable feature. Yet no one suggested to him that the golf course was completely in the rough and called for numerous execrations from exasperated golfers. But, after all, his visit was not in the nature of an inspection—just a friendly swoop.

Intrusions.—Soon, there will be no need for these inspections and visits from sundry heads. Daily we are pestered with hordes of native labourers, invariably led by a Russian Jew, German, or some other member of the Works and Building staff, only just a little more intelligent than his sheep. By very small instalments they endeavour to make our rooms and furniture more spectacular and comfortable. One might be encountered by a number of painters, who tactfully announce their wish to paint the lockers in cream and green. Another morning we find an immense hole suddenly appear in the roof, which on investigation proves to be the arrival of a workman with instructions to provide heating stoves for our sleeping quarters (more occupation for the room orderlies). We wonder if the people are persistent in learning the Britisher's habits and the way we clean our buttons, or whether they just come in from the rain—maybe it is their profession. Later, we find our billiard table being smuggled from one building to another and, after being erected in the latter, dismantled to allow the labourers to play with the linoleum; or native electricians issuing stentorian instructions to their assistants at the top of a 20-foot standard. All this tends to become tiresome to one who may be relaxing.

But all these innovations are purely in the interests of science, and I can imagine the sightseer two hundred and fifty years hence coming here to sigh over the eighth wonder of the world.

Births.—We have pleasure in announcing the double event of a septenary litter from Jeannette and Tiger Lil, both prize does

and proud mothers. Tiger Tim, the champion buck, seems a very nervous father, but he is certainly gaining confidence with experience. All are doing well.

Obituary.—With regret we notify the death of a nine months old pullet which crossed the great divided just recently. 'Twas after being cruelly mauled in the jaws of a Company hound, and the bird suffered great agony before finally hopping the twig. We tender our heartfelt sympathies to Squire Roden and partners in this time of loss and distress.

'Snuff said. Q.R.U. TUT.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 14/2/35.

Apology.—I am very sorry for missing the notes last month!

Good News.—I am commencing this month with a bit of good news for my old friend and " pain in the neck," Spud Can of Pekin fame. These are the last notes that I shall write—at least, from Hong Kong, as I am now almost sure to leave here on the 3rd March. If I don't leave, I shall be in no suitable frame of mind to write WIRE notes, so I can definitely say that these *are* the last. I hope to be in England in time to read this in THE WIRE.

Christmas, etc.—Christmas and the New Year went off with the usual bang. Dinner was served in the canteen at 12.30 on Christmas Day, and we were visited by our C.S.O. (Major Parkes), Captain Henderson and Lieut. Holmes. We drank their health ; they returned the compliment ; and then those who could walk adjourned to the reading room, which was tastefully decorated with coloured paper and a large barrel of beer. A concert was arranged and actually progressed as far as the third item. The proceedings were then halted when we were visited by our popular lines n.c.o., Sergt Bowler—intimately known as Dangler. He was presented with a framed cartoon, by Cush, which I venture to say is a masterpiece. The Sarge himself is very pleased with it, and he is putting it among the Bowler heirlooms, together with his whip, whistle and two hairs from his moustache. His daughter Joan is now looking for Cush with a big broom. She says it's not a bit like her daddy—but, Joan, we should know!

After this, the Navy (H.M.S. *Falmouth*) breezed in, accompanied by a girl friend (I heard that " she " was a stoker, but one can never really tell these days). However, the liquid refreshment went down and the spirits went up, and when I passed out at about five o'clock, my last recollection was of a certain young n.c.o. sitting up a tree, with a glass of beer in one hand and a vacuous look on his face, proclaiming to the world that he was Tarzan. There were no casualties and everyone was happy, so I can safely say that Christmas went off o.k.

For the ensuing fortnight, stories were trickling in, but of course the majority of them were not fit for publication. I will say this: our cartoonist can dish it out, but he can't take it. An eye-witness tells me that he saw our Horace on Christmas night in surroundings that would have provided excellent material for a cartoon—but, no, Cush can't remember! Rather convenient ; some things are best forgotten.

The Tientsin Draft.—These hardy lads have rapidly settled down to the gay (?) life of Hong Kong, and though it is rather cold, they find that there *are* ways of keeping warm. We are really glad that they came down here. Apart from helping us out on the sports fields, the stories they tell are really good. We are now fully conversant with life in the Frozen North, where men are men, even if they do wear fur hats, my dears! I was rather disappointed at not having been up north (Wei-Hai-Wei is not north), but now I feel as though I've really been there myself.

Chow.—Since the 1st January the Section has been on the compradore system of messing, and up to date everyone seems quite satisfied. To the casual observer, it's a miracle how the comp. feeds us on 65 cents a day: we eat so much in the mess room that the N.A.A.F.I. is just about closed down—only beer and cigarettes keep things going.

The Big Hand.—All the usual to Signalmen Lomax and Shove on their promotion to be paid Lance-Corporals. Push is in hospital at present, having caught a cold while standing outside the Section office, but he has it to come when he comes out. Boy is now sweating. Q.S.L., my boy ; Q.S.L.

On the Air.—" When I was in Pekin. . . ." " In Tientsin. . . ." " One night in the carioca, a blonde. . . ." " I puts me fur hat on. . . ."

Congratulations.—To the last draft on getting such snip stations. To Duff on clicking the right place for a big parade about the 6th May. To Cecil on going to the " home for old china."

Sailing List.—L/Sergeant Hodges, Corpl Pope, L/Corporals Rousseau and Woolcot, Signalmen Jones, Larking, Mills, Austen, Addis, Potesta, Cunningham, Marsh, Oakey, Burch, Hoare and Martin R.

Agony.—Cecil, Scarborough: Remember the cartoons that used to float about when you were storeman ? The cartoonist is storeman himself now, and is so busy that he can't draw any more—at least, that's his alibi.

In Conclusion.—I hope I am not the only person who has read these notes. At least, I've helped to fill a bit of space in THE WIRE, and it has passed the time when typing them. All the best! For all time. MATA HARI.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Friday 8th February.

General.—" Now oft, when on my couch I lie." Anyhow, tidak apa the couch. Let's get on with the WIRE notes.

For the last month or so, we have all (with the exception of the wireless operators) been resting on our laurels. Personally, I wouldn't call them laurels.

AN OPERATOR'S LAMENT.

(*To the tune of " Poor Old Joe "*)

Gone are the days when we used to lie in bed ;
Now, all we do is to work instead.
Early each morn, in de *Anderson* we stow
And right around these blessed islands, off we go.

" Get thrro-ugh! get thrro-ugh!"
Is what we hear all day.
Roll on, the blinking boat, to
Take me right away.

Yes, the W/T ops. have been having a fairly busy time. It's quite common to see them creeping around at three o'clock in the morning, preparing to depart for unknown destinations with poor hard-worked Service families who wish to indulge in a little health trip at sea. Health trip! bah! I have a better name than that. Still, I suppose we are destined to work for the health of others.

A highly successful concert was held at the lower bungalow during the end of the month. Signals were well represented by Sigmn Hubbard and L/Corpl Pearson (n.c.o. i/c curtain).

On the following evening, the usual monthly dance was held. The lads from Changi looked in, but they didn't come to dance. Their services were required in the bar.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Guy G. from Fort Canning, pending the arrival of " that boat." He says his intentions are to check up pay and accounts and see that no swindling by the Section Q.M. (Young Twitch) has been going on.

Sport.—The rugby and hockey season having drawn to a close, our attention is now focussed on soccer and cricket. The Signals —Ordnance are contemplating entering one of the local leagues, but nothing has been settled up to date.

We congratulate the 41st (Fortress) Company Royal Engineers on winning the Garrison hockey competition for the second time in succession, and also on reaching the semi-final of the seven-a-side rugger competition.

We are pleased to see that our O.C., Major H. N. Brown, has once again returned to duty, having recovered from his recent mishap mentioned in last month's notes.

Birth.—To Sigmn Hubbard, a song—at the recent concert.

Seen and Heard, Just Rambling Around.—Our Peter (Mr. Weekes) has decided that the posts of Chief Detective of Shanghai and Sports Editor of *The Singapore Free Press* offer too little scope for his detective and literary capabilities ; so by the time these notes appear, he will be tucked safely away in Old England, wielding the pick and shovel. I bet. Ha! ha! ha!

In conclusion, I might recommend the following books, just recently published:—" Broken Romances," by E. M. Twitchen ; " The Lure of the East," by G. Guy ; " Learn to Croon," by T. B. Chatfield ; " My Many Cups and Trophies," by Peter Weekes ; "Opera—and How!" by R. Pearson ; "Beason, Bronzed Nudist," by E. Scott ; " Fatty Tissues," by F. Parkin ; " The Ronggeng Made Easy," by W. Watmore.

And so we creep back for another month into obscurity (from the Latin " obscurum "—meaning to lie low).

Au revoltus, everybody. BARON (T.B.C.)

Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 11th March.

General.—Our usual beginning: little of note to record. We offer our apologies for omitting, in our last notes, to congratulate L/Corpl Carr H. on his first step in the matrimonial stakes. For the benefit of the uninitiated, his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Thick was duly solemnised at Salisbury on the 10th January last. To both of them, all the best in the future.

L/Corporal Poulton was in luck's way during February: he embarked on H.M.S. *Renown* for a month's cruise. As a week or so of this period will be spent in the United Kingdom, could he ask for more?

Our homegoing draft are now anxiously (perhaps we should say impatiently) awaiting the arrival of *their trooper*. Calendars are being marked daily with conspicuous colours, but time passes only too slowly for them.

The congratulations of the whole Section are sent to Sergeant Betts on his double good fortune as shown in January's WIRE.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Badarpur.

[*Continued from page* 174]

that huge parade taking part. Combining with No. 2 Company for the march past, we were not very big in comparison with the whole parade, but the success of the whole thing was a satisfactory wind up to a month of open air life.

Now we look forward to the individual training season, with its preparations for hill moves, rides and courses. While those who joined us from the U.K. are settling down, the last draft are preparing for the homeward trip. Several of them will be coming back—but that is only by the way.

There have been several changes in our strength, and the comings and goings shown later are sufficient to prove that we do change a little through the years.

The sports meeting, details of which will probably appear on another page, was a happy day for No. 1 Company, for we brought back the trophy to the Company and the Div. We would like to be very modest about that, but—

" You are old, Father Shag," the Cavalier said ;
" Perhaps far too ancient for sport ;
Yet you ran quite a race for your team coloured red.
Do you think, at your age, that you ought ?"

" Last year," quoth old Shag (with a smirk at the youth)
" I was pained by your notes in THE WIRE,
And I'll still shake a limb when I've only one tooth,
Before I am due to retire."

Arrivals.—We welcome the following from the U.K.: L/Corpl Robinson, Signalmen Duffin, Hills and Forster. It is with great pleasure that we add their names to our duty roster.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Cairns (first education, " D " in two subjects—phew!) and to Corpl Brown, L/Corpl Hoar and Sigmn Hodson (also firsts). Sigmn Clavering has made a start in that direction.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of No. 2320605 Sigmn Wilkieson P. P. at the British Military Hospital, Delhi New Cantonment, from pneumonia. Sigmn Wilkieson had served in the unit for the past year. He was popular with all ranks and an asset to the Company soccer team. The sympathy of the C.O. and all ranks is extended to his sorrowing relatives. The funeral took place at Delhi Military Cemetery, the deceased being accorded full military honours.

P.E.R.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Ian Hay, a contemporary of mine, once said to a budding scribe " Never write till you have something to write about." Well! No. 2 Company is worth writing about, although I didn't expect the mantle of authorship to descend upon me at such short notice.

The Company, after several weeks of holding 'em back round Delhi way, returned to Meerut, bronzed, bronchited and browned (as distinct from bronzed). Lots of nice things were said by those in high places regarding the work carried out by the Company during manœuvres, while the " traffic cops " on the Delhi Review (drawn from Two Company) received honourable mention in *The Statesman*. A certain operator in this Company now wears a Ronald Colmanish look since Gaumont featured him operating a No. 1 set during the review.

We are now busily preparing for the coming hill season in Chakrata. Instructors are thinking out a variety of new faults for the young operator to discover—and the young operator is trying to find out what cigarettes the instructors smoke! However, we wish them luck and hope to see them return complete with their B.i. or B.ii. ratings.

Arrivals.—Once more No. 2 Company have a new O.C. A hearty welcome is extended to Captain E. V. F. MacSwiney from Kohat, and we hope his stay may be long and pleasant. We also welcome Lieut. Johnson from the U.K., and hope that his stay, too, may be long and pleasant. L/Corpl Ross and Sigmn Fox from unit headquarters. They have now decided to earn their pay.

The Company have recently been replenished by a draft from the U.K. They are too numerous to mention by name, but we hope that they will enjoy their stay in India (we daren't hope that their stay may be long!).

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Monday 4th March.

Prologue.—Apologies for the absence of notes last month. When I've thought out a good excuse, I'll publish it.

General.—Camp over, we are now in the throes of the usual annual inspections, audits, etc. We have managed to get through most of them without being found out.

Several of the unit animals and their keepers had been entered for the Imperial Delhi Show, but owing to an outbreak of equine influenza in this Station, they had to be withdrawn.

Sport.—In the Sports Notes of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, there *should* be found the results of the inter-Half-Company sports trophy, for which we entered as a half-Company. After holding it for the past two competitions, we have relinquished it this year for repolishing and renovation by No. 1 A Half-Company of the Divisional Signals.

Trooping.—With the preparation of next year's boat list in hand, excitement runs high. No fewer than sixteen of the old hands (about one-third of the British ranks) are due for repatriation in the 1935-36 season. There will be plenty of notes under the heading of "Marriages" in the Home Station notes next year.

Departures.—Lieut. F. W. P. Bradford left us this month for the land of smiles. The best wishes of all ranks go with him.

Promotions and Awards.—Congratulations to L/Sgt Yates E. on attaining that rank, and to L/Sergt Thomson H. M. on the presentation of his medal of the Order of the British Empire, on the 30th January, in recognition of his work during the Alwar disturbances in 1933.

Epilogue.—I understand this always goes with a Prologue, so here it is. NON-NUN-QUAM.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

We welcomed the commander of the Air Defence Formations, T.A. (Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.M.G., D.S.O.) on Wednesday 27th February. He was accompanied by Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. (War Office), Colonel C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O. (Brigade commander, 26th (London) Air Defence Brigade), Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., R.A., Major H. C. Carey-Thomas, and Captain V. J. E. Westropp.

It was possible to demonstrate the working of the Air Defence operations and counter operations room, as well as the technical training and visual operating. There was a large attendance, and the delightful way in which Major-General Tompson and the officers accompanying him put all ranks at ease when discussing details of their work was much appreciated. We look forward to further meetings of this kind.

The Signals Association, Westminster Branch Old Comrades, held their annual meeting at these headquarters following the inspection mentioned above. There was a good meeting in the main hall, and the proceedings were enlivened by a band and a concert. Mr. W. Butler, secretary of the Signals Association, attended and gave an account of the work done by the Association during the past year. Our secretary, C.S.M. Shergold, will be pleased to welcome at 56 Regency Street any old comrades living in or visiting London.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

Camp, this year, is to be at Caernarvon, and Whit Sunday will once more be the day for our departure. Everyone is looking forward to renewing our acquaintance with North Wales, where we have in the past enjoyed many happy camps. Caernarvon, however, will be a spot to be discovered by many of the present unit, as it is many years since we were last there for camp.

Section training is now in full swing, and if attendances on drill nights are anything to go by, we can feel assured that annual training this year will be highly satisfactory to all concerned.

A thirty hour paid course has just been completed, and I hear that the P.S.I.s are quite satisfied with the results of their labours; so now we can look forward to a big increase in trade ratings when the Trade Board sits on the 13th and 14th April.

The first of the week-end schemes will take place on the 6th/7th April, followed by the second on the 27th/28th, and we finally wind up with an all-night scheme on the 18th/19th May. These schemes are eagerly looked forward to by all ranks and, provided the weather is kind to us, we should have an enjoyable and instructive time.

Officers Mess.—The last of the season's dances was held in the mess on the 2nd March, when a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Special classes for subaltern officers, now being held every Monday evening, are well attended, a wide range of subjects being taken to make the lectures interesting.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual dinner was held at headquarters on Saturday 9th March, when about one hundred and fifty members and guests sat down to an excellent dinner arranged by Messrs. Roll's of Manchester. The guests included the C.O. (Colonel Ashley), the hon. colonel (Colonel F. J. West, C.B.E.), our late commanding officer (Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C.), Major Delaney, Captains Swan (adjutant), Walter and Lea, the Q.M. (Lieut. McVittie), and a number of w.o.s and sergeants from various units in the Division. Following the toasts and speeches, a presentation was made to Lt. McVittie of a timepiece, suitably inscribed, from the members of the Sergeants Mess in appreciation of his services over a long number of years as R.Q.M.S. C.S.M. Worsley, in a neat little speech, referred to Mr. McVittie's service in the unit, of which he may well be proud; and in reply, Mr. McVittie said he had always endeavoured to do his best for the unit and had tried to satisfy everyone—a difficult thing to do, even for an R.Q.M.S.

Members of the 42nd Divisional Signal Company R.E. on parade for the Unveiling of the War Memorial at Headquarters, 21st October, 1934.

[*Photo by Frank Ingham, Manchester*]

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals Old Comrades Association.

Signals of the Great War foregathered in strength at the Thatched House Hotel, Manchester, on the 23rd February, when the 42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals Old Comrades Association held its annual meeting and reunion supper. The business meeting was well attended, and showed that the Association is now firmly established and in a sound position.

Much satisfaction was expressed that the members had achieved one of their objects in providing the War Memorial at the Royal Signal headquarters at Brooks's Bar during the past year.

Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., was again elected president, and Major A. Roberts, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel G. N. Robinson, T.D., Major P. C. Fletcher, M.C., J.P., and Captain T. G. Halsall were elected vice-presidents, Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Ashley being an honorary vice-president ex-officio.

After supper, the president read out the names of those members of the old Signal Company R.E. who lost their lives in the Great War, and all present paid tribute to "Our fallen comrades."

The toast of "The President" was submitted by Captain Halsall and responded to by Colonel Newton, who thanked all who had contributed so handsomely to the War Memorial fund.

Mr. H. Willcock, D.C.M., proposed "Our Guests," which was replied to by Major C. B. Delaney, Captain T. A. H. Lee, M.M., and R.S.M. Brookes, all of whom dwelt on the sense of tradition which the Old Comrades Association was instilling into the members of the present unit, and assuring all old members of a hearty welcome at headquarters.

The evening was spent in song and story contributed by Messrs. Castell and Flaws, and not least by Sergt-Major (Cocky) Andrews, who brought down the house with his reminiscences dating back to the war in South Africa—"that was a war."

A happy and most successful reunion, and great credit is due to Secretary Pep Parker for bringing us all together once more.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—Training and recreation progresses. The special senior n.c.o.s' lectures and operators' classes have terminated, and the linemen's and other trades classes are under way. Trade tests have been held, and the participants eagerly await the verdict. The linemen's classes are due to terminate at the end of this month with their trade testing, and Section training then commences in earnest. If one can take the ease with which the unit has settled down in so short a time since its re-organisation as a guide, then a first rate camp is assured.

A further T.E.W.T. for officers, this time at Honiton, has been successfully carried out.

Each Company is busy with its Section training programme, and reconnaissances are the order of the day. These Section Sunday exercises are now an institution, and one anticipates even better support and attendances than in the past. Such opportunities of getting out into the open are extremely valuable.

Those officers of No. 3 Company who were responsible for the organisation of the recent dance at the Priory are to be congratulated on a really excellent show.

Congratulations to Mr. R. D. Nash on being gazetted to the unit. The Plymouth Company, after many attempts, is at last up to strength in officers and possesses a waiting list of two in addition.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Musketry is occupying our attention this month. It will not be the fault of Sergt-Major Gibbings if we fail to make a good show. Every man has had opportunities during the winter to help both himself and his Company by improving his marksmanship. The Rifle Club has been a great success, and the practice afforded should result in a very much higher average in shooting.

We were sorry that we were unable to attend No. 3 Company officers' dance in strength. Our only representative, Mr. Gibson, was, however, enthusiastic over a very jolly evening.

Our best wishes to Mr. R. D. Nash, who was gazetted this month. He is a very welcome newcomer to our happy band.

We were delighted to receive visits recently from Signalmen Clifford, Forward and Talbot, all late of our Company. The two former were in the original 1925 group, of whom there are only five now left.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Unfortunately, through an oversight, last month's notes were despatched too late for publication; but, to preserve the sequence, they are included here.

Considerable progress having been made in the training arrangements, certain Sections are about to terminate their programmes. We thank all concerned for their zeal and hard work. The lads are now anxiously awaiting their test to be held on the 25th February. The n.c.o.s attending their course are also putting their shoulders to the wheel in fine style, and are doing full justice to the instruction imparted by the adjutant, the R.S.M. and our P.S.I. Jim is now well at home and acclimatised.

Promotions.—Congratulations, Jack, on your promotion to w.o.ii.—rather belated, but we mislaid the Stop Press slip; also to Sergt Katon and Corporals Gray T. and Collett—best wishes for your future success. Maintain the present enthusiasm and keep the flag flying.

Social Functions.—Father Exmass made his second annual visit to the kiddies in this Company on the 28th January, when they were entertained with their mummies and daddies at Langley Hall, Southampton. An eagerly awaited event which was indeed a great success. Captain and Mrs. Fane welcomed the company on their arrival at 4.30 p.m. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the bountiful feast that followed.

Immediately after tea, tables were cleared and the kiddies were entertained by the Hants and Dorset Motor Services Employees jazz band, who caused constant roars of merriment, subsequently followed by games (father described them as P.T.s!) Then the inevitable Punch arrived per Professor Woodley, who also provided endless fun with his conjuring tricks. The excitement culminated in the arrival of Santa Claus (Harry, ex-C.S.M. Hoare) who made an excellent Father Christmas. Incidentally, it is an open secret that this appointment has now been substantiated. Every child received a present, and a package of sweets, etc., upon leaving the hall; and judging by their happy faces, one could tell everything was o.k. We tender our hearty thanks to our Ernie (our popular C.Q.M.S.) and his good lady and also to our C.S.M. (Jack Baker) and his good lady, who, it is understood, spent many a nerve racking hour in sorting the "ayes" and "noes" for Father Christmas—not forgetting, either, Old George (ex-Sergt Cleverly) who applied his art in decorating the Christmas tree with dozens of coloured lights. An excellent job, George.

Marked success attended the officers' dance held at the South-Western Hotel, Southampton, on the 1st February. The occasion attracted many old and new friends. Among those present were Bt.-Colonel The Lord Basing, Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., and Mrs. Walsh, and Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., and Mrs. Patten. A convivial time was spent.

Observation.—Now then, Pip, 2nd Divl Signals. We note that you have broken the ice again. It is of no use hiding behind that non-de-plume; it is a pity that it is non-reversible. The name Pip is very familiar to the lads, and consequently they have identified you. So sorry to spoil your joke, but it simply won't wash. The lads wish you all the best, and trust that THE WIRE will also benefit by your change. Cheerio!

We have condensed this month's notes, as last month's are embodied in this issue.

We commenced our outdoor activities with a tactical exercise without troops in the Corhampton area, Hants, on Sunday 17th February. The exercise was very instructive and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. The scheme has been described as training de luxe—the parade being transported to the training area in the latest streamline coaches. The exercise afforded the n.c.o.s an opportunity of solving the various problems that would probably confront them when in charge of their respective Sections. We appreciated very much the presence of our adjutant, and especially his criticism of the various perspectives of the problems of different communication schemes. All concerned have derived considerable benefit from the instruction imparted by Captain Patten. The respective n.c.o.s appreciate this instruction, and are eagerly looking forward to another scheme should circumstances permit.

We are now awaiting the result of the operators' test held on the 25th February.

We regret to learn that we are to lose our R.S.M. in the near future, but hope that we shall have the pleasure of saying au revoir. We wish him the best of luck and every success.

Royal Signals Old Comrades Association.—Will ex-members residing in the Southampton area kindly note that the Southampton Branch, which is incorporated in the Southampton-Portsmouth Branch recently inaugurated, is now functioning at Hamilton House, Commercial Road, Southampton. BEGBIE.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Operators' classes are now over, and soon linemen's classes will have finished and we shall be set for summer training. This year promises to be full of interest with our new work as Infantry Brigade Signal Sections. The n.c.o.s have taken great interest in their classes, and a most interesting and instructive exercise was held on Sunday 3rd March, when a general outline of the working of an I.B. Section was very well demonstrated. There is no reason why we should not go to camp well equipped in knowledge of our new work.

Social functions have not been too well patronised lately. A dance held by the Company was rather poorly supported, and we appeal to all members to make the dance on the 5th April a real success.

A very successful officers' dance was held on the 8th March. Thanks to much hard work on the part of Mr. Webb and the permanent staff, the drill hall was very tastefully decorated and it was hard to realise that one was in such a place. About two hundred and fifty guests accepted invitations, and we were very delighted to have with us Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. C. H. Walsh, Captain and Mrs. J. R. Patten, Captain and Mrs. A. F. S. Fane, and a representative from No. 1 Company. The evening was apparently very much enjoyed by all present.

Jew's Post.—Thanks, Ginger. G.E.S.

Au Revoir.—We tender our farewell to Mr. Herbert (our popular Regimental) on his departure, and wish him the best of luck. THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—Individual training and the special paid courses are still going merrily on, and a fairly good attendance is being maintained. We are, however, still looking forward to the warm weather, when we hope our real he-men will venture out and swell the numbers on parade on drill nights.

On the 9th and 10th March a Signal tactical exercise without troops was carried out in the Camberley area. Forty-five officers, w.o.s and n.c.o.s took part. On this occasion we were on the defensive and missed the elan of our last year's little battle around Sevenoaks.

Those of us who were in France during the winter of 1916/17 must have been painfully reminded of that terribly cold time, for the weather during the week-end in question was almost, if not quite, as cold as that memorable period. This rather tended to distract one's mind from the matters which we were there to think about. The strong icy wind and the general North Pole temperature made the use of pencils, maps, compasses and protractors really painful. To look through binoculars brought tears to one's eyes, which didn't improve the already poor visibility. However, we apparently put up a fairly good show, as the enemy did not get us on the run, although a sprint now and then was mutually indulged in by all.

We ceased hostilities for a lunch break, when hot soup was served out and drunk from pint beer pots. To him who thought of and caused that soup to be provided, many thanks!

Between two and three hours were spent in actually solving the set problems. and almost the same time was taken up by the directing staff in telling us where we were wrong and in moving from place to place. Apart from the cold weather, it was an enjoyable and very interesting exercise.

Officers.—The monthly dinner was held on the 28th February, and a number of distinguished visitors were present. These included Major-General C. G. Liddell, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O. (commanding 47th Division) and Major H. C. Carey-Thomas (C.S.O. Air Defence Formations).

Seven officers passed the practical promotion examination in subjects (A) and (C) on the 24th February.

Sergeants Mess.—On Saturday 23rd February we held our annual Mess dinner at headquarters. The attendance this time was even greater than last year, which then constituted a record. Over one hundred and twenty, including twenty-nine representatives of other Messes and friends, sat down and enjoyed the usual excellent dinner. A few turns were rendered from the stage between the several speeches.

We were especially pleased to have with us our commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C.) who, we are very sorry to say, leaves us this year on the termination of his period of command. The absence of Colonel J. G. Fleming, O.B.E., D.S.O. (our hon. colonel), Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. London District), Captain F. H. Bury (our adjutant) and Captain W. H. Lloyd, M.C. (O.C. No. 2 Company) was very much regretted. A Mess dinner without those notables is not exactly complete, and we hope it will not occur again.

Immediately following the toast to His Majesty, our president announced that everyone must light and smoke the churchwarden pipe which had previously been supplied (with tobacco) to each diner. Anyone failing to do so would be asked to place a shilling in the hospital box: only one shilling was forthcoming. During one of the speeches, we were assured that a representative of the London Scottish had never smoked in his life, but (rather than pay a bob) he had broken his lifelong abstinence and smoked the churchwarden! The spectacle of one hundred and twenty odd fellows lighting and puffing away at their unusually long pipes was a most amusing one and caused a great deal of merriment. In a very few minutes, visibility was exceedingly poor. Later on, more amusement was caused (especially to one of our Mess members) by the futile efforts made to get the pipes out of headquarters unbroken—very few succeeded.

During the evening, our commanding officer handed to the Mess president, as a parting gift to the Mess, a very fine portrait of Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., the first Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Corps of Signals. This happy gesture on the part of the C.O. is much appreciated, and if anything tangible were really necessary to remind us of him after his departure, this will certainly keep his memory green in the minds of both present and future Mess members. He also, on behalf of the Mess, presented a clock to ex-Sergt Johnny Bull (late of the S.R.) and the billiard championship shield to R.Q.M.S. Wrightson, the 1934 winner.

We are holding our last dance of the season on Saturday 6th April, and heartily invite any Mess members who can come along and shake a leg.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate L/Sergts Abercrombie H., Coombe W. J. and Kirby F. W. (all of the S.R.) on their promotion to full rank; also L/Corporals Bond E. H., Askew E. L. and Hopkins J. R. on their promotion to Corporal, and Signalmen Winsley W. S. G., Gutteridge L. J., Ramsey J. E., Catt P. R. C., Chivers B. T., Hand J. R., Frankland A. E. S., Biffen J., Wildy B. J. and Hewitt A. E. on their appointment to L/Corporal. May they go from strength to strength and from stripe to stripe.

Shooting.—The miniature rifle competition between the 47th Divl Signals and H Station, Special Constabulary, for the Vigers cup was fired on the 25th February at the headquarters of the 9th London Regiment (The Queen Victoria Rifles). This was really the 1934 shoot, and for the second time in succession the trophy was won by this unit. The scores were: 47th Divl Signals 367, H Station 357.

Agony.—It is very strongly rumoured that, after a lapse of several years, we are again to have a brace of trumpeters and that C.S.M. Boy Gates is pledged to train 'em in time for camp this year. We do earnestly trust that he will be most careful to study wind direction and cover whilst his pupils are blowing themselves through their Louis Armstrong period!

Social.—A very successful and jolly dance was held on the 2nd March. We hope our Aldershot visitors enjoyed themselves.

Sport.—A football match between Royal Signals, Aldershot, and this unit took place on Saturday 2nd March at Old Deer Park,

Richmond. A very good game was played, but soon after we commenced it was obvious that the Regulars were the better team. They beat us by 8—0 goals. Our goalkeeper played a really excellent game, or the score would certainly have been more than it was. There's no doubt that the visitors' team was really good and much more than a match for ours. Apart from a few breaks through by our fellows, their keeper was rarely called upon to defend his goal. True, we were without two or three of our key men, but we cannot claim that as being responsible for our defeat. Several of our fellows were too much on the light side to stand up to their hefty opponents, which led to many opportunities being lost and the few openings for a pot at goal coming to naught. Some thirty-odd members of the 1st Div. and A Corps came up for the game. They were afterwards entertained to tea, and were guests at the dance held in the evening.

We take this opportunity of tendering our apology for not being able to permit the use of the billiard tables and dart boards at our H.Q. during the evening. When, however, a dance is being held at which, of course, people other than members of the units attend, and as we are unable to accommodate them in places except where the billiard tables, etc., are situated, we find it very necessary to keep the tables covered, both for their safety and the comfort of the dancers. We hope this was understood. In spite of this, however, we sincerely hope that our Regular comrades thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We are looking forward to the return match. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Training.—Company training has now commenced, and special efforts are to be made to render the instruction less tedious but more vigorous and interesting.

Recruiting is going on apace and we hope that, with the prospect of a seaside camp in full view and the glamour of Jubilee celebrations, there will be a record influx this year.

Officers' Invitation Dinner to W.O.s and Sergeants.—On Saturday 9th March the w.o.s and sergeants were entertained to dinner by the officers.

After the toast of " The King " had been duly honoured, the R.S.M. rose and in a few words thanked the C.O. and his brother officers for their kind hospitality, pointing out that this annual function was a great power in strengthening the esprit de corps in the unit. He then asked the C.O. to present to the adjutant, Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C., a small gift on behalf of the Sergeants Mess, and thereupon produced a mysterious looking package which he handed to Colonel Holdsworth.

The adjutant was observed to be blushing modestly as he stepped forward to receive it. The package, when opened, revealed to the delighted assembly a miniature edition of 'Erbert, the unit staff car!

The C.O., in responding to the R.S.M., made a witty and amusing speech, remarking that the officers got quite as much kick out of the event as did the sergeants ; but, nevertheless, it was always very nice to be thanked, especially in such a charming way as he had been.

Referring to training, he mentioned the passing of the horses which, though in itself a matter of regret, had the effect of reviving the fascinating use of visual, which to old infantry soldiers like himself and C.S.M. Ryder was a very welcome thing, and at the same time allowed at least one of them more time to create further records in the consumption of beer.

Speaking of the great success of the winter courses, the C.O. pointed out that quite a different spirit had in the last few years entered into the unit, which he said was largely due to the combined efforts of the two Messes. The attendance at the courses had been beyond all expectations, and he spoke appreciatively of the energy and enthusiasm with which the permanent staff had played their part, adding that it was remarkable how the Regular Army was able to produce an inexhaustible supply of first class men.

In conclusion, he said that as long as the spirit of co-operation endured, there was not much wrong with the unit, and we should remember that it was a privilege to wear the King's uniform and be employed on His Majesty's business. He then presented the efficiency medal to Sergeants Powell, Smallwood and Bromhall.

Following the dinner, a games tournament was staged as the result of which the officers—their assiduous and expensive coaching notwithstanding—surrendered the rubber by 50—63 points. The *piece de resistance* was the blow football match, which is hereunder reported by our tame reporter.

After a thrilling struggle on the billiard table, we defeated the officers by 2—0 goals. As the players appeared and arranged themselves round the table, one could see that it would be a case of touch and go, as they were all in fine fettle—having ten minutes previously gone into strict training on Ansell's. Mr. Chatterley kept goal for the officers and the R.S.M. for the n.c.o.s.

The contestants, having removed their false teeth and their moustachios, inflated their lungs, and the ref. (C.S.M. Realf) rolled the ball into play. At first, it was hard to see how the wind was blowing, both teams luffing for position, but presently the n.c.o.s spread their parachute spinnaker and raced off, in nearly a gale, towards the officers' goal. By this time, the officers had spread some of their canvas and prepared to tack with the wind, but it was too late—and despite gallant efforts by Skipper Chatterley, who blew a veritable typhoon, the ball sailed over the line, giving the n.c.o.s the lead. This rather took the wind out of the officers' sails, but they spread the Genoa jib and tacked strongly up-wind, though the n.c.o.s maintained their lead up to half-time.

In the second half, the officers, with all their canvas out, made a bold bid to shorten the lead, and for a time it looked as though a draw might result after all ; but the n.c.o.s picked up a strong wind and luffed well to the sou'-west. Skipper Chatterley, getting the wind up, with great enterprise turned the wheel hard aport and shortened the space between his posts when he thought the ref. was not looking—but he was! and up went the protest flag. The ref. made him belay. In a matter of seconds the n.c.o.s rallied and, blowing a real Sopwith, sailed merrily over the line for the second score. Soon afterwards time was called, and ten scarlet-faced but somewhat deflated contestants retired to splice the mainbrace.

We Would Like to Know.—Who were the two Captains referred to by the C.O. in connection with Weymouth, and what were they up to ?

Who were the five officers pushing a saloon car down the drive after dinner ? GET'CHER.

The Month in the Garden: Hardy Annuals.—Attention! March is here—the month of blooming P.S.I.s and budding n.c.o.s. To ensure a good crop of these rare fungi, good soil is absolutely essential. The finer specimens are obtained from drills. Before planting out, the young shoots require careful nursing under cover. Old wagon sheds and drill halls—especially those equipped with central heating—are admirable for the purpose. As the weather becomes warmer and the evenings longer, plants may be taken into the open and placed in single file without any fear of their shrivelling up. After the first week, they can be arranged in double rows.

If a good slope is acquired, they should be allowed to mature in their own sweet way. They appear at their best in August. Makers of lawns and rock gardens are advised to visit the paddock. There is grass there for the picking up. Stone can be had in abundance at Stoney Lane, and farm yard manure from Bull Street and Corporation Street.

" Thou shalt not steal " said he, quoting Scripture. Nobody wants to when neighbours are so kind. Which reminds me of another bit from the Book which says " Ask and you shall receive." Garden tools are required if you are thinking of laying out a garden. It doesn't matter whose they are, so why go further than your next door neighbour's ? his are as good as anybody else's. Pop your head over the fence and lead him up the garden path with some common-place remark such as " Your cabbage seeds are black, eh ?" or something else as sensible ; then, before he has recovered from the shock, say " How about lending me the fork, spade, rake, etc., etc?" He will be delighted to get rid of you. See!

The great thing about the borrowing of tools is that one never knows when one is going to be asked to return them, and consequently one gets a move on with the job in hand. It is all so uncertain, and one does want to get finished before the other man wants his tools back. Don't you think ?—or do you ?

Text for gardeners: Love thy neighbour.

Test for would-be gardeners: Ask and you shall receive.

Poetic Licence.—Here is a "guess-rhyme" competition. Open to all ; no foolish restrictions or rules to spoil the fun ; and, best of all, no entrance fee. The idea is to find the famous personalities hidden in the verses below. Can you find them ?

(1)

He's round and tubby—very fat—
And wears a hard black bowler hat ;
He's cheery, too ; a real good sport ;
Kept Mahsuds back at Jamrud Fort.
To make it easier his name to guess:
He hasn't got the I.G.S.

(2)

A platinum blonde—the Harlow type—
Prefers a cigarette to pipe.
In the know on stocks and shares ;
Finds it hard to climb the stairs ;
Often stands a chota peg,
But cannot stand his gammy leg.

(3)

His first is in ride, but not in walk ;
The second's in pea, but not in stalk ;
The next is in also, likewise in ran.
They'd pay anything here for a watering can.
The next starts mine. Now, when you wager
And find the sea-cook—the sergeant. . . . . .

MIC.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Another month has come and gone with surprising rapidity, and with it draws to a close our three months individual training course. The Trade Board will be held before these notes appear in print, and when that's all over and done with, we start Section training with week-end camps, indoor schemes, and so on. A very attractive programme of training has been arranged, and we hope the splendid attendances we have been getting will continue. Quite a number of junior operators will find themselves in some Section or another for the first time, and judging from the promising material among them, we should rub off some of that deficiency in operators which existed at the close of last season.

Promotions and Appointments.—Heartiest congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Whittaker T. on his promotion to R.Q.M.S. w.e.f. 27/2/35. As plain Tommy Whit, he is well known to everyone, and his promotion has been well earned. Sergt Brown G. is also the recipient of many handshakes on being promoted C.Q.M.S. w.e.f. the same date.

My Hat!—A certain well-known member of the Sergeants Mess must have said that with some emphasis when he discovered recently that he had no cap S.D. and had to make a hurried change from uniform to civvies to get on parade. What happened on Armistice Night, when he last saw it, is not clear—but the hat was found reposing in the Sergeants Mess cloakroom!

Signals Association.—We are glad to report that the activity in the Leeds sub-Branch is still maintained. Our membership has now passed the eighty mark, and includes several R.E. Signals and old Signals who had drifted away.

Presentation.—During the month there was a happy little jollification when Lieut. Tebbs was welcomed to the Officers Mess after his promotion to Lieut.-Q.M. There was also a farewell gathering of sergeants, and he was presented with a silver cigarette case and a uniform case.

TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of our notes from the last issue. Unfortunately, our scribe left matters rather late in his desire to see the result of a certain badminton match which he felt sure he could include, with honours, in his notes ; but, alas! the honours were not forthcoming—hence " no noos."

N.G.O.s Drill Course.—We have just completed a drill and duties course for prospective n.c.o.s, and every credit is due to all concerned for the great keenness they showed throughout and the results on its completion. It was very gratifying to receive the congratulations of our commanding officer, adjutant and O.C. Company, and the encouraging remarks of the C.O. inspired all to make even greater and more determined efforts to bring those coveted trophies back from camp this year.

The turn out was particularly good, and mention must be made of one n.c.o. who strove hard to beat the P.S.I. for the best pair of boots (and nearly succeeded). His efforts were rewarded by the special congratulations of the commanding officer. Well done, W. H.! Give your brother the secret tip.

Before concluding this section, I am sure it is expected that the following incident will be recorded. We had in our midst a perfectly good Sam of Stanley Holloway fame ; and true to his nature, he decided to await the night for passing off, when he could act the part of dropping his musket. This he did to perfection, selecting for his big moment the period when everyone was expecting great things. This is too sad to amplify, the sequel being " luscious sparkling ale at his expense."

Badminton.—We were the guests of No. 2 Company at Middlesbrough on the 16th February, and up to the time of going home we had a very enjoyable evening. It is hardly necessary to mention the result of this match, because I am sure our friends of No. 2 Company have kept a complete record of the results and, maybe, reserved a column in THE WIRE for their report. However, in case they overlook it, let me mention that we were badly beaten but not disgraced.

Finis.—There is a sequel to this, both tragic and humorous. Please watch this column for further news.

GEEGEEBOB.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

A profound Stygian gloom has fallen over the headquarters of this Company, and a pall of inertia restrains the energy of scribe and assistant. On a poetic note we open these notes, which must necessarily be very scanty.

The completion of the drill and duties and the S.B.O.s and counter clerks courses marks the termination of another winter's work. This has been carried out in a very creditable manner, and the results were exceedingly satisfactory.

The entire Company is now looking forward to the summer season of training, with its conclusion in training under canvas. This commences on the 9th April with a somewhat changed staff.

We welcome C.S.M. Woodcock to our midst. He has taken over from C.Q.M.S. Milross, departed hence to (no doubt) happier hunting grounds at Scarborough. He takes with him our sincerest wishes for good luck.

Nothing else.

M'BRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—The second winter course is now drawing to a close, and the Trade Board for the n.c.o.s and men who have attended these courses, to be held on 19/3/35, ends another winter season and sees the beginning of another training period.

Recruit training has already commenced. Although the numbers enlisted this year are at present very few, it is anticipated that the Company will soon be up to full strength.

Annual Ball.—The Company annual ball was held at Fonthill Barracks on the 1st March. The commanding officer, officers, guests and a large gathering of the Company enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

Inter-Company Miniature Rifle Competition.—The first of the three shoots for the inter-Company rifle cup, which is competed for annually, has taken place. Judging by the scores, rivalry is keen and the present holders (No. 2 Company) will have to look to their laurels if they wish to retain the trophy.

Sergeants Mess.—The Scottish Horse Club were at home to the unit at Fonthill Barracks on the 6th March, when we were entertained to a games tournament and a smoker-concert. This enjoyable function was the last of the social functions prior to the commencement of the training season.

Moves.—Sergeant Ellerbeck has relieved Sergt Shreeves of his duties as P.S.I. to No. 1 Company. Best wishes are tendered to both, and we hope they will enjoy their new stations.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—Many apologies are offered for the lack of WIRE notes from this Company for some time. This omission was due to many things, but mainly the sickness of the scribe ; and every effort will be made to appear regularly each month in future.

Training.—Spring is almost here: which, being translated, means that we will all have to take off our coats and start work in earnest. Winter courses close on the 14th March, while the first Trade Board assembles on the 12th. We wish all entrants the very best of luck, and hope they satisfy the Board and convince them that they are really worth an extra rating.

The officers are well ahead of us with their training, as they have been undergoing instruction under the adjutant for the past month, delving into Signal organisation and tactics, establishments, and signal office routine, so that when our turn comes they will be prepared to pounce on all our errors.

Discharges.—It is with real regret that we have to report that we have lost, or are losing in the very near future, the services of some of the seniors of this Company. Sergt Ingram (Jimmy) who has served as i/c wireless practically since the formation of the Company, left us on the 22nd January. Our Sergt-Major (C.S.M. Marshall) will also have taken his discharge by the time these notes appear in print. He is another of our old timers. They have both given much valuable time and service to the Company. Their loss will be keenly felt, and it will take us some time to replace them. This year's camp will not be the same without them. All ranks of the Company wish them the very best of luck.

Shooting.—The first round of the inter-Company shooting cup was fired off last week. At the time of writing, the scores are not to hand. As the holders, we have to be on our mettle—very much so, in fact. Our score in the first shoot was not quite what we expected, owing to one of our " cracks " having an off day ; but, still, it was quite up to average, and we hope at least to have held our own. We have to congratulate Sigmn Gray D., who returned the top score of 98. We have in mind that No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company recently won the inter-Garrison shoot.

Entertainments.—The Company is holding its annual dance on the 15th March, and we are hoping for as good a show as we had last year. As we only attempt one dance a year, we really like to see the affair go with a swing, and we spare no expense to make it a success. We are hoping to greet our friends from Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and assure them of a real Stir'ing welcome.

Scotsman's Post.—Salaams from the scribe are sent to Lanka Mk. II. of No. 3 Company, 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. I was wondering where you had dug yourself in, Dick.

The glad hand of welcome is extended to Sergt Ellerbeck I.. the P.S.I. of No. 1 Company. Scotland seems to be getting fashionable as a hiding place for ex-B Corps-ites.

TUCO.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Mason Moves.—It was with regret that we bade farewell to Sergt Mason G., of No. 1 Company, T.A., who has left behind him a record of splendid service. His work as treasurer for the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess was invaluable. He will be badly missed by No. 1 Company. George has taken up a municipal appointment in Alloa ; and we wish him every success in his new sphere.

Badminton Boom.—The Lowland units' latest sporting venture is the newly formed Badminton Club. A first class court has been prepared, and every facility will soon be available for the pursuit of the game. Sergeant-Major McNeil is taking a commendable interest in the Club, and members will have the benefit of his experience as a seasoned player and coach.

Football Facts.—Amateur football in Glasgow being somewhat overshadowed by big professional events, we would let it be known, for the benefit of enquirers, that the Lowland Signal team continues on its successful way. It is hoped that the remaining Amateur League fixtures will be carried out in the near future. We feel much encouraged by the enquiries and interest, especially of ex-permanent staff men who continue to display interest in our football welfare.

Shooting Stars.—The members of the Shooting Club have every reason to feel satisfied with their performance in the Lowland Divisional challenge cup competition. Particularly gratifying was C.S.M. Haggart's leading score of 84. The next best scorers were L/Sergt Boyle, Corpl Wright and Captain Anderson. The winners of the Divisional trophy have not yet been declared. It may be too much to hope that the Lowland Signals will annex this coveted trophy in the first year of the Shooting Club's existence ; but the show made by the Club in this important competition is regarded as highly creditable, and augurs well for forthcoming big shooting events.

Wembley Wizards.—Our latest novelty number is the Wembley 1936 Club. If all goes well, a goodly number of our lads should witness the Scotland v. England game next year. The super-optimists at the head of affairs are C.S.M. Bain and Signalmen McLellan, Hay and Wallace. The venture is proving popular, and the promoters are to be congratulated on their enterprise.

The Big Push.—We are doing our bit in the big Glasgow recruiting push. Everything possible is being done to attract likely lads to our units. It is a pleasure to see the corridors thronged with budding soldiers. The orderly rooms are beehives of industry, and there is work galore for our permanent staff. A start has already been made in licking the recruits into shape, and the units proceeding to Dunfermline Camp should be well up in strength and efficiency.

Concerning Convalescents.—It is pleasing to note that Sergt Livingstone (our worthy Mess president) and Sergt Johnstone W. have almost recovered from their recent illnesses. We wish them both a speedy return to perfect health.

In Town: The Night.—The " night in Town " arranged by the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess may well rank as one of the most ambitious and successful social events in the season's programme. The Empire Theatre was the venue for the first of the evening's attractions. After the show, a merry party of sixty proceeded to our headquarters, where the festivities were continued. An excellent supper had been arranged, and the Mess lounge presented an air of attractiveness and comfort. A first rate musical programme was provided, and under the chairmanship of R.Q.M.S. Colin Sinclair our enjoyment was ensured. The guests included Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson. Not the least important of the evening's activities was the presentation of a gold watch each to ex-Pipe Major Mackenzie and ex-Sergt David Reid. The occasion was indeed a fitting one to honour Auld Pipey and Davie. The closing feature of a great round of entertainment was a visit to the lecture hall, where dancing was continued until 1.30 a.m. We feel deeply indebted to the entertainments committee. Especially would we thank Sgt MacKay J. It was largely due to his untiring efforts that the " night in Town " proved such an outstanding success. He is undoubtedly an organiser of ability and resource.

Men's Musings.—The re-organisation of the Men's Club is now an accomplished fact. New rooms have been provided, and additional facilities for recreation and sport have been given. The welfare of the lads has become a major consideration. The new lounge is indeed a cosy corner. The decorations have a tone of taste and restfulness, and the furnishings and fittings are of the best. The Club continues its season with unabated progress. The monthly dances are proving a financial and social success. There were one hundred and eighty present at the March dance. The season will be wound up with a grand carnival night. Sigmn McLellan has had a big hand in the Club's prosperity. The committee have worked like Trojans. Never before have the men been so happy and so well catered for. This is all to the good.

Hebrew Houston.—The world is not the same for some people nowadays. Avaricious Andy (commonly described as Houston) is reputed to have spent ninepence on himself and five others at the Sergeants Mess bar. He afterwards proceeded to Dennistoun on foot!

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—After many postponements—chiefly on account of sickness, and in one case a motor car accident—the end of the flying billiard competition is in sight! The semi-finalists have got together and agreed to play " to the death " at the earliest possible date, which means that the Bomonti cup, so long held and cherished by a certain Bill, will soon change hands.

The list for the new billiard competition is almost complete ; but if the first one is a criterion, the result will be published in next year's bulletin unless—and this is a suggestion—the billiard table is taken away to camp with us!

The O.C. Company is very disappointed with the decline in attendances at the Company dances, especially after the very fine efforts of the Socials Committee to bring a little joy into the social side of the Company. It is again pointed out that the more who attend these dances, the more funds the Company could—and would—spend on dinners and such like social functions. Our next dance takes place at the Green on Saturday 6th April, commencing at 8 p.m., and this will be the last of the season. Why not make it a bumper ? The price ?—one shilling.

Training.—This is going fine, thank you, and we have nothing to grumble at in the numbers who are attending this time. Of course, the amenities of the paid evening classes have to be seen to be believed ; and the instructors are so enthusiastic that if we do not obtain a record Trade Board this year, it will be as much of a shock to us as it is to you who are supporters of West Ham Football Club every time they win! Further, we are told that the majority of the candidates for Group E ratings are (in theory) already expending the extra pay they will receive at camp. Anyway, we do know that if enthusiasm plus efficiency counts for anything, we of No. 1 Company will certainly be to the fore in the coming Trade Boards. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The final of the billiard tournament is almost in sight, and more than one person has expressed his views on the inscription which is to adorn the trophy.

Training.—The attendances at the paid evening classes have been well maintained and, judging by the progress made, we are very optimistic concerning the results at the forthcoming Trade Board. We are pleased to see the new members of the Company attending regularly and getting down to it in earnest.

Miniature Rifle Club.—On Sunday 3rd March we met the Old Contemptibles in a team shoot and, although we were beaten, our team showed great improvement. We are now looking forward to a return match in the very near future, and are confident that the result will be more to our satisfaction. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—We have little to record this month, our activities being mainly in the training line. We must, however, heartily congratulate the unit on attaining runner-up position in the Divisional boxing championships held at Bedford on the 9th February. Our star turn Sigmn Dunce ably assisted in piling up the points, but unfortunately failed to reach the final in his weight. With our present material, we stand an excellent chance of being Divisional champions in the near future.

Training.—The paid evening classes are still proceeding and producing some good results. We possess two outstanding enthusiasts who apparently have Morse for breakfast, dinner and tea. They are certainly forging ahead as regards operating, and are an example of what a little private practice can do.

Table Tennis.—Yes, we have joined the craze, too, and hereby challenge all comers in the unit (bring your own table).

Tips from the Course.—During map reading lesson. Instructor: " Measure the distance as the flow cries." Bright youth: " You mean ' as the fly crows,' don't you ?" Instructor: " I said 'As the cry flows'—oh, darn it! measure a straight line."

THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

First Effort.—The old brain is a bit unsteady this month. Haven't had so long to invent news, owing to February finishing short at twenty-days. Still, stop me if I drop one.

Second Effort.—The first half of the paid evening classes having come to an end, a bumper cheque arrived to pay out the lads. Seeing that I've done all the work, I thought perhaps the cheque was for me. It would have been except for the " and Co." on it.

We have started a three hour class on Sundays to finish up the course. This is specially for the benefit of those who have not attended the evening classes and gave the excuse that they were " square pushing." We have caught them there, because they can't give that excuse, as we know very well that the young ladies in question require all Sunday morning to help mother cook the joint. Besides, everyone likes a Sunday " lay in."

Third Effort.—There is a rumour here that our lads are going to function in the Jubilee celebrations. Well, perhaps! The Mayor actually asked us to oblige, but when he found out that we intended to manœuvre our telephone wagon all over his best park, he decided on a mass church parade instead. There was only one person—no, two persons—who heaved a sigh of relief over the decision. The Mayor was the other one!

Fourth Effort.—A grand dance is to be held in the Assembly Rooms on the 5th April, organised by combined Royal Signals and R.E. in this city.

Fifth Effort.—Passed out. TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7.

Writing notes at this festive time of the year makes one feel more like a society gossip writer than a subscriber to a sober and dignified journal like THE WIRE.

It is a pity, in a way, that our Magazine is published only once a month, for I can imagine readers, all agog, waiting feverishly (after last month's issue) to find out whether or not our officers' ball was a success. In saying that the dance was most certainly an event of outstanding gaiety, I must express the hope that other folk beside the members of this unit peruse these notes. Otherwise, to make the above statement would only be carrying coals to Newcastle, as all who attended need no reminder from me of the excellent time they enjoyed.

This year we had one hundred and seventy guests compared with one hundred and twenty last time, and the extra fifty, whilst adding to the fun, also increased the weight of the money bags which, when emptied, almost paid the expenses incurred.

Not the least attraction at this affair was the supper, which proved a very jolly and much enjoyed interlude. The Adelphi people always " do us " well in that respect, and I heard more than one person regretting having dined so heartily earlier in the evening.

The ball room and adjoining lounges reminded one of that great social event, " the eve of Quatre-Bras." None but the brave deserve the fair, and judging by the attendance of lady guests, we must certainly be in that category. Among the more officially important guests present were Lieut.-General Sir Walter St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command), Major-General W. J. N. Cooke-Collis, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (G.O.C. 55th Division), Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, from Chester), our new hon. colonel (Colonel W. T. Dodd, D.S.O., T.D.) and our retired hon. colonel (Colonel S. M. Newell, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.). Colonel S. T. J. Perry, M.C., T.D. (C.O. 6th Battn King's Regiment) also came, and doubtless, if the 5th King's had not been holding their annual ball on the same night, our numbers would have been even stronger. As it was, the ballroom was comfortably full, while leaving a sprinkling to sit out and give the bar a homely look.

On Saturday 2nd March the men of the unit held a dance in the sergeants mess and had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Their dances are always popular with the locals, who probably wish they could have more.

The w.o.s and sergeants held their smoking concert and supper on Saturday 9th March. Seemingly, a very Bacchanalian time was had, it being reported to me that several of the sergeants had been

seen drinking beer. The officers received a cordial invitation, to which five (including the C.O.) responded with great pleasure. The commanding officer, in a short talk, invited the co-operation of old members present to assist in recruiting the type of man required in a Signal unit, and a good response is awaited.

One of our hopefuls mentioned last month (here I anticipate an eager search for last month's copy, to ascertain what was said) has since become an " actual "—by name, G. G. Graley ; by inclination, a Signal officer—whom we hope and think will pull his weight. Good luck to him, and long service. A hearty welcome is also extended to Lieut.-Q.M. J. A. Eves, who has recently joined this unit. We wish him a long and happy stay here in Liverpool.

The thought has occurred to me that perhaps I should not close my notes without mentioning, however briefly, something of the unit's basic activities. I know some people regard dances, socials, etc., as side lines of its main functions. Nevertheless, I like to regard them as the oil by which the whole machinery of the unit is lubricated. The more oil, the greater ease of working. It can be said that a unit will never lose its bearings whilst it has a strong family and social spirit.

On Thursday 7th March Colonel H. Watts, O.B.E., T.D. (commander, 166th Infantry Brigade) gave us the final lecture of a most interesting series which has taken place during the winter months. In this talk he digressed from signals and moved to the outskirts of the realm of tactics. Colonel Watts instructed us on the planning of an attack. I came away from that lecture with my ambition furiously aroused. For what did Colonel Watts say? Just this: " Undoubtedly, the best soldiers never reached exalted rank: they were all killed as subalterns." I have decided that my status must be improved with the least possible delay.

During the months of March and April, training is being done by Sections under their commanders' instructions. An interesting and progressive programme has been arranged, and we are hoping (as we do each year at this time) that at the end of April there will be nothing left for the men to learn about the working of a Section. FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals

Signal House, 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

No. 1 Company annual dinner took place at headquarters on the 16th February. The following were present as guests: Col. G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., Major A. C. C. Willway, Captain W. J. McCartney (R.A.M.C.), Major W. Knight, Captain H. R. Firth, Lieut.-Quartermaster W. J. Barnes, D.C.M., and R.S.M. Hales A. G. About seventy members of the Company were able to attend, and all enjoyed a very good dinner and an excellent entertainment.

In his speech proposing the health of the Company, Colonel Ozanne referred to the unavoidable absence through sickness of Colonel J. C. Denison-Pender (honorary colonel of the unit) who had promised to attend. His absence was specially regretted by those members of the Company who are also employees of Colonel Denison-Pender at Cables and Wireless. Colonel Ozanne referred to the steady increase in strength of the unit as a whole and of No. 1 Company in particular, and to the project of holding further recruiting weeks in May of this year. He also mentioned that he hoped to place a C set in the training school of Cables and Wireless at Hampstead, and the likelihood that in the near future the unit might receive some more modern wireless equipment.

Capt. McMurray, replying as O.C. No. 1 Company, enumerated some of the achievements of the Company during the last year.

Captain White then proposed "The Guests," which was replied to by Major A. C. C. Willway, deputising for Colonel Denison-Pender. In his speech Major Willway attempted to answer the question " Why do people join the T.A?" Despite his admirable exposition of the reasons, the writer is still at a loss as to why T.A. members do so much for so little return. R.S.M. Hales also replied for the guests, and spoke of the wonderful spirit shown by all ranks, which (as he said) will do much to make the unit 100 per cent. strong and 100 per cent. efficient in the near future.

A very fine entertainment, provided almost entirely by members of the Company, lasted until 11 p.m.

Technical training has been going steadily on, and many have already been rewarded for their regular attendance by receiving from a benign Government one day's pay for three evenings work. We wait until after Easter for the Trade Board which will tell us what progress they have made.

The usual officers' monthly dinner took place on the 21st Feb. A large number of distinguished guests accepted invitations, and we hope they enjoyed themselves as much as they appeared to. The high spot of the evening was a most remarkable display of sleight of hand by Mr. Wilding Cole, one of the commanding officer's guests. It is comparatively easy for a professional conjurer on the stage, with all the assets of that commanding position, to deceive an audience ; but for an amateur to completely baffle a critical audience, who pressed closely round him, is a very remarkable feat.

In tune with recent revolutionary tendencies, a little spasmodic shooting took place during the evening. It was the officers and their guests indulging in matches on the miniature range. There were few casualties at the target end!

Charity Ball.—Under the patronage of the Mayor of Wandsworth and the M.P.s and the members of the London County Council for this Division, a great effort was made to raise funds for the unemployed. Thanks to the large number of officers who took tickets, the evening was a great success. It is curious to the writer, how little support this venture received from those unconnected with the unit. The dance was widely advertised. The cause is perhaps the most worthy of all at the present time.

" The Malone Dancers," a very delightful cabaret troupe, gave two very spirited performances.

A volunteer fatigue party, after the T.A. drill the night before, had helped to arrange the drill hall, and the permanent staff worked like Trojans, so that by Wednesday evening the drill hall was transformed into something like a dance hall.

Prizes for spot dances were very kindly presented by the Mayor of Wandsworth, Mrs. Buttle and Mr. Miller. Messrs. Crisp and Jones, of Balham, lent all the floral decorations, and our one and only Mr. Leonard Shrimpton gave the services of his band free.

During the evening we were honoured with a visit by Miss Heather Thatcher, who very kindly came down to Clapham after her theatre engagement and presented the prizes for spot dances, which were won by Major Willway and Miss Darrell and by Mr. Tyler and Miss Madden. Our thanks are due to Miss Thatcher for her kindness in coming such a long distance.

The unit has been honoured by the authorities in being allowed to assist in lining the streets during the state drive of Their Majesties to St. Paul's to celebrate their Silver Jubilee on the 6th May. Practice in arms drill has already started, and all ranks are determined that the reputation of the Royal Corps of Signals—represented, as it will be, by Territorials only—shall in no way suffer from the absence of its Regular soldiers.

Tattoos seem to cluster about our heads. Not only are we agog to welcome to London the Royal Signal Display team from Catterick—and perhaps to bask a little in the reflected glory of their achievements at the Royal Tournament, which opens on the 9th May—but as a unit we are to take an important though inconspicuous part in the Tower Hill Tattoo. This Tattoo is "London's own " with a vengeance. The performers are all drawn from the City of London Regiments and the communications are being found by the City of London Signals. Taking place from the 25th May to the 8th June in the Tower of London, it is bound to be a great success.

All ranks are trying to cajole the heads of their civilian firms to let them have Good Friday off. If they cannot arrange this, they cannot go to Easter training at Aldershot, as the unit will entrain on Friday the 19th. Judging by what we hear, either London firms are generous and patriotic, or else our City of London Signals are all good "tellers of the tale"! An attendance at Easter training that will knock the year's training grant silly is what we want, and the forecast is that there will be no money left for any other unit after the paymaster has paid out for the City of London Signals.

The unit extends a hearty welcome to 2/Lieut. R. V. Price on his first commission, and congratulates Lieut. A. J. Sones on his recent promotion.

Recruiting goes on very well. We have accepted a first class young entry of fifteen since last WIRE notes. The strength of the unit goes up and up, but rather slowly. This is due to the

[*Continued in col. 2 page 192*]

SPORTS NOTES

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—Once again we are endeavouring to annex the rugby shield to our collection, and so far, so good—we are in the final.

In our first match, against the Mounted Wing, we had a lot for which to thank our last minute selection, 2/Lieut. P. G. Curry. He played a really good game at scrum half, distributing the ball well and generally mucking in. Our forwards played a very hard game, and one could not pick out any individual for praise. After attacking for most of the first half without being able to score, we were on the defensive after the turn over ; and although our line was crossed, the referee deemed that the scorer had run into touch. Thus, with no score, the game ended.

The replay took place on Scotton ground in the following week. We were anticipating another very keen game, but for some unknown reason the Mounted Wing did not seem to have the same ardour as before. For practically the whole of the match we were on the offensive, and it is much to the credit of the opposing defence that we only crossed their line once. In the first half L/Corpl Simpson kicked a beautiful penalty goal, and shortly after the interval Corpl Atkinson broke through with a really good run and, when only a few yards from the line, passed to Sigmn Holtby, who scored a simple try which was converted by L/Corporal Simpson.

Our next opponents were the Dismounted Wing, and we were very confident of success. However, it was only after a really keen tussle that we passed into the final by a 6—o points win. Once more our forwards played a really hard game, and consequently we did all the pressing. Early in the game a dangerous breakaway by the Dismounted Wing was cleverly stopped by L/Cpl Bennington, and from then on we assumed the aggressive. Only a very good display by the Dismounted Wing defence stayed our forward onslaughts, and our halves had very little to do.

Now we are looking forward to a hectic final with the School of Signals, who beat F Company to-day by 10—o points. There will be some sparks flying, as they will want their revenge for last year's defeat and also for the defeat of their soccer team in the final of the Mackworth event.

Association Football.—As the Garrison inter-Company competition cannot commence until April, we have had a few friendly games. We had one civilian fixture with the British Titan Products Athletic Club at Billingham. The game opened in a very fast manner, and within a minute the Titans were one up. However, we pressed, but unfortunately never looked like scoring, apart from the fact that they had a sound defence. After about half an hour the Titans became two up, but just before the interval we reduced the lead in a somewhat lucky fashion. The second half play became scrappy and there were few notable incidents. The Titans were quite at home on their small and furrowed ground, and finally finished up with two more goals. After the match, tea was provided and then our party proceeded to Stockton-on-Tees for an evening's entertainment, as will be seen in the Company Notes.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Rugby.—On Monday 4th March F Company Colts played their return match against the Ampleforth College Colts on Scotton Ground. This had been postponed from the previous Wednesday on account of snow and frost. Conditions were excellent.

The Ampleforth team started well, and their three-quarters gave a splendid exhibition of clean handling and strong running. The Colts scored a try early in the game, which was followed soon after by a penalty goal. The Boys were a bit slow in starting, and by half time Ampleforth were leading by 22—o points.

In the second half the Boys settled down and the standard of play improved immensely. They took the ball in a series of forward rushes from their own 25 line and sent Deane over to score a magnificent try. In the latter half the Ampleforth right centre cut through twice and scored, one of the tries being converted. The final score left Ampleforth winners by 30—3 points.

The Boys are to be congratulated on being the only team to cross the line of the Ampleforth Colts this season, and this they did twice—once in each match played.

Association Football.—Enlisted Boys' Army Cup, Fifth Round: Royal Tank Corps Boys v. "E" Team, Royal Signals. This match was played on the Central Ground at Aldershot on Tuesday 5th March. The teams lined up before a crowd of about three or four hundred, in which the Signals were well represented. The ground and weather conditions were favourable.

The Signals opened with an early pressure on the Tanks goal ; but, as we gradually faded out, the Tanks showed much more resource in turning the tables, being more thrustful and quicker on the ball. They were rewarded after a quarter of an hour with a goal through a breakaway between our backs by the opposing centre. The goalie ran out to intercept, but an extremely fortunate shot passed him and the ball hit the inside of the upright to trickle into the goal. The Tanks kept up their pressure, and our defence could not get going properly ; and ten minutes later the Tanks scored from a corner which had our goalkeeper guessing—a very good goal. The interval found us two goals in arrears.

From the recommencement of the game the Signals showed more of their normal style, and Lander soon put in a beautiful shot past the Tanks goalkeeper. This was followed by another goal from the same player after a good piece of team work. With the scores now level, something happened which altered the play, for the Tanks were allowed to break through and score another. Three goals in five minutes—two for us and one for the Tanks—gave the crowd something to cheer. Play as they might, the Signals were unable to wipe off the arrears—though the second half indicated that at least we deserved a draw. However, the final whistle went with the score at 3—2 in the Tanks' favour.

The game on the whole was exceptionally clean, and the referee was seldom heard with his whistle except when the ball went out of touch. On the general run of the play, the Tanks showed just a little more thrust and merited their victory ; but this does not condemn our own team, for it must be admitted that the run of the ball was against them.

We wish the Royal Tank Corps success in the remaining games of the Cup, and hope next year to bring the laurels home here.

Signal spectators turned up from other units besides the Aldershot Signals, whom we thank for their support and hospitality. Some came from Bulford, and our ex-C.S.M. Johns forsook civvy street for the afternoon to cheer on the boys. He was warmly welcomed, and we thank him for his support and thought for them. Good luck, sir!

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

[*Received too late for the March issue*]

February.

Recently a Sports Correspondent has become a necessity, owing to the increasing sporting activities and interest manifested in the unit. So here goes.

To commence, let me extend the glad hand to all arrivals, including Brevet-Major H. A. Spencer, M.C., who has taken over the duties of Sports Officer and has already gingered up several branches and more or less made everyone feel more unit sport-conscious.

Boxing.—Up to a few weeks ago, such a thing as a boxing team was a relic of the past. But A Corps entered for the Army team championships, and with a purely novices team—several of whom had never fought in a ring before—put up an excellent show against the 2nd Cameron Highlanders. We lost, but that is no disgrace. Scores of teams have lost before, and will again.

Something like eighty or ninety youngsters have entered for the unit novices tournament which commences on the 7th Feb. (about which more later).

L/Corpl Kennedy R. fought Private Labrum R. at Camberley Drill Hall on the 12th January in a special contest, which he won on points. Kennedy is a welter of more than average promise,

who should do well and occupy much more space in these columns in the future.

Cross-Country.—This is another branch of sport which has lately been rejuvenated. We do not profess to be Nurmis or Joe Cotterells, but you ought to see the lads run when they get the order to dismiss at 7 a.m. (P.T. these mornings is not conducive to hanging around or mouching.)

The unit young soldiers team took part in the Aldershot Command young soldiers race on the 5th February, and out of twenty-six entries came in fourteenth, which is not so bad as it looks. There is nothing like having room for improvement.

The cross-country runners are putting in plenty of training, and early in the morning you can always see parties of healthy muscular-looking guys trotting off in cardigans and slacks for a three or four miles run.

Soccer.—The season, with regard to the scoring of points, has not been too successful. The First Eleven have fared but moderately. However, they have won three of their last four matches, which seems to point towards a revival.

In order to find new blood, we entered a team of Juniors in Division III. who, up to the end of January, had not suffered defeat. Their record was then sadly broken with two defeats in three days. Nevertheless, they will finish well up in the League, which augurs well for our team next season. Incidentally, the Juniors defeated the First Eleven on one occasion—which is just by the way.

Billiards.—We are rather hot stuff at billiards. We finished at the top of our section of the Command League, and hope to go further. Congratulations to the following (we trust they did not "fluke" too often): Corpl Beardmore, L/Corpl Day, Signalmen Ashman, Chilvers, Oldroyd and Nicholson. Also to Sigmn Ashman on putting up the best performance of the series when he defeated L/Corpl Sweet of the 1st Divl Signals, who has several times been concerned in the final of the Command billiards and snooker championships.

Hockey.—Being well blessed with lots of ex-India wallahs, we have quite a good team. At the start of the season, they played all and sundry without being beaten. But, alack and alas! we suffered our first defeat of the season when we met the 2nd Battn R.T.C. in the Army Cup, losing by 1—2.

There is a Signal Inter-Unit League for units in Mons Barracks, in which we have played one game. It was against the 2nd Divl Signals, who fielded a very strong side and certainly played fast and good hockey for the whole of the time. It was one of the hardest and fastest games that we have played this season; and although we were leading by 3—1 until about fifteen minutes from time, when the whistle went we were quite satisfied with a draw. The 2nd Div. certainly lasted the distance better and piled on the pressure in the closing stages to snatch a draw which they well deserved. We were short of the services of three of our defenders who have since returned from leave. We shall see if our team won't last the pace better in the return game.

Rugger.—The season has been a fairly successful one, although some difficulty has been experienced in keeping the team together owing to drafts, postings, etc. We have a fine bustling scrum, but our weakness outside sadly handicaps our attack. The keenness of the players has, however, made up for the lack of outstanding merit. Lieutenant Middleton, Corporals Barlow and Hickmott, and L/Corpl Kunath have represented the Command on several occasions.

In the Army Cup we met No. 1 Section R.A.O.C. and won a well-merited victory by 11—0 points. In the second round we were drawn against the 2nd Cameron Highlanders, who defeated us well and truly to the tune of 32—0.

March.

General.—Heavy rains and hard frosts have somewhat curtailed activities in outside sports this month, several games of hockey and rugby having to be postponed.

Once again we come to press with more wins than defeats to our credit. Our prospects of winning the Fuge Cup are very rosy. We have as good as won the Hockey League; have every expectation of winning the boxing; have won one and drawn one of the two soccer games played; and the ruggerites are confidently looking forward to their fixtures. But as a famous statesman once said, "Wait and see." Next month, I hope to give more definite statements regarding the destination of the Fuge trophy. On reflection, it is very gratifying to know that the unit has yet to lose a game in this competition. Here's wishing the teams all the best in the remaining fixtures.

Billiards.—The draw for the Aldershot Command Group championships (Class "B") has been published, and A Corps meet the 2nd Battn Cameronians on the 22nd March at St. Andrew's Home. Needless to say, our men are getting in plenty of practice. The team, which includes three ex-billiard markers, should progress further in the competition at the expense of the Cameronians (more later).

Hockey.—Two more games have been played in the Royal Signal League. Against the 2nd Divl Signals we won by 3—0 after a fast and exciting game. McGowran was always safe in goal, and our fort seldom looked like being stormed. The game opened sensationally with Sigmn Baldwin scoring from a difficult angle in the first minute. From then on, we never looked like losing, although we did not dominate the game.

Against the 1st Divl Signals we drew at 1—1 after a fairly even and good game. As a spectator, I thought we should definitely have won this game. Our forwards were far more dangerous, although not combining well together. The defence played very well in the first half, when we were very much in the ascendant, but after the interval they seemed to lie too far back and allowed the 1st Div. to equalise and share the honours. Practically all the goals scored by our team have been netted in the first half and those of our opponents in the second half, which seems to point to lack of stamina. Personally, I think it is not so much that as a wrong policy that is the cause. Instead of relying on defensive measures when once a lead has been secured, we should make every effort to make the lead still larger.

Several games have had to be postponed owing to the bad state of grounds.

Only one more game remains to be played in the Royal Signal League; and should we win or draw this, we shall finish as winners of the League. We have to play the 1st Divl Signals again, so here's hoping that we do our best.

Rugger.—A very enjoyable fixture with the Aldershot R.F.C. on the 23rd February was followed by tea and baths in the Mansion House at the Aldershot Lido. The game was hard and keenly contested throughout, and we emerged victors with one converted try to nil.

In a friendly match at Aldershot against the King's Own Regiment we again emerged victorious, to the tune of 17—0.

Soccer.—Two games in the Royal Signal League have been played. We won by 4—1 against the 1st Divl Signals and drew at 3—3 with the 2nd Divl Signals.

In the Senior League (Division II.) we have won one and lost two games this month.

A combined team from A Corps Signals and the 1st Divisional Signals journeyed on the 2nd March to play against the 47th Divisional Signals (T.A.) at the Old Deer Park, Richmond. The game was played in a friendly sporting fashion, but the combined team of two units was obviously too strong for the non-Regulars and won by 8—0. The match was followed by tea and a dance at Fulham House, Putney. The dance was greatly enjoyed by all. During the course of the evening, a short but able speech was made by Lieut. Wilkins, R.Signals, S.R. (who is well known to this unit, having been on camps and exercises with us), expressing the pleasure they had in meeting our fellows. Sergeant Holness suitably responded and thanked the 47th Divl Signals for such splendid entertainment and hospitality. All who took part in the outing were unanimous in praising the organisation throughout.

Cross-Country.—An inter-Company run took place on Monday 18th February, resulting in a win for No. 2 Company. The course of five miles was pretty rough. The first three men home were Signalmen Jennings, McQuade and Smith L. R., Jennings' time being 31 minutes. Result: 1st, No. 2 Company, 168 points; 2nd, No. 1 Company, 253; 3rd, No. 3 Company, 262. The first twelve men home received medals.

An inter-unit run took place on Thursday 21st February and A Corps finished second. Sigmn Jennings finished ninth, being our

first man home. Well done! Result: 1st, 1st Divl Signals, 412 points ; 2nd, A Corps Signals, 690; 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 752.

In the Command inter-unit cross-country run on the 28th Feb. the unit finished eighteenth with 2741 points. The first twelve men home received their cross-country "Jimmies" for the season: Sigmn Jennings, L/Corporal Grigg, Signalmen Porter, McQuade, Chandler, Kendall, Willis, Relph and Chilcot, Lieut. T. Cooke, Sigmn Vernon, L/Corpl Harper.

Boxing.—The unit novices competition proved very successful, many good fights being witnessed with some promising youngsters in action. Anyone would have been puzzled to have picked out the best loser: there were several. To give the names of all the contestants would occupy too much space, so here are the winners and runners-up:—

Feather weight—Winner, Sigmn Smith L. R., No. 2 Company ; runner-up, Sigmn Hughes F., No. 2.

Light weight—Sigmn Hughes W., No. 2; Sigmn Dean J., No.1.

Welter weight—Sigmn Paton, No. 2 ; Sigmn Deighton, No. 3.

Middle weight—Sigmn Ditchfield, No. 2; Sigmn Milligan, No.1.

On the conclusion of the above, an inter-Company novices competition was held and No. 1 Company rather surprisingly emerged winners, defeating both Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. No. 2 also lost to No. 3—which is also surprising, considering that No. 2 provided all the winners and one runner-up in the knock-out competition.

A party of all ranks went to London on Friday 8th March to witness the Army and T.A. championships in the Albert Hall. All who took part commented on the good fights and enjoyable time experienced.

On Monday 12th March A Corps met the 1st Divl Signals at the Albuhera Gymnasium in the Royal Signal League. A goodly number turned up to cheer on their favourites.

The fighting was split up into two sections: the light, in which A Corps dominated, and the heavy, which the 1st Divl Signals monopolised.

A Corps started off in splendid fashion with a nice win by Driver Lloyd, who was always master of his man and won by a large margin of points.

Next came two reverses for A Corps. The first string feather was rather unpopular with a section of the crowd. Hughes was a fighter and his opponent was a boxer. The conflicting styles—one, a slogger with sudden death in each fist ; and the other warily trying to box, but most of the time holding—did not produce a good fight. Hughes got in some punches that shook his man, but the fight was given against him.

After losing the two feather fights, A Corps proceeded to win seven fights off the reel: the three lights and the four welters. After those successes, they never won another fight, the 1st Div. finished off the evening by winning the last five.

In my opinion, the best fight of the evening was that between Signalmen Ray and Ducker. The latter won the fight convincingly for A Corps and put up a pretty show.

In the welters A Corps won three fights in succession by knock outs in the first round.

The result of the excellent evening's entertainment was a win for A Corps by 23—22 points: a very close thing. What a good job that we piled up such a good lead!

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Football.—The juniors have completed their league commitments—and, considering the opposition, honourably. I think I only missed one match of the sixteen, and from the point of playing as a team and making the running for the whole of the ninety minutes, they have few equals. Their bogey has been to get the ball over their opponents' goal line. Strangely enough, they went mad in the last game and won by 7—3. The whole team deserve honourable mention. Here they are. Sigmn Knox, goal ; Drivers Jones and Bell, backs ; L/Corpl Gilkes (captain), Signalmen Harkins and Bantock, halves ; Sigmn Shelley, Drivers Saunders and Elphick, Signalmen Hawkins and Ray, and Driver Phillips, forwards. Result: Played 16, won 4, drawn 5, lost 7 ; goals—for 40, against 66. As the other teams have been collecting most of the points, this puts us in the sixth position, but the question of relegation does not arise.

Cross-Country Running.—In common with ourselves, a few teams got a shock on seeing the good running displayed in the Aldershot Command cross-country run. We occupied fourteenth place with 1934 points—but don't imagine we were a year behind! Nearly one thousand points separated the first and fifth places, and we had the satisfaction of seeing six infantry regiments and four groups of ancillary troops brining up our rear. The conditions were perfect, but the going was inclined to be heavy owing to recent torrential rains. Sigmn Hempshall, Lieut. Mavdon and L/Corpl Griffin were our first, second and third home.

Boxing.—Our first meeting in the Royal Signals (Aldershot) team boxing tournament brought us face to face with the 2nd Divl Signals on the 11th March. Fifteen contests were staged and some good boxing was witnessed. At one time we were leading by 11—6 and looked in a fair way to running out winners, but the 2nd Div. tail wagged with great proficiency and eventually ran us to a draw at 22 all. Here are the results at a glance (1st Div. representative named first in each case).

Bantams—Sigmn Cavanagh beat Driver Mansfield.

Feathers—L/Cpl Griffin beat Sigmn Anderson. Sigmn Cox beat Sigmn Evetts.

Light weights—Sigmn Hernan lost to Sigmn Goldfinch. C.Q.M.S. Hamlin beat Sigmn Hassell. Sigmn Ray beat Sigmn Sharkey.

Welters—Sigmn Philmore lost to Sigmn Barkes. Sigmn Brown lost to Sigmn Humby. Sigmn Seatter lost to Sigmn Evans. Sigmn Wilson beat Sigmn O'Rourke.

Middle weights—Sigmn Nation lost to Sigmn Rogers. Lieut. Stephenson lost to Sigmn Spencer. Sigmn McHugh lost to Sigmn Redgrave.

Light heavies—Sigmn Collett beat Sigmn Steward.

Heavies—Sigmn Chapman lost to Sergt Wheeler.

A Corps Signals provided the opposition in our second encounter—and a hefty opposition it proved to be. The situation was anything but rosy when we had lost eight of the first ten fights. It was now the turn of our tail to wag—and wag it did: the final result of 23—22 in favour of A Corps Signals indicates the leeway we made up. Here are the results (1st Div. representative named first in each case).

Bantams—Sigmn Cavanagh lost to Driver Lloyd.

Feathers—L/Corpl Griffin beat Sigmn Hughes. Sigmn Cox beat Sigmn Mitchell.

Light weights—Sigmn Hernan lost to Sigmn Goodwin. C.Q.M.S. Hamlin lost to L/Corpl Chadwick. Sigmn Ray lost to Sigmn Ducker.

Welters—Sigmn Philmore lost to L/Cpl Kennedy. Sigmn Brown lost to L/Cpl Spriggs. Sigmn Seatter lost to Sigmn Milligan. Sigmn Wilson lost to L/Corpl Grigg.

Middle weights—Sigmn Lunt beat Sigmn Yates. Sigmn Nation beat Sigmn Orton. Lieut. Stephenson beat L/Corpl Woods.

Light heavies—Sigmn Collett beat Sigmn Bowen.

Heavies—Sigmn Chapman beat Sigmn Broomfield.

A very close fight in both cases, and in the main some jolly good fights which (apart from the unit interest) were well worth watching. I noticed Tich Adams and company taking great interest in the proceedings. His last appearance was probably in the Blood Tub at Maresfield.

As A Corps Signals eventually lost by 20—25 to the 2nd Divl Signals, the final positions read: 2nd Divl Signals 47 points ; 1st Divl Signals, 44 ; A Corps Signals, 43.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

No. 3 Company.

Boxing.—Congratulations to the boxers of the Company who put up such a splendid show for the unit against the 1st Divl Signals in the inter-unit boxing competition.

Soccer.—In the first round of the inter-Company soccer competition, the Company played D Troop and won by 3—1 goals.

Hockey.—In the inter-Company hockey competition, we were to have played No. 1 Company ; but, owing to the indisposition of a few of their cracks, the match has been put back until such time as they can be assured of making a game of it.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Football.—The following are the results of games to date.

v. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals, lost by 2—4 (Verlander, opponent)
v. No. 3 Company 1st Divl Signals, won by 4—1 (Macken 2, Abbott, opponent)
v. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals (Cobb trophy) lost by 1—7 (Nicholson)
v. No. 38 Field Company R.E. lost by 1—2 (Harvey)
v. No. 1 Company 1st Divl Signals, won by 6—2 (Harvey 2, Verlander 2, Stanley, Macken)

Hockey Results—

v. A Corps Signals, won by 3—2 (Macken 2, Nicholson)
v. No. 1 Company 1st Divl Signals (Cobb trophy) lost by 2—3 (Macken, Captain Anthony)
v. A Corp Signals, lost by 1—3 (Verlander)
v. No. 2 Company 1st Divl Signals (Cobb trophy) drew at 3—3 (Macken, Williams, Verlander)
v. No. 2 Company A Corps Signals, lost by 0—3
v. A Corps Signals, lost by 1—2 (Chamberlain)

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—S.P.A. LEAGUE AND CHALLENGE CUP. Again we regret to have to record three S.P.A. League matches lost:—

20/2/35 v. 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps by 0—4
27/2/35 v. 5th Light Brigade R.A. by 1—4
7/3/35 v. 9th Field Brigade R.A. by 1—4

Nothing daunted, we went over to Tidworth to take on the 2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment in the second round of the S.P.A. challenge cup; but after a really hard game, we lost that also—by 0—1.

BULFORD GARRISON LEAGUE.—No. 2 Company are still maintaining their position as second, and have quite a good chance of winning both the League and the Garrison cup. No. 1 Company are still half way up the ladder; but No. 3 Company, alas! are slowly moving down.

UNIT SECTION LEAGUE.—No. 1 Company. At present D Section, with H.Q. a close second, heads the list. B Section is third, and A Section is at the bottom.

Nos. 2 and 3 Companies.—Still silence from Nos. 2 and 3 Companies as to who leads. Does each think it has the champion Section up its sleeve?

Rugby.—We are nearing the end of the season now and have almost completed our fixtures. The only result to record this month is v. the 5th Light Brigade: we lost by 6—9. Three other matches arranged for the month were cancelled, either by our opponents or on account of the state of the grounds.

Cross-Country Running.—The Bulford Garrison cross-country race was held on the 26th February. A totally new course was set this year, the teams being taken about three and a half miles away over the Plain and then allowed to run straight in to the finish at Sheep's Bridge. The race was an exceptionally fast one, and though we did not get either first or second place, we managed to get our twelve runners in the first twenty-seven. So we have the cup for another year.

The next race was the Salisbury Plain Area championship. We were wondering what opposition we would meet, since new units had arrived at Tidworth since last year. However, we managed to win comfortably. The course was a long one—six and a half miles—starting from the Glebe Field and finishing in the Oval after running round the back of Sidbury and Clarendon Hills. The team ran very well indeed. Driver Stillwell, our first man home, finished fifth, but our twelfth man home was only twenty-third. Our total points for this race were 155. The next team scored 264.

On the 5th March the Southern Command cross-country championships were held at Tidworth. The result was not what we expected. The team was run off its feet by the York and Lancs Regiment, who won the race. Our team ran very well to finish fourth. The team was chosen from the following: L/Sergeant Ayres, L/Corporals De Courcy, Buck and Abrahams, Signalmen Seaman, Whichelow, Turnham, Hastings, Cook, Smith, Harvey, Hudson, Smithers, Langdon, Griffiths, Brookes, Hall and Warr, and Driver Stillwell.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Football.—Our record for the First Eleven in the Kent Amateur League (Eastern Section) is: Played 15, won 9, drawn 2, lost 4. The team is playing very well, and the members were very proud of themselves when they beat Ramsgate Grenville, the League leaders, by 3—0 goals. They had good reason, as their opponents had lost but one game this season. We have still to play some of the highly placed teams, so we are looking forward to some exciting games.

We are still in the running for the Dover Charity and League benevolent cups, and hope we shall lift at least one of them. We play the Royal Scots in the next round of the former competition.

The Second Eleven are just "toddling along" in the Thanet Thursday League. Their record is: Played 9, won 2, drawn 1, lost 6. As there are only five other teams in the competition, a certain amount of practice has been obtained by playing a few of the local lads in friendly games.

Rugby.—Our post-Christmas rugby season has suffered considerably owing to the number of scratched games due to the weather. We have concentrated on team building for next year, and this, in conjunction with casualties, has meant the losing of two or three matches which we might otherwise have pulled off.

The loss of Larkin at scrum half has provided us with a difficult gap to fill, but we hope that Zimmer will be equally as good next year. Lieut. Lewis, home from India, is a very welcome addition to the pack, and the arrivals we are told to expect make the prospect of next year's side far brighter than for many seasons. Smith R. at full back is improving every week, and we hope to see him figuring in the Corps trials next season.

The fixture list for next season in our new part of England promises to be very full, and includes many "A" Fifteen matches which should provide us with the efficient reserve players we rather lack this year.

Last November we lost the Cobb-Nicholls cup in the final, after extra time, by 0—3. Next year, we anticipate no such setback.

Hockey.—As will be seen by the detailed results shown below, we are having our ups and downs in our new station. It is pleasing, however, to say that we are encountering a far higher standard of hockey in this part of the country than was the case at Colchester, and every game demands that our team plays very strenuously throughout instead of taking things for granted.

The two results most creditable to us are the drawn games with the Folkestone Optimist Club, who consider themselves the strongest club in Kent.

We ran up against a splendid team in Westgate-on-Sea, who defeated us by 7—3. They were definitely the better team, but scarcely so much as the score would indicate. Unfortunately, we were unable to fulfil our return fixture with them as our ground was waterlogged.

The state of the ground also led to the cancellation of fixtures with Charing and the 59th Field Company R.E. This was due to the abnormal rainfall we experienced. Actually, we are fortunate in possessing the finest playing pitch in this district.

A pitch has been marked out on the square, which has an excellent surface, and ere long we hope to have a few games on it. This will be greatly to the liking of our ex-Indian players. The possibility of holding a Section competition on it during the summer is being considered.

"A" TEAM.

3/1/35 v. Southern Railway, Ashford, lost by 3—4

FIRST ELEVEN.

9/1/35 v. Folkestone Optimists, away, drew at 2—2
12/1/35 v. Westgate-on-Sea, away, lost by 3—7
16/1/35 v. Ashford, home, won by 3—2
19/1/35 v. 22nd Field Brigade R.A. home, won by 6—1
24/1/35 v. Cliftonville, away, lost by 3—5
9/2/35 v. Folkestone Optimists, home, drew at 1—1
13/2/35 v. Y.M.C.A. Ramsgate, home, won by 5—0
16/2/35 v. Charing, away, lost by 0—2
20/2/35 v. 2nd Dorsets, away, lost by 3—4
28/2/35 v. Cliftonville, home, lost by 3—5
6/3/35 v. St. Augustine's College, away, won by 3—2
9/3/35 v. St. Augustine's College, home, drew at 1—1

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Boxing.—On Wednesday 6th March an inter-club boxing contest between the Scarborough Boys and All Saints Boys Clubs was held to compete for the Sir Kenelm Cayley cup. After the cup contest, several other bouts between members of this unit and the Scarborough Club were staged. It is not proposed to describe all the cup contests, but one fight deserves a word. This was the "flea" weight: E. Lyley (aged 11) v. S. Ward (aged 14). The smaller and younger "flea" put up an excellent guard and certainly used it to great advantage. He suffered, unfortunately, from a lack of inches. S. Ward did most of the attacking, but Little Tich kept him at bay and at times got in a punch that reminded Ward that he also was in the ring—and not a punch ball. Ward received the verdict on points, but the little 'un got the applause. The cup was won by Scarborough Boys by four fights to two.

OTHER BOUTS.

Welter weight—Sigmn Pearse v. Sigmn McKenzie. The latter showed little sign of his recent stay in hospital, and contented himself with waiting for Pearse and exchanging blow for blow on demand. Pearse boxed well and should improve.

Bantam weight—F. Whittaker (S.C.) v. Sigmn McDonagh. The Scarborian commenced the fight like a windmill, but only in so far as he disturbed the air a little with terrific swings. McDonagh stood firm and occasionally jabbed out a straight left to show that he was still in the ring—and on his feet.

Middle weight—Sigmn Ford D. v. Sigmn McConnell. One of the best fights of the evening. Both hit hard and often, and appeared eager to get stuck in. They will be worth watching later on.

Welter weight—Sigmn Powell v. Sigmn Shreeves. Another good fight: double left lead v. good hard body blows. No waiting in this fight.

Feather weight—E. Stubbs (S.C.) v. Sigmn Edmunds. Owing to the "Petersen" eye of Sigmn Edmunds asserting itself, this fight did not last a full round, the towel being thrown in to save further punishment.

Extra—Sigmn Disley v. Sigmn Watson. This was boxing: none of your terrific upper cuts that never land anywhere. Good clean toe to toe boxing, with neither fully extended.

The above fights were put up with a view to the contestants obtaining further experience for the match against the Manchester Regiment, which is due to take place here on the 28th March.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Sergeants Mess.

Sports.—Once again the Younger cup is retained by the Mess. In the final and deciding event—shooting—we defeated the junior n.c.o.s by 160 points. Winning the toss, our captain picked the easier side of the range, which gave us a decided advantage over our opponents. On the slow practice, there was not much to choose between the teams—we just won. In the falling tile and rapid practice experience counted, our team winning easily. Don Ellison, as non-firing captain, assisted greatly. In passing, I might mention that Reggie came from the junior n.c.o.s (captained their team for three years) two days before the match and proved his worth with us.

Our next sporting event was the football match against the Officers Mess. This was played on the Company's new ground. Quite a large gathering attended to witness this third event of the inter-Mess competition. A keenness equal to a F.A. cup tie match was shown by both teams, although perhaps the style was not there. Captain L. C. Boyd opened the scoring with a well directed shot. Mutt Mathew's blood was up, and he equalised before the close of the first half. In the second half youth and a favourable wind came to our assistance. C.S.M. Kingman netted our second goal. The third followed almost immediately when Spud Murphy received a beautiful pass from the left wing (? Don) which left Major Pavey wondering. An excited right back began a war cry of "Remember the cricket and tennis, sergeants." (We all heard you, Mick, even though you said you whispered.) Captain Boyd again showed that old soldiers never die even if they face the Killer (Nokes). The officers changed their team and thus strengthened their forward line. Our backs played splendidly, and Killer in goal murdered all attempts to push the ball past him until a penalty was given, when Captain Orr found the net. Spud found the net twice more and Mutt once, so we began to tell how we did it. The final score was 6—3 for us. Colonel A. G. J. Copeland returned from leave to witness the struggle, and we hope he enjoyed the game. Hard luck, sir, that you cannot be with us to see the rest of the games.

With the results standing at 2—1 against us, we faced the officers for the fourth event. Bricky Wall, of Kohat fame, arrived the day before the match and thus helped us along. The game, right from the start, was well worth watching. To explain it in detail would, I am afraid, need more space that the Editor will allow us. Both teams played splendidly. Everyone found Mr. Stodart at centre half very awkward to pass. Major Pavey in goal beat the cucumber to a fizzle for coolness. Bricky put us up one in the first half—and what a shot! In the second half Bram, in goal, used every part of his large body to stop the ball and kept the net clear throughout the game. Wonders never cease: Mutt scored (please add hockey to his other achievements). As the sun was setting came the final blast of the whistle. This left us winners by 2—0 goals. Good show, all.

Shooting.—A Catterick-like mist hung over the range throughout the final match. With a pick of the rifles, plenty of practice, and a bar behind the firing point, the teams met to decide which Mess should have the honour of keeping the cup clean for the next year. The slow practice, at 300 yards, we won by the narrow margin of 10 points. Again we were able to show how it should be done on the falling tile and rapid practice, when we cleared the officers' score by 59 points. Keep that cup clean, Tich!

Tennis.—Owing to the unit annual tournament, we have no news from our courts.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for the March issue]

Tuesday 12th February.

Football.—Quite a number of matches have been played since anything was last reported in this line, including the District football championship—the cup for which we now proudly hold.

In the semi-final we met the Hampshire Regiment and won by one goal to nil. This proved an exciting match, but by the fine combination of our forwards and the superiority of our defence we had the better of the exchanges.

In the final we met the 5th Field Brigade R.A., who had beaten B Corps Signals. As anticipated, this proved an exciting match, which we won by the only goal scored. The football from start to finish was extremely good. The Gunners were the first to settle down, but our defence held them out. There were a number of narrow shaves in the first ten minutes, our goalkeeper being called upon to make a full length save on one occasion. After a time, our team began to combine better and were seen in some fine passing movements, but the Gunner defence was always sound and the half-time whistle sounded with the score sheet still clean.

Immediately after resuming, the Gunners were awarded a penalty, but the centre half shot wide. Fast and exciting but good clean football followed, both sides playing splendidly, with the balance slightly in our favour. After a number of attacks, our centre forward headed in a beauty from a centre by the wing. The Gunners tried all they knew to equalise, but missed chances. Our side responded to the excitement of the crowd with a number of good shots at goal, the Gunner defence being kept busy clearing. The game was keenly contested right to the final whistle.

Cricket.—So far this season, we have played eleven unit matches and met with varying success, having won five, lost five and abandoned one. The matches at Campbellpore, Risalpur and Peshawar were most enjoyable, and we have to thank our hosts for the very enjoyable times we had. Judging from the scores, our team sometimes suffered from too good a time, but it must be remembered that for none of the away matches were we able to turn out anything like a representative side.

Our last match, against the I.A.S.C. at Chaklala, in the second round of the Jamasjee cup, showed that we have the making of a very promising team. Good bowling and keen fielding was

responsible for dismissing our opponents for 175, Corpl Swinson taking six wickets for 60 runs. Unfortunately, we did not take advantage of this and were all out for 63, chiefly owing to lack of batting practice and self-restraint. Batting again, the I.A.S.C. made 182 runs for five (Captain Grant 68 not out) and declared, leaving us to make 295 to win and a most unpleasant hour of fading light to survive. When stumps were drawn we had scored 58 for one wicket, and realised that a win was not impossible.

Next day, we had it all our own way at the start and, with 180 on the board for four wickets, excitement ran high. Unfortunately, a collapse set in and we were all out for 236 ; but, at any rate, we gave the present holders of the cup an anxious time. Sergeant Bloodworth played attractive cricket in scoring 80, other scores being Lt. Stewart 48, Sigmn Cox 33, and Sgt Bygrave 23.

We should like to thank the I.A.S.C. for their generous hospitality, and for a most enjoyable match which benefited our team enormously and will, I hope, lead to better things next season.

Athletics.—A combined meeting of the 1st Indian Divl Signals and B Corps Signals was held on the unit sports ground, with a view to selecting the teams who are to represent the Signals in the forthcoming District meeting. Unfortunately, one of our hurdlers met with an accident whilst practising and had to be admitted to hospital, where he is bemoaning his fate at not being able to run. He tipped the bar of the hurdle, which broke and pierced his thigh as he landed, severing an artery.

The remarkable feature of the meeting was the success of Naik Gurbaksh Singh, who won no less than eight of the events, including the long and high jumps, 100 yards and mile race. He was awarded the cup for the best Indian athlete, with a total of eighteen points.

The cup for the best B.O.R. athlete was awarded to Sigmn Cox, with a total of eleven points, C.S.M. Westwood being next with eight. The performances of L/Corpl Millett and Sigmn Angell were also worthy of note.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Inter-Section Cross-Country.—The annual run for the Murray cup points was held on the 14th February. Teams of twelve, with eight to count, were put in from each Section. The course, which has usually been over five miles of road, was shortened to a three miles circuitous route. Running was keen and the runners were not very much spread out. Some new talent was discovered, but it rather startled one to realise that the ages of the first three home totalled ninety-five years! K Section were first with 72 points, and D Section second with 128. H.Q. Section were third, J Section fourth, A Section fifth, and C Section sixth. The first six home were Sergeant Wagg W. T., Sigmn Luckhurst E. W., L/Sergt Jones F. A., Sigmn Pask C. W., Sigmn Dharam Singh and Lieutenant E. D. Good.

Football.—Owing to District tournaments we have had fewer grounds allotted for the month, but the following matches have been played: v. R.A. won by 6—0; v. Shining "A" won by 3—1; v. Young Union won by 6—1. Pindi team v. the Rest won by 2—1 and 3—0. This victorious Pindi team comprises L/Corporal Gunn ; Signalmen Race and Simpson ; Sigmn McCann, L/Corpl Shannan and Sigmn Harrison ; Signalmen Jones and Luckhurst, L/Corpl Talbot, and Signalmen Barrett and Robertson. It seems that in our outside matches we have found out at last where the " golden area " lies, for fifteen goals in three matches is no mean score.

Hockey.—Again owing to tournaments, we have been unable to obtain many fixtures, and this (coupled with the fact that our own ground is under repair this month) has considerably lessened our practice games. Two new bits of talent have come to us—one from Blighty and the other from Meerut. This will improve us for Pindi Week, for fairly good form has been shown so far: v. R.A.F. drew at 2—2 and won by 3—1 ; v. District H.Q. won by 6—1 and 4—1. Unfortunately, one of our stalwarts (Lieut. G. U. Finney) has sustained a knee injury—through travelling home by drain, perhaps—but we are hoping he will soon be fit and playing again.

Cricket.—Four or five good matches have been played during the month, some of which were pick-up games between Goodlands and Brownlands or between Paskshire and Scottshire.

The most notable match this month, however, has been the one v. the R.A.F. for the Jamasjee cup, in which we were the winners by three wickets. The game was quite exciting, as we were playing our neighbouring rivals in the eliminating round. The R.A.F., batting first, compiled 175 runs, to which we replied with 134. Thanks to some excellent bowling and fielding, the R.A.F. were back in the pavilion with 131 runs to their credit in the second innings. With 173 runs needed to win, Captain J. H. Brown and Sigmn Madgwick gave us a splendid start, scoring 71 without loss—stumps being drawn at that period. On the following day Signalman Madgwick carried his score to 51, and this, followed by a very useful 44 from Corpl Ray, made certain of our further interest in the cup. Special mention should be made of L.A.C. Perkins, who proved to be a real thorn in our side, scoring 64 and 38 respectively.

R.A.F. 175 (Perkins 64, Sanderson 24) and 131 (Perkins 38, Jackson 30). Rose took four wickets for 52 and three for 34 ; Captain Brown, three for 23 ; Lieut. Good, one for 10 and two for 17 ; McMahon, one for 18 and two for 20.

Kohat District Signals, 134 (McMahon 27, Spracklen 22, Ray 20) and 185 for seven wickets (Madgwick 51, Ray 44, Captain Brown 29). Flying Officer Adams took four wickets for 19 and Stokes two for 32.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

No. 2 Company

Football.—There has been quite a lot of football in the past few months, this Company turning out teams every day. With reference to last month's WIRE notes, I would like to point out that our defeat by No. 1 Company and U.H.Q. must have happened in the two minutes silence, as even the oldest inhabitants of Quetta cannot recall such an event happening before. Anyway, we challenged No. 1 Company and played them again on the 2nd March. When our team arrived on the ground, we found that we were playing the rest of the unit, the team comprising players from No. 1 Company and H.Q. as well as our own unit. To save any argument, however, we said nothing and played them, the result being a draw of two goals each. What's the matter, No. 1 Company ? can't you find eleven players of your own ?

The Taveta Terrors managed to tear up the Bostan Bashers again. It's time the Bashers dropped their player manager and had a look round the transfer market.

Rugby.—We have quite a useful team this year, and up to date we have lost only three games out of thirty-six. In the Karachi tournament we beat the R.A.F. Depot, Karachi, by 8—3 points, but in the semi-final we lost to the West Yorks by 0—12 points. The West Yorks eventually won the tournament by seventeen clear points. On the 21st March we play in the Baluchistan tournament and hope to get our revenge. I will tell you all about this next month.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Sport is still in full swing, and everyone is feeling fit in consequence. Flip is muscle bound in the dart arm ; and Ferg has a bad attack of sore throat, caught through shouting " Jong ! " so frequently.

The hockey team is doing very well this season. We visited Macao again on the 27th January, losing by 0—5. The pitch was very slippery owing to recent rain, and of course we never thought of taking football boots, so Macao had a big advantage. However, just to see if we *can* do any better, we are going to play them again on the 24th February. Six of the hockey team sail for England on the following Sunday, so this trip is to be in the nature of a farewell party. The Signals are the only Hong Kong team to be invited to Macao more than once in a season, and we are looking forward to a good game.

Signalmen May and Addis have both had Army trials, but as the team is not yet picked, I cannot say whether either of them will be playing for the Army in the triangular tournament.

In the small units knock-out competition, we were unlucky to be one of the two teams in the preliminary round. We won this game v. D Company Lincs by 5—1, also the first round v. B Company R.W.F. by 3—1, and we play C Company East Lancs

to-morrow in the second round. If we win this—well, maybe I'd better not say anything.

Sigmn May has played very consistently for the small units at cricket, and was chosen once to play for the Army. He was unfortunately in hospital at the time, so he missed his chance.

Hockey.—

28/12/34 v. Combined Hospitals (friendly) won by 2—1 (Addis)
30/12/34 v. Radio S.C. (League) drew at 1—1 (Dilley)
8/ 1/35 v. Combined Hospitals (friendly) won by 6—1 (Addis 4, May 2)
11/ 1/35 v. C.B.A. (friendly) won by 2—0 (Addis)
15/ 1/35 v. A Company Punjab Regiment (friendly) won by 2—0 (Austen, Addis)
18/ 1/35 v. H.M.S. *Parthian* (League) won 5—0 (May 2, Austen, Addis, Farrell)
25/ 1/35 v. A Company East Lancs (friendly) won by 5—3 (Martin 4, Dilley)
27/ 1/35 v. Macao H.C. (friendly) lost by 0—5
29/ 1/35 v. B Company Lincs (S.U.K.C.) won by 5—1 (Addis 2, Farrell, May, Martin)
31/ 1/35 v. B Company R.W.F. (S.U.K.C.) won by 3—1 (May 2, Addis)
4/ 2/35 v. Club de Recreio (friendly) won by 7—1 (May 3, Addis 2, Farrell, Austen)
7/ 2/35 v. 1st H.S.K. R.A. (friendly) drew at 3—3 (May 2, Fielding)
10/ 2/35 v. A Company Punjab Regiment (friendly) lost by 1—5 (Dilley)

Goal scorers—May 29, Addis 18, Martin 12, Farrell 10.

In the Maimak Hockey League, Royal Signals are at present third with 16 points—played 14, won 6, drawn 4, lost 4 ; goals—31 for, 27 against.

Football.—

24/12/34 v. R.A.M.C. (friendly) lost by 2—4 (Roberts)
7/ 1/35 v. 40th Company R.E. (League) lost by 2—5 (Cunningham, Potesta)
21/ 1/35 v. 20th Battery R.A. (League) lost by 0—5
24/ 1/35 v. 9th A.A. Battery R.A. (League) lost by 2—5 (Farrell, Roberts)

Goal scorers—Roberts 6, Buttery 3.

Cricket.—

9/ 1/35 v. R.A.M.C. (League) drew
16/ 1/35 v. R.A.S.C. (League) lost
22/ 1/35 v. R.A.M.C. (League) lost
23/ 1/35 v. R.A.O.C. won

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Our football—or rather, the results in our favour—show a marked improvement on any of our previous efforts. As will be seen, we played eleven matches and had only one defeat registered against us. In this game—a cup match v. the 4th (Heavy) Battery R.A.—we were most unfortunate to lose. Even our opponents agreed when the final whistle went. Results of games played during February were as below: —

v. H.M.S. *Viceroy* won by 2—1
v. H.M.S. *Venetia* won by 3—0
v. 4th (Heavy) Battery R.A. lost by 2—3
v. A Company 2nd Gordons drew at 1—1
v. Battalion Signallers, 1st K.O.Y.L.I. won by 5—0
v. No. 821 Squadron R.A.F. drew at 3—3
v. H.M. Tug *St. Just* won by 6—0
v. H.M.S. *Cormorant* won by 4—1
v. 1st (Fortress) Company R.E. won by 6—1
v. H.M.S. *Mackay* drew at 1—1
v. H.M.S. *Vega* won by 2—0

Our record to date now reads: Played 41, won 22, drawn 8, lost 11 ; goals—92 for, 63 against.

The Football Team, February 1935.

TERRITORIAL NOTES.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

[*Continued from page* 185]

large number of discharges. We have lost, to everyone's regret, an unusually large number of the older members of the unit—the majority have reached the age limit ; others find it increasingly difficult to reach our new headquarters from N.E. London, where they live. We hope they will manage the long journey—in some cases as much as two hours—and come down and see us some time on our special occasions.

P.S. Changes.—Sergt Woodcock leaves No. 4 Company S.R. after eighteen months valued service with the unit. We hope he will have all success in Middlesbrough.

Sergt Dunphy (that School of Signals Irishman. Fairy, couldn't you keep him away from me, eh ?—Dub.) arrived late one night to replace Sergt Woodcock, but as he said himself, " Och, it's just loike coming home "—he knew all of us. Anyway, may his stay be long and happy. No doubt, the circuit diagram of the typewriter will soon be as simple as A.B.C.

Queer Happenings.—Owing to a variety of circumstances, the beer engine in the officers mess has been connected to a barrel containing water. The adjutant was observed to place a glass in the approved place and to draw the handle gently forward. The pressure on the handle was as usual. There was the usual comforting noise of liquid gushing into a glass. I regret to report that the adjutant is not very observant!

What the Angell said when someone asked (in the sergeants mess, too) if an electric clock could be worked from an electric light socket if the light were switched off.

What Captain C. thought, after walking the length of the mess to see the correct time, when he found the same electric clock stopped.

Band.—Under the able guidance of Captain Cuthbert, the band is progressing really well. Mr. Duys has joined us as bandmaster, and judging by the display they gave at the charity ball, we may expect great things in the near future. Each appearance of the cabaret was heralded by a really well blown fanfare, and their rendering of the Royal Signal and the Mess calls was above reproach. There must be few T.A. Signal units who can turn out eleven trumpeters and drummers in full dress on such an occasion.

We are purchasing a boxing ring and looking forward to some really good fighting here next winter. By an ingenious arrangement, this is being built in two halves which, placed end to end, will form a stage.

The commanding officer has promised new curtains, and with this and other improvements, we continue to be the best equipped T.A. unit in the country. C.O.L.S.

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on page 146 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

CERTA CITO

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Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 1,
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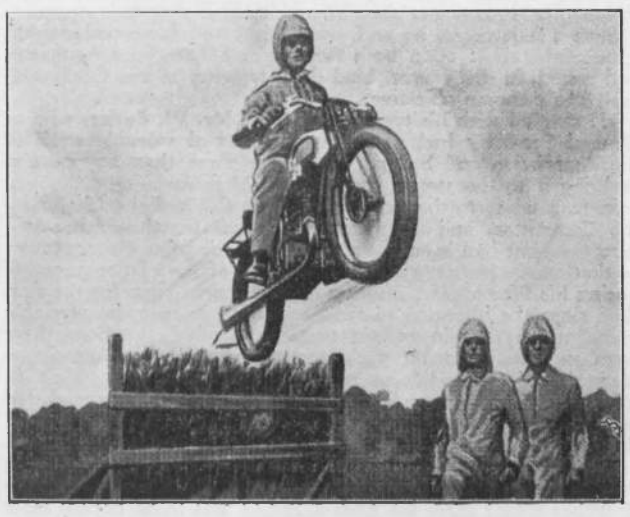
VOL. XVI.—No. 183 MAY, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

"He is a wise man who has his after-thoughts first."

Royal Signals Display, Olympia.—On page 197 of this issue we publish an article by Lieut. H. N. Crawford, dealing with the Royal Signals Motor Cyclists' Display (1935) which is scheduled to take place at the Royal Tournament, Olympia, from the 9th to the 25th May, and elsewhere on the dates shown in the undermentioned list of engagements. We also present our readers with photographic illustrations of some of the many spectacular feats undertaken by the Party, some of whom have only recently completed their recruit training.



We doff our bonnets to each individual performer, and congratulate them once again on the production and perfection of a show which has already gained widespread notoriety. A performance not to be missed, my masters. Take note of the following dates.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Royal Tournament, Olympia.....9th—25th May
Northern Command Tattoo, Nottingham .....6th—13th July
Ayrshire Agricultural Show, Ayr .....24th—25th April
Suffolk Agricultural Show, Halesworth.....6th—7th June
West Malling Show, Aylesbury .....10th June
South Durham and North Yorks Show, Darlington.....15th June
Essex Agricultural Show, Halstead .....12th—13th June
Lincoln Agricultural Show, Grantham.....19th and 21st June
Messrs. Steel, Peech and Tozer Ltd. Carnival, Sheffield...20th July
Coventry Hospital Carnival .....29th June
Chester-le-Street and District Farmers' Club Agricultural Show, Chester-le-Street .....5th August
Reeth Agricultural Show, Reeth, Yorks .....4th September
Altrincham Agricultural Society Show, Altrincham ...18th Sept.
Signal Training Centre Mounted Sports and Gymkhana, 28th and 31st August

PROGRAMME.

(as arranged for the Royal Tournament, Olympia, 9th—25th May)

1 Entry Jump by two Motor Cyclists.
2 Figures by Horses and Motor Cycles.
3 Motor Cyclists stand on their saddles.

4 Horses are driven in Tandem in front of Motor Cycles.
5 Horse jumps bar carried between moving Motor Cycles, and Gymnasts perform on bar carried between Horses.
6 The Side-Car entertains.
7 Gymnastics on Horses and Motor Cycles.
8 A Safety-First Tip for Belisha Crossings.
9 Leaping from Motor Cycle to Horse and vice versa.
10 Jumping through (a) Human Arch and (b) Paper.
11 Pair work on Motor Cycles. (Note the two-machine trick coming down centre.)
12 The Pony and Covered Wagon.
13 Gymnastics on the Parallel Bars.
14 Cross Jumping.
15 "Horace" and "Minnie the Rat."
16 More Figures on Horses and Motor Cycles.
17 Form up and Exit.

[See announcement on page 150 of the April 1935 issue for further particulars]

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The Tidworth Tattoo.—We are also asked to call attention to this Tattoo, which is scheduled to take place on Salisbury Plain.

Arrangements are well advanced for the production of the sixteenth annual Southern Command Tattoo at Tidworth. This year the Tattoo is to be held on August Bank Holiday night, in addition to the usual six nights (Saturday before and from Tuesday to Saturday after the Bank Holiday).

For several years up to 1933, the Tattoo had included a thrilling display by motor cyclists of the Royal Corps of Signals. For Service reasons, it was inconvenient to present this display in 1934. Probably no item was ever so much missed, so—in response to public feeling—there will again be a motor cyclist event in 1935. This event alone costs some £500, as the hire and insurance of the twenty-four motor cycles is a very expensive item. It is however, popular with the public, and as the promoters always have to please their patrons, the Corps has risen nobly to the occasion and no doubt will give a display well worthy of its traditions.

Another novelty at Tidworth is a display by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. For very many years there has been no kilted regiment stationed in the Southern Command, but this deficiency was remedied when the 91st arrived at Tidworth last winter, and so made it practicable to include in the 1935 programme what will no doubt be another very popular item.

In addition, there will be the usual massed bands, displays, Cavalry and Artillery events, and an historical item "The Landing at Quebec in 1759."

All seats at Tidworth are numbered and reservable—prices 2/6, 3/6, 5/0, 7/6 and 10/0. They can be booked from local agents; by post from the Tattoo box office, Tidworth; or at the gates. Organisers of parties may have tickets at a reduced rate of twenty-one for the price of twenty if they purchase by post direct from the box office.

Rail and road excursions at very cheap rates are being run from thirty Counties, comprising London, South of England (Sussex to Cornwall inclusive), the Midlands and South Wales. Full information is given in an eight page illustrated folder, post free on application to the Tidworth Tattoo Publicity Office at Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury.

:: :: ::

Silver Jubilee British and Empire Display.—The Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes will be giving a special Jubilee display of British and Empire goods in all grocery establishments at home which are suitable for such displays, commencing on Monday 6th May. The goods displayed will be thoroughly representative of British and of such Empire commodities as are in season, and will form an attractive guide as to how one can shop economically and well from within the British Empire. Certainly the Service housewife should make a point of visiting the display, for it promises to be most instructive. In addition, special Jubilee displays are being arranged in the coffee bars of all Home Institutes during the period of the Jubilee celebrations of H.M. the King.

Any comments and observations on these displays would be much appreciated, and would possibly assist in maintaining the goodwill of those Dominion Governments who advertise in our Regimental Journals.

Royal Signal Officers' Dinner Club.—The annual dinner of the Royal Signal Dinner Club will be held on the 17th May 1935 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, S.W.1.

:: :: ::

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)

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Portsmouth-Southampton Branch.

Inaugural Dinner.—A very enjoyable evening was spent at the Imperial Restaurant, Portsmouth, on Wednesday 6th March, when the newly formed Portsmouth—Southampton Branch of Royal Signals Old Comrades Association held its introductory dinner.

Many well remembered faces were to be seen among the forty-odd guests who attended the function and, judging by the enthusiasm displayed, it was very evident that the extension of Branch facilities in that area was fully justified.

The chair was occupied by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Salisbury), who was supported by Lieut.-Colonel A. Lloyd Owen, O.B.E., M.C., and Captain A. F. S. Fane, R.Signals (T.A.).

In proposing the toast of "The Signals Association" Colonel Bradley extended a very cordial welcome to the Branch members, and observed that the enthusiastic warmth with which the new Branch movement had been accepted was sufficient encouragement in itself to those who had been responsible for its inauguration. As one of the chief sponsors of that extended movement, it gave him very great pleasure to know that the new Branch was already a "going concern." He congratulated the local Committee on the complete success of their initial efforts, and expressed the hope that they would receive the loyal support of all Branch members in carrying out the aims and objects of the Association. Those objects, as his listeners doubtless knew, were to keep alive that spirit of comradeship with which they had all been associated during Service days, and to combine in a movement which existed primarily to help those of their old friends who were in less fortunate circumstances than themselves.

Such a movement, he said, could ultimately have nothing but a beneficial effect upon both Regular and Territorial Associates and would, in due course, bind them together in one family and with one common objective.

He coupled with his toast the name of Mr. W. Butler, who as General Secretary had given fifteen years of valuable work to the Association and had probably done more than anyone else to bring it to the strong position it held to-day.

In responding to the toast, Mr. Butler thanked the Chairman, the Committee, and the Branch members for the enthusiastic reception that had been given to the extended Branch movement in that area. He gave a general resume of Association progress during his fifteen years of office, and observed that, for the first time since the inception of the Association in 1920, he was able to tell them that in certain areas—particularly London—there were more employment vacancies available to the Association than they had candidates qualified for nomination. That in itself was a point of considerable interest, when one remembered that hitherto it had been the much more problematic task of hunting for employment for the individual.

Another important feature of Association progress was the extended Branch movement throughout the country. More Branches meant more job finders and (it was to be hoped) more

and better situations for Association members when they leave the Service. It was, he said, incumbent upon all members to encourage that movement to its fullest extent ; to accept Association membership whilst serving as a duty ; to continue that membership when discharged ; and to keep a good look-out for those old comrades who had momentarily lost touch with the Corps Association. Many of the latter, he felt sure, would willingly renew their membership if approached, and participate in a movement which is for the good and well-being of all members and ex-members of the Corps as a whole. In the relatively short time they had been in operation, the Portsmouth—Southampton Branch had already recruited approximately forty members and their very able Committee had succeeded in accommodating four of them with congenial employment. Such enterprise, he said, augured well for the ultimate success of the Branch, and was a worthy example for others to emulate.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Association, the speaker thanked the Chairman, the Committee, and the Branch members for the toast they had just responded to, and for their loyal support and co-operation.

Mr. F. Ford proposed the toast of " The Visitors," and in his reply Mr. F. Cole, Hon. Secretary of the Salisbury and District Branch, made a stirring appeal to his listeners to make the Southern Command the strongest representative ex-Service section of the Association. He thanked the Chairman, the Committee and members for the cordial welcome which had been extended to them, and expressed the hope that the present function was only the prelude to many more to follow.

A musical programme followed, during and after which those present renewed old friendships and indulged in very pleasant reminiscences.

Birmingham Branch.

Since the publication of our last notes, we have held a full meeting and smoking concert, as well as a committee meeting, and have recruited steadily. There must still be many more eligibles in the locality whom we have not yet seen, but hope to recruit presently. It is thought that the trips and functions which it is hoped to arrange during the next few months will bring us more into the public eye, and tend to link us up more closely with ex-members of the Corps who are not yet members of our Association. In this respect, one feels sure that the Jubilee reunion parade on the 6th May, in connection with the City King's Jubilee celebrations, should prove a veritable recruiting march. Let us hope so. (To misquote, "A Branch secretary is not without members except in his own country.") A day or so ago C.S.M. Slater (recently home from India for discharge) walked into our office at Cateswell House and said that he had (whilst still in India) noted from THE WIRE that an Association Branch had been launched in Birmingham, and decided to look us up on his arrival here. He hopes to settle here, and we hope to see a lot more of him.

At our General Meeting, which was presided over by our Branch chairman (Colonel W. Martineau) there were many useful suggestions for near future functions. A few of the more popular ones were: To attend the Bulford re-union ; a visit to the Bedford Depots and Whipsnade Zoo ; a dinner ; and a visit to the Tidworth Tattoo.

The main committee has been reorganised into three sub-committees: Membership, entertainment, and financial assistance and employment.

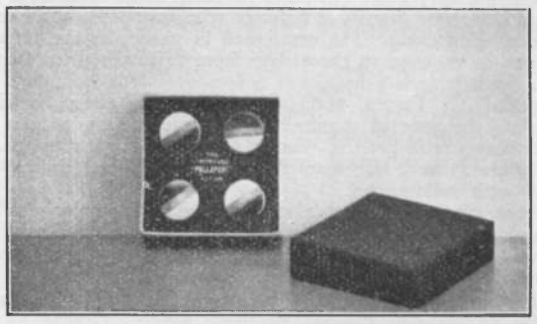
The Branch chairman (Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D.) and the hon. secretary (Lieut. B. J. Rowe, M.M.) are ex-officio members of all sub-committees.

The 25th March was the occasion, and the Crown Hotel, Station Street, the venue of a most enjoyable musical evening when the Branch held its first smoking concert. The company present, about eighty, spent a very happy two hours among friends whom they had not seen for a long time. The entertainers were Mr. Hunter Roberts (tenor) and Messrs. Howell and Lilley (comedians) with Mr. Howard Mallabond at the piano. Mr. Tom Gilbert was our very able (and it would seem, experienced) M.C. and kept both the music and wine flowing at a very even pace. Well done, Tom!

It is hoped that on future similar occasions we will be able to produce talent from among our own members. We know some of the songsters and musicians now!

SIGNALMEN!!!

Tap " The Wire " and call Pip Emma for Everything Regimental



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Exeter Branch.

We held our first General Meeting at the headquarters of the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A., at Exeter on Saturday 13th April. There was a good attendance, and the chairman, Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (who formerly commanded the 43rd Divisional Signals and subsequently held the appointment of D.C.S.O. Southern Command) reported that up to date forty-eight members had paid their subscription. Seeing that the Branch was only formed on the 12th February last, this is a very encouraging state of affairs. We had the pleasure of the company of our president, Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C. (C.S.O. Southern Command) and his address, which was most inspiring, gave us all a very clear idea of the objects of the Association. He referred to the great work being done both as regards the Benevolent Branch and in getting employment for those who had left the Corps, and he also paid tribute to the type of man the Corps produced. Generally speaking, he said, employers were very pleased with the men they got through the Association's recommendation. This he regarded as being due to the esprit de corps fostered in the Royal Corps of Signals. He urged the local Branch to keep up a high standard in all its work, and to build on true friendship and love of Corps. We were all impressed with the sincerity of his remarks, and he left us with the feeling that membership of the O.C.A. and all that it means was well worth while.

Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C (commanding the 43rd Wessex Signals, T.A.) in proposing the election of the provisional Committee to carry on their good work for the ensuing twelve months, hoped the Branch would be able to help the present unit in persuading the right type of man to join it.

Captain L. N. Jackson, M.D., M.C., seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Committee elected is as follows: Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C , T.D., Chairman ; Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., Hon. Secretary ; Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., Hon. Treasurer; Lieut.-Quartermaster F. F. West, M.M. Assistant Hon. Secretary;

Sergt A. H. Allen, and Messrs. L. J. Cousins, F. Dunn and G. H. Stoneman.

Major E. Varwell, D.S.O.—whom the Chairman described as the "Grandfather of the Wessex Signals"—in proposing a vote of thanks to Colonel Bradley, said he was very delighted to be again in the old hall which, thirty years ago, he had helped in raising funds to build. He referred to the days of 1908 when the original Company—the Wessex Divisional Telegraph Company R.E.—came into being with himself as O.C., and spoke in warm terms of the very great assistance he received in those days from the 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford, who supplied a cable wagon for training in camp. He mentioned in particular the help and guidance he received in those days from Brigadier (then Captain) C. H. Prickett.

Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. (adjutant, 43rd Wessex Signals) in seconding the vote of thanks, asked those present to use their best endeavours to get the Wessex Company up to strength.

Needless to say, the vote of thanks to Colonel Bradley was passed with acclamation.

On the Chairman inviting an expression of opinions or criticisms, Mr. S. W. Pearce, who had tootled up all the way from Cornwall to be present, made a strong appeal for a big reunion later on. This was supported by Mr. L. J. Saunders.

I feel sure we have made a good start, and that we shall go steadily on, keeping Colonel Bradley's words in mind.

We much appreciated a letter recently received from our General Secretary (Mr. W. Butler) offering his assistance whenever we want it.

Major Varwell's reference to the coming into existence of the present unit in 1908 brought back to my mind many incidents which happened in those days when I was one of the little body of pals who came to Major (then Captain) Varwell's aid in forming the Wessex Divisional Telegraph Company R.E., T.F. We had happy times and good camps until that memorable day in 1914 when we were told that we were now *embodied*—the Territorial Army (formerly it was a Force) was mobilised. The contents of that mysterious mobilisation box (something like Johanna Southcott's box) were sorted out, and we got busy in preparing for war.

However, we stuck together and went overseas as the 27th Divisional Signal Company R.E. in December 1914. The 27th Division, which was practically a Division of Regular soldiers (many Infantry Battalions had been brought home from India) was commanded by Major-General Sir T. D'Oyly Snow and was pretty active up to and including the second Ypres battle. The Wessex Signals sustained a good many casualties, but the old spirit remained.

In the fall of the year the Division was booked for the East, and our Company sailed from Marseilles for Salonika on New Year's Day 1916. Macedonia was a trying country, to say the least—thousands of soldiers have used stronger terms in describing it—and it was welcome news when the advance into Bulgaria was ordered. After that came the operations further east into South Russia and Georgia with what was then known as the Black Sea Army. The old Company apparently "petered out" somewhere on the shores of the Caspian Sea.

When Field-Marshal Lord Milne, some years ago, as C.I.G.S., visited Salisbury Plain, he had a look at the Wessex Signals' camp, and was exceedingly interested to realise that the Wessex Signals were in the 27th Division which he commanded when it went out East in 1915—1916.

I hope the Editor will not get annoyed with me for this beating up of the past—sign of old age creeping on! OLD SPARK.

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, Hull ..... Prison Officer
2 Ex-Signalman, Hull ..... Lineman
3 Ex-Signalman, Carlisle ..... Lineman
4 Ex-N.C.O. Surrey ..... Car Park Attendant
5 Ex-Signalman, Brighton ..... Lineman
6 Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough ..... Labourer
7 Ex-Signalman, Manchester ..... Motor Driver
8 Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth ..... Telephonist
9 Ex-Signalman, Sheffield ..... Hotel Porter
10 Ex-Signalman, Sheffield ..... Groom
11 Ex-N.C.O. Kent ..... T.A. Canteen Steward
12 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury ..... Waiter
13 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Motor Driver
14 Ex-N.C.O. London ..... Chauffeur
15 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Mess Steward
16 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Painter's Mate
17 Ex-N.C.O. London ..... Messenger
18 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Chauffeur
19 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Doorman
20 Ex-N.C.O. London ..... Foundry Hand
21 Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury ..... Wireless Operator
22 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool ..... Clerk
23 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool ..... Clerk
24 Ex-Signalman, Liverpool ..... Labourer
25 Ex-N.C.O. Surrey ..... Welfare Officer
26 Ex-N.C.O. Stoke-on-Trent ..... Motor Driver
27 Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent ..... Overman
28 Ex-N.C.O. Hastings ..... Lineman
29 Ex-Signalman, Tunbridge Wells ..... Lineman
30 Ex-Signalman, Brighton ..... Postman
31 Ex-W.O. London ..... Wireless Examiner
32 Ex-Signalman, Middlesex ... Gas Light and Coke Co.
33 Ex-N.C.O. Kent ..... Welfare Officer
34 Ex-Signalman, London ..... Lineman
35 Ex-Signalman, Yorks ..... Porter
36 Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth (Portsmouth Branch) ..... Milk Roundsman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Salisbury and District Branch Signals Association.
Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.
2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.
B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.
3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.
Hong Kong Signal Section.
Officers Mess, S.T.C. Catterick.
Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.
E Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmnalman, Northumberland. Domestic difficulties	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-N.C.O. London. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Scarborough. Temp'y difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O. Scotland. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
		Loan	7	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Yorks. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Middlesex. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O. Durham. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O. Norfolk. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
9	Ex-Sigmn Scotland. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
10	Ex-N.C.O. Brighton. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Signalman (T.A.) London. Temp. difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
12	Ex-Corporal Kent. Domestic difficulties...	Loan	5	0	0
13	Ex-Driver Chatham. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
14	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees		10	0	0
15	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees		3	18	10
16	Ex-Sigmn Essex. Temporary difficulties...	Loan	2	0	0
17	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	5	0	0
18	Ex-Sigmn Birmingham. Temp. difficulties.	Grant	1	17	7
19	Ex-Sigmn Australia. Temporary difficulties through illness	Grant	4	0	0
20	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth. Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
21	Signalman Ireland. Domestic difficulties...	Grant	3	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O/496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 17th April 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the May 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.

(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 31/10/29.

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

Is This a Record?

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I do not know if it is a record for the Royal Corps of Signals to have four brothers serving in the Corps at the same time, all having joined as boys and (except for the younger, who only joined last January) all becoming Lance-Corporal Boys.

Being very interested in this question, I wonder if it is possible to ascertain, through the columns of your Magazine, if it is a precedent.

All have been good all-round sportsmen, playing football (rugger) for their various boys teams, besides winning such events as long distance races, boxing, swimming and cross-country races. One (Donald) recently captained the Boys team in the Army Boys Cup at Aldershot (Signals v. Tank Corps). Particulars of their service are attached. The two elder ones served under Lieut.-Colonel Cobb, M.C., whilst the two younger are at present under Captain V. C. Holland at Catterick.

2319325 Signalman Ernest J. Verlander at Aldershot. Enlisted 28/4/28. Operator. Passed Boys competitive examination.

2320330 Sigmn Frederick L. G. Verlander, Tientsin. Enlisted 31/12/29. Operator. Joined direct from Queen Victoria School (Boy-Sergeant).

2321822 L/Cpl Boy Donald A. Verlander, Catterick. Enlisted 31/12/31. Instrument mechanic. Joined direct from Queen Victoria School (Boy-Sergeant).

2323948 Boy Leonard R. Verlander, Catterick. Enlisted 8/1/35. Operator. Passed Boys competitive examination.

With all good wishes, yours faithfully

E. A. VERLANDER.

Corps Promotion Roster.

We regret that pressure on space has compelled us to hold over the information usually published under the above heading. We hope to find room for it next month.

Unit Notes Received Too Late.

After we had made up and gone to press with this issue, we received notes from A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, Kohat District Signals, 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, and Zhob Signals. These likewise we must hold over until next 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 196.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

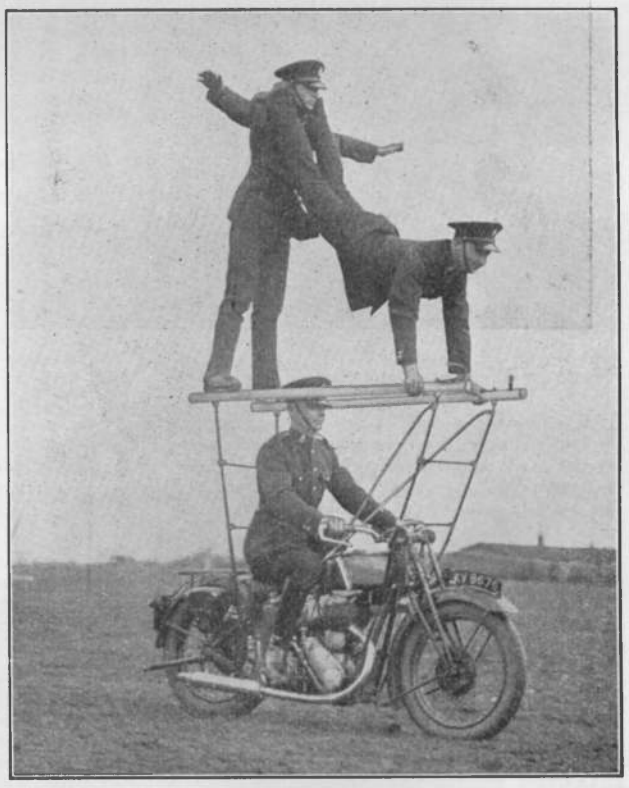
Royal Signals Display, 1935.

BY LIEUT. H. N. CRAWFORD, R.SIGNALS.

During the summer of 1934 we were asked by the secretary of the Royal Tournament to produce a Display for Olympia in 1935. The Jubilee of Their Majesties the King and Queen was to make the 1935 Royal Tournament a very special one, and therefore a very special display was required.

We decided immediately that the Display should be on similar lines to that produced at Olympia in 1933. We thought we could not improve on the idea of combining horses with motor-cycles. After all, the Corps is partially mechanised and partially horsed, and (when possible) it is nice to show both these branches to the public. In addition, one can produce a large number of thrills and novelties by combining the horse with the motor-cycle which one cannot produce by one or the other alone.

The difficult task was to make the Display as novel as possible. The London public saw our combined Display in 1933, and we have thought out so many new items in the last two years that it is almost impossible to think of any more. However, we have done our best, and it now remains for members of the Corps to criticise us.



A New Trick on the Parallel Bars.

[*Photo by The Keystone View-Company, London*]

The programme that we propose to put on at the Royal Tournament is printed below. It is scheduled to take twelve minutes, including time taken up by scene shifting. Nearly all the items are performed by both horse and motor-cycle or by combining the two. Most of the figure riding is new. Some of the individual turns are new, whilst others are adaptations from old

ones. One of the best new tricks is that using parallel bars fixed to the top of a motor-cycle. We were sent a cutting from a Spanish paper showing a motor-cycle equipped in this way; our fitter experts immediately set to work, and we were soon in possession of a similar article. The trick needs a bit of nerve to perform, especially on a windy day, but it is well worth while. Another trick copied from a newspaper is the one in which a man stands on the shoulders of two motor-cyclists. This came

A New Trick.

[*Photo by The Sport and General Press Agency Ltd. London.*]

from a German paper. None of the Display party have seen it performed in England, and we hope that London hasn't. As a spectacle we are retaining the item in which horses are driven in front of motor-cycles. The horses require considerable training for this turn. Many do not mind a motor-cycle beside them —but try to ride one behind them, and see what happens!

Fully sixty per cent. of the men are new to the game since last season. These men only completed their recruit training at the end of last summer, and have had to put in every available moment on individual practice for this year's show. All the performers in the figure riding, with the exception of one, are new this year.

We have a few newcomers amongst the horses, but in the main they are the same as used last year. Three old veterans in William, Sapper and Jane, aged twenty-four years apiece, will be amongst the party. Patch, the pony, is not the one we took to Olympia in 1933. She was procured from Whitley Bay Sands in September 1933 and spent all 1934 in the Display. The old Patch did not belong to us and went back to her owner. She is now being used for a child to ride; but she still remembers her old tricks, and sometimes lies down at very awkward moments.

Apart from about half a dozen specialised tricks, the horse items consist of acrobatics on horseback on the part of the riders. It is impossible to train a motor-cycle to do a "Spanish trot"; and since our main object is to perform on horseback the same items as on motor-cycles, all solo turns which require very high training on the part of the horse have been left out. The main exception to this is the trick in which a horse jumps a bar carried between two moving motor-cycles. This was done by us at Olympia in 1933, but it is such a popular turn—though it requires very careful training of the horse—that we are going to repeat it again this year.

In compiling the programme for Olympia, one has to remember that there is always a Cavalry Regiment there to do the ordinary straight-forward trick ride, and it is therefore merely stupid to attempt anything which may be in their programme. On the other hand, at Agricultural Shows we try to incorporate all the Cavalry trick ride items in our full display. Cossack riding, vaulting, handkerchief snatching and trick jumping all have a place in our Civilian Show programme.

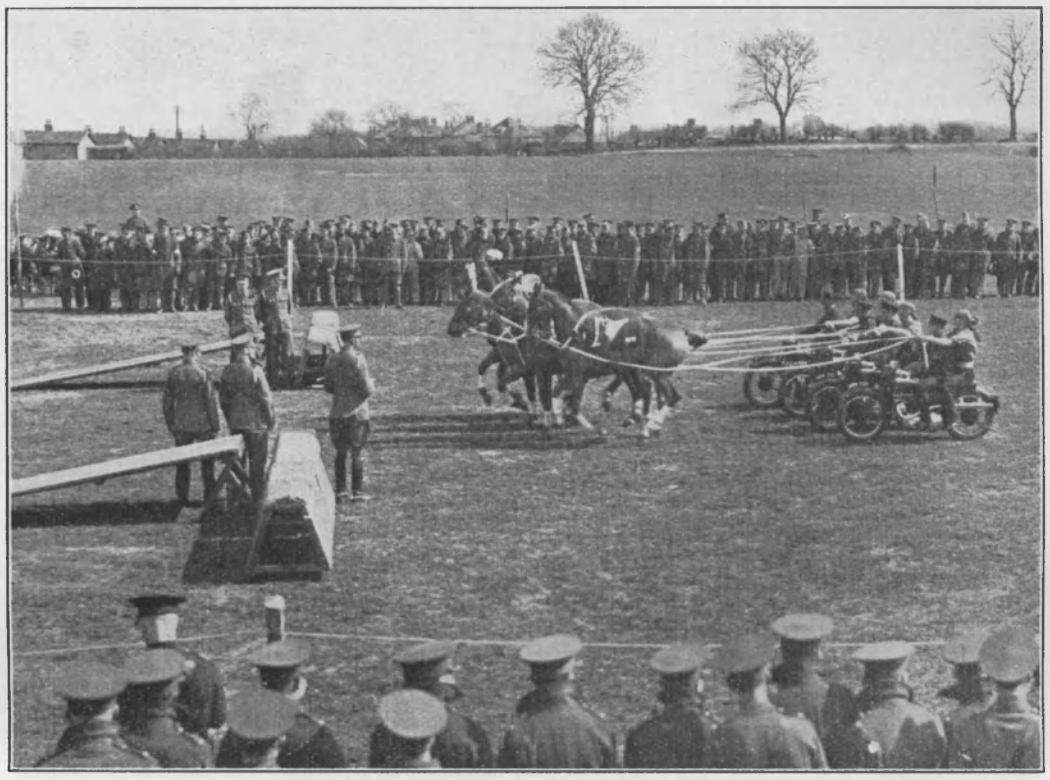
The music for our Display at the Royal Tournament is to be provided by the Band of the 9th Lancers. It will interest members of the Corps to know that Mr. R. R. Ricketts, the Bandmaster of the Corps, has written a signature tune for the Display. This will be played as the opening number at Olympia.

In addition to appearing at the Royal Tournament, we are to appear at the Northern Command Tattoo at Nottingham and at a limited number of Civilian Shows throughout the country. More than forty applications for the Display for this summer have been turned down by us. These have come from all over England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. We worked the West last season, and so we are trying to accept engagements, as far as possible, in the East this year. As we have to be in Colchester for several days in June, our great regret is that the 4th Divisional Signals are not still there.

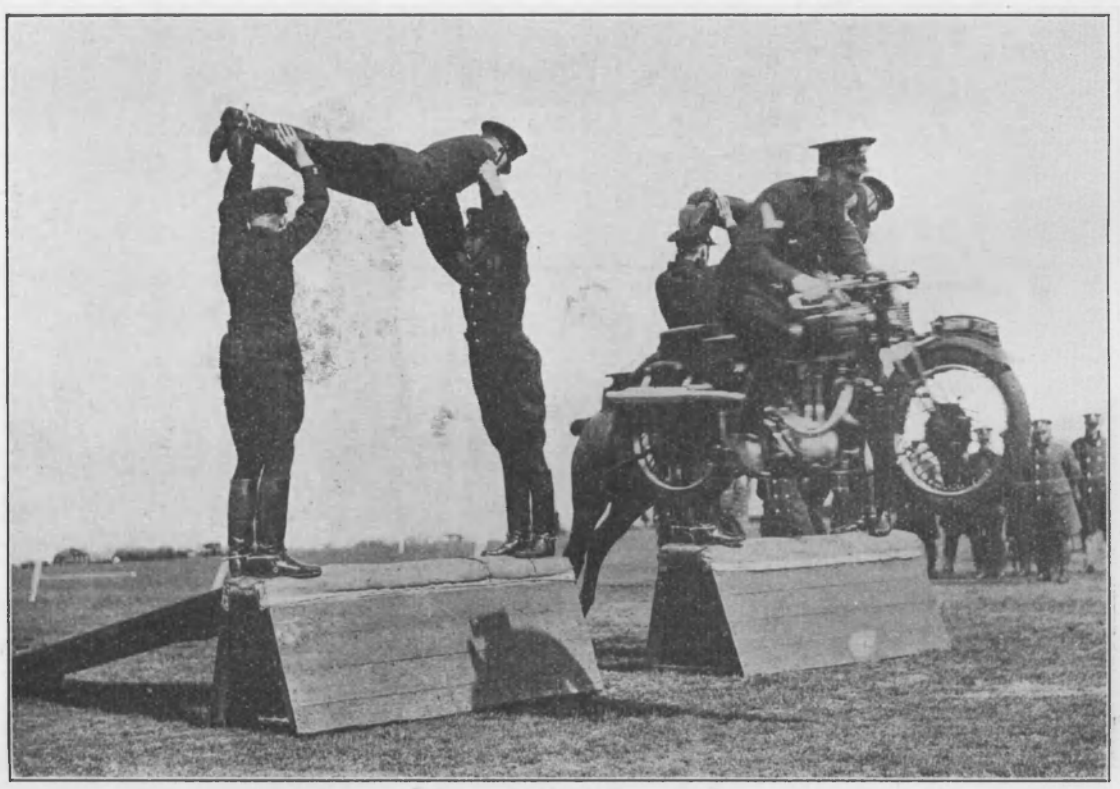
A Trick on the Parallel Bars which requires a bit of nerve.

[*Photo by Planet News Ltd. London.*]

In conclusion, I should like to repeat the notice in the Editorial Notes of last month's WIRE. All members of the Display party hope that all past and present members of the Corps, both Regular and Territorial, who may be at the Royal Tournament this year, will pay them a visit at the stables and motor-cycle pits after the performances. There will be a large "Jimmy" over our home, so that it will be impossible to miss it.



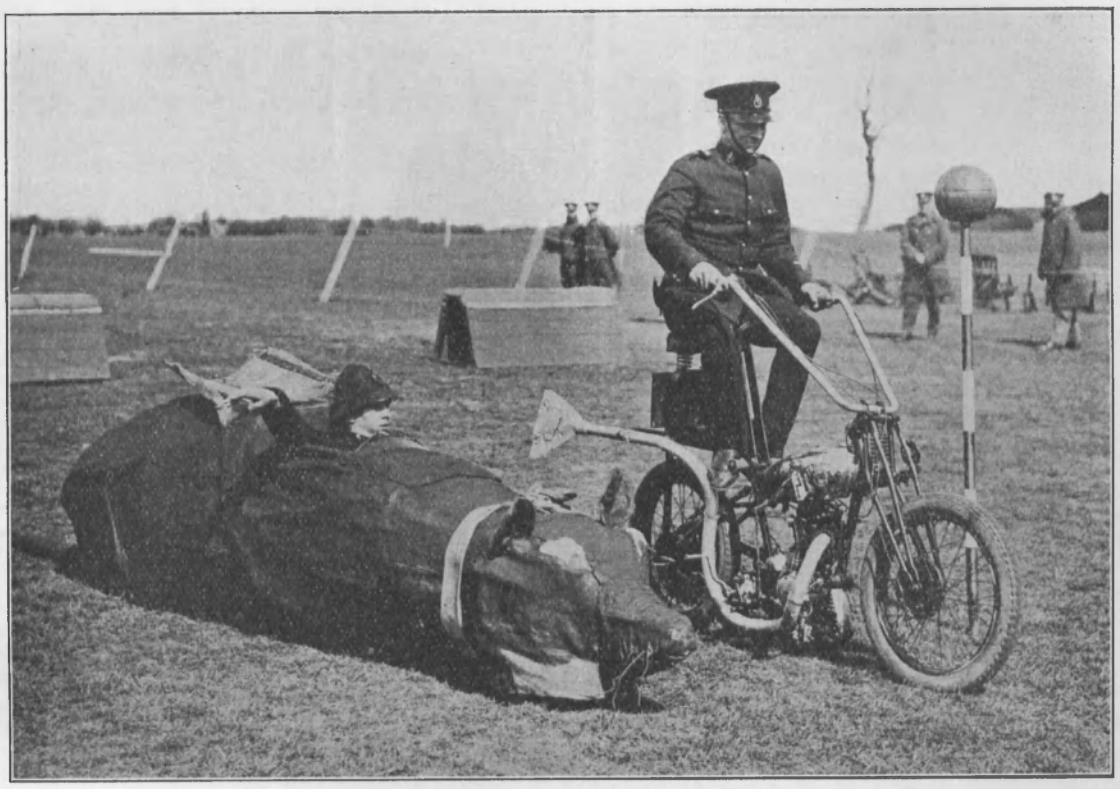
The Tandem Drive.
[Photo by The Sport and General Press Agency Ltd. London.]



The Human Arches.
[Photo by Planet News Ltd. London.]

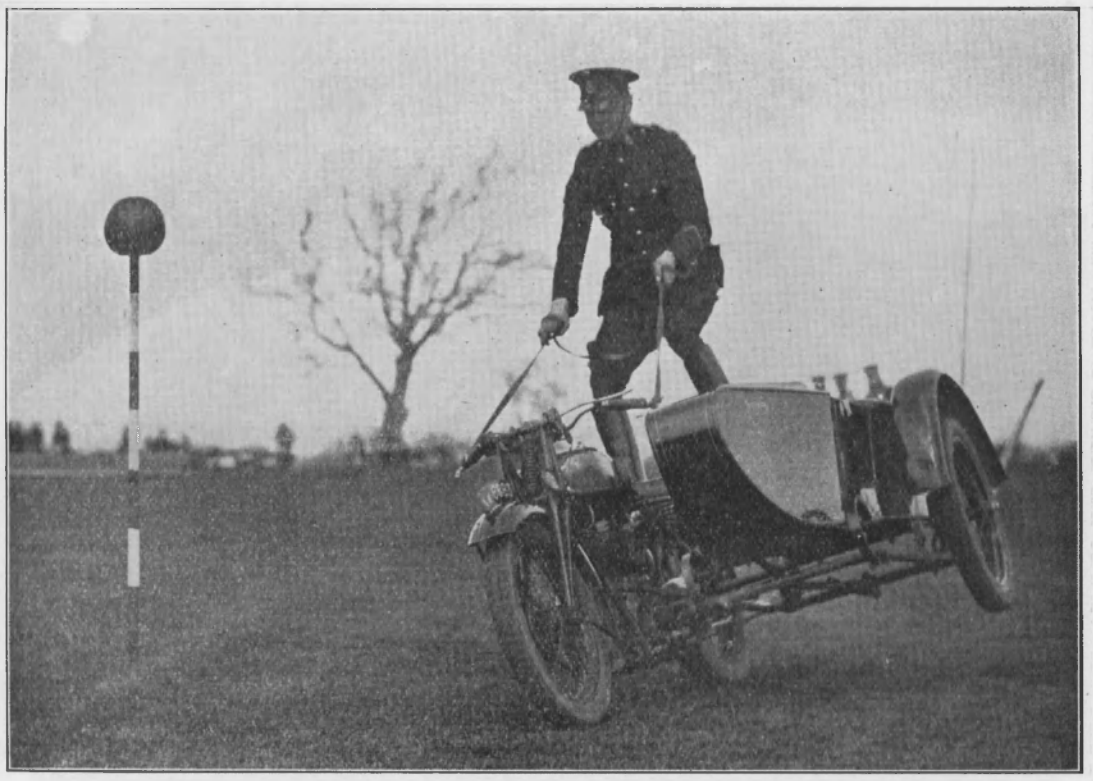
Going on to the Horizontal Bar.
[Photo by The Keystone View-Company, London]

Coming off the Horizontal Bar.
[Photo by The Keystone View-Company, London]



"Horace," and "Minnie" the Rat. The Comic Turn for Olympia.
"Minnie" contains a motor-cycle engine.
[Photo by Planet News Ltd. London.]

Over the Pony. This Trick will take a surprise form at Olympia.
[Photo by The Keystone View-Company, London]



A New Trick with the Side-Car.
[*Photo by The Sport and General Press Agency Ltd. London.*]

Horse and Motor Cycle Jumping Fire.
[*Photo by The Keystone View-Company, London*]

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain J. H. Cameron-Webb from India to Aldershot (A Corps Signals)
Captain W. C. V. Galwey from India to Aldershot (2nd Divl. Signals)
Captain W. D. J. Harries from India to Bulford (3rd Divisional Signals)
Captain J. Gardner from Catterick to London
Captain R. Sutton-Pratt from S.T.C. to School of Signals
Lieutenant L. D. M. Patterson from India to Aldershot (2nd Divisional Signals)
Lieutenant L. de M. Thuillier from India to Bulford (3rd Divl. Signals)
Lieutenant J. S. Wise from India to Bulford (3rd Divl. Signals)
Lieutenant R. J. Moberly from India to Tidworth (Tank Brigade Signals)
Lieutenant F. W. P. Bradford from India to Catterick
Lieutenant H. V. Ewbank from China to Aldershot (2nd Divl Signals)
Lieutenant R. H. Copeland from Catterick to Scarborough
Lieutenant C. C. Danby from R.W.A.F.F. to Canterbury

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 19/3/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant D. N. Van der Goot to take rank and precedence in his Corps and in the Army as if his appointment to the rank of Lieutenant bore the date 22/12/29

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—REGULAR ARMY

The under-mentioned to be 2/Lieutenants 20/3/35: C. R. Lane, P. McGaw

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals—Lieut. R. H. C. Van den Bergh to be Captain 1/3/35

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—D. G. Allen to be 2/Lieutenant 20/3/35

[War Office 22/3/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant R. Jackson to be Captain 22/3/35

Lieutenant E. Parkin, D.C.M., resigns his commission 23/3/35

2/Lieutenant J. E. Young to be Lieutenant 2/1/35

[War Office 26/3/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

53rd (W) Divisional Signals—A. G. David to be 2/Lieutenant 27/3/35

[War Office 29/3/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

The under-mentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants:—J. W. Stubbs, 13/1/35; P. Dunn, 27/1/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divisional Signals—D. A. J. Laidlaw to be 2/Lieut. 21/3/35

[War Office 2/4/35]

REGULAR ARMY—

The under-mentioned Lieut.-Colonels to be Colonels, 1/4/35:
R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C., half-pay list, late R.Signals
L. G. Phillips, M.C., half-pay list, late R.Signals

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The under-mentioned Lieut.-Colonels, on completion of four years service as Regimental Lieut.-Colonels, are placed on the half-pay list 1/4/35: R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C.; L. G. Phillips, M.C.; R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C.; J. S. Yule, O.B.E.

Major R. A. Bagnold is placed on the half-pay list 1/4/35

The under-mentioned Majors to Lieut.-Colonels 1/4/35:—Brevet Lt.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C.; W. M. Miller, M.C.: Brevet Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C.; C. P. Prescot.

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The under-mentioned Captains to be Majors 1/4/35:—W. U. Tyrrell (and remains reconded); J. W. Bailey, M.C.; P. A. Chubb; F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C.; C. V. L. Lycett, O.B.E.; E. V. F. MacSwiney; G. C. Winckley, M.C.; C. E. Sketch; E. H. du Cros (and remains seconded); Brevet Major E. J. Murphy; G. Rooker; Brevet-Major G. R. Halliday; Brevet-Major R. F. H. Nalder (and remains seconded); L. B. Nicholls

[War Office 5/4/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieutenant A. Hibbs to be Lieutenant 27/1/35
W. G. Scott to be 2/Lieutenant 6/4/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals—Major H. D. Roberts, M.C., T.D., T.A. Reserve of Officers, to be Hon. Colonel 6/4/35

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals—Lieutenant G. Barton ceases to hold a commission in the Territorial Army 6/4/35

[War Office 9/4/35]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Lieutenant F. H. Pellew, R.Signals, to be A.D.C. to the Governor and C.-in-C. Uganda Protectorate 30/3/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

53rd (W) Divisional Signals—Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C. (D.C.S.O. Western Command) vacates the appointment of Hon. Colonel 23/3/35

D. S. Banbury to be 2/Lieutenant 10/4/35

[War Office 16/4/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

51st (H) Divisional Signals—2/Lieutenant B. M. Nicol to be Lieutenant 16/4/35

53rd (W) Divisional Signals—Captain W. S. Catleugh to be Captain-Quartermaster 1/4/35

Plain Tales

Crazy Interlude.—Our special correspondent touring the East, but expected home just before you read this, reports "All goes well east of Suez. Signals all over the place."

At Singapore Corporal Ellis, of whom we have not previously heard (probably to our loss) was seen leaning negligently against a battleship. He sends greetings which we heartily reciprocate. Hands across the sea! (Yes, yes. We know.) Our far flung Empire, etc., etc. Ahem—yurp the great spirit of tiddley om pom and the feeling of belonging to ——

Uncle Alf: What's the idea ?
Ourselves: You wouldn't understand, old man.
Uncle Alf: Who are you calling "Old man" ?
Ourselves: Sorry, sir! Didn't notice yer belt, chum.

Reflections of Minnie.—The way people are going about whispering and pointing at me is just a little too thick. Perhaps they feel sorry for me just because George has run away—and us only married a fortnight. As if I care! though I will say, a better wife no cat ever had. Even Tessa admits that I was within my rights when I tore his other ear off. However, it was a lovely wedding, and they had to get a double fatigue party in the Sergeants Mess the next morning. Such a fuss about a few fish heads and a dead rat in the piano.

Brothers Seymour, Thomas and Knight are still shining lights in their own little temperance movement, and command the admiration of all by a rigid adherence to their self-imposed abstinence. How often they have come within an ace, or even two aces, of falling, only they can tell. Brother Thomas is even now tottering on the brink, while the other two watch with anguished faces.

Our Hero Escapes.—Ukann Larfe was captured by a rival aeroplane syndicate while he was asleep in the taxi. You can imagine how that happened, so there is no need for me to write about it. Lot of time saved. Jolly good idea. Must enlarge on that.

A man looked through a small iron grille and laughed with steel blue eyes. His voice looked as though it had a rasp in it. (Sorry that's mixed. This is a rotten typewriter.)

"Where am I ?" asked Ukann, just as we expected he would ask.

"Perhaps monsieur would like a map of France. Hein? Nein?"

Obviously, no good could come of chatting with the goaler, so the detective cast about for a method of escape. In a few minutes he had perfected his plans. He thought he could manage without a rehearsal. Biding his time, and also the gaoler's, he wrote in chalk on the wall opposite the door "I have escaped."

As an afterthought, he added "Truly" and then hid against the wall to the right of the door and on the same side as the hinges (can't catch me). He had not long to wait. With a muttered or possibly a smothered oath, the gaoler unlocked the door and walked in. It did not occur to him to disbelieve the startling words, for the fame of Ukann Larfe had spread throughout the country. Just three steps he took, and then some animal instinct made him swing round. Too late! With a low snarl, the detective sprang and, slipping off his iron studded boot, smashed in the front of the gaoler's head.

"That was a near go," said Ukann hoarsely. "I ought to have had that boot ready before." How he got out of the building and into the open country is another story which I myself have not yet heard malheureuxment. He returned at once to the hotel. As he mounted the steps to the imposing entrance, there was a flurry of skirts and things and a large handsome female threw herself into his arms. "My Ukv, are you hurt ?"

They fell into the ornamental lake at the side of the steps, and Ukann removed a water lily from his ear. "Don't call me Uky," he said.

Hermione slid along on the mud and gazed at her brilliant husband. "But, darling, you're all wet." "Pauvre cochon" she added suddenly, remembering that this is a French novel.

Ukann squelched to his feet. "You're telling me, dear." Il dit.

Came the dawn. N'est ce pas triste ? Encore bientot.

Note from Minnie.—Please add to my "Reflections." Bro. Thomas fell from his high estate at 6.30 p.m. on the 20th March. By 11 p.m. he had fallen from everything else, including the piano stool and the back steps. Bro. Seymour crashed heavily on the 5th April (see 3rd Divl Signals notes). He acquired much knowledge that might have been very useful to him in his campaign against intemperance, but he now finds that water gives him a horrible creepy feeling. Bro. Knight now stands in splendid isolation. Interviewed by our special correspondent, he said "Those guys give me a pain in the neck."

Sartorial Department.—Contributed by a distinguished janker. Just cast your eye over this greatcoat M.S. How long have I had it ? Don't ask me. It is supposed to last about seven years, and when it begins to look its age it may be condemned by a Board of Officers who may, on the other hand, class it fit for another year, though they themselves wouldn't be seen dead in it. Do you think I'm proud of it ? I wonder why they don't make the greatcoat an item of personal clothing. A guinea and sixpence is not a lot to spread over a period of say three or four years. What about the benefit to the trade ? Yes, I know they sell the old ones ; but they wouldn't have to buy the new ones, would they ? This scheme makes WORK (patent applied for).

AUTHOR'S NOTE.—Asked how he managed to think of the remarkable suggestions in the foregoing, our contributor blushed, shuffled his feet, tore his handkerchief to shreds, and was understood to mumble "I done it on Shell."

The Chronicles.—On a bright day in the year 1935, a man went forth saying "All speed is vanity." He took unto himself a two-wheeled motor vehicle in exchange for fifteen pieces of silver.

And the troops lifted up their voices, saying "Verily, verily, we will call this ancient relic 'Jubilee.'"

And they did. What, so to speak, ho.

Thus it was that the strange chariot passed through the camp that is Marne amid respectful silence at eight forty-five in the forenoon of every day appointed for work.

And there was much smoke. Now, it is written that where there is much smoke there must be some fire ; wherefore I beseech ye, go forth and obtain speech with the fearless rider, that details may be set down for all men to read. Mayhap thou wilt stop "seven-pennyworth." Yea, I hope so. BARLEUX.

Legends of the North.

[*By kind permission of The Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin*]

The following is the Indian legend of the origin of the two outstanding landmarks of Fort Norman—"Bear Rock" and "the Smoke"—as told by one of the old timers, a full blooded Indian. This story has been handed down from generation to generation.

Long, long ago—as far back as the very oldest Indian's great-great-grandfather could remember—there lived at the foot-hills of the Rockies a tribe of Indians of gigantic stature, marvellous physique and "bow and arrow" hunters of the first order. Owing to their vigorous activities and tremendous appetites. these natives were pressed to their utmost to exist, for every full grown buck could eat half an average sized moose at a sitting. One year, moose became scarce. The chief, a wise old man who loved his "children," realised that even should they survive this famine, it would not be long before moose would become fewer and fewer as the tribe increased. So, one day, he decreed that they would set out to explore the country to the north-east, for had not some of the more venturesome "young bloods" told of a vast area of water in that direction ? and where there was water, surely there must be fish and game.

After several days travelling, they sighted a rock on the skyline. The chief ordered his tribe to spread out, advance towards this rock, and report there in the evening. En route they killed a few moose—just enough to keep them alive ; but it appeared that they cleaned the country out of game as they travelled. Consequently, the "pow wow" at their meeting on the summit of this rock was not a very happy one, and the chief was very worried.

He slept very little that night and next morning arose early, walked to the edge of the rock, and peered down into the junction

of two rivers. There he stood spellbound, for swimming in the waters were three beavers ; but such animals he had never seen before—they were of enormous size, and one alone would feed the entire tribe. He called his two sons to his side, and these three giants knelt on their knees and each selected his strongest bow and swiftest arrow. Together they aimed and fired. True to their aim, the arrows found their marks, going completely through the beavers. When the tribe cut the latter away from the arrows, they found that the arrows were so firmly imbedded in the mud at the bottom of the river that they could not pull them out, and so left them with the butts sticking out of the water.

Taking the three beavers, the tribe walked up the river (later named McKenzie) about four miles and there built a fire. Skinning their catch, they roasted the huge bodies. The grease from these animals dripped off the stakes and soaked well into the ground.

The tribe, having feasted well, left the few embers of fire smouldering and started back to the "Rock" with the beaver skins. Unknown to them, the fire they had left, in the eternal search for more fuel, had seized on the beaver grease, and soon the well-soaked earth was a smouldering mass which to this day is still burning and is known as "the Smoke."

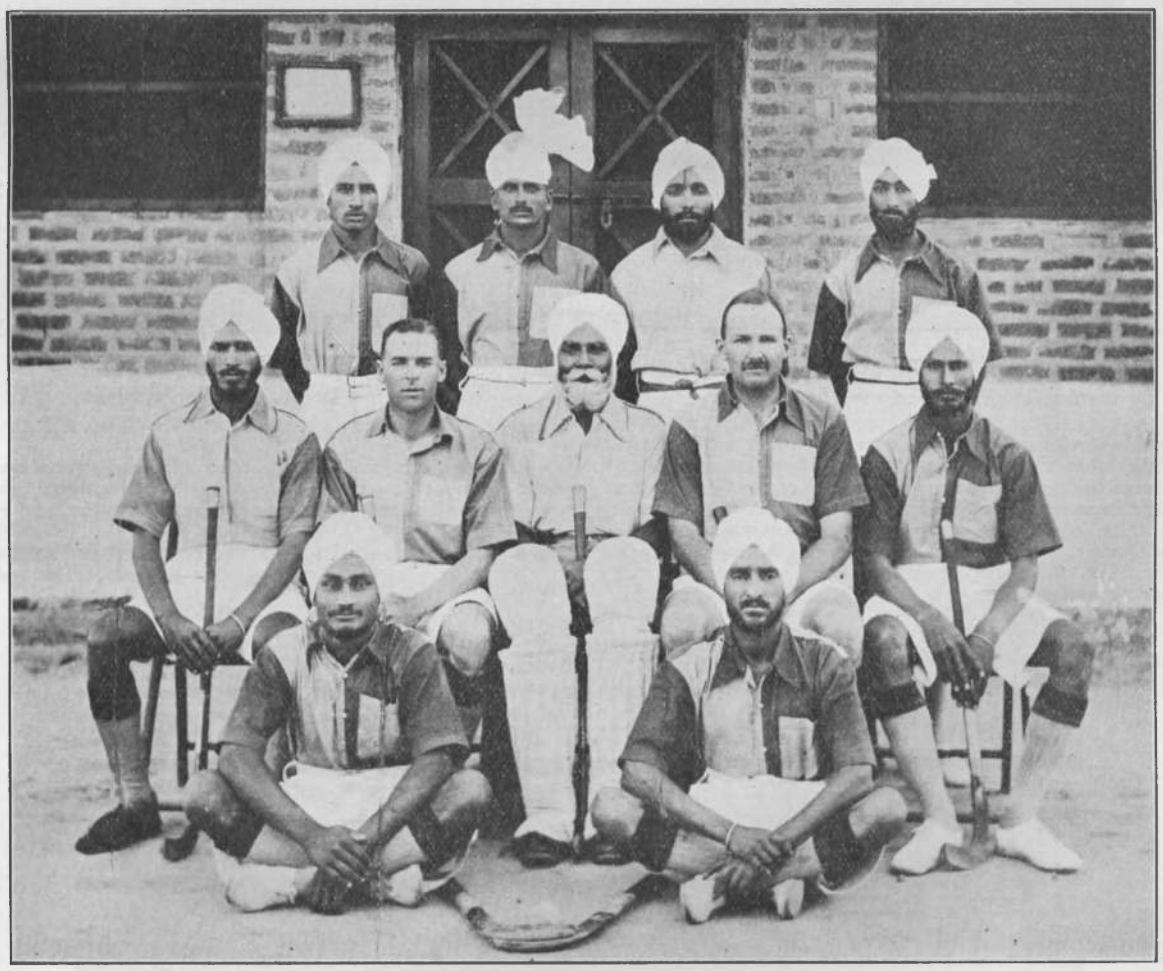
In the meantime, the Indians were vainly trying to locate a flat area of ground large enough for stretching the skins. Their efforts met with failure until the chief's son, Little Bear, brought to his father's notice three bluffs almost identically the shape of the beaver skins. Immediately the three pelts were staked to these natural stretchers, and the fresh blood ran down the face of the cliffs, leaving them bloodstained and streaked.

The chief, wishing to reward his son Little Bear for his thoughtfulness, named the hill "Bear Rock"—the name which it bears to-day. Next spring, when the ice smashed its way down the river, the tops of the embedded arrows broke off, but their broken ends can be seen to this day, bobbing up and down in the river. The white man, in his ignorance or lack of imagination, believes them to be the roots of trees deposited there during spring floods.

On hearing this story from an Indian, one may smile and say that it is incredible. The native who tells the legend may smile at you, but he does so wistfully and not without a look of guilt as though he is offending his forefathers.

LOST

We saw a young man and lady leaving a local restaurant the other day, and as they reached the door the lady noticed that she had forgotten her gloves. While the man waited, she returned to the table and, not seeing her gloves on the table or chairs, she lifted the table-cloth and started looking around on the floor underneath. A waiter came along and said "You won't find the gentleman under there, madam. There he is, up by the door."



I.O.R.s Hockey Team, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals. [See Sports Notes on page 239]

Standing—Sigmn Naranjan Singh, Naik Karam Dad, Sigmn Jhujhar Singh, Sigmn Balwant Singh.

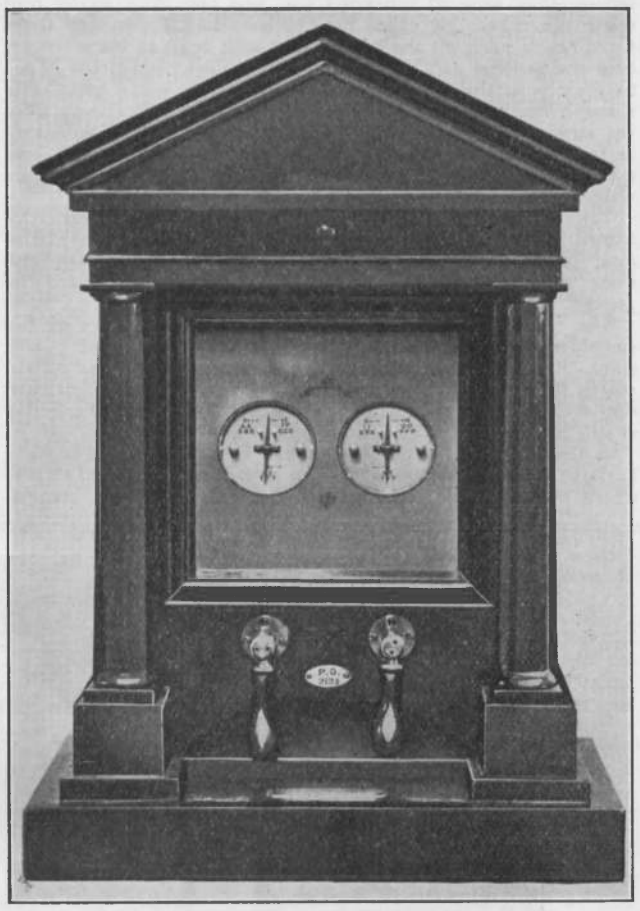
Sitting—Sigmn Bagga Singh, Lieut. J. R. Beeton, Subedar-Major Jiwan Singh, Lieut. L. de M. Thuillier, Naik Karam Singh.

In front—Sigmn Darbara Singh, L/Naik Bhagwan Singh.

Mechanical Telegraphy. By W. T. Lowe.

Ever heard of the A.B.C. Telegraph? It once functioned in the Post Office. Not so many years ago, the instrument could be seen in a gallery of the C.T.O. One set worked to Scotland Yard and another to a well-known West End firm. The apparatus could also be seen in many a village post office, where the post-master was proprietor of the local store. On one occasion, one of these gentlemen received a visit from the head postmaster of the district. He (the sub.) was engaged at the moment on the telegraph instrument. The head said "Good morning" and was proceeding to speak about some official detail, when his subordinate testily remarked: "Don't interrupt! Can't you see I have two or three messages in my head?"

The A.B.C. Telegraph.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

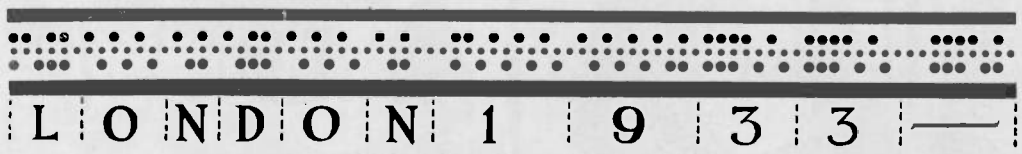


The Double-Needle Telegraph.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

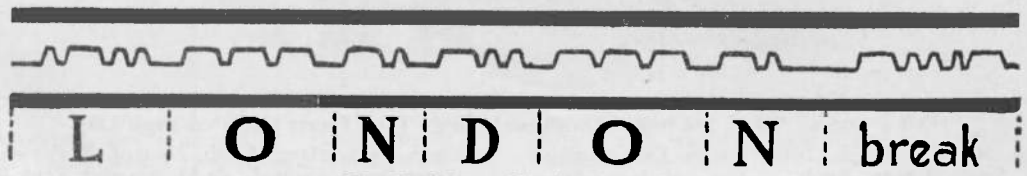
The double-needle was the first instrument used to be responsible for the capture of a criminal. On the 1st January 1844 a man was seen to take a first class ticket for London. Just after a murder had been committed at Salt Hill (Slough). He entered the train which left Slough at 7.42 p.m. He was dressed in the garb of a Quaker, with a brown greatcoat which reached nearly down to his feet. The suspect got into the last compartment of the second first class carriage on the train; and owing to his description, telegraphed by an obviously keen-sighted and observant porter, Tawell (the murderer) was identified and apprehended on stepping from the train at Paddington, and eventually convicted.

Single-needle and double-plate have been used on British and other railway systems for a number of years. The operation of both is based on the Morse code.

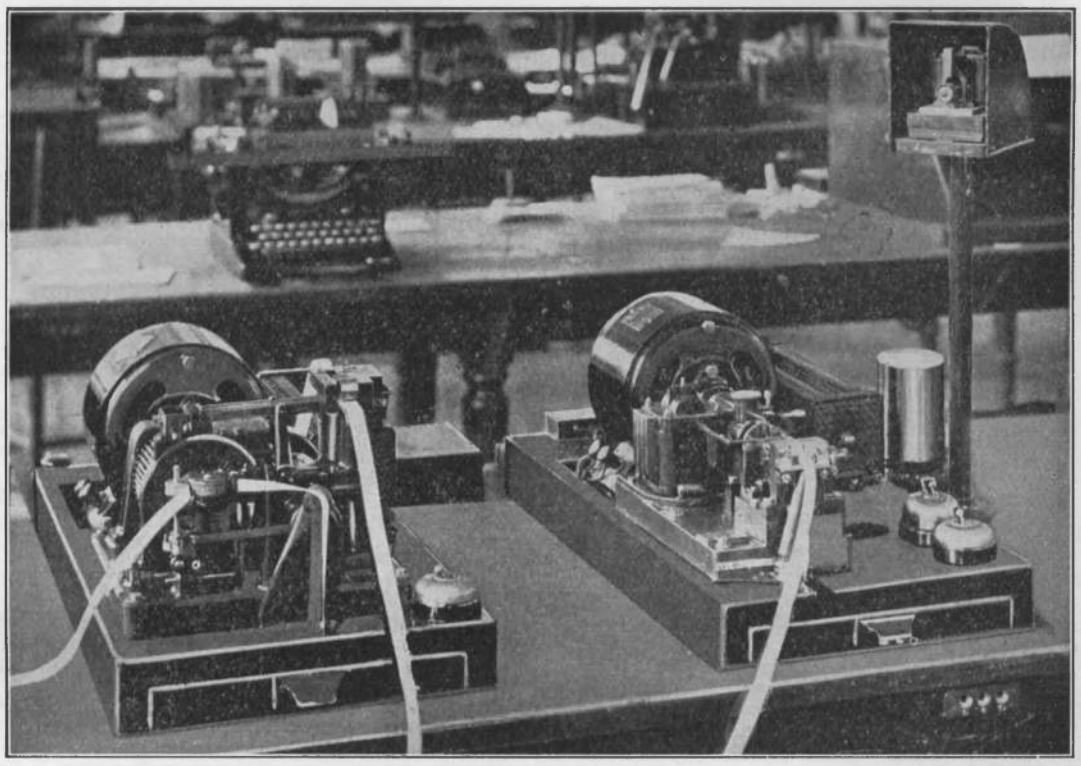
Method of Automatic Wireless Working.



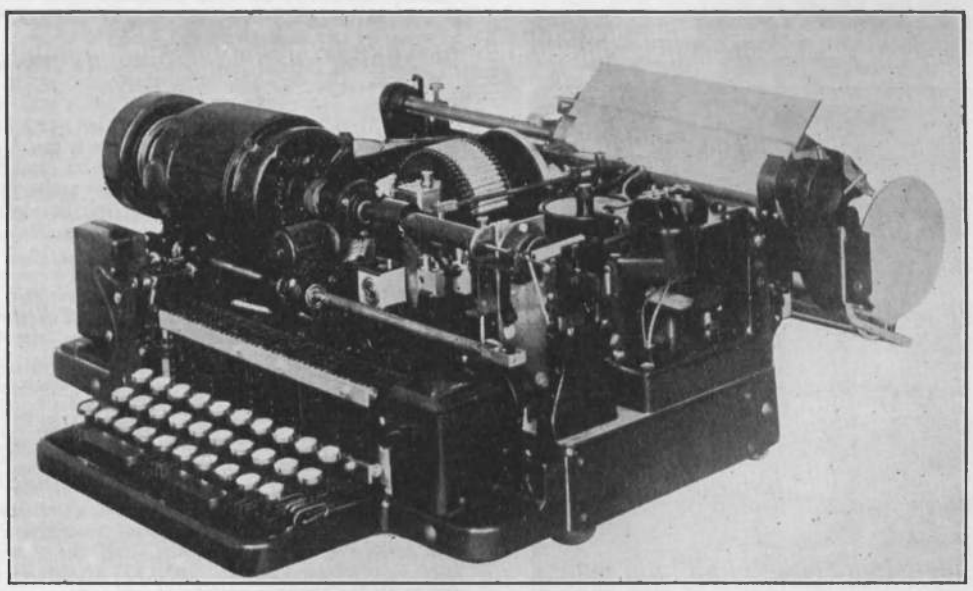
The Wheatstone Slip for Transmission.



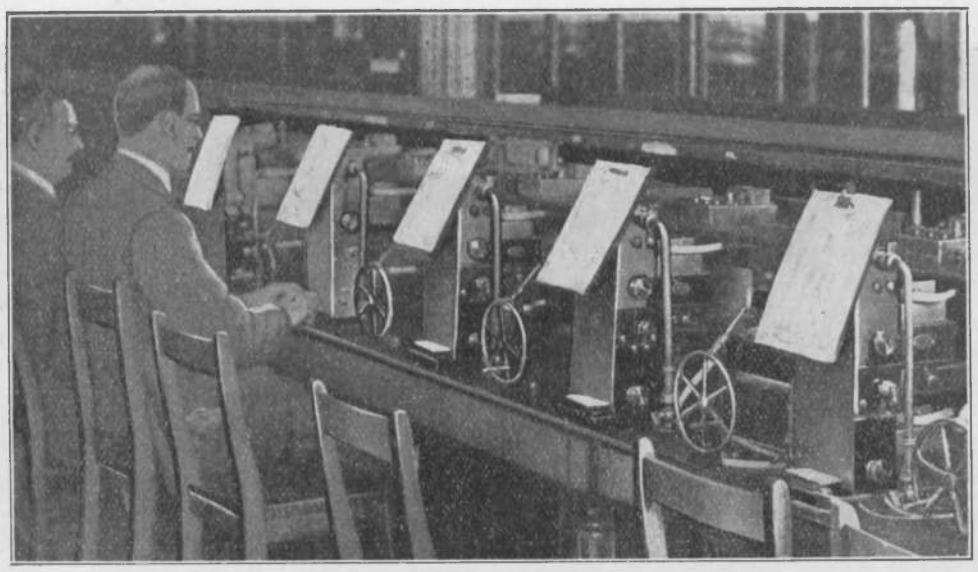
The Undulator Slip for Reception.



The Creed Reperforator and Printer.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.



The Creed Transmitting-Receiving Page Teleprinter.
By courtesy of Messrs. Creed and Co.



The Pneumatic Wheatstone Perforators.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

You know, of course, that before a message can be transmitted by Wheatstone, a slip has to be prepared. In the Post Office this was first done with the punching sticks, and later with pneumatic perforators. As many as eight slips could simultaneously be perforated by one clerk. Half-a-dozen different towns would work " Y.Q." from one Wheatstone transmitter. This meant that the same message could be simultaneously transmitted to forty-eight stations if necessary, as it sometimes was in the case of Press work.

[By the by, it is interesting to note that the two telegraphists portrayed in an accompanying photograph as manipulating pneumatic perforators were originally members of the old "K" Company Royal Engineers, from which the Royal Corps of Signals was evolved.]

Finally, typewriter keyboard " Gells " and " Kleinschmidts " displaced the sticks and pneumatics.

At the other end of the line, the Creed perforator appeared. Instead of being received as definite Morse characters, an exact replica of the perforated tape came out on the receiver. We used to put this through a Creed printer and the letters were automatically printed in Roman characters on another piece of slip, which was gummed on to a telegraph form.

The Baudot Telegraph Keyboard.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

The Baudot instrument is a French invention, bearing the name of the inventor. It claims no relationship whatever to Morse. By means of this apparatus a number of messages varying from two to six may be sent simultaneously on one wire. Its sending apparatus has five keys like those on a piano. By depressing one or more of these together in specified combinations, any letter or figure and many signs of punctuation may be telegraphed.

The receiver is a very ingenious apparatus. The message is received in printed characters on a paper tape, which is gummed to a telegraph form for delivery. This apparatus is employed almost exclusively on wire communication between London and Continental cities. For a number of years it worked to all the large cities and towns in the United Kingdom. The Baudot was also used at G.H.Q. B.E.F. during the war.

Although Morse has been dispensed with for sending telegrams over land-lines and cables, it is still generally used for wireless telegraphic communication between London and Continental cities. Automatic transmission is usual, effected by means of the undulator, an apparatus which is more sensitive than the Wheatstone receiver. A stylus rests on the paper tape which is continually running and makes a line in violet ink. When no currents are being received, the needle moves sideways and traces dots and dashes above the centre line.

The Siemens-Halske works to Oslo (Norway) and the Hughes —recently touched upon in these columns—still helps to fill a gap.

But that electrical typewriter, the Teleprinter, threatens to chase all these from the cable room of the Central Telegraph Office ; and judging by present-day activities, no more compunction will be shown than when it took Morse, Baudot, Western Electric, Booth-Willmott, Murray, Morkrum and Wheatstone by storm in the inland galleries of the C.T.O.

Oh! ever seen the Telewriter? Weird contraption! You write on a piece of paper placed over a metal plate, and a fair sample of your own handwriting comes out at the other end. This system is the monopoly of a private company—not of the Post Office. It is only used for inter-communication through a private exchange between subscribers, and for despatching telegrams from their offices to the C.T.O. Its maximum radius of efficiency seems to be about a couple of miles.

Don't confuse the Telewriter with Telex, though. The arrangements are similar, but in the latter case a teleprinter is used. The subscriber is connected through a telephone exchange, and " distance is no object."

HOME STATIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP — *Panoramic Photograph Co, Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

A former scribe wrote "Please don't be too critical when reading this—it's my first effort." I cannot claim such distinction, as I've tried "Roundabouts," but (I must add) am still awaiting my £300 cheque for journalistic efforts.

The campaign for brighter barracks is still in progress. The barrack rooms have assumed quite a "home from home" appearance since the advent of writing desks and wardrobes. Whilst much has been done to brighten the gardens, particular mention must be made of the lawn, flowered terraces and model pool, complete with gold fish, which faces the sergeants mess. Fishing is prohibited, but the gold fish were not informed, and so they have not been seen since they were let loose.

The corporals, not to be outshone, started a land reclamation scheme. Before the writer completes his pontoon, he hopes that one of the Mess sheiks will pick a few flowers from the garden for George.

The Battalion rose garden is also worthy of note, and we hope that the pruning efforts will be rewarded with a show of bloom to equal last year's.

The Band concerts are as popular as ever, whilst the warbling of Crooner Webster is both enjoyed and (judging by results) infectious.

Postings.—Lieut. R. H. Copeland has decided to forsake the pleasures of 40 m.p.h. gales on the open range for the more pleasant 60 m.p.h. sea breezes on Scarborough promenade. He will be greatly missed by the Battalion Rifle Club, for his shooting was of a high standard. We wish him every success in his new sphere.

We welcome Lieut. H. Winterbotham in his stead, and hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

L/Corpl Melmore and Signalmen Lord and Clement have left us on posting to field units. Our best wishes go with them all.

General.—Our shooting experts hope to accomplish great things in the forthcoming Jubilee competition. We hope that Jenks will at long last manage those elusive "tons" of which he dreams.

Social.—On the 5th April the S.T.C. Corporals Messes held a dance in the Newbigging Hall. It was voted a huge success by all who attended, and it is hoped that similar functions will again be held in the near future.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergt Salmon G. on his lift up the ladder: a tip for us all to polish up the baton in our gas mask.

Congratulations, likewise, to U/L/Corporals Beeton and Sanderson on their appointment to that rank, and to L/Corporals Booth and Stares on joining the ranks of the paid.

Married Quarters.—The usual competitions for the best gardens are to be held in the summer: hence the great activity to be observed any evening in the neighbourhood of "Q" Lines. Rakes and other gardening implements seem to provide excellent practice for becoming proficient in sloping arms.

Congratulations.—To Lieut. P. R. Wainman, Lieut. H. N. Crawford and Captain F. P. L. Gray on being first, second and third respectively in the Brigadier's cup (open to S.T.C. officers) at the Garrison point-to-point. Also to the Depot Battalion team on their excellent show in the Northern Command bronze medal and other tournaments. Results were as follows.

Unit Team Jumping—1st, Depot Battalion, R.Signals, 24 faults; 2nd, 16/5th Lancers, 29.

Prince of Wales' Cup—1st, Captain G. Babington (16/5th Lancers) 1½ faults; 2nd, Lieut. H. N. Crawford (Depot Battalion, R.Signals) 5.

King's Cup—1st, Lieut. F. R. B. Moore (Depot Battalion, Royal Signals) 9 faults; 2nd, Captain F. S. Hoole-Lowsley-Williams (16/5th Lancers) 12.

Agony.—The Warwick Frog: How's the plucked sparrow?—you nasty man. Walt.

Freda: How about a line? Paper is cheap. Larry.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Equitation.—On Friday 5th April the 16/5th Lancers paid us a visit for the purpose of competing in the Northern Command team jumping competition (bronze medal tournament).

The Signal team, consisting of C.S.M. Young on Baby, Corpl Bull on Visa, L/Corpl Gosnold on Escape, and L/Corpl Dakin on Tired, were successful in winning the competition, and are now looking forward to a trip to Olympia, from whence they hope to succeed in bringing back the cup once more. In the King's cup competition Lieut. F. R. B. Moore put up a good performance on Dolly, thereby booking for himself a trip to Olympia to jump in the finals. Lieut. H. N. Crawford, with the aid of Hot-Pot, was successful in the Prince of Wales' cup. So, on the whole, we shall have a good representation at Olympia.

Educational.—For the past few weeks I have noticed several of our cadre drivers walking about with a studious look, coupled with an air of mystery. An ultimate issue of Part II. Orders elucidated the mystery: "The award of third class certificates of education to the undernamed to take effect from, etc., etc., etc." Congratulations to you all, and remember there is another 9d. per diem awaiting you when when eventually obtain your second.

Inspections.—Of these I could write a whole lot, but "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." We've just said "Goodbye" to the A.D.V.S., and are now preparing to say "Hulloa!" to the officer who inspects our kit. What a life!

Departures.—A departure of note, which we feel certain will be of interest to those who have passed through the Wing during recent years, is that of Sergt Crowhurst, who has left us to help the Eastern Command Signal Company out of their difficulties.

Agony.—An officer of the S.T.C., having occasion to enquire as to the date of a certain Hunt's point to point meeting, decided to obtain the information from the S.T.C. Officers Mess, and the following conversation took place.

Officer: "Do you know the date of the —— point to point meeting?"

Mess servant (with several years experience as such): "Yes, sir; the 13th April."

Officer: "What is the first race?"
Mess servant: "The Adjutant's race, sir."
Officer: "The what?"
Mess servant: "The Adjutant's race, sir."
Officer: "All right."

What is rather worrying me is, do the various Hunts around Catterick employ adjutants, or do they include in their programme an event for members of adjacent Hunts?

It would appear that the massive school recently built in the S.T.C. to replace the old huts in the School of Signals lines *was* a necessity.

Billiards.—Mounted Wing and the School of Signals, having gained equal points in the inter-Company billiards competition, played off their second replay, to decide the ultimate destination of the billiards cup, on Thursday 11th April. The Mounted Wing were successful in beating the School by four games to two.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes from this Wing for the last month or so. Unfortunately, we cannot think of a reasonable excuse to offer. We are still receiving a steady flow of recruits, and the usual departures of trained soldiers to the Training Battalion and the Mounted Wing are too numerous to mention.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Spearpoint and L/Cpl Stares on attaining those ranks. Also to T. E. Smith, A Corps Signals, on joining the ranks of the married pads.

Arrivals and Departures.—These are mostly from overseas en route for civvy street and all the posh jobs. Captain A. J. G. McNair has resumed duty with the Wing, and Lieut. R. H. Copeland has left us for the 5th Divisional Signals at Scarborough. L/Sergt Hodges reported his arrival from China, and Corpl (Tommy) Hatton from Quetta via Netley.

We Should Like to Know.—Who is the P.T. instructor who took his squad round the fire when told to warm them up?

Why the Baghdad Lines N.A.A.F.I. has suddenly become so popular with a certain member of our cadre?

Why another member takes the Sunday evening bus to Northallerton so frequently?

Why Micky of this Wing looks so heartbroken just lately?

Agony.—Mutt of the Dismounted Wing would like to hear from Jeff of Kohat.

Finis.—I am afraid these notes are rather short this time, but we hope to do better next month. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

The first item of note is that we have lost our sergeant-major. Sorry! I did not really mean lost, but only that he has been relieved of the burden of a fluctuating Company and proceeded to the 1st Divl Signals to take up the duties of sergeant-major with them. Weighing everything up, he has had a pretty thick time of it up here, and we feel that he deserves all the congratulations given. Well, C.S.M. Newbury, we wish you the very best of luck, and we sincerely hope that you have been satisfied with your stay with us. Such is life: here to-day, gone tomorrow. This posting makes the third from the Company office in a very short time, and unless things brighten up there will be no one to carry on, as two more have sweats on.

It has come to our hearing that a certain n.c.o. is deserving of the life saving medal or something similar. After escorting a fair damsel through thick and thin for many miles, the atmosphere must have affected him, for at the conclusion of the cross-country walk he gallantly jumped into the river. Question 1: Who was the n.c.o.? Question 2: Why did he do it? Anyone desirous of the answers to these questions can have them on application, sending a stamped envelope. Frank W. (Bulford): Can *you* guess?

Agony.—The result of the rugby final. Well played, School!

Congratulations.—To Corpl and Mrs. Booth W. on the birth of a daughter, and to L/Corpl and Mrs. Cottingham on the birth of a son and heir. To Corporals Best W. and Booth W. on promotion to that rank. To Sigmn Ferrige on being awarded his second (well done, Fuggie!) To ex-L/Corpl Dale on being re-enlisted into the R.A.O.C. as staff sergeant.

Departures.—We are sorry to report that we have lost an old friend in Corpl Winder T., who has left us for Sarafand after lodging with F Company for a short while. Good luck, Tommie! Do not forget your promise.

There were a few other postings, but we must mention that Sigmn Lambert T. has left us to take up a position in civilian life. Up to the present we have heard nothing, but we understand that his football ability may be rewarded. To this end, we send our good wishes.

Arrivals.—As usual, quite numerous; but Corpl Stanton comes in for special despatches for the way he is carrying out the duties of orderly corporal and for his tales of India. However, the more arrivals, the merrier. All are welcome, as musketry is almost upon us.

Personal.—A Corps: Tosh S. is still B—S. M.C.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company is at present busily preparing for the Commandant's annual inspection, and we have also a party of men taking part in the King's Jubilee parade. There is quite keen competition between these two parties. We understand, however, that no secret training is being undertaken. Youth usually beats age on these occasions, so we hope that the young blood will pull it off.

L/Corpl Wilson and Sigmn Lewis were severely cross-examined by "counsel for cooking," and it is believed that they have been graded as satisfactory under the new system. The party who searched the cook-house for information was unsuccessful.

Arrivals.—We welcome thirteen recruits from the Depot Battalion and hope that all the tips they receive will be of use to them. Cpl Walsh from China complete with ye olde musick box.

Departures.—Corpl Stanton posted to D Company; Corporal Jerram posted to A Corps Signals; and the usual bunches of recruits to soldier in field units. Sigmn Ryan C. transferred to the R.A.

Births.—To L/Corporal and Mrs. Philpott a daughter, Jean Margaret, at the Military Families Hospital, Catterick Camp, 22/3/35.

Re-Engagements.—Signalman Grimwood J. re-engaged at Catterick Camp on 26/3/35 to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Education.—Twenty-one men of the Company were successful in gaining their second class certificate of education, thus keeping up the good old Company standard.

Promotions.—The Company congratulates R.Q.M.S. Lane H. H. on attaining that rank. We shall be very sorry to lose him, as he has been our right hand man in all sports in which the Company has taken part. He was also on the committee of the Battalion soccer team.

Scots' Corner.—The Legion calls Busty Watton, somewhere in Aldershot.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—With the advent of spring in Catterick, spring drills have once again started and are now going strong.

Who are those new (but none the less confident) D.I.s whom F Company are turning out? They are n.c.o. boys who, feeling exuberant at the prospect of spring coming round once more, are on a drill course under the instruction of L/Sergeant Luck W.

With a growing tendency towards better weather, Catterick has now ousted her mantle of snow and is allowing the sunshine to take its place—sometimes.

With this sudden change in the weather, several boys in the Company seem to have contracted flu, but we heartily hope that this epidemic will soon be exterminated. Another sign of spring is the sight of our budding athletes training and shaking a leg in preparation for the coming athletic season. An organised schedule

of training, arranged by Lieut. Boileau, is being followed throughout the Company. As this training programme has been derived from professionals, we hope that Lieut. Boileau's interest in the Company will be well rewarded by at least a few star runners.

It has been particularly noticeable in the Company lines lately that there has been greater quiet than usual. This suspiciously coincided with the absence of L/Sergeants Luck and Harrison from the Company. L/Sergt Luck has been slightly indisposed with an attack of flu, but we wish him a speedy recovery (for, at least, the sake of the n.c.o. boys). L/Sergt Harrison has been caterer in the Sergeants Mess for the past month—and we just wonder ?

We should like to extend congratulations to No. 1.A Section (operators) on winning the Garrison enlisted boys inter-unit team competition, and also to No. 3 Section (I.M.) the runners-up. The four teams from this Company put up a very good show indeed. We offer our congratulations to the School of Signals on winning the Mackworth rugby.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to recruit boys Pavey, Green and King, who have just arrived from India, and we sincerely hope that their stay will be a long and pleasant one. To Sigmn Guy, who has arrived to take over the reins from our Company office clerk, we also extend the glad hand after his long sea voyage from Singapore.

Departures.—We regret to lose Signalmen Luscombe and Shergold to the 1st Divl Signals and Sigmn Ball R. to A Corps Signals. The very best of luck and prosperity is wished them by this Company. A few more will soon be joining them. The Company would like to know if you have had any rugby down there yet, Doggy.

Pending—posting of our Company office clerk.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

Sergeants Mess.

Mudge Cup.—Officers v. Sergeants Mess. The first soccer match in connection with this trophy was played on 26/3/35. The weather was good and the ground in excellent condition, and a large crowd had gathered to witness the game. Much was expected of the Mess team. After a very good start, however, play went in favour of the officers—a faster team, who won comfortably with the final score at 5—3. In the hockey department, things went rather better. The first match, which took place on 3/4/35, resulted in a win for the Sergeants Mess after a very enjoyable game, the final score being 5—2. Points for the trophy to date: Officers 2, Sergeants Mess 2.

Arrivals and Departures.—Since our last notes, quite a number of changes have occurred. It is hope that both those arriving and those leaving us will find conditions to their liking in their new stations. R.S.M. Wray G. from India, posted to A Corps Signals. R.S.M. Elsmore B. from Ceylon to the 1st Divl Signals. R.Q.M.S. Wensley M. from India to the 2nd Divl Signals. C.S.M. Newbury R. from the Training Battalion to the 1st Divl Signals. C.Q.M.S. New F. from India to A Corps Signals.

Sergeants Binfield and Freeman have returned, having completed courses with the G.P.O. at Liverpool and Brighton respectively. It's just too bad, but even G.P.O. courses come to an end.

C.S.M. Cutler J. to the Training Battalion, Catterick. C.S.M. Wattley H. V. to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford.

Discharges.—The following having donned the bowler hat, we trust they will endeavour to see us at least once annually, and we tender our good wishes for the future. R.S.M. Eves J., C.S.M. Harris E., R.Q.M.S. Jones and C.Q.M.S. Lawrence.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Wattley H. and to C.Q.M.S. Hamlin on going up one.

Heard in the Mess.—" It seems to be very quiet in here this evening." " Yes, Ted Cutler is on leave." ESH.

1st Divisional Signals.

Arrivals.—R.S.M. Elsmore B. A. and C.S.M. Newbury R. from Ceylon and Catterick respectively. A cordial welcome is extended to both, but apologies for the weather are confined to R.S.M. Elsmore. The remaining arrivals are too numerous to mention individually, yet not numerous enough to meet the wastage of the past trooper. The platitude about long and pleasant stays can be taken for granted.

Departures.—Au revoir et bonne chance to C.S.M. Cutler J. A., who has left us for Catterick. Manœuvres will seem long this year unless I can find someone else to argue with.

Ma essalami wa inshallah koolshee tammam to Corpl Couperthwaite and four other ranks bound for Egypt Signals on the 9th April. We can recommend Corporal Couperthwaite as a hockey goalkeeper or umpire, and Sigmn Myers to spin a good yarn.

Sports Notes.—We're not functioning in Part Two this month. I nearly lost my reputation over last month's effort. The only thing that saved me was that nobody read it! Mr. Printer, how could you ? In my football paragraph you quote me as saying " As the other teams have been collecting most of the points," etc. That infers an inferiority complex, and the inference is exquisitely erroneous. It should have read "As the *same* teams," etc. Not quite the same, eh ?

Appreciatory.—After having my hat raised involuntarily by trying to assimilate an article in " The Royal Signals Quarterly Journal," I raised it voluntarily to Messrs. W. T. Lowe and E. Phillips for their non-technical endeavour to tell the layman something about telegraphing pictures. *Humane* articles of this sort on topical subjects are as refreshing as they are welcome.

[*Hasty Interpolation.*—This is no reflection on the Quarterly Journal. It's entirely due to the characteristic impedance of my detector.]

Football.—The senior team have completed all their matches and, all things considered, have put up a creditable show. Like the junior team, they wound up in fine fettle by drawing with the Worcestershire Regiment and finished eighth in the league, having won five, drawn four and lost nine games: 37 goals for and 44 against. The representative team, from goal to *goal-getters* (the italics are mine) was as follows: Driver Boot, Corpl Hamilton, L/Corpl Sweet, Signalmen Banham, Wardley, Wassell, Alexander and Hepworth, L/Cpl James, Signalmen Grimshaw and Husband. When the team lines up next season we shall miss L/Corpl Sweet, who ably captained the team throughout last season, as he is now on a vocational course.

To round off the season, the senior team played the juniors and won by 8—1. To say that the score flattered the seniors would be a faux pas, so we'll compromise by saying that the juniors put up a better show than the score suggests. That's tact!

Cross-Country.—It begins to look as if we ought to have had some Sports Notes after all, but as the items under review are going into liquidation, they might as well be decanted here (full stop). Owing to the absence of a few of our best runners, we only managed to run into second place in the last inter-unit cross-country run. This was good enough, however, to consolidate our position at the head of the table with four firsts and one second for the five runs. C.S.M. Goodman and the many men he inveigled into running kit on the various runs are to be congratulated on their consistency.

Billiards.—In the Command individual billiards championships, L/Corpl Sweet was beaten in the final. His best effort was the compilation of a 64 break in the semi-final. In the snooker section, he reached the semi-final but then lost by two frames to one. This is practically the same stage as he reached in the previous year, and he was no doubt disappointed to have got so near and yet so far, as he will not be eligible to compete in the next series.

Geography.—Sergt Howler (not in the blue book) was justly indignant when he learned that the Japs had re-named one of their towns Birmingham and were producing articles " made in Birmingham," thereby *confisticating* our trade. But I think he was unduly pessimistic when he prophesied that Jubbulpore would soon be re-named Wigan and classified as a home station.

The Saar.—The Saar Section have now returned home, bringing with them several trophies of football matches with German teams. As the Section team were always beaten by the Germans, the bringing home of trophies is somewhat unusual, but they were presented by the Germans to commemorate the matches. The fact that all matches were lost is not surprising when it is realised that the towns played against all had 10,000 to 30,000 inhabitants to pick from. The results were: v. Ensheim F.C. lost by 4—6, v. Puttlingen F.C. lost by 1—6, v. Clarenthall F.C. lost by 1—2. The standard of German football was quite high. The Saarbrücken team beat one of our Battalion teams by 13—0, but it was later realised that both their centre forward and centre half were German internationals, and two years previously they had lost to the Arsenal by 1—3 only. It is suggested that the Regiment should now feel confident to challenge the Spurs.

These notes cannot be finished without referring to the great friendship that existed between all ranks of the Section and all ranks of the Swedish Contingent. They were a grand lot of fellows. Many spoke English, and several very happy evenings were spent together. We played them twice at football, drawing at 3—3 and losing by 2—3.

We also played an Italian Detachment and lost by 1—3. Again, in these matches the Section was playing against teams drawn from units of Battalion strength, so they ought to feel encouraged by the successful fight they managed to put up on most occasions.

Souvenir figures of "Jimmy," about six inches high, have been sent to all our opponents, and a reply has already been received from the Swedes, expressing great appreciation of the souvenir and sending us a bound copy of their "Regimental History" (in Swedish!) and a regimental medal.

Tailpiece.—From a contemporary this morning: "Mussolini, piloting his own sea-plane, *landed* on Lake Maggiore." This should make Hitler's navy tremble on its wheels!

JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

In General.—At the moment of going to press, a number of equally exciting events are disturbing the ether. From the direction of Farnborough come staccato reports from Company rifles as zeroing is effected by Company marksmen, and from a nearer point come other staccato reports heralding the arrival of R.Q.M.S. Wensley from India.

The individual training season (of which much has already been written both in previous WIRE notes and on qualification sheets) has come to a close and, *ipso facto,* has brought the collective training season into our lives with the birth of a new day. This long awaited event, with its romantic attachment of bivouacs, camps and coffee wagons, has brought a cheerful smile to every face and lent an added pleasure to every aspect of our daily life. To those fond disciples of the back-to-nature movement, we have pleasure in announcing that our camp this year will again be at Thursley—to which truly rural spot we shall proceed in a few weeks.

Part II. Orders.—Congratulations to Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals) Clarke on his promotion to that rank; also to the appointed paid L/Corporals Simpson, Davies and Norton, and unpaid L/Corporals Owens, Stokoe, Somerville and Wilson.

Friends of Corpl Harbin will be pleased to hear that this well known athlete and Corps rugby player has succeeded in one of his life's ambitions on transfer to the Army Physical Training Establishment, and that he is now promoted sergeant and also appointed sergeant-instructor.

L/Corpl Hills, Sigmn Collins (late of India) and Sigmn Stevens (late School of Signals) have departed within the last month and returned to civil life. Whilst wishing them every success, we cannot refrain from deploring the loss of the first named, who was extremely popular in the Company and one of the greatest assets the football team have had for some years.

We welcome C.S.M. Purseglove to the administrative seat; also L/Corpl Melmore from the Depot Battalion and Signalmen Brett, Howlett, White and Williams from India.

A fond farewell to Corpl Strugnell and Signalmen Maxfield, Erridge and Robson on transfer to No. 3 Company. The somewhat hackneyed phrase of "Our loss, their gain" rises persistently before me, but cannot be enlarged upon.

Service.—Congratulations to Sigmn Gair (now recuperating at Ashington-under-Lyne) on extending his service to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Congratulations, also, to Corpl Clackett, who successfully faced the horrors of the Anti-Gas Wing at Porton and is returned to the fold and able to complete his tour with the Colours. We understand now that De Reske Minors should not be carried in anti-dimming containers.

Another Page from the Stretcher Bearer's Notebook.—"Although stretcher bearers, when carrying a patient, may find temporary relief by inverting their stretchers, the practice is not to be recommended. It may seriously incommode the patient and (if the movement be abrupt) may completely retard his recovery."

En Passant.—Wandering recently beside the Basingstoke canal (that bourne from which there is no return) I encountered my old friend Adam, plucking at his cravat and coldly eyeing the small craft skimming the azure waters of the aforesaid.

"Sculling," he said, "is not the same dear sport that I enjoyed at the old school." He stopped for a moment to return an errant skiff to the water with a well directed boot and then led me away. I ventured a question or two about dress for the summer.

"Sports coats and flannel trousers," he replied, "will undoubtedly find favour again this year"; and he suggested that it would be more decent if two creases appeared in flannel bags instead of one, as this would indicate to anyone who cared to think for a moment that the bags had been slept on at least twice instead of once only.

. . . . . .

Later in the week, when shopping in Fowlers Road, I dropped into the M.T. Stores and found an unrivalled scene of activity. The manager, observing my entrance with one eye and the end of the financial year with the other, rolled a Crossley-Kegresse back to its pigeon hole and came to meet me half way. I took a seat on the other ledger.

"Spare parts," he commenced, "are still in great demand," and by way of illustration he poured a handful of ball-bearings down my neck. He spoke excitedly of Easter, and said that he hoped to have the opportunity of introducing our Territorial visitors to the intricacies of his department. "Last year," he said, "they were asked to draw a gasket cylinder head from memory, but I have something better in mind."

When asked if workshop indents were still prepared in quadruplicate, he replied that they were. Then he added, as an afterthought, "Every copy counts."

MOLLY.

No. 2 Company.

Musketry.—The annual course is now in full swing, and we hope to have a record number of first class shots in the Company this year.

Drill Course.—The senior n.c.o.s course has now finished, and the n.c.o.s passed off (we hope) with flying colours. It is rumoured that a certain sergeant drills his Section on the way to the garages. Is he at the top of the list?

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of L/Cpl Peuleve E. at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, on 15/3/35.

We extend our deepest sympathy to C.S.M. Robertson and his wife in the loss of their son.

Arrivals.—2/Lieut. Williams and C.Q.M.S. Winkle from other Companies, Sigmn Waugh from the Training Battalion, and Sigmn Gardner from the S.T.C. Jubbulpore. We hope their stay with us will be a happy one (home from home, etc.).

Sport.—We congratulate No. 3 Company on their meritorious win by 4—2 goals in the inter-Company knock-out cup, and ourselves on winning the rugby.

Departures.—We are sorry to lose C.S.M. Purseglove on his departure to No. 1 Company. His stay with us was short and sweet. No. 2 Company's loss is No. 1's gain.

Civvy Street.—Sigmn Hutchison has departed to civvy street after twelve of the best. All the best, Jock!

Schemes.—F Section have already started schemes with their Brigade. The Staff College demonstration scheme went off o.k. in a perfect deluge of rain.

We Want to Know.—Who is the man in No. 6 Section who goes gardening after dark? Does he find any glow worms? or is it love, Nick?

We should like to announce that "Jimmy" is definitely off the cap badge. When will he get his ration bag? (visions of Oakdale).

Who is the horizontal champ of the Company?

Is a certain London club after the 2nd Div. goalkeeper? Sweat on, Snaky?

Tailpiece.—To Darky Brooks: Have you forgotten No. 6 A.S.S.? Will L/Corpl Ditchfield drop a line to Sigmn Nico'son N. of this Company?

Well, tempus fugit! BENRICK.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We are now again full of the joys of spring, everyone preparing for the forthcoming schemes and manœuvres, and looking forward to the time when they will be able to hear once again the tunes of D.iii. and W/T sets. Everyone in J and K Sections appears to be hiking mad after reading an advertisement of slimming. Weapon training has just ceased, and everyone is expecting to become at least a first class shot, as they all now know the difference between the muzzle and the butt of the rifle.

Congratulations.—We congratulate our football and hockey teams on winning the inter-Company trophy, and the rugby team on the fine performance they put up against No. 2 Company, who just won at the last minute.

Miscellaneous.—Who was the man who looked under the "W" spring for a lost cartridge?

Who was the man who took his puttees for exchange because they were too tight?

What has happened to the crasher? (two Morris Minors in three days).

And above all, who was the D.R. who was dreaming of love and found himself embracing old mother earth? (bear up, Busty).

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Funnell on attaining that rank and on finishing top in the junior n.c.o.s drill and duties course; also to U/L/Corpl Humby S. on attaining that rank.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain G. W. Odell as our new O.C. and hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

L/Corporal Reveli and Signalmen Dunlop, Bunn, Walker, Adamson, McGuiness, Withers, Donovan, Smith and Lane from overseas. Signalmen Walton, Waugh, Roberts, Horstead and James from the Depot Battalion, Catterick. We welcome you all with open arms, and trust you will enjoy walking around the countryside during the forthcoming training season.

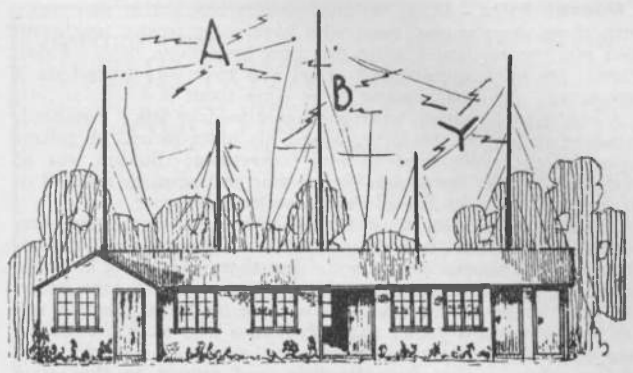
Postings: Inter-Company.—Corporal Strugnell, Signalmen Erridge, Maxfield, Robson and Pearce. (It is thought that the Morris cars will be lengthened for a certain individual.)

Obituary.—We offer our deepest sympathy to C.S.M. Robertson and his wife in their recent bereavement.

Courses.—Congratulations to Corporal Walker and Signalmen Holmes H. and Barrett on obtaining their op. sig. B.i., and to L/Corporal Grieve and Signalmen Barrow, Hamerton, Potts and Steward on obtaining their op. sig. B.ii.

Births.—Congratulations to C.S.M. and Mrs. Robertson on the birth of a daughter (Elizabeth Margaret), and to L/Corpl and Mrs. Webster on the birth of a son (Anthony Trevor). May all their troubles be little ones. Don't forget to give the Canadian "quins" a break.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling all Cads.—Pop! Pop!! Pop!!!—The annual battale of Ash took place on the 8th and 9th April. With much cursing, etc., the troops rose from their charpoys about 4.45 a.m. each morning and staggered around in a daze until 5.55 a.m., when they trotted on parade. During this time the male voice chorus, under the direction of Willie (Toe-Grip) Macken (leader, George (Tich) Summers) rendered monologues on old soldiers' views of the Army.

Hostilities commenced at 7 a.m. each morning, and considering the monsoon conditions on the second day, results were satisfactory. The Company returned an average of 61.5 and has only two second class shots in its ranks. Sigmn (Snake-in-the-Grass) Nicholson demonstrated to us what sort of shot you must be to really earn the Frontier gong. He finished at the top with 83. This score was entirely due to my coaching (advt.).

Miniature.—Pop! Pop!! Popping!!!—The Company Rifle Club is going strong, and we are determined to lift the Powell cup this year (it will look very nice alongside the cricket shield). A pool bull shoot is held twice weekly, but so far the most skilled shot in the Company has not won a pool. I hope to do so very soon.

Arrivals.—2319398 Sigmn Hampson F. arrived on 29/3/35 from India. At present he is enjoying the leave he earned (?) out in that country.

Re-Engagements.—Corpl Chamberlain J. and L/Corpl Abbott W. re-engaged to complete twenty-one years. I must congratulate Willie and myself on this step. The Army certainly likes to keep their best men.

Gertcha.—(As a typist, I am in despair.) The theme song for the month has been "I've got a system which can't go wrong," proposed and composed by Ron Stanley.

Correction.—As from 4/5/35, for "Manchester City" read "Lancashire."

Up in His Trade.—Congratulations to Sigmn Verlander E. on his rise to o.s. B.ii. The extra pice for this and his Service pay allow him to sweat on a few more lines each Saturday.

AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Corporal Powell to be Corporal w.e.f. 13/2/35. U/L/Corpl O'Malley to be L/Corporal w.e.f. 29/10/34, and U/L/Corpl Harper w.e.f. 10/1/35.

Trade Tests.—L/Sergt Hodgson to be lineman C.i. Corpl Powell to be lineman B.i. Signalmen Boughen, Couzens and Lewin to be linemen C.ii. Signalmen Carmichael and Merriman to be linemen C.iii. L/Corpl Harper to be electrician fitter A.ii. Sigmn Pescod to be electrician fitter A.iii.

Departures.—Signalmen Brown R., Caulfield R. and Pritchard E. left us for Egypt on 9/4/35. Corpl Gresham leaves for Ceylon on 18/4/35.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Blake A. E. from Gibraltar. Sigmn Jones F. from China.

There is the news in a nut-shell.

General Notes.—First, let me express my entire agreement with those clear-headed ones who have come to the conclusion (and told me so) that I write the most lamentable bosh. I do! I write the most unmitigated drivel that ever was tapped on a typewriter. So what's going to be done about it ?

A loud groan went up when the Egyptian draft left. Pritchard, standing upright in the lorry, waved his topee to us. A gallant figure he cut. We were all very lachrymose. Buxton was so overcome by the loss of dear Enoch that he had to be assisted to his couch, where he lay all day prostrate with grief.

It would be no disgrace if Corpl Gresham, after twenty years adventurous service, had decided on felt slippers, the old arm-chair and the tea-pot on the hob. But there is nothing like that about our Joe, so he is packing his kit now and will soon be on the seas, bound for Ceylon. Let us hope that his example will not be lost on those young and foolish ones who work themselves into a state of dithery apprehension a month or so before the draftin return is due from Records, and remain in that state until the last trooper has sailed at the end of the following trooping season. A representative from the old established firm of Newara Eliya will meet Corpl Gresham on the quayside at Colombo.

We all went to Portsmouth on Thursday 4th April to support the hockey team, who met the 4th Battery 2nd A.A. Brigade R.A. in the final of the Air Defence Brigade hockey competition. We were defeated by 3—1, but to have reached the final was a feather in our cap. We are very small in numbers compared with the Batteries and the Companies of the Searchlight Battalion R.E. engaged in the competition. It rained cats and dogs, but we had a good time, and my recollections of Pompey are pleasant but hazy.

What About It.—To L.B., D Company, S.T.C.: There's plenty of paper in the Company office. What about it ?

To Busty Keywood, Malta: Best respects from Fanny.

To Lofty, Tidworth: Brave man, you're first. J.M.G. Also to Lofty: Remember when we were Eddie polo fans? E.F.M.

E.F.M.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

General.—As you can see by the address, we have all been posted. A.F.V. Signals became the Tank Brigade Signals on the 1st April last. Does that mean that we are all April fools ? (Huh! why bring the month into it, anyway ?)

The Tank Sections now become Sections of Tank Brigade Signals, with their formations as follows:—

A Section—Headquarters 1st Tank Brigade.
B Section—2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps.
C Section—3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps.
D Section—1st (Light) Battalion Royal Tank Corps.
E Section—5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps.

The Sections will still remain with us, as hitherto, during the winter months, but join their respective formations during collective training.

The old No. 4 Tank Signal Section has now become No. 6 Tank Signal Section, with its station at Catterick, permanently attached to the 4th Battalion Royal Tank Corps. F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals become an independent unit attached to the 12th Royal Lancers.

The new state of affairs wants some getting used to, and our old name is fast becoming but a memory.

The R/T course for R.T.C. personnel ended on 8/4/35, and a new course was started to instruct R.A. personnel in the mysteries or otherwise of No. 1 sets. This course is now going strong.

The revolver people have finished their period of intensive training, and I must congratulate them on the results. Only two failures—s'good shooting, y'know. The trouble comes, though, when the first prize has to be shared.

The unit breaks up on the 18th April for the Easter break, and after that the rifle dead eyes get going. I hope we have better weather, anyway.

Departures.—We have said au revoir to No. 6 Tank Signal Section, and sincerely hope that they will enjoy every success in their new station. Of course, they have been there before, so it won't come strange to them. We can rely on them to keep up the old prestige—whether it's at work or shove-ha'penny. The composition of the Section is as follows: 2/Lieut. F. P. Rickard, L/Sergt Bye E., L/Corporal Lamont W., Signalmen Andrew E., Fox W., Jameson R., Marshall E., Metcalfe W. and Scott F., and Driver (I.C.) Sides R. W. Let's hear from you fellers. What about a monthly contribution of notes to THE WIRE?

Sigmn Ingram C. has left us for discharge to civvy street. All ranks wish him the best of luck and success. A line or two, Inky, will be appreciated.

L/Corpl Hubbard F. and Signalmen McGinn J. and Oliver U. to Egypt on 9/4/35. Watch Mac, Egypt Signals—he's the goods at soccer. Best of luck, boys! Save me a corner bed.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following with open arms, and hope their stay with us will never be regretted. L/Cpl Berry W. and Signalmen Richardson, Wilson T. and Rousseau J. from overseas.

L/Corpl Galbraith A. C. and Sigmn Mornington S. are back in the fold from Leeds and Oxford respectively. I hope they won't stray any more. It's not good for them.

Aintgotnotimeformorenow. RUSTY.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Explanations.—No doubt, one is expected to explain the absence of notes, but so far I have been quite unable to think of a sufficiently good excuse for my lapse last month. However, it behoves me to redintegrate myself in the eyes of my fellow creatures, and after due deliberation I have decided to offer just one explanation: I have been too busy. Never let it be said that you don't believe me.

Our Invalids.—A late bulletin issued last night informs me that our distinguished patients in dock are now able to sit up and take a little nourishment (they tell me it is a *very* little, too) and I am sure the Troop will join me in wishing them all a speedy recovery.

I should like to discover why Von religiously chooses this particular time of year to take to bed. I expect he alone knows the answer. Still, the weather is improving, and a spot of sick leave avec R/A at higher rate does propel one along a trifle, more especially if one's wife happens to be in sublime ignorance.

Sport.—Football is now on the ebb, and I think most of the Troop are not really sorry. Let us say that it has been a season of ups and down, with perhaps emphasis on the downs. However, a very pleasing performance was accomplished at Aldershot last month. We visited our old rivals D Troop, whom we managed to defeat by 2—1 goals after a most enjoyable game.

The hockey eleven also did excellent work by sharing the spoils with a team which, on paper, was definitely stronger than ours.

We are now looking forward to the advent of King Willow, and hope to have a successful season.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Timbrell from the Training Battalion. We hope he will soon settle down in his new surroundings.

Calling Pete.—Thanks for somewhat co-extensive reply to my letter. I am simply bursting with news, so you can expect an epistle shortly. Ted. E.T.P.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We must open our notes this month by offering our congratulations to our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel C. P. Prescot, on his promotion.

Our Garrison digging fatigue ended on the 31st March, and we are now engaged in getting ready for the King's Jubilee parade and our annual musketry course. A refresher course for class i. tradesmen is also being held. Feverish activity is evident in the workshops, where vehicles are being painted by a mechanical spray painter borrowed from the R.E.s.

No. 2 A.S.S. has already joined its Brigade at Larkhill, and the two others will be doing so after Easter.

We hear that we are also to form another Section, No. 9 A.S.S.—which will give No. 2 Company seven Sections to look after. The only snag at the moment is the housing of personnel and vehicles.

This year we have to run the D.R. Display in the Southern Command Tattoo, and we start serious work on the 1st May, by which time all the machines will have arrived. This year Nortons have the contract, and the trial machine which was sent down a few weeks ago was certainly a lovely piece of workmanship. A.F.V. Signals, who ran the show so successfully for three years, have given us several useful tips as a result of their valuable experience.

There is nothing more to say except that a certain distinguished n.c.o. who has recently sailed for the West Indies, after his final interview, marched out of the orderly room and dived headlong down the steps and straight through the trellis work on to the orderly room garden, complete with kit bags and topee. Perhaps he was putting in a little diving practice in anticipation of many pleasant bathes abroad. Who knows ?

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Bruton and Signalmen MacAlister, Fitzpatrick and Griffiths from India on 17/3/35. L/Corpl Barnett, M.M., from India on 29/3/35. L/Cpl Henwood and Signalmen Macfarlane, Morgan, Stewart, Rogers, Clegg, Heelam and Perkins from India on 31/3/35. Sigmn Christie A. A. from India on 4/4/35. Driver Scott from the Depot Battalion on 4/4/35. Signalmen Paris and Oliphant from China on 9/4/35.

Departures.—Corpl Farmer to the Training Battalion ; L/Cpl Surfleet, Signalmen Smith A., Blackburn, Dwyer, Wilkins, Perrin, Cameron and Watts, and Driver Williams to Egypt ; Sigmn Etheridge to Gibraltar—all on 9/4/35.

Promotion and Appointments.—L/Corpl Dodd C. L. to be Corporal, 3/2/35. Signalmen Mackenzie D., Kime W. and Hickmore L. to be U/L/Corporals, 23/3/35.

Marriages.—Corpl Roberts to Beryl Irene James at Portsmouth on the 9th April.

Births.—To Signalman and Mrs. I. Lewis, on the 1st April, a daughter, Shirley Ann.

Sergeants Mess.

This month, there is actually something to write about. A round dozen of the Salisbury Branch of the Signals Association visited us on Friday evening, 5th April, and engaged us in a games tournament.

R.S.M. Harrison T. and a good crowd of our members gave the visitors a hearty welcome. A merry evening, beyond a doubt, and in the opinion of all, the sort of thing that might with advantage be arranged more frequently. All the usual saloon bar sports were held, not forgetting the inevitable shove-ha'penny. Goodness knows what the final result was! No one really worried about that, although I believe C.S.M. Seymour did make an announcement of some sort. Most involved and very complicated. Too technical.

Mr. (ex-Sergeant) Cook, late of Quetta, arrived for the evening from Chisledon, looking very fit and with general outline unchanged. Rumour had it that the A.F.V. Signals were likely to drop in ; but, as usual, Dame Rumour lived up to her reputation.

L/Sergeants Humphrey and Ayres will be back next week after a course at Feltham. We look forward with confidence to a rise in the tone of the Mess. Cotton wool will be issued at breakfast for those dining members who are not interested in the antics of internal combustion engines. Now that the weather is a little milder, non-dining members are heartily welcome to monopolise the fire during breakfast.

The best of luck to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tich White and his wife on their departure to Jamaica.

Billiards.—We did our best in this line of sport, but to beat the league leaders proved too much for us. Some time ago we had every reason to think that we would this year win the cup, but in the end we had to be satisfied as runners-up.

At 6.30 p.m. on the 26th March we were in the 5th Light Brigade Mess, awaiting the arrival of O.C. Troops, Bulford, who presented the cup and medals to the 5th Light Brigade and the runners-up cup to our team. The final top placings were 5th Light Brigade 55 points, Royal Signals 50, Royal Engineers 37.

The cups having been presented, the winners proceeded to let the wine flow, and all present had quite a good and convivial evening (ask C.S.M. Thomas).

The result of the matches played the same evening between the Rest of the League and the 5th Light Brigade went a little in the latter's favour (home ground).

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Next year we are hoping to go one better and bring the League cup back to the Mess.

Teams—Billiards: C.S.M. Thomas, L/Sergeants Luck and Brook, and Sergt Goble. Snooker: R.S.M. Harrison, R.Q.M.S. Adcock, and L/Sergeants Butcher and Ayres.

Corporals Mess.

It is regretted that we were unable to include notes from the Mess last month. Our scribe, it seems, wrote them but forgot to send them in. That is, of course, just an excuse to start with here ; so please forgive us this time, and we will promise to keep them up in future.

I expect you think this a horrible way of starting WIRE notes. But to tell the truth, our regular scribe is so busy punching up (and in his spare time poshing up) for our bi-weekly drill parades and the like, that I have to take on the job of scribe for the Mess—a bad scribe being, in my opinion, better than no scribe at all.

The two most important events of the past few weeks have been an invitation to a smoker and games tournament with our neighbours the Corporals of the A.F.V. Signals at Tidworth, and a whist drive held in the mess.

The former was held at Tidworth on the 9th March, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by the members of both Messes. I cannot remember who won the games tournament, but I have a vague recollection that it was the home team. I prefer to say this, for safety's sake. But as regards the smoker, we more than held our own, for our turns topped the bill, especially the chair tricks by Jock Cowe and Bob Hakesley, our stars. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and shortly hope to return the invitation on as grand a scale.

On the 27th March a whist drive was held in the mess. This was carried out with the aid of score cards kindly given by the Sergeants Mess—our organiser, it seems, having forgotten this little detail. With the aid of a whistle borrowed from B Cable Section, we commenced the shuffle, and after a lot of twisting and card sharping, we eventually decided who had won. The awards of merit went to L/Corpl Kime (top), with the Misses Roberts and Bailey a close second and third ; not forgetting the booby, which was won by Miss Bertha Burrell, who confessed that she was a little off form that evening but hoped to do better next time. That wasn't the end of it, though. The surprise

came when our organiser had to announce that he had forgotten to get the prizes. This was greeted with cries of "Throw him out!" and "Let me get at him!" etc. As an excuse he said that the truncheon scar on the back of his neck had caused him to forget this little detail. However, the whist drive, apart from such small set-backs, was voted a great success, and we hope to hold them once a month in the future, so "Here's to the next time."

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General Unit Notes.

During the month Section training has been in full swing, in preparation for the Divisional signal exercise on the 2nd and 3rd May. This has been found rather difficult, especially in No. 3 Company, owing to the shortage of personnel and M.T. vehicles.

After the Easter break, we shall be carrying out unit exercises and also preliminary musketry instruction for n.c.o.s.

This year the unit is going into musketry camp at Hythe, in two parties. It will be quite a change from barracks, especially if the weather is as kind as it was last year when we were in musketry camp at Cockwatch, Colchester.

The A.D.V.S. Eastern Command carried out his annual inspection on the 19th March and, judging from the report received, everything was satisfactory. The A.D.R. is due to visit us on the 16th April. We have also had a visit from Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command) and Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. (G.S.O.1).

On the 29th March an all ranks dance was held in the gymnasium. It was a good show, and thanks are due to C.S.M. Terrell and his committee for the hard work they put in to make it a success.

The inter-Section football knock-out has been held, and it ended in a great final between B and D Sections. The latter ran out winners by 4—1.

The unit athletic meeting (individual events) was held on the 12th April, and the results will be shown in the next Sports Notes of this unit.

The Wives' Social Club held their monthly meeting on the 10th April. After tea the members proceeded to the Cathedral, where a delightfully conducted tour was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

No. 1 Company.

General.—This past month saw Company and Section training well under way, and the square, prior to the departure each morning of the various Sections, looked like an overflow from the Motor Show at Olympia.

Being great admirers of the old adage "All work, etc.," we have also been playing. A Section football competition was organised within the unit, which resulted in D Section beating B Cable Section in the final by 4—1. Following the football, we held a Company tabloid sports meeting, and again D Section ran out worthy winners by a large margin of points. In fact, I think we might offer D Section our congratulations.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Holland E. on attaining that rank (Quetta Signals, please note). To Sigmn Burdett I. on his re-engagement to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Births.—To L/Cpl and Mrs. Camp a daughter, Shirley Anne, on 8/3/35.

Arrivals.—Quite numerous this month. In view of the forthcoming exercises, etc., they are specially welcome. From S.T.C. Catterick, Sigmn Morrow M. and Driver Parnham D. From India, Signalmen Hague T. and Given D. From China, Signalmen Oakey, Cunningham, Hoare, Becker and Larking.

Departures.—Sigmn Larkin E. to Scarborough. Sigmn Kerr A. to S.T.C. Catterick. Driver Hannaford to civvy street.

Tailpiece.—2nd Cavalry Divl Signals, Sialkot: My short wave set works. Dove. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—During the past few weeks Section training has been in full swing, but owing to the heavy demands on personnel of this Company, the Sections are at present working with sadly depleted numbers. We hope that, by the time Brigade training commences, Records will have boosted up our Company strength. At present our fitters, etc., are shaping like first class linemen.

Departures.—On the 8th April we bade farewell to the following, who left us for Egypt Signals: L/Corpl Russell, Signalmen Hipperson, Pickford, Gammond, Nisbet and Arnold, and Drivers Merrick and Thomas.

Royal Tournament.—The unit entered a team for the Eastern Command bronze medal tournament at Hounslow. The riders who comprised the team were Corporal Cowell, L/Corporals McConnell and McAuliffe, and Sigmn Read. It was a cold wet day and not too good for jumping. Sigmn Read had a clear round, and L/Corpl McAuliffe lost only two points. A mistake at the wall lost L/Cpl McConnell four points, and Corpl Cowell's mare (which had been getting clear rounds every day in the practices) had the bad luck to hit three obstacles with her fore legs, so that the team was not one of the two selected to go on to Olympia. There are, however, great hopes of scoring some local successes during the coming summer.

Easter Leave.—Judging by the applications in the Company office, nearly everyone in the Company hopes to go on Easter leave, but there will have to be some unlucky ones unless they all take the horses home with them to keep the grass down in the back garden. Judging by the endearing words that one hears in the stables, it beats me how some of the lads can leave their long-eared friends even for a few days.

Sports.—A Company trial was held in March to find promising talent for the forthcoming unit sports. Judging by the results, we hope to lift a few firsts. In the unit inter-Section football knock-out, E Section lost by 0—1 in the semi-final to D Section, who went on to win the final. It was a good clean sporting game, and the issue was in doubt up to the last minute. Congratulations to D on winning, not forgetting Sigmn Peach, who controlled the game to everyone's satisfaction.

We meet No. 3 Company shortly in the inter-Company, and if we cannot win this cup, well—I shall just have to polish the posh Staff race cup reposing (full of dust) on our Company office sideboard. Don't forget, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies: walk in and see it some time.

Air Mail.—To Ginger, Tientsin Signal Section, from Dick: Have a wee drappie on my name.

Late News.—Our congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Watson on the birth of a son. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Section training is still in full swing, but owing to the shortage of personnel, which necessitates the borrowing of men from other Sections, it is found that when on schemes the real object of Section training is amiss. Perhaps this may be rectified when Sections are fully mechanised and have no need to borrow men and vehicles from others. J and L Sections have each been issued with two No. 1 sets, and their W/T cars are expected towards the end of the month.

We are gradually losing our long-faced chums, having sent three chargers to the Remount Depot and two L.D. each to Nos. 1 and 2 Companies. We are hoping that we shall soon lose the remainder of our animals, or our Section sergeants will be getting mixed up with feed scales and petrol consumption.

The general topic of the day now is Easter leave, and we are fortunate in being able to grant five days leave to all those who desire a lay-in. On the day after their return from leave, we start unit schemes in readiness for the Divisional exercise in which J and L Sections are taking part, and by the time these notes are published that exercise will be in full swing.

We commence musketry instruction on the 6th May prior to firing our annual course at Hythe towards the end of that month.

Obituary.—Again it is to my regret that I announce another death, and this time our sympathies are extended to Corpl and Mrs. Wellock in the loss of their youngest daughter Diane, who passed away after a short illness on 22/3/35. During the past nine months Corpl and Mrs. Wellock have had a tremendous amount of bad luck. We all sympathise with them, and hope their future may be much happier.

Arrivals.—We welcome R.S.M. McGregor, L/Corpl Hudson, Signalmen Syers, Packham and Worley to the Company from India. May they soon settle down to soldiering in England on their return from leave.

The following have arrived from Catterick, and the usual welcome is extended to them: Signalmen Allgood H., Dixon M., Dunnichie G. and Cooke G.

Drafts.—We said good-bye to L/Sergt Penn G., L/Corporal Howard J., and Signalmen Barnett S. and Searle S. on Monday 8th April, when they departed for Egypt. Sigmn Barnett had a rather hurried departure, for he was not warned until Saturday 6th April, although he had been waiting man for the China draft. May you soon settle down with Egypt Signals, and don't forget that small portion of wedding cake, George, when the happy day comes along. In Sigmn Searle we are losing a very promising goalie who has played some very good games in our unit team, so look after him during his tour in Egypt.

Courses.—L/Corporals Wilbraham H. and Main W. have returned from their P.T. and G.P.O. courses, and although no official reports are to hand, I understand that both have done very well.

On the 1st May Corpl Brookes G. and Sigmn Carr J. depart on vocational courses. We wish them the best of luck, and future employment in civvy street when they finish their respective courses.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Cpl Ross W. S. on his recent promotion to that rank. He was on leave when he was promoted, so there were no sounds of "The drinks are on me"—and being a Scotsman, nuff said.

Marriage.—Congratulations are extended in advance to Sigmn Semmence W. on his marriage to Miss Anna Alexandra Greenfield at Colchester during the Easter holidays. JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—Musketry, Section training, Jubilee celebrations, Trade Boards, education and Easter leave. Phew! From the above, one should be able to get some notes. Well, one can; but whether they will be very interesting is another matter.

The days of ground sheet, bandolier, rifle and gas bag have arrived, and parties can daily be seen drifting into the distance. It is too early to give any results, but with the weather we have had of late, one can expect anything—or nothing. It has certainly been ideal weather for seeing the Lancers.

The majority of No. 2 Company have completed their firing. No. 1 Company are fortunate in being the last to visit the ranges. For small mercies we are truly thankful, for the weather, we are told, is about to pick up. The only picking up of late has been that of kerosene oil drums from my rhubarb bed—due, no doubt, to the high winds of late.

Section training must be in the offing, as No. 3 Artillery Section have left us for Catterick and some of the hibernated individuals have returned to Scarborough for a visit to Scalby ranges.

Up to the moment the Jubilee celebrations have not greatly affected us. However, there is plenty of time to hear more of them.

Another Trade Board has just ended, and we look forward to seeing a few more ratings being obtained by the drivers. Not being immune from the Scarborough marriage bug, they can, no doubt, find a very good use for any extra pice that might come along. A second class certificate of education also helps to procure a banking account, and it is up to each and every driver to make sure of at least 3d. per day extra by obtaining that certificate. However, the best of luck!

Humoresque.—Some unit correspondents offer a monthly biscuit, and others a belt, for the joke of the month. But I ask you, what can one offer for the following?

"Yes, he had that stomach complaint Benedictus" (that internal chant, as it were).

"If you watch carefully, you will be able to see the invisible gas" (shades of Frankenstein!)

Society of Clod-Pickers.—The season has opened amid scenes of great activity. Different classes of society have been named the "queer set," but surely none has earned this appellation more than the above.

Being in a position to see this society at work very frequently, I wonder what can be seen in gardening in the frost or with a gale of 80 m.p.h. blowing merrily towards the sea. One day last week was ideal for work in the garden, but, lo and behold! the allotment boasted two workers only. The football match had not started, and was not due to start for a couple of hours, so it couldn't be that.

It is not true that if a competition for produce grown exclusively by the ladies is organised, the June flower and vegetable show would be a flop.

This month's gardening hint—A pointed dibber is not ideal for use in planting potatoes unless the potatoes are all similarly pointed. What is wrong with the spade?

Lottery Mart.—The following have been successful during the month, and the prizes do not go to Scarborough entrants. Tears have not been responsible for the recent high tides. L/Sergeant Small F., M.M., to Miss Minnie Morris at Ebberston, Yorks. L/Corpl Crouch L. to Miss Elsie Jewitt at Leadgate, Durham. Driver Boardman J. to Miss Ellen Walkden at Bolton, Lancs. Here's to the health of all and sundry! Cut yourself a piece of cake.

Births.—Ha! Notice the rush to get in before the end of the financial year. A good job it wasn't a day later. To Corporal Kelly J. a daughter. Jacqueline, 22/2/35. To Sigmn Hyde R. a daughter, Audrey, 22/3/35. To C.Q.M.S. Anderson A. a son, Brian William, 31/3/35. To L/Cpl Smith C. M. a son, Trevor Mannian, 31/3/35. Congratulations to all! We shall have to start a baby show next. As I am not a qualified judge, I do not mind suggesting this.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Webb H. J. E. and Crawford F. on getting a little further up the ladder. To the others who are sweating, a word of advice: sweat on.

Movements.—To all who have recently arrived, we extend the usual greetings. We shall hope to know you better very soon. To those who have departed to other spheres, we wish bon voyage and the best of luck. May we meet again soon.

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Little of interest has occurred during the past month except some glorious weather.

We congratulate Lieut. Aldridge on his marriage, and wish him luck and prosperity in the future. Sergt Davies returned from leave—and not alone. We wish him luck and prosperity also.

The Line Section are engaged in erecting lines for a small exchange in barracks. What with new married quarters and up-to-date gadgets, the map of Victoria Barracks is undergoing a change.

I wish those at the out-stations were not quite so modest with their contributions, for now there is nothing else but to take a look at Part II.

Arrivals and Departures.—Rumours only.

Education.—We congratulate Sigmn Davidson A. on gaining his first class certificate with a 'D' in maths, and Sigmn Rowden on passing in geography towards completion of the certificate.

Moves: Inter-Unit.—Corpl Salmon from a G.P.O. course at Leeds to Londonderry. L/Corpl Turner from Derry to Baronscourt. Signalmen Lawley and McCormack to Magilligan for W/T duty. Sigmn Eccles from Derry to Belfast. L/Corpl Raine from temporary duty at Derry to Omagh.

Mainly for . . . . . .—There are two well-known personages in our midst: a tenor who murders "Songs of Erin" and a delicate laddie who was a stockbroker prior to his Army career. Quite a heated discussion took place the other day between these noted persons as to whether salmon was fish. The stockbroker asserted that it very definitely was not. The matter was referred to me, and after sampling the menu that lead to that discussion, the prize should be awarded to the stockbroker.

I heard another good story from a celebrity who claims to have been a bookie until one day he received the following letter: "Dear sir. After taking your racing tips for many months, I am now on my way to the workhouse. Yours, etc, Jackend."

Mail.—Tiny, A.C.S.C.: Still here. Write soon. George.

Gib. Signal Section: Thank you. I am c . . . . now, bust . . Sergt W. E. B.

Tailpiece.—So sorry! HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

General News.—The Indian Signal Corps extends to all the big military centres of India and has detached Sections in many out-of-the-way places. Men come and go between units and the Training Centre—out as recruits, and back again later on as instructors. It must always be of interest to them to know what is going on in Jubbulpore.

The Training Centre is constantly changing, because it is always getting more and more efficient. Things cannot stand still ; they must either move on and improve, or go back and become slack and bad. This applies to every part of military life in both work and play. Our Training Centre has grown steadily since it was established here, and the visible signs of progress are our well kept barracks, institute, horse lines and the Copeland sports ground.

The new Boys Company is the latest demonstration of moving forward. The development of the boys is very noticeable, and every few months something new in methods of training and their sports activities can be clearly seen.

It used to be said of the Indian Army that they disliked change, and that they preferred to go on and on at the same routine. There is little sign of this nowadays—certainly not here. Improvement in everything is eagerly sought by the men as well as their officers.

It has occurred to us that the Fauji Akbar might be utilised a great deal more as a means of communication between the Centre and the units. We cannot yet undertake to run a Corps Journal like THE WIRE, but no doubt we will after another few years. In the meanwhile, we should learn to write for the Press and encourage reading.

The biggest event in the Training Centre during the cold weather was the mounted sports in February. It was a big social event in Jubbulpore, and the whole Station attended. The Copeland sports ground makes a very fine arena. It is low-lying and always very green and pleasant. There is a first class cinder running track, and the spectators' side of the ground is nicely laid out with plants and flowers. There is a big screen erected on the left, behind which the performers get ready, so that everyone gets a pleasant surprise when they suddenly appear.

The show commenced with the S.T.C. individual jumping, which was again won by our invincible Sergt Green. Then came the open jumping, which was a very fine display of horsemanship. This was followed by Section tent pegging, for which there were a large number of entries. This was won by F Field Brigade Signal Section.

After an interval for tea, during which the Pipe Band played and was very greatly admired by everyone, the Boys Company gave their P.T. display. On previous occasions, it took half an hour ; but to fit into this programme, it had to be done in fifteen minutes. The usual sort of P.T. display is often very uninteresting and everyone has seen it before, so the boys were determined to do something quite new. To begin with, every boy in the Company took part. They were not just a selected few. They came on at the double to the music of the Pipe Band and did a series of evolutions rather like a cavalry musical ride. They then formed up, extended, and did a short series of P.T. exercises, perfectly timed and without any words of command. After this they marched off and formed up in two parties. One party broke off and at the double smartly laid out the vaulting horse, parallel bars and mats, and (strange to relate) a big live grey horse. Then began the show that thrilled and amused the whole audience. Moving off singly at the double, at about twenty paces intervals, each boy went round the course doing a series of gymnastic exercises, ending with a dive from a springboard right over the live horse. This was a sort of " handy hunters course on foot." To finish off, a tableau was formed in the middle of the arena, complete with the grey horse, and the smartest boy saluting high up in the sky.

The best event was yet to come—E Company's tandem drive. First came a section of mounted trumpeters, who blew a fanfare. They were in full dress. They took post at the four corners of the ground, and then, to the music of the band, came four tandem teams of beautifully matched horses. They were in perfect condition and their coats glistened in the sun. This was a real musical ride and an exhibition of first class horsemanship and horsemastership. It went to show that, although we are rapidly being mechanised, our equitation is by no means being neglected and can hold its own with any other Corps in the Army. This concluded a very successful entertainment.

The recruits and the Boys Company went to camp during Feb. The recruits chose a very pleasant spot about eight miles from barracks, near a large tank, at Khamaria.

The boys, however, went further afield, and during the course of a fortnight had no less than five different camps. They must have covered something over 120 miles in eleven days. The first march was a short one of five miles to Robertson College grounds, where the principal (Mr. Rowlands) very kindly allowed them to use the football ground. They had a hockey match with the College that afternoon, and after a very fast and hard fought game drew with them at 4—4.

The next march was about eight miles to near Pariat Tank. A pleasant site was found near the river, and here four very happy days were spent. The programme was designed to give a complete change from barrack routine, and to teach march and camp discipline and elementary tactics. In the end, the tactics became anything but elementary and would have put old soldiers to shame. Exercises in approach march formations, attack, defence, and withdrawal were carried out very intelligently, showing that each boy knew exactly what was wanted and did his bit to achieve the object in view. One boy, to evade capture, jumped into a canal and was immediately followed by the attacker. Fortunately, it was fairly shallow and it was a nice warm day.

After four days at Pariat, during which the whole countryside was thoroughly explored, a move was made to a spot near the village of Ghugri. The route chosen was cross country skirting the north edge of Pariat Lake. The going was very difficult, first over rocks, then through thick jungle ; then a marsh, more jungle, and for the last two miles through very pleasant open country. Four days were spent here on rather high ground, and delightfully cool compared with the previous camp. But the river was rather too far away, and this camp was not so popular as Pariat. A certain amount of excitement was caused by a tiger kill near the village, but it did not cause much loss of sleep.

The homeward journey was completed in three stages, with the last camp alongside the recruits at Khamaria. No boy ever fell out on any march or showed the slightest desire to do so, and they all returned thoroughly fit and well. The only casualties were minor injuries at games *in camp*.

Howler from the Boys Company.—English lesson. Teacher: "In the group photograph, where was the Colonel Sahib?" Boy: "He was seated in the heart of the officers."

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Arrivals.—We welcome the return of Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E. This time he comes in the capacity of Commandant S.T.C. (India) and O.C. Signal Training Battalion. May his stay be a happy one.

Departures.—Very soon, but not at the moment, we expect to see some very old faces disappear. Some of them should know all the landmarks around this district.

On the 5th March we said farewell to the following, who left for home stations or civilian life: R.Q.M.S. Wensley (good morning!), L/Corporals Revill, Dean and Cooper, Signalmen McPartland, Slaney, Atmeare, Smith A., Worley, Thomas and Syers. Corpl McKinnon, L/Corporals Driver and Richardson, and Signalmen Bourton and Hull also left for six months furlough.

What is worrying me at the moment is how these " poor Tommies " rake up the passage money. Any contributions will be gratefully received.

We Would Like to Know.—Who should get a job in a broadcasting station when he leaves the Service, and why ? (I know, but I may get other names submitted.)

Shooting Team.—Congratulations to the Company shooting team on their splendid effort in winning the Brigade open match on the 1st Battalion King's Regiment range on the 6th March. Well done! we are proud of you all. MUTT-CUM-GOODY.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Apology.—Following the loss of our noted WIRE correspondent, Corpl Denyer—who recently left us for U.K.—we have been unable to secure a successor. We hope and trust that our members will forgive the absence of notes.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome to the following, who have recently joined us: Captain and Mrs. W. H. N. Dent, Captain and Mrs. C. D. Hinds, Lieutenants Hay, Prince and Blaker, and L/Corporal Storey.

Departures.—Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., Captain J. W. D. Harries and R.S.M. Wray to U.K. We consider this a great loss to B Corps. C.S.M. Eastes is leaving us to join the 1st Indian Divl Signals. C.Q.M.S. Wells and Sergeants Warren and Broadhead to Waziristan District Signals. Sigmn Christie and family to U.K. To all we wish the very best of luck in their new stations.

General.—An enjoyable evening was spent (so I hear) when Colonel Yule was at home to some of his friends and married families of B Corps and the 1st Indian Divl Signals. Camels were provided for the amusement of the kiddies (to ride upon, of course), and the ladies, remembering that they were once young themselves, also indulged in the same means of locomotion. This was followed by tea, after which the families bade adieu to the colonel, thanking him for the interest he had taken in their welfare, and asking him to carry their best wishes to Mrs. Yule as an appreciation of her kindness to those with whom she came in contact.

There was another farewell on the 17th February, when the colonel spent a last night with the Indian officers. A brief history of the Yule family in India was given by Jemadar Ram Rakka Singh, followed by the presentation of two handsome electric table lamps.

Colonel Yule finally departed on the night of the 19th February, and the number of friends and admirers who thronged the station platform was incredible.

Congratulations.—To the Combined Signals team on obtaining second place in the District athletic meeting. To the hockey team (B Corps Signals) on being runners-up in the District hockey championship.

Complimentary.—Special Northern Command Order of the 7th March 1935 is republished for the information of all ranks.

"*Complimentary.*—On the departure of B Corps Signals from Rawalpindi, the Army Commander wishes to express his appreciation of the work carried out by this unit during its stay in the Northern Command. During this period the unit has taken part in the third Afghan war (1919) and has supplied detachments for every minor operation on the Frontier and also in Burma. B Corps Signals have, throughout this long period, maintained a high standard of efficiency and discipline, and the Army Commander is confident that all ranks, both British and Indian, will continue to maintain this standard in their new Command."

Finale.—On the change-over of A Corps and this unit, we say "Welcome!" and hope your stay in the Punjab will be as happy as ours has been. BEKORE.

Sergeants Mess.

Farewell Dinner to Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule.—For some days prior to his leaving B Corps, there were a number of farewells. Many kind speeches were made by Colonel Yule and ably replied to by R.S.M. Wray. At the conclusion of our dinner, the Mess adjourned for a games tournament—Officers v. Sergeants Mess—in which keen competition was displayed on both sides.

On the morning of the 19th February our worthy R.S.M. (Mr. Wray) took his departure from the land of baksheesh and wended his way west of Suez. We wish you the best of luck, sir, and hope you will always remember your sojourn in B Corps. A certain member wishes to know if you recall a misty November morning in 1919, when the *Kronz Prinz Frederich Auguste* sailed eastwards from Tilbury. Here's health, George, and our best wishes to Mrs. Wray and Pam.

On the 7th March our esteemed adjutant, Captain W. D. J. Harries, left us for U.K. Whilst with the unit, he earned the goodwill of all by his keen sense of sportsmanship and duty. Our best wishes go with him and Mrs. Harries to their new unit.

It is with regret that we chronicle the transfer of C.S.M. Eastes to the 1st Indian Divl Signals. Their gain is our loss, for with his sportsmanship and fatherly disposition (although a keen disciplinarian) he was held in high esteem by all ranks, who wish him the best. Good-bye, sir. We wish you well.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Monday 18th March.

General.—Busy days have been the order recently, as within a short time we have had the annual signal exercise, the G.O.C.'s inspection, and the Northern Command Signals Week.

The signal exercise held from the 18th to the 20th February passed off quite satisfactorily, and our new commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C.) had an opportunity of seeing the unit under working conditions.

On the 6th March the G.O.C. (Major-General R. C. Wilson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C.) held his annual inspection of the unit, and once again, though there was plenty of hard work flying round during the preparation, a satisfactory result was achieved.

Lieut. Gardiner receiving the Drayson Cup from Mrs. Penney.

Northern Command Signals Week was held in Rawalpindi from the 11th to the 16th March, and everybody had a good time. Old faces and also very many new ones were seen, but we missed our friends from Risalpur, who were unable to send representatives. For the second year in succession the Div. managed to win the Drayson cup for the greatest number of points gained during the week. Details of the various events are contained in the Sports pages. Saturday was mounted sports day, and a general at home was held. Each enclosure held its own tea for members, and on all sides there was nothing but praise for the catering. During the afternoon, by kind permission of their commanding officer, the band of the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment entertained the gathering. Some excellent jumping was witnessed, and the round by L/Sergt Bishop that won the B.O.R. cup was faultless and a treat to watch. At the conclusion Mrs. Penney very kindly presented the prizes.

By the time these notes appear in print our worthy rivals of the sports field, B Corps Signals, will have left Rawalpindi for Karachi, and we shall have in their stead A Corps Signals. We

wish all ranks of B Corps all the very best, and hope they will not forget some of the stirring struggles we have had with them on the various sports fields. Good luck and bon voyage, B Corps Signals! We extend the glad hand of welcome to A Corps, and hope that they will find Pindi as enjoyable as Karachi.

Whilst on the subject of moves, this unit is now preparing for the move to Upper Topa for the hill season. Everyone seems very keen on getting there, so it must be a good place after all.

Departures.—Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., to the command of the S.T.C. (India) Jubbulpore. He will be greatly missed by all ranks, for (a sportsman himself) he made a sportsman of every man in the unit—a unit of which we are all proud; and his untiring efforts to improve the unit's well-being earned for him the loyal support of everyone. We are grateful to him for all he has done for the unit, and wish him in his new command the very best of health, happiness and the success he so richly deserves.

Corporal Harrold, L/Corpl Patrick and Signalmen Holland and Bridge to U.K. We wish them the very best in their new spheres of life. C.Q.M.S. Archbold to U.K., and also posted to B Corps Signals. To him, also, we wish the very best.

Arrivals.—Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., and Mrs. Penney. In the arrival of the former we find consolation for the loss of Lieut.-Colonel Pollard, and we wish him good luck in his new job and trust his stay will be long and pleasant.

Lieut. P. M. P. Hobson from Meerut. We hope he will find the unit and Pindi to his liking.

C.S.M. Eastes from B Corps Signals in place of C.S.M. Westwood. We extend to him a hearty welcome.

We also extend the glad hand of welcome to the new draft of B.O.R.s who arrived from U.K. recently, and hope they will not find it too hot here.

We Would Like to Know.—Who is the lance-corporal of this unit who prefers knitting to playing tennis, and his reasons for this sudden change? MILLIE.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Sunday 31st March.

The following have left on repatriation to U.K. for better or worse, and in some cases for a gentleman's life of pleasure. L/Corpl Bruton S., Signalmen Griffiths R., Donovan S., Brett P., Ashwood V. and Adamson L. for the home establishment. L/Cpl Adamson J. for transfer to the Army Reserve, and L/Corporal Brown G. on transfer to Egypt Signals. Well played, Topper! how much the raspberries at Port Said?

The saddle and grooming kit are extended to Signalmen Craghill H., Holder W., Hyde L., Johnston W., Taylor H., Taylor W. and Tomkinson J. May their pleasures last many years—in fact, five all told.

F/S/Sergt Bellwood W., Sergt Read S., Corpl Birchall J. and Sigmn Rork J. are temporarily attached to Blighty during the next six months or so, and are due back in time for the coming manœuvres.

C.S.M. Hebberd R. N. has left to take over R.S.M. duties at the Army Signal School, Poona. C.S.M. Weston from Karachi is due early next month in relief.

L/Corpl Bain A. arrives from Waziristan District Signals to assist the football team and other departments.

Promotions continue to be brisk, and U/L/Corporals Robertson J. and Grant A. are now scanning L Company Orders every Sunday.

Four horses and the I.O.R. hockey team were sent to represent the Troop at Pindi for Northern Command Signals Week: Sergt Standen R. on Arab and Corpl Connor G. on Pills for the B.O.R. open jumping; Sigmn Karam Dad on Bhalu and Sigmn Farzand Ali on Doctor for the I.O.R. open jumping. Although all four horses jumped first or second during the eliminating heat, form gave way to moods in the finals. Sergt Standen jumped into second place with five faults, the winner (Sergt Bishop of the 1st Indian Divl Signals) making a faultless round. Sigmn Karam Dad with four faults jumped into first place in the I.O.R. section.

The I.O.R. hockey team lost to Waziristan by two clear goals.

Congratulations to the 1st Indian Divl Signals on winning the Drayson cup. KHANA.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Arrivals.—Captains L. R. Hall, M.C., and W. M. Clapp, M.B.E., Lieut. D. N. Van der Goot, 2/Lieut. A. V. Benton, R.S.M. Bramley F., L/Sergt Brown J., L/Corpl Knight S., and Signalmen Bonner S., Breach F., Gamble R., Jones E., Mancy F. and Parkinson W.

Thirteen chicken at a certain sergeant's quarters. Presumably, he is contemplating a back yard course on poultry farming!

Departures.—Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Lieutenants R. J. Moberly and R. C. Yule, R.S.M. McGregor S., and Signalmen Coates P. (to Reserve), Drake J., Richardson W. and Wilson T.—all to U.K. except Lieut. Yule, who left us via Saugor for Trimulgherry. The best of luck to all, and many thanks for the various ways in which they have helped the unit along in work and sport, etc.

Sergeants Bennett G. and Hoy C., L/Sergeants Hayes J. and Webb D., Corporals Barlow J., Sherrington F. and Smalley J., L/Corporal Campbell A. and U/L/Corpl Wattle W. to U.K. for summer furlough. Scotland Yard *was* informed, James.

Congratulations.—To the people due for repatriation who signed tradesmen's books for goods as R. T. Tender, Esq., J. Sope, Sigmn, and Mr. G. S. Wagon. I always thought the Signals had plenty of initiative!

More next month. MIIM.

L Section, Landi Kotal.

Although it is a long time since notes from this corner of the world appeared in print, we will try to make up for our long silence by a special effort during the coming year.

There has not been much time to work on WIRE notes for the last two months, what with Brigade training and the annual musketry course. The Section did rather well on both of these bugbears of the ordinary soldier, being well thought of on the schemes and turning in a very nice average on the musketry—there being only about five second class shots out of fifty-two men.

In order to identify ourselves, we submit the following list of the Section personnel.

L/Sergt Munshi Moore.....Does he know his Urdu?
Corpl True Blue Thompson.....He will find a way.
L/Corpl Brigadier Collett ...The man with the commanding personality.
L/Cpl Happy Wilkin...A laugh a day keeps the doctor away.
Sigmn Pork Pie Allnutt.....Does he know his bacon?
Sigmn Baldy Gardner.....The man who believes in Harlene.
Sigmn Quartermaster Hall.....He collects signatures.
Sigmn Stoker Howell.....He's serving his apprenticeship.
Sigmn Slaughterer Lawson.....He simply loves to kill.
Sigmn Bugs O'Hara.....The 2400 rounds a minute expert.
Sigmn Pauncher Purkiss.....“I'll betcha.”
Sigmn Ozone Rogers.....Evenings in Paris.
Sigmn Twist Richardson.....Does he like his “vittles”? W/T Detachment.
L/Corpl Steamshovel Campbell.....Marconi has nothing on this boy.
Sigmn Guarantee Grattage.....The Stewart-Turner expert.
Sigmn Rebecca Simmons...A ray of sunshine in a drab world.

Situations Vacant.—Any member of Signals desiring employment at not less than £6 per week can have same on application to Sigmn Pauncher Purkiss, secretary, Landi Kotal Employment Bureau, Landi Kotal, N.W.F.P., India. Pauncher knows all about this racket and will guarantee results.

We Would Like to Know.—Is it true that there are ponies down the pit? Is it possible to pickle walnuts? How long will it take hair to grow on a bald patch if cocoanut oil is four annas per bottle? When playing snooker and you are snookered, is it permissible to take the snookering ball off the table? If one eats one loaf of bread per meal, will one tablet of Silf daily counteract the resultant obesity?

Departures.—The only departures from this Section during the last few months are Sigmn Simmons to Peshawar (we wish him luck) and L/Corpl Wilkin to Calcutta via Peshawar for a course in wireless telegraphy (we wish to state emphatically that there is no truth in the rumour that he is taking a mule with him).

Arrivals.—Signalmen Bristow and Healey from U.K. We hope that they will like their new abode.

Sport.—There is not much doing in this line at the present moment, the high features of recent matches being the great game played by the unit hockey team against the 1/11th Sikhs battalion team and the Section's game against the same team. The unit obtained a 3—3 draw, but the Section were luckier in holding to a one goal lead.

We anticipate a very busy hot weather season, and hope to emerge as successfully as we have done in the past.

Footnote.—Will L/Corpl Rumford please note that L/Corpl Collett still has money to lose on the Sikhs ?

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

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Thursday 21st March.

What to write about must be the problem of many authors, great and small ; or so I should imagine, judging from the efforts needed to compile these notes. I do not even claim to be a scribe, so please imagine the difficulties that beset me and view with forbearance all the callow forms of expression you may discover.

From the foregoing, you will gather that I'm new to this sort of thing. You are right—I am. However, on with the narration of the month's doings.

Practically the whole of the Company is employed in the stables now that the Indian ranks furlough season has commenced. Many and varied are the views expressed by members of the stable party—some printable, some otherwise—anent stables in summer. Doubtless, this form of occupation during the present season is not all that could be desired, but necessity demands and so it must be endured.

Several of our personnel are going to the hills for a six months upgrading course to op.sig.i. We heartily wish them success, and as heartily envy them. Why we wish them the former is because they'll probably lose a "tanner" a day instead of gaining a "bob" if they don't; the envy, of course, is for obvious reasons.

L/Sergt Fee and his gallant band can daily be seen performing acrobatic evolutions on their motor cycles, prior to a display that is being given at Simla shortly. Their hair-raising performance, I should judge, will be a very popular item on the programme. Anyhow, the noise with the silencers off sounds very impressive, and without a doubt many will be lured to the scene just to see what all the row's about.

In our sporting world, football has received quite a fillip from a recent inter-bungalow football tournament. Much keenness was shown by both players and spectators alike, and one concludes that, with similar tournaments in both football and other branches of sport, our slumbering interest in athletics will be awakened and we will once more become a force to be reckoned with in local competitions.

Feminine emancipation is swiftly reaching its peak. Our Domestic Rulers football team severely trounced the flower of the Sergeants Mess. Whether it was because some of their respective and respectful husbands were included in the opposition, or whether the gallant but unorthodox attitude of the referee was to blame for the Mess downfall, we cannot say, but we tremble for "the rights of man."

We played our old rivals the Cavalry Troop at football a few days ago. We had more than our fair share of the game and were leading by 1—0 two minutes from time. Corpl Philp of the Troop, seeing how desperate was the situation, evolved a new method of avoiding defeat: he tore down the cross-bar with his bare hands, caused the game to be abandoned, and became the hero of the match.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Sigmn Drummond, who has joined us from Kohat.

Departures: Temporary.—L/Sergeant Norcup and Signalmen Whalley, Johnson, Fry J., Tilney and Goldsmith to Ranikhet. Sigmn Williams to Dehra Dun. W.H.

No. 2 Company.

Monday 18th March.

General.—In a few weeks time No. 2 Company will be at Chakrata for the summer season. The weather in Meerut is gradually getting warmer, and there is every promise of a very hot season.

At the present time a ride for operators is in progress, and by the look of things No. 2 will soon be a Company of " roughs."

Six of our number left on the 9th March for six months leave in the U.K. and then back to India for "another five " (" one man's meat, etc."). The question is " Is it worth it ?"

E and F Sections won the inter-barrack room football cup after a very thrilling final match against A Section of No. 1 Company. The Betts Combine turned out to cheer No. 2 Company, and in their opinion it was their support that won the cup. There is a great deal in that, too ; it is surprising what good support can do for a team.

Departures.—L/Sergt Brazier recently left on posting to B Corps. Our best wishes go with him.

Finis.—I must apologise for the lack of notes this month, but material is really very scarce.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Thursday 28th March.

General.—In notes of this description, and correspondence in general, there seems to be an unreasoning prejudice against the discussion of the weather. Since such discussion serves to fill up space quite as well as anything else (over thirty words, so far) I cannot understand why this should be. Now, the weather in Meerut at present . . . . .What's that, Mr. Editor? Not of Corps interest? How about those due here next trooping season? . . . . . .Yet, as Gray so aptly put it,

". . . . . why should they know their fate,
Since sorrow never comes too late
And happiness too swiftly flies?
Thought would destroy their paradise."

So, with apologies to the clerk of the weather for encroaching upon his territory, we'll confine our meteorological information to the fact that there are far more anti-cyclones in heaven and on earth than the B.B.C. announcer imagines, and they all appear to be converging on Meerut at once, with the result that it is rapidly stoking up.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Mulholland, Leebrick, Glew, Banks and Peacock joined us from the U.K. at the end of February, and up to date the horses haven't objected; so, presumably, they are settling down o.k.

During the month we welcomed Sergt and Mrs. Bennett from Waziristan District Signals. We trust their stay in Meerut will be enjoyable.

Departures.—Signalmen Griffiths and Gallaher to Kohat and Quetta respectively. Corpl McDowell to the U.K. for six months well-earned (*sic*) leave.

Batons: F.M.—Congratulations to U/L/Corpl Marchant W. on his appointment. No, Nobby; the next rung does not take you to Cardinal.

Film Notes.—Don't miss that new radio signals production, " Scarboro' calling "; theme song, "My gal's a Yorkshire gal."

Feathers: Cap.—In the *chota* gymkhana held by the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals last week, No. 7 of the Troop won the pony race with Sigmn Dorsett aboard.

Social.—L/Sergt Yates is due to move to the hills early next month. Summer on the Plains is so tiring, isn't it, dear? So far, he has not nominated a *locum tenens*.

Personal.—To Trim, Aldershot: Shoey says he will exchange belts with you as, judging by a recent photograph in THE WIRE, you appear to have gained what he has lost.

Tailpiece.—I wish I hadn't started this feature. I find that caudal appendages can cause a lot of work elsewhere than in stables. NON-NUNQUAM.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

General.—Once again Signals have won the C. of E. small units football cup. No. 1 Company were opposed to the R.A.O.C. and after a hard and fast game ran out winners by 3—1 goals. The goal scorers were L/Corpl Singleton, Sigmn Mitcheson (penalty) and Sigmn Mawson. After the match the cup was presented by Brigadier A. L. I. Friend, O.B.E., M.C., the Cavalry Brigade Commander. This is the fourth time we have won the C. of E. cup. No doubt, many old Egyptites (Paddy Holness and Co.) will remember our first win in this competition in 1926—1927. Well done, No. 1 Comapny!

At the time of writing, the various Sections are either preparing for camp or already hard at it with their respective Brigades. Most Sections have started the Brighter Egypt movement by forming gardens round the barrack rooms. In the past the main difficulty has been to obtain sufficient water, but now that a Nile water pipe line has been laid throughout the Garrison, it is to be hoped that there will be no shortage in future.

Extensions.—L/Corpl Smith C., U/L/Corpl Ashworth J. and Sigmn Lobb W. to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Continuance of Service.—Signalman Field L. is permitted to continue in the Service beyond twenty-one years until 19/10/36.

Re-Musterings.—Sigmn Calver R. re-mustered op. sigs. B.iii.

Appointments.—U/L/Corporal Kenneally G. (1/12/34) and U/L/Corpl Smith C. (31/1/35) appointed Lance-Corporals on the Corps roster. Sigmn Saunders A. M. appointed U/L/Corporal 23/2/35.

No. 1 Company Headquarters.

Congratulations to our O.C. on the birth of a daughter at Cairo on the 4th February. Also to L/Corporals Kenneally and Smith G. H. on being paid for their first stripe. The extra cash will help to pay for the extensive library of Egyptian political books much favoured by Tim. To the Command Section on tieing for first place in the Section Soccer League. To the Company team on their 8—1 win in the semi-final of the C. of E. cup.

The Company have once again proved their worth when communication is required. This includes all trades and the ration experts who supply the reason for keeping a Primus on the go all day (also the gentleman with a gun and the knowledge that soldiers like duck).

Command Signal Section.

Having taken upon myself the dirty (?) work of scribe to the Section, I must naturally apologise for the previous omissions of notes, and hope that no such happening will take place in the future. (After two days here, I have been warned for another move.) Now that I have broken the ice, some other stay-at-home can carry on. I am just off to get my unexpired portion and depart for H.Q.E.T.E. and not, as Wonder Johnson said, to take over the Cairo City Police.

A Section.

The commencement of the winter season promised very little in the way of military activity, but there is much to report up to date and still a further edition to follow.

Firstly, camps at Idku, Rebeiki and Geneifa have each had one detachment from us, with a 120-watt set in each case. The Geneifa folk have submitted a supplement to these notes which, I think, probably explains the origin of the geographical situations of them. The ads and disads are, to those who frequent these camps, about fifty fifty, inasmuch as they forsake the humdrum of barrack life for a quiet existence in the blue. They keep bank hours and, providing food is good, they have little to grouse over (have you been ?). Perhaps the social side is blank, but what an opportunity for the bookworm or swat! However, they have proved their worth in each case by maintaining 100 per cent. communication back to Cairo, which speaks well for them.

Secondly, the remainder of the Section are spending a fortnight at Beni Yusef with the Cavalry Brigade. Three C sets under the O.C. Section are scouring the desert at top speed at all hours of the day and night. The first couple of days were spent in a sandstorm. Do any of you know what they are ? Anyhow, seeing and breathing was difficult ; but when oxygen and goggles were produced, the weather immediately relaxed into a dead calm. I did receive one letter ending with " Yours in sand and misery." So you see, the glorious Egyptian winter weather has its spasms —usually at times when pitching camp is in progress and marquees assume the shape of observation balloons.

A Halt for Dinner on a Scheme near Beni Yusef.

Thirdly, the Section *en bloc* took part in two notably successful exercises, in which considerable ground was covered. One was to the Red Sea via the desert and back by the Suez road, occupying four days. This was followed quickly by all sets being distributed about the Nile Delta, controlled by a station at Moascar, lasting another four days. In each case, the detachments went out completely self-contained in every respect and returned without a hitch. The former exercise was mobile and fairly hard going over rugged country to the Red Sea, after which the route assumed quite level tracks. Short wave communication from Abbassia to the column was maintained throughout the whole period. The latter exercise produced some interesting observations regarding group working, with as many as six stations under control at one time.

The latest addition to the Section from Blighty included Signalmen Banham, Bulman, Chadwick, Coslett, Drane, Ferguson, Gant, Howard, McClenaghan, Pew and Ruxton. These stalwarts can supply any further information, to likely candidates who think Egypt Signals may be their next stop, regarding the knowledge which has been obtained on these stunts.

Before the season concludes, the selfsame C sets will have another spot of bother at Helwan between the 10th and 27th March. A nice camp, Helwan ; but, oh, the sand beyond! How reduction and an occasional push make or mar one's progress! That's where the M.T. experts excel—and they do.

Geneifa Camp.—For the benefit of those readers who have not yet been lucky (?) enough to see the world, and the enlightenment of those fortunate few who have seen much—perhaps too much, but not all of it—I will begin by pointing out that Geneifa does not really exist (except, perhaps, as a map reference in the desert, just south of the Great Bitter Lake).

Presumably, some conference was assembled to decide the whereabout of the training camp, and the proverbial peppery old brass hat had his little joke and pinned one of his dinky little

pins right in the above-mentioned map reference. The alternative theory is that the camp should really have been established in the French Gardens at Ismailia, but the brigade-major's children were not under sufficient supervision when taken to see "the little flags that daddy plays with." Bless their little hearts! Having decided, accidentally or otherwise, on the site for this camp, the next problem for the bevy of brigadiers was how to keep in touch with the outside world. Showing signs of intelligence almost human, they decided on a wireless station—and so our story opens.

On or about the 24th of October 1934 a wireless detachment, consisting of Corpl Renton, Signalmen Collins (now L/Corporal), Winter and Chivers, arrived at Geneifa, having made the journey by road, if any—and by desert, if not. Of this party only Chivers remains, and consequently he goes about with the air of a Crimean veteran (and my socks on) explaining what it was like in '34, etc. Sigmn Collins, showing some of his noted intelligence, made a quick getaway and returned to Abbassia to pick a lance-corporal's stripe off the Christmas tree. He was relieved by Sigmn F. E. G. (what a man!) Barlow, who had a short but exciting time here.

At the end of November the detachment, less Chivers, was relieved by L/Corpl Hilliar and Signalmen Dick and (what a player!) Hilliard. No more changes took place, and the detachment successfully encountered numerous difficulties—including Christmas, which passed off as usual, so no one can describe it. A terrific storm absolutely flooded out the camp, particularly the W/T tent. The force of the flood had to be seen to be believed; but the shouts of "Save the set!" "Save the dags!" etc., and the sight of each man trying to save his bedding, can well be imagined.

Our chief recreations are patience and a debating society. The society is a huge success, and such subjects as marriage, the promotion system, and others less nauseating, have been torn to pieces.

In conclusion, we must point out that, contrary to some reports, we shall not be sorry to return to Cairo. We would, however, consider staying on until April if the camp could be shifted to the Ismailia site.

General.—Here we are, back in barracks, with the exception of Sergt Dunn's detachment, who are providing the sparks at Helouan camp.

On the 6th March three C sets will join him there for the Canal Brigade training.

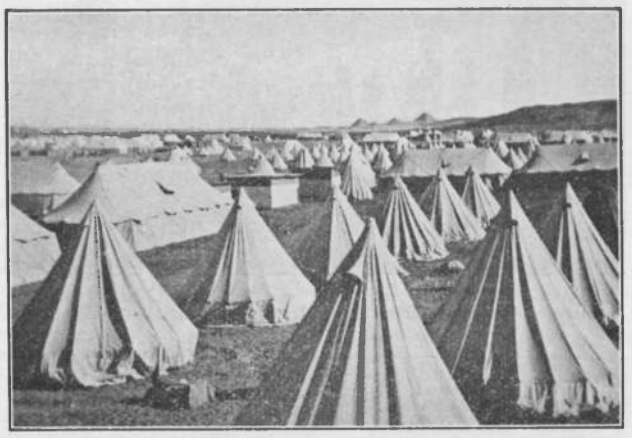
The Cavalry Brigade camp at Beni Yusef came to a conclusion last week with the usual war. This consisted of three solid days of gear changing and boiling radiators. It was discovered that earth nets were not really suitable when used in lieu of wheel tracks for getting through soft sand. As neutral Signals (not to be confused with Bosh N.) were required, every set in the Section was in use and, except for the two unfortunates who were stranded for five hours, everything was a success. (I should like to say more about those two unfortunates, but it would not look well in print.)

The Futurist.—At the moment we have in the Section a would-be scientist with futuristic ideas. Oh, boy! you ought to hear some of this would-be scientist's ideas. Draining a portion of the Atlantic for railways and roads, or alternatively suspending a road by balloons, is the least of them. He is a firm believer in H.G. Wells' "Invisible Man," but does not mention anything about getting drunk by auto-suggestion. And now he wants to join the band. Ah! there's plenty of scope for inventions. Maybe, he will devise a means for collecting the surplus wind blown out of the trombones, etc., for filling his balloons and bringing the band to Egypt. There is a good place for landing at Abbassia No. 1.

Inspection.—The Area Commander's inspection takes place next month, and the bullometers are being worked overtime. It is difficult to say who is chief 191. S.E.B.

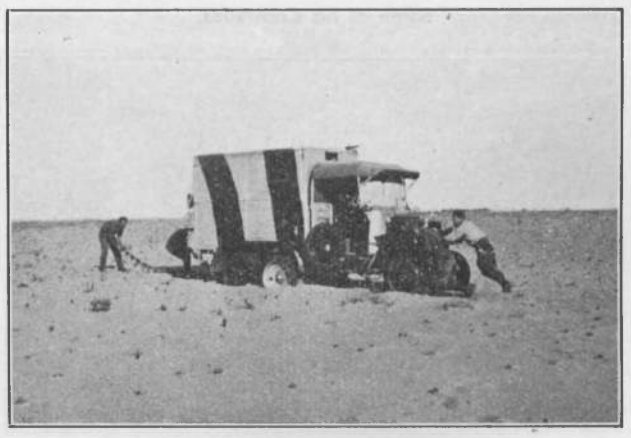
Signal Troop.

Camp.—The Troop left barracks on the 2nd February for a fortnight under canvas. The Cavalry Brigade were this year at Beni Yusef—of all camps in this world, verily the worst. Our first day there was the signal for all the sand in Egypt to be whipped up in the air and blown our way. The camp was like the proverbial howling wilderness. What a welcome to camp life for our new lads! However, during the early hours of the following morning, a light fall of rain damped the dust and made life a little more bearable.



Beni Yusef Camp.

We waded into work from the time of leaving barracks. A Section, who went with us to play the part of the enemy, left camp to take up their position at two o'clock on the day following our arrival, and from that time onwards both Sections were worked to capacity. Camp life is usually a pleasant change, but I am afraid its joys were not appreciated this year. Schemes were long, and the going bad with our 1928 (or is it '08?) model gin palaces. We did more pushing than riding, and as all the schemes included working over some of the worst desert in Egypt, everybody was glad when it was over.



Stuck out in the Blue.

Obituary.—We are very sorry to record the death of Sigmn North in the Citadel Hospital, Cairo, on the 14th February. He was in camp with the Troop when he was taken ill, and the news of his death came as a great blow to us all. He was of a cheerful disposition and popular with his comrades, and he will be missed by all who knew him. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his relatives in their sad loss.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Smith C. W. on being paid for his stripe. Patience is a virtue.

We Want to Know.—How long is a tour?

The Funeral of Signalman North C. at Old Cairo, Egypt

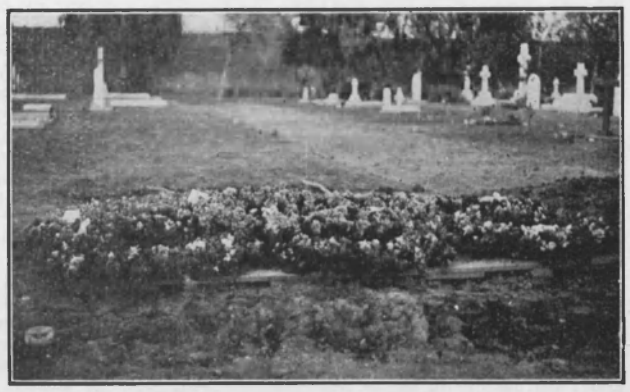
The Firing Party and the Band.

The Officers.

Some of his Comrades.

At the Graveside.

The Last Salute.



Some of the Floral Tributes.

Duties.—Too many!

Agony.—Reggie: Why did you do it? Eric. Connie (somewhere in Ponkyland, late of No. 2 Company A Corps): What about a line? Marko. Rush: Get the engine warmed, Bill; I'm a-coming next boat. Ging.

Stop Press.—All the local gardeners are beginning to get a shake on as our garden gradually takes shape. Driver Perree, a useful man with a shovel, has given his ideas full play in laying out the beds, and we now have a choice selection of stars, hearts, diamonds, etc.

B Cable Section.

Hello, everybody! B Cable Section calling. We open up by wishing everyone all the best.

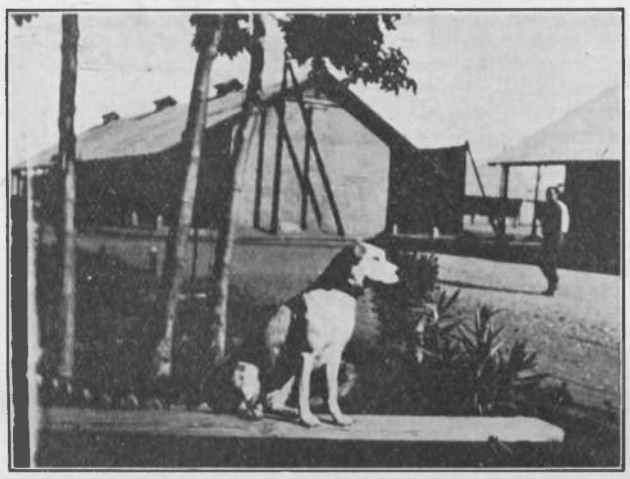
Training.—The Section has started training with the respective Brigades at Helouan—"B"-sub. going first, and then being relieved by "A"-sub.

Drafts.—"Roll on, that boat!" That is the call of the day. We are sorry to lose our old soldiers. The draft includes such valuable men as Mr. J. Hall and Mr. Rankeillor.

Sport.—The unit gymkhana was held last month. B Cable Section was very successful in winning the following events:—

Best turned out wheel pair—1st, Driver Hirschfield; 2nd, Driver Roebuck.
Best turned out lead pair—1st, Driver Hall; 2nd Driver Seymour.
Musical chairs—1st, L/Corporal Back.
Mounted wrestling—2nd, B Cable Section.
Dog race—1st, Driver Hall with Floss.

The enclosed photo shows the winner of this year's dog race.



We Want to Know.—Where Wrap-up's moustache went to? Who was the driver who asked for a pigeon sandwich?

Information.—Additions to the Section society roll: Chesty Biddle, Wrap-up Roebuck and Ashan Seymour.

For Exchange.—One wireless set for a box of bricks. One Section crooner for a garden spade.

Helwan Camp.—Once again the Section is mustered for Brigade training at Helwan, and some strange faces are present (who is this Shorty?) [Some verses on "An Invitation to Brigade Training" are unavoidably held over.—Ed.]

Obituary.—We regret to announce the passing of one of the Section, Signalman North C., who died at the Citadel Military Hospital from acute appendicitis. Everyone who had soldiered with and had dealings with Topper will realise what we have lost. The Section extend their deepest sympathy and condolences to his relations and friends. He was buried at Old Cairo with full military honours, with all the Section—in fact, all No. 3 Company—present. Topper will always be remembered when M/C.s are mentioned, for he was always willing and keen to do his job, and could always smile when things were not running smoothly. Some photos of the funeral ceremony accompany this brief report (see page 224).

Agony.—Amid groans of "My poor old feet!" we are wishing Brigade training was over and once again we were on the springs in Abbassia. The cries of "Thank goodness, this is my last!" and "Roll on, that boat" or "Fifty-six days to go" make me wish my time was away, too; but quite a number are due out here, and my turn is to come. SCHOOLIE.

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

Present, folks! For weeks our fingers have been itching for this opportunity to report the society news, which has afforded so much interesting material.

We cannot do better than commence by wishing Lieutenant and Mrs. J. S. Usher every happiness on their new road. The marriage took place at the Church of the Dormition, Mount Zion, on Thursday 28th March, of Lieut. John Stuart Usher (of No. 2 Wireless Company) and Miss Edith Mary Patricia Phillips (younger daughter of Captain and Mrs. W. H. A. Phillips of Sarafand). Captain C. R. I. L. Smith, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, was best man. The bridal party left the church under an archway of swords and flags, the latter being provided by C.S.M. Harris, Sergeants Webster, Fegan and Newmarch, and L/Sergt Gover. Signalman Medlycotte performed the duties of outrider. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips afterwards held a reception in the banquet hall of the King David Hotel. The bride and bridegroom later left by road for Haifa on their way to Egypt and Syria, where the honeymoon will be spent.

More Visitations.—The Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Sir Archibald A. Montgomery-Massingberd, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C., paid us a visit last month, but unfortunately his inspection was carried out under the great discomfort of a khamseen and sand storm. However, he seemed perfectly pleased and contented with the activities of this Company.

This Month's Fairy Tale.—It happened one fine spring noon, when two Beau Brummels, Yussef Joshua Spice and his bosom chum Abu Jilda (Big Bill) Thompson, were in quest of new and prolific wine vaults in Richon le Zion. To witness these two loitering through the village, aimlessly casting stones at stray

"Let me be your Father."

mongrels and puffing furiously at their tobacco, one would never have thought that it was Saturday, the Sabbath of the Hebrews; and they seemed genuinely oblivious of the fact that smoking on the holy of holies was a violent infringement of all the laws in Zionism. To their profound astonishment, they were accosted by the Chief Rabbi, who remonstrated severely with both and commanded an immediate extinction of their tobacco. Fortunately, however, the infuriated Rabbi understood no English—at least, none of the finer words as learned at Ramsgate Scrubbs or Derby High School.

Births.—This time, it is with regret that we announce a litter (ninefold) from that sophisticated doe Jeannette. Also with regret and tears abundant, we report the death of Tiger Tim. Purchased by syndicate members of the Gobblers Dinner Club, he was consumed with due gusto at Cooke's dining saloon.

Agonies.—Our choir boy has been heard lamenting the fall of his favourite tree, but we are pleased to say that he still has time for assiduous groundwork for his next Christmas waits. It has now been revealed that the nightingale fell dead at his feet.

222 Smith F. A. (Gus): Be sure to preserve the cherry cake, or it may be stale before it reaches us. Swanny and Jock.

Len Field, Blackdown: Robust Victoria and the boys want to hear from you. Roddy.

Jock Glass, also at Blackdown: Words fail me, but distribute the paper and pencils to Crasher Birchett and He-man Pescod. Tut.

More Agony.—We extend a welcome hand to the author of the following little note found in my tray some time ago. Since he modestly wishes to remain anonymous, we cannot secure his literary assistance.

"Just note for your WIRE notes. WIRE notes, £ notes, delivery notes, not to say anything about notes on map reading or any other particular notes of any note—do not seem to bad when produced by a notary. Such a notable fellow can produce anything from notes.' Q.R.U.TUT.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Tuesday, 19th March

Farewell—

[*Dedicated to George Guy and Peter Weekes.*]

I'm going home. The thought is very sweet.
No! no! I've not forgotten to pack.
I'm going to leave this land of sticky heat,
And what is more, I hope I don't come back!
I count the days up on my almanack,
And find that there is only one day more
Before I start upon the homeward track—
I'm glad to say goodbye to Singapore.

Departures.—As can be surmised from the above, Malaya recently lost two more staunch signalmen. The whole Section joins in wishing them both all the best, and may their memories of Singapore be pleasant ones. "I'm glad to say goodbye to Singapore." Bah! I'm sure those tears I saw had no relationship to Scotch mist. However, George, good luck and a good station; and to you, Peter, an appointment worthy of your uncanny (!) capabilities. Hold on to your trumpet, *hard*!

Do's.—Recently we have had a very successful session of do's. (Do's, in Malaya—in case you are rather hazy as to the meaning—is just another name for grand organised beer drinking contests). They are awfully jolly, too, old boy.

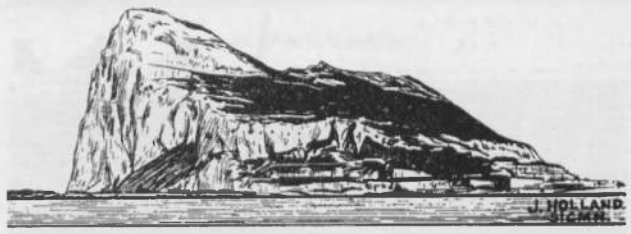
There has been the R.E.'s new draft do, the monthly dance do, and a farewell do to the departing draft.

Submarine Cable Laying.—Being an operator, I'm afraid I don't quite understand all this submarine cable business; but take it from me, I was highly amused, early one Sunday morning, to see a cosmopolitan crowd of coolies and members of the Signals (hem!) hauling and heaving heavy cable out of the high seas. It was very picturesque indeed, so let's hope we see some more in the near future. Yo-ho, my lads, yo-ho.

Seen and Heard Just Rambling Around.—Scene: Moonstone Pier. She (gazing romantically at the sun setting over Blakan Mati): 'Listen, dear, I hear wedding bells!" He: "Wedding bells be darned! That's the *Anderson* docking!"

Mr. Currie, Mr. Chatfield, Mr. Guy: Chinese Swimming Club ball. Now, I just wonder why they had so many cumshaw dances? Strange—very strange—isn't it, Jock?

Hullo! here comes Appa Leggi on the war path, so I'd better finish off. Cheerio, everybody! BARON.



Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 10th April.

General.—Failing possession of the gift of imagination so apparent in many writers, our notes this month must be a bare recital of facts.

With the annual inspection of the unit by His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief in the near offing, general fatigues in barracks have taken toll of a great deal of our spare time. We are inclined to agree with many who say that inspections may be a necessary evil, but a most unwelcome one. However, if (as we hope) the report will be up to the usual high standard, we shall not regret the labour involved.

We are pleased to know that the Royal Signals on board the *Dorsetshire* remembered the Gibraltar Signal Section, and the visit of Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., R.S.M. Wray G. and about thirty other ranks was much appreciated by all ranks here. We regret that the time allowed ashore did not permit us to show them the sights of the Rock, but that they enjoyed their short stay in the barracks was evident from Mr. Wray's subsequent remarks.

We also had a brief visit from Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Ellsmore B. during the month, but it was regretted that R.S.M. MacGregor (on the same P. and O.) was conspicuous by his absence.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

Parades are now being held for the Jubilee state drive on the 6th May, and a detachment from the unit will take part in lining the route on that day.

A successful dance season was concluded with the Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess dance on Saturday 30th March, and the Old Comrades Association annual dance on Saturday 6th April. Both these dance were well attended, and the organisers are to be congratulated on the results.

Easter camp will be held at Blackdown, and those attending are looking forward to an interesting and instructive four days training.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—The pre-Easter training has terminated, and Trade Boards are being held to discover the extent to which the participants have profited by it. The Board held on the 7th April certainly showed excellent results, and if the one to be held on the 14th of the month is similarly resultful, then the training will have proved well worth while. The pre-camp Section training and more special paid courses will be commencing shortly, and it is hoped that they will be even better attended than those just finished. At the moment, however, signal training has—except for the last-joined recruits—completely sunk into oblivion to make way for the "real soldier" training in arms and foot drill in preparation for our street lining duty on the occasion of Their Majesties' Silver Jubilee state drive on the 6th May. This unit has been honoured in being allocated to a very important part of the route, and it looks as though we shall be kept pretty busy. Never before have we had so many on parade on drill nights as we are having at present. If we may borrow part of a certain well known petrol firm's slogan and ask "Jubileeve in signal training?" the answer of quite a number of our fellows would appear to be a definite "No." Perhaps they prefer footslogging and rifle humping to the apparent difficulties of signal training. Funny, isn't it?

We have been hearing quite a lot about Stan 'Ill lately. Has anyone ever met him?

Officers.—Fourteen officers of this unit attended the annual dinner of the 47th (2nd London) Division at the Junior United Service Club on the 21st March. As this Division is about to be disbanded in order to form anti-aircraft defence units, it is possible that this dinner will prove to be the last one.

Sergeants Mess.—On Friday 22nd March we entertained Messrs. Moss Bros. to a return games tournament. A very jolly evening was spent, and after four hours continuous play we managed to beat them by 30—20 points.

The last dance of the season was held on Saturday 6th April. There was a very large attendance, and a most enjoyable time was indulged in by all. We were particularly pleased to see so many representatives from other Sergeants Messes. We would like to state that it is the whole-hearted support of all members, and the hard work put in by everyone of the Mess Committee on these social occasions, that make them so successful.

We are very pleased to see C.S.M. Bill Sewell back with us again. He certainly appears to have made a complete recovery, and we sincerely hope he will continue in good health.

Social.—A wonderful evening was enjoyed by a very large gathering on the occasion of the St. Patrick's carnival dance on the 16th March. We are hoping to have an even more wonderful time on the 6th May, when we are having a Jubilee ball. How about coming along and celebrating? EFFEMMA.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—"In action on all fronts" is this month's despatch from Gibraltar Barracks. Spring is with us again, and the great awakening associated with that season can be readily observed on all sides. Our budding operators, the flower of English youth (sez us) are getting bigger and better every day; the drill hall rafters and unit lorry now revel in their new coats of paint; and such things as cable drums and winding gear, D.R.s bikes, W/T sets and (don't tell the quarterbloke) Sunday scheme rations are being aroused from their winter slumbers to return to us for but a few short months before fading once more into the mists of obscurity during next close season. Indeed, it kind of gets under your skin, makes you itch to be up and at it, and judging from the comprehensive nature of this year's training programme, there will have to be quite a lot of getting up and at it before camp.

Training.—Much has been said by all kinds of people about the shortage of recruits and lack of interest in the Territorial Army, but so far as this unit is concerned, at any rate, that does not apply, for we are less than a score below our establishment; and as for interest, it is sufficient to say that during the individual training period of January to March last, over 6300 man-hours were put in, or nearly double that for the same period a year ago. The results of the trade tests are not yet available, but there is every reason to believe that they have far exceeded expectations and have fully justified the somewhat tedious hours of solid instruction. The benefit of the individual training period was felt in the first of our Sunday schemes on the 7th April, when A and B Sections went out into the country and D Section stayed at home for an indoor exercise. The results of these cause us to entertain high hopes as to the success of the whole training programme. The "father and son" classes for junior and senior pair work in operating have got into running order and are doing, and undoubtedly will continue to do, splendid work in coaching the younger operators.

Tuesday nights during April are taken up with lectures by the adjutant (Captain L. W. Schneider). He is giving us a series of interesting and very lucid talks on the tactical employment of a Divisional signal unit in the field, taking the different Companies on different evenings.

S.R. Camp.—It was made known during the month that our S.R. branch is to have its annual camp this year at Hornsea from the 4th to the 18th August.

Sergeants Mess Dinner.—This was, without doubt, the outstanding function of the year so far. Over a hundred and twenty serving and past members were entertained on the 23rd March, and the only tinge of regret that entered into a first-rate evening was that it was the last function over which our R.S.M. will preside as such, for he completes his twenty-one just after camp and his tour of duty with us will then come to an end. The lusty singing of "He's a jolly good fellow" testified to his popularity, and we all hope that, when Sergeant-Major Coffin leaves us in his official capacity, he will long continue to honour us with his presence in the mess.

The singing of the same grand old tune had equal body in it when it was voiced to congratulate Major H. Richardson when it was announced that he had been awarded the Territorial decoration.

C.Q.M.S. Dalgliesh very ably proposed the toast of "The Unit," and in his reply Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., who had just returned from abroad, thanked the n.c.o.s for the manner in which they had pulled their weight during the past training season, and expressed the confident hope that they would show the same enthusiasm in the very full year ahead.

C.S.M. Joynes, secretary of the Mess, proposed the toast of "The Visitors," which was responded to by ex-C.S.M. Donald Cundall, who caused a good deal of amusement by his recollec-

tions of the unit in the real old days; and no one present was more qualified to do so, for he has been a member of the Mess (on his own admission) for forty-five years.

Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E. (the hon. colonel) in making a presentation of a clock to Sergt Mann A. to mark his retirement from the active list in the Service, asked for the co-operation of all members of the Mess—and particularly the older end—in compiling a history of the 49th Div. Sigs from its childhood 'way back in the Middle Ages, which he has undertaken.

In a racy little speech in response to the adjutant, Sergt.-Major Coffin described the Mess as the best in Leeds, and exhorted the younger members to uphold the fine traditions of the old days.

A splendid musical entertainment was contributed to by no less a personage than Herr Hitler, who flew specially from Lancashire for the occasion. Any fan mail should be addressed to Captain Armstrong, who arranged the visit.

Definition.—Trade Test reply. Question: State the three ways of connecting batteries. Answer: In series, in parallel, and wrong!

And Another.—There was a lengthy questionnaire in our local Press recently as to why Signals wear spurs. Now, the answer to that burning question is supplied by C.Q.M.S. Dalgliesh, who broke the news at the Sergeants Mess dinner in the following way. Contry yokel (to the said C.Q.M.S.): What do you chaps wear spurs for? You don't ride hosses. C.Q.M.S.: That's quite right; but *we back 'em*!

Obituary.—It is with great regret that we record the death of Corpl Routh (of No. 2 Company) at Leeds, last week, at a very early age. He was well known and respected in the unit, and his loss will be keenly felt. He was accorded military honours at his funeral. TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Training.—This has now started in earnest, and parades are being well attended. We are looking forward to better weather and lighter evenings, so that the recruits can enjoy their movements on a big open space. Oh, no! they are not so bad as that; in fact, they are so earnest in their endeavours to perform movements smartly in the drill hall that the building positively shakes.

Trade Ratings.—A number were successful in swelling their camp pay by passing various trade tests held in March. They are to be congratulated, and it is hoped that their success will inspire others to avail themselves of the opportunity to do likewise at the next Trade Board to be held in June.

Births.—We tender our hearty congratulations to R.S.M. and Mrs. Hillman on the birth of a daughter at Aberdeen on the 29th March. This is the stork's second recorded visit to our unit this year. Buck up, someone, and take those two out of the limelight.

Courses.—Lieut D. J. Bogie, C.S.M. Bremner and four sergeants of the unit attended a course with the 1st Divisional Signals at Aldershot during March, and besides gaining a lot of up-to-date knowledge on signal matters, I gather from the n.c.o.s that the course and their stay were most enjoyable, and they greatly appreciate all that was done for them technically and socially.

Indoor Sports.—Could even electric light globes have stood up to the shock of the vibrations when an ancient ceremony was performed in the room above the sergeants mess on Thursday evening? After the gas mantles had gone west, it is assumed from the ashen faces discerned when the lights had been restored that either Sergt Sangster's ghost stories in lieu of Tele. 110 mysteries being told around the mess fire had taken effect, or Tim's article on earthquakes published in THE WIRE in March had been too closely studied. Some say that a baptism was being performed. I wonder! Anyway, I understand that only real water was in use. All members' eyes are now glued to the ceiling of the sergeants mess to see what water looks like.

Ceremonial.—All ranks are eagerly looking forward to the Jubilee parade which is taking place in Aberdeen on the 6th May, in which all branches of the City of Aberdeen Territorials are taking part. Details are not to hand at present, but it is hoped to publish details of this ceremony in next month's issue.

Congratulations.—To the recipients of the efficiency medal (Territorial) awarded in last month's Army Orders. Clink, clink, clink. DIV. SIGS.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Recruit training is now in full swing, and good progress and great keenness is being shown by all. The attendance is not all that we desire, so come along and get in those forty-five drills before camp. Individual training commenced on 1/4/35, but there are still many faces missing.

We offer our congratulations to those candidates who were successful in obtaining ratings at the last Trade Board, and sympathise with those who were not so lucky. Now that you know what it is like, you will feel more sure of yourselves by the time the next Board appears in May; and remember, practice makes perfection.

Annual Dance—This was held on the 15th March and was voted by all to be a greater success than ever. The hall was well filled with our guests and friends, and a splendid band helped to make it a really enjoyable show. Our commanding officer, adjutant and the great majority of the officers made the journey from Aberdeen to be with us, and I am sure they were well compensated for so doing. The intricacies of the Highland dances were soon discovered by the uninitiated. The committee are to be congratulated on a really good show.

Inter-Company Shoot.—The second round of this shoot took place on the 22nd March, but no results are yet to hand. One of our stalwarts, to wit Corpl Harper, was unfortunately unable to shoot through illness, which was a peg back to us, and we were only able to record exactly the same total as in the previous round. Sigmn Gray again topped the score with a splendid 97, closely followed by Sergt Ging with 96. Well done, you two! but more next time, please. Headquarters are keeping the other Companies' results to themselves this year, so we know not how we stand. However, the last and final round is very near at hand now, and we hope by then to be able to produce our best.

Arrivals.—The Company offer to R.S.M. and Mrs. Hillman all their best wishes on the arrival on the strength of a daughter on the 29th March. Both mother and child are now doing very well.

Courses.—The permanent staff of all three Companies have now returned from their holiday in Fort George, where they have been discussing gas and other things. Let's hope they forget to issue this Company with gas masks—at least, until my time is in. Great stuff, this gas; isn't it, Jack?

Strength.—This seems to be the record year for discharges, and for a change we have to report that we are below strength. Recruiting is practically at a standstill just now, but we are hoping for a rush to join when the weather gets warmer and thoughts of camp begin to take definite shape. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Training is once again in full swing, attendances are up to normal, and a very successful season is anticipated.

Lieut Bogie and L/Sergt Elder have returned from an attachment to the 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot—the latter bursting with knowledge and old soldiers' tips, so we are expecting some interesting lectures from him in the near future.

Our P.S.I. has been on an anti-gas course at Fort George, and rumour says we will all be doing gas drill in 1936.

Very few recruits are offering themselves for enlistment this year, and at the present rate the Company will be under strength for annual training in camp. All ranks are requested to bring along any likely lads for enlistment.

The principals of Kirkcaldy Kinema Ltd. have kindly invited all Territorials in uniform to view "The Iron Duke" film on Monday 22nd April. There will be a good turn out from this Company. Officers commanding units in Kirkcaldy are arranging to march through the town to the cinema. We hope to advertise ourselves to the extent of enlisting enough recruits to bring us up to strength.

Old Soldiers.—Congratulations to L/Sergeants Beveridge J. and Hutchison J. and L/Corpl Beveridge A. B., who have been awarded the Territorial efficiency medal. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Training Topics.—Winter training has now ceased. All the courses are finished. Everything is now in readiness for the pre-camp training period. The close of our winter season was marked by a visit from Major F. W. Nicholls, O.B.E., who delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on field wireless. About three hundred of our members attended this lecture, and the large attendance was most gratifying. We look forward with much pleasure to another visit from Major Nicholls.

Records Recede.—All snooker records for our headquarters were broken on the 29th March by Conrad Stanley, the Canadian snooker champion. Our record now stands at 45. The Canadian champion played an exhibition game on the table of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess. Our billiards enthusiasts were in their element. This great player was favourably impressed by our facilities for the game.

One of Ours.—We observed in the March WIRE the promotion of L/Corpl Hall R. to Corporal. This n.c.o. served in A Section of our No. 1 Company (T.A.). Corpl Hall was a promising lad when he was with us. We are greatly pleased at his advance in the Regular Army.

Sergeants Mess.—The Mess concluded the social season by holding a carnival dance on the 5th April. This grand final event was a distinct success. There was a big company present, and all round appreciation of the excellent arrangements was expressed.

Tale for Tos.—Glesca Rab (otherwise Bob) is well pleased with the success of Tos Devon. As it is believed that Tos is able to read and write, a note addressed to Jardine Street, Glasgow, will find Heathery Rab at any time.

Roberts Rejoices.—We have to congratulate the doyen of the regimental orderly room (Sergt Roberts J.) and his wife on the birth of a son on the 4th April. Roberts the younger is said to be a stamp of the older one. It is no wonder that the worthy Jimmy, our expert philatelist, is in ecstasy over the latest gem to be added to his collection. If Jimmy had his way, a special stamp would be issued in honour of the great event.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we record the death of ex-Sergt Brown J., who was discharged from one of our Territorial units two years ago. We have many pleasant memories of Sergt Brown. He was kind and unselfish, and he was a staunch comrade. We tender our deepest sympathy to his sorrowing relatives.

Sir Harry McGowan.—We were honoured with a visit from our distinguished honorary colonel, Sir Harry Duncan McGowan, K.B.E., on the 4th April. Sir Harry's keen interest in the units is deeply appreciated by all ranks.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Individual training has now finished for the winter and a great improvement is shown in operating, as several members have passed higher standards. Section training commenced on the 1st April, and Section commanders are busy preparing programmes of work in order to be equipped for unit and higher training in July. L Section in particular are enthusiastically preparing for an interesting year's work, as they are the Section which will accompany and give communication to the 160th (South Wales) Infantry Brigade when they go on Army manœuvres near Aldershot in September.

Two week-end courses were held during March. The first was held on the 16th/17th and was chiefly for the benefit of the w.o.s and sergeants, although on the Sunday they were joined by the officers on a tactical exercise. The second course was held at Hereford on the 23rd/24th and consisted of a tactical exercise, arranged and controlled by the officers of the unit.

Congratulations.—To R.Q.M.S. Greedy, C.Q.M.S. Dickson and Corpl Alexander on attaining their respective ranks.

Commissioned.—We extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieutenants A. G. David and P. S. Banbury, who have received a commission in this unit to fill the places of Lieutenants A. A. Allan and S. C. Cadogan, who have now transferred to the Reserve of Officers owing to their residences being so far away from the drill hall.

Shooting.—The first round of *The Western Mail* cup for miniature range shooting resulted in the three Companies of the unit being left in to compete for the second round. The scores were: No. 1 Company 272, No. 2 Company 302, and No. 3 Company 292. No. 2 Company set up a new record of 302. In the second round No. 2 Company came out on top with the remarkable score of 310 out of the possible 320, Sergt Baxter H. P., L/Sergt Pinnell and Sigmn Cox scoring possibles. The individual scores were as follows:—

	200 yds.		500 yds.		Total
Sergt Baxter H. P.	20	...	20	...	40
L/Sergt Pinnell W.	20	...	20	...	40
Sigmn Cox A.	20	...	20	...	40
Sergt Milton G.	20	...	19	...	39
Sergt Llewellyn W.	20	...	19	...	39
Corpl Lehane G.	19	...	19	...	38
Sergt Hawkins R.	19	...	18	...	37
Sergt Pugsley F.	20	...	17	...	37
				Total	310

No. 1 Company in this round made a score of 267, and No. 3 Company 280.

The semi-final was fired off on the 5th April, and No. 2 Company (the holders) were very unlucky to be knocked out in this after shooting so well all the season. The scores were: No. 244 Field Company Royal Engineers 303, No. 2 Company 53rd Divl Signals 294, B Company 5th Battalion The Welch Regiment 303, C Company 6th Battalion The Welch Regiment 298.

All these scores are higher than any put up in the finals of this competition, so there has been a much higher standard in the shooting all round this year. We congratulate No. 244 Field Company Royal Engineers and B Company 5th Batatlion The Welch Regiment on putting up such a fine score to enter the final round.

Social.—The W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess held their annual St. Patrick's dance on the 15th March. The commanding officer (Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C.) and our officers attended, and all voted they had spent a very enjoyable evening.

A whist drive and dance was held on the 30th March. This was also a success, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Two of our P.S.I.s (C.S.M. Maynard and Sergt Brundell) have attended a three weeks M.T. course at Preston, and they should know all about big ends now (but not cause any).

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

D.R. Section and Club.—Although not an entirely new Section, this has just commenced to get really under way. The first object—that of getting together the nucleus—has been accomplished, as well as the second—the getting of a combined workshop and club room. Under the able guidance of its officer in charge, Lieut. C. Nettleship, nothing is in the way to stop this particular Section from developing. Fine opportunities and benefits are offered to owner-riders of motor bikes, socially, mentally, physically and particularly financially; so if anyone wishes to know more of the details, we'll be only too pleased to supply 'em. Apply to the Old Firm.

Training.—The paid evening classes have ended, but the training (like the mill stream) goes on for ever! Plans are in action for wireless, station pair, Brigade exchange, and Battery operator work, line laying, and Morse working for the beginners. Then there are the various week-end schemes and camps—all of which lead up firstly to the Command Trade Board some time in May, and finally to the annual training camp in July—August.

We heartily congratulate those comparatively new comers who have done so well in the local Trade Board just completed. No less than fourteen men of No. 1 Company and five of No. 2 have obtained their Group E rates either as operator signals or linemen. We further congratulate the winners of the silk flags, the prizes offered for outstanding abilities and attendance. It is pointed out, though, that the ultimate winners were very hard to determine —so close were the results. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—The paid evening classes for 1935 terminated on the 25th March, and the way is now clear for Company and Section training. We are looking forward to a very interesting series of schemes, both on drill evenings and during week-ends, when we hope to get our wireless team cracking. Look out, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies! we are after that cup.

We congratulate the winners of the silk flags which were given during the paid evening classes to create that competitive spirit which, without any doubt, improves the general keenness and efficiency of all concerned ; and if results can be any guide, we should be able to put in some very good and useful work at our annual training this year.

Miniature Rifle Club.—We have had some interesting meetings during the past month. Although the attendance is not so big, the general improvement in marksmanship is very gratifying, several members now being able to get " possibles " with ease ; and I can say with confidence that another " pot " will change hands this year.

Social.—The billiards tournament is progressing steadily, and the results will be published in due course (about five years time).

TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—The last month has been spent mainly in individual training, being the latter half of the paid evening classes. Our hopes in respect of the numbers attending were realised to the extent that our average per evening rose to 41.75 as compared with 32.7 for the previous half of the course. Had all the members been able to attend on one evening together, we should have called the roll to the extent of fifty-seven names. However, perhaps on the next course we shall be able to report " Company present."

Our members now chase the dots and dashes from their heads at the end of an evening's work with the aid of the persevering members of the concert party. Grouped around the long suffering piano, out of range of Corpl Dennison's piano-accordion, they solemnly execute (in more senses than one) poor " Old Faithful " and various other victims of their repertoire. (Is that spelt right? It looks right, anyhow.) Rumour has it that the gang may develop into a male voice choir. As long as they leave chamber music alone, they'll be all right.

Training.—On concluding the paid evening classes, we can sit back and say " Well! we shall have some operators at camp, anyhow!"

Training now consists of pair work, incidentally separating the pairs by a gradually lengthened distance until they are really confident when the receiving station is practically out of sight. In this respect, our operators are not yet confident. They do like to " just see if the receiver is still there." Now we've isolated 'em with wooden walls, and they're gradually getting used to being on their own.

Social.—On Monday 1st April we are holding our annual Company supper at the drill hall. Some good entertainment is promised by our concert party, and we are looking to a real good time. On this occasion silk flags are being presented to outstanding members of the late course. (No, Busty ; outstanding doesn't mean fat members.)

Well Done!—Congratulations to the senior and junior n.c.o. instructors who have put in such good work during the late course and who are still doing their stuff.

B Corps Signals.—Old members of B Corps Signals will be interested to know that Mr. J. J. Russell (ex-Corporal, R.Signals) is residing in Southend as S.C. and T. with the G.P.O. He is married and has lately been presented with a bonny daughter. He wishes to be remembered to those whom he knew in the Corps, especially Smudger Smith G. F. V. (Jabberwock).

THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

So we are going to have a church parade and march past on the 6th May. We are getting ready for it up here, giving the boys just a little squad drill to smarten them up a bit. We hope to put up a fine show, too ; all the boys are willing.

Our dance on the 5th April went off o.k. and everybody enjoyed themselves. There were not too many there ; just enough for comfortable dancing. I think the dance has paid for itself.

The first week-end camp is being held on the 27th/28th April, and we are hoping for a good turn-out. Hope it isn't too cold for the boys! You will hear all about that next time.

Cheers now! I'm off colour this month, but I don't suppose the censor is. I don't think I like him! TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7.

After enjoying ourselves for some considerable time, we have now come down to earth—and earths—and are savouring the delights of Section training. As all units are probably occupied in a like manner, no useful purpose is served here by describing our programme re-actions.

We have what appears to be a promising crowd of recruits, and Sergeant-Major Cassidy is once again in charge of their training. What a man he is! Each year he transforms a mob of raw, and sometimes bad, yeggs into an exceedingly smart crew. So much so that each year, at camp and in uniform, I think the recruits look the smartest crowd in the unit. If only we could spare the time to place the main body under the S.M.'s wing for a few weeks for him to bully and cajole, a remarkable improvement in the bearing and turn-out of the trained men would be evident. I am, of course, speaking generally, as there are a number of trained men who do improve in every way each year. These, of course, reap their reward in promotion.

Having forgotten the date, I had the extraordinary luck to turn up on the night of the R.S.M.'s lecture on the Fullerphone. He came armed to the teeth with diagrams of the instrument in various positions. I couldn't tell you which I liked least. The diagrams were in themselves works of art, and although the R.S.M. modestly refrained from saying by whose hand they were prepared, I gatheted from a chance remark that he was the author. One diagram in particular was really lovely. It represented the Fullerphone in toto. Before knowing this, I admired it as an excellent attempt at town planning. Those cunning green lines, however, did not (as I imagined) enclose " permanent open spaces " but represented one of the many circuits.

I was glad to read that, in an effort to make the T.A. more attractive, units are to receive grants enabling them to pay the fares of the men to and from parade. When we move to our new barracks, " The Promised Land," this is likely to prove an expensive item. However, this grant, together with one or two small concessions, ought to do something to reduce the present serious deficiency in the strength of the Territorial Army.

FIVE-FIVE.

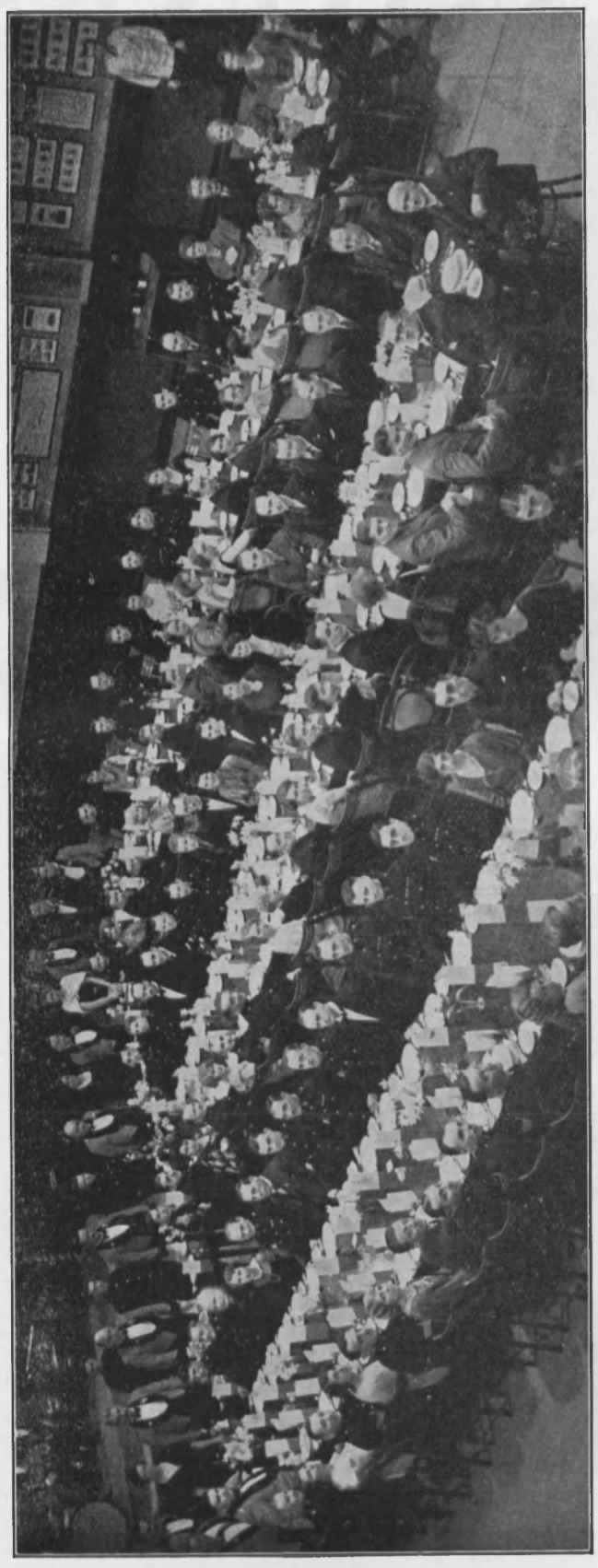
56th (1st London) City of London Signals

Signal House, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

St. Patrick's Night Ball.—In spite of the fact that three other dances arranged by larger organisations than the City of London Signals were being held locally on the 16th March, Signal House ran a show and drew a most excellent number of people to celebrate Ireland's day. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and we hope they will come again next year.

Officers Dinner.—The usual distinguished company assembled on the 20th March, and we were proud to show guests round our headquarters.

Regular Army Recruiting.—Both the adjutant and all the permanent staff instructors attended a lecture on this subject, and it was announced that 21 per cent. of the recruits obtained last year were brought in by P.S.I.s throughout Great Britain. If that is so, and the large numbers of men who joined the Regular Army after contact with instructors of the T.A. are taken into consideration, it seems that the instructors do their job well. Their first duty, however, must be to their T.A. unit, especially in London.



Sergeants Mess Annual Dinner.—This function on the 30th March was most notable for the large number of Mess members and guests who attended.

A very excellent menu was provided by the wife of Sergeant Buttle, the caretaker at headquarters ; and how she managed to produce a dinner for one hundred and forty people is beyond our comprehension.

R.S.M. Sewell C. G. R. proposed "His Majesty the King."

C.S.M. Tyrell F. A., M.M., proposed "The Guests" in a very witty speech, and mentioned how pleased they were to see the officers and their wives. He referred particularly to the presence of w.o.s and n.c.o.s of the Honourable Artillery Company, the R.A.S.C. and the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisional Signals.

Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., in replying, said that this is one of the few units in London who invite ladies to their annual dinner, and expressed his gratification at this fact, as the T.A. depended for their existence to a great extent on the wives and lady friends who cheerfully "lend" their husbands, etc., to the service of their country. He mentioned also that, for the first time in many years, the unit was now two hundred strong ; and with the aid of the recruiting weeks which will be held in May, he was confident that the strength of the unit would reach two hundred and fifty this year.

C.S.M. London A. J. in proposing "The Permanent Staff," dwelt feelingly on their past attainments, but omitted any reference to their present industry. As he is here constantly, he probably knows all about that.

R.S.M. Hales A. G. replied, and said that he was very gratified to think that the T.A. appreciated the work done by the P.S. He sincerely hoped that, before camp, the strength of the unit would be well up towards two hundred and fifty, if not more.

After a short break, the members and their guests were entertained in the intervals of dancing by an excellent cabaret performance by Peggy Dale, Cuban and Keith, and Jack Pacey. Arthur Hare and his band provided music throughout the evening.

A photograph by The Non-Flash Banquet Photo Co. (of Denmark Hill) is reproduced opposite for the benefit of those who were unable to be present.

Gardens.—Members of the unit will have noticed with pleasure that, despite the accident to one of the gate posts, the front lawn is being laid out as a well arranged garden, which should assist in recruiting.

Band.—We have long known that our trumpeters and drummers were in existence, but under the able guidance of Mr. Duys (our bandmaster) we are now to have a band. Instruments have been bought and practices have commenced, and rumour hath it that by next winter the City of London Signals dance band will be, if not famous, at least well known.

88th London Company Boys Brigade.—This unit held their fourteenth annual inspection and display at our headquarters on Saturday 6th April. This was one of the best organised functions that have happened at H.Q. since its inception. Some seven hundred people were entertained by an excellent display by the boys. The band was really first class ; the music was good and well played. We hear they are selected to represent the Boys Brigades of London at the Mansion House—and rightly so.

A P.T. and gymnastic display given by the seniors and juniors was well worth watching, and those boys certainly could do their stuff. Their foot drill and drill movements were carried out with the precision of a well trained Regular Battalion. Would that we could always do as well!

Boxing Ring.—The Association kindly allowed the purchase, and (through the good offices of Captain White) the Lewisham Timber Company have produced an excellent platform which cunningly divides into halves and (replacing our old contraption) makes an excellent stage 40 ft. by 10 ft. This should suffice for the staging of all but the most elaborate of entertainments.

As regards the ring itself, we are promised by next winter a completely equipped and most modern ring. We have the hall, lights and ring. Now we only want some boxing! We are hoping that the Corps boxers at Aldershot will come and help us. The local Constabulary are (they tell us) willing to fight anybody. We feel that the excellent ring, situated as it is in South-West London, will be of advantage to many boxers in

[*Continued at foot of col. 2 page 236*]

SPORTS NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—On the 9th April some very good fighting was witnessed at the Blood Tub, when a team from the combined branches of the Royal Artillery met an S.T.C. team. After a good evening's entertainment, the S.T.C. eventually emerged winners. The final scores were: S.T.C. 18, Combined R.A. 15.

Feathers—L/Bdr Carlyle (21st Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Argyle. Not a very stirring fight, with the Artilleryman a winner on points.

Lights—First string: Gunner McGinley (21st Field Brigade) v. L/Corpl Stirk. Stirk boxed very cleverly and outpointed a heavier opponent. An excellent fight: one of the best of the evening. Second string: L/Bdr Woodage (20th Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Roden. Roden boxed very pluckily against a more experienced boxer, but lost on points. Third string: Driver Green (21st Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Marsh. Marsh boxed very well indeed, and on this showing should develop into a good boxer. He won on points.

Welters—Second string: L/Sergt Bellman (21st Field Brigade) v. Driver Fell. A good clean hard hitting fight—the best of the evening—with Fell a deserving winner. Third string: Gunner Smith (20th Field Brigade) v. Sergt Cundell (Duke of Wellington's Regiment, S of S). An excellent fight with plenty of hard hitting, with Cundell the winner.

Middles—First string: Driver Tame (21st Field Brigade) v. Dvr Taylor. A close fight, with Taylor just earning the referee's decision. Second string: Gunner Jones (20th Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Murdoch. The latter was too clever for Jones, to whom he delivered the k.o. in the second round.

Light-heavy—Gunner Noland (20th Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Echlin. This fight was similar to the previous one. Noland was too good for Echlin, who was knocked out in the second round.

Heavy—Gunner Donaghy (20th Field Brigade) v. Sigmn Follows. In this fight Follows was disappointing. He was too confident and did not make the most of his opportunities. He lost on points.

Welters—First string: Gunner Scott (20th Field Brigade) v. Dvr Scott. A good fight indeed, with plenty of lively scrapping. Scott won on points.

Football.—The following are the results of matches for the month of March in the Catterick Garrison League: v. Training Battalion lost, v. 21st Field Brigade R.A. lost, v. 2nd Battalion S. W. Borderers won, v. 2nd Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment won, v. 2nd Battalion S. W. Borderers won.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—The inter-Squad boxing competition was held in the famous Blood Tub during February. Over fifty bouts were staged, and good entertainment was served up. Every competitor went the whole hog, and the claret flowed copiously on several occasions. The whole show was well supported, and the onlookers enjoyed themselves as much as the competitors. Good spirit was very much in evidence.

The bouts were refereed by Captain A. I. G. McNair, assisted by Q.M.S.I. Wilcox. On the final evening Lieut.-Colonel F. O. St. John, D.S.O., M.C., presented the shield to No. 74 Squad, Corpl Knight being the proud recipient on behalf of the winning team. Medals were also presented to the winners and runners-up in the respective weights.

The medal winners were as follows (the runners-up being named second):—

Feather—Sigmn Green (No. 73 Squad); Driver Naylor (77)
Light weight—Sigmn Roden (75); Sigmn Donnelly (75)
Welter weight—Driver Fell (79); Sigmn Hart (77)
Middle weight—Driver Taylor (70); Sigmn Beverley (81)
Light heavy weight—Driver Burnell (73); Sigmn Bush (81)

Training Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.—The Battalion hockey team, under the captaincy of Lieut. D. W. Burridge, have had a most successful season. In the Samuel Smith Garrison hockey cup, they fought their way through to the final. Then, meeting the winners of the Northern Command hockey championship (the 4th Battalion Royal Tank

Standing (*l. to r.*)—C.S.M. Leckie, Signalmen Fell, Beverley and Bush, Drivers Burnell and Taylor, Sigmn Green, Q.M.S.I. Wilcox,

Sitting—Sigmn Hart, Driver Naylor, Corpl Myddleton, Major E. L. Hill, M.C., D.C.M., L/Corpl Stirk, Signalman Donnelly, Driver Roden.

The Training Battalion Hockey Team, Catterick.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Corpl Collins, Sergt Gresham, L/Corporals Holloway, Simpson and Hayes.

Front row—Signalman Gibbons, Corpl Holland, 2/Lieut. A. F. McGill, Lt.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C. (commanding Training Battalion), Lieut. D. W. Burridge, Corpl Saunders, Sergeant Solly.

Corps) they carried off the cup after a very exciting game, the only goal of the match being the winning one. This was scored after a magnificent effort by Corporal Saunders.

Sigmn Smale of this Battalion has been selected to umpire the North v. South hockey match to be played at Leeds on the 25th April.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

After all the praise I have given to our rugby team in past notes, they have let me down. However, we cannot have everything our own way. In the final of the Mackworth rugby shield we met the School of Signals and, as anticipated, a keen game was witnessed. However, our team was weakened by the absence of 2/Lieut. P. G. Curry and Sigmn Follows, who were both injured. Please do not take this as an excuse, because I heartily congratulate the School on their fine display. In the first half we were attacking with the wind and could not penetrate our opponents' defence, although we lost one good chance with a penalty kick. We did plenty of offensive work but we could not work together, and I think that was the cause of our defeat. In the second half the School took up the offensive and kept it up continuously. Shortly after the change over they crossed our line, and I still cannot understand why the referee gave a five yards scrum. Nevertheless, this did not deter them, and after a while—in fact, two minutes from the end—they crossed again. L/Corpl Bennington played the game of his life at scrum half and to a very great extent compensated for the loss of Mr. Curry in that position. So we passed out, and although the team played well they did not play as a team. All our moans must not be inferred as taking any praise from the performance of the School, as they played a storming game and were the better team. Once again I say "Well played, School!"

To-day we are playing the first round of the Garrison inter-Company knock-out competition, so an account of this will have to be left for next month's notes.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—On Wednesday 13th March a team of boys went to box against Stoneyhurst College at Stoneyhurst. This was not a representative team contest, but a series of fights arranged mutually with Stoneyhurst. We sent a list of our boys, giving their age, height and weight, and they replied saying which boys they could match. Unfortunately, they found great difficulty in matching some of the older boys who were amongst the better boxers. We had a very good day at Stoneyhurst and were successful by the odd fight in eleven. The results were as follows:—

Boy Barr (6 st. 9 lb.) beat Vavasour (6 st. 10¼ lb.)
Boy Halford (6 st. 8¼ lb.) lost to Monteith (7 st. 0¼ lb.)
Boy Price (7 st. 8 lb.) lost to Jervis (7 st. 10¼ lb.)
Boy Lander (8 st. 8 lb.) lost to Cummins (8 st. 11¼ lb.)
Boy Moore P. (9 st. 4½ lb.) beat Slattery (9 st. 7 lb.)
L/Cpl Boy Smith E. (9 st. 9 lb.) lost to de Bertodano (9 st. 7 lb.)
Boy Roberts J. (10 st.) beat Moreton (9 st. 13 lb.)
Boy Roberts D. (9 st. 8 lb.) beat Sheeky (9 st. 8 lb.)
Boy Mayhew (9 st. 12 lb.) beat Kissane (9 st. 8 lb.)
L/Corpl Boy Smith J. (10 st. 2¼ lb.) beat Casey (10 st. 5 lb.)
Boy Pugsley (10 st. 12 lb.) lost to Duffy (11 st. 12 lb.)

The Garrison boys inter-unit team competition took place on Wednesday and Thursday, 27th and 28th March, in the Le Cateau Gymnasium. F Company entered four teams: Nos. 1.A and 1.B (operators), No. 2 (fitters), and No. 3 (I.M.s). No. 3 Section drew a bye in the first round.

On the first evening No. 2 Section opened the boxing against the South Wales Borderers and were unfortunate to lose by one point. The results were as follows:—

Fly weight—Boy Price (Royal Signals) was beaten by a narrow margin of points by Boy Faulkner (S.W.B.) after a very close fight.

Second string bantam—Boy Mullins (Royal Signals) was beaten on points by Boy Rogers (S.W.B.) after a good fight. Mullins was brought in late into the team, but he put up a very game fight against a heavier and fitter opponent.

Feather weight—Boy Brown (Royal Signals) knocked out Boy Bolton (S.W.B.) after half a minute in the first round.

Light weight—L/Corpl Boy Smith E. (Royal Signals) knocked out Boy Waller (S.W.B.) in the first round.

First string bantam—Boy Camp (Royal Signals) was knocked out in the first round by Boy Dwyer (S.W.B.) who won his weight in the Army boys boxing at Chepstow in 1934.

In the second match, the two teams from the Operators Section unfortunately drew each other, but they fought well. No. 1.A won by 9—6 points. The results were as follows.

Fly weight—Boy Halford (1.A) beat Boy Hockings (1.B) on points.
Second string bantam—Boy Connell (1.A) beat Boy Mitchell (1.B) on points. Mitchell was brought in at very short notice and without any training, but put up a very game fight.
Feather—Boy Creed (1.A) was beaten on points by Boy Parker (1.B) after a splendid fight, in which he was congratulated by the referee on taking a great deal of punishment in a splendid spirit. Parker gave a very good exhibition of boxing.
Light weight—Boy Harrington (1.A) beat Boy Roberts D. (1.B) on points.
First string bantam—Boy Garfield (1.A) beat Boy Rowe (1.B) on points after a splendid fight, which the referee announced was easily the best of the evening. Rowe fought splendidly against an older and much more experienced boxer.

On Thursday evening, 28th March, the contests between Royal Signal No. 3 Section and the 2nd Lincolns, and Royal Signal No. 1.A Section and 2nd South Wales Borderers, were fought concurrently. No. 3 Section beat the 2nd Lincolns by 8—7 points, and No. 1.A Section beat the 2nd S.W.B.s by 9—6 points. This left the two Royal Signal Sections (1.A and 3) in the final, which was won by No. 1.A Section (operators) by 9—6 points. The details of the fights were as follows.

No. 3 Section Royal Signals v. 2nd Lincoln Regiment.

Fly weight—Boy Page (Royal Signals) was knocked out by Boy Kilty (2nd Lincolns) in the first round.
Second string bantam—Boy Brookman (Royal Signals) beat Boy Riley (2nd Lincolns) on points after a close fight. He started slowly, but picked up well in the second and third rounds.
Feather—L/Corpl Boy O'Brien (Royal Signals) knocked out Boy Dring (2nd Lincolns) in the first round.
Light weight—Boy Hawley (Royal Signals) was beaten on points by a very narrow margin by Boy Newsome (2nd Lincolns) after a very close hard fought fight.
First string bantam—Boy Sullivan (Royal Signals) beat Boy Deusham (2nd Lincolns) on points after a very even fight. Sullivan was quicker than his opponent and used his right well.

No. 1.A Section Royal Signals v. 2nd S.W.B.s.

Fly weight—Boy Garfield (Royal Signals) beat Boy Faulkner (S.W.B.) on points after a very close fight.
Second string bantam—Boy Connell (Royal Signals) beat Boy Rogers (S.W.B.) on points after a hard, evenly contested fight. Connell was the more aggressive boxer and had a good defence.
Feather—Boy Creed (Royal Signals) beat Boy Bolton (S.W.B.) on points after an excellent fight. He had the advantage of a longer reach and used it well against a wild fighter.
Light weight—Boy Harrington (Royal Signals) knocked out Boy Waller (S.W.B.) in the first round. He boxed well.
First string bantam—Boy Brewster (Royal Signals) was knocked out in the first round by Boy Dwyer (S.W.B.), but he stood up well to a much older and more experienced boxer.

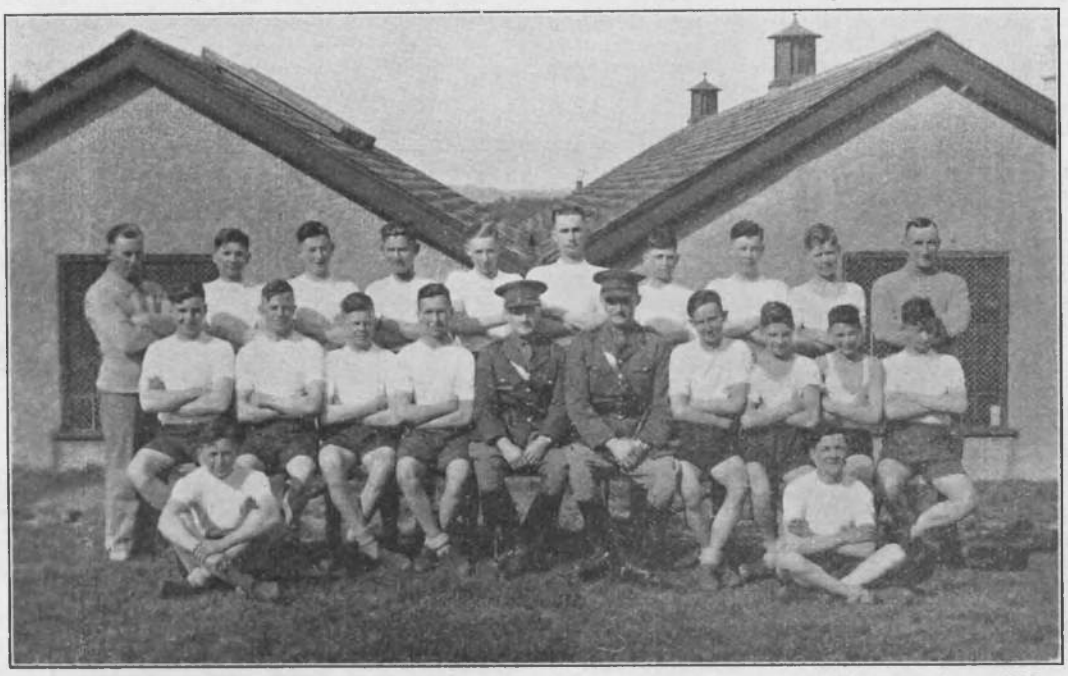
Final: No. 1.A Section R.Signals v. No. 3 Section R.Signals.

Fly weight—Boy Halford (1.A) beat Boy Page (3) on points after a good exhibition of quick boxing by both competitors.
Second string bantam—Boy Connell (1.A) beat Boy Sullivan (3) on points after a hard, close fight. Both competitors were feeling the effects of their earlier fights.
Feather—Boy Creed (1.A) was knocked out by L/Corporal Boy O'Brien (3) in the first round. Creed had had a rough passage throughout the competition, but he put up a very plucky resistance.
Light weight—Boy Harrington (1.A) beat Boy Hawley (3) on points after a splendid fight. He was the more skilful boxer and used his reach to advantage
First string bantam—Boy Garfield (1.A) knocked out Boy Brookman (3) in the second round. Brookman showed great pluck in lasting as long as he did, and took a lot of punishment.

All the boys who took part in the boxing are to be congratulated on the keenness displayed in their training and the high standard of boxing given throughout the competition.

At the conclusion of the finals, trophies were presented to the winning team by Brigadier H. C. Maitland-Makgill-Crichton, C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C., Commander 14th Infantry Brigade.

Rugby.—On Wednesday 7th March F Company met the School of Signals in the second round of the Mackworth cup. The game was played on Scotton ground under excellent conditions. The School side was much heavier in the scrum and pushed F Company off the ball. In spite of that, F Company succeeded in getting the ball on many occasions, and outside the scrum they were the better side. Their three-quarters handled very well and at times looked dangerous, but the School defence was too good. F Company tried kicking but failed to find touch,



F Company Boxing Team, Training Battalion, Catterick, in the Garrison Boys Championships, 1935.

and the School back was kicking splendidly. The game ended in a draw, neither side being able to score.

The replay took place a week later on Scotton ground. Interest was keen, and the atmosphere was tense. Both sides were keyed up to concert pitch. As before, the game was a very even one. The School had the advantage of weight in the scrum, but their three-quarters played much better than in the previous game. F Company played well, but were not getting possession of the ball very often, and consequently their three-quarters could not get going. In this game there was much more play in the scrum, and F Company forwards played a hard game against heavy odds. The defence on both sides was excellent. At half time neither side had scored, and it looked as if the result would be another draw. But in the second half the School forwards wore down F Company, and towards the end they succeeded in pushing the ball over and scoring a good try, which was converted. Play was confined to the middle of the ground for a spell, but just before the whistle went for time Lieut. Smyth again scored for the School from a line-out. This try was not converted. At the end of the game the School had won by 8—0 points.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

General—Like everyone else who tries to forecast the results of sports fixtures, I have to admit that I was wrong and that the unexpected happened again. Last month I said we were practically certain to win the hockey section of the inter-unit winter sports competition for the Hitchins cup. The last match to be played was between A Corps and the 1st Divl Signals, and the 1st Div. won by 3—2. Thanks, however, to the ruggerites, who played wonderfully well, we managed to win the competition by the small margin of one point. So we offer congratulations to everyone who took part in the various games, and especially to the rugger team who pulled us through. Everything depended on the last match, played on the 2nd April between A Corps and the 2nd Divl Signals, which we won by 10—0.

Hockey.—When we last went to press, one game remained to be played in the unit competition. Prior to that game, A Corps and the 1st Divl Signals were level with four points each, having won one and drawn two of the three games they had played. The deciding game with the 1st Div. opened strongly, with A Corps getting the better of the game. After about twenty minutes play Baldwin put A Corps in the lead and at half time we were leading by 2—1. But the same old fault was in evidence after half time. The half-backs failed to support the forwards adequately, and with the backs having an off day we were beaten by 3—2: and we did not deserve to win either.

Only one other game has been played this month, and that was the annual game between the officers and w.o.s and sergts, which resulted in a win for the Sergeants Mess by 5—2. This was some recompense for them, as they had lost to the officers at soccer by 5—3.

Soccer.—A Corps met and beat the 1st Divl Signals by 2—0 in the last soccer game to be played, on 18/3/35.

Billiards.—In the Command knock-out competition we very definitely had hard luck. We lost the first game by 64 points, and then proceeded to win three of the remaining five—only to lose the match on aggregate. The balls simply would not run for a couple of our best players whom we had banked on to win, with the result that we had to congratulate the 2nd Battalion Cameronians on getting into the semi-final at our expense.

Boxing.—On Monday 25/3/35 a party of sixteen boxers—fifteen of whom belonged to A Corps—proceeded to Bognor Regis to take part in the Regis amateur boxing tournament. A very pleasant and enjoyable time was spent by all, and several good prizes were brought back as well as hard knocks.

8 st. 6 lb. competition (open novices)—Sigmn Lloyd beat W. Murphy, only to lose to F. Turner, the ultimate winner, in the semi-final. Sigmn Goodall won his first fight, but then lost to Driver Mansfield (2nd Divl Signals) in the other semi-final. Driver Mansfield lost to Turner in the final.

11 st. 6 lb. competition (open novices)—We had seven entries in this competition: L/Corporals Wood and Ditchfield, and Signalmen Lancashire, Glover, Baruch, Thompson and Harris. Sigmn Lancashire beat T. Eager (Brighton) and then L/Corpl Wood, only to be beaten by D. Ayling (Bognor) in the semi-final. Sigmn Thompson also got into the semi-final, but was then beaten by E. Masters (Bognor).

Some good bouts were witnessed, and two four-round contests between L/Corporals Kennedy and Spriggs, and Signalmen Ducker and Goodwin, were well contested. L/Corpl Spriggs beat his man in the second round, whilst Ducker was content with a points decision.

On Monday 8/4/35 L/Corporals Kennedy and Ditchfield and Signalmen Yates and Harris competed in the Mayor of Southwark's amateur boxing tournament. Some of the best amateurs in the land were on view in this tournament. Our lads did not do anything startling, but it provided experience which will come in useful some day.

Water Polo.—The water polo season has started, and we have played two games, drawing one and losing the other. The first, against The King's Own Royal Regiment, we drew at 1—1. Corpl Green scored with a neat back-flip into the top corner of the net. In the second game, against No. 1 Section R.A.O.C. we lost by 0—1.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Soccer.—v. No. 2 Company A Corps Signals, drew at 1—1 (Harvey); v. No. 3 Company 1st Divisional Signals (Cobb trophy) lost by 0—2.

Hockey.—v. R.A.F. Farnborough, won by 5—4 (Stanley, McQuade, Williams, Macken 2); v. No. 3 Company 1st Divl Signals (Cobb trophy) won by 3—1 (Harvey 3).

We have now finished our games for the winter season, and below are some of our records.

Soccer—Played 21, won 6, drawn 7, lost 8; goals—for 66, against 77. Goal scorers—Verlander 15, Macken 12, Harvey and Harwood 9 each.

Hockey—Played 9, won 3, drawn 1, lost 5; goals—for 19, against 24. Goal scorers—Macken 6, Harvey 3.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Association Football.

S.P.A. League.—Alas! we have lost another two matches since the last notes appeared in THE WIRE: v. 3rd Div. R.E. by 3—6, and v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A. by 1—4.

Three matches have yet to be played before the season closes: v. 1st Battalion R.W.F., 3rd Div. R.E., and 2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment—and we are all out to register at least one win.

Bulford Garrison Challenge Cup.—No. 2 Company, having reached the semi-final of the challenge cup, met the 56th Company R.E. but after a splendid game lost by 1—2. Our opponents scored the decisive goal about one minute before the end of extra time. Although No. 2 Company have been knocked out of this cup, they are the leaders of the Garrison League with one game in hand.

Section League.—Nos. 2 and 3 Companies have divulged their champion Section at last! (G and L) so we should be able to announce the unit champion Section in next month's notes.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Football.—During the last month the First Eleven played four League matches and two cup semi-finals, the results of which were as follows.

v. St. Luke's, Ramsgate (League) won by 1—0
v. 1st Battn The Royal Scots (Dover charity cup) lost by 0—1
v. Chislet Colliery (League) lost by 1—3
v. Dover United (Kent benevolent cup) won by 3—2
v. 59th Company R.E. (League) won by 4—0
v. Chislet Colliery (League) won by 6—2

Despite the reverse we received at the hands of Chislet Colliery, our prospects of annexing the championship at the first attempt appear quite rosy, and our local George Allison can be seen walking around with a springy step. However, we still have some vital games to play, but we are hoping for the best. The return of L/Corpl Wilbraham and Sigmn Foster has greatly strengthened the side, although it necessitated quite a number of changes in the composition of the team. The loss of our

skipper (L/Corpl Gillott) fortunately came along at the same time, so his absence will not be felt as greatly as was expected.

In connection with our two cup semi-finals, the first we were very unlucky to lose, their centre forward finding our "onion bag" with a surprise shot in the early minutes, after which our lads took possession of the game but failed to force a replay. The second game v. Dover United developed into a battle against the wind. After being two goals in arrears at half-time, we managed to win by the odd goal in five. We play Betteshanger Colliery in the final at some future date.

The Second Eleven have now completed their League engagements, winding up with a victory by six clear goals over Deal Thursday.

The inter-Section knock-out competition has been played during the month and furnished some very exciting games, in addition to attracting larger crowds than even our First Eleven. D Section defeated B Cable Section by 4—1 goals in the final after a fine tussle. One or two budding Bastins came to light in this competition, of whom it is hoped that more will be heard later.

The inter-Company knock-out competition is due to commence this week, and results will be published in our notes for next month.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Boxing.—The contest between the 2nd Battn The Manchester Regiment and this unit (referred to in last month's notes) took place on the 1st April—the first of April, mark you!—and resulted in a win for the visitors by 12—3 fights. We were outclassed. Obviously, say you—very, say I. Nevertheless, though we lost, experience was gained which will stand us in good stead if we get the opportunity of meeting a team when we go to Catterick for our summer vacation. Really, we ought to have met the Navy last year. However, to continue business.

Bantam weight—Sigmn McDonagh v. Cpl Adams. McDonagh had the measure of his man early on, and after putting his opponent down for a long count, he proceeded to grant him an extension—with permission to wear plain clothes. That was the first fight to us. Second string—Sigmn Disley v. Private Jones. Early in this fight Disley received a nasty cut over the eye from a terrific upper cut. Although he kept clear of further harm, the referee awarded the fight to Jones. Very unfortunate, that cut.

Light weight—Driver McGregor v. L/Corporal Timms. Both men were cautioned for holding. Little opportunity to box was given McGregor owing to his adversary laying on him. He was awarded the verdict in a good fight spoiled by wrong tactics. Second string—Driver Walker v. L/Corpl Walsh. Rather slow starting, but not afraid to hit when settled down. During the second and third rounds Walsh found his way to Walker's chin on several occasions and earned the verdict.

Light heavy—Sigmn Smith L. H. v. Corpl Heason. Early in the first round Smith landed a beautfiul blow to his opponent's chin, sending him to the boards for a short count. That blow was unfortunate for Smith. Heason repaid him with interest far exceeding that of gilt edged securities, fat stock prices, etc., and only Smith's holding prevented a certain knock out. He was certainly out on his feet.

Welter weight—Sigmn Powell S. v. Private Riley. One of the best fights of the evening. Attacks like bayonet fighting: in—out—on guard. Riley was the superior in the second round, owing apparently to his better condition. Both contestants congratulated on clean fighting. Riley awarded the verdict on points—an unusual verdict for him. I understand that Powell is only the second opponent he has failed to knock out. Second string—Sigmn Shreeves v. Private Reynolds. The latter went in straight from the start, and delivered a nasty blow to the stomach from which Shreeves never seemed to recover. Fight stopped in the second round and awarded to Reynolds.

Middle weight—Driver Wozencroft v. Private Freer. Swings, swings, and more swings. As blows only landed infrequently, both boxers were on their feet at the end of the first round. Each man struck a blow in the second round, but the gong struck just as Wozencroft telegraphed the despatch of a second. Both appeared to help themselves in the last round and finished on their feet. Freer was awarded the verdict. As this was Wozencroft's first appearance in a ring, he is to be congratulated on sticking it to the end.

Feather weight—Sigmn Watson v. Cpl Jones. A big difference in reach was a feature of this fight. Watson, the smaller of the two, did not appear to worry unduly about the size of his opponent. What he lacked in inches he made up for in boxing, and he boxed his way out of corners with ease. In the last round Watson repeatedly landed punches to the body with his right and received a well earned victory. Second string—Sigmn Edmunds v. Corpl Bell. The first round ended with Signalman Edmunds still able to see his way to his corner. The second round ended, as usual, before its time, the referee stopping the fight and giving the verdict to Edmunds' opponent. It is no good, Edmunds; even Dempsey cannot stage a come back and get away with it.

Light weight: third string—Sigmn Crebbin v. Pte Cuisick. Unfortunately for Crebbin, he met the best boxer of the Manchester team and consequently was outclassed. However, it was a good fight and lasted the full three rounds. Owing to his recent arrival from the 4th Divisional Signals, Crebbin was hardly acclimatised and was out of training compared with the other boxer.

Welter weights: third string—Sigmn McConnell v. Private Higgins. Nothing much to report about this fight. A clean knock-out put McConnell down for the count, to the surprise of unit supporters. Fourth string—Sigmn McKenzie v. Corporal Farrell. Like the previous fight, the first round was not completed—the referee stopping the fight in favour of Farrell.

Middle weight—Sigmn Ford D. v. Corpl Quigley. The first round went to Ford, and it would possibly have been the last had not Quigley been cautioned twice for holding, thereby receiving a certain amount of time to recover—and just when he needed it most, too. Round two showed Quigley "playing possum" until halfway through, when he commenced to fight back with a vengeance. I thought something would happen when Ford continued to follow his man up after the latter's recovery. He let Ford do the hitting and waited an opportunity. It came, and he took it—not with both hands: one was sufficient. A straight right to the chin. The I.M.T.s could not have made a better connection than that right did. Ford went down for the count—two or three counts, in fact, which left our supporters breathless. Second string—L/Corpl Thom v. Sergt Fisher. Youth versus experience and chewing gum. Thom boxed well and thereby held his own with the older fighter. Had this been a mix-up, Thom would have got the worst of it. The verdict was given against him, but though beaten, he was not by any means disgraced.

Although our team lost heavily, under the circumstances they are to be congratulated. Very few facilities exist for training, and in addition actual ring experience is difficult to obtain in an out-station where there are no other troops.

Our thanks are due to the following officials, who helped to make the evening such a success. Lieut. C. D. Trimmer (West Yorks) referee. Mr. H. H. Robinson, Inspector Noakes, Mr. F. C. Clark and Lieut. M. J. Conway (Northern Counties Amateur Boxing Association) judges. 2/Lieut. D. A. Nolan, timekeeper. R.S.M. Bevan, M.C. Corpl Rigden, steward and trainer.

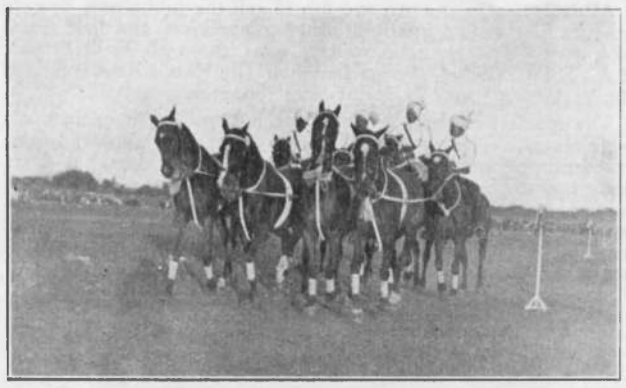
Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Mounted Sports, 1935.—The annual mounted sports of the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, were held on the 7th Feb. The officers were at home to the Station.

The programme consisted of eight competitive events and two displays. Of the competitive events, those for the officers jumping and Section tent pegging were open to the Station.

In the officers open jumping, the course consisted of nine obstacles, the most difficult of which (to the competitors) proved to be three rails, 22 ft. apart and 3 ft. 6 in. high, to be jumped without wings. All other jumps were 4 ft. high. The result was as follows: 1st, Lieut. R. A. Eden (R.A.) on His Nomination, 8 faults; 2nd, Lieut. J. N. Barker (R.Signals) on Ace of Clubs; 3rd, Lieut. A. B. Moore (15th Lancers).

The open tent pegging resulted in a win for a team from Headquarters 15th Field Brigade R.A., which consisted of two British other ranks of the Signal Section which belongs to the 4th Indian Divl Signals. Two Sections from the S.T.C. tied for second place.



Tandem Driving Display.

The individual tent pegging, which had to be held on an earlier date, was open to officers and men of the S.T.C. and F Signal Section only, and resulted in a very keen struggle. Three Indian other ranks of the Mounted Company tied for first place after two runs at ordinary size pegs. They were still equal after a run at half-size pegs, when the pegs had to be placed end-on. The ultimate winner, Havildar Mahboob Ali Khan, carried his peg

Tandem Driving Display.

even then: a very creditable performance. Second was placed C.H.M. Ganpat Rao, who is one of the finest tent pegging experts in India and won at the Imperial Delhi Horse Show in 1932.

The other ranks jumping was held over the same course as that for the officers, and was open to British and Indian ranks of the S.T.C. and F Signal Section. This resulted in a win, as expected, for Sergt Green P. on Bill—which pair have been extraordinarily

Tandem Driving Display.

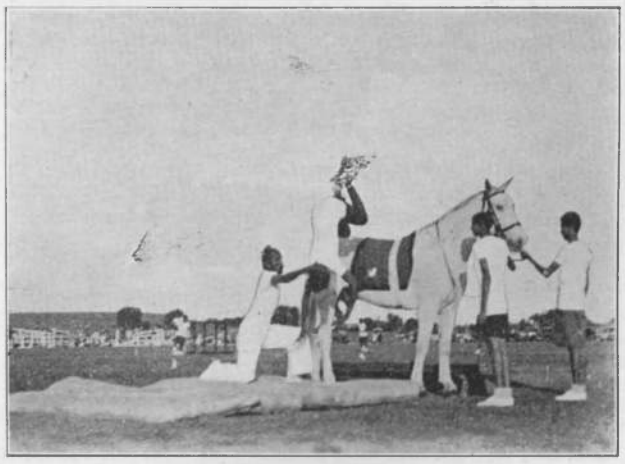
successful in local competitions in Jubbulpore during the last two years. It is hoped that Sergt Green and Bill will be able to jump at the Imperial Delhi Horse Show next year.

The competition for the Kirian Donga trophy (for the best trained officer's charger of the S.T.C.) was also held on an earlier date and resulted in a win for the second year for Captain H. D. Orr's Susan, with Lieut. J. N. Barker's Playboy second—only four points behind. This trophy was presented by Captain J. F.

The Indian Signal Corps Pipe Band.

Maxwell (A.I.R.O.) for many years an officer at the S.T.C., for officers show jumping; but the rules were changed, with the donor's permission, in 1934, and the trophy is now competed for annually as a charger test.

Of the displays, the physical training display by the Boys Company came first and was much admired. The Boys Company was formed about a year ago, and this is the first occasion on which they have performed before the Station.

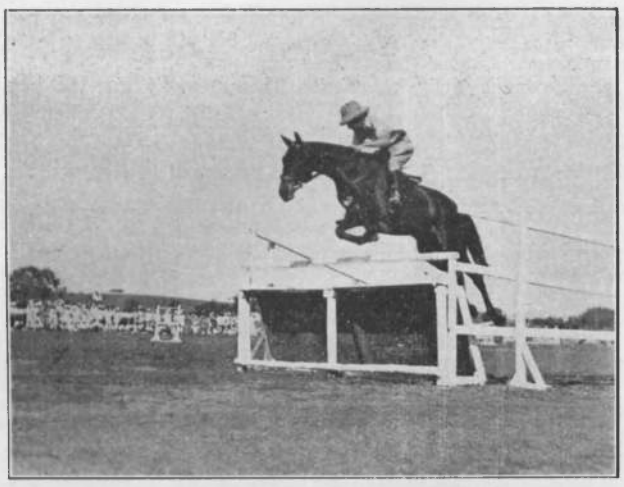


Display by F (Boys) Company.

The tandem driving display by the Mounted Company, which concluded the programme, was a success as usual. Great credit for its production is due to Captain H. D. Orr and Sergt Green, as well as to the performers. The band of the 1st Battalion The King's Regiment played during the drive.

During the tea interval, the band of the Indian Signal Corps played selections. The results of the eight competitions are given below.

Alarm race (Indian other ranks)—1st, L/Naik Ajmer Singh.
Musical chairs (B.O.R.s)—1st, Sigmn Leith.



Lieut. J. N. Barker Jumping.

Other ranks jumping—1st, Sergt Green's Bill ; 2nd, C.H.M. Ganpat Rao's Redstone.
Gymkhana event (Sergeants Mess)—Miss Murphy and Sergt Mathews.
Officers open jumping—1st, Lieutenant Eden (R.A.) on His Nomination ; 2nd, Lieut. Barker's Ace of Clubs.
Open Section tent pegging—1st, H.Q. 15th Field Brigade R.A.
Individual tent pegging—1st, Havildar Mahboob Ali Khan ; 2nd, C.H.M. Ganpat Rao.
Kirian Donga trophy—1st, Captain Orr's Susan ; 2nd, Lieut. Barker's Playboy.

Sergt P. Green Jumping.

A Company, Training Battalion.

Sport.—From the latter end of February till the end of March the Company have been up to the eyes in sport and have done exceedingly well, considering that competition is against a British Battalion and a Brigade of Artillery.

In our last notes it was mentioned that we had great hopes of doing well in the Porter cup football tournament, but, alas! our hopes were doomed. On the 26th February we met the Yorks and Lancs from Kamptee, who beat us by 4—2. It is not intended to make any excuses about the game, but one must agree that to have two penalties given against us in a cup tie is rather bad luck—and that is what happened to our team. On the whole, it was an excellent game throughout.

We are not in the least downhearted, and hope to do better in the Wallace cup, which is an inter-Company competition. We should have quite a good chance of winning it.

Athletics.—On the 7th and 8th March the Jubbulpore Brigade held its first annual inter-unit team competition, and four teams took part. The teams competing were the 15th Field Brigade R.A., S.T.C. (India), the 1st Battalion The King's Regiment, and the Yorks and Lancs Regiment from Kamptee.

The sports were held on the Copeland sports ground before a huge crowd. The standard of running was very high, and some excellent performances were witnessed on both days. A Company put up a splendid show to gain third place in the team contest, which was won by the Yorks and Lancs after a keen struggle with the King's, who were the runners-up. We had some bad luck, three of our best performers crocking up two days before the sports started.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Signals Week Results.

British Ranks Hockey.—The Div. beat the Waziristan District Signals in the final after a hard fought game, in which only one goal was scored. The closing minutes were very thrilling, as the Div.'s defence was sorely tried, but Sigmn MacGrattan in goal played an exceptionally fine game.

Indian Ranks Hockey.—Peshdist beat the Div. in the final by 4—1 after a good game, in which the Peshawar forwards played very well.

Sigmn Horsfield (in white) scoring the winning goal in the Signals Week Football Final.

British Ranks Football.—In this game we met our old and worthy rivals B Corps Signals in the final—and what a game it was! The Corps took the lead through a penalty shortly after the start, but the Div. were soon on terms through a brilliant header by Cox. The ding-dong battle continued, but full time came with the scores still level. In the first few minutes of extra time, however, Sigmn Horsfield scored a wonderful individual goal which proved the winner. Any effort on my part to describe the game in detail would be futile, as it was so exciting, but it was worthy of any English cup tie.

Cross-Country Run.—We won this with a total of 18 points, B Corps being second with 33. The individual winner was Sigmn Blakemore, 1st Div. ; second, Sigmn Neame, 1st Div. ; third, Sigmn Tilley, B Corps. Congratulations on a excellent run, and particularly to Sigmn Tilley, who hung on very gamely to run into third place although "out on his feet."

Tennis.—In the final B Corps beat Waziristan by one point after a very hard fought match.

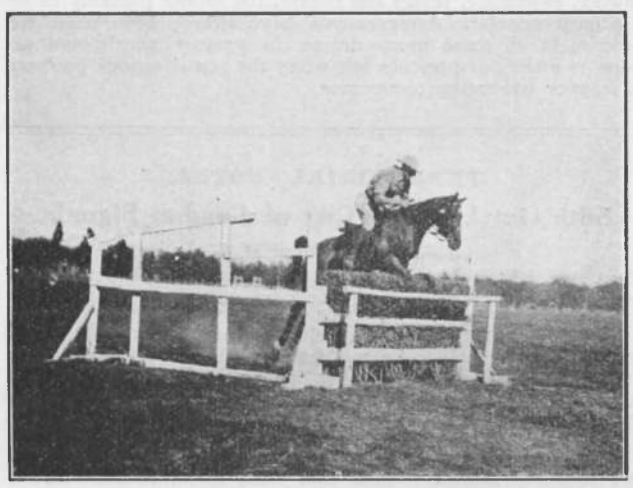
Tabloid Sports.—We won this event. Each member of the team had to beat the special standard of athletics set by the Army, and in doing so gained a point for his team.

Sigmn Cox Hurdling in the Tabloid Sports.

Mounted Events.—
Officers jumping, Lieut. Good, Kohat District Signals.
B.O.R.s jumping, L/Sergt Bishop, 1st Div.
Tent pegging, Naik Farnam Ali, 1st Div.
Team tent pegging, 1st Indian Divl Signals.
Cable wagon race, B Cable Section, 1st Div.
Handy hunter, Lieut. Whistler, B Corps Signals.
Ball and bucket race, L/Corpl Costin, B Corps Signals.

Billiards.—Sigmn Harrison, 1st Div.

Drayson Cup.—Won by the 1st Indian Divl Signals with 29 points. B Corps Signals were second with 20.



L/Sergt Bishop (1st Indian Divisional Signals) winning the B.O.R.s Jumping Contest.

General Sports Notes.

Football.—In this respect, the name of the H.L.I. is at present a very sore point with our team, as twice within the last few days they have put paid to our account in tournaments. In the De Montmorency cup, at Lahore, we beat the Islamia College by 8—0 in the first round, only to lose by 0—5 to the H.L.I. in the second round. Then, a few days later, in the Northern Command tournament first round, we again met them, this time losing by 0—2 after a scrappy game.

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 196. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

Hockey.—In the charity tournament held recently, we reached the semi-final—and in doing so, went further than any British military team—but were beaten by a civilian team, the Union Freshmen, after a very fast game.

We also reached the semi-final of the District tournament, but we lost to the Hampshire Regiment by 0—1 after an exciting tussle in which our goalkeeper, Sigmn MacGrattan, covered himself with glory. The Hampshires beat B Corps Signals in the final.

Athletics.—We put up an excellent show in the District sports meeting, finishing second to the South Wales Border Regiment. We only managed to win one event outright, but were right on the heels of the winner in every other case. The event we won was the 880 yards, in which our team returned the excellent time of 1 min. 38 sec. With a little perseverance, we should manage to lift this trophy next year. In the individual events, the hurdles was won in great style by Sigmn Cox F., and in the 220 yards L/Corpl Millett was runner-up after dead-heating for first place. In the District cross-country run we finished third as a team, but Sigmn Blakemore ran a wonderful race to get into second place in the individual race.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Sports Notes.—Since our return from manœuvres on the 5th February, we seem to have been overwhelmed with tournaments and competitions. The only team that has scored any success is the I.O.R.s hockey team, who were runners-up in the Alexandra hockey tournament. They lost to Meerut College by 0—2. [A photo of the team is shown on page 205]

It is interesting to note that the I.O.R.s hockey team were defeated in the third round of the Khalsa hockey tournament by the finalists.

The annual inter-Half Company athletic cup was won by No. 1 Company "A" team from the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, who have held it since its origin in 1932.

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

General.—Up to the present moment, the unit has had a very successful season in the sphere of sport. Various personnel leaving the unit have, of course, to be replaced by newcomers, and considering the size of the unit, it is sometimes very difficult to do this. However, the following is a list of the fixtures played.

Football.—Two team have been run by the unit this season, with the following results. First Eleven—Friendlies, played 10, won 5, drawn 1, lost 4; League (all British Services, Jaffa Section) played 6, won 2, lost 4. Second Eleven—Friendlies, played 10, won 7, drawn 1, lost 2.

FIRST ELEVEN FRIENDLY MATCHES.

9/10/34 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, lost by 0—8
17/10/34 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, drawn at 1—1
27/10/34 v. Detachment Seaforths, home, lost by 2—4
7/11/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 4—3
2/12/34 v. Jaffa Police, away, won by 5—1
31/1/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, lost by 1—4
9/2/35 v. Detachment Royal Berks Regiment, away, won by 4—2

21/ 2/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, lost by 1—2
25/ 3/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, home, won by 6—2
28/ 3/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, won by 4—2

FIRST ELEVEN LEAGUE MATCHES.

17/11/34 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, lost by 1—4
27/11/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 3—2
12/12/34 v. Jaffa Police, home, won by 4—1
13/12/34 v. Detachment Seaforths, home, lost by 0—1
18/12/34 v. Detachment Seaforths, away, lost by 0—6
22/12/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, home, lost by 1—3

SECOND ELEVEN FRIENDLY MATCHES.

5/10/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital Second Eleven, home, won by 6—2
19/10/34 v. Safrya First Eleven, home, won by 3—0
24/10/34 v. Palestine Railways, Lydda, away, won by 1—0
3/11/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital Second Eleven, away, drawn at 2—2
19/11/34 v. Jerusalem District Police Second Eleven, home, lost by 3—5
26/11/34 v. Palestine Railways, Lydda, away, won by 2—1
1/12/34 v. Ramleh Police First Eleven, home, won by 5—0
11/ 1/35 v. Ramleh Police First Eleven, away, won by 3—1
25/ 1/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital Second Eleven, away, won by 4—2
11/ 2/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh Second Eleven, home, lost by 2—5

Hockey.—As in football, two teams have been run during the season. The First Eleven have played fifteen games, and up to the playing of the Maccabi Tel Aviv Club in the first round of the Palestine hockey cup they were undefeated. The biggest win of the season was against the Jaffa Police, the score being 11—0. On the 22nd February a match was arranged with the Maccabi Hockey Club of Tel Aviv, but shortly before the game we were asked if we would play, instead, the probable Palestine hockey team for the coming Maccabiah at Tel Aviv. This was arranged, and a very keen and fast game resulted in a win for the unit by the odd goal in five.

On Friday 9th March we were drawn away in the Palestine cup against the Maccabi Tel Aviv Club. The team travelled to Rehovoth, and on arrival it was found that the ground was not marked out and there were workmen still digging up tufts of weeds. The pitch, too, was of football size, as there were football goalposts still standing. However, after waiting around until just after three o'clock and hockey goals having been placed inside the football posts, the game eventually commenced and the Signals pressed hard. The play on the whole was very fast and clean, but all against the run of play the Maccabis scored just on the interval from a melee in front of goal. Just after the interval the Signals pressed hard and a goal was scored by Sigmn Smith J., but their umpire ruled that it was not valid. However, nothing daunted, we played on and the Maccabis, from another scrimmage in the goal-mouth, scored again. This was the last score of the match, and caused our exit from the cup by two goals to nil.

The Second Eleven have played two games, having lost one and won the other.

The results to date are as follows. First Eleven—Friendlies, played 14 and won them all ; cup match, played one and lost it. Second Eleven—Friendlies, played 2, won 1, lost 1.

FIRST ELEVEN FRIENDLIES.

4/10/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 3—1
12/10/34 v. Jaffa Police, home, won by 5—1
2/11/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, home, won by 5—1
6/11/34 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, won by 4—1
27/11/34 v Jaffa Police, home, won by 11—0
29/11/34 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 4—1
10/ 1/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, home, won by 8—1
11/ 1/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, won by 3—2
22/ 1/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 1—0
26/ 1/35 v. Detachment Royal Berkshire Regiment, home, won by 4—1
12/ 2/35 v. R.A.F. General Hospital, home, won by 2—1
22/ 2/35 v. Palestine Maccabi, home, won by 3—2
14/ 3/35 v. Detachment Royal Berkshire Regiment, home, won by 5—0
20/ 3/35 v. Jaffa Police, home, won by 2—1

SECOND ELEVEN FRIENDLIES.

15/10/34 v. R.A.S.C. Detachment, home, won by 6—2
16/ 1/35 v. Detachment Royal Berkshire Regiment, home, lost by 0—6

Rugby.—At this game we have more than acquitted ourselves, considering that the teams we have met (with the exception of R.A.F. Ramleh) have been Police teams, which speaks for itself as regards weight. However, what the team lacked in weight was made up by spirit. Our biggest win was away, over the Jerusalem District Police, the score being 19—0. Bad luck and faulty passing kept the score down, but the team played the best game of the season. The following is a list of the fixtures and the results.

13/11/34 v. Jerusalem District Police, away, drawn at 3—3
22/11/34 v. Jaffa Wasps, away, drawn at 0—0
8/12/34 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, lost by 0—3
16/12/34 v. Jerusalem District Police, home, drawn at 11—11
13/ 1/35 v. Jaffa Wasps, home, won by 3—0
21/ 1/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, won by 6—3
27/ 1/35 v. Jerusalem District Police, home, won by 11—3
30/ 1/35 v. Jerusalem District Police, away, won by 19—0
10/ 2/35 v. Jaffa Police, away, won by 6—3

Gibraltar Signal Section.

With the end of March we completed our football programme for the 1934-35 season, and the final results as shown permit us to be justly proud of our performances. Played 45, won 25, lost 12, drawn 8; goals—for 104, against 67.

All players are to be congratulated on their high standard of play during the season, while special mention must be made of the physical fitness of Sigmn Blake, who played in forty-four matches during the season—a record which will take some beating, when one remembers the condition of the football fields (?) in Gibraltar. Corpl Hayden and Signalmen Fuller and Harvey, who each played in forty-three games, were worthy seconds to Sigmn Blake. Our leading goal scorers were Sigmn Fuller 34, Sigmn Pendlebury 24, and Sigmn Harvey 18.

Our recreation during the summer months is divided between rowing, swimming, tennis and cricket, the former probably being the most popular. Arrangements have already been made for practice in all these sports during the present month, and we hope to make our presence felt when the actual serious business of leagues and racing commences.

TERRITORIAL NOTES.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

[*Continued from page 227*]

the Corps. It is also hoped that Cables and Wireless will hold some of their competitions at our headquarters.

Easter Training.—Through the kindness of our friends of the 2nd Divl Signals, over one hundred officers and other ranks are proceeding to Aldershot for three days with the Regular Army. Next month's WIRE notes will, we hope, be able to chronicle good weather and good fun for all.

Toanfrom (?)—You may well wonder what this is. Late in the month of March, it came into being as far as our H.Q. is concerned. Had you perchance been in Piccadilly about 4 p.m. on the 24th March, and noticed two of our P.S. w.o.s pushing a weird looking motor car past the Chrysler showrooms and other big motor houses in that famous thoroughfare, you would have understood exactly what THE ANGEL was saying about having no petrol. Anyhow, after a few days in the workshops it emerged ready and fit for the road. What we would like to know is what it feels like to drive an open 1901 (?) car to Weybridge at night, wearing a bowler hat and mackintosh; also what were the thoughts of the gentleman picked up at Euston as he chug-chugged along across the city. Anyway, Toanfrom can keep up with the Hillman Toanfrom Weybridge—downhill!

C.O.L.S.

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Field-Marshal H.M. The King, 1910-1935

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SILVER JUBILEE

[1910—1935]

On behalf of the Royal Corps of Signals, we express our loyal and dutiful congratulations to His Majesty the King on the memorable occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of his Accession to the Throne.

The interest and concern which Their Majesties have always shown for all those who have served or are serving in the Military Forces of the Crown have deepened the feelings of devotion and loyalty which the Army has always felt for its Sovereign.

It is the earnest hope of all ranks of the Corps that many years of health and happiness may be granted to Their Majesties the King and Queen.

[*Message to all Units taking part in the Ex-Service and Youth Parade in Hyde Park on Saturday 11th May 1935, from Admiral of the Fleet Earl Jellicoe,* G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O., *Commander of the Parade.*]

It is with great pleasure that I write to send to you a message I have received from the Home Secretary, conveying to me the deep appreciation of Their Majesties the King and Queen of the parade of Ex-Service and Youth Organisations which I had the honour to command on Saturday last in Hyde Park. In his letter to me, Sir John Gilmour writes:—

"I am commanded by the King to express to you, as Commander of yesterday's Parade in Hyde Park of Ex-Service and Youth Organisations, His Majesty's entire satisfaction with the arrangements, and to ask you to intimate to all on parade the pleasure which it afforded both His Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen to have the opportunity of seeing, during Silver Jubilee Week, so large and representative a gathering both of ex-Service men and women and of the younger generation. Their Majesties were much struck with the steadiness and bearing of all ranks, and carried away a very pleasant memory of the enthusiastic welcome they received."

I would like to add what a very real pleasure it was to me to see such a large number of Ex-Service and Youth interests represented, and to have the opportunity of meeting so many of them.

(*Signed*) JELLICOE.

:: :: ::

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mrs. Clementi Smith at Kirby House, Inkpen, Newbury, Berks, on Friday 19th April 1935. All readers of the Corps Magazine, and especially those who knew her personally, will wish to associate themselves with our expression of deep sympathy with Brigadier Clementi Smith and his family.

:: :: ::

Having already heralded, in previous issues, the exploits of the Royal Signal motor cyclists at this year's Royal Military Tournament, we prevailed upon an independent eye-witness to chronicle his impressions of the performance when he visited Olympia a

few evenings ago. His contribution, published on page 248 of this issue, vividly describes the various items of the programme.

Other accounts were published in the daily Press, and the following extracts are deemed of sufficient interest to our readers to warrant repetition in the Corps Magazine.

Royal Tournament Thrills.

A GREAT JUBILEE SHOW.

The biggest thrill this year is provided by the Royal Corps of Signals, a unit which, though a vital link in the military scheme of things, one would not normally visualise in the forefront of pageantry.

Even in the Tournament the new mechanised Army figures largely in these days, but the Signals provide a perfect and sensational illustration of the co-operation of old and new. It is the most thrilling combination of man, horse and machine which has probably ever been seen.

Motor cycles and horses race together and jump together, while their riders leap nimbly from one to the other in full career, and intersect each other's path in a brilliant hair-raising finale in which at every moment they appear to be courting death and disaster. We are accustomed to acrobatics on horseback at the Tournament, but the Signals this year introduce balancing feats on motor cycles which still seem incredible even while one sees them.

It is difficult to believe the official assurance that fully 60 per cent. of the performers completed their recruit training only at the end of last summer.

The historical pageantry is well up to standard. It is based on the co-operation of the three Services, and covers the arrival of Catharine of Braganza to marry Charles II., the Glorious First of June, the South African War, and the present day.

The old favourites are also in the programme: the physical jerks—a fine rhythmic display—the Navy's field-gun show, the musical drive of the R.H.A., and the trick riding of the Hussars.

—*The Sunday Times*, 12th May, 1935.

. . . . . .

. . . . . But for sheer excitement the Royal Corps of Signals are definitely the thrill of the Tournament. The combined movements of motor cyclists and horsemen are grand.

A MATTER OF INCHES.

At full speed the motor cycles flash diagonally across the arena while horses at the full gallop dash across their path. How they miss crashing is amazing. It seems only a matter of inches between horse and motor cycle at each intersection.

Belisha " bubbles " naturally have their place in this event. A speed cop stands by his bubble. One motor cyclist after another comes streaking down the middle of the arena. The speed cop signals them to stop. They ignore him. *And to avoid being run down he leaps into the air with legs apart—and the motor cycles dash safely under him!*

Yes, it's a grand show—the best ever. You really must see it. There are still plenty of seats left, but it won't be for long!

—*The Evening News*, 9th May, 1935.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

We are indebted to Major C. S. McKee, of the 2nd Divisional Signals, Canadian Corps of Signals, Toronto, Canada, for an illustrated article entitled " A Short History of The Canadian Corps of Signals " which is published on page 244 of this issue.

In thanking our correspondent for his friendly co-operation, may we again remark that contributions from the Dominion are greatly appreciated by our readers, to whom the activities of their Canadian comrades are always a source of intense interest.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

We are authorised to announce that, in accordance with War Office authority—No. 43/Voc/1020 (A.G.4b) dated the 10th April 1935—the following tradesmen are now eligible for vocational training as indicated:—

" Clerks (Group 'C') may be permitted to undergo training in any subject taught at an Army Vocational Training Centre, or to go on outside courses."

Will Unit Representatives kindly note for future reference.

Wanted.—Young married woman (no children), wife of an n.c.o. serving in Rawalpindi, desires post as nurse to family of officer proceeding to India during the current trooping season. Replies should be addressed to " Nurse," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1. THE EDITOR.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

LATE NEWS—IMPORTANT.

North of England Old Comrades Re-Union, Burniston Barracks, Scarborough.—We have just been notified that the above Old Comrades Re-Union Gathering is scheduled to take place at Scarborough on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 28th, 29th and 30th June, to which all Royal Signals Old Comrades are cordially invited.

Signals Association Notes

Exeter Branch.

The first meeting of the new Committee was held at the headquarters of the 43rd (Wessex) Signals, T.A., Exeter, on Tuesday 14th May.

So far, fifty-two members have paid up, but the Committee are not satisfied with this number and are aiming at making the Branch one hundred strong before the end of the summer.

It was decided to make up as large a party as possible to attend the re-union at Bulford, and to leave the consideration of further activities until the next meeting, which will take place in Sept.

Meanwhile, the Committee will carry on with vigour the recruiting campaign to secure the desired hundred members.

OLD SPARK.

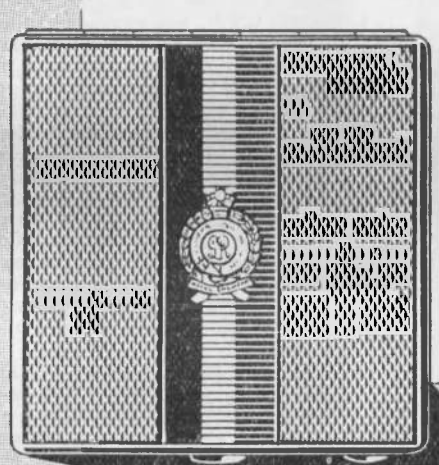
EMPLOYMENTS—Situations found during the preceding month with the co-operation of the National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Salesman
2	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
3	Ex-N.C.O. Wilts	Electrical Wireman
4	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Mechanic
5	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Bill Distributor
8	Ex-Driver, Chatham	Groom-Handyman
9	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Mechanic
10	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Rubber Worker
11	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Chauffeur
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Hotel Porter
15	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Domestic (joint employment with wife)
17	Ex-Signalman, Oldham	Motor Driver
18	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Loom Watcher
20	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Loom Watcher
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Attendant
22	Ex-N.C.O. London	Wireless Operator
23	Ex-N.C.O. Aldershot	Wireless Examiner
24	Ex-N.C.O. London	Wireless Examiner
25	Ex-N.C.O. London	Wireless Examiner
26	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Asst. Salesman
28	Ex-Signalman, Kingston-on-Thames	Bus Conductor
29	Ex-Signalman, Kingston-on-Thames	Bus Conductor
30	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Bus Conductor
31	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
32	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
33	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
34	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
35	Ex-N.C.O. London	Education Instructor

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

By Appointment

Diamond, Platinum and Enamel Brooch - - **£22 : 0 : 0**
In Platinum, 18 ct. Gold and Enamel - - **£6 : 17 : 6**



Sterling Silver Flapjack with Regimental Colours in Enamel, and mounted with Silver badge. 3 x 3 inches - - - - - - - - **£2.15.0**
Cigarette Case to match, 2¾ x 3¾ inches - - - - - - **£3.5.0**

A special Silver Jubilee Mark has been authorised for the year 1935. This interesting and unusual feature should enhance the value of 1935 Silverware.

Illustrated brochure on application.

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Jewellers & Silversmiths to H.M. The King

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Inclusive terms from 4 gns.
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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Sergeants Mess, Aldershot
Zhob Signal Section
Peshawar District Signals

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from —
Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O.
Captain F. H. Bury

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Sigmn (deceased) Malta. Grant towards cost of headstone	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Colchester. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Suffolk. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Somerset. Domestic difficulties.	Loan	7	10	0
5	Mother of Signalman (deceased) Shrewsbury. Domestic difficulties	Grant	5	0	0
6	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesex. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Manchester. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
8	Ex-Driver Newcastle-on-Tyne. Domestic difficulties	Grant	3	0	0
9	Widow of ex-Signalman (deceased) Cardiff. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
10	Sigmn India. Temporary difficulties	Grant	3	0	0
11	Ex-Sigmn Southampton. Temp'ry difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
12	Ex-Driver Liverpool. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
13	Ex-Sigmn Manchester. Temporary difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
14	Ex-N.C.O. Essex. Domestic difficulties	Grant	4	10	0
15	Ex-N.C.O. Southampton. Temp. difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
16	Ex-Sigmn Surrey. Domestic difficulties	Loan	5	0	0
17	Ex-Driver Sheffield. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
18	Disabled ex-Sigmn Surrey. Part cost artificial limb	Grant	3	0	0
19	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey. Domestic difficulties	Loan	3	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

The Canadian Corps of Signals.

A Short History.

Creation of the Corps.—The Signalling Corps (as it was then known) was first organised under G.O. No. 167 of 1903, and the organisation was entrusted to Lieut. Bruce Carruthers. He was born on the 13th February 1863 at Kingston, Ontario; graduated from the Royal Military College in 1883; was commissioned in the 21st Lancers and served at Omdurman in 1898, and in the South African War (1900 to 1902) with the Royal Canadian Regiment and the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles—returning to Canada as the hero of Hart's River, where (while fighting a rearguard action) his whole command was either killed or wounded with the exception of himself and two others. Under G.O. No. 28 of 1904 he was appointed Inspector of Signalling with the rank of Major, with headquarters at Kingston; and in 1906 he was made A.A.G. for Signalling. He died at Kingston in 1910 and was buried at Cataraqui. He was succeeded by Captain F. A. Lister, R.C.R., who held the appointment until 1914.

Early Establishments.—In 1903 the authorised establishment was 18 officers and 72 other ranks, which comprised the whole of the Signal Service for Canada. In 1910 Field Telegraph detachments with each Field Company of Engineers were authorised and attached to sections of the Signalling Corps in each military district, and with them formed what was then known as Divisional Signal Companies. G.O. 98 of 1913 changed the name to Canadian Signal Corps. By 1914 the establishment had been increased to 18 officers and 276 other ranks, but with an authorised training establishment of only 17 officers and 94 other ranks, divided into one Signal Company to each of the six Divisions and one Signal Troop to each of the seven Mounted Brigades. These units were still partly made up of the detachments from the Engineers, who were Engineers for discipline and administration and Signal Service personnel for training and employment—an unsatisfactory arrangement.

C.E.F. Organisation.—In August 1914 certain of the Brigade Sections reported at Valcartier intact—the one from Toronto under Captain E. Forde (now Colonel, Director of Signals), the one from St. John under Captain T. E. Powers (now Lieutenant-Colonel, Camp Borden). The sections were organised as a Divisional Signal Company, the section from Toronto becoming the Brigade Signal Section for the 3rd Brigade. During the war the Signal Service in the C.E.F. was expanded so as to provide a Divisional Signal Company for each of the Canadian Divisions and a Corps Signal Company. In 1914 a Divisional Signal Company consisted of five officers and 155 other ranks; in 1918, of 15 officers and 400 other ranks.

Post-War Organisation.—The re-organisation of the Signal Service in the Militia was carried out under Lieut.-Colonel E. Forde, D.S.O., Chief Signal Officer of the Canadian Corps, who was appointed Assistant Director, and later Director of Signals. Under G.O. No. 56 of 1920 there were authorised eleven Signal Battalions, two Fortress Signal Companies, seven Signal Troops, and six special units, namely, two Sound Ranging Sections and four Artillery Observation Sections. By G.O. 217 of 1921 each Battalion was changed from three to two Companies. Under G.O. No. 231 of 1921 the name was changed to Canadian Corps of Signals.

Present Organisation.—A Divisional Signals now consists of Headquarters and three Companies, totalling 23 officers and 395 other ranks. It is expected that authority will shortly be granted providing for the re-organisation with an establishment more closely conforming with the British war establishment of a Divisional Signals, which consists of 22 officers and 445 other ranks, organised as follows:—

Headquarters.
No. 1 Company—A Section (wireless), B and C Sections (cable), D Section (operating), M Section (maintenance).
No. 2 Company—E, F and G (Field Brigade) Sections.
No. 3 Company—J, K and L (Infantry Brigade) Sections.

Badges and Buttons.—The love of Major Carruthers for his old unit (the 21st Lancers) is shown in the fact that the collar badges adopted substituted crossed flags for crossed lances. At first the cap badge and the buttons also consisted of crossed flags and the letters C.S.C. After the war, in order to conform more closely to the Royal Corps of Signals, Regular Army, the figure of Mercury was substituted for the crossed flags on the cap badge and buttons.

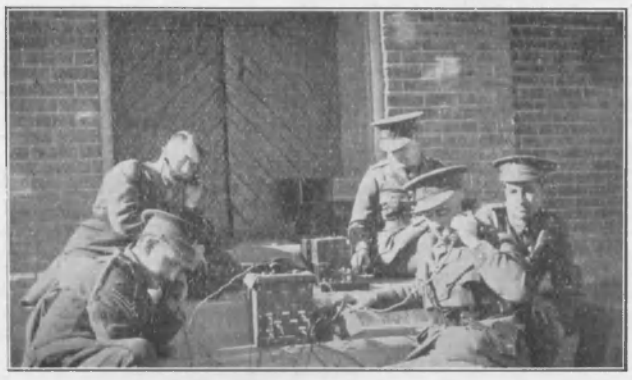
Uniform.—When the Corps was organised in 1903, the dress was the same as for Infantry, but in 1908 this was changed to khaki with facings of French grey—the French grey also being an adaptation from the 21st Lancers. With "blues," the facings were French grey. Under G.O. 116 of 1922, to conform with the Royal Corps of Signals, the uniform was changed to scarlet with black facings.

Colours.—Stripes of sky blue and olive green, each ¾ inch wide, with a separating ¼ inch stripe of Royal blue.

Motto.—"Velox Versutus Vigilans": Speed, Accuracy, Watchfulness.

Permanent Force.—In the permanent force the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals consists of the Director of Signals, his office and workshop staffs at Ottawa, a depot at Camp Borden, and personnel on many wireless stations throughout Canada, particularly in the north—a total of 235 all ranks.

2nd Divl Signals, Canadian Corps of Signals, on Schemes at Camp Borden, Ontario.



2nd Divl Signals, C.C. of S.—From 1921 to 1929 the 2nd Signal Battalion C.C. of S. consisted of H.Q. and No. 2 Company at Toronto and No. 14 Company at Hamilton. In 1929 the 2nd Divl Signals was organised with H.Q. and three Companies at Toronto. The commanding officers have been:—

1921 to 1925—Lieut.-Colonel F. G Malloch, M.C., V.D.
1925 to 1928—Lieut.-Colonel G. S. Cline, D.S.O.
1928 to 1932—Lieut.-Colonel F. S. McPherson, M.C., M.M., V.D.
1932 ... ...—Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Conover, M.C.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major F. A. H. Mathew from Egypt to Tidworth (Tank Brigade Signals)
Captain B. H. House from Gibraltar to Aldershot (1st Divl Signals)
Captain J. L. Henderson from China to Canterbury (4th Divl Signals)
Captain W. Scott from London to Canterbury (4th Divl Signals)
Lieutenant E. S. Cole from Egypt to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieutenant T.H. Winterborn from London to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieutenant R. N. Seddon from London to Tidworth (Tank Brigade Signals)
Lieutenant J. E. F. Middleton from Aldershot to Weedon
Lieutenant A. B. Whatman from Cambridge to Oxford University Arctic Expedition
2/Lieutenant F. P. Rickard from Tidworth to Catterick (No. 6 Tank Signal Section)

No. 29 "Q" COURSE:

2/Lieutenants P. A. Watts and G. Walton to A Corps Signals
2/Lieutenant E. F. Mervyn-Smith to A.D.B. Signals
2/Lieutenant J. W. Smith-Ainsley to 3rd Divl Signals
2/Lieutenant W. H. L. Gordon to 4th Divl Signals
2/Lieutenants R. G. Miller, G. H. Starr and L. E. Thorpe to 5th Divl Signals

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 23/4/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants: R. G. S. Smith, 27/1/35; R. N. Renton, 30/1/35; W. A. Stripp, 6/2/35; F. N. Lucas, 20/2/35; W. E. Gill and H. R. Brown, 27/2/35; E. Palk, L. R. James and G. Pinney, 5/3/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

51st (H) Divl Signals—Lieutenant W. F. Buchanan resigns his commission 25/3/35

[War Office 26/4/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain R. Sutton-Pratt is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Instructor, School of Signals, 7/4/35
Captain J. Gardner is restored to the Establishment 7/4/35
Lieut. F. H. Pellew is seconded whilst holding the appointment of A.D.C. to the Governor and C.-in-C. Uganda, 30/3/35

ESTABLISHMENTS—SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

Captain J. Gardner relinquishes the appointment of Instructor (Cl. CC.) 7/4/35
Captain R. Sutton-Pratt to be Instructor (Cl. CC.) 7/4/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. G. Franklin to be Lieutenant 5/3/35

[War Office 30/4/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. E. B. H. Roberton resigns his commission 30/4/35

[War Office 3/5/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divl Signals—Lieut. R. N. Houston to be Captain 12/4/35

The undermentioned have been awarded the Territorial Decoration:—

Lieut.-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C. (D.C.S.O. for T.A. Duties, Western Command)
47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—Major H. C. L. Humphreys
A.D. Formations Signals—Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins

[War Office 7/5/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

K. L. Sanders to be 2/Lieut. 8/5/35

[War Office 10/5/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. C. C. Danby is restored to the Establishment 11/5/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. R. Watson ceases to hold a commission 11/5/35
48th (S.M.) Divl Signals—J. W. E. Fellows to be 2/Lieutenant 30/4/35
52nd (L) Divl Signals—J. W. Wylie to be Lieutenant (Quartermaster) 6/5/35

= = Plain Tales = =

Breaking the Ice.—An extraordinary situation arises: we have almost nothing to write about. With amazing originality we turn our attention to the N.A.A.F.I. and, sniffing delicately, make a tour of their institutions. Frankly, openly and without fear, we say that we are not impressed. If a big firm in civvy street had the trade of a N.A.A.F.I. under similar circumstances, they would make a better job of it. Or would they? Let us be fair, and start sorting this thing out. When we have a cup of coffee in Lyons on Friday, we do not expect to return on Saturday morning to scrub the floor. Of course, you say at once "What about the rebate?" Well, have you ever heard of the Co-op? Does Mrs. Brown go round to clean the windows after buying her week's groceries? In short, why the fatigue parties? Not many days ago we heard the following conversation in the N.A.A.F.I.

Soldier: "Excuse me, miss. This cup is rather dirty."
Miss: "Well, what do you expect me to do—come out in boils?"

In fairness it should be stated that the matter was speedily settled, though even this may have been due to the fact that we were on the spot. Most Institutes are understaffed, with the result that the girls are overworked and soon become short-tempered. Troops react quickly to this, and discord reigns on a busy evening.

Continuing the comparison with other catering establishments, we heartily agree with one manageress who opines that the troops should be properly dressed when using the Institutes. A man may be justly proud of the hair on his chest and defiant as to his dirty shirt, but the N.A.A.F.I. staff are no more interested than would be the assistants in the Cadena Cafes. It should be clearly understood that no reference is intended to any particular Institute, as our investigations were conducted in places as far apart as Catterick, Bulford, Dover and Aldershot. When we have obtained a few more facts, possibly from Imperial Court itself, we will pursue this very interesting subject.

Salaam, Sahib.—How pleased we were to see the cheery face of our old friend Subedar-Major Jiwan Singh in the May WIRE. R.S.M. Harrison, Q.M.S. Adcock, Sergeant Brooke and myself send our very best wishes to the Subedar-Major sahib: and although it is unlikely that we shall meet again, we shall always remember with pleasure that this Indian gentleman numbers us among his friends. Shades of the old C.T.S. days. Jiwan Singh sahib was welcome, even when he came to get something for nothing. Salaam, sahib.

Reflections of Minnie.—I am sure you will not be surprised to learn that my five children were born on Jubilee Day. That man Barleux took two and tried to coach them in aquatic sports, with fatal results. He said that would learn 'em, and Tessa laughed like anything. Between you and me, I think Tessa is jealous of my Jubilee babies. She will be going home soon, for I hear that her auntie has returned from furrin parts. I was going

to tell you about two men who walked all the way home to Bulford from Andover, just for love of a lady—the saps! but Barleux says I can't have any more space this month.

More Trouble for Ukann.—Ukann Larfe sat up in bed with a jerk and muttered a string of oaths in some foreign tongue, as was his wont. He reached out for the electric switch and knocked over the table lamp, a glass containing his dentures, and a bottle of gin. This, however, was not his wont. " Who's there ?" he called softly.

" Nobody," came the equally soft reply.

The detective was not deceived. Slipping quietly from the bed, he drew his pistol from under the pillow and a torch from under the mattress. Springing quickly to his feet, he flashed the light round the room and immediately focussed its brilliant beam on the intruder. " Why," said Ukann uneasily, " it's my charming visitor of last week."

" Oui, monsieur. C'est vrai."

" Won't you sit down ?"

" Merci. I guess I will."

" Now, mademoiselle, this is a most unusual thing. You realise that it is just two o'clock in the morning ?"

" Si, senor," replied the girl. She was evidently a linguist of no mean order.

" Well, then! I mean to say, what's the idea ?"

" You will hardly believe me, m'sieur, but I was going to kill you." " And I haven't changed my mind," she added in an undertone.

A little shiver ran up our hero's back and disappeared into the nape of his neck as he watched the girl run a speculative finger along the blade of a vicious looking knife. Ukann remembered the pistol he was holding and his courage returned with a rush.

The girl noticed this and a smile fluttered across her beautiful face. " I had better tell you at once, Monsieur Larfe, that your pistol is empty. We do not neglect such elementary precautions."

A rapid glance at the weapon convinced the detective that the girl was perfectly right. His blood ran like ice in his veins and he had an insane desire to scream.

. . . . . .

[NOTE.—Hang on, folks. I'm not sure what's going to happen here. Ukann must be saved somehow, or the story peters out. Curse these Continental spies!] BARLEUX.

. . . . . .

We understand from N.A.A.F.I. that the matter to which " Barleux " refers in his opening paragraph is being promptly taken up.—EDITOR.

Much Ado About Nothing.

Lucidus Ordo.—The " oldest inhabitant " gave me a fright as he suddenly roused me with a hearty laugh just when I was in that coma which comes from the effects of a good lunch on a hot day. This was after spending a strenuous and entirely uninteresting two and a half hours in chasing a cricket ball which was being knocked to the four corners of the globe by two batsmen, whose sole purpose in life seemed to be to emulate the feats of Don Bradman.

When I had regained my faculties, I murmured " Why this hilarity, old man ?"

" Oh! I was just thinking of two trains," he replied, and burst forth into further peals of laughter.

" Two trains!" says I. " Two trains! What the deuce have two trains to do with your unseemly and uncontrollable mirth at this hour of the day ? Are you aware of the fact that to disturb any warrior during the sacred hour of siesta after lunch is ' not done ' and is decidedly bad form ?"

" Yes, yes ; but, then, you who come from the far North-West do not realise what those two trains mean to so many people, and especially to me."

After this reply I thought that the Indian sun, which had shone on the head of the " oldest inhabitant " for many years, was beginning to take effect ; so, with a yawn and a bored " What's the matter with your jolly old trains ?" I settled down to the agony.

" Somewhere (he began) between here and Karachi, perhaps in the arid desert of the Sind, nearly all that is best and noblest of two well-known units are passing each other in two trains. They may, of course, have stopped at one of the wayside stations together before carrying on with their respective journeys. If that is the case, I dread to think of the banal remarks that the passengers of either train may have made to each other. In the one going south, the women and children are delighted to know that they will be a few more miles nearer home ; the troops will be happy in the knowledge that when the time comes for packing the old kit bag, they can just breeze off to the docks and step aboard the old lugger without having to spend three days and umpteen nights in a troop train ; and the officers—ah! ah! the officers. No more will they have to dig deep down into their pockets for the £10 return railway fare when they proceed on those spots of *well-earned* leave to home and beauty!"

And here my friend the " oldest inhabitant " decided to meditate, because I waited for two minutes in silence before I roused him with " Well, what about the other train ?"

"Sorry! Oh, yes—the other train. That'll be the one coming up this way. In that there will be tears and gnashing of teeth. Memories of those moonlight picnics by the sea, those glorious days of sun bathing, the never-to-be-forgotten costumes of the bathing belles, the endless farewells and welcomes during the trooping season, and above all the smell of the sea will, I hope, fortify them for the hectic time they will have here between plains and hills—hills and plains—and so on ad infinitum," and he chuckled.

" Well," says I, " you remarked just now that these trains meant a lot to you. Why ?"

" Because it was I who packed off one train load, and it is I who will welcome the other train with open arms."

" But why did you not proceed with the down train ?" says I.

" J'y suis, j'y reste!" he replied. " What do I belong to 'Q' Branch for ?"

And as I wended my way to the Club ground to run a few more thousand miles after the elusive Jamasjee cup, I thought of another member of " Q " Branch, many many miles away, who would perhaps give me the same reply.

Yes, an excellent arrangement. TIM.

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Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 17th May 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the June 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.

(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 31/10/29.

Yours faithfully, J. C. ANGUS, Lieutenant,
for Colonel i/c R.Signal Records.

Royal Tournament, Olympia, 1935.

In an unguarded moment I mentioned to the Editor that I proposed to make my annual pilgrimage to Kensington to see the Royal Tournament. I should have known better, for that worthy, with a keen eye ever open for WIRE copy, fired at me "Good! let me have some notes." Here they are!

Arriving early at Olympia, there was time to look around, so—avoiding the magnetic attraction radiating from the bar—I made my way to the quarters of the personnel taking part in the performance. Here was a scene of quiet, orderly preparation—a last look at saddlery, uniform, machines, etc., a polish here and there; and one was immediately struck by the unhurried efficiency which had its part in producing superb performances in the arena.

I reached my seat at 7.55, in time for the last few bars of the overture played by the 9th Queen's Royal Lancers excellent band.

For those who have not been fortunate enough to visit the Royal Tournament, I will attempt a verbal picture of the setting. Imagine a huge riding school, deeply peated, with a 6 ft. "wall" enclosing it. Behind, rows of seats rise sharply, permitting an unbroken view of the whole of the arena. High up in the centre on one side is the Royal box, richly beflowered and only a few hours previously occupied by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. At either end is an entrance; over one is an enormous and beautiful painting of a military scene, while over the other is a seascape depicting the Royal Navy (past and present) and the R.A.F. These pictures are immense, being half-circular and reaching from side to side and up to the roof. The lofty glass roof has been covered by tightly stretched blue-green material, giving the effect of sky. There is a music gallery over the eastern entrance, from which issue the strains of good music well played. The whole presents a vivid yet restrained picture of colour and dignity, the uniforms of the attendants drawn from the three Services adding not a little to its charm.

A number indicates that the show has started, and it says a lot for the organisation behind it all that at 8 p.m. (to the second) the west door opened and the first item was proceeding at the double.

Several events are hardy annuals, on which I think a few passing comments will suffice. The inter-port field gun display by the R.N., in which competing teams manhandle their guns over walls and across rivers, is an old favourite and always exciting. The musical ride of the 9th Queen's Royal Lancers, in pre-war dress, was colourful, and the cartwheels, circling, figures of eight, etc., with the horses cantering in time with the music, was what the ladies would term very pretty. This year, the physical training display was carried out by detachments from the three Services, and was very well done. There were 144 men in gym kit: dark blue stockings for the R.N., red for the Army, and sky blue for the R.A.F. No words of command were given, control being by red lights all around the arena. A fascinating display, but how it carried one back to P.T. days, instructors bawling "Out of my sight, move" and "O'Grady on parade!"

The next event was not spectacular, perhaps, but it was of great interest to those of our readers who are ex-R.E.s. Four teams competed in a pontoon bridging contest, rivers being represented by 3 ft. strips of light blue material stretched on the peat. The very efficient manner in which collapsible pontoons and all the other paraphernalia were unloaded from six-wheeled lorries and trailers and "launched" was a pleasure to watch. It is worthy of note that the winning team (from the 12th Field Company R.E.) finished in 55 seconds—a new record.

Another favourite followed—one without which the Royal Tournament would not seem complete: the musical drive of F (Sphinx) Battery, R.H.A. This event always receives an ovation, for pre-war uniforms again add colour and enhance the green, silver and white of the guns. Care had also been taken that all the horses were of exactly the same colour. The Duke of York's School put up a delightful show with their brass and bugle band of one hundred instruments, and their playing, marching and counter-marching was reminiscent of the Guards. A special word must be given to the miniature drum-major, a tiny fellow resplendent in bearskin, gold corded scarlet tunic, and baton to match. He delighted everyone with his confident swagger and correct orders given in a thin piping voice. A dear old lady near me said she would like to cuddle him. What a life he would have at the School if she did!

The 7th (Q.O.) Hussars gave a very excellent display of trick riding, tent pegging and jumping, relieved by some good comic turns. They even burlesqued some of the tricks performed by the Royal Signal team. Such is fame! (Just be patient, I am coming to that event.)

The T.A. was represented by the massed drums and pipes of the 167th Infantry Brigade. They did their part well, but I must confess to no great love for that type of music.

The finale this year consisted of a combined display by the three Services, depicting the spirit of co-operation. Historical episodes of May 1662, May 1794 and May 1902 were very effectively produced; and in the final scene representatives of the past and present R.N., Army and R.A.F. marched into the arena—a very colourful and musical end to a splendid show.

I can almost hear a concerted shout: "What about the Corps?" I have reserved that until the end, because I and hundreds of others enjoyed it most. On all sides at Olympia I heard remarks to the effect that it was better than ever this year. Many of you will perhaps have seen the display, but at the risk of boring you I will tell how it went and as I saw it.

The west door opened to admit motor cyclists, who took the inclined jumps in fine style. They also started the applause which, as far as I could hear, did not stop until the last man had disappeared at the end of the turn. Next came the figure-of-eight evolution by horsemen and cycles with such speed and (to the lay eye) recklessness that it was obvious that only very careful training to develop judgment could permit of such a movement. Control of horse and machine was superb, and the audience showed its appreciation in no half-hearted manner. Then followed such an assortment of tricks that one felt a desire to "slow down" the event so that the eye could take it all in more easily. Previous and subsequent turns were gay and musical, but there seemed to be an air of modern efficiency about those speeding motor cycles and calm horses which had its own individual appeal.

Detailed comment on each trick and movement would take up too much space. The acrobatics, tandem drive by horses and cycles, dual jumping, changing from horse to cycle and vice versa, jumping through arches, human and otherwise—there was so much of excellence and nothing commonplace. The little pony with its wagon greatly pleased the spectators, and the comic motor cycle and the Rat earned their share of applause.

There was no hitch; every detail deserved, and received, well earned applause; and by the end my hands ached—as I imagine did everyone else's. The team had reduced me to a state of dizziness in which nothing those motor cycles and horses did could surprise me. I believe if a cycle had entered with a horse sitting on the carrier, or a cycle had run up the hind leg of a horse and over its head, I should have thought it was all in keeping with the display.

The audience loved it and, I am sure, felt that the display alone was worth going to see by itself. Lieut. H. N. Crawford, who was in charge, and all the members of the team, deserve the highest praise for all the hard work and patience which were obviously necessary to produce so excellent and thrilling a show. To them I raise my hat.

Two evenings later I went again!

London Silver Jubilee Decorations, May 1935

Admiralty Arch from the Mall.

Oxford Street.

War Office, Whitehall.

Selfridge's, Oxford Street.

Whitehall from Trafalgar Square.

Pall Mall, looking West.

Trafalgar Square.

Eastern Command Review, Delhi,
31st January 1935

Headquarters, Eastern Command, Naini Tal,
Friday 15th February.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir,—I enclose an extract from the centre page of *The Statesman* of 1/2/35, which I think will be of general interest.

One interesting point in connection with the Review itself was the method used to synchronise drill movements. On a parade of this nature, where the line was some 1800 yards long, it was obviously impossible for formations to act on a word of command. To overcome this difficulty, two masts were erected, half a mile apart, on the spectators' side of the parade ground. Each mast had a sphere attached (of the same type as a storm signal at a Coastguard station) and these were centrally controlled by telephone and operated by an officer and men of the Corps—the sounding of a "G" on a bugle and the lowering of the Parade Commander's pennant being the signal to the control officer. Cautionary words of command were given as the spheres were hoisted, and executive words of command when they were dropped. The device worked excellently, and the synchronisation of arm drill, etc., was as nearly perfect as it could be.

When I add that with the exception of the 7th Medium Brigade R.A. Signal Section (which was collecting neutral cables in the manœuvre area) the Royal Signal units in Eastern Command—which has no Corps Signal unit at its disposal—took a conspicuous part in the Review itself, in addition to finding detachments for these and other extra duties, I think it will be agreed that the Corps amply covered the ground on this ceremonial occasion.

In order to complete the picture, I attach a diagram showing the march past formations adopted by the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop and the 3rd Indian Divl Signals at the Review. This, with the paper cutting and the foregoing, may be of sufficient value for publication in the Corps Journal, and it may also be considered desirable to publish them in THE WIRE.

Yours very truly,
R. E. VYVYAN, Lieut.-Colonel, R.Signals,
Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command (India).

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

The following is the extract from *The Statesman* referred to in the foregoing letter.

Fifteen Thousand Troops March Past Commander-in-Chief.

BIGGEST REVIEW FOR TEN YEARS.

A Fine Spectacle.
Thrilling Cavalry Gallop.

In the absence of His Excellency the Viceroy, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India took the salute at yesterday's review of troops, and was accompanied by His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, who is the senior Honorary A.D.C. General to His Majesty the King.

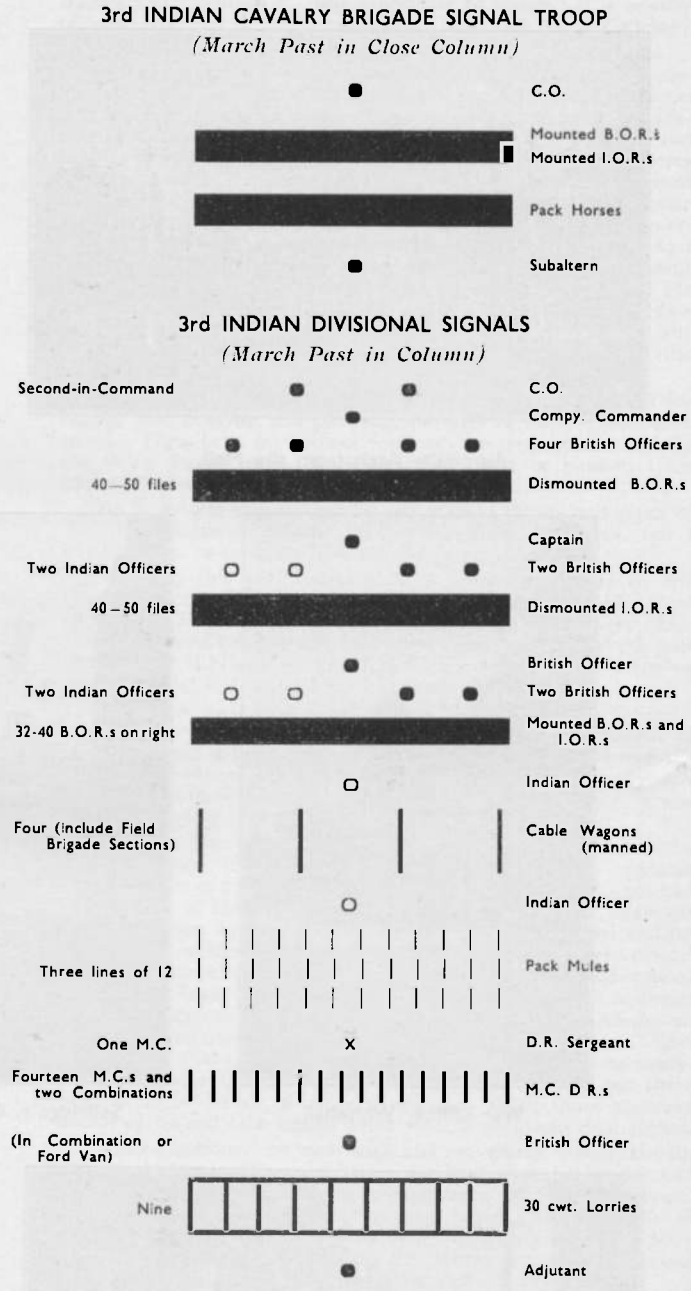
The parade was the biggest review that India has seen for ten years, and its preparation and execution were alike magnificent. Some 15,000 troops had to be assembled in camps in and near New Cantonments after the manœuvres that ended only a few days ago. On Monday they were marching in from the Gurgaon area, fifteen miles or so away. On Tuesday there must have been some fast and furious work with the cleaning up of uniforms not worn on active service, the polishing of equipment, and the issue of orders. Only on Wednesday was there any opportunity for a complete rehearsal of the Review itself, yet from first to last the entire ceremony moved with that marvellous precision which makes the Army one of the greatest assets and examples for a nation's orderly conduct of its life in times of peace.

TRAFFIC CONTROL BY RADIO.

These lessons for the civilian began some hours before we reached the parade ground. It was a vast maidan trimmed and demarcated just south-west of the Cantonments. The approaches to it in its immediate neighbourhood were few, and to allow for the assembling of the host of Army units they had to be closed for some time to all other traffic. But the roads leading to the approaches were many, and all at once a multitude of cars and

[*Continued on next page*]

Eastern Command Review, Delhi, 31st January, 1935.



NOTES.

(*a*) For the purposes of this diagram, the full Peace Establishment of Officers and M.C. D.R.s is shown with the exception of the Officer and M.C. D.R.s of the 7th Medium Brigade R.A. Signal Section. In actual fact, a few of each were away on special duties.

(*b*) It was found advisable for M.C. D.R.s to hang back near the lorries until just before reaching the saluting point.

(*c*) The 3rd Indian Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop marched past with the 3rd Indian Cavalry Brigade, and the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals with the 3rd Indian Division.

(*d*) Units with a sufficiency of Austin, etc., light cars could form a separate Company of same between M.C. D.R.s and lorries.

buses descended upon them from divers directions to converge in their thousands towards their appointed parking places.

The task of control in such conditions would obviously have been far beyond the powers of a necessarily limited Police Force. There were points through which the great bulk of the traffic had to be passed in less than an hour, and any serious hitch might have started chaos. The Army rose to its own special occasion as only the Army can. For the first time in Delhi—perhaps for the first time in all India—wireless telephony entered into the plan, and pickets of the Royal Corps of Signals kept in verbal touch with one another to check or release the flow of motors according to the exigencies of the traffic at awkward road junctions within half a mile or over five miles from the Review ground. The result in at least one visitor's experience was that, in spite of losing his way at the start, he encountered only one hold-up from the beginning of his journey to the moment when Military and Civil Police directed him easily and without fuss, first to a place in the car park and then to a block of seats whose arrangement was as admirable as everything else.

Troops Move on Parade.

Seating accommodation had been provided for about 6000 spectators, and several thousands more thronged the embankment behind them and crowded in on their flanks. They had never a dull minute. While they were still pouring in, the troops were moving on parade, and no one could fail to be impressed either by the flashing of the lances and colourful fluttering of the pennons from whole Regiments of Cavalry, or by the marching of Battalions of Infantry across the plain, their khaki so harmonious with their surroundings that at a distance they looked like precise and ordered waves in the ground.

The "inspection line," four or five hundred yards away to the spectators' front, was well over a mile long and in places two hundred yards deep. All arms of the Military Forces were represented there—on our extreme left, the Gunners and four Regiments of the 3rd Indian Cavalry Brigade: then five Brigades of the Royal Artillery, including mountain batteries, six-inch howitzers and the great 60-pounders. Sappers and Miners and Signallers faced up, and on their left stood in succession the 7th, 8th and Delhi Infantry Brigades, the Light Tanks and the Armoured Cars. At such a distance it was difficult for the naked eye to pick out any particular detachment or point of interest, but even so, the silence and the stillness of the entire parade must have astounded anyone among us who had not known before what the soldier's discipline can achieve.

Lady Willingdon Arrives.

Shortly before ten o'clock General Sir Norman Macmullen rode out with his Staff to take up his post at the centre of the line facing the flagstaff. Then Her Excellency the Countess of Willingdon, accompanied by ex-King George of Greece, passed in state down the long line of spectators, the scarlet of the Governor-General's Bodyguard (at nearly full strength) standing out in brilliant, startling contrast with the ubiquitous khaki of troops and the dry green of the plain. Lady Willingdon took her seat on a gold and mauve throne in a raised stand behind the flagstaff, having the ex-King of Greece on her right and the Maharaja of Nepal (in military uniform) on her left. Indian Princes with their relatives and friends, and Members of Council and other notabilities, were also in attendance.

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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.)

2306315	Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Elsmore B. A.	21/ 2/35	9

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

1402768	C.S.M. Lane H.	3/ 2/35	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2308114	C.Q.M.S. Dowie F. J.	13/ 2/35	15
2306486	C.Q.M.S. Stone G. E.	13/ 2/35	15
2308849	C.Q.M.S. Wattley H. V.	13/ 2/35	15

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2311719	Sergeant Hillman J. D. T.	13/ 2/35	16
2307520	Sergeant Bawden A. E.	1/ 4/35	16

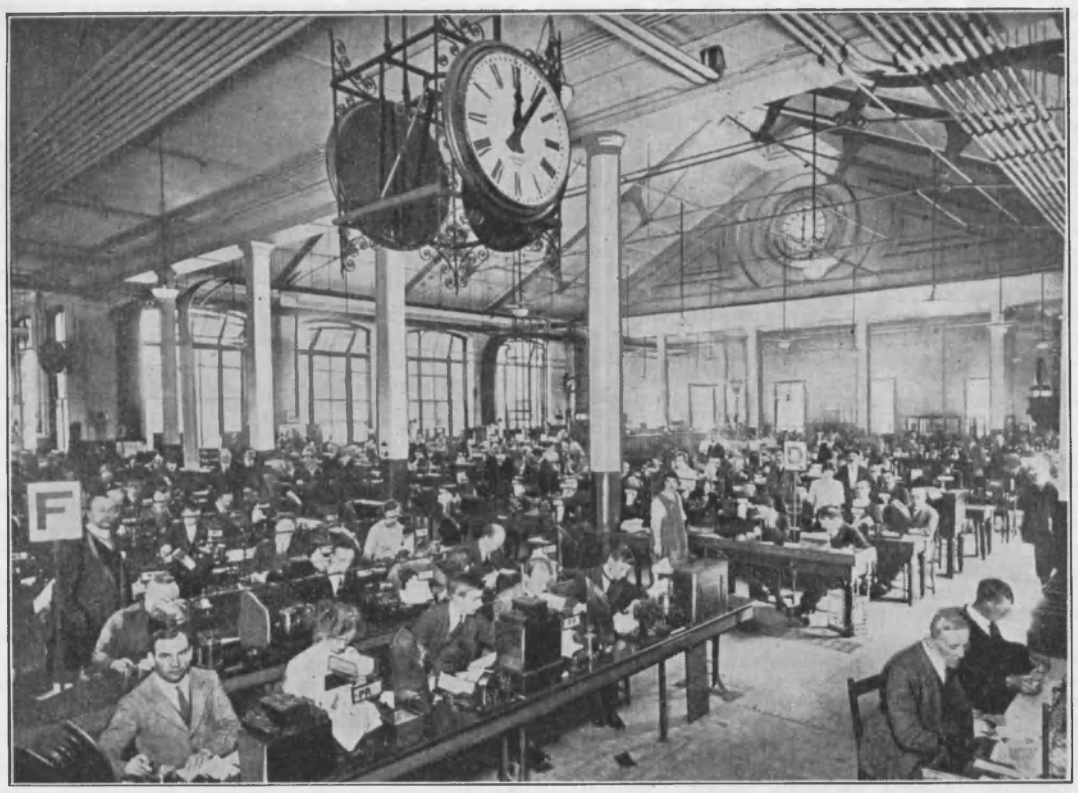
To be Sergeant.

2314631	L/Sergeant Humphrey L.	20/12/34	28
2314064	L/Sergeant Springett J.	1/ 1/35	28
2311078	L/Sergeant Creaton S.	22/ 1/35	28
2314992	L/Sergeant Wales A. E.	2/ 2/35	28
2313937	L/Sergeant Salmon G.	2/ 2/35	28
2315121	L/Sergeant Jones D.	4/ 2/35	29
2313756	L/Sergeant Chalmers R. T.	21/ 2/35	29
2309798	L/Sergeant Little V. R.	19/ 3/35	28
1860296	L/Sergeant Waight I.	1/ 4/35	29
2310707	L/Sergeant Drudge J. M.	1/ 4/35	29
2315515	L/Sergeant Ivison R.	1/ 4/35	29
5487819	L/Sergeant Pinkstone E.	1/ 4/35	29
7807408	L/Sergeant Barrett A.	1/ 4/35	29

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2313988	Corporal Brown L.	1/ 1/35	35
5486557	Corporal Bunn F.	15/ 1/35	33
2315091	Corporal Stockton F.	21/ 1/35	35
2314928	Corporal Raymond C. T. K.	2/ 2/35	35
2311074	Corporal Litchfield G. E.	4/ 2/35	35
2314301	Corporal Stanley R.	13/ 2/35	35
7338894	Corporal Cox S.	21/ 2/35	36
737247	Corporal Onslow M.	21/ 2/35	36
2313952	Corporal Jones W.	13/ 3/35	36
2309825	Corporal Riando B.	1/ 4/35	36
2308399	Corporal Worth J.	1/ 4/35	36
1040795	Corporal Shaw W.	1/ 4/35	36
2309564	Corporal Rigden W.	1/ 4/35	36

[*Continued on page 253*]



At the Central Telegraph Office, circa 1925. *By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.*

The Central Radio Office, G.P.O., London.

(Crown copyright reserved.) *By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.*

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER. [*Continued from page 251*]

To be Corporal.

2310906	L/Corporal	Swinson L.	1/12/34	...	53
2317455	L/Corporal	Webb H. J. E.	1/ 2/35	...	53
2316198	L/Corporal	Garner P. W.	1/ 2/35	...	53
2316825	L/Corporal	Watson D.	2/ 2/35	...	53
2317408	L/Corporal	Booth W.	2/ 2/35	...	53
748423	L/Corporal	Dodd C. L.	3/ 2/35	...	53
2316864	L/Corporal	Webster G. A.	3/ 2/35	...	53
2318050	L/Corporal	Crawford F. H.	4/ 2/35	...	53
2815537	L/Corporal	Ross W. S.	6/ 2/35	...	53
2316863	L/Corporal	Powell F.	13/ 2/35	...	53
2316851	L/Corporal	Warburton H.	4/ 3/35	...	53
2317334	L/Corporal	Gibson C.	5/ 3/35	...	54
2312546	L/Corporal	Wink P.	19/ 3/35	...	54
6538759	L/Corporal	De Courcy T.	21/ 3/35	...	54
2316283	L/Corporal	Matthews C.	21/ 3/35	...	54
2316988	L/Corporal	Richardson F.	29/ 3/35	...	54
2315978	L/Corporal	Wilbraham H.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2320265	L/Corporal	Atthill A. J.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2316566	L/Corporal	Holloway W.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2315565	L/Corporal	Chidgey E. G.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2318453	L/Corporal	Maguire W.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2317762	L/Corporal	Denbow E.	1/ 4/35	...	54
6285	L/Corporal	Buckley H.	1/ 4/35	...	54
314341	L/Corporal	Etwell F.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2309609	L/Corporal	Baker A.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2316977	L/Corporal	Hall C. F.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2316822	L/Corporal	Goat A. F.	1/ 4/35	...	54
1026075	L/Corporal	Fensome H.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2317190	L/Corporal	Cowe S.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2309297	L/Corporal	Rankin H.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2317570	L/Corporal	Kent W. F.	1/ 4/35	...	54
2318967	L/Corporal	Deegan M.	1/ 4/35	...	54

Special Roster.

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

*2313954	Corporal	House H.	1/12/34	...	78

Foreman-of-Signals Roster.

To be Q.M.S. (W.O.ii.) Foreman-of-Signals.

1853131	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S)	Clarke C. G.	21/ 2/35	...	9

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2319985	Signalman	Cavill F. W.	1/ 7/34
2561916	Signalman	O'Malley B.	29/10/34
2322354	Signalman	Fenton G. P.	1/11/34
2319254	Signalman	Butler F. R.	4/11/34
2320444	Signalman	McGivern W.	6/11/34
2320789	Signalman	Martin S.	8/11/34
2314117	Signalman	Carver C.	10/11/34
2316218	Signalman	Park D.	15/11/34
758130	Signalman	Brown G.	15/11/34
2022546	Signalman	Peacock F.	15/11/34
2321518	Signalman	Kunath F.	19/11/34
1857011	Signalman	Galbraith J.	26/11/34
3521105	Signalman	Harrison A.	27/11/34
2320051	Signalman	Marshall A.	1/12/34
778624	Signalman	Parsons K.	1/12/34
2316736	Signalman	Kennealy G.	1/12/34
2317596	Signalman	Dale M.	1/12/34
2320082	Signalman	Grimes G.	1/12/34
2321118	Signalman	Surfleet G.	8/12/34
533756	Signalman	Hayes R.	9/12/34
2318123	Signalman	Lafford E.	18/12/34
1413363	Signalman	Watkins A.	20/12/34
2924889	Signalman	Steele J.	20/12/34
740032	Signalman	Govey W.	20/12/34
3445606	Signalman	Black E.	31/12/34
2314202	Signalman	Simpson F.	1/ 1/35
2868603	Signalman	Green J.	1/ 1/35
2025875	Signalman	Harper W.	10/ 1/35
2321221	Signalman	Jackson A.	11/ 1/35
2319892	Signalman	Chambers T. G.	15/ 1/35
2314013	Signalman	Robertson J.	16/ 1/35
2312307	Signalman	Reat M.	21/ 1/35
2320300	Signalman	Taylor C.	22/ 1/35
2319616	Signalman	McConnell R.	24/ 1/35
2317174	Signalman	Tant A.	25/ 1/35
2318293	Signalman	Davis W.	26/ 1/35
2319703	Signalman	Smith C. W.	31/ 1/35

Discharges.

2306444	R.Q.M.S.	Tilford V.	2/ 4/35	...	6
2307038	C.S.M.	Gilbert F.	4/ 3/35	...	6
2317007	C.S.M.	Elkington F.	12/ 3/35	...	6
2306590	C.S.M.	Slater T. R.	17/ 4/35	...	6
2306516	C.S.M.	Eyres A.	19/ 4/35	...	6
1850290	C.Q.M.S.	Lawrence A.	3/ 3/35	...	14
2306447	C.Q.M.S.	Nobes C.	6/ 4/35	...	14
2312526	Sergeant	Watts J.	7/ 3/35	...	74
1857073	Sergeant	Wheeler A.	18/ 3/35	...	16
1406518	Sergeant	Ryan R.	16/ 4/35	...	22
7213106	Corporal	Kennedy J.	20/ 3/35	...	40
5819788	Corporal	Harrold F.	20/ 3/35	...	36
2315464	Corporal	Brown C.	28/ 3/35	...	40
2317199	Corporal	Wallace F.	1/ 4/35	...	43
2318639	L/Corporal	Dale F.	31/ 3/35	...	62
1857465	L/Corporal	Faraday H.	3/ 4/35	...	63
2315516	L/Corporal	Hills A.	8/ 4/35	...	54

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318790	Corporal	Paxton A.	4/ 3/35	...	47
2317214	Corporal	Evans S.	19/ 4/35	...	50
2318257	L/Corporal	Chinery F.	12/ 1/35	...	58
2318288	L/Corporal	Chapman C.	6/ 2/35	...	63
2318335	L/Corporal	Amos L.	4/ 3/35	...	62
2318351	L/Corporal	Jury W.	8/ 3/35	...	63
2318434	L/Corporal	Welch A.	6/ 4/35		
2318413	L/Corporal	Patrick A.	12/ 4/35		
2319484	L/Corporal	Cooper W.	14/ 4/35		
2319516	L/Corporal	Dean A.	14/ 4/35	...	55
4265450	L/Corporal	Adamson J.	17/ 4/35	...	55
2318205	L/Corporal	Aldridge L. A.	17/ 4/35	...	59

Deceased.

2321200	L/Corporal	Peuleve E.	15/ 3/35		

* *Special Roster (India).*

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5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—To celebrate the King's Jubilee, the Depot Battalion held an athletic and sports meeting on Baghdad ground on Tuesday 7th May, followed by a tea fight for the married pads.

The all ranks relay race was the big event of the day and the centre of much interest and excitement. Our team, consisting of Captain Gray, Lieut. Moore, C.S.M. Ingles, C.Q.M.S. Stevenson, Sergt Mains, Corpl Bull, L/Corpl Voice and Sigmn Alvey, won very easily from the Dismounted and Headquarter Wings, and with concentrated training should go a long way.

Captain Gray started the ball rolling and after a hard race won by a short head, thereby giving Mr. Moore a flying start. Mr. Moore certainly took advantage of Captain Gray's short head and went down the field like a whirlwind ; and I heard it said by an authority on such matters that if he had been properly fitted up with spikes, shorts, etc., he would have made Jack London look very slow. The C.S.M. ran a great race under difficulties, his chief ones being weight and probably a slight shortness of legs. The C.Q.M.S. (having nothing of note against him) gained some of the ground lost by the C.S.M. (under difficulties). Then came Harry Mains, who ran a fine race and handed over to Corpl Bull with a nice lead. Johnny didn't do too badly, but I think everyone will agree that he would have been much more at home on a horse. Then we had L/Corpl Voice. He was a great box office attraction—the man, not his running—and it was surprising to hear the feminine voices cheering him to possible victory. Anyhow, by this time we had the race well in hand, and Sigmn Alvey came into the straight to win the race in a canter.

On the whole, the Wing did remarkably well ; and apart from the relay team, we were well to the fore amongst the prize winners. Signalmen Alvey and Woods and Drivers Groom and Norris were our successful representatives.

Queery.—Who was the winner who congratulated a co-winner on receiving a larger prize than intended, and afterwards found that a portion of the larger prize was his own ?

Sundry Items.—The ensuing month looks like being rather eventful. First of all, we get the At Home Day. Now, this at home idea is very nice, but I wish the powers that be, when making these arrangements, would allow us to spend our half-days in the usual manner. This would be one of the finest incentives to recruiting one could have. After all, there are not many civvies who think of going to bed during the afternoon ; and if it could be forcibly brought home to them that this can be and is done in the Army, we shouldn't be able to cope with the rush of recruits. However, I don't suppose the same powers that be will see eye to eye with my views, so we'll try to bear up and make up for the lost sleep at some later date.

Next comes the Commandant's inspection, and I am sure that all ranks are looking forward to this with a sort of joyous anticipation (?)

No. 5 Equitation Course folk have now joined us, and I hope they will enjoy their six months stay in this most healthy spot.

The Display team is now at Olympia and, according to Press reports, is upholding the prestige of the Corps to its fullest extent.

Still having the Jubilee in mind, I am wondering who are going to be the lucky ones to receive the Jubilee medal.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Arrivals too numerous to mention. We still have the " Full house " sign up, and there appears to be no sign of diminution in the numbers of recruits arriving. Accommodation is taxed to the limit, and we have been forced to borrow huts from the Training Battalion ; and there is no rush of Squad commanders to live up the hill.

We extend a hearty welcome to Major J. W. Bailey, M.C., and hope his stay with us will be long and happy.

The Egyptian draft arrived late one Friday night during the month, and left for their homes the next morning as full blown civvies. " That was a draft, that was!" The best of luck to all of them. I think that draft will conclude our activities for the year in turning soldiers into civvies, and now we can settle down once more on the reverse: turning civvies into soldiers.

With the finish of the homecoming troopers we lost Corporal Snook (our docs. clerk) to A Corps, with the wish of a speedy recovery to health once more. In his stead we welcome L/Sergt Hodges from China. These two seem to arrange their own reliefs.

Departures.—Nos. 78, 79, and 80 Squads to their Trade Companies during the month. No respite for their old Squad commanders: brand new squads the same day that they lost their old ones. Congratulations to No. 2323863 Sigmn Blishen L. on securing three firsts—best man in squad at drill, etc., P.T. and musketry. It is a long time since that happened before, away back in the dim past.

Commandant's Inspection, 1935.—By the time this is in print we shall have done one more. Everyone is expecting and hoping for a real good show. Squad commanders are like commanders of the Silent Service with the things they have up their sleeves to be produced on the day of days. We have had a number of visits and inspections during the past year since the introduction of the Brighter Barracks movement, but none had the same atmosphere as our own Commandant's inspection. Ah, well! he knows where to look.

Jubilee.—Yes, we can believe anything now after seeing the all ranks race at the sports held on Baghdad ground on Tuesday 7th May. Who said the P.R.I. could only run accounts? I must not encroach any more on the sports meeting, as I understand that will be a Battalion write up. It is sufficient to say that it was a grand show.

Things We Saw.—Who was the super-optimist complete with straw hat?

Things We Want to Know.—Who gave the gold fish a dose of poison? (surely a underhand way of getting their own back on the sergeant-major). I wonder under which section of the Army Act the culprit would be charged if discovered?

Heard This Month.—Scene: the bath house. The i/c bath house finds a brand new arrival (still in civvies) using one of the n.c.o.s baths. "How . . . long have you been an n.c.o?" The reply left the attendant speechless: " I only arrived yesterday, and they told me it was for *newcomers only*." The attendant

has since been posted to Aldershot. Poor fellow! he is still muttering.

Sport.—We have no notes to submit this month, but everybody is training hard for the Mackworth athletics which take place shortly.

D Company, Training Battalion.

All Jubilee celebrations being over, we can sit back and think over things in general.

The commanding officer's suggestion for a trial of brighter cricket was tested on Monday and Tuesday, 6th and 7th May, and was carried out in a most successful manner. Sixteen teams took part in this knock-out competition under the conditions that each man should bowl one over and no man should score more than ten runs. It seems a rather silly game, but try it and see how fascinating such a competition can be.

The commanding officer and adjutant took part, playing for the T.B. clerks ; and there was also the inevitable googly bowler of F Company pay office, who bowled eleven balls to the over. Nevertheless, he had the best bowling average.

The first round was completed on Monday, and the semi-finals and final on Tuesday. The final was contested between F Company boys and D Company linemen. The latter put up a good show but were outclassed, as the boys knew how to play this type of game.

Prizes were given to the winners and runners-up at the conclusion of the final, and judging from the smiling faces everyone concerned seemed to be pleased. However, the N.A.A.F.I. was raided at the earliest possible moment by these men and boys. Tea was provided for visitors, and from what I saw everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves.

Arrivals.—We welcome C.S.M. Cutler J. on his arrival here from the 1st Divisional Signals, and we trust that he may find everything to his satisfaction during his tour in Catterick. Of course, we have our fair share of arrivals from the Mounted and Dismounted Wings, and we sincerely hope that they will enjoy the athletics and the painting of the barrack rooms.

Departures.—The Display team lost a capable n.c.o. when L/Corpl Major W. left us for civilian life. We hope he will enjoy his new position as much as he did being with us. We also lost our best cook, Burnham (Scorchem), who has transferred his affections to the Military Police. Good luck, Bill! don't do too many stable picquets. We now turn to our sports storeman, Sigmn Boots A., who has retired to A Corps Signals for a tour of work. Cheerio, Gus! we may see you on the boat.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Onslow M. on his appointment to that rank after a long wait. To Sigmn Coogan (distinguished in English and mathematics) and Sigmn Ladell on being awarded their first class certificates of education, and to eleven others who have passed in various subjects towards their firsts. Lastly, to D Company soccer eleven on winning the Catterick inter-Company knock-out cup. Well done, Don!

Agony.—A Corps please note: Will Tosh S. miss his seaside trips this summer ? Please send some rock.

Personal.—Bonny, D Troop: What about the old soccer team now ?

Examinations.—Here are a few answers to questions set at a recent examination. (1) Where are the Straits of Gibraltar ?—Between Australia and New Zealand. (2) How much does Great Britain pay to the League of Nations ?—A d—— sight more than any other country. (3) Where is Malta ?—Somewhere at the top of Suez Canal, between Aden and Paris. (4) A few *dots* at the top of the British Isles represent the Falkland Islands.

Query.—Who was the man who asked if it were Sir Francis Drake or Sir Walter Raleigh who swam the Channel ? and who replied " Charlie Chap'in " ? M.C.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—Once again we open up correspondence with our fellows in various corners of the world.

The past month has been very pleasant (at the time of typing, there is snow falling). With the Jubilee celebrations taking place just before we write these notes, the period has proved much brighter than we usually experience here.

On Monday and Tuesday of Jubilee week we had introduced to us a very original and novel game known as brighter cricket. The Company were represented in the final by the boys' first eleven, who scored an easy victory over the other finalists (D Company linemen). We congratulate the winners and the losers on the exciting fare they provided, and especially the boys, who on the journey to the final defeated the two strongest teams in the competition. The linemen defeated F Company old boys in the semi-final, which was very unexpected. By doing so, they spoilt our selfish wish to have an all-F Company final.

Another pleasant surprise was the special grub stakes provided in celebration of the Jubilee. It was thoroughly enjoyed, and I may safely say that the Company sincerely wished there were more Jubilees to come.

Hearty congratulations are extended to the I.M. soccer team, who won the Garrison League cup by beating the K.O.S.B. boys by one goal to nil on the latter's ground. Both teams played an excellent game, and play was fast and skilful. The I.M. team sadly missed their centre forward Sigmn Harrison, who was in hospital. We extend to him our best wishes and hopes for his speedy recovery.

Our congratulations, also, to D Company, who won the Garrison inter-Company cup. They also beat the K.O.S.B. by 4—3 goals.

In a few days the first Mackworth athletic meeting will be over. The Company athletic team are all training as hard as they can, and I'm certain that the competition will be keener than ever this year. We hope the best team wins. (We *are* the best, I hope!)

Arrivals.—Eleven recruit boys. We hold out a glad hand and welcome them to the fold. We hope their stay will be a long and pleasant one, and that when they join the ranks they will be able to say that we still have the Mackworth cross-country shield.

Departures.—We regret to lose Signalmen McEvoy and Scivier, who left a short while ago for the 2nd Divl and A Corps Signals respectively. Advice to 2nd Divl Signals: If you want to give away any money, challenge Signalman McEvoy to any event at swimming.

Our Company office clerk has been relieved of the duty of typing these notes. He has left the office where that work is done and gone to Headquarters S.T.C. We are still very much acquainted with " him and his shadow."

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Elevation.—Congratulations to the following on their promotion to the ranks shown: Sergt Chalmers, L/Sergt Shaw, and Corporals Atthill, Fensome and Kent. Much speculation and satisfaction was also derived from the legend " Increase to the Establishment."

Jubilation.—The restoration of the 1931 pay cuts.

Equitation.—There was some gratification in reading in last month's WIRE that the Depot Battalion had won the unit team jumping in the Northern Command bronze medal tournament. Royal Signals, Aldershot, had the misfortune to be fourth in the Aldershot Command tournament, and Olympia will see them not. The winners of the series here had no faults (our big R.E. brothers—we must not grumble) and the Royal Signal team had only ten.

Fraternisation.—On Good Friday we had the pleasure of entertaining a large party from the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals. The *piece de resistance* was the annual football match, which ended happily in a draw at two all. Tea was served in the N.A.A.F.I. and the Institute rose to the occasion. The crowd which afterwards assembled in the sergeants mess was very thirsty and reminiscent, becoming more thirsty and more reminiscent. Each new arrival, as he entered, was heard to greet somebody: " Well, I'm —— (censored)!" It's great to see the old friends we used to shake hands with. The time passed all too quickly, and few were anxious to leave when they embussed at 9 p.m.—particularly Sailor Haines. We appreciate the fact that

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we've said little about the football match, but, then, Robbie isn't the only topic on Burn's Nicht. Here's to our next merry meeting!

Gratification.—We are rather proud of the fact that a hundred per cent. of the n.c.o.s and men discharged or transferred to the Army Reserve from the unit this year have obtained employment in civil life—and quite remunerative positions, too. Considering the figures regarding unemployment which one hears on the wireless, one wonders—but not aloud. The documents clerk would, no doubt, wish me to make it clear that this is a statement and not an advertisement.

Manifestation.—While spiritualism has not yet reached the stage where it appears under divine service, from what I can gather, the persuasion is not altogether neglected. I hear whispers of an old building and a loft reached by a step ladder, tea, buns and protoplasms. The latest news from this front is that some "re-embodied spirit" (those are not the actual words used—they were decidedly *not* spiritual) pinched the step ladder and totally suspended one seance. The other item concerned a large whist drive of one table and a flirtation with an ectoplasm on a form. The only thing that has failed to materialise is the monthly sub. Strange how pioneers are always pilloried.

Verbatim et Literatum.—"I am not very good," said Sergt Howler (not in blue book) "at quoting anybody *verboten*, but I can generally manage to convey the *grist* of the thing."

Campanology.—On the 20th May we proceed to Thursley for our annual camp. Those who were there last year are looking forward to it. Those who weren't have something to look forward to. Look out for a graphic pen picture in next month's notes. Don't write and tell us that campanology has nothing to do with pitching bell tents—we know it's confined to the pitching of bells.

Anecdote.—A little batch of troops were watching a kiddies' Jubilee sports and tea. Came the tea, together with the Jubilee mugs, sandwiches, cakes, etc. "Come on, girls," said a stalwart with two dodgers up; "let's go and have our Jubilee rissole."

Tailpiece.—As our Sports Notes this month contain a lot of secret information, we have hidden them in the Sports Section.

JESSAMINE.

Stop Press.—All ranks congratulate the following on the award of the King's Jubilee medal: Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Barker, Captain (Q.M.) A. E. Winton, D.C.M., R.S.M. Elsmore B. A., and Sigmn Webb A.

Post-Stop Press.—The accompanying letter is an interesting sequel to our Saar notes of last month, and therefore offered without comment.

Sport Club 22 Puttlingen/Saar,
Puttlingen/Saar 30th April, '35.
Headquarters Hindenburgstr. 25.

Worthy Friends! Dear Comrades!—With great pleasure we received on 25th April your gift and beautiful souvenir of the friendly game we had the honour to take part in with you in February. In the name of our Sport Club 22 I thank you all heartily, particularly the officers and players who devoted time and work to make it possible for the game to take place. Be assured that our inhabitants will treasure an honoured memory of you. We learnt to know you officers and men, not only as honourable and brave soldiers, but also as unexpectedly dear comrades who understood how to capture the hearts of the Saar people.

Our hearty greetings also particularly to your officer, Mr. Thompson, with whom I personally had the honour to speak regarding the arrangements for the friendly game. It would give us great pleasure to be able to remain in friendly relations with him.

Our players take the standpoint, and firmly believe it, that it may be possible for them to visit you in Aldershot. A pious dream. Now I must tell you briefly how we came to be in possession of your souvenir. There is also here a football team which calls itself "Spielvereinigung 22 Puttlingen." This club believed someone or other had honoured them with your gift, until on the 25th of this month someone remembered that it *might* be for the Sport Club 22. And so we were at last allowed to receive your souvenir.

As I learn from the local paper, three German officers should be spending about four weeks attachment with you. It would please us very much if they should have been received by you. If this should be the case, then please convey to our officers our greetings from the freed Saar and German Fatherland.

We have allowed ourselves to enclose herewith a small dedication plate to your game here as a sign of our pleasure and gratitude.

Thinking of the happily lived hours with you, and gladly hoping to remain in touch with you, we greet you.

With German Sportsgreeting.
HEIL HITLER.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Sailors Don't Care.—For a few days previous to Easter we had the pleasure of accommodating representatives of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines who had come to Aldershot to compete in the inter-Services boxing finals; and as we have since heard an appreciation of their lodgings in Mons Barracks, we must reiterate the fact that we were only too pleased to harbour such jolly visitors. It is, however, emphatically denied that the hosts slept in "U" blankets slung between the beams, or that the flying sentries were engaged at night (with the aid of ropes and pulleys) in rocking the barrack room in which they slept.

Courses of Instruction.—The M.T. course at Feltham and the wireless course at Catterick were concluded almost in the same week, and Sergt Leath and Corpl Denbow have since rejoined this unit and their native A Section An urgent indent has been posted away for extra Message Forms and Road Accident Reports.

Departures.—Quite a number of well known celebrities have left us during the past month for better or for worse. They are as follows.

C.Q.M.S. Winkle and Driver Relton to No. 2 Company.

L/Corpl Horne to the Vocational Centre, Hounslow, for the purpose of acquiring knowledge of the joint mysteries of shorthand and typewriting at the Pitman School.

Sigmn Bond to the School of Signals.

The last drafts of the season—Signalmen Bennett (B.V.), O'Marah and Spreadbury to Egypt on 9/4/35 per the *Lancashire*.

And then last, but not least, Sigmn Norbury to Ceylon Signal Section on 18/4/35 per s.s. *Chitral*. Tea planters in that hitherto happy island of Ceylon are advised that their conversion to the hire-purchase system is at hand.

We wish all the above the best of luck in their new stations.

Driver Rayner.—The above have arrived.

Education.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Norton, married at Wareham, Dorset, on 30/3/35. Also to Sigmn Currie on obtaining his first with distinction in English and mathematics.

Vocational News.—

"Ten thousand saw I. at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance:
Beneath each arc, beneath each screen,
The welders of metal in oxy-acetylene."

Corporal Kneller and Sigmn Cripps have joined the happy throng.

Stock Exchange.—Green paint was in strong demand throughout last month. Although issued at a premium, it remained for a considerable period at 37 (East and West). But with the conclusion of the M.T. course at Feltham, and after a good deal of buying and bulling, it was eventually brought round to 39, and is expected to reach 40 in due course.

Stock holders of white tape realised a good net profit when blankets and biscuits were exchanged. Most of the bidding took place at 38.

Shares in gun-fire have dropped several points since reveille was put forward and the clock put back.

Markets on the whole, and markers on parade, have remained steady.

En Passant.—Returning to Hampshire after the Easter vacation, I found the platforms at Waterloo thronged with the usual crowd of holiday makers bent on catching the earliest return trains and regaining lost bed-spaces. A significant feature among the crowd was the slight sprinkling of M.P.s gravely watching the activities. (I refer, of course, to the red-hatted military policemen and not the top-hatted Members of Parliament.)

In the railway buffet the crowd was just as thick, and was indeed reminiscent of Friday nights at the R.E. dance theatre. I could not help noticing, as I sipped my absinthe, that nearly everyone was dipping freely into the sugar bowls with the disengaged hand, while the younger elements threw bread about or noisily cracked buffet sandwiches on their ammunition boots.

Outside the inquiries bureau I noticed Lady Fayerman, clad in a smart travelling suit of green haversack and water bottle cords. She was, I thought, looking somewhat tired and travel stained; but I heard later that she had lost the return half of her ticket to Aldershot.

. . . . . .

Later in the week, near the Chamber of Deputies, I saw the retiring messing representative (M. Sladdin) beating a hurried retreat from the office compound; or it may have been from the communal messing meeting, which he always contrives to leave hurriedly—if not in a flat spin.

When he paused on the north side of Princes Avenue for the traffic lights to change, I seized the opportunity and Porky in the same moment to pop a question about the all important subject.

"Food," he replied, "continues to be issued at a favourable ratio per head, per person, perhaps." Having said which, he removed the unexpired portion of the day's rations from his upper lip and readjusted the spray of garlic in his chin-strap.

When the traffic lights changed from amber to red, he disappeared among the beds of razor blades flanking the haciendas.

MOLLY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Once again "How do" to all. Section training is now in full swing, and everyone is as busy as—well, you know what sweats arrive with Section training. The biggest sweat of all is: When is F Section going to get a half day without a scheme?

Easter.—We have had it. The 56th Divisional Signals (T.A.) rolled up as usual for Easter training, and some of the moans, groans and suggestions were worth a place in Old Moore's Almanack.

Driver: "Why don't they get captured?" Terrier: "Who."

Someone else suggests that a gang be hired next Easter to hold up their Sunny South Express and push it back to Clapham Junction. After all, everything went with the usual 2nd D.v. smoothness, and now the T.A. assistance party are arguing as to who received the biggest "tip." So far the record is 1/- and a packet of Woods.

Heard in Stables.—N.C.O. (to Signalman): "You liaise with . . . . . and do your best."

Signalman: "Me do what?"
N.C.O.: "You liaise."
Signalman: "Liaise!"
N.C.O.: "Yes. Don't you know what it means?"
Signalman: "No."
N.C.O.: "Well, you have better find out." (Exit N.C.O.)

Sports: Army Standards.—You have only to look round to see that something unusual has been taking place. Everyone under the ripe old age of 30 has been trying to break all records in the sports line; but the only things that have been broken are broom handles in lieu of crutches.

Best Wishes.—To all old No. 2 Company-ites strewn round the globe, from some of the R.E. fittings: Duke, Bramham, Rider, Andrews, etc. Should anyone like to correspond with any of the above, I am afraid they will have to address their letters c/o Publicity Manager, owing to the fact that we had a parade for the Photo-Press and everyone thinks he is Gable No. 2!

Things We Want to Know.—When is Dingle coming off his latest scrounge? When are the wedding bells going to chime for Pop? Exactly how many vacancies will be filled by Engineers at Brighton's big factory by May 16th? Have B Cable found their lost cable which the Terriers used during Easter?

Departures.—No. 6 Artillery Section moved to their happy hunting ground at Deepcut to join the 10th Field Brigade R.A. We hope that the driver of the Kegress has included a pair of reins in his tool kit this time.

Arrivals.—From that distant land of sun, sand, and kits 8×4, Uncle "Shoee" Gardner. May his stay be quite long enough to like Brighton.

Births.—To L/Cpl and Mrs. Macey, a daughter, at Aldershot. Quetta and Pindi papers, please note.

Marriages.—Sigmn Harrison T. to Miss J. Dyson, at Oldham, on 20/4/35. Feed bags are only 4/9 in stores, Tom.

TWOCOY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We are now going through trials in all sorts of sports before finally choosing our teams to represent the Company and unit, etc. Everyone seems to be enjoying it, especially those over 30 years of age.

Training.—J Section have returned from their usual early summer holiday at Pirbright. All are looking sunburnt, etc., and generally handsome.

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Appointments and Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Garner P. on attaining that rank. Also to U/L/Corpl Donovan on attaining the first rung of the ladder.

Courses.—Corpl Dale is now back after his course at Porton. He says he knows all about respirators and the correct way to put them on.

Signalmen Potts, Steward, Shinn and Maxfield have kindly allowed themselves to be gassed at Porton—all in the interests of humanity.

Departures.—Signalmen Reardon, Stubbs and Hamerton to Egypt.

Easter Leave.—Everyone who proceeded on Easter leave thoroughly enjoyed the break. Now they are all ready to proceed on schemes, etc.

Week-Ends.—Numerous. Everyone wants to go to London to see the Jubilee celebrations.

Agony.—Signalman Waugh would like to hear from Signalman McCann, last heard of at Scarborough.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. R.T.W.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

With the advent of the collective training season, various R.A. and I.B. Sections are either preparing to or have already joined their respective Brigades, causing a depletion of Mess members in barracks.

On Monday 6th May a parade of all Signal units was held in Mons Barracks under Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command. The C.S.O. made a short but very appropriate speech to mark the occasion, and immediately after the Royal Salute and three cheers for Their Majesties had been given the parade was dismissed, following which a general holiday was proclaimed.

We congratulate R.S.M. Grigg W. H., R.S.M. Kneebone R. and R.S.M. Elsmore B. A. on receiving Their Majesties' Jubilee medal.

In the afternoon of the same day, at the Manor Park, Aldershot, Sergt Cutler E. of A Corps Signals secured (on Baby) second place in an open jumping competition, having qualified for the final with a clear run. In this competition there were nearly one hundred entries.

On the Way.—Sergt Williams H. left us for Malta last week on the *Hobson's Bay*. By a very cleverly thought out scheme he had his baggage, plus about two tons excess, conveyed to the port of embarkation absolutely *free*. Anyone interested in the system should write direct to Sergeant Williams, who will no doubt be pleased to explain his system in confidence. (How much did the wangle cost you, Bill ?) All members wish him and his family bon voyage and a very pleasant tour.

The best wishes of the Mess are extended to L/Sgt Handford J., who leaves us for Canterbury in the very near future. (The n.c.o. i/c messing, 4th Divl Signals, please note.)

On Sunday 12th May, Mr. Sheale (Yorky), having come to Aldershot on the occasion of the R.E. annual re-union, paid us a flying visit. We were very pleased to see him looking as well as ever.

That's about all this time. Cheerio till next month. E.D.S.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Rossiter P. W. and Signalmen Richards W. and Hawke W. from Egypt Signals.

Departure.—Corporal Graham W. J. to Ceylon.

Appointments.—Signalmen Kirk R. and McCarthy E. to be U/L/Corporals.

Education.—Sigmn Ryan J. awarded the second class certificate.

That's about all. E.F.M.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

General.—Now that the individual training period has finished and the Saar party has returned to the fold, we are able to settle down to normal routine. Several members of the Troop are sweating on the results of a recent upgrading course, and we hope their expectations will be fully realised.

Courses.—Corpl Penny C. and L/Corpl Lafford E. are back from an intensive (?) study of 2 pi fli and other attendant diseases prevalent in the wilds of Catterick. To quote a well known authority, they lapped it back as if it were the nectar of the gods. Both obtained satisfactory reports—all done by kindness and the aid of Decent Jones' slide rule.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Burch B. and Potesta S. have arrived from the China Command Signals. We extend the glad hand, and trust that they will soon settle down in the Troop. Sigmn Addis, also from the land of the rising dollar, was posted to this Troop at the same time, but unfortunately has been detained at Netley pro tem. We trust that he will make a speedy recovery and be with us in the near future.

Signalmen Cox S. and Griffiths are at present on furlough following their arrival from Egypt Signals. They will just be in time for a spot of Troop training when they return.

Change of Ownership: M.T.—The second senior vehicle on the roll of F Troop unattached list has recently undergone a change of ownership. It is not necessary to add that the said vehicle is now temporarily out of action—the Rut took over as first driver on its maiden trip to Pompey! Nothing further need be added except that the M.T. combine are now awaiting the breakdown of the Troop typewriter. The previous owner burst into a rash when he viewed the wreckage. The maintenance may not be so good as one could wish, but the Kingfisher will shortly be steaming along the Pompey road (we hope). What can one do when the second driver says " Turn left " and the third driver " Turn right," with nothing but a brick wall as an alternative suggestion ? Anyway, we did not hit the wall ; we merely went into reverse. The standard of after-duty map reading leaves much to be desired. The sight of three cads wearing the old school tie almost caused a dislocation of the Jubilee traffic at Bentley—it certainly caused a dislocation of the petrol pipe, much to the detriment of two gallons of aviation spirit. Nice procession, ain't it ? br-r-r! We shall probably be receiving one of the famous " failing which " letters in the very near future.

M.T.: General.—Bunker's Karpol average seems to be more important than the m.p.g.

Harry the Pawz has once again disembowelled the Yellow Hammer, but it still goes! 30 m.p.h. up Ludgershall Hill, and he didn't realise that the brakes were on. Ananias was also an Austin owner, or should have been.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporal Kennard on obtaining the first step towards the proverbial baton.

To Sigmn McConnell Wood, who has been mustered as operator signals class iii.

Hospital.—The medical officer has decided that Sigmn Salmon needs a rest in the hospital at Netley. We are sorry that he had to go, and trust that he will make a speedy recovery. RUT.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

General.—" Once more unto the breach, dear friends. . . . ." No! I haven't been sued yet. I'm just trying a new dodge so that I can get going in writing these so-and-so notes. Y'know, said he (speaking confidential like) I sit for hours—well, minutes, anyway—gazing out of the window for inspiration. There used to be ladies playing tennis just below my window, but this cold snap is keeping them away. In consequence, you may (?) get a few more notes this month. It's so darned hard to get started ; and after I have started, well! it's a lump of cake. Sorry! you laymen ; I mean it's easy.

Well, did you ever! I *have* started. You can see what babbling away like that does for you. Queer how things happen, isn't it ? —as the sergeant-major said when he saw that his erstwhile boss had joined up and was on the square.

Our new C.O., Major F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., joined us on the 3rd May. A hearty welcome to you, sir, and to Mrs. Mathew. We sincerely hope that you find the unit to your liking and that your stay with us will be both pleasant and long.

The unit lines look very quiet these days, with the Sections away and our little stunts that take all the fatigue men.

Musketry is in full swing, and by the time you read this the prizes for the best shooting will be won ; and as the Jubilee decorations round about Tidworth have been removed by now, we also fervently hope that the flags have been removed from the butts as well.

Talking of the Jubilee, the kiddies—and grown ups—of Tidworth were in a very disappointed mood on Jubilee Day. An outbreak of diphtheria made it necessary to postpone the celebrations. Still, we have them to come; and from what I saw of the original programme, there's a good time in the offing for the children, large and small. The children received their Jubilee medals for "Der Tag," of course, and I'm sure it was some consolation to them.

The loud speaker equipment, complete with technical experts, had a front view of the celebrations at Cardiff on the 11th May. After a bit of conjuring and a good deal of hard graft (not the Yankee kind) the apparatus was rigged up—all out of sight except the speakers—and everything went off without a hitch (no, James, not the scratching kind). Our lads had nothing but admiration for the display our Terrier friends put up on the parade. They *can* drill and no mistake. Our lads send their salaams to the 53rd Welsh Divl Signals (T.A.) and many thanks for their kind hospitality while they were there.

Congratulations.—To Major F. A. H. Mathew and Sigmn Wood W. on being awarded His Majesty's Jubilee medal. How we envy them!

To Corpl and Mrs. Fletcher on the birth of a son at Tidworth on 29/4/35.

To L/Corpl Wilson T. on renewing his race up the ladder of promotion.

To Corporal Etwell F. on attaining that rank w.e.f. 1/4/35. (Those visits to see the blue book seemed to have ceased quite suddenly.)

To L/Corpl Berry W. on his marriage to Miss Winifred Grace Jarvis at Chelmsford on 20/4/35.

To Sigmn Weeks P. on his marriage to Miss Mabel Florence Smith at Andover on May Day. "Call me early, mother dear, for to-morrow I'm Queen of the May." He gets up betimes now, anyway.

To Sergt Winteringham R. on obtaining qualification "A" at Feltham.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome Drivers (I.C.) Cook R., Elliot A., Linehan M., Palmer H., Stones A. and Turner A. to this station of droughts (drafts, draughts) and floods, and hope their stay on Salisbury Plain will meet with their approval. S'funny, the different ways we have to invent of writing the same old things. Anyway, you're welcome, and we hope you'll like it.

Departures.—L/Corporal Legg J. to the School of Cookery, Aldershot, for a course. Lord knows why he has gone—surely, they can't teach you anything, Jim; your rissoles are the acme of perfection.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Whitehead R. to the B.B.C. on discharge. Western Regional calling. Hello, twins!

The Sections: *!?!* 'Em.—I'm very bucked to see A and B Sections' notes are appearing this month. Keep it up, fellers, and let's know how you are enjoying your nice long summer vacation.

Now, what about you, C, D and E Sections? Don't let them beat you. Let's have your notes and snaps (if any) by about the 14th of each month. I'll give a prize to the Section scribe who, in the C.O.'s opinion, submits the most regular and best topical and pictorial notes from now till the end of training. Now, wot abart it?

Questions We Could Answer If We Dared.—Why is Tich collecting fag card transfers? Is it to decorate our mugs for the Jubilee? (I'd better be careful, or else he'll be decorating my mug for me.)

What brand of fags does Peggy smoke the noo? (For the answer to this, see Old Moore's Almanack.)

If Joe is allowed five mistakes, how many has he left?

Who was it who piped "Send for Tich; the R.Q.'s in distress" when the cricket ball was lost?

Our Office Boy Is Learning.—(1) "Yus, poor old Bill has got an *abbess* on his neck." (2) "What *abomination* do you belong to, Joe?"

Convulsions.—Sid: A and D worrying. What about telling us how you hunt tigers in India? RUSTY.

A Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to Headquarters, 1st Tank Brigade, Farnborough]

General.—Another year gone—so here we are again, back from the wilds of Tidworth to our summer residence; only this time we have changed our name from H.Q. to A Section. Anyway, what's in a name, as our I.M. said when he used an inch drill—but, as Kipling says, that's another story.

Except for draft replacements, we have much the same Section as last year: 2/Lieut. Hewlett, L/Sergt Hamilton, L/Corporals Potts and Richards, and Signalmen Adcock, Alltoft, Carrison, Gear, Holberton, Mullen, Price and Reeves.

Individual training has now finished. Thus, with our heads crammed full of equations and formulæ, we are settling down to Section training as it should be done. At present our stores and office are full of perfectly foolproof systems, but, alas! they very seldom seem to survive manœuvres.

Arrival.—Driver (I.C.) Linehan M. from the Training Battalion.

We Want to Know.—Is the Section Jew going to buy any new flannels?

Where do our tools go in the summer time?

Has the pay bloke anything to do with the budding moustaches, or is it the mating season?

Fan Mail.—Clara, D.I.K.: Will write for Christmas. "A."

B Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Farnborough]

General.—The Section deserted its parent unit at Tidworth on the 25th April and duly arrived at Farnborough after a very chilly journey. Of course, it was expected that our reception would be warm; and, by heck, it was! All the mirrors in the Section have been discarded, and any morning, soon after six o'clock, the lads may be seen shaving from their reflection in the floor.

Jubilee Day.—This day was duly observed by a parade of a battalion of the Royal Tank Corps, and last (but not least) by a small detachment of the Royal Corps of Signals. After the usual ceremonial had taken place, the rest of the day was a holiday. Quite a number of the lads made hard work of the holiday by hiking to Virginia Waters, a matter of about twenty-four miles (more or less). Of course, it was heard afterwards that longer distances have been covered on the Frontier many moons ago. A certain red-headed member of A Section, also on the hike, found that holes had been burnt in his socks!

Enquiries.—The majority of the Section would like to know where and when that mythical fellow George is to be found. In other words, the cry goes up "Where's George?" The answer will be given by any member of this Section—but, remember, strictly on the Q.T.

Tripo and Like.—What was the reason for a certain Romeo of A Section energetically scrubbing his flannels after the Jubilee celebration?

Who in the Section got browned off and took charge of a stall at the local Jubilee fair?

After many tales, the query is "Do they still hunt tigers in India?"

Is it true that a certain member of the Section is shortly taking up a vocational course in a local laundry?

Finis.—Till next month, au revoir.

PANJANG AND MR. PLAIN.

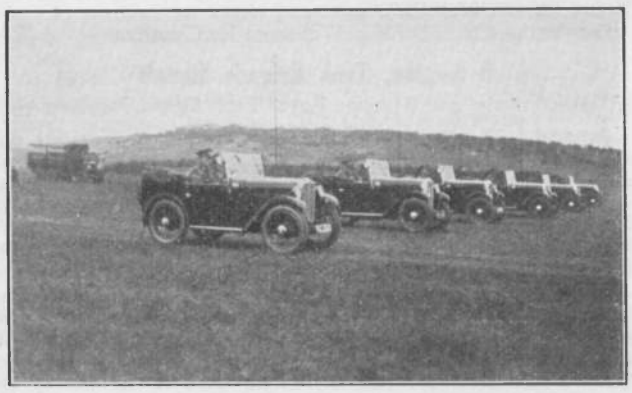
3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Since writing our last notes, we have been going through a somewhat hectic time but are now beginning to breathe freely once more.

We would like to congratulate our commanding officer, Captain Manton (our Q.M.), R.S.M. Harrison and Signalman Simpson on being presented with the Jubilee medal.

The centre of activity has undoubtedly been the preparation for the Jubilee parade which took place on the 9th May. The Divisional commander held a rehearsal on the 1st—which, unfortunately, was a bad day as far as the weather was concerned. It started raining early in the morning, and we had high hopes of

the parade being cancelled. This was not to be, however ; so out we marched to Dunch Hill, got thoroughly wet, and arrived back at lunch time with the prospect of having to put in a great deal of extra work on the harness and saddlery. On the 9th May we had very little rain to speak of, but it was very cold, and some of the horses were in high spirits. Everything went smoothly except for a slight incident in which Ginger, who had to be pulled out at the last minute (owing to casualties) for Major Plummer to ride, did not approve of the band which had been placed closer than last year. He (Ginger) apparently decided not to pass the band, and in spite of great efforts by Major Plummer he proceeded to back into the leading Dismounted Company. The front rank, however—true to tradition—did not falter and maintained an excellent line ; Ginger was then persuaded to move on. This incident apparently caused much amusement, as at one time Ginger's hind legs were only six inches in front of an officer's sword which was being carried at the salute. I think everyone was waiting for the sword to be used with effect ; but in this case discretion was the better part of valour, as Ginger can use his hind legs. The No. 1 sets were much admired, and two photographs are enclosed showing them and the six-wheelers going past.



No. 1 Sets on the Jubilee Parade.

The commanding officer later held a parade of the unit ; and after presenting the Jubilee medals, he said that the Divisional commander had congratulated him on the turn out and marching of the unit, and that he himself was very pleased with the work put in and the good results which had been obtained.

The Six-Wheelers on the Jubilee Parade.

Jubilee Day passed off very quietly here. There were sports and tea for the children on the Garrison cricket ground in the afternoon. Each unit provided side shows, and C.Q.M.S. Paterson did a lively trade with electrified pennies in a bucket of water. In the evening some of the more energetic people climbed to the top of the Beacon Hill, where a bonfire was lighted. Salisbury, however, held greater attractions, and there celebrations on a large scale were held, including a torchlight procession to finish off the day.

On the 13th May we started what we believe is known as the " restaurant " system of messing. The idea was conceived some five months ago, when it was seen in operation by Colonel Penney during a visit to the Tank Corps at Lydd. Briefly it consists of: (a) providing tables and chairs to seat four ; (b) having two meat dishes and two sweets every day ; (c) allowing individuals to help themselves. The food is kept warm in special tins heated with hot water. It certainly makes the mess room more comfortable, and we hope that it will be a success.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Clewlow from Gibraltar on the 12th April. Signalmen Erby W., Stead W. and Savory E. from the Training Battalion. C.S.M. Wattley from A Corps Signals. L/Sergeant Jones from the Western Command Signal Company.

Departure.—L/Sergeant Humphrey as P.S. to the 43rd Divl Signals, T.A.

Education.—Congratulations to Drivers Morrison, Wilkins, Williams and Roberts, and Signalmen Brookes D. and Packman D., on obtaining the Army second class certificate of education.

Marriages.—Driver Williams (Egypt Signals) to Miss Dorothy Northway on the 2nd April. L/Cpl Clayton E. to Miss Elizabeth Edwards at Liverpool on the 20th April. Sigmn Giles to Miss Winifred Iris Procktor at Kennington on the 21st April. C.S.M. Wattley to Miss Mary Margaret Adnam at Hayling Island on the 22nd April. Sigmn Bunting to Miss Hilda Oliphant at Carlisle on the 22nd April.

Births.—To F/S/Sergeant and Mrs. Garnett a daughter, Mary Gertrude Regina, on the 21st April. To Sigmn and Mrs. Hudson a son, Terence James, on the 27th April.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on obtaining ranks as shown. L/Sergt Little V. to be Sergeant 19/3/35, and L/Sgt Ivison R. 1/4/35. Corpl Jones W. appointed L/Sergeant 13/3/35. To be Corporal—L/Corpl De Courcey T. 21/3/35, L/Corpl Richardson F. W. 29/3/35, and L/Corporals Chidgey E. and Cowe J. 1/4/35.

Sergeants Mess.

The principal items of interest since our last notes have been connected in one way and another with the Royal Silver Jubilee. The practice parades, which may have seemed a bore at the time, fully justified themselves on the occasion of the big parade. This was held at Dunch Hill, Tidworth, on the 9th May, and the message of congratulation we received from the G.O.C. Southern Command made us go quite red with pleasure and pride. Even Minnie, the mess cat, became front page news on Jubilee Day by presenting us with 'quins. No doubt, she will speak for herself in " Plain Tales."

Congratulations to R.S.M. Harrison T. and Sigmn Simpson on being presented with the Jubilee medal.

We were happy to entertain Mr. Drake, of Norton Motors, for a week in May. He came down in charge of the motor cycles to be used at the Tidworth Tattoo. What a mess member he would have made! Any time he cares to call in, he may be sure of a hearty welcome.

C.S.M. Wattley is now installed in No. 3 Company by day and the married quarters by night. We trust that he is going to like Bulford. Congratulations on (a) his marriage and (b) his posting to such a famous unit.

Sergeant Willie Lacey has been requested to repeat his startling performance for the Tidworth Tattoo, but he has declined very firmly and with expression. The trick consists of being kicked by a horse and staggering backwards into a large tin of oil, in which he sits not ungracefully. It should be added that for his first (and so far, only) performance he was wearing his best riding breeches. Mrs. Lacey hasn't stopped laughing yet ; but, then, she hasn't seen the bill for the new breeches!

Sergt Harry Ayres refused his breakfast last Sunday. What is this thing called love ?

The Temperance League here is now completely busted—and a good job, too.

Corporals Room.

The trend of events during the past week tempts me to pass a few remarks upon the Jubilee. I crave your indulgence.

Those of us who were unable to be present in London on the 6th May must have read the newspaper accounts of the amazing

demonstration of enthusiasm by the whole Empire. No one who listened either to the thanksgiving service from St. Paul's or His Majesty's speech could have failed to feel the warmth of homeliness, gratitude and fellow-feeling that pervaded the whole nation.

On Thursday 9th May the Divisional commander inspected the Tidworth and Bulford Garrisons at Tidworth. It was a dull and miserable day. Grey clouds hung in a threatening manner overhead, while a cold wind blew up from the north-east. Frozen stiff after the long march past, the parade was about to advance in review order when, at the first Royal Salute, the sun peeped through for just a fraction of a second. The dull light barely brightened, but the warmth was exhilarating. Now, I am not one to be superstitious or sentimental, but it seemed to me appropriate that at such a time the warmth should penetrate—a warmth symbolic of the King's great-heartedness and understanding of his Dominions and Empire.

Saturday 4th May saw us with an evening devoted to a smoker, to return the hospitality lately extended to us by our near neighbours the Tank Brigade Signals (late A.F.V.) Tidworth. An atmosphere of Jubilee was created by suitable decorations, and though our number was small owing to our Sections being away with their respective Brigades, a very pleasant evening was spent.

We much regret to announce that we are shortly losing Corpl Alf Freeman. Catterick is again lucky in securing such a live wire. Entertainments and social life in the mess have gained a recognition under his guiding hand seldom before seen in Bulford. Our best wishes go with you, Alf. We shall certainly miss you.

At a recent school children's treat I happened to bump up against the great Barleux. His excuse for his presence was that he was seeking inspiration among the younger generation. He found it! Yes, Ukann Larfe. C.E.B.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General Unit Notes.

The majority of the unit were lucky enough to be granted Easter leave, and came back full of vim and vigour and ready for training.

During Easter the Artists Rifles and the 44th H.C. Divl Signals were attached to the unit. We hope both units enjoyed their stay with us. The Artists Rifles were en route to Deal, but the 44th Divl Signals actually carried out training here. Exercises were held by them on the Saturday and Sunday, and they left us on Easter Monday. They had fine weather, and I think they fully enjoyed their stay.

The 4th Division signal exercise was held on the 1st and 2nd May, and was quite a test for the unit at such an early period in the training season. The exercise was directed by the G.O.C. 4th Division (Lieut.-General J. E. S. Brind, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) and also on the directing staff was the C.S.O. Eastern Command (Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.)

The inter-Company athletic meeting was held and provided a close finish. No. 2 Company were the winners with 66 points, followed by Nos. 1 and 3 Companies with 60 and 54 respectively.

On the 6th May a parade was held on the occasion of His Majesty's Jubilee. The unit, after inspection, marched past, the salute being taken by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday by all ranks.

The monthly meeting of the Wives Social Club took place on Thursday 9th May, and again this proved a very great success. After tea, whist and table tennis were played, the prize winners being Mrs. Boon (whist) and Mrs. Linder (table tennis).

No. 1 Company.

Having got over the Divisional signal exercise, the Company has commenced musketry. Whilst Nos. 2 and 3 Companies are at Hythe we are looking after the horses of the unit, but still find time to do a little pokey drill in the afternoons.

We are all looking forward to the vacation at Hythe, especially if the weather is decent, and hoping that the Company will maintain the high average reached last year. Don't forget that the August break is the best of the year.

Arrivals.—The arrivals this month have been many, both from Catterick and abroad. A hearty welcome is extended to all of them.

Departures.—Two old members of the Company have left us: Sergt Gale and L/Corpl Gillott. Both are at present on vocational courses, and we hope they will be fortunate in securing good jobs on their return to civilian life.

Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Holland on his appointment as paid Lance-Corporal. MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

The Company provided one Cable Section for the Divisional exercise on the 2nd May, under the command of Lt. H. C. Daniel.

Immediately after this exercise we commenced musketry and, following a week's preliminary training, proceeded to Hythe by march route. No doubt, the Company will welcome the change from stables for a week and (providing the weather is good) have an enjoyable stay at Hythe. It is too early yet to record the results of the shooting, but we hope that the number of first class shots this year will be higher than last.

Arrivals.—Lieut. C. C. Danby from the West African Frontier Force, and several other ranks from the S.T.C. and abroad.

Congratulations.—To the Company on winning the inter-Company athletic cup. It was a close contest up to the last event, but our brilliant performance in the mile team race enabled us to run out winners of the trophy.

To L/Corpl Powell on his appointment as paid L/Corporal. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

Now that the 4th Division exercise is over, the Company has been indulging in a different sort of exercise—or I should say exercises: muscle exercises Nos. 1, 2 and 3. We commenced musketry instruction on Tuesday 7th May, prior to coming to Hythe on Sunday the 12th inst. to fire our annual course. The Company marched to Hythe from Canterbury, being preceded on Friday by an advance party for the purpose of pitching tents, etc. The camp is quite good, the only drawback being that we have to march nearly two miles to the ranges.

A presentation of the King's Jubilee medals was held on the morning of the 11th May, the recipients being C.S.M. Pearce R. V. and Sigmn Sawyer G.—to both of whom we offer our congratulations.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Cpl Wilbraham H. on his recent promotion to that rank.

Arrival.—Sigmn Long W. arrived on the 9th May from the S.T.C. Catterick.

Moves.—K Section are departing on the 25th May for Salisbury Plain, where they are taking part in the 3rd Medium Brigade R.A. practice camp. THREECOY.

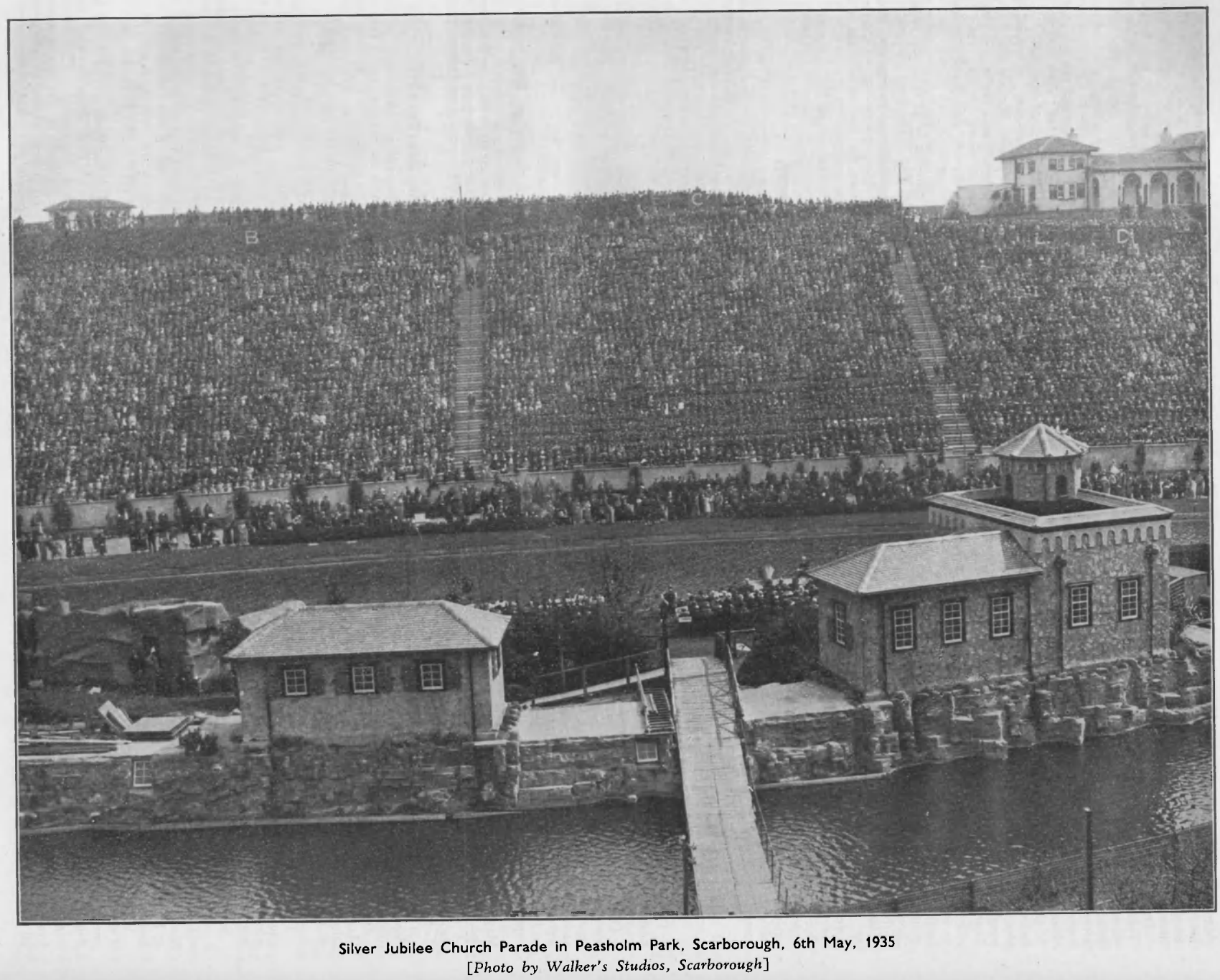
5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—In conjunction with the rest of the world, the 6th May was celebrated in Jubilee fashion at Scarborough. One of the chief assets was the glorious weather. Flags, bunting and patriotic signs were displayed in very prominent positions, and added considerably to the colours provided in the gardens in barracks.

The Latin quotation over No. 1 Company barrack block caused much speculation as to its English translation, and until the arrival of the unit draughtsman no one would have passed out as an interpreter.

No. 3 Company preferred to hide their patriotic light under a bushel. Instead of decorating the outside of the barrack rooms, the inside was concentrated upon. The walls of each room were decorated with a central picture of His Majesty broadcasting to his people. On the left and right were framed photographs of the two Colonels-Commandant of the Corps, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., and Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., respectively. Underneath was a photo of the Section occupying the barrack room.

A combined church parade in Peasholm Park was attended by the unit, the Coastguards, the British Red Cross Society, and members of the St. John Ambulance Association. The parade itself went off as well as could be desired, at the conclusion of which the commanding officer said a few words to mark the special occasion for which the parade was held. The service



Silver Jubilee Church Parade in Peasholm Park, Scarborough, 6th May, 1935
[*Photo by Walker's Studios, Scarborough*]

was very well organised and the broadcasting from St. Paul's Cathedral exceedingly clear. The accompanying photograph shows a portion of the 20,000 people present, with the members of the unit occupying a very central position.

Education.—To those who were successful at the recent examinations for first and second class certificates, we offer our hearty congratulations.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations are also offered to the following on their recent elevation. L/Corporal Warburton has ascended to the second rung of the ladder and is now addressed as Corporal ; whilst Signalmen Wathen W., Brown E. J., McConnell J., Pillow W. and Machin D. commenced their rise to fame, but hope in the very near future to dispense with the " U."

Trade Tests.—In this department, also, we have congratulations to offer, but we shall have to do it in bulk, names being too numerous to mention.

Marriages.—Business as usual. It is regretted that there are are only four " casualties " to report this month, but we do, however, steadily approach the 100 per cent. mark. The following must therefore suffice for the present. Sigmn Machin D. to Miss Marjorie Bland, 31/3/35. L/Corpl Morris J. C. to Miss May Fitzgerald, 20/4/35. Sigmn Voller W. to Miss Margaret Percival, 20/4/35. Sigmn Canham H. to Miss Nellie Silcock, 21/4/35.

Births.—To Sigmn Miller T. a son, John Edmund, 25/1/35. To Sigmn Matchett B. a son, Lenardo Marcello Andrew, 21/3/35. To Sigmn Holland R. a daughter, Patricia Ann, 27/3/35. To Sigmn Gatford J. a daughter, Charlotte Alice Agnes, 19/4/35.

Congratulations to all and sundry. For small mercies we are truly thankful. What I mean is that Army Forms A.22 and O.1834 are issued on an " as required " basis.

Women's Social Welfare.—The Women's Social Welfare has now closed down for the summer. At the final meeting some very useful hints on the covering of eiderdowns were given, and the lecture was greatly appreciated. Mrs. Wathen proved an easy winner in the various competitions held throughout the season and was presented with a Silver Jubilee spoon given by Mrs. Wemyss. In a few but well chosen words Mrs. Wemyss expressed the hope that the Welfare meetings would continue to be held in future years, and that the attendance would improve as the usefulness of the lectures became more widely known.

Arrivals and Departures.—To all arrivals is extended a hearty welcome. I take it that you all read the notes in this Journal, so there is no need to point to the pitfalls that beset you. Remember the words of Omaha Khartoum: " Beware of encircling sands, lest thou become engulfed " (but for " sands " read " hands "). Don't say you have not been warned.

To the departed we wish the best of luck, and especially to those who have gone into civilian life.

Humoresque.—After vainly endeavouring to establish communication by tele. 110 from the firing point to the butts, the saddler-cum-operator gave it up and reported as follows: " No, sir, nothing doing, but I can hear him winding."

Equally good is the story of the paste. The w.o. on firing point duty sent to his quarters for more paste for the targets. Like the paste, the message became mixed. On returning from lunch, the paste (Marmite) was found between bread, accompanied by a flask of coffee—by this time stone cold.

Enquiries.—Who purchased a postal order, despatched the counterfoil, and threw away the order ?

Society of Clod Pickers.—Advance information: an autumn horticultural show will probably be held on return from camp.

OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

Arrivals.—The glad hand of fellowship is extended to C.S.M. Herbert and L/Sergt Clevett on joining the unit, and to L/Sergt Rigden on his rise from the floor below. The same hand is, of course, extended to the families of the above new members. You are all exceedingly welcome, so make yourselves at home.

Departures.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the passing from No. 3 Company to detachment, Catterick, of one so dear to us: to wit, one Frankie. On his departure the number

Lance-Sergeant Mansfield with his Bride outside the Church.
[*Photo by Walker's Studios, Scarborough*]

of dining members dwindled by fifty per cent., so (like the ten little niggers) I suppose " soon there will be none." Things are looking very black indeed.

Marriages.—Only one to report this month. Still, what can you expect from a total of two ? I am sure they are doing their best. LANCE-SERGEANT MANSFIELD (in block letters, please, Mr. Editor) to Miss Dora May Bowland at St. Saviour's Church, Scarborough, on the 4th May. You thought you would keep it dark, didn't you, Frankie ? I suppose you received some good advice on the occasion of your wedding, so we will leave it there, except for one little word to Mrs. Mansfield: Never send him shopping for *bloaters*. Best of luck to you both.

Mrs. Mansfield smiles and cuts her Wedding Cake.
[*Photo by Walker's Studios, Scarborough*]

Social.—On the 10th May a very enjoyable dance was held in the gymnasium, which was very tastefully decorated for the occasion with palms and various sports trophies belonging to the unit. The attendance was not so great as to cause undue congestion on the dance floor, but all appeared to be having a jolly good fling. Sports Week is surely a suitable time for another.

Stop Press.—Hearty congratulations and the best of wishes to C.Q.M.S. Brandon and family on their attachment to the 52nd Lowland Divl Signals, T.A. (and to Glasgow, of all places, Jock!) Surely, this move can be called home from home. However, we wish you the best of luck. Keep an eye on our other lost sheep, Nat Gould, who is, we presume, still up there in the land of twisted music. OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

We have read of the fine show by the Corps at the Royal Tournament, and congratulate the members of the team on what, from the Press account, is a brilliant spectacle.

We welcome Lieut. Aldridge on his return from leave.

The Officer i/c Records has re-shuffled the Company to a certain extent, and some of the personnel whom we regarded as more or less permanent fixtures have been posted to units in England. It is usual to say " Our loss, etc.," but we are very sorry to lose those old faces.

The Trade Board has concluded with some very good results.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate Corporals Baker G. and Maguire, and L/Corporals Watson G., Davidson J. and Ryan J., on gaining their present rank.

Postings.—Corporal Baker and family to A Corps Signals, Aldershot. L/Corpl Clarke to the Depot Battalion, Catterick. Sigmn Gattrell to the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. L/Corporal Raine has received orders for the 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot, and is leaving us shortly. We wish them all good luck.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sigmn Jones H. from Shanghai Signal Section. Corporals Shilletto and Wardley are expected to join us within the next few weeks.

Inter-Section Moves.—L/Corporal Watson G. from Belfast to Dunree. L/Cpl Davidson J. from Baronscourt to Omagh. Sigmn Watts from Belfast to Baronscourt. L/Corpl Raine and Sigmn Hutchison from Omagh to Belfast. Sigmn Eccles from Belfast to Omagh. Sigmn Inskip from Belfast to Dunree. Sigmn Arnold from Dunree to Belfast.

Sport.—The cricket season opened with splendid weather. The unit has fielded a fair eleven, and we are hoping for some good results from our fixtures. The opening match v. the G.P.O. was lost by thirteen runs. L/Corpl Thomson L. J. is once more captain of the team and is very optimistic in his outlook.

Tennis has also been enthusiastically taken up, and we have discovered hidden talent in our midst.

Round the Out-Stations.—Londonderry. Everyone seems very smug at this station. Corpl Salmon appears to be baffled over C.R.A. Sigmn Seymour, who has been on the station for some time, is finishing with the Service, and we hear he is going to take a vocational course.

Ballykinler. The old wireless station has been moved, and the present one is voted the best in N.I.D. L/Corpl Swift H. seems to thrive on the air from the mountains of Mourne. We congratulate Sigmn Maddox on gaining his B.ii.

Armagh. This is a very quiet place, for news only reaches us when one of the staff is about to be married. I am firmly convinced that Cupid has his headquarters in Armagh. News has reached us that Sigmn Whilding is now a proud father, the new arrival being one of the fair sex. Congratulations!

Omagh. The fitter (Sigmn Gattrell) having left, one wonders how the recruits will manage to get their badges soldered. No one ever seems to stay long in this place. Fate seems unkind, for it is one of our best stations. We hope the new i/c (L/Corpl Davidson) will enjoy the country surroundings.

Baronscourt. L/Corpl Turner and Sigmn Watts are the staff on this station. We do hear from them occasionally. What have you done, Spud? To Dodo: Sorry the £10 went to a Jew. Mim.

Dunree (S.I.D.). The outlaws of the Company. The n.c.o. i/c (we refer to Sergt Toogood) seems to have settled down to the quiet life, and we hope he still likes it. The usual old launch has arrived for the annual shoot, so the climb to the upper station will have to be made regularly—and those new D.A.G.s are . . . . . heavy. There is a tophole black and white artist in the Section, but he is very modest. What about submitting a design of the McGrory estate, J. C. ? The members of the Section want to know what is the attraction in Derry that causes the old stagers to make frequent trips there every week-end. Cos, I'm telling you.

Lenan—the little brother of Dunree. L/Corpl Dickenson is i/c there, and we hear that he is very concerned over N.A.A.F.I. rebates and spends his time in sampling recipes. The fitter (Sigmn Worboys) came in for the Trade Board, and we enjoyed this man from the wide open spaces. We wonder if Sutton has completed his new novel?

Magilligan. On the shores of Lough Foyle, and only a summer W/T station. Signalmen McCormack and Lawley are doing good work there, and the lineman (Sigmn Dowe) adds the symphony to the little detachment. Well, you know what to do if the set goes " dis."

Lost.—2318436 Sigmn McCarthy E. F. (Paddy). Last heard of in Bulford in 1933. Will anyone who has any information to offer please inform Corpl Maguire of this unit?

Conclusion.—Goodbye until next month. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

[Received too late for the May issue]

April 1935.

Kindly note our change of location.

It is anticipated that two books will shortly be published. The first, " Through Las Belas on a Push Bike," has co-authors. The second, " From Sindhi to Pindi," could have been written by anybody, but he who thought of the title deserves the job. The dates of publication being a bit uncertain, the authors are remaining anonymous for the time being. They have, however, promised us serial rights. Not much is yet known of the first yarn, but from all accounts it should prove a thriller. Regarding the second, the whole unit is concerned, and we're hoping that he can paint a graphic picture of A Corps leaving the sun of Karachi for the cold and rains of Rawalpindi.

Shifting the unit proved a pretty tough job, but that is the sort of thing we thrive on ; and to show how well it has been done, only the orderly room copy of Passage Regs. (India) appears to have been lost—and that is counterbalanced by the fact that the laying of carpets is well in hand.

Pindi does not seem too bad a place, although L/Sergt Stanley will have to answer for one or two of the statements he made in its favour. The gigolos have lost no time in making a hit at Lintott's. Three members of the Junior N.C.O.s Mess also know their way around pretty well. Corpl Eason, in addition, attained a certain amount of notoriety—not from anything he did, though.

The fact remains that Karachi was sorry to lose us. I have an idea that there were several who were sorry to lose Karachi. We parted with R.Q.M.S. Trapmore, Sergt Blunden, and Corporals Turner and Wood. To the R.Q. we would say " You should see the wicket on the Pindi Club ground—all grass!"

Quite a lot of people have joined us—rather too many to mention, but we welcome them.

The 1st Div. soon obliged us with some sport, and they will forgive us for mentioning that we managed to beat them at football and hockey—both very close affairs. We rather surprised ourselves, but it has given us confidence that we shall be ab'e to more than hold our own in the much wider sphere of sport that we have here. In Karachi, of course, British units were very limited, and therefore we were modest regarding our prowess.

Having been here but a week, the settling down process is not quite complete ; and if anybody thinks these notes are too short, they'll have to be content with the assurance that by next month we hope to be able to report that we feel as if we had spent a lifetime in Rawalpindi. At all events, we may be able to say that it has stopped raining.

A last memory of Karachi was our winning both the senior and the junior billiards cups. Having won these so many times, we trust that B Corps will continue to decorate the Sergeants Mess sideboard with them.

Agony.—Tommy Cook, B Corps: To whom did you give Smokey ? S.W.B.

Later.

Several things have happened, and many people have qualified for the award of the monthly biscuit (if one existed), but by popular vote a mythical one is awarded to Corpl Kerr. We can't tell you what happened ; it is possibly within the compass of the Official Secrets Act. Pat Mills ran him very close. He's gone on leave—to fight for charity!

The families made A Corps history in departing for Uppa Topa. Vic Cole wished them Godspeed. This departure to the hills necessitated the orderly room sergeant taking a couple of days off. This may not sound very startling, but I knew he wouldn't like me to pass by his first two days holiday in India without some comment,

Much medal beer is knocking about. To a certain extent Sergt Lombard W. and L/Sergeants Cole V. and Brown A. can control the dispensing of the beverage consequent on the award of their L.S. and G.C.s, but opinion seems to be fairly definite that those who get the Jubilee award have to provide drinks for all who don't. Disappointed expectants may find consolation in this.

We seem fairly busy these days. The process of settling down in our new station is not yet complete. Courses at Upper Topa, the separation of Unit Headquarters, and the Jubilee parade keep us going. No. 1 Company are punching up their hissing ; Sergt Clark has definite designs on the Buffalo and Durand tournaments ; and the Band opens with a Topa tour.

In addition, the repatriation roll has made its appearance and caused the usual amount of speculation. The well-informed on the roll estimate that the first boat will sail in June.

Our attached members of the Zhob Signal Section rejoined us this month. Sigmn Scantlebury is a stranger to most of the unit. Signalmen Hill and Byrne were dimly remembered, but the late n.c.o. i/c lines at Fort Sandeman is no stranger. He and Joe Lister have since started to purchase the billiards table. Their Marathon match is being continued, and judging from what I've seen Charles seems to have lost some of that deft touch ; but no doubt it will come back to him. The pair's interest now extends to ping-pong. Here Joe displays the better court craft, but Charles gives the ball a rough time. S.W.B.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

The Troop has recently returned from a two weeks camp at Jahangira, a little village situated on the north bank of the Kabul river between Nowshera and Attock, and about five miles from the latter place. Of course, this camp had been expected for a long time, especially as the horses in the Brigade had refused to catch flu. Much work was done, and some good schemes were carried out for which, fortunately, the weather remained fine. Our animals are now having a well earned rest after their very strenuous time. Some interesting camp snaps are shown with these notes.

In the Risalpur Hunt meeting at the grass farm, a team of three was entered by this unit for the B.O.R. paper chase and in the final team placings we were fourth. Those two old stagers Charlie and Minden ran well and finished up fifth and seventh respectively. Our third horse was running well but unfortunately was handicapped by the rider's stirrup leather giving way, thus causing him to finish further down the field than he would otherwise have done.

All victims of Ek Ghora should be glad to know that at last he has taken a long ride aided by a .455 revolver. In the mangrabbing stakes he was an odds-on chance and rarely failed.

Other sports such as hockey, football and cricket have been held up lately on account of rain. Two important games were, however, decided. In the first round of the Victory hockey cup our

Swabbi Camp

Nassah Tahalo

team met and decisively beat the 11th Squadron R.A.F. by six goals, which clearly indicates that we have a very useful combination. If this trophy can be won by us, it will complete a very good double now that our I.O.R. team has won the Cooke and Kelvey Brigade hockey shield as a result of beating the 31st Field Troop Bengal Sappers and Miners in the final by 2—1 after a strenuous replay.

Technical training is in full swing, and a party is being prepared for the first operator signals course at Upper Topa.

Air Co-operation at Marsan Dherri

This year our married families are going to Cliffden instead of Khanspur for the hot weather period. Which of the two is the better station ? We shall let you know at the end of the season.

We have had quite a change in the personnel of the Troop during the past few weeks, and we are pleased to welcome T.S.M. Taylor and family from A Corps Signals, Karachi ; Corpl Norman from the Zhob Signal Section; Sigmn Baldry from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi ; and Signalmen White, Gully and Mannering from the United Kingdom. May they all have a pleasant stay in the Troop.

Halted in a chalky and dusty Canal

Departures have been numerous, and our good wishes accompany Signalmen Perkins, Few, Nock, Jelly, Boston, Cassidy, Rudkin and Stewart, who have returned home for transfer to the Army Reserve, discharge or vocational courses, and the home establishment.

Temporary losses are Sergeant Madeley and family, L/Sergeant Longhurst, Corpl Nuttall and L/Corpl Bale, all of whom we hope are enjoying a long awaited Blighty leave.

Jahangira Camp

Agony.—Does a certain signalman still sing the famous camp song " Drifting down the Shalimar," and does he know what a pani ghari is ? Was Freda offended at being mistaken for a gelding ?

In conclusion, anybody who wants to know something about the Troop, or wishes to offer some interesting news, should drop a line to Risi. CORPORAL ANDREWS.

A Safe (?) Smoke in the Danger Zone

Sergeants Mess.

We extend the glad hand and welcome T.S.M. Taylor and his family on their arrival from Blighty, and hope they will enjoy their stay in Risalpur.

On Sunday last the annual Mess shoot was held, the cup being won by Sergt Asbestos Shaw. This is the second cup won by him this year, he having previously " pakra " the tennis (Willie, take note). His only ambition now is to " pull " the billiard cup in a tournament now being run, which will make him Victor la Mess champ. The wooden spoonist in the shoot was Shoey Townley, who really was a fraud, for in a shoot-off after the conclusion of the competition he came out on top.

An M.E.S. fixture, i.e. Sergt Bluff Peters, has at last received his marching orders to A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. He has been with the Troop since 1921, when he was transferred from the 16th Lancers, and no doubt he has seen many changes behind the " Q " barrier. He hands over the honour of oldest Troopite to Sergt Hopkins, whose only grievance is that the Napi has twice as much service in the Troop as Polly Three Times. We

wish Sergt Peters the best of luck in his new station and hope he will like it " up the bumps " after his numerous summers on the Plains.

We hope Sergt Madeley and family and Sergt Longhurst are enjoying their spell of Blighty leave. Don't forget the (?) rock.

Corporals Mess.

Only one item of interest has taken place recently. A dart team was entered in the Brigade dart competition for Corporals Messes, but we were unfortunately knocked out in the first round by I Battery R.H.A. by 5—3 games.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Arrivals.—Major E. P. C. Collin ; Sergeants Blower J. and Smith W. from 1st Indian Divl Signals ; and Sigmn Wright B. from B Corps Signals.

Departures.—Sergeants Powles A. and Wyeth J. to 1st Indian Divl Signals ; Sigmn Jenkins W. to B Corps Signals.

B Corps Signals W/T Detachment to their parent unit. (As no flags were available, we turned out and waved our I.G.S. medal ribbons in a fond farewell!) Through the medium of this Journal, however, we would like to thank B Corps for their assistance in the past and for setting up such a good sporting record in the Northern Command. The best of luck to you all.

General.—At the time of writing the unit is largely employed in the Loe Agra operations, with the result that almost everyone is working overtime and all training programmes are disorganised. Still, more honours for the Unit History.

Congratulations.—To L/Sergeant Stockton F. on his recent appointment.

Books Worth Reading.—" The Shipbuilders " (George Blake); " Second Officer " (Taffrail) ; "A Question of Proof " (Nicholas Blake) ; " Warriors at Ease " and " Warriors Still at Ease " (A.A.—Anthony Armstrong).

Last Word.—As there are notes from Chitral this month, I'd better close before this unit fills the Journal. MIIM.

W/T Detachment, Drosh, Chitral.

Calling from one of the Empire's far-flung outposts!

Personnel.—Sergt Sibley T., Corpl Frey N., Sigmn Brett H., Sigmn King E., Sigmn Keigher J. F. P. (just finished pen-pushing!), Sigmn Semple J. (from the caves and haggis).

Arrivals.—One shot-gun, 12 bore, from S.S.O.

Departures.—Thirteen pi-hards in three days.

Musketry.—The undermentioned passed with flying colours. Sigmn Keigher, five pi-hards, five shots. Corporal Frey (the one and only gormandiser!) three pies, three shots. Sigmn Brett (official dog-shooter), five pi-hards, five shots. Failures—Sergt Sibley and Sigmn King, not exercised. Sigmn Semple took a snorter bead on the dudh-wallah's cootah and was just going to take second aim, but—" No! you do it, Tich." Maybe he was thinking all the time of his Jenny.

Drosh Health and Strength and Nudist Society.—Members: S/Lgr Sibley, Lgr Frey (br-r-r-r-r! close that —— window), Lgr Semple (would be o.k. but he must ramble about Jenny when doing hand-springs), Lgr King (expert at pushing back bedclothes at 6 a.m. and pulling back at 6.5 a.m.), Lgr Keigher (excels as a model for magazine covers and in yodelling like a Chitral mountaineer), Lgr Brett (as for Lgr Keigher, but add " for magazine pictures and postcards ").

Heart-Break Corner.—Sigmn King E. (Ochre) desires loving epistles from one Sigmn Moreton, whereabouts unknown.

Peshawar District Signal Rugby Team, 1934-35.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—Sigmn Dologhan J., Corpl Berriff C., Signalmen Jenkins W. and Murrell F., Cpl Whitefield C., Sigmn Griffiths A., Corporal Brassfield V.

Sitting—Signalmen Heighton A., Griffiths G. and Chadderton W., Lieut. W. A. Purser, Lieut. A. D. Molloy (Australian Staff Corps), Sigmn Walsh H.

In front—L/Corpl Milligan A. and Sigmn Birkett W.

Sigmn Semple (old sweat) would like to hear from Thomson and Sutherland of the haggis species, last heard of as digging in the sand at Scarborough.

Sigmn Brett H. wants news of his big fat Momma (i.e. Nappi, i.e. Sigmn Barber W.) believed to be scrounging with the Guards at Aldershot.

Entertainments.—Our second-in-command is speaking to a Chitrali (very slowly): " I want some eggs—some nice big ones—mallum. Teek hai ?" The answer he gets is a vacant stare from the bania-wallah, and then he says " The. . . . blighter doesn't understand his own language."

Nudist Club.—Regulations and etiquette forbid me to give a detailed explanation. President, Sigmn Brett H. ; hon. secretary, "MiiM" of Signals, Peshdist. Sussex papers and Haggis Gazettes, please copy.

Finis.—Salaams to all, and many beerios. MiiM THE SECOND.

P.S.—Are *these* your notes, Tich ? MiiM.

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Headquarters Section.

Sunday 5th May.

Signals Week, Northern Command.—Early in March we sent a party of forty-four British and Indian ranks to Rawalpindi, to take part in Northern Command Signals Week. They are now with us again, but I regret to say that they have brought no cups with them. However, we were almost winners in two events, everybody doing their best. We take this opportunity of thanking the 1st Indian Divl Signals, and Lieut. Gardner in particular, for the efficient manner in which the Week was organised.

In the football we lost to B Corps, after playing extra time. In the British hockey final we lost to the 1st Indian Divl Signals by the only goal scored. We hope to be successful next year.

We proved victorious against Peshawar District in the first round of the tennis by 70—29 games, entering the final by beating the 1st Indian Divl Signals by 57—42 games. B Corps, however, were our betters in the final, beating us by 50—49 games. During this match, the excitement was intense when the result depended upon a game that had already reached deuce.

In the hockey we eventually lost to Peshawar by 1—3 goals, having drawn with them in the earlier game. The shock tactics of the Sikhs and P.M.s were rather too much for our Madrassis.

In the officers jumping Lieut. Hoblyn's horse was unfortunately lame and he had to scratch. One of our horses was lamed on the way down, and the remainder seemed to be put off by the crowd, doing their best to have the jumps " written off."

Considering the difficulties with which we have to contend, I think we acquitted ourselves creditably, and hope for better results next year.

Movements.—The Section left on the 27th March for Razmak, and are now comfortably settled. Training is in progress, and class iii. operators are hoping to go up one. Work hard, and there is no reason why you should not all get it.

Postings.—A term causing quite a stir in Central India at the moment. Sergeants Jones and Keegan have left us for Jubbulpore, and Sergt Marchant has arrived from that place. In both your new stations, may your stay be happy.

Scribes.—The regular scribe having gone to the khuds, this will have to suffice until next month. TERMITE.

Bannu Signal Section.

Introduction.—Have you heard that one about the half-nelson? No! Well, I suppose I had better not repeat it. The last time I told it, I had to laugh myself in order to see the point. However, to carry on the good work and record the doings and misdoings of our famous Section during the last month, I will continue.

General.—The main item of news deals with the departure of three more leading lights from our happy band: Signalmen Beattie, Butterworth and Jackson. They will all be missed ; and we shall be wondering if Chesty intends to stay out late in future, and if the night lights will be too bright for Jock after having spent so long on the Frontier. Jacko, we know, will soon be settled. Nuff sed. We wish them all the very best in their new spheres.

We welcome to the Section L/Sergt Butler and Sigmn Sherard —both very cheerful, handsome fellows!—and we hope their stay will be of long duration. Someone was heard to say that Lofty was talking about a trip to Deolali. What was that about Twilsk?

Copyrights: Stealing of.—I believe something was said a while ago about " Brighter D.I.K."—and why not ? The idea caught on here in a different way. Now, a new arrival to the Section would at once be struck by the show of brightness: Boards to the right, boards to the left, hollered and blazed—so that it is impossible to lose yourself in the Signal lines at Bannu.

Considerable agitation was caused as to which was the plinth and which the plaque. In the end, after a pile of dictionaries had been perused, it was decided to call it the Section board. It is to be regretted that the Section photographer failed to realise the honour he would have won if only he had taken one solitary snap.

Work (?)—Another column has been completed, and still we hear about it! Of eight days duration, in splendid weather, it was a great success and everyone returned looking sun-bronzed and healthy if more than a trifle dusty. Owing to a number of the lads being away at D.I.Khan on sports training, our strength was rather weak, so we called on Headquarters for reinforcements. We were very pleased to see a number of old faces again, and to welcome to the district a few new ones. We sincerely hope they enjoyed their short stay, and are sorry we could not arrange for the local cinema to have a super-attraction showing.

Future Events.—Signs of the hot summer to come can now be seen in the shape of clean white fans and glaring sunny days. Old stagers of Bannu Signal Section know what all these preparations portend, and those of you who are sitting at home in cosy easy chairs, sucking your iced drinks through a straw, are asked to tender your sympathies. All right! we know you are gloating over your foaming tankards.

Wit, or ? ?—Certain rumours have been afloat of late to the effect that our Section clerk has developed " closeness of the mince pies." Some say he is looking for his lost files ; others, that he is still looking for a hockey team who failed to turn up. He secretly confided in me the other day, and said he was rather worried as to how he would look when wearing glasses. He hopes to be as good-looking as that famous begoggled film star. Personally, I thought about Billy Bunter of my old school days.

Sport.—Owing to our depleted strength, sport has been rather lax during the month. Five of our star players are away at D.I.Khan, preparing to represent the District in Signals Week at Rawalpindi. Consequently, we (the remainder) have been afraid to turn out an eleven of any description. " Will ye no cum back agin ?"

These Indians.—The following is an extract from a testimonial to a bearer: " I can thoroughly recommend the bearer of this to anyone not in need of a bearer. . . ." Well, work it out for yourself.

More Things We Should Like to Know.—Who does want the unit property book ? Who is afraid of wearing a Jubilee medal, for fear no one will see the wearer behind the gong ?

And so for the present, cheerio. BE-EF.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

[*Received too late for the May issue*]

One is beginning to doubt whether a month consists of thirty days or thirty minutes, for it seems as if the pen has scarcely been put down ere it must be raised again to continue the story.

This month's bill o' fare has been as full as ever, but with more spectacular results, for big things have been happening which have kept us all busy and brought honour and reward for our labours.

Though we have had warm spells, Kohat has smiled on us all and given us grand weather even until now in early April, as I write, when spasmodic raining for four days has postponed a Station tennis tournament between the N.C.O.s Messes, forced the " sights upright " merchants in to the shelter of the verandahs, and made the camp like a quagmire, but—kept things gloriously cool! Every shelf and table bears a profusion of flowers in colourful array, and our village is fragrant with posy perfumes which seem to be lingering to say good-bye to the families who leave very shortly for the hills.

The early part of the month called our attention to Signals Week, when we had to choose and train a party of B.O.R.s and

I.O.R.s to send as our representatives to Rawalpindi. Alas! the cups were too deeply rooted in the soil and systems of the home units at Rawalpindi for us to dislodge them, with the exception of the officers' jumping competition, the cup for which was retained for the unit by Lieut. E. D. Good. Incidentally, this makes the second success with officers' chargers recently, for in a point-to-point race held near Kohat a few weeks ago Major B. G. Rowley won the officers' charger (heavy weight) stakes.

We entered teams for tennis, football, B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s hockey, cross-country, and mounted jumping. These all did comparatively well, but not well enough for the laurels, and so we finished up third, with the 1st Indian Divl Signals first and B Corps Signals second. We were gratified in gaining first place amongst the out-station units, and wish to thank the 1st Indian Divl Signals for their hospitality and arrangements during the week.

Three days after our return from Rawalpindi we were inspected by the Signal Officer-in-Chief, who honoured us with his first visit to Kohat. We trust he was favourably impressed with us, with our lines, and with our work.

Our Douglas motor cycles became Triumphs on the annual inspection of the T.I.M.T., who gave us an excellent report on all vehicles—which we hope will continue ad infinitum.

The unit athletic meeting in connection with the Murray cup was held in two instalments of running and field events. These proved interesting, and profitable as far as points are concerned for the Section at the bottom of the alphabetical roll of the unit. This item in the programme established K Section as the winners of the Murray cup for the year 1934/35. "We are the Kurram boys. . . . . ."

An excellent concert, hastily arranged after Pindi Week, was capably produced by Lieutenants Barker and Finney on the 5th April in the S. and D. Club. The proceeds were to be devoted to renovating the burnt-out stage in the dining hall. Some of the old artistes and many new ones put in a lot of hard work and original ideas to make up a very pleasing programme. Suffice it to say that people had to be turned away from a full house, and when the concert ended smiling faces showed the general appreciation of the show. Incidentally, Ali Baba's camel (Q.M.'s sacking and G.I. wire) was resuscitated and served up with new frillings and innards, and proved a source of endless amusement as of yore.

Added to the above excitement, we have been honourably involved in the Jamasjee cricket cup, of which a full account appears in our Sports Notes.

Other thrills (?) of the month include musketry instruction, the gas chamber, educational examinations, and an n.c.o.s ride, concerning which the Stock Exchange need not let falling rice put them in a paddy.

Lieut. C. H. Barker has left for eight months leave in U.K., after which he moves to Meerut on permanent transfer. His help to us has been invaluable, particularly as the pianist of our jazz band and concert parties, and his abilities in this direction should add charm and technique to the scales at Meerut. We wish you a happy leave, sir.

Sigmn Drummond has also gone to Meerut. Scots wha hae! Sergt Ivey J. E. T. left on the 20th March to embark on a Jap liner at Colombo for special leave in U.K.

We welcome the family of Sergt Turner A. J., who arrived per the s.s. *California*. We also welcome the increase in the pay roll consequent on Sgt Springett's promotion to that rank. Hurrah! the promotion roster does wriggle occasionally.

We wonder whether a lance-corporal who recently joined us from home was thrilled at escorting an inspecting hospital matron along the Frontier? Although it was a Mitchell-in the car, the tyres were Goodyear and gave no trouble.

The Army still tackles a march on its stomach, and we have tried to improve the B.O.R.s messing problems by importing a Parris chef—with good results!

And so, with the appearance in orders of the preliminary allotments of hill quarters and the handing in of E.I. clothing, with a scouring of ice-boxes and the bringing to light of all our drill clothing, we await the advent of summer, which we feel sure that April will usher in.

Later.

We thought that "April showers" was a weather slogan peculiar only to the green shores of England, but we have found ourselves entirely wrong as this month has proceeded. The spasmodic raining for four days referred to in our last month's notes continued on for twelve days or so—and then continued on. Such weather has not been seen for years, even by Skitts and the dhobi—such weather that the authorities were strangely moved to allow the hill moves to be delayed for three weeks or so. That in itself is ample indication of what an upheaval those few raindrops caused. Anyway, we were glad—as we always are when we are not divorced from the feminine gender in our lives—for it meant that it *was* some use to put on a tennis at home or a dance.

That sounds alright as a start for these notes, but on the other hand the weather has kept everything very quiet all round, which is bad for the finishing of them.

Easter has passed, and for this we had glorious weather. This enticed parties to make up trips to the Khyber Pass, Peshawar, Raisin, or Dhoda, either for sight-seeing and a good drive or for a picnic and swimming.

Major and Mrs. B. G. Rowley left for leave in U.K. on the 17th April, and we hope they will enjoy to the full all that England can offer, especially in this year of Jubilee.

We welcomed Sergt Brown G. F. and his family from Poona, and although the family has now trotted away to the heights and Sergt Brown has been stung for A/C.S.M., we are sure that his stay will be an enjoyable one.

On the 25th April, to the accompaniment of much waving of hands, rolling of luggage along platforms, and bundling in and out of carriages, the families left us for their various hill stations: some for Topa and others for Cliffden. And so commences once again the daily letter, the weekly money order, and all the other adjuncts of a happy hill season. "And may it be the last!" sez 'e, sez I, sez we.

More than half the Company have fired their annual musketry, and the scores reveal some good shooting. So far, Sigmn Greenwood with 62 has to be beaten. This is "going some," and he looks set to hold the position of dog shooter for the ensuing year.

Some of those available have fired with the revolver as well, and we must congratulate Lieut. E. D. Good on getting a possible at this. As the nigger said of the busted drum, "Can you beat it?" (and the Q.M. lost a bottle of beer).

Three of our men have had a rough time in hospital with typhoid fever, and at the time of writing they are still under the doctor's care: Signalmen Jones E. H., Scott and Johnson J. Sigmn Kercher, who has not been long in the country, has had a bad time with appendicitis, which brought other complications in its train: he, too, sleeps under his temperature chart.

L/Corporal Angus D. T. was raised to those staggering heights during the month—very, very mortifying. We offer our sincere congratulations.

We are sorry (together with all others in the Command, I guess) to say good-bye to our C.S.O., Colonel FitzA. Drayson, who sent us a farewell letter early in April. We wish him all that is best in his new sphere, wherever that may be.

As I write, the spirit of Jubilee is upon Kohat. The bazaar is gaily decked with paper streamers and archways, messages of congratulation gaily fly across the roadways, and the native townsfolk are obviously en fete. A programme of food and medal distributions, firework displays, Khattak dancing and a Tattoo has been arranged, so that all may share in the fun; and as one reads the Jubilee papers and advertisements, etc., one cannot but realise the vast ramifications of our great Empire, when even Kohat can become gay and festive as the spirit of Jubilee travels abroad. This festive spirit will surely find its way into the McEwan palace of the Sergeants Mess to-day, for C.S.M. Spracklen and Sergeant Murphy G. are to receive their L.S. and G.C. medals on the Jubilee parade. Congratulations.

Shsh! We have discovered another Big Dig.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Sunday 14th April.

Since we wrote last month, a lot of water has flowed under London Bridge and many events have taken place in the history of B Corps Signals. Firstly, the long-talked-of migration of the unit to Karachi has taken place, and naturally this was preceded by various farewell functions during Signals Week.

We lost to the 1st Indian Divl Signals in competing for the much-coveted Drayson cup by the narrow margin of nine points. We hope our successors will succeed where we failed.

On the night of the 13th March a very enjoyable function was held in the sergeants mess to welcome the out-station personnel of the Command who had come for this special week, and also as a farewell function to B Corps Signals on their departure from the Command. The officers of both units, and those from outside Signal units and formations stationed in Rawalpindi, were present. We were very pleased to see our genial C.S.O., Colonel FitzA. Drayson, after his recent serious illness, and we wish him the best of health and good luck on his transfer to the land of milk and honey. It's a long way from Sarwekai to Cairo, sir.

Prior to our departure the C.S.O. said some nice things to the unit, assembled in the B.O.R.s dining hall, which made our chests expand. It is with regret that we have severed our connection with the Northern Command, where the unit has done some splendid work and where we were held in such high esteem by all with whom we came in contact—a proof of which is contained in the Army Commander's farewell.

Reminiscences ot a Train Journey from Rawalpindi to Karachi.—Having said all our farewells and shed tears in abundance on the platform of Rawalpindi station, we entrained at 09.15 hours on Friday 29th March and took our departure from the "Land of the Five Rivers," and gradually wended our way westward to the sea.

After several hours journey we stopped in the middle of "somewhere in the Punjab," to discover that "that man had forgot to put bolt down" in the luggage van and that part of the worldly possessions of our Jemadar-Adjutant was lying on the railway line between Pindi and somewhere. On retrieving the aforementioned goods we again started, and after several minor halts we arrived at Lahore Cantonment station, where the Royal Scots—hearing of our arrival—gave us a genuine Scottish reception for which we were very thankful. You should have seen the glowing countenances of our "sons of the heather" on hearing of their compatriots' rendezvous. It was reminiscent of a Jewish meeting on the banks of the Jordan.

Each evening we halted for a period of about three hours to stretch our legs, and the break was much appreciated by mother, who handed baby to father "to walk up and down for a few minutes whilst I tidy up."

At 12.15 hours on All Fools Day (1st April) we steamed into Karachi Cantonment sidings to be welcomed by a proper outburst of old King Sol and the cheerful countenances of our advance staff, who bustled us off to camp.

Departures.—It is with regret that we must chronicle the transfer of our worthy Quartermaster, Major A. Newton, O.B.E., to A Corps Signals. He was so long with this unit that he was best known as Daddy, which he proved himself to all and sundry. Good luck to you, sir, in your new unit. Our loss is their gain.

To Lieutenants Hay and Blaker and the personnel whom we have left behind, we tender our very best wishes. "Scots wha hae." Keep the flag flying.

Arrivals.—We tender a hearty welcome to Lieut. Bower, Lieut. Treseder, Lieut. (Q.M.) Capel and R.Q.M.S. (A/R.S.M.) Trapmore to our unit, and hope their stay will be a long and happy one.

Some of us remember Mr. Capel in those good old days of the S.T.C. in Jubbulpore when his friendly attitude to the new arrivals from Blighty meant so much in the land of puggled pawnee.

To some of us the memories of Mr. Trapmore go many years back (before you came up). As an old "K" boy, some of us remember him in Ireland and later on in Crowborough, where his genial manner and helpful assurance earned for him the respect of all. In the boxing arena he was once a person to be respected by an opponent and was our heavy-weight champion for quite a period. Who put the gum on the superintendent's chair, sir?

Our new C.O., Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., has arrived. We tender him our very best wishes, and offer him a very hearty welcome to our unit. We hope his stay with us will be as long and as happy as his previous tour in Karachi.

To Sergeants Sneddon, Harper and Brazier we offer the friendly mit. We hope they will be happy in their new surroundings.

Congratulations to Mr. Whistler on his well-merited win in the handy hunters class during Signals Week.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

[Received too late for the May issue]

Monday 25th March.

Headquarters Company.

General.—Catching sight of the unit Part II. Orders the other day, I found that the notes for THE WIRE were to be in yesterday; but as I always seem to be somewhat pushed in nearly everything I do (sounds rather Irish, that piece) I am writing them to-day.

After three lovely days of real Quetta sunshine, the powers that be decided that we were to turn out, showing our knees and hairy chests: that is to say, we were to wear summer dress. Well, we did. And immediately after those three lovely days of sunshine, the weather took a turn for the worse and it not only started to rain, but the sun went on strike. Quetta took on its best winter bearing, and everything in the garden was not at all lovely. To-day, all the lads of the village are blue with the cold and fires have been relit in all the bungalows; serge clothing came into its own again; and now we are all feeling better and (I need not say) much warmer. That just goes to prove that you can't take any liberties with the Quetta weather. And that's all you are going to hear about it.

A vote of thanks must be given to the married families for turning up to the dances and whist drives in such numbers. These entertainments are held every week in the Regimental Institute, and jolly good shows are being put up. The last two dances were well attended by all ranks, and the last whist drive was a huge success. Well over the number we expected came to play, and new packs of cards had to be obtained from divers sources. This sort of thing is a blessing to all, and one hopes that the attendances will continue to grow in the future.

Spring camp is upon us. The advance party left here to-day to get the site in order, and we are all looking forward to going out into the blue and living the healthy life. Bed at about 20.00 hours, and up with the dawn. Tough he-men sun bathing all day long and acquiring that "handsome men are slightly sunburnt" tan; others working all day and getting nothing—tan, I mean. One good thing will make life out at Bostan seem so much more real: the offices of this Company are in the dak bungalow, and we shall miss the nice little playful sandstorms which tend to make us so sunny tempered. You know the sort of thing: one of those sandstorms which last about three days, at the end of which you are left wondering why you were born, why you joined the Signals, and all the other why's joined together. Two famous other ranks will not be with us this year: Uncles George Blake and MacCullum. We shall miss George and his playful ways, of which throwing a field anvil at people in the middle of the night is only one. Mac is enjoying his stay at the S.T.C. and sweating on a free furlough. Swagger Swainson is staying in barracks again this year. We wonder how he manages it. I wish I knew!

Arrivals and Departures.—I don't think there are any, so I had better say "none."

We Want to Know.—Who is the sergeant who asked the exchange operator if he had his ring? Dear, dear! that reminds us of Bill Mays at his best.

Who is getting the Jubilee medals? I think that twelve years in the unit should put you well ahead, Elsie.

Seen in Unit Orders.—"Reserves will turn up *stripped*." I'm glad I was not one of the reserves. Bear up, F.G. Everything comes to those who wait.

R.C.D.

No. 2 Company

General.—On the 19th inst. we took part in a Garrison ceremonial parade to mark the departure of Lieut.-General Sir Torquhil Matheson, K.C.B., C.M.G., for the United Kingdom.

The Staff College demonstration, an annual event in this station, has now come to a successful finish, and the next thing on the programme is the spring camp to be held at Bostan again this year. The advance party left to-day, to be followed by the rest of the unit (except for a few people who have been out here so long that they know how to dodge it) on the 2nd April. Rumours based on inside information state that training during camp is to be fairly intensive.

E Section, which belongs to the 1st Field Brigade R.A. (a mechanised unit) is not going to camp with us . . . . and they do not seem to be one little bit downhearted about it.

Horses.—Horsey talk and all other forms of " shop " are *tabu* in the various messes and canteens, but quite in order in THE WIRE, so now I am going to say what no one will allow me to say anywhere else.

The Quetta Hunt have held two point-to-point meetings during March. The first, on the 16th, consisted of individual events only. For various reasons, the officers of this unit were unable to take part; but after all, one *must* give the other units a chance! The meeting on the 23rd was made up of four team races and one individual event for local zamindars. The unit team in the B.O.R.s race beat the only other team entered by taking first, second and third places in a close finish. The course was fairly stiff, and three of the six runners fell at the second jump. One of them, Sigmn Bennett of No. 1 Company, is to be congratulated on the way in which he got his horse out of the ditch and caught up with the leaders. Each of the team was presented with a pewter pot, and the unit received the Sir Norman Cater challenge cup. We have found by experiment that this cup is capable of holding seventeen bottles of " Red Label "—not all at once, of course.

Our Indian ranks team gave four Cavalry teams a really good run for their money, finishing second by only one point.

Ex-members of this unit may be interested to know the names of the British team: L/Corpl Lewis L. (first man), L/Corporal Strachan, Sigmn Bennett and Sigmn Jones (reserve), riding Lady, Ginger, Badgey and Jimmy respectively.

Courses of Instruction.—L/Cpl Grey, who recently attended a short course at the A.S.P.T. Ambala, has been recommended for a long course. (Hard luck, Dolly!) L/Corpl Williams is now on a short course at the same home of ease and comfort, and is expected back just in time to march out to Bostan. (Bad luck, Bill!)

The Blighty Draft.—This body of men would like people at home to know that they are beginning to find that not all the stories told to them in the past by troops returned from India were strictly true. For example, who was the drill instructor who told his recruits that B.O.R.s are not allowed to keep live tigers as pets?

Agony.—Zack, from G Section: I told you so. (I say, I told you so.) Tich, D Company: Poor old Sam! Hooked at last. Lew, Quetta.

JANGLI.

Sergeants Mess.

Sergeants Bell and Goodyear avec families arrived to join the happy throng from Wazirdist Sigs. May the smiles on their faces never turn to frowns.

Sergt Golder and family left to join Wazirdist Sigs. during the month.

We proceed to spring camp on the 2nd April—usual place, Bostan. I have been informed that the name means a place of flowers (?). And they say there are no humorists in India.

D.W.

Corporals Mess.

This is Quetta calling you on R.O.O. (R for roll, O for on, and O for Ock) on 1.234×1855 V.L.C. You have just been listening to that unknown champ Paddy Burke telling you how he won the ping-pong open singles with a handicap of 20. I wish Pat would always stand twenty feet away from the table. Then someone else might get a chance to play.

We are now going over to Shenton Park, to give you an eye witness account of the building of the world renowned Evans bridge which spans the enormous and mathematically constructed Rosegurg canal. The beautiful green park reminds me that I have just managed to book the billiard table at 13.30 hours on Thursday 4th May. Until then, Trunkey Homer and Mivvy (Herbie) Wilcocks are doing their best to pot those twenty-one goolies. Mesdames and messieurs, to-day being a holiday, Chief Engineer Busty has gone to bed, so we have come back to the studio and will now give you a few surprise items.

The return of Badgy Manton by routes N. (N for normal). Having completed an eighteen months rest cure at Chaman, Badgy got fed up and decided to come back in time for spring camp.

That familiar landmark, the four masts of the G.T.D. W/T Station, has of late changed somewhat in appearance. There remain but two masts. Not content with that, the G.T.D. has to remind the defenders of the outposts of the Empire of that big boat: these two lonely masts have been painted black and white.

And now, dear friends, we will take you over to the billiards contest, Queen's Corporals v. the Signal Corporals. In all eight games, of which five only were played, the Signal champs were beaten, but Larry upheld the honour (if any) of the Mess. His opponent was seeing two balls and aiming at the one that wasn't there. A really enjoyable evening. Ask A.E.S., who said it was his first night out since Christmas.

Hello-o-o, twins. If Geb looks under his pillow, he will find the belt there. And does he deserve it, or does he deserve it? Get an earful of this. " Instructions for mechanised Cable Sections: No. 4 will break the drum." Poor old No. 4! he is still looking for a 16 lb. hammer.

There will now be an interval of thirty days. We will then be on the air again and will give you the sports news, followed by a running commentary on the Bostan All-In Football League (the last commentator is still running).

And so, for the present, " Il n'y a pas de quoi."

O'HOOLIGAN.

[*Later*]

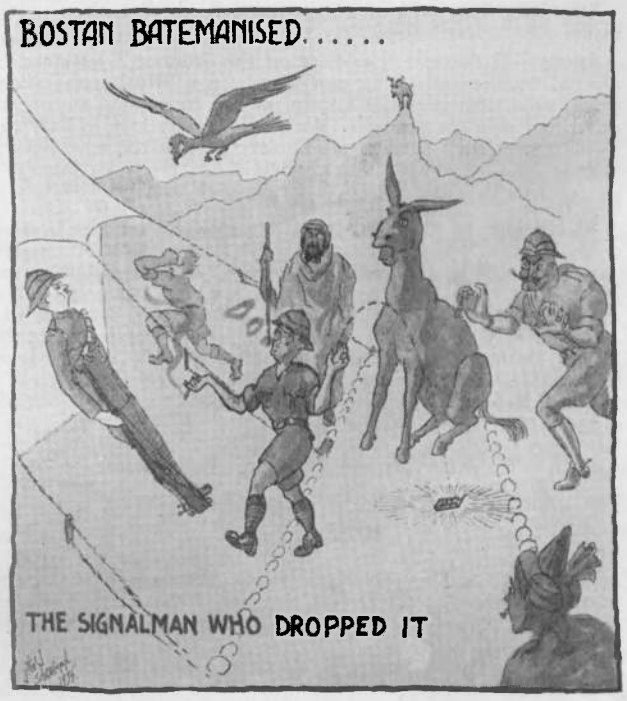
No. 2 Company.

Friday 3rd May.

General.—On the 2nd of last month we left Quetta for Bostan. The weather being bad, it was decided not to stop for the night at Kuch Lak, as we usually do. The mounted ranks went on to camp, and lorries were sent out to pick up the dismounted men and mule loads. We would like to give full marks to whoever arranged for fresh drivers to meet the party and take over the animals, so that those who had been hiking could go in the lorries.

Last winter was very wet, and those of us who had had the doubtful pleasure of visiting Bostan in the past were surprised at the comparatively green and fertile condition of the country. During the first week or so it rained some more, and rumours were rife that " If it rains to-morrow, we are going back to Quetta." But we did not go back—not for a long time, anyway.

Eventually, fine weather came and we got down to training. The forecast for this camp had been that training would be fairly intensive. Rumour was quite right this time. It has been estimated (by an unofficial committee) that the average distance



marched by Infantry Brigade, Mountain Brigade and Pack Wireless Sections during camp was about two hundred miles. That is not much, says you ; but it is not the actual distance that counts—it is the number of times you erect office and the speed of marching, which was greatly increased in comparison with last year. We do not want to blow the proverbial trumpet, but we are quite sure that those members of other Companies who marched with us had no spare time in which to fall out and pick daisies.

We do not presume to criticise the way in which the Army is run, but the general impression in the Company is that this camp was more successful than that of last year because more attention was paid to communications and a little less to red tape. Let us hasten to add that this does not mean that regulations were slack. Heaven help the poor fellow who dropped a cigarette packet and forgot to give it decent burial! [*See cartoon on page* 271]

In every mess or canteen there were unofficial post mortems after every scheme. Men leaned furtively across the table and asked confidentially: " How do you connect *your* Fullerphone ?"

Although there were no P.T. parades, we had various sports in the evenings during the first part of camp when weather permitted. About the middle of our stay in Bostan, the ladies came out by bus and were entertained (we hope) with tea and sports. Another thing which helped to make things more pleasant for the few lucky ones was the fact that a limited number of week-end passes was granted.

A great deal has been said about the messing, but we can at least say that the haversack rations on schemes improved greatly as time went on.

We finished up with a scheme which covered the better part of three days, and now we are back in Quetta, getting the stores cleaned up and sweating on the Staff College demonstration. We are to take no part in the Jubilee celebrations—though we hope to get a holiday, of course.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., who joined us at Bostan and took over this Company, and wish him all the usual good luck while he is in our midst.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Mottram on the building of the Mottram Viaduct—a bridge used by the Company to cross the water when going out on hiking expeditions. He had his leg pulled a good deal : but it really was a posh bridge, Johnny.

To the n.c.o. who was told to take his wireless lorry over some very rough ground and had the sense to borrow a mounted man. The lorry did not reach its objective, but they were " through " —by mounted orderly.

Scientific Note.—No. 1 Company tell us that clean water makes a better earth than dirty water.

Agony.—If the two " soldiers on the Frontier " stationed in Quetta, who advertised for pen friends in a British publication, would make their identities known, we can correspond with them direct and save the postage. We would simply love to hear the thrilling tales they have to tell of adventure in the wild North-West.

JANGLI.

Sergeants Mess.

The Mess has returned to Quetta after a hectic month's sojourn at Bostan Spa. A very busy month was enjoyed (or otherwise), but this left little time for the discussion of major subjects connected with special and general roster n.c.o.s. However, a few debates were squeezed in during the early part of the month.

The most enjoyable part of the camp period appeared to be the " hour breaks " we received on Good Friday from 19.00 to 20.00 hrs. and on Easter Monday from 20.00 to 21.00 hrs.

The F-of-S and F/S/Sergeant are anxious to know what are gadgets.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

[*Received too late for the May issue*]

Headquarters.

Tuesday 9th April.

At Random.—The 31st March marked the completion of two years of independence. During this period, lots have happened and still more have not. Suffice it to say that we still exist, though only just.

Our scribe Jaycee decided to take two pals to the U.K. on a spot of leave and has left us stranded, but I don't suppose he worries much—still less, cares. The L.A.O. has been after his tail, but one will say no more yet. He returns in October—possibly married, possibly not. Nevertheless, the best of luck to him and to his Derby Brights.

We offer our warmest congratulations to Churbie (L/Corporal Burke) now with the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, on the birth of a son and heir. As Barleux says, " May all your troubles be little ones," etc. (Sibi papers, please refrain from copying.) The Zhob appears to be a most salubrious spot for match thinking.

A fitter of ours is seriously considering a plunge, in addition to lance-sergeants, operator signals, who at this stage must be nameless.

At the end of February Jock Bartlett decided to visit Kapip and Manikhwa. This in itself reduced the numbers who went out daily to watch the chicken feed at Fort Sandeman. Later on Corpl Cooper H. decided that he was browned off with his wife's culinary attempts, and he went off to Wahar with Connie and Lapsley. There they excelled themselves in the art of netting fish.

The detachment of A Corps Signals decided to leave us towards the end of the month, much to our regret, but presumably to the delight of their R.S.M. Probably their reluctance to leave us was not due to the fact that they were *so* attached to us, but because of the scarcity of guards and piquets in the Zhob. We wish them all (Corpl Hodge and Signalmen Scantlebury, Hill and Byrne) all the best of luck in their old, but new, unit. (Hitler has been with us for two years, and Loralai is a far gloomier place since his departure.)

This Ladder Business.—We congratulate Sigmn Jamieson H. on having only another eleven rungs to climb before reaching Lieut.-Quartermaster rank: in other words, on reaching number one as U/L/Corporal.

Scmehavccome.—Welcome to Signalmen Hope J., Wileman G. and Davies J. from B Corps Signals, who have relieved the A Corps Signals personnel mentioned above. May they like the Zhob as well as their predecessors.

In Memoriam.—In memory of the late King of the Zhob, we hope shortly to unveil a fitting memorial to one who was respected by all, including those who will have to work in it. We hope to publish a photograph in the next issue. Meanwhile, wait and see.

NUCLEUS.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Sunday 31st March.

General.—On the 22nd of last month we celebrated Signalman (Slasher) Bond's birthday. It was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone present. Of course, while Slasher was singing the more fortunate ones were those absent. Many resolutions were made next morning.

Corporal Bartlett and Signalmen Eley and Fortes rose smartly on Thursday morning (28/2/35), arrayed themselves in fighting order, and hit the trail for Kapeep. A few days later, the n.c.o. i/c and two other members of the detachment paid them a flying visit and found them up to the eyes in mud but still smiling. The weather cleared up later, and they are all back now, looking much better for the open air treatment. The fresh detachment goes out to-morrow for ten days.

The Home Farm.—A keen interest in poultry farming is displayed by all members of the detachment. There is a gradual increase in our live stock, and we expect to have quite an establishment soon. Unfortunately, Wilfred's efforts have met with little success. Philip thinks he could do better, so we are getting a goose. By the way, Wilfred is the drake. Guess who Philip is.

Sport.—Tennis is becoming more popular than ever, and we have many budding aspirants who may blossom forth into champions before the season expires. I observed Corpl Bartlett's form the other evening from the roller: safety first! That's me. Of course, there may be an ulterior motive behind this tennis business.

I am sorry to say I can't report any victories at football, but our team is improving on the whole and those with firsts are generally able to count the goals against us.

We were beaten by the officers at hockey last week—but only just. Our team has undergone a few changes, and after a bit of practice I have no doubt I will be able to tell you of big things.

Alterations and Improvements. Our new wash-house has been further improved, and there is now a shower in it. Of

course, there is a shower in there every morning about—well, I won't say just when ; but I mean one of those things you stand under in the nude and from which cold water rushes in a most surprising manner. Incidentally, I haven't noticed any rushing on the part of the lads to get under it. I suppose it will become popular enough in a few weeks time.

Entertainments.—We did not forget to observe the Grand National night. We were not able to see the race (as Jammie says he is going to next year) but we listened in to it on the wireless. A chip sweep caused much excitement amongst the usually peaceful users of our institute. Sergt Cosens won. Conductor Cooke was second, and (I think) Steel and Coulson's third.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Attrill arrived from B Corps to share our lot. Which reminds me that there is not such a lot to share just at present, but no doubt we will be receiving another hogshead pichi.

Departures.—Corpl Hodge to Rawalpindi. We hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Stop Press.—To-day marks a great event in Fort Sandeman. The world-famous Sandeman races have been held once more on the well known picturesque race course which lies to the south-east of the town. All day long the roads have been seething with traffic. Motor cars and other vehicles packed with gaily dressed racegoers, hurtling impetuously past the wireless station, have disturbed the peace which enshrouds it for three hundred and sixty-four days in the year. No doubt, much pice has been won and lost at this meeting. I heard Slasher say, when he came back, that he was a poorer and wiser man. He may be poorer, and we will give him the benefit of the doubt regarding the rest of the statement. I can't give the results of the day in detail. They will be known all over Baluchistan by now—and who else wants to know ?

Agonies.—To Gibson, Quetta: I would like to start marking off the days. What about it ? BUX.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Tuesday 2nd April.

General.—Brigadier McKenna, whilst in the station inspecting the detachment of Gurkhas, paid us a visit and, we think, was pleased with the station and its turn-out.

The Rev. Mr. Evers also called to give 50 per cent. of the detachment some spiritual comfort—the other 50 per cent. belonging (in the words of the charlady) " to a different abomination."

Corpl Malvern's hen has produced one and a half dozen eggs—not all at once, but on the instalment system. We mention this fact to prove that some work is being done here ; although we did have a good clean-out last week, even dusting the portrait of Tallulah Bankhead.

Mr. H. Byrne has left for his summer residence in Loralai, and talks also of visiting Pindi. He expressed the opinion that the social amenities of Hindubagh left nothing to be desired. Remarks from other residents in reply to this must necessarily be censored.

Our Garden.—We have planted some flower seeds. Each day Corpl Malvern sits beside the plot of garden and croons " C'mup an' see me some time." The bare earth is a stark tragedy for him, and his horticultural enthusiasm is waning. It is no surprise to us that a flower refuses to rear its head in a place like this. As the actress said to the bishop, " What a hope!"

Later.—The aforementioned " Mr." Byrne has left us for a far far better land (or unit), we hope, but we somehow think he would have preferred to prolong his stay in the Zhob, especially judging by the enjoyable evening he spent prior to departing for Rawalpindi. NIL DESPERANDUM.

[*Later*]

Fort Sandeman.

General.—It is rather coincidental that in last month's notes I made reference to the peace and quiet which reigns over Fort Sandeman for 364 days of the year, and that before another month is over we are plunged into active warfare.

The mobile detachment moved out on the 23rd April, the personnel being Corpl Bartlett (what! again ?) Signalmen Eley, Donnelly (just to show that he can fight as well as . . . . . his other achievements are too numerous to mention) and our new lad from the North-West Frontier of England, Sigmn Parker.

Well! they went out quite peacefully, without a thought of angry men ; but while they were out, things started to happen and for a while they found themselves something more than mere ration consumers.

A wild and woolly Pathan, Pali Khan by name, could not suppress his rather questionable sense of humour, and with a band of followers he shot up and looted the dak lorry. Six people were killed, including a small baby girl, whose mother was amongst the wounded. The outlaw said he was very sorry and much ashamed of himself for having shot the baby and the woman, and to prove his sincerity he fired a volley into the back of the lorry as it departed. Hence my expression " sense of humour."

Now, even on the N.W.F. of India we do not tolerate such unseemly behaviour, and steps were at once taken to put Pali Khan in his place and make the roads safe for travellers. These steps are still being taken, and the job is proving no piece of duff. The difficulties incurred in such a task can only be realised by those who have actually served on the Frontier and climbed khuds under a scorching sun. The climatic conditions and the characteristics of this country all tend to enhance the possibilities of the fugitive's escape and to place obstacles in the way of the pursuers.

The Zhob Militia and the Baluchistan Police, combined with the Army and Air Force, have been operating to bring about the capture of these daring outlaws. This placed all W/T stations on the Zhob group on continuous watch, and excitement ran high from time to time as news of the battle flashed through the ether from one to another of our redoubtable diehards.

Up to the present all efforts have been without avail. A few suspicious looking people have been detained and interrogated without result, but the great Pali Khan—who is not so pally as his name suggests—still evades capture. Neither has he ceased his activities, although there has been no more shooting on his part. The column has now returned, leaving the Militia and Police in charge of the situation ; and our bold bad friend proves that he is still alive by committing another couple of highway robberies.

Sergt Cosens has suffered considerable anxiety since the looting of the dak lorry. He thinks that now Pali Khan has his young lady's address, he will be dropping her a line—although I doubt his ability to decipher the barbed wire at the bottom of the letter.

Marriages.—One is expected in the near future, but we are unable to publish names as we are not sure who is to be the bridegroom. Competition runs very high, Donnelly being so far a firm favourite. We don't know what Renee, Ivy, Billie and the rest of his string in Blighty (to whom he is being faithful) will do now, but if anyone desires pen friends, no doubt he will be able to supply them with bags.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Parker from Loralai. Plenty of rich blood for the mozzies this summer!

Departures.—Sigmn Goodhand to Loralai. " Absence makes the heart grow fonder." Incidentally, I have noticed that distance lends enchantment to the view.

Agonies.—Chas. Bulford: Still waiting. John.

Dixie, Aldershot: How about it ? Jammi.

To Jimmy Walsh, Pindi: Salaams from Donnelly and Fortes Sahib. Pice stamp kiwasti kach nahin hai.

To Bob Mac, from Buck Taylor: What about a line some time?

To Doughie Baker, from the same fellow: Ich mochte gern von dir horen. SCHNEIDER.

Detachment, Hindubagh.

In Old Idleberg.—Firstly, we should like to broadcast an S.O.S. to Barleux and other gardeners in our Corps. Our seeds won't come up. We've tried every method, agriculturally speaking, but so far we've failed. Don't tell us to use a spade. Our O.C. presented us with the seeds, but that isn't the reason for their non-appearance, I'm sure. Perhaps that revolting creature Ukann Larfe could help us—but keep Hermione out of it, please.

We must congratulate Corpl Malvern on the birth of sixteen chicks. He is particularly proud of this effort, and anticipates a poultry farm in Hindubagh.

Our operator is bearing up well under the strain of learning to send Morse. We get daily lectures on it, in fact, and our replies can only be indicated by dots and dashes.

Departures and Arrivals.—Sincerest wishes to those who have left Z. (I.) B.A. for Rawalpindi. Whilst we are at it, we

welcome the newcomers and hope they will enjoy their sojourn in the Zhob. If I know our O.C., he will see to that.

Births.—This is not the place for that sort of thing.

Rations.—I have been asked to insert the following. Having no meat for issue as rations, the people concerned sent us a chicken. This feathered friend weighed 1 lb. 10 oz., but its bones accounted for 15 oz. They tell us chicken is a luxury. I'll say it is!

Film Fans' Corner.—We hear that Garbo has brought some grass seed because she wants to be " a lawn."

Employments and Past Times.—We have just received a cookery book, but even now we don't know what to do with it. One enterprising Sectionite essayed an effort in the gentle art of cooking, and the results were attributed to the inoffensive oven. Since then he has taken to knitting, which calms the nerves—so we understand. This seems to be developing into a " Home page for women," so we'll try to be a little less effeminate. We've plenty of raspberry jam, thank you.

Connie.—Someone wants a letter. E.G.C.

NE PLUS ULTRA.

Detachment, Mobilization Camp, Kapip.

Monday 29th April.

We all know that the public school boys of the Corps of Signals are a peaceful crowd (extract from *The Daily Mail*) but for the general information of all ranks on the Frontier, I would like to report that the bold bad lads are extending their activities along this part of the border.

Once again the gallant little fighting packs fared forth to hold 'em back. Rifles and revolvers were drawn, and our tiny party took on a warlike air. Of the outward journey to Kapip Camp there's little to relate, though I heard that Jackie suffered from the effects of a " night before " debauchery with the visiting R.A.F. column personnel.

Communication was established with planes which acted as escort, both R/T and C/W being satisfactory. Appreciative advice was given by our O.C. on various methods of aerial wireless communication, etc., the Brigadier and officers expressing delight in the high standard of work.

During the column schemes, affairs took on a real warlike attitude, the mail lorry being ambushed by Pali and his gang of outlaws, resulting in several deaths. Naturally, the Signals were called upon to shoulder the work—X243 and priority messages being the order of the day—and all existing records were broken. Various Indian regiments picketed the hills surrounding the camp, and battalions were called out from Fort Sandeman to search the hills in an endeavour to capture the outlaws. Numberless persons were detained and questioned, but up to the time of writing these notes, apart from two of the gang being killed, the remainder are still at large. One of the local tribesmen, whose brother had been killed in the ambush, raised approximately one hundred tribesmen who are giving valuable assistance to the military in their efforts to capture the outlaws.

Heartfelt relief was expressed when our O.C. (Lieut. Burgess Winn) did not pursue his original plan of returning to Loralai via Murgha. Had he travelled in that direction, the Z. (I.) B.A. would probably have lost its mainstay, as outrages occurred on the day of his return. Sterling work was done by Corpl Bartlett (i/c mobile) and Sigmn Donnelly A. L. C. (W/T operator), while Signalmen Eley and Parker also upheld the good name of the Signals.

We are still maintaining continuous watch, and all hope that arrests will be made in the near future. So I will conclude with the eternal cry: " Wonder if it's going to be October or March."

For the information of all ranks who feel proud of our Corps, I append some extracts from remarks made at the conclusion of this year's mobile column.

Colonel Scott (Column Commander): A magnificent show by Signals.

Major Wallis (O.C. Troops): Splendid inter-communication under extremely difficult conditions.

F/Lieut. Hodgson (R.A.F.): I must congratulate all ranks of the detachment on the high standard of operating and the efficiency of all concerned. It was a splendid show.

? ? ?—Are we entitled to a Jubilee medal ? NUFF SED.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Friday 12th April.

No. 1 Company.

Now that our annual range firing is over and the individual training season commenced, we are settling down to the usual steady summer routine that drags its way through the first and worst half of the summer period until relieved in July by the welcome upward move to Chakrata.

No. 2 Company departed to Chakrata on the 8th inst. and took with them several of our n.c.o.s and men, the loss of whom is felt by the remainder of the Company, for with the temporary loss of so many other men on command, duties come round with regrettable speed. By the way, we hope they were duly entertained by the trumpeter during their journey as laid down in the new unit standing orders.

A mounted gymkhana was held on the 23rd March, and the Company proved highly successful in the majority of the events. L/Sergt Burgess secured first prize in the handy hunter event. D Section provided the best turned out Troop horse. The mounted wrestling and best turned out pair of mules events were won by C Section. A very satisfactory result, and one which speaks highly for the industry of the stables personnel.

An inter-bungalow hockey tournament was recently arranged. It attracted a good deal of interest and the games were very keenly contested. The Officers and the Sergeants Messes participated, and although the sergeants were quickly out of the running, the officers fought through and played H.Q. in the final. Chiefly through the individual brilliance of their inside forwards and the steadiness of their backs, they succeeded in defeating the latter team by three goals to nil.

Several other sporting tournaments are being arranged, and our thanks are due to the organisers for providing a very attractive programme for our amusement during an otherwise dull period.

Departures: Temporary.—Sergeants Murray and Hoyland, Corpl Clarke, L/Corpl Pitney, Signalmen Moran, Robertson, Rice, Justice, Payne, Gibson and Cairns have moved to Chakrata for the individual training season. W.H.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The majority of No. 2 Company left for Chakrata on 8/4/35 to enjoy three months in an almost English climate, leaving behind them a sturdy band of twenty-four to look after their bungalows and fight the hordes of mosquitoes whose sole object in life seems to be finding the simplest way of crawling through one's net and getting a meal of good English flesh. From the mosquito's point of view, this year seems to be a record breeding season. Apparently, they too have a dictator who does not agree with disarmament. At any rate, I think they have about the finest air force in the world.

Our band of roughs is still going strong, and I believe that a great improvement has been made. Some of them are reputed to be able to stick on for five minutes at a canter. Brown 401's mount is always ready to listen to reason, so 401 may often be seen whispering sweet nothings in its ear before attempting a jump. I believe his favourite phrase is " Come on, Joe ; I won't frighten you."

Departures.—Sergt Gould and family to the U.K., but they are coming back. Sergt Greed will shortly be leaving us for the S.T.C. Jubbulpore, and we wish him the best of luck.

Sergeants Mess.

The Mess held their annual shoot on Sunday 24th March, when they were well supported by the officers and Mess members. The standard of shooting was high and some good scores were obtained. The winners were as follows. Mess silver challenge cup, R.S.M. Hughes. Silver spoon, R.S.M. Hughes. Sweepstake, R.S.M. Hughes. Wooden spoon, Sergt Pack. Pool bulls were obtained by L/Sergt Dicker, Sergt Greed, C.Q.M.S. Gould and R.S.M. Hughes.

A carnival dance was held in the mess on Saturday 6th April, and was well attended by the Officers and Sergeants Mess

members of other regiments in the Garrison. Great credit is due to the committee for the arrangements made, which contributed so much to the success of the dance.

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

General.—Some folks will probably pass unkind remarks about the absence of this Section's notes, but after all, one can only apologise for that fact—so why not let bygones be bygones ?

The Section, during the last two months, has become sadly depleted owing to several of the lads leaving for other parts of the country and the U.K. Whether they have become fed up with Muttra, we cannot tell, but looks speak for many things, and the faces of those who have left did not look full of the joys of spring.

L/Corpl Halstead and Sigmn Cashmore have left us for the hills and courses in those funny things known as B.i. and B.ii. We have heard that they have had experience B.iv.—as so many of us have at some time or another. However, we sincerely hope that they will get what they want—if not what they deserve.

Quite recently, the C.O. paid us a visit and seemed pleased with the Section. This, of course, should be left for others to decide, but from the point of view of a spectator the Section bungalow and garden looked very well indeed, thanks to the work of one or two who took upon themselves the role of gardener. It was rumoured that, during the process of laying the stones, Werp got mixed up and thought he was making a maze and consequently became utterly lost among many circles of red and white bricks. In fact, if it hadn't been for the flag pole which happened to be six inches off dead centre, he would be still wondering where he put that middle circle. I think he has ambitions of out-mazing New Delhi with his ideas, and Sergt Parkinson's expression when he saw the half finished article suggested that Werp was winning. Full credit should also be given to our tame road-breaker and mender, Signalman George.

As usual, Muttra has very little to say for itself in the way of excitement. The annual fishing competition is just starting. Sigmn Rose is at present two up on Trader Horn II. in actual catches, but an officer of the R.A.T.C. has won the fisherman's story prize outright. He had to take a hog-spear to one of his catches, but unfortunately he lost the fish. We are now eagerly awaiting the Section efforts to regain this coveted trophy.

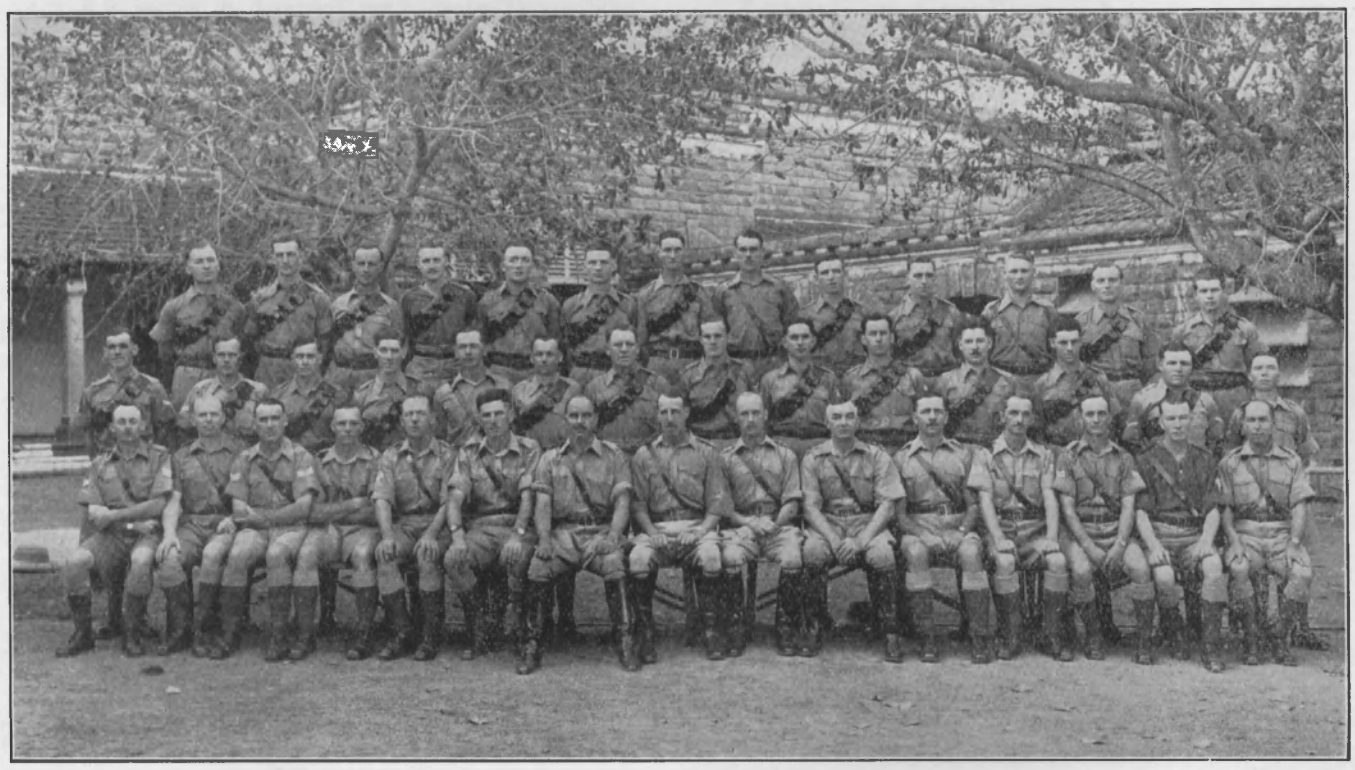
Departures.—Sergeant Harper for Rawalpindi. He has been there before, so he says. Anyway, he gave us that impression by one or two references to the place. We hope he likes it.

Sergt Lynham on U.K. leave will probably see this. Why not send us the latest map of England, so that we will not get lost when we get home ?

L/Corpl Pickett and Sigmn Bentley to the home establishment. What do you think of it ? We hear the weather is bad. Still, wet inside is as good as outside, isn't it ? We hope you have each chosen a good station. If not, why not ? there are plenty of them.

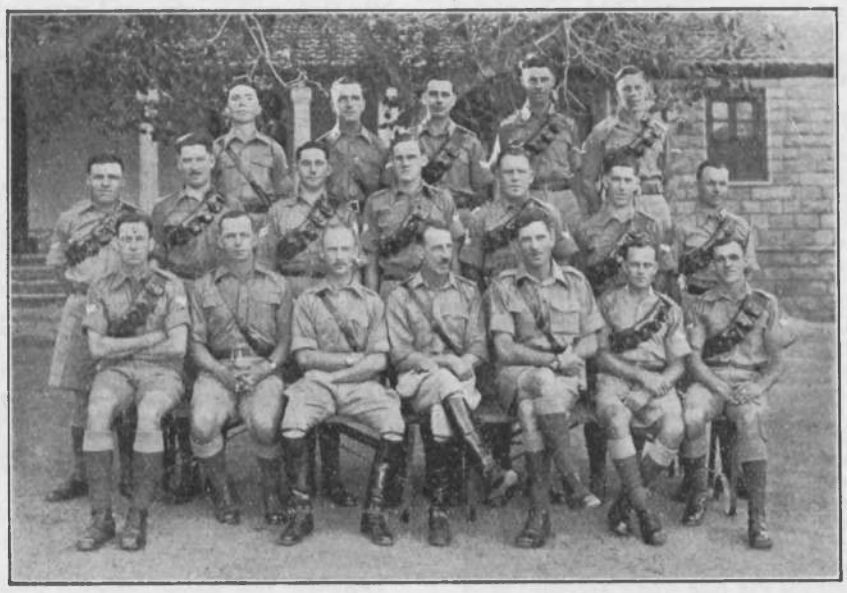
Beezers.—Who was the lad who wanted flat piyalas and fish knives on a week-end shoot ? We will take the Ritz-Carlton next time.

Agony.—Will Sigmn Anderton please write to L.B. of this Section ? It is about time you did, Andy.



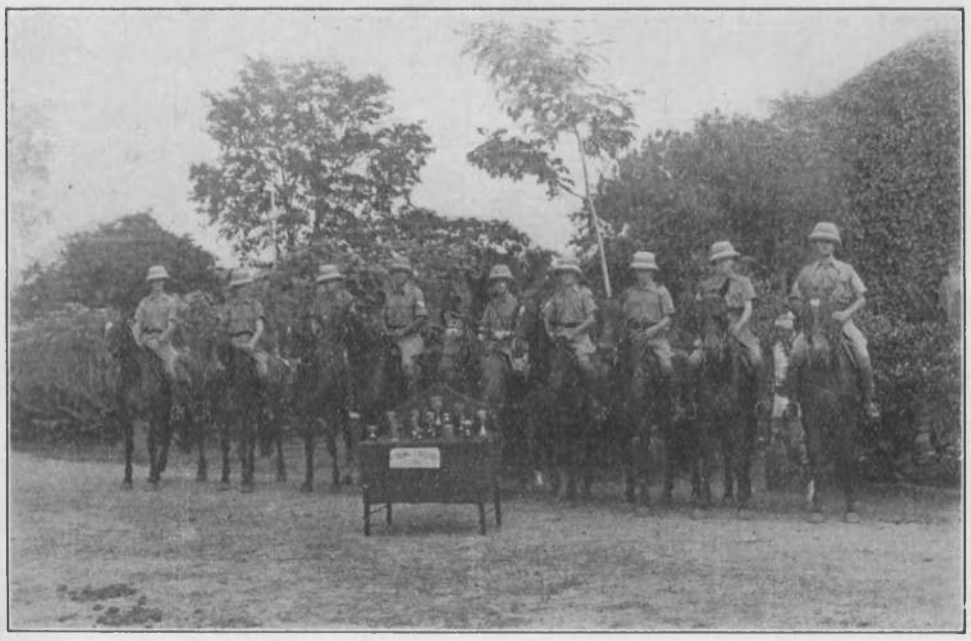
4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Signalmen Fairclough E., Wood R., Mitchell A., Taylor C., Hughes E., Holt J., Johnson H., Clutton A., Jamieson R., Hezseltine L., Boulter G., Spare D. and Johns F.
Centre—Corporals Brown C., Varley J., Tupper T., Watterton L., Alexander A., Adams A., Welch W., Broom R., Berry T. and Hawkes A., L/Corporals Small N., Missen S., Watts S. and **Jones R.**
Front—Sergeants Palmer S., Peerless W., Gibbard C. and Fairman J., C.Q.M.S. Meredith C., C.S.M. Westwood F., Major D. A. Brown, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy, Lieut. (Q.M.) T. Jones, C.Q.M.S. Hore W., Sergeants Tucker S., Limb F., Moult R. and Kelsey E.



4th Indian Divisional Signal Junior N.C.O.s

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Corporals Jones R. and Barnett G., M.M., Corpl Tupper T., L/Corporals Missen S. and Goodwin F.
Centre—L/Cpl Watts S., Corporals Berry T., Welch and Adams A., L/Corpl Small N., Corporals Broom R. and Watterton L.
Front—Corporals Hawkes W. and Alexander A., Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy (Adjutant), Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) (Commanding Officer), C.S.M. Westwood F., Corpls Varley J. and Brown C.



B.O.R.s, F Signal Section, 4th Indian Divisional Signals,
Winners of the S.T.C. (India) Section Tent Pegging.
Left to right—Signalmen Johnson, Hennell and Wright, Sergeant Penfold, Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy, Corporal Peake, Signalmen Packham and Hulme, L/Corporal Howard.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

[APRIL NOTES]

Extensions of Service.—The undermentioned have extended their service to twelve years with the Colours: Signalmen Winter, Carver and Cleverley.

Re-Mustering.—Signalman M'Clenaghan re-mustered operator signals B.iii.

Disembarkation.—L/Corporal Brown G. disembarked at Port Suez from India.

Continuance in the Service.—Corpl Renton R. permitted to continue in the Service to complete twenty-one years from attaining 18 years of age.

Embarkations.—Signalman Hale E. invalided to U.K. Sigmn Kelly F. repatriated to U.K.

Re-Engagements.—L/Sergeant Stibbs T. and Sigmn Richards have re-engaged to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

No. 1 Company.

Unit Headquarters.

Births.—Congratulations to Sigmn Delicate on the birth of a daughter at Abbassia on 28/12/34. The old football boots and bats salved from the sports store will now have to be stored for a further period until a young Sammy Crooks arrives.

A W/T Signal Section.

General.—The Desert Rats have finished their last camp and returned to barracks, and are now getting ready for the Area Commander's annual inspection.

During the last month many exciting and heartbreaking events have taken place. The crossing of the Nile as displayed by A Section was almost a complete success. As the waters would not part, the crossing was done on pontoons, and all went well until someone dropped his rifle into the water. Imperative shouts of "Quick, man! jump in after it" left the dropper stone cold, and a native diver eventually succeeded in recovering it.

The Section proceeded to Helwan Camp on 11/3/35 for the final bout of desert warfare. Two 120-watt sets were used as neutral signals for the umpires, and there is no doubt that they had the easiest time. (Who was the neutral operator who gave away the enemy's position for two bottles of beer? Oh, well! it *was* thirsty weather!) In spite of an awfully jolly time, most of the Section were glad to get back to barracks. A word must be said for the Command Signal Section despatch riders who accompanied us. They did their work well, considering the ground which had to be covered. But it was a good thing that someone found the petrol tanks had been filled with paraffin!

Postings.—Signalman Eccles R. J. has been posted to Polygon W/T Station, and several more postings will take place very shortly. We welcome to the Section L/Corpl Brown G. from India, and hope he will enjoy himself as others have done.

Dans le Jardin.—Gardens have been planted outside Nos. 5 and 6 barrack rooms, and in a few years time some flowers and creeper may be seen peeping shyly above the ground. At least, we hope so.

Stop Press.—And then there was the umpire who sat on the earth net to write out a message and said "If I sit on here, shall I go by wireless?" S.E.B.

No. 3 Company.

B Cable Section.

General.—What 'ole? Bung 'ole. Oh! cheese for supper. Well, friends, life is not slack out here. The old firm has just returned from a strenuous time on camp, and have started buffing up for the Area Commander's inspection in the near future.

For Sale.—Seeds from our gardens; good pedigree with each one. Please apply to the chief gardener, B Section.

Unit War Cry.—Roll on, that boat!

Wanted.—Four Morris vans in exchange for two cable teams, complete with drivers. Only buyers in Blighty need apply.

B Cable Section embark for Manœuvres.
[*Photo by Sigmn Tomlinson*]

Camp Wit.—Sergeant: "Off the lines for water." Driver: "What with?" Sergeant: "Your water bottles, of course."

Agony.—Seymour (291) would like a line from Squibs Austin, somewhere in China.

In days of old, when grooms were bold
And drivers cleaned their harness,
The canteen was a palace of gold
To the housie housie salesmen.
The picquet lines were places of grime
To the stablemen who cleaned them;
The harness tents were only lent
To those who liked to use them.
Then last, not least, comes the sleeping tent—
Oh! for a game of solo.

J Section.

Prologue.—Abdul, our scribe, is still recovering from the after-effects of seeing his last month's notes in print; and the burden of writing this month's has fallen on me—a mere novice of little imagination. So, bearing those facts in mind, please don't pass the fruit.

Doings.—The Section proceeded to Helwan Camp on the 11th March, to combine business with pleasure. The latter terminated too soon, and the 24th March saw us in barracks again.

The three wise men of the Section belong to the C.T.I. (can't take it) gang, and they wangled a rest of four days in barracks. They offered the excuse that they were sitting for their first, or part of it (any to come, and glad of it). Their reliefs arrived in camp just in time to participate in the inspection held by the C.I.G.S. and a three days exercise—and were they pleased? (no prize)

Snorter proved a capable wall of death rider, but his steed could buck and—another redskin bit the dust, to the joy of a thousand hikers.

For the last time for many in the Section "The sand of the desert grew cold"—they often told us so.

On our return, we were a fortnight behind the other Sections in the spit and polish race for the Area Commander's inspection, but by burning the midnight oil (in pint glasses) we are catching up; in fact, some of our ideas are being copied.

We Want to Know.—Why did Tubby, our remuda boss, wince when he sat down ? Why didn't the tash growers keep it up ? Who said " Exchange call signs but don't get through " ?

K Section.

There is nothing much to write about this month, but we are at present preparing the barracks—not to mention ourselves—for the annual inspection by the Brigadier.

There is also plenty of sweating and straining on the sports field for the coming Section and Command athletics, and we hope to have a say in both.

Drafts.—By this time next month we shall have lost nearly all the old members of the Section, and many will be in other spheres, including civvy street. More about them later, and about their reliefs when they arrive.

Our scribe's latest " spasm " is attached.

ODE TO BRIGADE TRAINING, HELWAN, 1935.

Brigade training '35—
Off we went to camp
With our A sets, mules and packs,
And our signal office stamp.

We settled down, but that first night
The sand seemed hard as stones,
With lumps the size of house bricks
Burrowing in our bones.

So, being men of K
And all as hard as nails,
We moved up to the railway track
And slept across the rails.

Of course, we did a scheme or two
When all was quiet and dark ;
And to the folks who stayed in camp,
Night schemes were just a lark.

The first we did up in the hills—
We fought Magavon's tribe,
And though we tried our d——est
He wouldn't take a bribe.

Miles up Wadi Hof we trampled—
Slippers on our feet ;
And what with blisters, corns and things,
We finished up dead beat.

Larry Lynx, our racing man,
Did nothing else but wheeze ;
He wore his feet out, going up,
And came back on his knees.

The second scheme was not too bad,
But the limbers stayed at home
And camels carried all the stores—
Though they are apt to roam.

One big brute—we called him Alf—
Had a head just like a rock ;
His eyes lit up with fiendish glee
When he saw our sergeant Jock.

It chased him a hundred yards or more ;
But although he had to climb,
He beat that camel by a neck
In less than even time.

It also went for Tubby King
And lifted him up high,
While Tubby closed his eyes and said
" When will the clouds roll by ?"

It shook him gently to and fro—
It had a vicious hold—
Until the old greatcoat gave way
And left poor Tubby cold.

The last scheme was a queer one—
We had to cross the Nile ;
They way they got the mules across
Made Tutankhamen smile.

Feluccas, rafts and queer old crafts—
With here and there a tub—
Crossed the Nile late that night :
K Section Yachting Club.

But now the camp is finished
And our boat is drawing near ;
So roll on, Alex—let's get back
And try old Burton's beer.

[MAY NOTES]

General.—Owing to pressure of work, our notes for April were not posted in sufficient time for inclusion in the May edition of THE WIRE ; but we hope the Editor will be able to include them, with these, in the June publication.

The annual inspection of Egypt Signals by Brigadier A. L. I. Friend, O.B.E., M.C., took place on the 9th April on the unit sports ground, and in consequence of the hard work put in by all ranks and the excellent turn-out of the unit, we were granted a day's holiday by the commanding officer (Lt.-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C.) which was much appreciated by all.

The Corps sports were held on the Slade ground on the 10th April, and after an enjoyable afternoon's sport tea was served to all ranks in the Slade Club. This was voted a great success.

On the 20th April we welcomed three officers and seventy-two other ranks from U.K. We hope they enjoy their tour in Egypt.

The largest draft of the trooping season left us on the 21st April, when two officers and fifty-nine other ranks embarked on H.T. *Lancashire* for U.K.—some for civil life, others to soldier on at home. The unit wishes them all the very best of luck.

Departures.—Captain F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., Lieut. E. S. Cole, C.S.M. Markham and forty-six other ranks to U.K. Corpl Shaw C. to Palestine to No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand. Sigmn Hale E. C. invalided to U.K. Sigmn Kelly R. to 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough.

Arrivals.—Captain B. B. Kennett, Lieut. G. M. de M. Blum, C.S.M. Hobby W. and sixty-six other ranks from U.K. Sergt Jones D. and L/Sergeant Gover S. from No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand.

Discharge.—Corpl Sims W. W. W., with permission to reside abroad. Signalman Barnes C. transferred to Army Reserve, with permission to reside abroad.

Re-Musterings.—Sigmn Hamerton R. re-mustered as op. sigs. B.ii. and Sigmn Cleverley W. as lineman C.iii.

No. 1 Company.

General.—I hope this effort meets with greater success than those of February and March. After chasing Section scribes, bribing the typist, and praising all for good work, they have not yet appeared in print ; and there are thousands waiting to collect bets on the result of the final of the C. of E. cup. But here it is again : No. 1 Company 3, R.A.O.C. 1. [The February notes were, surely, printed in the March number; while those for March appeared in the May issue, which had not reached the scribe when the above was written.—ED.]

The Section athletic championship was won by the Command Signal Section. Full details will appear in the Sports Notes. [We doubt it, since no details have yet come to hand.—ED.] I must put up a cheer for M Section, Company H.Q. and Tanks, who through good staff work and perseverance managed to get third place.

The annual inspection passed off as usual : a first class show all round. Polygon W/T Station came to life and looked like the headquarters of the London Fire Brigade. Where did all the paint come from ?

The next event is the Jubilee parade at Gezira. Egypt Signals are to provide two Morris six-wheelers, two 30-cwt. lorries, one Austin, and twelve despatch riders. The march past will be carried out at 10 m.p.h. The rush to attend rehearsals was terrific, thoughts of Jubilee medals being uppermost.

We were pleased to welcome Sigmn Green with two other members of No. 2 W/T Company on leave from Palestine. We will always have a bed and meal ready for any member of the Corps who wishes to holiday in Cairo.

On Saturday 20th April the new draft arrived and were made to feel at home with hot baths, steak and chips, bedding out, etc.

A hearty welcome is extended to all—not forgetting Captain Kennett to No. 3 Company.

Sunday morning saw the departure of several stalwarts who will be hard to replace. To Signalmen Mawson and Player, who are for civilian life, good luck and a good job. To the remainder, thank you all for work done, and keep up the standard in your new units.

Major F. A. H. Mathew (congratulations from all, sir) has left us for Tank Brigade Signals, who are getting the pick of the market. Good-bye, sir. The best wishes of all ranks go with you.

Captain M. S. Wheatley has taken over command of the Company, so things will run as smoothly as ever.

A W/T Signal Section.

The Section is quiet, although a little unsettled.

The Area Commander's inspection went down very well, and everyone was pleased with the amount of hard work done.

A large draft of very old friends left us on the 21st April, having been replaced the previous day by a band of very willing lads. The weather is a bit warmer, so they are on their way to becoming acclimatised.

The courses start on the 29th, when we begin rising just after midnight to the tune of " Ack to Monkey."

Just at present, much paint is being spilt in touching up the vehicles on charge to those fortunate people on the Jubilee parade.

A STRANGER OUT OF EGYPT.

They've sent me to Blighty—I think, as a test—
To see if a change and a few years of rest
Will bring back the brains that the sun has sent west
Of the soldiers who once served in Egypt.

If I look strange and my actions seem queer,
If I look like a wandering Jew, never fear!
For I'm perfectly harmless—that's why I came here
After soldiering 'way back in Egypt.

So if you should see me adrift in the street
With topee in hand and kit-bag at feet,
Just speak to me kindly and say " It's the heat
And the sand from the desert in Egypt."

If I should do things that seem senseless to you,
You'll find there's a method in all that I do ;
I'm a marvel at catching flies, fever and flu—
You learn it 'way out there in Egypt.

So handle me gently and treat me with care ;
I'm one of a crowd that England sent there
To live in the desert and breathe out hot air
At old Britain's foes around Egypt.

If, whilst in the Strand, I'm found charging a bus
Or otherwise making a 'elluva fuss ;
If I'm squashed and smashed up—don't stand by and cuss,
As I'm only a madman from Egypt.

There's no disease known that's not thrived in that den ;
The heat dries one's blood and the ink in one's pen,
And the dust covers hundreds of England's best men
In that damnable desert round Egypt.

[*Who tried to stay the extra year in Egypt* ?]

J Section.

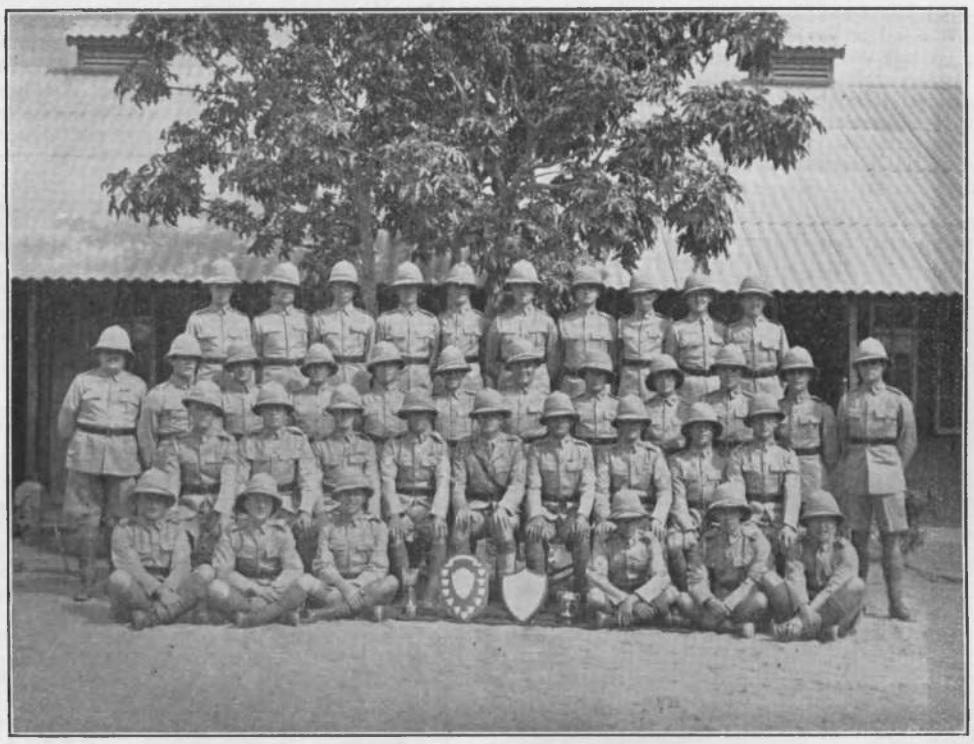
General.—Summer routine is here, folks, and it appears as though one arises in the middle of the night instead of just getting up with the lark—hawk, I should say, as it were. Bah!

Having won the Pritchard cup for being the best Section in the unit for sports, the occasion was celebrated in two ways. The second way was to have photographs taken of the Section and of the Section athletic team.

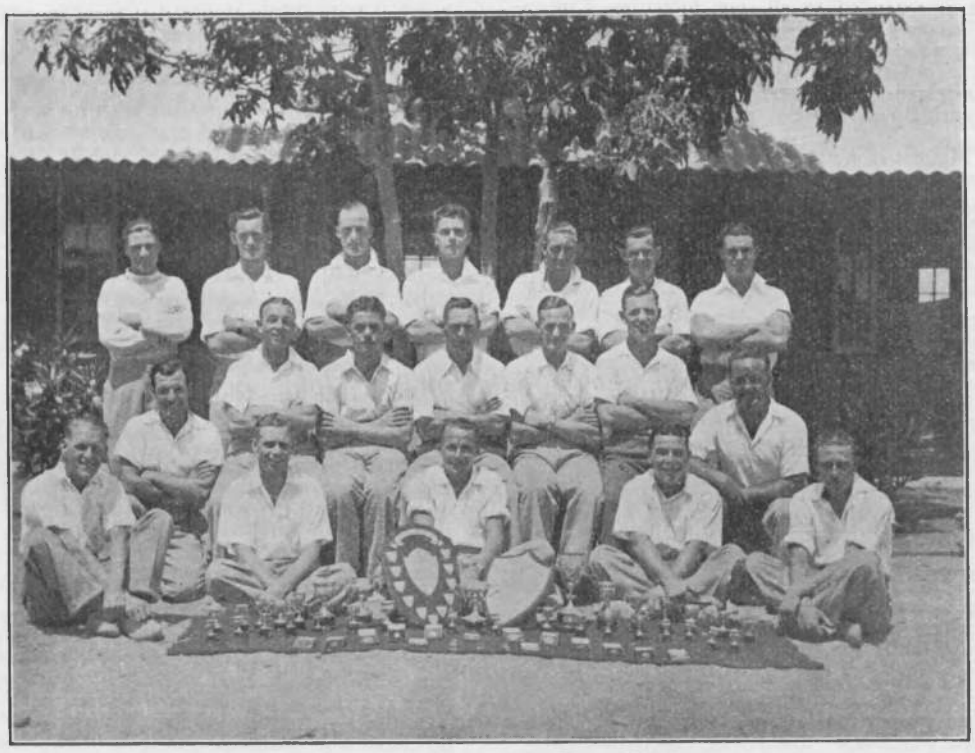
Upon nearing Easter we were astounded to learn of a certain boat that was on its way towards the late Cleopatra's abode. At once there was great activity shown in helping those unfortunate men who were due back home, and much work in making the place as comfy as possible for the new graduates.

On the day after Good Friday (Saturday—shsh!) it was observed by those who could see that two or three geese had suddenly made their home in barracks. However, they weren't seen for long, as a feast began in the canteen at 5.30 p.m. and it was geese that formed a part of the menu.

The same evening the new draft from the U.K. arrived, but I think they were too tired to join in the after-dinner smoker.



J Section, No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals.



Athletic Team, J Section, Egypt Signals.

Easter Sunday saw fellows nipping for " shy " quite early in the morning. After breakfast one or two kit-bags and cases were seen posing on the shoulders of some who were not going home. After much hand shaking (no, not nerves) and blubbering (?) the draft were given a send-off from the guard room, only to receive another one at the siding later on in the morning.

We have had a little of the Jubilee atmosphere in the canteen with decorations, but not until the 6th May was there a spectacular scene. The Residency Gardens were then illuminated during the evening, and special trips were run along the Nile to see the spectacle. With the illuminations was the splendour of the reflections in the water, and it is no wonder that so many people were impressed by the grandeur of it all.

Courses.—Many, and nearly everyone at something, even if it's only a sleeping course. For quite a time now there will be much muttering, nattering and gnashing of teeth, coupled with the sounds of scraping pen nibs and insults thrown at flies. Up to the time of writing we've heard of no howlers, but we're waiting.

Departures.—Too numerous to mention individually, but to those who have left for civvy street we wish good luck. For those who are staying on with the Colours, we hope they were posted to the places they were dreaming of, wishing them luck also.

Arrivals.—A great number, and we hope their stay in Egypt will be a long and happy one.

We Would Like to Know.—Why does that voice come through at R.9's on a holiday morning ?

Curtain.—If I had the wings of a swallow. ABDULLAH.

K Section.

Drafts.—Many changes have taken place, and new faces are prominent. We welcome to this Section the Jubilee draft—Signalmen Hopkinson, Martin, Philpott, Watts, Hatfield and Barnett—and wish them everything Egypt offers.

We have lost the " Before you came out " saying now, but wish the originators all the best in their new stations.

Section Athletics.—Some good sports were had on the unit sports field last month, and though we never managed to get in the running for either cup, we were in prominence in quite a few finals. J Section took both the Pritchard (all round) and Command (athletic) cups.

Individual Training.—Everyone is training and hoping for a higher (or at least to keep his original) rating.

Extension.—Our scribe having completed his tour in this country, we asked to be excused our usual poem until he returns for his second tour. Please remember, Records.

Final.—115° in the shade. SCHOOLIE.

No. 3 Company.

Troop Signal Section.

General.—At the time of writing there are three subjects in everyone's mind.

First, the boat which sails on the 21st April, taking quite a lot of the old timers. To all, we extend our best wishes for the future. May their job in civvy street be as cushy as it has been in the Army. To those for the home establishment, may you be lucky in the Records dip for units.

Secondly, the annual unit sports which commence on the 6th May. The fight for the Pritchard cup looks as if it is going to be keen. However, more of this next month, when we know the result.

Thirdly, the annual inspection by the Area Commander which takes place on Tuesday 9th May. The unit is at the present moment in the throes of buffing up, and it is nothing to see a worried-looking lad cleaning a window or something in the middle of the night. Until Tuesday is safely passed, sleep is a troubled and uneasy affair. However, let's hope everything goes off o.k.

By the way, if some of those who left Egypt a few years ago returned to the fold now, they wouldn't know the place—so altered is it by gardens. Gardening seems to be the favourite pastime these days, and the camp is very much improved as a result. More power to your elbows, lads ; it's worth it.

Training.—Collective training for the year is finished, and I believe all reports have been satisfactory. Now we look forward

to that bugbear of soldiering, the I.T. period. It is necessary, I suppose, but oh! how we all hate it. This year the operators will be the main feature in the programme, and it is a chance to increase the pocket money, so buckle in, lads, and get that B.1.

Departures.—Since our last notes appeared, our Section officer has left on three months leave to England, and Sigmn Kelly has been posted to the home establishment.

Junior N.C.O.s Mess.

Logic.—It has been stated that notes from this source are likened unto income tax—once a quarter—but the exception proves the rule. The length of the exception, however, remains to be seen.

Brighter Mess Movement.—Some time ago we started a Brighter Mess movement. New 100-watt lamps were purchased, bunting and garlands were hung, but still the mess remained a morgue. Then, behold, a damsel from the west descended upon us in the form of a N.A.A.F.I. manageress. Lo, the reformation had begun! Flowers shot up round the mess, walads shaved, Mess members changed at night, hair became parted in the middle, fungi sprouted upon upper lips, and salutations such as "Topping evening, old bhoy!" "Thanks hawfully, old fruit," or "Order your supper first, old man" became the order of the day, although reinforced elbows were a close second.

Sergeants became greatly interested in the welfare of the men, visiting the canteen at every available minute, and making sure that all complaints went through to the proper quarter: the manageress. In fact, except for such trifles as farewells to drafts and celebrating sports victories and individual successes, the manageress has done plenty to uplift the social standing of Egypt Signals. (An illuminated address is being presented to her.)

Arrivals.—We welcome all newcomers and trust that they will find Egypt and her ways to their liking. One new member has already visited the Street of Forgotten Men; others are waiting until the quarantine period is over (the new draft have to wait two months before being allowed civvies or a pass).

Departures.—We offer our very best wishes to those who have left us for civilian life, and trust they will be successful in keeping the wolf from the tent—sorry! door. To those who left for units at home "So long," because if what the new draft says is true they will soon be hurrying back.

Indoor Sports.—The Mess has now started upon another cycle of indoor amusement, "fat" being the order of the day. If a "mike" were installed, something like this would be recorded: "If you had led your ten-banger, I could have played my ace and then led a small spade for you to trump in with your eighteen-banger, if you had had the banger, providing you had no spades, and that the next player had a spade"—and in subdued tone the game goes on. At present the noises in the "fat" world are Tubby Couperthwaite and Tubby Harris; but, then, look at the start they've had.

Scotsman's Corner.—Mess members would like to hear from Corpl Jock Shaw in Sarafand. Smudger, Sarafand: Will write bardin. Dick.

Tailpiece.—Old soldier (one badge): "That wasn't a bad Jubilee parade." HON.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Nothing very exciting happens nowadays, and we are now settled down to the summer routine, which will be the last one for most of us.

We welcome to the fold all the newcomers, and we hope their stay in Helmieh will be a happy one.

Individual Training.—Once again the time comes round for a few of us to pick up pencil and notebook and try (with the aid of a few extra hours studying) to gain higher qualifications and reap the financial reward.

Easter Holidays.—On the 19th April No. 3 Detachment, consisting of L/Corpl Fielding and Signalmen Rogers, Devlin and Flowett, left with B Squadron for a three days trip to the Gulf of Suez. According to reports they had a wonderful time; in fact, the Pioneer says it was the best trip he had been on.

On the 24th April No. 2 Detachment, consisting of Corporal Shaddick and Signalmen Lea, Erhorn and Manley, left with C Squadron for the Gulf, but I am afraid they did not stop long enough to enjoy it—coming back on the 25th. Anyhow, we wait for July, when (we are told) we are to have our grand finale in trips, which is going to be a bumper.

The married families of this Troop wish to thank Colonel and Mrs. Bald for giving them such an excellent trip to the Zoo. The Silver Jubilee presentation boxes for the children were a pleasant surprise to them. We heard Mrs. Bald say that this was the last trip. Time indeed does fly.

Shooting.—We have taken part in some of the Wednesday morning shoots organised by the 11th Hussars, and so far our results have been satisfactory. These shoots are both enjoyable and profitable, Mac, and we are grateful for the amount of work you put into them.

We had one excellent morning's shoot against C Squadron, with teams of eight, each man firing grouping, application and rapid. We were beaten by 18 points. Further interest was added by S.Q.M.S. Ward presenting a silver spoon (one of his own trophies) for the best individual score. This was won by L/Cpl Garbutt of C Squadron with 91 out of a possible 100. S.Q.M.S. Ward and L/Corpl Hartley tied for second place with 89 each. Our team was L/Sergt Onyett F., L/Corporals Fielding G. and Hartley F., Signalmen Catigen T., Erhorn W., Knight A., Burns W. and Taylor A.

C Squadron are really worthy foes, and we intend to try very hard next time. Meanwhile, Roger, we much appreciate the sporting offer of the silver spoon, and intend to go in for the set. By the way, you haven't any silver teapots, have you?

We Want to Know.—Who saw the triangles from the Citadel balcony? How blue is Bottle? What is this game of hitchie dabba? Who is Piper Macnair, and where did he last play?

Conclusion.—Tempus fugit. I have no more news to tell you, so I close until next month, and I sign myself YATIM.

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

Not So General.—Stand by, folks, for late edition. . . . . .

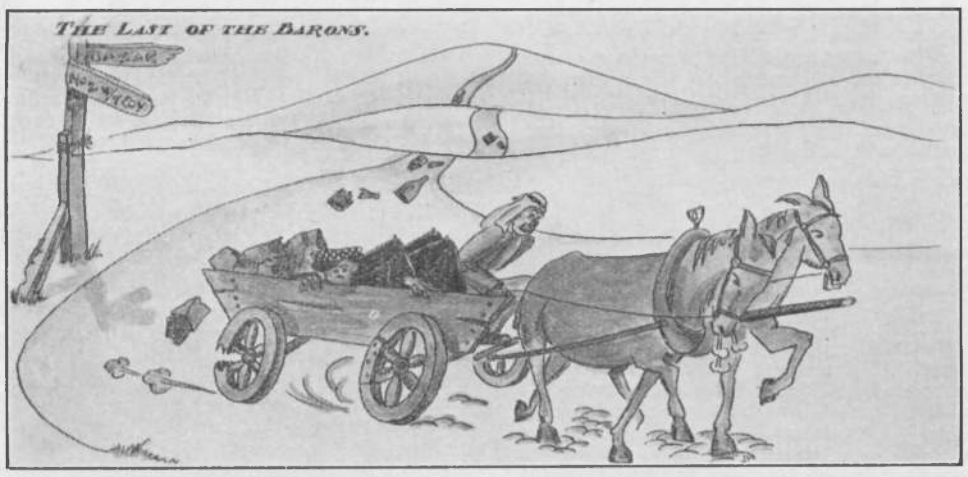
RESULTS OF THE GREAT RACE.—No, not the human race. A few evenings ago there was a very exciting road race from Robust Victoria's, the celebrated night club of the local bazar, to—well, a fight to the finish. The competitors were Mint and Smudger (061). The former conceded ten yards, since he had the advantage of several bottles aboard. We (that's the Press) chartered the fastest taxi in Ramleh, not only to keep up with the leader but to see fair play.

The starting signal was the "plop" of a drawn cork, and the crowd murmured "They're off!" With a roar and a cloud of dust, the race began. For the first two miles the leader retained his concession (square 6). [For listeners who have just tuned in, this is the great road race held at Sarafand: we are broadcasting on a wavelength of 1—12 metres. We are now taking you back to the race.] Mint was seen to draw slowly up, but alas! as he rounded Tattenham Corner he saw the race was lost, and he was heard to mutter "D—— the old school tie!" Swerving to the right, he bent down as if exhausted, but, grasping a huge rock, he maliciously hurled it in true league style. Luckily, he missed his mark.

As we came to our studio to transmit this news, we saw Mint in the distance, timing himself as he circumambulated the sports field. We can at least wish him every success in the return match.

Society News.—This week's television picture, as you will see, shows our old friend the Baron returning home in his state coach after his weekly inspection of the serfs and the dungeons. Apropos: Much to his profound disgust, he found the court jester had filled his lordship's bed with geraniums. At this point the Baron was heard to remark "If I catch the young bounder, I'll. . . . ." Well, that's all that *was* heard.

Hops.—Congratulations to U/L/Corpl Moran L. on his recent appointment. We believe the secret of his success is his great consumption of gum arabic. Stick it, Lu.



Goings.—We wish Sergeants Jones and Gover the very best in their new station.

Uncle Mac is now taking the Mic.

A talk entitled " Shades of Mr. Chapman."

The sporting world will, I am sure, be anxious to know the whereabouts of our contemporary S. G. Gover, late of Aldershot-cum-Sarafand. This noted but very rheumatic (sorry!—dramatic) sportsman, transferred as recently as September last from Aldershot after nine years unbroken service on their books—a movement which we are told completely disorganised the R.E. Services—arrived at Sarafand fuming with indignation, having suffered from mal-de-mer and an unquenchable thirst en route (transfer fee: one firkin of McEwan's).

His love of sport soon became known, and his many achievements in this sphere were talked over by himself to the tinkling of the emptying and filling of tumblers, one pint, R.A.F. pattern. Unfortunately for this country—it being generally understood that he was training for the Maccabiah, 1935, held recently in Tel Aviv—he trod on his own foot whilst out on a training run (crawl). Royal Berkshires, please note.

Still suffering, this noted sportsman passed on to the land of the Pharaohs, where (we are given to understand) he has got his feet (this includes the foot he unfortunately trod on) well under the table, and we sit back here anxiously scanning the Egyptian papers for further news of this noted traveller-cum-sportsman.

This is being relayed to *The Ash Vale Gazette*.

Comings.—We welcome Corpl Shaw from Egypt Signals. On being asked if he had any " agonies " for THE WIRE, he replied " Only one long one."

Corpl Winders and Sigmn Raynor have joined us from England. Although we know their stay will be a long one, we trust it will be equally as happy.

Night, night, everybody. Q.R.U.TUT.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Wednesday 10th April.

Hail, ricksha! Yes, this is Singapore Signals calling the outside world once again, though I'm afraid that we haven't much news to broadcast this month.

Sick List.—We are sorry to record that our second-in-command, Captain Moppett, is suffering from an attack of malaria. We all wish him a speedy recovery and return to duty. We also sympathise with C.O.M.S. Thorpe. Although due to return to the sunny south of England (fog, rain and mist) he has to while away his time in hospital in Singapore, awaiting the hour when he is fit and well enough to traverse the nine thousand odd miles to merrie England.

News has also reached us that the Fort Canning detachment, having informed their respective lady loves that they are not well, are having a quiet spell in hospital—the respective diseases varying from Chinese feet to Singapore ears. However, they all come under one classification, i.e. swingitus.

We also note that Sigmn Smith, our D.R., is doing his stuff with his super-sports twin B.S.A. and is rapidly filling the General Hospital with local jay walkers.

Cable.—A few days ago I noticed two mobile stacks of mud gliding around this fair isle. On investigation, they turned out to be our two linemen, L/Cpl Morton and Sigmn Holmes. They had been laying a buried cable. Of course, it rained the rain of the just, and it was quite amusing to see them both wallowing in the mud and mire. A home from home, eh, Badge? Anyway, the cable is well and truly laid, and no complaint so far has reached our delicate ears.

Health Trip.—Recently, the detachment spent a very enjoyable outing on the W.D.V. *Sir Hastings Anderson*. Our first port of call was Changi, but the savages in that part of the jungle failed to hang out the flags and turn out the tom-toms, so off we went to Pulau Sambo and spent several hours there. A team of the boys played the locals of Sambo at football, the result being a draw. As darkness slowly engulfed us, we heaved anchor and awa' to the lights o' Singapore.

Sport.—Old Sectionites will be pleased to hear that Signalman Holmes (Stumpy) still does his stuff on the soccer field and is up to his usual very high standard. Well done, Joe boy! it is a pity we haven't a Signal team on the island.

Do You Realise?—That a fortune awaits the guy who invents a genuine mosquito muzzle. Come on, you cads! You've thought out muzzles for bad dogs and talkative wives. How about one for the mosquitoes, now? Think of it: a muzzled mosquito—fousan's of 'em.

Correspondence.—Dicko, Egypt: Well done, Boris boy! a Z.3 cook, eh? Look what I've done for your future career. Lord help them! Baron.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker A. R. per the *Ranchi*. We wish him a happy sojourn in Singapore, and remind him that there is plenty of cable to be laid yet.

Seen and Heard Rambling Around.—In the canteen. P.B. Old timer (to new draft): " What! didn't you know that ' Blakan Mati' is Malay for ' Isle of the Dead ' ? Why, that's the reason Signalmen Scott and Williams are poked away there. Oh, yes! ' Pulau Brani ' means ' Isle of the Braves.' Thought you would have guessed that after seeing Sergt Watmore and his braves (!) strolling around. Head hunters? Bah! I've. . . . . Fort Canning? Oh! that's where all the invalids go; they're always in hospital. Changi? Ah! that's another tale: Legion of the Condemned, poked away out in the blue. 'Tis a sad tale."

Nuff said. Cheerio, everybody, until next full moon

BARON (T.B.C.)

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

The recent Jubilee celebrations have provided us with an unforgettable experience—one of which we feel extremely proud. This was, of course, our part in assisting to line the route of the Royal Procession on the 6th May. We were allotted a frontage on the Embankment near the Temple Gardens—a particularly fortunate choice for us in view of the temperature.

Approximately seventy members of the unit, including a full complement of officers, were on parade, and we were very pleased to see many older members with their fine display of medals.

We should have travelled to the Embankment by Underground, but having received an invitation to accompany the 27th (London) A.A. Searchlight Battalion, R.E. (T.A.) and band, the unit enthusiastically accepted the offer and so marched through London. The advance party of one officer and four n.c.o.s had, however, to travel by Underground, and they are still complaining of their misfortune. A photograph of the Jubilee detachment, taken by the Non-Flash Banquet Photo Co. after their return to headquarters, is shown on the next page.

We congratulate Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins, our commanding officer, on receiving his Territorial efficiency decoration on the 3rd May.

A detachment under Captain E. Boggis enjoyed a delightful Easter camp at Blackdown with the 1st Air Defence Brigade Signals. Several Easter camps have now been spent there, and we take this opportunity of thanking the Regular Air Defence Signals for their efforts on our behalf.

The weather on Easter Saturday upset our work, but in the bright intervals we were able to carry out parts of the scheme which had been planned. During the day we were favoured with a visit by Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.M.G., D.S.O. (commanding the Air Defence Formations), accompanied by Col. C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O. (commanding the 26th (London) Air Defence Brigade) and Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., with our own commanding officer and Captain A. Hemsley, T.D. Major H. C. Carey Thomas also came to see the detachment on Good Friday.

On Easter Sunday our hon. colonel attended our church parade at the Garrison Church. On leaving the church we were unfortunate enough to find ourselves between two bands, each playing in different time, and in those circumstances our unusual steps may be excused. We shall want some practice to keep up with the Light Infantry step!

A football match was arranged on Easter Monday against the Regular Signals remaining in camp. We understand that the result (a win by 3—1) was due not so much to our fine play as the absence of our opponents' best players. We should like to try conclusions with a full home team on some future occasion.

Our goalie saved several shots which would not have disgraced him had they reached the net. Incidentally, any offers for him should be made to the sports officer. The standard rate is one pint per goal let through, but the home team reserves the right to offer better terms for goals saved (no bribes until after the match).

It has been suggested that this friendly match should be an annual function, and that a unique challenge cup should be offered. We may see the christening next year. Details are very secret at the moment, but it is rumoured that authority has been obtained for a huge grant (something like 4d.!) from the funds.

Wanted before our next Easter camp: a reliable alarm clock.

H.S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

[Received too late for the May issue]

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The results of the operators' trade tests are now to hand, and they show steady progress. The special classes of instruction during the winter months have proved of great value in this direction. The trade tests for linemen, despatch riders, etc., have taken place, and the results are now awaited.

Sectional training has commenced, and special Section Sunday exercises are now in course of preparation. It is anticipated that these will be as well supported as on previous occasions.

Weapon training is also proceeding, and the annual course is being undertaken in four stages. With the added practice facilities during the winter, a general improvement in marksmanship is noted.

Congratulations to Lieutenants C. G. H. Govier, L. E. O. Evans and A. S. Crocker on passing their recent promotion examination.

AU REVOIR.—In bidding farewell to Mr. A. F. Herbert, our late R.S.M., we thank him most sincerely for all that he has done for the unit during his tour of duty, and we wish him the best of luck in his new sphere. In a unit such as ours, which is spread over so wide an area, the R.S.M.'s duties are very exacting, but the problem did not appear to cause Mr. Herbert much anxiety. He will also be missed outside the unit, as he took a very keen interest in rugby, etc., in connection with the city.

As his successor, we welcome Mr. G. E. Stone, a previous Company P.S.I., and we hope his tour on the higher duty will be both pleasant and beneficial. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

News is lacking this month, and I can only chronicle that the various special classes have now closed. Congratulations to those operators who have scored, and better luck to those who just missed the fence. The linemen's turn is now at hand, and we are waiting for the verdict.

Keen preparation is taking place each night for a period in readiness for the Jubilee parade on the Hoe on the 6th May. We in the Terriers feel justly proud to have been asked to join with the Regulars in doing honour to His Majesty.

Hearty congratulations to Mr. G. E. Stone on his appointment as R.S.M. in this unit. ONECOY.

Headquarters, Exeter, May 1935.

Editorial.—The main topic everywhere this month has been the Silver Jubilee celebrations in honour of Their Majesties the King and Queen. A wonderful day was vouchsafed in all parts, and parades took place in somewhat varied forms. The Territorials in Plymouth were privileged to form part of the general review of all branches of H.M. Services on the Hoe. Elsewhere church parades and a march past were the order. Details are given briefly in the various Company notes.

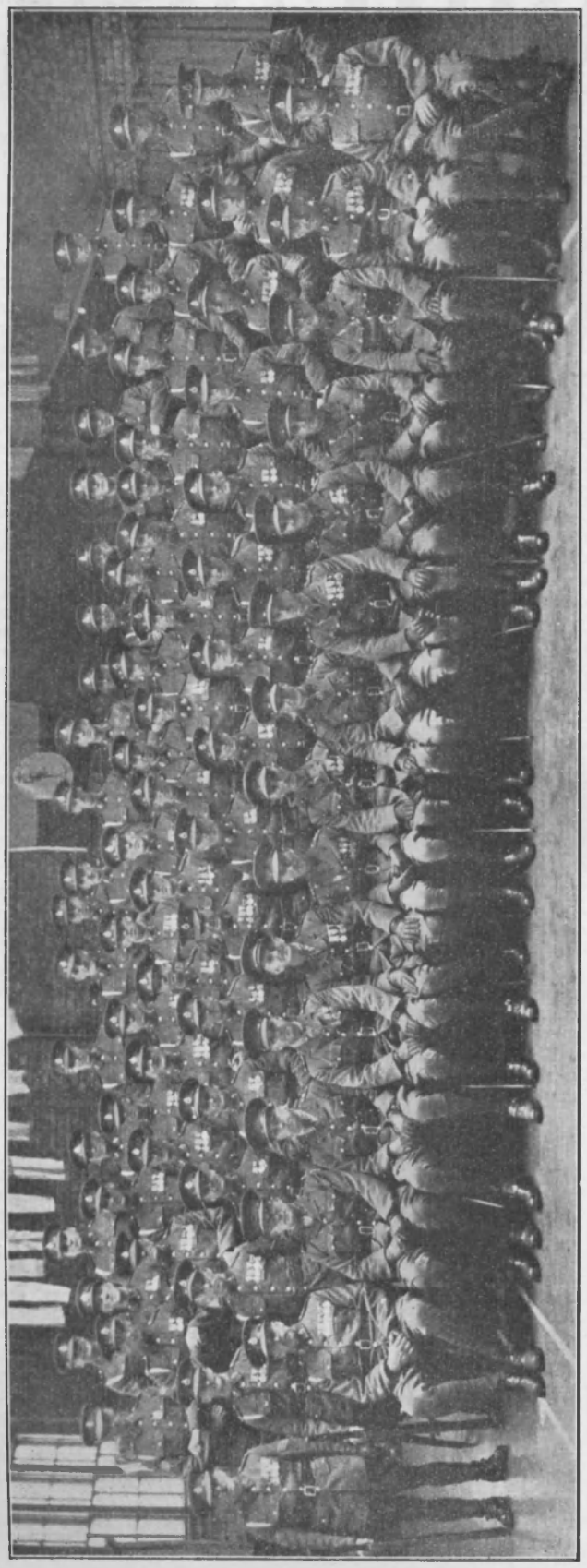
Now that Sectional training is in progress, we find all ranks settling down well to their respective jobs, and the Section Sunday exercises are about to commence. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Major Cornelius, with two officers and forty-five men of the Company, represented the unit at the Jubilee Day parade on the 6th May. The Navy, Army and Air Force combined for a review on Plymouth Hoe by the Commander-in-Chief of the Devonport Station, Vice-Admiral Sir E. J. A. Fullerton, K.C.B., D.S.O., which provided a glorious spectacle befitting the occasion. Following the parade, the Territorials marched to the 5th Devons' drill hall, where a lunch was served with appropriate liquid refreshment, and the proceedings concluded on a light note late in the afternoon.

Section training is here again, and the value of the winter trade classes is now showing itself. Although we shall have a change of work this year, fundamentally our difficulty is still to produce sufficiently good operators and tradesmen generally. We commend again those who have worked since camp at the least attractive side of soldiering and have benefited themselves and their Company.

Congratulations to Mr. C. G. H. Govier and Mr. A. S. Crocker on passing their promotion examination. ONECOY.



No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

We very much regret that we were unable to send any notes last month, but apparently the whole machinery collapsed—and we were not alone.

The past months have been rather eventful. We firstly have had the linemen's classes and test, and these have been very well attended; and the fact that every candidate passed and some got a higher rating than they had last year is a fitting tribute to the instructors. Congratulations to all.

On Monday last, the 6th May, we had our Jubilee parade. J Section paraded on their own at Topsham and, we understand, had a very good turn out. The remainder of the Company joined in the civic parade at Exeter. After attending the service at the Cathedral, there was a march past. The route was from the Cathedral past the Guildhall, where the salute was taken by Colonel Woolcombe, and thence through the main streets. It is very pleasing to get such good reports from outsiders of the general appearance of the Royal Signals on this parade, and every man is to be heartily congratulated on the turn out. With so little training in this department, it is little less than amazing that the standard on these occasions is so high. Well done! Keep it up.

Summer training is now starting, and we shall soon be having our first Sunday exercise.

Now, No. 1 Company, what do you think of Douglas engines? Is a glass of lemonade welcome after a hot morning's cable laying? Only remember that, after the lunch hour, you will have to pick up your cable again. We will give you our opinion of A sets next time.

THREECOY.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—The never-to-be-forgotten day of Their Majesties' Silver Jubilee state drive on Monday 6th May has come and gone. Glorious sunshine made all the difference in the world to the splendour of the procession and the colourful decorations along the route, and (without doubt) to the patience and pleasure of the vast crowd of spectators—not to mention the comfort of the troops on duty.

This unit, which supplied sixteen officers and seventy-six other ranks, has every reason to be proud of the discipline and general turn-out of everyone on parade. Although we stood in one place for four hours under a sun which was for most of the time uncomfortably hot, not one member fell out. Other units on our flanks can certainly not boast of such a fine performance, which—having regard to the very little training we Terriers get in such matters—constituted a pretty good test of endurance.

It is nearly twenty-four years ago since the Territorial Army as a whole has seen duty on such an important or similar function—not since the Coronation of His Majesty in June 1911—and the thrill of actually offering the Royal Salute to the King and Queen, and the sight of them from behind our presented rifles, will, we are sure, ever remain in the minds of all of us a memory of a very proud moment.

Jubilee medals have been awarded to Lieut.-Colonel H. Ll. Howard, M.C., Lieut.-Q.M. S. W. Dolbear, M.M., Sergt Elms G. D. and L/Corpl Ramsey J. E. (T.A.), Sergt Abercrombie H., Sigmn Hackett (S.R.).

General training will now recommence in earnest, and a few week-end trainings are scheduled to take place during the next month or two.

Officers.—We welcome the arrival of 2/Lieut W. Hawking, who was transferred to this unit from the 49th Divisional Signals on the 4th February last.

The officers' monthly dinner was held on the 9th May. Thirty officers and their guests attended and spent a very enjoyable evening.

VEZ Mr. Brooke.—We would like Mr. Brooke to know that he is often remembered, and that we all sympathise with him in the long illness which has kept him on his back for many long months. We greatly miss his cheerful presence, and we hope that his complete recovery will come very soon.

Sergeants Mess.—The Murphy snooker handicap cup is again being competed for, and we have won the first round by handsomely beating the 25th Cyclists O.C.A. by 3—1 games.

We heartily congratulate C.Q.M.S. Tobias J. and Sergt Knowles C. on being awarded the efficiency medal (Territorial).

We also have much pleasure in congratulating Sergt. Burrows L. J. on his marriage. He and Miss Ida Coote tied the nuptial knot at Christ Church, Brondesbury, on Thursday 11th April. Four Mess members, together with the groom's brother Sigmn Jack Burrows (from the S.T.C. Training Battalion, Catterick, and at one time a corporal in this unit) and C.Q.M.S. Sams (Royal Fusiliers) formed a guard of honour and made an arch of flags, Army, signal, small, white with blue stripe, furled. Unfortunately, the photographer failed to include them in the picture as he snapped the happy couple emerging from the church. He apparently focussed most of his attention, as well as his camera, on the charming bride, and judging from the accompanying photograph, we suggest he was not really to blame! Good luck, Les. May your married life be a signal success, and your troubles, if any, be just dots or dashes.

Sergeant L. J. Burrows and his Bride.
[Photo by A. W. Dron, Brondesbury]

Social.—On Monday 6th May we held a really marvellous Jubilee ball. Dancing was practically continuous from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. The hall was brilliantly and colourfully illuminated, thanks to the never-flagging efforts of Sergeant Blanco White—giving the place that Jubilee touch which certainly seemed to fill the exceptionally large attendance with the appropriate spirit. We regret, however, that more officers and other members of the unit were not present at this rather important and outstanding social event.

Shooting.—We fired against a team from the Fulham Borough Council on Friday 26th April, but lost by 20 marks. Bearing in mind, however, that our opponents were using proper Vickers miniature range rifles with aperture sights, and wrapping their slings around their arms to steady their aim, while we were using the ordinary converted Service rifle, the margin by which we lost may perhaps be considered comparatively small.

Football.—On Easter Monday two coach-loads of members and friends travelled down to Mons Barracks for the return match with the 1st Divisional and A Corps Signals. An excellent game was played, and the usual good spirit and sportsmanship—which is always so evident when our Regular comrades and ourselves meet on such occasions—was again well marked. The ground was terribly boggy and made play very heavy going, although the frequent falls were rendered correspondingly soft. After a good ding-dong game, the result was a score of two goals each. All the visitors were given an excellent high tea in the N.A.A.F.I. and afterwards invited to the w.o.s and sergeants mess, where a very pleasant evening was spent. We take this opportunity of placing on record our thanks and appreciation of a very enjoyable day.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Jubilee Parade.—The unit took part in the great march through the city streets of all the Birmingham T.A. units and other Services. The unit paraded at Cateswell House with the excellent strength of about 75 per cent of all ranks, including the Supplementary Reserve, and were transported in buses to the assembly point in the city, where they re-formed for the march in the following order:—Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies, and No. 4 Company R.A.F. Signals, S.R., with a mechanised detachment in the rear (under Mr. Malins) comprising a telephone wagon drawn behind the six-wheeler (driven by Sergt Wilkinson) and three despatch riders on motor cycles. The column photograph shown overleaf (reproduced by courtesy of *The Birmingham Mail*) shows the unit marching past the Lord Mayor.

The officers carried their swords and all ranks were Signal arm bands, which added an impressive touch of colour. If I may say so without blushing, I have heard it said that the mechanised detachment, with their gleaming (ahem!) machines, came in for an extra bit of cheering from the spectators who densely lined the footpaths.

Two of our despatch riders (Signalmen Clutterbuck and Daniels) were placed at the disposal of Brigade H.Q. and were kept busy carrying messages between the Brigadier and the saluting base.

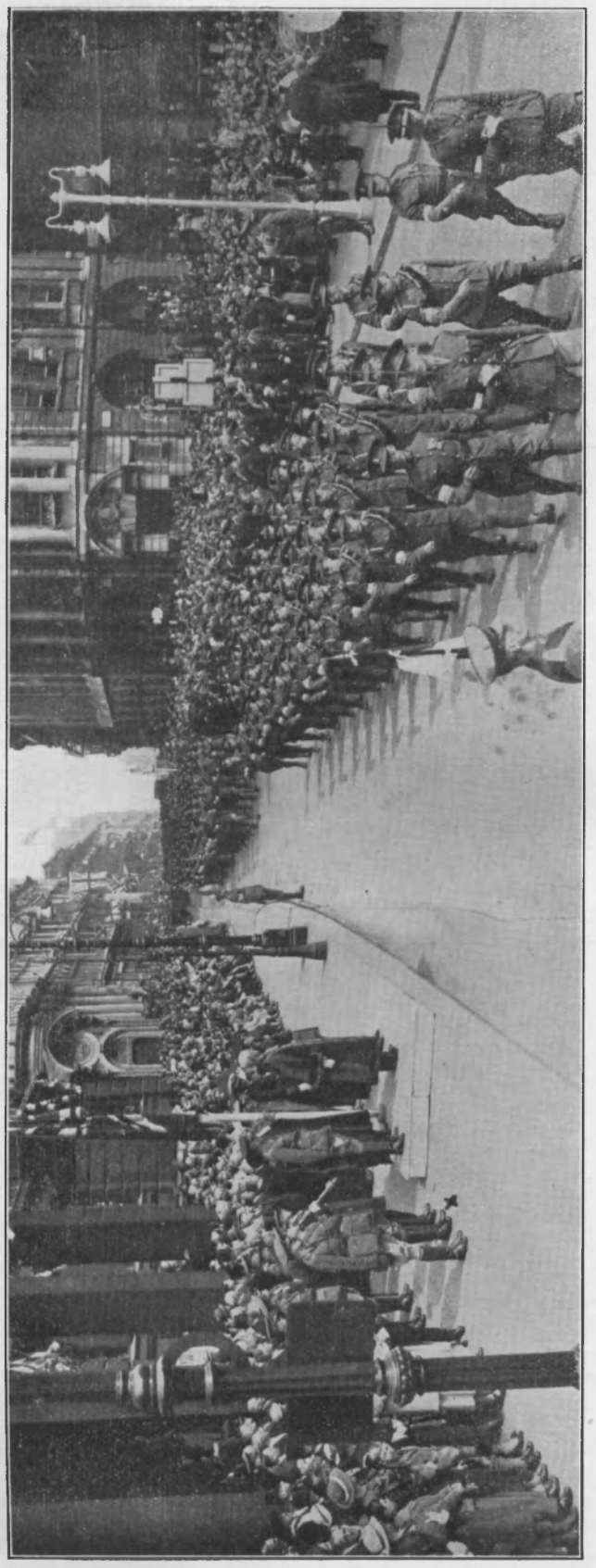
The route of the march was Steelhouse Lane, Colmore Row, Victoria Square (where the salute was taken by the Lord Mayor of Birmingham) and back via New Street and Corporation Street. The Lord Mayor, at the saluting base, was accompanied among others by our hon. colonel (Colonel B. J. T. Ford, T.D).

After the march past the unit returned to Cateswell House, where they were inspected by Colonel Ford, after which headdress was removed and three hearty cheers given for Their Majesties the King and Queen. After the parade was dismissed, every man was provided with a mug of beer and a sandwich through the generosity of Colonel Ford.

General.—There has been a steady influx of recruits, showing a definite improvement on last year in both numbers and quality. A special effort has been made to attract despatch riders, and a letter from the C.O. published in the Press, which set out the advantages of service as despatch riders, brought in a number of useful enlistments. Meanwhile, the charging room has been equipped with a lathe and other workshop accessories necessary for motor cycle maintenance and repairs, which will be at the disposal of the despatch riders. Thanks are due to Captain Challen, who kindly supplied the machines and gear.

Training is forging ahead with satisfactory attendance, which has shown a marked improvement since the advent of the light nights. On the 14th April the despatch riders carried out some Sunday training under Lieut. Soutter. The run covered approximately one hundred miles over various routes touching Warwick, Stratford-on-Avon, Willersley and Welford-on-Avon. Practice in map reading was carried out.

Gardening Notes.—Several correspondents have been commenting on the absence of gardening notes last month. The explanation is that our gardening expert has been extremely busy



in dealing with swarms of rook(ie)s—species okurdus squadus. He hopes to contribute next month.

One correspondent is enquiring about the telegraph poles in our field. He wants to know if they are expected to grow in time into full sized ones. The answer is that they are a special dwarf variety evolved by a P.S.I. who finds it easier thus to get up the pole.

Another enquirer is troubled with a blight known as Kingsbury tremens or St. Vitus bullseye. Answer: Irrigate freely with AAA.

No! the P.S.I. wireless poles are not last year's hollyhocks.

Did Sergt Cq find any half-crowns in Corporation Street—or was it a rabbit hole?

Tense moments in history: When the driver of the six-wheeler misjudged his lock, and the police had to remove the crowd to enable him to get round.

Sergeants Mess.—By popular request a Jubilee carnival dance was arranged on the 4th May. A true Jubilee spirit prevailed, and the dancers really let themselves go. The thanks of the Mess are proffered to Colonel Ford for his generous gift of beer and cigarettes. His health was not forgotten, next to that of Their Majesties.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death at Birmmgham, on the 7th May, of Lieutenant J. C. Brooke, the senior subaltern of the unit, after a long and painful illness.

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Outstanding in a full and busy month is, of course, the parade held on Monday 6th May to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Their Majesties. There was a splendid turn out of all ranks of both the T.A. and S.R. units, and the high reputation enjoyed by the Signals in Leeds was still further enhanced by the smartness and discipline of the parade.

Pre-camp Section training is now in full swing, and the results so far achieved point to a successful annual training. Several small matters requiring rectification have been revealed, but there should be no difficulty in putting these right in future exercises.

Training.—Two week-end camps have been held since the beginning of the merry month on the site at Arthington which the unit was fortunate in securing last year.

The first, on the 4th—5th May, was for the Sections of No. 1 Company, and despite the fact that the parade fell short of expectations in numbers, it was quite successful, seeing that it was the first Company outdoor scheme of the year.

The following week-end was occupied with an Infantry Brigade exercise, and here again, as on the first scheme, the wireless seems to have met with considerable success.

Each week-end right up to the end of July will be taken up with camp for one Section or another, and we look forward to the continuance throughout this season of the interest which last year was reflected in the good attendances.

The general standard of efficiency in operating has much improved as a result of the "father and son" classes, which are still running on Thursdays, and the benefit received by the younger operators is quite apparent.

The Silver Jubilee.—As previously mentioned, this was celebrated on the 6th May. A parade was held on Woodhouse Moor, in which all the Territorial organisations in Leeds took part. Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren was in charge of the Signal units. Following the salute of twenty-one guns by the 69th Brigade Royal Artillery, and the National Anthem, three cheers were given for His Majesty, and the Lord Mayor of Leeds (Alderman W. Hemingway) took the salute at the subsequent march past. The hon. colonel (Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D.), who was also present, later congratulated all ranks on the smartness of the turn out.

The unit was granted five of the silver medals struck in celebration of the Jubilee. They were awarded to Colonel Boyle, Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Lieut.-Quartermaster F. Tebbs, D.C.M., C.S.M. Allen R., D.C.M., and Sigmn Towers.

Presentation.—This month sees the departure from Gibraltar Barracks, at the end of long and devoted service, of Benny Lee,

who has from time immemorial been in charge of the canteen. "Old Benny" (as he was known to all) was literally "in with the valuation," and the little presentation made to him on the occasion of his retirement evidenced the thanks of all ranks for the exemplary manner in which the canteen has always been run. The time comes for us all sooner or later, Benny, and we wish you good health and long life in your new sphere.

Exciting Eggsperience.—At least one sergeant has learned the truth of the old adage that honesty is the best policy, and that sins (like chicken) come home to roost. A Sunday scheme in a farmyard, a stray egg under a stack, and a sticky, slimy tunic pocket, have taught him his lesson. No names—but in future eggs will be just a pain in the neck to Sergeant Bell.

Sergeants Mess Meeting.—At the quarterly meeting of the Mess on Monday 13th May C.Q.M.S. Brown was elected president. The new committee was elected as follows: C.S.M. Allen, C.Q.M.S.s Dobson and Dalgliesh, Sergeants Speight and Fleming, and C.Q.M.S. Wood (S.R.); secretary, C.S.M. Joynes. A hearty vote of thanks to the committee for their untiring efforts during the past six months was carried with acclamation.

Arrangements for annual camp were made, and it was decided to form a concert party. Now, you sinners, sing! TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—With the coming of spring (and this is late in the north of Scotland—at least, so it seems to the scribe) the Company is setting about the work of getting the Sections ready for annual training. Week-end trainings are in the offing, and the drill hall is a hive of industry on drill nights. Out-of-camp training promises well, and although recruits have not been many this year, those we have appear to be good and keen to take their places in the Sections when recruit training is over.

Inter-Company Rifle Competition.—No. 2 Company are again the winners of the shooting cup. The following are the results of the best two shoots:—No. 1 Company, 371 and 366—737. No. 2 Company, 373 and 368—741. No. 3 Coy. 333 and 319—652.

The competition between Nos. 1 and 2 Companies for this cup is always very keen; and although the latter have held it for the last four years, when we *do* get it, we mean to keep it—so watch your steps next year, No. 2 Company.

Jubilee Celebrations.—A ceremonial parade of all units in Aberdeen, commanded by Colonel R. A. Bulloch, D.S.O. (commanding the 153rd Infantry Brigade) was held in an open space at the Gollowgate, Aberdeen, on Jubilee Day.

The loyal address was read by the Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Aberdeen, and the parade listened to the reading relayed from the Town House by loud speakers. On the conclusion of the loyal address, the Royal Salute was given, followed by three cheers for His Majesty the King. Colonel Bulloch then inspected the parade.

After the inspection, all units marched up Union Street past the steps of the music hall where the Lord-Lieutenant took the salute. The route from the parade ground to the music hall was thronged. People began to assemble quite early in the morning, and Aberdeen's own regiment (the 4th Battalion The Gordon Highlanders) received a special ovation from the crowds. All units were well turned out, and their bearing on parade and during the march past was a credit to them. This unit had seventy-nine in all on parade, and at the conclusion the O.C. No. 1 Company complimented them on their smartness and good turn out.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate Corporal Chilles J. S. on his promotion to that rank, and also L/Corporals Ferguson A. and Grant E. on their appointment. HIGHDIV.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—This week brings us to the end of the individual training period, and we commence Section training on the 15th May. There is at the moment much sorting and checking of Section stores, and the recruits about to join Sections are gradually learning the difference between the various items. They have done really well during the recruit training period, and we wish we had more of the same type. The abnormal number of discharges this year has brought us badly below strength, and here we are, close on annual camp, with a deficiency of twenty-four signalmen. Recruiting is practically at a standstill, so we shall have to work ever so much harder than usual at camp, and shall miss some of the old hands whose places are going to be very hard to fill.

Shooting.—Headquarters having at last released the results of the three inter-Company shoots, we are glad to report that we are again the winners of the shooting cup for 1934-35. We freely admit that we were not at all sure about things, though we had maintained a fair average, as we had heard of good results from our old rivals No. 1 Company. However, they fell away badly in their last shoot, and we improved on ours, so we polish up the cup again with a good heart. Bad luck, No. 1! but as the lads say here, you will have to *steal* the cup from us if you really want it. This is our fourth successive win.

Complimentary.—All ranks of the Company congratulate our adjutant on the occasion of his marriage, and wish both him and Mrs. Dryland every good thing for the future.

Parades.—On the 6th May, together with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from Stirling Castle, the R.A.O.C. from the Ordnance Depot, and the 7th Battalion A. and S.H. and the 51st (H) Divisional R.A.O.C. (T.A.), we took part in a ceremonial parade in honour of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee. Of our total of seventy-two other ranks there were sixty-two in all on parade, which is very encouraging. The Company really surpassed themselves in general turn-out, rifle drill and steadiness on parade, and eye-witnesses have since expressed their view that we more than held our own compared with the Infantry battalions—which is also very encouraging. Considering that we have so little time in which to train in drill movements and rifle drill, great credit is due to all concerned.

Before the parade commenced, opportunity was taken to present to our P.S.I. (Sergt Law J.) his medal for long service and good conduct. It's wonderful how these fellows can dodge trouble for eighteen years. Hints on how it is done would be useful to many of us.

Agony.—Remembrances to Tich Wainscott and Aggie are extended from an old B Corps-ite. "Up, the Riffs." TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—We have been having a busy time during the past weeks in overhauling and testing instruments, running through cable, preparing for the Trade Board, etc.—not to mention wiring up exchanges and phones for training purposes. Previously, this has all had to be fixed up and dismantled the same evening, owing to lack of accommodation in the drill hall; but we have now been given premises which, after alterations have been carried out, will become our offices. We will then wire the place permanently, which (needless to say) will be of great assistance during courses and training.

Jubilee.—A good turn-out was witnessed when all units of Kirkcaldy T.A. paraded on the 6th May for a march through the town, headed by the silver band of the 20th Armoured Car Company (T.A.). The salute, taken by the Lord Provost at the Town House, was a feature of the parade. This was followed by a service at Kirkcaldy old parish church. This Company was well represented and earned appreciative remarks from many onlookers.

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. and Mrs. Hillman on the receipt of a daughter. To No. 2 Company on once again winning the .22 shoot. To our O.C. on having passed his promotion examination to Major. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Jubilee Jubilations.—The Lowland Signals celebrated the Jubilee in grand style. There was a great turn out of all ranks for the Jubilee parade on the 5th May. The units were commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Robertson, D.C.M. The parade took the form of a march through the city, terminating with marching past the Cenotaph, where the salute was taken by the Lord-Lieutenant of Glasgow, Sir Archibald Swan. Suitable arrangements were made for the entertainment of our members on their return to head-

quarters. We were glad to see on parade C.Q.M.S. Wilson Maxwell, the senior serving member of the units, and R.Q.M.S. Westlands, who was one of our representatives at the Coronation parade in London twenty-four years ago.

Camps Commence.—The season's programme of week-end camps was inaugurated by A Section of No. 1 Company (T.A.) holding a most successful one from the 20th to the 22nd April at Symington in Lanarkshire. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Major Niven. Everything worked to perfection, and much good work was done.

Lieut.-Quartermaster Wylie.—We most heartily congratulate Lieut. J. Wylie on his promotion to Lieut.-Quartermaster. He served with distinction for several years as R.S.M. of our units, and in that capacity he will be badly missed. Coming to us as a sergeant-instructor, Lieut. Wylie did much to place the Lowland Signal units on a sound basis. His influence and example as an R.S.M. were always of the best. Sound in his judgment, fair minded, and helpful at all times, Lieut. Wylie proved a decided asset to all ranks. We wish him well in his new sphere. It is our ardent hope that he will be with us for many years to come.

More Medals.—There has been an avalanche of medal winners of late. We record with pleasure the gaining of Territorial long service medals by Sergt-Major McNeil J. (24 years) and Sergt Christie J. ; the L.S. and G.C. medal by Sergt Schofield, P.S.I. ; and the Militia medal by Sergeants Mullins and Burgess. The recipients have each rendered excellent service, and we hasten to congratulate them.

Football.—We finished as runners-up in the Glasgow Amateur Football League. The championship evaded us by a short head. However, the unit's soccer season is regarded as having been highly satisfactory. The club's success has been due in no small measure to our energetic permanent staff, and in this connection Sergt Schofield is well worthy of mention.

Men's Moves.—The Men's Club celebrated the Jubilee by holding a smoker on the 6th May, the prime mover being Sigmn McLellan, who deserves the best thanks of his comrades.

Railway Signals.—Our local Railway Signal Section, under Captain Campbell, has now got going for the season. Camp, this year, is to be in Hampshire in August.

Motor Cycle Club.—The Motor Cycle Club is now well established, and the membership is steadily growing. Lieut. Gee, however, would be glad to welcome a few more members in order that full advantage may be taken of the club's summer outings.

Listen, Lallups!—Will Lallups, otherwise Sergt Lemon (late of the 3rd Divisional Signals) kindly communicate with Jock Graham, No. 23 Cable Section (S.R.) 21 Jardine Street, Glasgow? A cheery word from Lallups would provide the Graham fellow with a new lease of life.

Mackenzie No More!—With eager eyes and ears, he saw and heard the pipes and drums of the Lowland Signals on Jubilee Day. But he was not at their head. No more will he proudly lead the band that meant so much to him. Grand old Jimmy Mackenzie! you have had your day. Rest on your laurels. Caber feidh!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—The unit took part in the Jubilee celebrations in Cardiff on Saturday 11th May, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited the city. Approximately one hundred and fifty officers, n.c.o.s and men of this unit lined the streets on the arrival of H.R.H. during the morning. In the afternoon we were inspected by him in the Sophia Gardens. The prestige of the Corps was upheld as expected. We were glad to see the parent Corps represented on parade by a party from Tank Signals, Tidworth, who very successfully operated the public address equipment.

Congratulations.—Hearty congratulations to the following officers and other ranks who have been presented with the King's Silver Jubilee medal: Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C. (our commanding officer), Captain-Q.M. W. S. Catleugh, R.Q.M.S. Greedy F.J. and Sigmn Holland D.

Captain Catleugh has lately been appointed quartermaster to the unit. He began his military career in the 2nd Vol. Battn. The Welch Regiment in 1905, and went from them to the Welsh Divisional Telegraph Company R.E. (T.F.). He served with that unit until he was demobilised after the war, having received a commission in 1917. In 1922 he joined the reserve of this unit, and transferred to the active list in 1925. He has had great experience as a quartermaster, and we are glad to welcome one who has served with the unit and its predecessor for twenty-seven years.

Our officers of the unit have been drawn to play against the 5th Battalion The Welch Regiment in the first round of the golf competition for the cup presented by the G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command.

The details of this year's competition for the Salmon trophy for inter-Section small bore rifle shooting are now available. The practices to be fired are the same as those of the annual musketry course, and so a double interest will be given to the shooting. Marks are being awarded towards the inter-Section championship competition as well.

In addition to the above, a new competition is being held this year. This will be for the Section which has the best individual average in the annual musketry course. The trophy is a fine bronze of Napoleon presented by the late hon. colonel of the unit, Brevet-Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P.

We are sorry to lose our unit mascot, Sergt Bowen W.T., who was recently discharged from the unit after serving continuously from 1902. He joined this unit in 1920, and we all take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck. (Old soldiers never die ; they simply fade away.)

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—During the past month we have continued our individual training, held the Group E Trade Board, and have had to say to several aspirants " Not yet." However, several of those who had their noses down to the grindstone during the winter months have now reaped their reward and will be richer at annual camp. Our recruits have not lost heart, and are still absorbing Morse. They will be of use at annual camp, we are sure.

We have obtained the use of a small field adjoining the drill hall for the purpose of a sports ground. However, whilst we are putting it into shape, it is exceedingly useful as a training ground for A set erection and V/T teams. If anyone has a few spare goats, we shall be pleased to give them all the grazing they can put in. What a pity we haven't a few horses!

Week-End Camp.—This was held at Paglesham, on the banks of the river Roach, on the 27th and 28th April. Though the weather was none too good, plenty of useful work was put in, and the bar takings of " The Plough and Sail " must have gone up a few hundred per cent.

All ranks are looking forward to the next week-end in the wilds, though we hope for a little sunshine next time.

Jubilee Church Parade.—No. 3 Company will parade on Monday 6th May for the Jubilee church parade which takes place at the bandstand enclosure, Southend. We are expecting a bumper turn out and a smart one, judging from the turn out on the week-end camp, which left little to be desired.

Congratulations.—To 2/Lieut. R. V. Pascoe on being posted to No. 3 Company. Welcome, sir! how about that V/T cup ?

To those who were successful in the Group E Trade Board, " Well done!"

Free.—Two fine upstanding kittens, male and female, complete with tails, claws and pedigrees. Any offers ? THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

General.—Since our last notes were rendered, great things have been going on in Bedford. The town really woke up. This, of course, is an introduction (to those who didn't know it).

Week-End Camp.—On the 27th-28th April the unit held a week-end camp in the vicinity of Turvy, a nice little spot where girls are girls and pubs are also admired. Not many of the lads turned out for this first event of the season, the weather not being very nice and the exchequer of some being too low owing to the Easter holidays. However, we had a very nice time, did

some valuable training, and made arrangements for next time. Point to note: Will the C.O. kindly choose, next time, a field where cows do *not* congregate?

Jubilee Parade.—Held on Monday 6th May, when 80 per cent of the unit attended. This is a record attendance for a parade in Bedford. We paraded at 8.15 a.m. and marched to the Embankment, where all units formed up in column of fours and then marched past the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, giving him a smart "Eyes right." Then followed a service in Russell Park, where thousands were present and followed the service by means of loud speakers. It is hoped to publish in next month's WIRE a photo of the unit marching past.

Social.—A combined Signals and R.E. social evening was held in the drill hall on Saturday evening, 11th May. Again a record attendance, and nearly one hundred sat down to supper and danced until midnight. The music was provided by Tom Sayers and his orchestra (himself) and a radiogram. The last-mentioned wasn't much! TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7.

What a pity it is that old soldiers have eventually to fade away. We have just lost through retirement R.Q.M.S. Redmore T. W., D.C.M., after forty years service in the Regular and Territorial Armies. Apart from actual age, he looks (and, I'm sure, *is*) good enough for another twenty years yet. But he is gone, and one more of the old timers—the people who give an air to and start traditions in a unit—is off the roll.

Just glance at R.Q.M.S. Redmore's service record in brief. He enlisted in the Royal Engineers in April 1895; served in South Africa from 1899 to 1902; served all through the Great War of 1914—1918; on the 3rd April 1916 he was mentioned by General Sir C. Monro in the latter's despatch and was awarded the D.C.M. two months later. All his service in the Regulars was with the Royal Engineers, but on his discharge on pension he promptly enlisted in the Royal Signals (T.A.), in which Corps he has given most honourable and cheerful service, first as C.Q.M.S. and then as R.Q.M.S. until the 27th April 1935, when he finally retired.

The 55th Divisional Signals have been very proud to have him as a member, and his departure will be very keenly felt. Here is the best of good luck to him! A presentation was made to R.Q.M.S. Redmore in the sergeants mess as a memento of the years he had been with us.

The one bright point arising from Mr. Redmore's retirement is that the way is open to some well-merited promotions. C.Q.M.S. Cliffe W.F. of No. 3 Company becomes R.Q.M.S., and Sergeant Wylie A. C. W. is now C.Q.M.S. in his stead. Sergt Wylie was senior n.c.o. of K Section, and his place is taken by Sergt Sill J. C. H., whose object, no doubt, will be to prove as efficient as his predecessor.

Great were the rejoicings in Liverpool on Jubilee Day, and the T.A. took a prominent part in the proceedings. There was a parade in Sefton Park of all the Liverpool units, including the R.N.V.R. and several detachments from the Cheshire side of the river. There was a magnificent turn out, the parade mustering about 7000 men—completely flabbergasting the loyal citizens, who had no idea of the great number of Terriers in their city. The sight of the long column marching along the main route to the park was a memorable one.

The 7th Battn. The King's Regiment (Liverpool) T.A. took the principal role, being given the honour of trooping the Colours before Lord Derby, who attended as Lord-Lieut. of the County. The trooping was carried out in a manner wholly admirable and reminiscent of the Guards. The Colours were paraded first in slow time (this evoked special admiration) and then in quick time. Lord Derby was heard to remark that never had he seen the trooping better performed.

We had a splendid parade, and maintained our reputation for turn out and marching. Afterwards, the men had tea in barracks and were paid before going home.

It says much for the spirit of our unit that we can get such a good turn out in the face of so many counter-attractions. Remember, the hours on Jubilee Day were from 11 a.m. to 10.30 p.m., with no closing hours in between! Consider that all the morning was spent in cleaning, and all the afternoon and part of the evening in parading!

We are now beginning to take camp seriously: only two months to go, and what a lot to do! Company training has superseded Section training, and a unit scheme is to be held on the 1st—2nd June. I always like this pre-camp period. A growing excitement, intensive training, endless preparations—and the day arrives, and off we go once more to be hectored, bullied, and generally given to understand that if we lived to be a hundred, we would never make soldiers. Ah. me! I've almost believed it myself ere this.

FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

No. 1 Company S.R. Annual Smoking Concert.—This function was held on the 13th April, and about fifty members and their friends enjoyed a really good concert organised by C.S.M. Tyrell. Colonel G. D. Ozanne and Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan were the principal guests, and both made very kind remarks about the Company in general. There was a feeling of regret at the small number of the Company who attended. We think this function should be supported 100 per cent. in future, as it would appear to be the only time when the Company can meet as a whole. After all, one expects to get at least one pass per annum "backed" by the missus.

Easter: Aldershot.—On Good Friday six officers and eighty-nine other ranks made the journey to Aldershot for three days intensive training or holiday—call it what you will.

By oneish p.m. we had all arrived, and after an excellent meal we began to settle down in the barracks of our friends the 2nd Divisional Signals. This is where a couple of old soldiers per barrack room are worth their weight in gold.

By "after tea" everyone was out. It was a fine evening, and the trade returns of the cinemas and pubs showed another Friday record.

It is an adage that the art of Regular assistance is to be unseen but always on tap. The 2nd Divisional Signals know the art perfectly. Works parade on Saturday morning was a study in unobtrusive efficiency. We paraded in our many small squads, each man to his particular job for the morning. At 9 a.m. the order was given "March off by squads." By 9.10, thanks to the clever and unobtrusive guidance of a number of Regular officers and n.c.o.s, all these little squads were either out of barracks or at work.

The morning was marred by a drenching shower of rain, which soaked the Cable Section and telephone wagon detachments and cleared the visual party off the square. Fires were lit, clothes were dried, and no harm was done. Pay closed the day's work but not the evening's enjoyment.

Sunday was a replica of Saturday, but it did not rain nor did it do so seriously on Monday.

It is difficult to know which particular party enjoyed themselves most. Cable work is always fun. Perhaps the operators had the hardest task, but they had the satisfaction of making most remarkable progress in the elements of their trade. Workshops were really happy: each man had a job, and all (or nearly all) finished it.

VISIT OF THE DIVISIONAL COMMANDER.—Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., kindly visited us on Sunday. Delayed during his inspection of the Gunners by the interest he took in the efforts of our despatch riders to climb a nearby hill, he arrived too late to see the troops coming in after their morning's work. However, he proceeded to the dining hall and must have spent at least twenty minutes there in talking to various members of the unit.

All good things come to an end, and on Monday afternoon we journeyed back to London with the first part of the rush of the homeward-bound holiday makers.

As well as the Divisional commander, we were delighted to welcome and show ourselves to Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. D.C.S.O. (T.A.) and Major R. H. R. Neale, the C.S.O.

It may also be said, on the good authority of our visitors and Regular hosts, that the City of London Signals impressed everyone very much by their turn out and keenness. As regards the concrete results, these will not be known until the Trade Board publishes its report, which we expect as these notes go to press. Suffice it to say that very great professional improvement was noticed amongst all men, of whatever trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Stampa after their marriage on the 27th April.
[*Photo by Fox Photos Ltd.*]

It needs now only to say "Thank you!" to our hosts of the 2nd Divl Signals. It was not until our time at Aldershot came to an end that we realised how much we owed to them. They provided C sets, No. 1 sets, cable and telephone wagons, a specially wired telegraph school, and other equipment. That was something. They provided efficient and kindly instructors who did not instruct: *they helped*. It was, as has been said, only towards the end that we began to realise that the majority had given up their Easter leave to help us. To save expense, they turned out the telephone and cable detachments on a horsed basis. The drivers volunteered to do this, and out of sheer kindness almost resented our efforts to help with the heavy task of stables and cleaning harness and wagons after a morning's work in the mud.

To Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge, O.B.E., and the officers and other ranks of the 2nd Divl Signals, we owe a real debt which it will be difficult to repay.

Marriage.—All ranks of the unit will be interested to know that Miss Cecille Ozanne, eldest daughter of our commanding officer, was married to Mr. A. L. Stampa at St. Peter's Church, Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday 27th April.

Owing to the distance from London, the unit could not be officially represented; but among the Signal officers present were Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., Major A. C. C. Willway, Major C. C. Humphrey, T.D., Captain H. T. Mander, Captain H. R. Firth, and Lieut. J. W. Morgan.

We reproduce a photograph of the bride and bridegroom leaving the church; and our hearty congratulations and good wishes for their future happiness and prosperity are extended to them.

Jubilee Day.—From early in the evening of the 5th May, Signal House presented an air of expectancy and activity. The last of the decorations inside and outside the hall were completed, and numbers of officers and men began to arrive. (Those who lived at too great a distance to make the journey in time to parade in the morning had arranged to sleep that night at headquarters.)

Breakfast for all ranks attending the parade was at 7.30 a.m. and by 8.15 a.m. twelve officers and one hundred and fifty other ranks were embussed and moved up to the assembly area. We arrived in Queen Street in plenty of time, sized, and told off by Companies—and then all was ready. At 9.50 a.m., headed by the band—who, in full dress uniform, got a special cheer from the crowds—we marched into Queen Victoria Street and, thanks to the hard work we had done during practices, slipped into our allotted area in a manner worthy of Regular troops. By 10.15 all was set, and there commenced the long time of waiting. The sun scorched down. The crowds behind us, on each side of the road, got thicker.

A little careful organisation (which was not in the official programme) had placed our medical officer, Captain J. E. McCartney, and a lorry load of "medical comforts" within easy reach of our position, and during the three and a half hours wait every man was able to visit this for a drink, a biscuit and a cigarette. This made all the difference, and though the casualties amongst the waiting crowds were numerous, the City of London Signals were singularly free from cases of exhaustion.

The long time of waiting was enlivened by much passing and repassing of empty carriages, Household Cavalry escorts and the like as they trotted round to take up their next position. Before Their Majesties reached St. Paul's the head of the Cavalry procession had passed us, and for the next hour our portion of Queen Victoria Street was filled with Dragoon Guards and Horse Artillery.

As the moment of Their Majesties' arrival at St. Paul's Cathedral drew near, a loud speaker happily placed just over our heads gave a description of the scene at St. Paul's, and we could hear the wave upon wave of frantic cheering, the peal of the trumpets, and the vivid description of the B.B.C. commentator. The service—it seemed to us very long—was heard in its entirety, and then, in the long silence that fell after the National Anthem, we heard again coming to us over the city roofs the cheering as Their Majesties came out for their homeward journey. Our moment was at hand.

[*Continued on page* 300]

SPORTS NOTES

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Bronze Medal Team Jumping Competition.—On the 5th April the yearly competition was held over a course consisting of hedge, wall and rails, brick wall, triple bar, gate and post, and rails. The height of the jumps for the Bronze Medal team jumping was 4 ft. ; for the Prince of Wales cup, 4 ft. with triple bar at 4 ft. 6 in. ; and for the King's cup all jumps were 4 ft. 6 in.

The Depot team competed successfully against the 16th/5th Lancers from York and won the trophy, the final result being: Depot Battalion 24 faults, 16/5th Lancers 28.

The Depot team go to represent the Northern Command at Olympia in May: C.S.M. Young on Baby, Corpl Bull on Visa, L/Corpl Gosnold on Escape, and L/Corporal Dakin on Tired. L/Corpl Glynn on Lizzie was reserve.

A few words about the team and their horses. C.S.M. Young is an old hand at Olympia, and Corporal Bull has also been a member of the team in previous years. L/Corporals Gosnold and Dakin are jumping in the team for the first time.

Of the horses, Baby is now in his eleventh year of show jumping. Tired has been to Olympia twice—last year ridden by Captain Gray in the Prince of Wales cup—and in previous years a member of the team. Her method of show jumping is to charge round flat out, and ridden like this she manages to get the height in an amazing way, but a spread is apt to defeat her. Visa was also in the team two years ago, but last year went lame with ringbone. She was successfully treated for this and is now back in the team. To get the best out of her when jumping, she has to be left to her own devices. She goes very well except for wall and rails, which are her *bete noire*. Whilst practising for the competition, she was in the habit of knocking this fence flying ; and though schooling improved her, we were prepared to write off eight faults for her at this jump. It was Escape's first appearance in show jumping competition. He showed great promise, and in time should make a good jumper.

In the first round of the team competition, the Lancers went round well and had a total of only 8¼ faults. The Depot then led off, with L/Corpl Dakin on Tired going flat out and getting a clear round with the exception of the triple bar: 5 faults. Escape followed and made a mess of things: 6¼ faults. Then came Visa, collecting 4 faults at the wall and rails. Finally came Baby: we expected a clear round from him, but unfortunately he finished up with 2½ faults. Total, 18 faults. Our luck was obviously out, and it seemed certain that the Lancers would win.

In the second round, however, the tide turned and it was the Lancers who collected the faults. They scored 20½. The Depot went round for the second time, and Tired hit the triple bar: 4 faults. Escape, jumping better, had 2 faults. Visa had a clear round, jumping cleanly over the wall and rail. Baby capped things with another clear round. Total, 6 faults—making the Depot winners.

This competition was followed by the jump off between officers for the Prince of Wales cup. Captain Babington (16/5th Lancers) with 1¼ faults, got first place ; and Lieut. Crawford (R.Signals) and an officer of the 16/5th Lancers, with 5 faults each, tied for second place. They decided to jump it off in the first round of the King's cup competition, which followed immediately afterwards, as a result of which Lieut. Crawford got in.

In the King's cup Lieut. Moore (R.Signals) on Dolly, with 9 faults, got first ; and Captain F. S. Hoole-Lowsley-Williams (16/5th Lancers) was second with 12.

Altogether, it was a successful day for the Mounted Wing of the Depot Battalion. Lieut. Moore was disappointed that his second horse, Hunter, made a mess of things and was ruled out as out of control ; but there is always the chance that one day he will be as good a jumper as Baby.

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Football.—In our first match in the Garrison inter-Company knock-out cup, our opponents were Z Battery R.A. on the Baghdad ground.

The game opened in a rather tame manner, none of our players settling down until just before the interval. About ten minutes before half-time the Gunners scored, and things certainly looked black for us, especially after we had missed a golden opportunity to take the lead through a missed penalty.

However, things brightened up after the cross-over, and in a short while we equalised through Signalman Darragh. We then took command of the game and increased the lead through Signalmen Parker and Tant and Sergeant Wheeler. Although a somewhat tame game, we deserved our win on the second half play.

In the semi-final round we met H.Q. Wing 2nd Battalion Lincolns on the Hipswell ground. This tie opened in a very fast manner, and after a short while Sergt Wheeler E. put us ahead with a lovely goal. The Wing retaliated and after strenuous efforts equalised. They immediately came back in a whole-hearted effort to gain the lead, but some good work by L/Corpls Simpson and Fry held them back. A pass from the first-named to Sigmn Chapman on the right made way into the Lincoln half, and a miskick by one of the opposing defence enabled Signalman Chapman to place the ball into the net.

Once again the Wing pressed hard, but some good play by our half-backs put our forwards again on the move, and after pressing for a while Sergt Wheeler put us further ahead. Some really good defensive work kept out numerous attempts to reduce the lead. The Lincolns were playing good football, and on two or three occasions we were exceedingly fortunate in holding our lead. Twice our defenders happened to be in the way of almost unstoppable shots, and in one instance one of them was knocked out for a short while.

Sigmn Chapman put us three ahead during a breakaway, and finally Sergt Wheeler completed our scoring with a fifth goal. Nevertheless, consolation was afforded the Lincolns in the form of a penalty goal. Although we won by 5—2 goals, we were very fortunate in doing so.

I must give a few words of praise to the *four* staunch supporters who rallied to shout for the team. What they lacked in quantity, they made up in quality.

Now for the final. This was played on the Baghdad ground, S.T.C., and our opponents were H.Q. Wing 1st Battn K.O.S.B. The game opened before a crowd of about one hundred, but this increased until there were about three hundred present.

With the wind and sun at their backs, D Company pressed almost from the start, and after about ten minutes Sigmn Darragh put us ahead. What a beauty! He beat two opponents and placed to the outside man, collected the return—and what a shot! We continued to press and went further ahead through Sergt Wheeler, but after this the team seemed to slacken off and the K.O.S.B. then took command of the game. Just before half-time they were rewarded with a beautifully worked goal, and five minutes later came the equaliser through a defensive error.

After the change-over, things began to liven up and some really keen mid-field play was predominant. It was hard to tell which was the superior team. A movement started by L/Cpl Simpson over to the left, then across to the right, and a good centre, was completed by Sergt Wheeler heading a fine goal. The excitement became intense, and it seemed to affect the players to the extent that we were awarded a penalty, which was converted by L/Cpl Simpson. Instead of deteriorating, the game became extra keen and the K.O.S.B. were very determined. They stormed our goal area time and time again, and after a short while they were rewarded with a somewhat fluky goal. This put more spirit than ever into the game, and once again L/Corporals Fry and Simpson did some good work. What a climax to a very keen game! The K.O.S.B. were continually attacking and shooting from all angles, but thanks to the brilliant form of L/Corporal Fry we survived, and the final whistle went with the score at 4—3 in our favour.

What a game! and what a relief when full time was called! Although everyone played well, special mention must be made of L/Corpl Fry and his brilliant display in goal.

D Company Football Team.

Winners of the Garrison Inter-Company Knockout Cup and Mackworth Trophy, 1934-35

Standing (*l. to r.*)—Signalmen Robertson and Murdoch, Sergeant Wheeler, Sigmn Butchers, L/Cpl Simpson, Signalmen Spinks, Jackscn and Clark M.

Sitting—Signalmen Parker, Darragh and Holtby, L/Corpl Fry (captain), Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., Captain E. G. Sinnott, Signalmen Gowland, Tant and Chapman.

[*Photo by Avison, Catterick Camp*]

After the match, the cup was presented by Major-General G. W. Howard, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., to L/Corpl Fry, captain of the winning team. This is the first time that the cup has been won by a team of the S.T.C., and on behalf of the commanding officer and all concerned, we congratulate all who took part in the competition.

On behalf of the members of the team, thanks are tendered to all who have supported them throughout the tournament.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Football.—Royal Signals (Boys) "E" Team v. K.O.S.B. This game was played on the Bourlon ground at Catterick on the 2nd May. The pitch was very hard and caused the ball to bounce in a very unexpected manner. However, the Signals pressed from the start and several times just missed scoring. The Jocks goalkeeper played a magnificent game. Half-time came with the score at 1—0 for Signals, the K.O.S.B. left back deflecting a shot from Gamble out of the goalkeeper's reach. Shortly before this, Cornish had all but scored in a melee in front of the K.O.S.B. goalmouth.

The second half was also dominated by the Signals, but the K.O.S.B. played up well all the time—otherwise, the score would have been vastly different. When the final whistle blew, the score remained at 1—0 for the Signals, and so once more we retained the cup for the Boys' Club. The K.O.S.B. are to be congratulated on their good performance, as they had only sixteen boys from whom to pick their team.

The cup was presented after the match by Brigadier J. H. T. Priestman, D.S.O., M.C. He made special mention of the fine sporting spirit in which the match had been played.

Signals team—Moore ; Smith R. and Hawley ; Verlander, O'Brien and Terrey; Stewart, Lander, Allen, Gamble and Cornish.

Mackworth Athletics.—The first Mackworth athletic meeting was held on the 14th May. F Company scored the first win, and are preparing strongly for the next two meetings. The first three placings were: F Company, 146 points ; Dismounted Wing, 100 ; E Company, 98. This number of points is a record for all Mackworth meetings, and shows an average for fourteen events of 10.5 points, which is well over second place for each event.

F Company Team, winners of the Inter-Section Boys' Boxing, Catterick Garrison.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—Boys Clover, Harrington and Brewster.

Sitting—Boys Creed and Halford, Lieut. T. W. Boileau, Boys Garfield and Connell.

In front—Boy Barr.

[*Photo by Avison, Catterick Camp*]

The weather was very bad, and events were run in between showers. F Company's great victory was due, I think, to the excellent way in which all representatives adapted themselves to the conditions, and to the training given them by Lieut. Boileau (School of Signals), to whom we are very grateful.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Athletics.—It's nice to see this heading coming to light again, if only for the improvement in the weather which one associates with it. The weather clerk was kind to us when we officially opened the season with our inter-Section sports, and even at this early stage in the season some good performances were put up in the various events. K Section won the cup again this year, but the D.R.s gave them a good run for it, and, as will be seen from the table that follows, only half a point separated first and second. While not wishing to detract from the distinction gained by K Section, one might say (be careful here!) that the winning of the cup is purely incidental, and that the main object is the unearthing of talent for Company teams, which is incidental again to the unit team. Here we cease being incidental and start consolidating the position.

To retain all the laurels we won last year will be no mean task. An endeavour to capture more would be ambitious. We refuse to believe that we're not ambitious ; and having made an earlier start this year, those who helped us last year and are now on foreign fields can rest assured that the good work is going on.

Individual winners in the Section sports were:—
Long jump—Sigmn Dunlop, 18 ft. 6 in.
High jump—Sigmn Fox, 5 ft. 4 in.
Hammer—Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young, 91 ft. 4½ in.
Discus—Corpl Hamilton, 89 ft. 11 in.
Javelin—Sigmn Dunlop, 132 ft. 10½ in.
Shot—L/Corpl Chapman, 32 ft. 8½ in.
100 yards—Lieut. C. H. Stoneley
120 yards hurdles—Sigmn Chapman
440 yards—Lieut. C. H. Stoneley
880 yards—2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon
One mile—2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon
Times secret!

The points of the four leading Sections were: K Section 20 ; D.R.s, 19½ ; F Section, 18 ; D Section, 17.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—Training, this year, has been rather handicapped owing to Sections leaving the unit earlier than usual. However, we have entered teams for local open relay races and hope that they will be successful. The unit sports take place on the 21st and 22nd May.

Cricket.—The unit played their first match of the season on the 8th May against the 3rd Divl Engineers. Considering it *was* the first match and that no individual had had any practice, the result was very gratifying to us. Scores: 3rd Divl Signals 168 for five wickets ; 3rd Divl Engineers 94. Corpl Marsh took seven wickets for 15 runs.

Sigmn Law, recently back from India, batted very nicely and made 33. With practice, it is hoped that he will get centuries for the unit before the end of the season.

A keen interest is being taken in the game this year, and it is hoped that the results throughout the season will justify this spirit.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Athletics.—The unit began the season in March this year, when Company tabloid sports meetings were held on an inter-Section basis, the object being to find talent for the unit team. The weather was cold and often wet, and the performances were of necessity not very high. Nobody was fit, but several promising performers were unearthed.

The individual sports were run off in the second week of April, with the results shown below.

High jump—1st, Lieut. Duke, 5ft. ; 2nd, L/Corpl Wilbraham and Sigmn Cox tied at 4ft. 10in.
Long jump—1st, L/Corpl Wilbraham, 19ft. 6in. ; 2nd, Lieut. Goldsmith.
100 yards—1st, Lt. Goldsmith, 10⅘sec. ; 2nd, L/Cpl Wilbraham.
220 yards—1st, Lieut. Goldsmith, 24⅘sec. ; 2nd, Sigmn Haynes.
440 yards—1st, Lieut. Goldsmith, 57⅕sec. ; 2nd, 2/Lieutenant D. E. L. Gardiner.
880 yards—1st, Lt. Pringle, 2min. 11sec. ; 2nd, Sigmn Merritt.
One mile—1st, Lieut. Pringle, 5min. 3sec. ; 2nd, Sigmn Callan.
Three miles—1st, Sigmn Callan, 17mm. 11sec. ; 2nd, Signalman Taylor.
Pole vault—1st, L/Cpl Marshall, 8ft. 6in. ; 2nd, Sigmn Slaymaker
Hurdles—1st, Lieut. Duke, 17sec. ; 2nd, L/Corpl Wilbraham.
Putting the shot—1st, L/Corpl Wilbraham, 32ft. ; 2nd, Cpl Ross.
Throwing the hammer—1st, C.S.M. Griffin, 106ft. ; 2nd, Sigmn Young.
Throwing the discus—1st, C.S.M. Griffin, 100 ft. 6 in. ; 2nd, Sigmn Doe.
Throwing the javelin—1st, Corpl Scratcher, 123ft. 8in. ; 2nd, Sigmn Haynes.

The foregoing results show quite a good standard of performances, except perhaps in the distance races, which was only to be expected at this time of the year.

Companies now selected their men and began training for the inter-Company meeting on the 30th April. No. 3 Company were without L/Corpl Wilbraham's services at this meeting, owing to his being required by the A.P.T.S. for the Royal Tournament display. Teams were on the relay system of four per Company in the track events, and two men in each of the field events. Points were awarded as follows: first 10, second 6, third 2. Result—1st, No. 2 Company, 66 points ; 2nd, No. 1, 60 ; 3rd, No. 3, 54.

The possibles now got down to training proper, with a view to taking part in matches against some of the regiments in the district. We also propose entering for the Command meeting at Colchester in June.

Sigmn Callan has recently done very well by winning three cross-country events organised by the Canterbury A.C. over distances from three to six miles, and from each event he has come away with a handsome cup. Allen and Brown also ran well in the same races.

We were interested to see in the May WIRE a photograph showing Sigmn Cox hurdling in Rawalpindi. He left us last year as Essex County champion. We sadly miss his services.

The unit as a whole has not yet got in its residential qualification for Kent athletics, but we hope to see some of the men of Kent and Kentish men competing in this year's meeting at Chatham on the 1st June.

The Milocarian A.C. has been useful in giving some of the officers a chance of running on a cinder track ; and in a match versus the Royal Military Academy, our trio raised a first place and two second places, and against the T.B. R.E. at Chatham two firsts. It is a pity that we have no cinder track within thirty miles of barracks, as this means that many members of the team will have no chance of running on one until we actually take part in the Command meeting.

On Thursday 9th May we held our first match: a triangular contest between the 59th Field Company R.E., the 2nd Battn Devonshire Regiment, and ourselves. We had a very pleasant afternoon's sport, with several exciting moments and some good individual performances. We could not field our strongest team, as the date clashed with the soccer final ; but, then, those things always do happen. The results are given below.

440 yards relay—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 48sec.; 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 48⅗sec.
Putting the shot—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 66ft. ; 2nd, 59th Field Company R.E. 61ft. 5m.
880 yards relay—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 1min. 39/10 sec. ; 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 1min. 39⅗sec.
High jump—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 10ft. ; 2nd, tie between 4th Divl Signals (Lieut. Duke 5ft. 2in.) and 59th Field Company R.E. at 9ft. 8in.
Two miles relay—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 19min. 12sec. ; 2nd, Devonshire Regiment. Won easily.
Pole vault—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 14ft. 6in. ; 2nd, 4th Divl Signals.
Throwing the discus—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 207ft. 6in. (C.S.M. Griffin 108ft. 6in., Sigmn Doe 99ft.) ; 2nd, Devonshire Regiment, 195ft. 9in.

Hurdles—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 1min. 18⅕sec. ; 2nd, 4th Divisional Signals.
Throwing the javelin—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 247ft. 3in. ; 2nd, 59th Field Company R.E.
Throwing the hammer—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 188ft. (C.S.M. Griffin 97ft. 6in., Sigmn Young 90ft. 6in.) ; 2nd, Devonshire Regiment, 168ft. 5in.
Long jump—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 38ft. 6in. ; 2nd, 59th Field Company R.E. 37ft.
One mile relay—1st, 4th Divisional Signals, 3min. 44sec. ; 2nd, Devonshire Regiment. Won easily.
One mile team race—1st, Devonshire Regiment, 1, 4, 5=10 ; 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 2, 3, 7=12.
Total points—1st, 2nd Battn Devonshire Regiment, 51 ; 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 40½ ; 3rd, 59th Field Company R.E. 20½.

Football.—Results to date: v. Grenville, lost by 0—3 ; v. Canterbury Amateurs, drew at 2—2 ; v. 59th Field Company R.E. lost by 0—2 ; v. Ramsgate St. Luke's, lost by 0—4 ; v. Bettes-hanger Colliery, lost by 0—4 and (cup) by 1—4.

From the above it will be seen that the " end of the season " feeling came along a little too early for our team, and all chances of annexing the League honours or being runners-up vanished after our defeat at the hands of the 59th Field Company R.E. This was the third game on successive days, so maybe our efforts will not be judged too harshly.

The final blow of the season came with the loss against Bettes-hanger Colliery in the final of the Kent Benevolent cup. Our opponents certainly proved masters of the situation in all depart-ments and thoroughly deserved their victory. However, we hope that next season will see us reverse the decision.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Football.—All good things come to an end, and with this bumper contribution—the last for season 1934-35—I hope I may be forgiven for failing to produce reports for the past two months. 'Tis said that no news means good news, and rightly is it said this time. Before recording the details of this unit's magnificent progress, very befitting to the atmosphere that prevailed in con-junction with Jubilee festivities, I must mention a few facts.

Never in the Corps regime in Scarborough has it been so much in the limelight as during the closing stages of this past football season, and never have so many medals and cups come our way. Faced with the arduous task of playing three finals on three con-secutive days, the team pulled off the seemingly impossible task of securing two of three cups. Had the boys accepted the chances that the gods offered them, at least another cup would have found a resting place alongside the others. Anyhow, I know that most of you are anxious to devour the final accounts—so here goes.

Scarborough and District League Cup.—The final of this competition was played on the 13th April.

Signals—Sigmn Gale D., C.Q.M.S. Brandon J., Corpl Badham A., Sigmn Johnson J. (captain), Sigmn Reid W., Sigmn Steer G.,

5th Divisional Signal Football Team, 1934—35.
Winners of the Scarborough Hospital and Whitby Hospital Cups.
Runners-up for the Scarborough and District League Cup and Scarborough Challenge Bowl.

[*Photo by Walker's Studios Ltd. Scarborough*]

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Sergt Powell H. (committee), C.Q.M.S. Brandon J., Sigmn Haughton H., Corporal Badham A. (vice-captain), Sergt Curtis F. (committee).
Third row—Mr. S. Arandle (trainer), Sigmn Johnson J. (captain), Corporal Barnicott A., Sigmn Steer S., L/Corpl Lancaster F. (reserve), C.Q.M.S. Taylor W. (committee).
Second row—L/Corporal Vize H. (hon. secretary), Lieut. P. A. Harding (officer i/c football), Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C. (C.O.), Lieut. A. Hill (adjutant), R.S.M. Bevan R.
Front row—Corporal Gibbons E., L/Sergt Clarke C., Signalman Sutherland T., Sigmn Sinclair H., Sigmn Steer G., L/Corporal Smith C.

L/Sergt Clarke C., Sigmn Sutherland T., Corpl Gibbons E., Sigmn Steer S., L/Corpl Smith C.

Scarborough Juniors F.C.—Newham, Dodd, Deighton, Rickenson, Pearson, Meads, Warwick, Johnson, Sowden, Douthwaite, Fowler.

Referee—Mr. T. Lickess, Scarborough.

Signals won the toss, and Juniors faced a slight wind, kicking towards the Seamer Road goal. Juniors attacked strongly from the kick off, but Fowler missed a good chance. Steer S. next initiated a good movement on the left which ended with the ball being blown over the bar. The Signal goal had a very narrow

The Signal Team prior to the kick off.

escape when Fowler started a good run on the left and centred well, and Badham, in attempting to clear, almost put through his own goal. Juniors were the more forceful team and having the better of the exchanges. Signals next came into the picture, and for at least ten minutes the Juniors goal underwent harassing bombardment. Newham, however, proved safe and was loudly applauded when making heroic saves. At the other end Fowler, always a danger, hit the post with a smart header. A free kick for Juniors just outside the penalty area was effectively smothered by Gale, who, by the way, came in for Haughton at the last moment. A clever movement initiated by Steer G. found Gibbons in possession ; he transferred to Smith and sent the winger away on the left. Smith, unmarked, let drive at goal, only to see his shot hit Dodd. However, the ball rebounded to Smith, and this time he made no mistake, sending the ball crashing into the back of the net. First blood for Signals, who were now on their toes. Play was confined to midfield for a lengthy period, neither goalkeeper being extended. Very effective work was put in by both sets of halves, and until the interval came they more or less dominated the game. Half time: Signals 1, Juniors 0.

Signals returned to the field very confident, and effectively upset the Juniors' short passing style of play by banging the ball away at every possible opportunity. The Signal defence was playing a grand game when, four minutes from time, Juniors forced a corner and from a melee in front of goal Warwick found the ball knee high and managed to send it past Gale. This was an unlooked-for setback to the Signals, who seemed assured of victory. Full time came with the score at one goal each.

The teams changed round immediately and set off for thirty minutes extra time. The first fifteen minutes passed with neither side securing the all-important goal. It looked odds on that a draw would be the outcome, when, from yet another corner awarded to Juniors, Warwick again found himself in possesion and without hesitation scored what proved the winning goal. The final whistle blew a minute afterwards.

This was a grand game, worthy of another staging. Juniors are to be congratulated on snatching victory when it seemed that Signals would be on top at the close. Nevertheless, the Signals were sympathised with and wished better luck next season. In the absence of the chairman of the League, Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., very kindly consented to present the cup and medals. Our commanding officer also congratulated the winners and losers in a few well chosen words, and so ended the first of a series of cup finals for the Corps.

Scarborough Challenge Bowl.—Played on the athletic ground of the Scarborough F.C. in the evening of the 30th April, before a large gathering of supporters, this anxiously awaited cup tie will go down in the history of local football as a game in which Signals were denied victory by virtue of missed chances. Nevertheless, missed chances are all in the game, and the cup went to the team which took advantage of their chances (shades of Wembley, 1935!)

Signals—Sigmn Haughton H., C.Q.M.S. Brandon J., Corporal Badham A., Sigmn Sutherland T., Sigmn Sinclair H., Sigmn Steer G., L/Sergt Clarke C., Sigmn Johnson J. (captain), Corpl Gibbons E., Sigmn Steer S., L/Corpl Smith C.

Filey Town F.C.—R. Cammish, Howarth, Gibson, E. Cammish, Clarke, Watkinson, Fell, Scotter, Dyer, Hunter, Storry.

Referee—Mr. T. W. Lickess, Scarborough.

Signals won the toss and set Filey to face a strong sun. For quite a long period they kept the Filey defence busy. The latter at times had to kick the ball into touch to relieve pressure. Signals should have taken the lead early on, but Smith, with only the Filey custodian to beat, punted the ball high over the cross bar. This was indeed a fortunate moment for Filey. From the resultant goal kick the ball fell at the feet of Cammish, left half. Taking the ball in his stride, he shot from midfield and had the good fortune to see his centre beat Haughton, who was deceived by a swerving ball caught in a gust of wind. One up for Filey—and rather a lucky one at that. Still, on with the game. Filey were now on top, and a defensive blunder by Signals allowed Scotter to push a half-hearted shot goalwards, from whence it was scrambled in by a Filey forward. There now remained but a few minutes of the first half. Signals attacked, but Steer S. was brought down a yard outside the penalty area. Steer, taking the kick himself, sent a pile driver at Cammish. Johnson, covering the shot, unsighted Cammish and, cleverly side stepping, allowed the ball to pass him. Cammish, in a vain effort to push the ball round the upright, returned it direct to the foot of opportunist Clarke, who made no mistake. The whistle blew immediately afterwards for half-time with the score one all.

During the opening stages of the second half, play was inclined to become more robust than was necessary. The game was temporarily stopped whilst Gibbons received attention to an injury on the head. The game was resumed, but Gibbons was rather in the dark as to what was going on throughout the closing stages. The light was getting very bad now, and the game was difficult to follow. In a concerted attack on Filey's goal, Sutherland was through and about to shoot when Wilson whipped his legs from beneath him. The referee rightly awarded a penalty. Gibbons, entrusted with the spot kick, failed lamentably and sent the ball high over the cross bar. Lucky Filey! Supporters were about to leave the ground (no doubt, with a view to drowning their sorrows at No. 11) when Signals forced a corner. Smith took the kick, lobbed the ball well into the goalmouth, and Clarke pounced on it and equalised amidst the greatest enthusiasm. The final whistle went very shortly afterwards. The replay was arranged for the following Thursday, the 2nd May.

REPLAY—Signals fielded an unchanged eleven, whilst Filey substituted J. Cammish for Watkinson. In the opening stages, a high standard of football was produced. A fast pace was main-

Midfield Play.

tained throughout, both sides going at it hammer and tongs. There were many exciting incidents before Hunter opened Filey's account, following good work by Dyer.

The second half had been in progress only ten minutes when Signals were awarded a penalty. Steer S. took the kick, but to the consternation of Signal players and supporters, he crashed the ball wide of the upright—a lost chance, from which I think the team never recovered. An equalising goal at this moment would have encouraged the team to maintain the fast pace set by them in the second half. As it was, however, Signals slackened off, though (against the run of play) Sinclair equalised two minutes from time.

It was too dark for a breather, so the teams commenced a further thirty minutes. The extra half-hour was not devoid of thrills, though Signals were a tired team. The stage seemed set once more for a draw, but Filey, crowding on full sail in the fast fading light, scored through Scotter. Their supporters went wild with delight. Yet a further thrill was in store for them, for with practically the last kick of the game, Dyer made the issue safe—and so in two minutes a cup was won and lost. Mr. T. Oxley, chairman of the Scarborough and District Football Association, very kindly presented the trophy to Filey for the third successive year.

Whitby Hospital Cup.—This final was played on the ground of the Northern League club, Whitby United, on Friday 3rd May, and the teams turned out as follows:

Signals—Sigmn Haughton H., C.Q.M.S. Brandon J., Corporal Badham A., Sigmn Johnson J. (captain), Corporal Barnicott A., Sigmn Steer G., L/Sergt Clarke C., Sigmn Sutherland T., Sigmn Sinclair H., Sigmn Steer S., L/Corpl Smith C.

Staithes Brotherhood F.C.—Caveth, Hall, Crouch, Unthank, King, G. Hall, Dix, Partridge, Loftus, Ditchburn, T. Johnson.

Referee—Mr. Sedman, Redcar.

This was the initial meeting of these two teams. Little was known of Staithes except that they were already champions of the Cleveland League and holders of the Whitby Hospital cup.

Staithes, winning the toss, set Signals to face a slight breeze. For the first ten minutes or so, Signals dominated the game. Staithes centre forward always a danger when the ball came his way. A movement initiated by Steer S. left Sutherland in possession, and without hesitation he shot low into the undefended part of the goal. Signals gained possession of the ball immediately after the kick off, and Smith was given a great chance of increasing the lead but left it too late, the ball being taken off his toe by Crouch. From the resultant throw-in by Signals, the ball was cleared and fell at the feet of a Staithes forward. It was passed to Loftus, who, neatly trapping, went on to beat Badham. Here was a chance for Staithes. Taking his time, Loftus shot for the far side of the goal, but was chagrined to see his effort frustrated by the upright. The ball, rebounding into play, was promptly fastened on by Steer G., who cleared and so relieved a tense moment for Signals. Undismayed, however, Staithes set up a combined attack on the Signal goal and within three minutes had forced three corners, all of them proving dangerous. [I might record, at this point, that Staithes forced seventeen corners during the game. Every corner kick spelt danger, and only superb play in goal by Haughton and diligent marking by our two backs saved the goal from falling. I should add—in fairness to Staithes—with a spot of luck, too.] Half-time score: Signals 1, Staithes Brotherhood F.C. 0.

Right from the recommencement Staithes put all they knew into the game, and for a long period the spectators were thrilled with their scientific attacks and the fine defensive play of Signals. Haughton was an inspiration to his side. It was really a great game to watch—devoid of illegitimate tactics; robust in parts, as is only to be expected in final ties of this description. Staithes went very close to scoring after twenty minutes play. From a free kick taken by King, it seemed a goal all the way when Haughton (appearing, as it were, from the blue) leaped and fisted over the bar. A great shot, and a great save, for which the spectators voiced their appreciation. Brandon relieved from the corner kick by breasting the ball to the ground and putting Sutherland in possession. He in turn swung the ball out to Clarke on the right wing. The latter, in attempting one of his characteristic runs in, was tackled and came off second best. For this doubtful tackle Signals were awarded a free kick from twenty-five yards out, but Johnson put harmlessly over the goal line. Back came the ball, and Johnson attempted a low header, as a result of which he was unfortunately laid out. He appeared to be seriously hurt, necessitating his removal from the arena by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. It was afterwards ascertained that a membrane in his nose had been broken. There now remained four minutes to go for time, and with a reduced side Signals set their backs to the wall to hold on to their slender lead. The end came with Staithes attacking, but Signals won by the solitary goal scored early in the game.

A correspondent writes: "Signals deserved to win, their approach work being more effective than that of Staithes. The latter, however, missed a number of opportunities. Play was keen throughout, the game never lacking interest." I think all who saw the game will agree that that brief summary is a true reflection of the tie. Councillor Clarke, of Whitby, who was present throughout, warmly commended winners and losers alike. At the close of a short speech he presented the cup to C.Q.M.S. Brandon, in the absence of Sigmn Johnson. Both teams were the recipients of medals.

Scarborough Hospital Cup.—The following is an extract from *The Scarborough Evening News and Post* dealing with the final of the Scarborough Hospital cup, contested by the 5th Divisional Signals and Scarborough Juniors F.C. on Saturday 4th May.

The final of the Scarborough Hospital cup competition was played on the athletic ground this (Saturday) afternoon between Scarborough Juniors and Signals. In the semi-final Juniors beat Filey by 1—0 and Signals defeated Junior Imps by the same score.

Corpl A. Badham, Vice-Captain, receiving the Hospital Cup.

Barnicott played for Signals in place of Johnson, their captain, who had his nose broken at Whitby last night. The teams were:

Scarborough Juniors—Newham; Dodd and Deighton; Richardson, Pearson and Jenkinson; Warwick, Johnson, Sowden, Douthwaite and Fowler.

Signals—Haughton; Brandon and Badham; Gibbons, Barnicott and G. Steer; Clarke, Sutherland, Sinclair, S. Steer and Smith.

Referee—Mr. F. Otterburn.

After a quiet opening Sowden worked his way through, but Haughton had no difficulty in clearing his low drive. Play livened up somewhat, and in the ninth minute S. Steer sent across a perfect centre for Clarke to head into the net. Juniors attacked strongly for a time, and Warwick missed narrowly with a hard drive. Signals showed improvement, and during heavy pressure Dodd nearly put through his own goal. Play fluctuated a good deal, but a fast pace was maintained. Haughton rushed out and robbed Warwick after he had dashed through the defence with the ball, and after twenty minutes Smith put across a centre which struck the crossbar. Clarke met it on the rebound, heading into the net. The Signals were making use of their chances, and after twenty-seven minutes, following a well-placed corner by Clarke, S. Steer drove into the net.

Juniors rallied determinedly and Fowler made a brilliant run, finishing up with a great drive. Haughton, however, brought off an equally brilliant save. Fowler later missed an open goal from

The Signals and Juniors taking the field together in the Scarborough Hospital Cup Final.

only about a yard out. Half-time:—5th Divisional Signals 3, Scarborough Juniors 0.

Warwick went centre forward and Sowden to outside right. Juniors were much the more aggressive side in the second half, and the Signal goal had a number of narrow escapes. Apart from a breakaway by Clarke, Signals were continually on the defensive, and after seventy minutes Juniors were awarded a free kick. Pearson, who took it, drove into the net from about thirty yards out. Three minutes later Jenkinson put across what was intended for a centre, but the ball went through the Signal goalkeeper's hands into the net. Signals recovered, but after seventy-five minutes Warwick drew the scores level. Two minutes later, however, Smith put the Signals ahead again. The closing stages provided a lot of exciting play, both sides fighting hard. Two minutes from time S. Steer was injured and had to leave the field for treatment. Result: 5th Divisional Signals 4, Scarborough Juniors 3.

Mr. C. C. Graham presented the cup to the winning team.

* * * * * * * *

As a finale to the afternoon's cup final, the Scarborough Juniors team and officials were kindly invited to the sergeants mess at barracks by the Mess president and members. The Juniors brought along with them the magnificent trophy they had won by so narrow a margin from the Signals in the League cup final. Both League and Hospital cups were appropriately christened. Tales of how we did this and how you did that were exchanged, and, believe me, eleven o'clock came too soon. Nevertheless, the members of both teams were highly delighted with the evening's entertainment, and express their thanks (through the medium of these notes) for the kind hospitality shown to them by the president, R.S.M. Bevan, and the Mess members.

An official photograph of the unit team accompanies these notes. Others taken at various stages of the ties are also submitted in the hope that the Editor may find room for some of them.

League Football.—With the unit engaged in so many cup ties during the latter end of April, the League has more or less taken a back seat. Fortunately for the unit team, they have a stout hearted band of Reserves who, although cups and medals are denied them, have pegged away with their fixtures and have actually taken over First Division fixtures in order to rest the unit eleven for cup ties.

A great victory of 2—0 goals was gained against Filey Town F.C. at the barracks on Monday 29th April. The team, fielding a large number of reserves, recorded the first victory that the Div. has won over Filey. In fact, this was the first League defeat sustained by Filey Club for three seasons.

A few days previous, another mixed team drew with Scarborough Juniors at home in a First Division fixture, both teams scoring two goals each.

Finally, the entire Reserve team forced a draw with Junior Imps F.C. at the barracks—a goal for each side being the verdict of the meeting.

One League match, however, was not played, the Hunmanby Club being unable to produce a team for an evening fixture.

The final League table shows the unit finishing up in the third position—one place lower than in season 1933-34. The Reserves did very well to secure the fourth place in Division II.—which is also one place lower than the previous season. Like other field units, the loss of players towards the end of the season by virtue of drafting is very much felt by the Scarborough soccer fans. However, that is unavoidable.

Just a word or two of thanks to the officials and supporters who have sacrificed their half-days on behalf of the unit footballers. Some have had thankless tasks, but a great consolation is the bringing of cups into the barracks for at least a season.

I almost forgot the Colts. Congratulations to the R.A. Sections of No. 2 Company, who very rightly hold the Section football shield for a season. The loss of only one point earned them the right of styling themselves inter-Section football champs. The shield, by the way, will be presented at a later unit function.

Gee! a couple of hours will bring reveille here. Just time for a shave. Cheerio, everybody!

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE: FINAL TABLES.

Division I.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
Filey	14	10	2	2	46—18	22
Scarborough Juniors	14	8	2	4	62—19	20
Signals	13	5	4	4	28—23	14
Whitby	14	4	5	6	32—47	13
Hunmanby	13	5	6	2	50—42	12
Junior Imps	14	4	6	4	31—31	12
Pickering	14	3	7	4	30—34	10
Kirbymoorside	14	2	9	3	17—60	7

Division II.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts
Scalby	22	20	2	0	132—20	40
Filey II.	21	20	1	0	104—26	40
Snainton	22	13	7	2	86—66	28
Signals II.	22	13	8	1	79—41	27
Y.M.C.A.	21	10	9	2	62—55	22
Gristhorpe	21	9	9	3	55—53	21
Forge Valley	22	9	10	3	65—65	21
Corporation	21	8	12	1	47—66	17
Imps II.	21	4	14	3	51—89	11
Cayton	22	5	16	1	34—99	11
Sherburn	19	4	14	1	40—92	9
Electric	22	3	16	3	34—113	9

Division III.

	Played	W.	L.	D.	Goals	Pts.
North Cliff	16	11	4	1	55—25	23
Oriel	16	10	4	2	39—15	22
St. Peter's	16	10	4	2	52—30	22
Rovers	16	7	5	4	42—27	18
Filey III.	16	5	7	4	37—39	14
Snainton II.	16	6	8	2	42—50	14
Staxton	16	6	8	2	27—48	14
Scalby II.	16	6	10	0	38—59	12
Gristhorpe II.	16	2	13	1	19—59	5

Unplayed matches—Signals v. Hunmanby, Filey II. v. Y.M.C.A Imps II. v. Sherburn, Gristhorpe v. Sherburn, Corporation v. Sherburn.

No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals, Cairo.

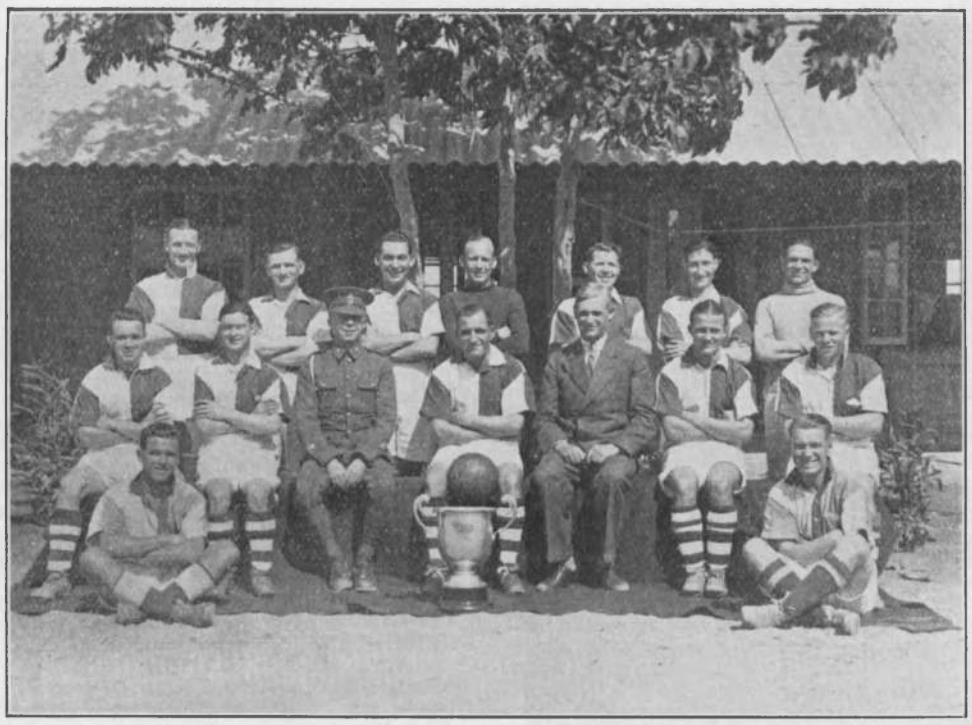
[APRIL NOTES]

Football.—Ex-members of the Company will, no doubt, be delighted to know that the final of the C. of E. challenge cup brought the trophy once again to Egypt Signals. The game was played against the R.A.O.C. and was well contested.

Results.

First round—No. 1 Company 4, B Squadron 8th Hussars 1.
Second round—No. 1 Company 5, W Company 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers 1.
Third round—No. 1 Company 5, H.Q. Company 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers 1.
Semi-final—No. 1 Company 8, Y Company 1st Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers 1.
Final—No. 1 Company 3, R.A.O.C. 1.

The R.A.O.C. team played in the Cairo Senior League and Command competitions, and had a very successful season.



No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals. Winners of the C. of E. Challenge Cup, 1934—35.

The following represented the Company in the competition: Sigmn Clayron, L/Sergt Ball, Sigmn Smith W., Sigmn Eccles, Sigmn Delicate, L/Corpl Kenneally, Sigmn Tomes, Sigmn Bulman, L/Corporal Singleton, Sigmn Mitcheson, Sigmn Mawson, Sigmn Gant and Sigmn Mason.

As a result of the final win, several teams have been very keen to play the Company side, and it was only natural that the winners of the Small Units cup (the 9th Light Battery, R.A.) should be one of the most persistent. A match was played with them, and in a very one-sided game the Company proved their worth in winning by 8—0 goals.

Athletics.—The sports ground, now open for running, jumping, etc., has caused the usual remarks to be made on times, heights and distances. Several exponents of the new style of training nearly succeeded in making the R.S.M. laugh. To see four men crawling round the track at about 100 yards per hour, and reading notices on the journey, would make a cat laugh! The tug of war team are now in full song. The anchor man (Sigmn Hicks) only weighs about two tons.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket: Jamasjee Cup.—After our successful encounter with the R.A.F. Kohat in this competition (recorded last month) we were drawn to play Peshawar District Signals, who unfortunately were unable to field an eleven and scratched from the competition. Thus Kohat District Signals found themselves in the final against the I.A.S.C., one of the finest military teams in Northern India. The scores found later on will speak eloquently enough of the splendid fight put up by our team, who, though beaten, were certainly not disgraced. Left with 504 runs to obtain in the final innings, Kohat attacked this huge score in a carefree manner and compiled the commendable total of 311, Lieut. Good, Lieut. Fegan and Sigmn Rose all topping the 50 mark. Mention should be made of the I.A.S.C. opening batsman, Feroze Din, who made a century in each innings—a really fine bat. Thus the I.A.S.C. retain the cup. Well done, K.D.S! better luck next time.

Snaps are enclosed of Captain J. Brown and Sigmn Madgwick going out to bat; also of I.O.R.s wrestling during the unit birthday celebrations.

[*From The Civil and Military Gazette*]

Rawalpindi, 3rd April.

The I.A.S.C. Rawalpindi won the final of the Jamasjee cup cricket competition, defeating the Kohat District Signals by the large margin of 192 runs. The losers put up a gallant fight in their second innings, scoring 311 by enterprising cricket.

Overnight the I.A.S.C. had scored 250 runs for the loss of two wickets in their second innings. Bhagwan Das, who had been dismissed for 94, was at times most aggressive and took a merry toll of the bowlers. His was an excellent innings in every way. Hardy (9) and Feroze Din (107) resumed the innings and runs accrued freely. At 268 Feroze Din gave a chance, but it went begging, so he continued to score rapidly. The arrival of the third hundred also marked the first bowling change, Price coming on for Rose. In the next over MacMahon relieved Brown. Rain now commenced to fall slightly. At 317 Feroze Din skied the ball to long-off, but Brown missed. Then Hardy's bright innings was terminated, Price bowling him at 233. The outgoing batsman had made 40 in entertaining fashion

FEROZE DIN OUT.

At the same total (233) Feroze Din was bowled by MacMahon for 157. His innings had been characterised by much patience and frequent flashes of aggressiveness. He and Hardy had added 100 runs for the third wicket by capital cricket.

With Henson and Morris associated, runs accumulated rapidly, but the former was caught from a skier at 349 and Morris followed him to the pavilion a run later. At 361 the innings was declared closed, the I.A.S.C. being 503 runs ahead.

Against this big balance, Kohat set about their task in hearty fashion. Madgwick and Rose, who opened the batting, scored with freedom. Rain was now falling heavily, but the weather improved later. The 50 went up after thirty minutes refreshing batting. At 57 Bhagwan Das came on for Hussain Bux and Grant relieved Pounder. Madgwick hit Grant for three fours in one over.

RAPID SCORING.

Hardy bowled for Grant at 84 and with his second ball dismissed Madgwick, who had made 34. Rose completed his 50 shortly after, and MacMahon gave Bhagwan Das a simple catch immediately after that, two wickets being down for 89. With Price and Rose together, the 100 was signalled and runs continued

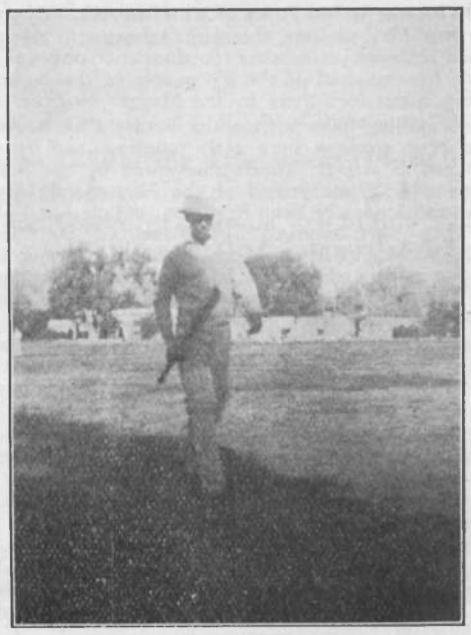
Captain J. H. Brown

to arrive with rapidity. At length Pounder bowled Rose, who had made 68 in excellent fashion. The score had reached 136 when Spracklen fell a victim to Bhagwan Das without having scored. At the same total Price was clean bowled by Pounder for 28. Brown and Good (who was missed in the slips) scored 59 for the sixth wicket, when Brown was caught, having played good forceful cricket for 27. The 200 was put up shortly after. Good and Fegan were together at the tea interval.

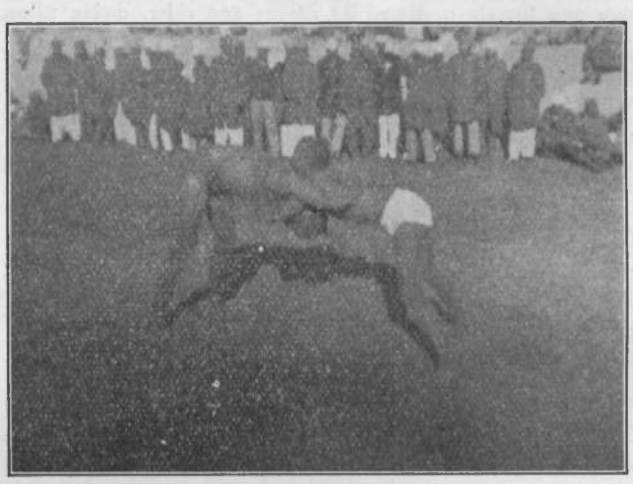
ENTERPRISING BATTING.

Good and Fegan continued after tea to the bowling of Bhagwan Das and Hussain Bux, and the former completed his 50 with a cut to the boundary, but was bowled by Hussain Bux when he had added one more run to his score. The seventh wicket had added 81 runs by enterprising batting. Fegan's individual 50 came shortly after, and the next wicket fell at 290, Fegan being caught and bowled for a really fine 54. The 300 was telegraphed just after, when Pounder bowled Hobden. The end came shortly after, Pitman being nicely caught by Bryant.

The I.A.S.C. thus retain the Jamasjee cup for yet another year. It was a splendid game, in which the vanquished were not disgraced.



Signalman Madgwick



I.O.R.s Wrestling on the Unit Birthday

I.A.S.C.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Feroze Din b Brown	103	b MacMahon	157
Bryant b MacMahon	25		
Capt. Grant c Milner b MacMahon	8		
Major Hardy lbw b Brown	30	b Price	40
Major Morris b MacMahon	49	b Price	2
Major King b Rose	10	c Milner b Price	25
Major Henson b Price	36	c and b MacMahon	14
Bhagwan Das c Pitman b MacMahon	1	c Pitman b Rose	94
Hussain Bux not out	25	not out	5
S/Cdr. Smith st Madgwick b Rose	10	not out	5
Sergt Pounder b Price	0		
Extras	21	Extras	19
	Total 318		Total (6 wkts. dec.) 361

KOHAT.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Spracklen b Pounder	7	b Das	0
Sigmn Pitman lbw b Pounder	0	c Bryant b B. Das	2
Mr. Milner b Pounder	0	not out	6
Sigmn Rose c Morris b Bhagwan Das	32	b Pounder	68
Sigmn Madgwick lbw b Pounder	0	b MacMahon	34
L/Cpl MacMahon b Bhagwan Das	25	c Das b Morris	4
Sigmn Price lbw b Morris	43	b Pounder	28
Lieut. Fegan c King b Morris	23	c and b Feroze Din	54
Capt. Brown c Feroze Din b Morris	8	c Smith b King	27
Lieut. Good not out	12	b Hussain Bux	51
Sigmn Hobden c Smith b B. Das	10	b Pounder	14
Extras	16	Extras	23
	Total 176		Total 311

Athletics.—The results below will show all interested a few details of the athletics for the Murray cup.

1, 100 yards relay ; 2, 220 yards relay ; 3, 440 yards relay ; 4, team 880 yards ; 5, long jump ; 6, high jump ; 7, putting the shot ; 8, total points scored.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
K Section	2nd	3rd	1st	1st	2nd	2nd	3rd	35
H.Q. ,,	4th	6th	2nd	3rd	1st	1st	1st	31
D ,,	1st	2nd	4th	4th	4th	3rd	4th	26
A ,,	3rd	1st	5th	6th	5th	5th	2nd	22
J ,,	5th	5th	3rd	2nd	6th	4th	6th	18
C ,,	6th	4th	6th	5th	3rd	6th	5th	14

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Mounted Gymkhana.—Combine Epsom Downs on Derby Day and the Aldershot or Delhi Show arena, and you have a picture of our maidan on the morning of our impromptu gymkhana.

The entries were numerous and had to be limited. For the first event, the mule race, about twenty-five faced the starter. This race was fiercely contested by mount and rider, owing to an almost unanimous decision by the mules not to jump the first obstacle—a line of barley-sprinkled forms. But eventually a break-through was made, and in a close finish a G Section entry won by a nose.

The musical chairs produced a dead heat, the last chair with legs still intact being the central link in the human chain between two equal and opposite hairy forces. But in the final run Baker beat Newman by a good seat.

The best turned out Troop horse and pair of mules classes went to No. 1 Company Sections. Judge's remarks in both cases: "A good even class." Incidentally, there is no truth in the rumour that the judge's decision in the mule class was influenced by a certain entry's attempt to remove the seat of his breeches.

In the Section tent pegging No. 2 Company were fortunate to have most of the unit team which won in an open Garrison event last year, and first and second places went to their two teams.

The mounted wrestling, open to I.O.R.s, was fought out by teams of five, the last fight ending with head collars removed and leaving C Section the winners.

There were twenty-six entries for the Troop horse handy hunter, and considerable ability was shown not only by the old hands, but by many riders who had never entered in such a competition before. None of the eleven obstacles were high, but many of the horses needed a good deal of riding to get them over. Walls, a drop fence, water, ditches, in and out rails, a slip rail, and a wingless gate taken on the slant—all had to be negotiated within a time limit of five minutes. L/Sergt Burgess on the old grey, No. 28, won with an excellent round, his only faults coming from one refusal. Sigmn Rhamat Khan rode a very good round, coming in second. Corpl Heasman, on No. 140, went round in the fastest time and gave the most polished performance of all. He was third, hitting one obstacle only. Sergt Gould on Ginger, an officer's charger ex-L.D., had a faultless round as far as the mud-hole (water jump) but his mount had evidently been taught by his last owner to avoid places like that.

Lastly came the one-and-a-half furlongs pony race, with an entry from almost every Section in their owners' colours. The nine starters got away well together in a cloud of dust, and there was nothing much in it up to the bend. Here a lot of jockeys had difficulty in keeping to the rails, and they were less bunched coming up the straight. In a good finish Timothy White (from the well known Cavalry Troop stables) passed the post first—and so ended a good morning's sport.

As regards other sports, the B.O.R.s have beaten the Garrison Police twice at hockey during the last month, by 2—0 and 4—0, and also beaten them by 1—0 at soccer.

On the 30th March hockey and soccer teams went to Delhi in the contractor's bus and played the 9th Light Tank Company. We drew both matches, but most of us enjoyed ourselves in the weal flicks and arrived back at Meerut, very dusty and very sleepy, in the early hours of Sunday morning.

We have played the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop four times, drawing once and losing thrice, so they must have some old Arsenal players hidden away somewhere.

TERRITORIAL NOTES.—56th (1st London) City of London Signals *(continued from page 290)*

The Royal Horse Artillery swung into their saddles, and the crowd around us—swelling every minute—gave them a great ovation as they rode on their way. We came to the "Slope" and stood keyed up for our great moment.

Down Queen Victoria Street came the roar, louder and louder, as each section of the crowd took up the frenzied cheering. Deafened, hot and tired, we clung with all our concentration to the effort of getting our "Present arms" exactly right. Shout as they would, the Company commanders were inaudible. Somehow we managed it. It is reported that our arms drill was well nigh perfect. How we did it, we shall never know: memories are confused. One remembers distinctly the pause in the cheering as the crowd caught their breath at the radiance of Her Majesty.

Back to the "Slope" again, somehow; a pause for what were minutes but seemed seconds; then to the "Present" again for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and later for the Duke and Duchess of York. Favourites with the crowds, these; and perhaps the greatest cheer of the day was for the little Princesses. The Duchess of Kent, concealed by an enormous hat, got a laughing cheer from the crowd pressing hard upon the Police behind us.

To the "Present" again for the long procession of royal cars, headed by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. The seemingly endless stream of carriages; the Prime Minister's procession; and the forty (or was it four hundred ?) cars of the Ambassadors; the crowds, by now hysterical and prepared to cheer anybody or anything—these are but vague memories after the great keyed-up effort to make that first "Present arms" to Their Majesties as perfect as we could.

Amazingly, soon afterwards we were on the march again back to our buses, and in them back to Signal House for pay and dinner. We were very tired, but very happy: we had done our job well!

Jubilee Ball.—Aided by willing volunteers, the staff of Signal House had everything prepared on Monday evening when the early comers arrived to hear the King's speech, which came to us over the radiogram. After that, the fun got fast and furious. It was the most successful dance of the year. Everyone had the Jubilee spirit, and over three hundred people kept things going until goodness knows what time. Mr. Shrimpton and his band were at the top of their form, as were all the dancers.

It is perhaps fitting, at this stage, to pay a tribute to the work which Mr. Shrimpton has done for us this winter. He and his superlatively good band have played for all our dances. Not only are they a very good band, but they are a very charming lot of fellows. Nothing is too much trouble to them. They have that friendly manner that makes it easy to ask for encores or special tunes. We thank them very much.

We were delighted to welcome two of the Royal Signal Display team from Olympia. We hope they enjoyed themselves and went back and told the others what they had missed. The two should have been twenty.

Jubilee Dinner to Old Folks of Wandsworth.—By 11 a.m. on Tuesday 7th May, despite the dance the night before, Signal House had achieved yet another transformation and was prepared to receive five hundred of the old people of the borough, who were being entertained there by the Mayor.

Bands of willing helpers from the Rotary Club and our own staff had been working since early morning, and by noon the guests began to arrive. Lunch-time music by the B.B.C. kept things going until the arrival of the Mayor and Mayoress of Wandsworth (Councillor Evan Rees, J.P., M.I.C.E., and Mrs. Evan Rees). They were received by Colonel G. D. Ozanne and Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan, and conducted to a place on the stage. The Mayor made a short speech in welcoming the guests, and read out the text of a telegram of loyal greeting he was to send to His Majesty the King.

The serious business of feeding the old folks then commenced, and by 2 p.m. an excellent variety entertainment was being given. So far as the writer could observe, all enjoyed themselves. Choruses were sung with gusto, and many of the guests were visibly affected by the warmth of their welcome.

In addition to the telegram of loyal greetings sent by the Mayor, Alderman Commins (who was in charge of the arrangements at Signal House) also sent a telegram to H.M. the King, conveying loyal greetings from those at headquarters.

The following reply was received: "The King is much gratified to receive the message of congratulations which you have sent on his Silver Jubilee, and I am desired to express His Majesty's warm thanks to all who joined in those good wishes. —Clive Wigram." C.O.L.S.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVI.—No. 185 JULY, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

ON the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday and in commemoration of his Jubilee, the King has been graciously pleased to approve the following appointment:—

H.R.H. The Princess Royal, C.B.E., Colonel-in-Chief Royal Scots, as Colonel-in-Chief Royal Corps of Signals.

[Copy of Telegram sent to Her Royal Highness on 3/6/35]

The Lady-in-Waiting, Harewood House, Leeds.

The Colonel-Commandant and all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals are highly honoured by the appointment of Her Royal Highness as Colonel-in-Chief and tender their loyal duty.

Colonel-Commandant,
R.Signals, War Office.

[Copy of Reply received]

Colonel-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, War Office.

It gives me great pleasure to have been appointed Colonel-in-Chief by His Majesty the King, and I much appreciate the message you have sent me from all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals, Mary.

[Copy of Letter sent]

10th June, 1935.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

Madam,

On behalf of all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals, I write to assure Your Royal Highness how deeply we appreciate the very great honour which His Majesty the King has conferred on our Corps in appointing Your Royal Highness as our Colonel-in-Chief.

It will be the ambition of all ranks to prove themselves worthy of the distinction conferred on them, and I trust that the Corps may before long have the privilege of welcoming Your Royal Highness at a visit to their Headquarters.

May I venture to ask you, Madam, to convey to His Majesty the King the humble duty and great thanks of us all for the distinction given to us.

On behalf of our Corps, I also trust that you may have a speedy recovery and full health from your present indisposition.

I have the honour to be Your Royal Highness' humble and obedient servant,

(Signed) H. Clementi Smith, Brigadier,
Colonel-Commandant,
Royal Corps of Signals.

- Editorial Notes -

Forthcoming Old Comrades Reunions.—It is notified for general information that the following Old Comrades Reunion gatherings are scheduled to take place on the dates indicated:—

June 28th, 29th and 30th—At Burniston Barracks, Scarborough, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding 5th Divisional Signals.

July 21st—At Bulford Camp, Wilts, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding 3rd Divl Signals.

July 27th and 28th—At Mons Barracks, Aldershot, by kind permission of the Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command.

A cordial invitation is extended to all Old Comrades of the Corps, and it is hoped that as many as possible will attend on each occasion.

Further particulars are given under Signals Association Notes heading in the next column.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Civil Employment.—Having from time to time published a series of articles in the columns of this Magazine dealing with the problem of civil employment, and advised our readers to give the matter very careful consideration before applying for discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, the following letters are deemed of sufficient interest to warrant publication. They are of fairly recent date, and the sentiments expressed therein leave nothing to the imagination.

Brighton, 29th January 1935.

Dear Sir.—I was transferred to the Army Reserve last May, and have since been in regular employment as a chauffeur. I cannot, however, adapt myself to civilian life, as I find there are no prospects of making much headway and very keen competition exists. I should very much like to rejoin the Service to complete twelve or twenty-one years, and am therefore writing to ask if you will assist me in any way you can. I hope you will give this your consideration, as it means such a lot to me: probably my last chance of improving myself. I should never have left the Army if I could have foreseen what civil life is really like.

——, Ex-Signalman, R.Signals.

Oxford, 18th May 1935.

Dear Sir.— . . . . . I can assure you that I am pleased to be able to say I am now in a very comfortable position. I had a long spell of unemployment and know what it is like. My advice to all those who are thinking of leaving the Service is to " stay put " unless they are certain of walking into a job.

——, Ex-Corporal, R.Signals
(discharged after twelve years service)

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Birmingham Branch.

Monday 6th May was the occasion of the first Reunion Parade of the Branch, when sixty-two old comrades, in commemoration of His Majesty's Jubilee, marched past the Lord Mayor and the G.C.O. 48th (S.M.) Division. Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D., commanded the parade, and Mr. F. H. Richardson acted as sergeant-major. One very gratifying result of this parade is the recruiting of about twenty new members, which brings our strength up to nearly a hundred. Not bad going for such a short time.

We hope to be represented in force at the Bulford Reunion on the 21st July and, whilst there, to see many old familiar faces. Look out for the Birmingham contingent, 3rd Div. We know you will make a fuss of us.

Chester and District Branch (Western Command).

A Branch of the Royal Signals Association has recently been formed in Chester, and membership is open to all members of the Corps—Regular, Territorial Army and Supplementary Reserve—who may be serving in the Western Command area.

A Committee has been elected as follows for the year ending 31st December 1935: Chairman, Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., R.Signals (Chief Signal Officer, Western Command). Vice-Chairman, Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Western Command). Treasurer, Captain B. Coombs, O.B.E., R.E. (Western Command Signal Company). Hon. Secretary, Sergt Ring H., R.Signals. Members, Q.M.S. Mutter W., M.B.E., Sgt Green W. H., and Corpl Hylands V. C., all of R.Signals.

The Hon. Secretary, No. 1 Stanley Place, Chester, will be pleased to hear from any members of the Corps who intend to reside in the Western Command area on discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, and who may wish to become members of the Chester Branch; also from any ex-members of the Corps or Signal Service R.E. who are already residing in the area.

Medals and Decorations.—Congratulations to Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., R.Signals (Chief Signal Officer, Western Command) and No. 2310426 Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Mutter W., R.Signals, on being awarded the King's Jubilee medal and M.B.E. respectively on the occasion of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee.

Aldershot Branch.

Signals Week, 1935.—This will be held at Aldershot from the 22nd to the 28th July (both dates inclusive). A full programme for the week has been arranged as follows.

Monday, 22nd—Band arrives.

Tuesday, 23rd—Cricket match, Corporals v. Band. Concert in evening. Officers' Guest Night.

Wednesday, 24th—Cricket, Officers v. Sergeants. Band in attendance. Sergeants Mess dance.

Thursday, 25th—2nd Divl Signals sports. Band in attendance. Officers' Guest Night.

Friday, 26th—Band plays at Married Quarters. All ranks dance.

Saturday, 27th—Old Comrades Reunion. Regimental sports with Band in attendance. Old Comrades smoking concert, etc., etc.

Sunday, 28th—Old Comrades Church Parade under Lt.-Colonel R. E. Barker, R.Signals. Old Comrades photograph. Officers past and present meet Old Comrades. Lunch with all the usual etceteras. Band plays on the Square.

All ex-R.Signals and R.E. (Signal Service) are cordially invited to attend. A large number of individual invitations have been sent out, but we are certain that our list is incomplete. Will those who have not received an individual invitation therefore please accept this as an open invitation, and by so doing help us to make the Reunion the success it should be. Full particulars will be willingly supplied by the Hon. Secretary, R.Signals O.C.A. (Aldershot Branch), 1st Divisional Signals Headquarters, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

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, Shrewsbury	Male Nurse
2	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Painter
3	Ex-Signalman, Chisledon	Chauffeur-Handyman
4	Ex-Signalman, Chisledon	Officer's Servant
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Kitchen Hand
6	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Part-time Telephonist
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Part-time Telephonist
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Warder
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireless Mechanic
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
12	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Garage Hand
14	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Jointer's Mate (P.O.)
15	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
16	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk

17	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Telephonist
18	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
19	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Steel Erector
21	Ex-N.C.O. Manchester	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Bus Conductor
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Patrolman (A.A.)
25	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Coach Finisher
26	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Motor Driver
27	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Motor Driver
28	Ex-N.C.O. London	Bus Conductor
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Bus Conductor
30	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	A.A. Patrol
31	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
32	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
34	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Assembler
35	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Assembler
36	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Labourer
37	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Cleaner (P.O.)
39	Ex-Driver, London	Porter
40	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
41	Ex-W.O. Bedford	Wireless Examiner
42	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Porter
43	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Labourer
44	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	Messenger
45	Ex-N.C.O. London	Milk Roundsman
46	Ex-Signalman, London	Bus Conductor
47	Ex-N.C.O. London	Clerk
48	Ex-W.O. Lincoln	Clerk
49	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	(Salisbury Branch) Switchboard Operator
50	Ex-Signalman, Durrington	(Salisbury Branch) Electric Wireman
51	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	(Salisbury Branch) Electric Wireman
52	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	(Salisbury Branch) Post Office Lineman
53	Ex-Signalman, Chester	(Chester Branch) Switchboard Operator

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

B Corps Signals, India
W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot
Royal Signal Officers Mess, Catterick
3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut, India
Peshawar District Signals, India
Army Sports Control Board

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	£1	0	0
2	Ex-Driver London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Dublin. Domestic difficulties	Grant	1	10	0
4	Sigmn Belfast. Domestic difficulties	Loan	2	10	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Hants. Domestic difficulties	Loan	3	0	0
6	Ex-Driver Lancs. Domestic difficulties	Grant	4	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Middlesex. Temp'ry difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O. Yorks. Domestic difficulties	Grant	1	10	0
9	N.C.O. Bulford. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
10	Sigmn Bulford. Domestic difficulties	Grant	1	0	0
11	Ex-N.C.O. London. Domestic difficulties	Grant	1	10	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

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Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 17th June 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the July 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 30/11/29.

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

B Corps Signals, Karachi, India, 3rd May 1935.

To the Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I am anxious to obtain some data on A.T. valves. The only method at my disposal is to appeal to readers of THE WIRE, and I wonder if you would be good enough to publish my request. The data required is as follows:—

(1) Anode current—grid volts, and anode current—anode volts curves.
(2) The order of the inter-electrode capacities.
(3) The most suitable operating conditions at frequencies taken between 15,000 and 1,000 k/c's.

Far better than this would be an article by some competent authority, as there is a considerable amount of slap-dash work in the Corps—in India, at any rate—as a result of no such data being supplied with the valves.

I am, yours faithfully, ENQUIRER.

Golf Notes.

The 1935 Army Golf Championships were held at Porthcawl during the week commencing 15th April, and two Royal Signal teams competed.

The Army Individual Championship—36 holes medal play—was played on the Monday and Tuesday. The first round of 18 holes on the Monday was played in the usual seaside wind, but with fine weather. The second round of 18 holes on the Tuesday, however, was played in a strong wind with storms of rain, hail and sleet, and only two players returned a score of under 80. The scores returned by Royal Signal officers were:—

	1st Round	2nd Round	Total
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay	81	78	159
Captain J. E. S. Walford	80	89	169
Lieutenant J. F. Longfield	83	94	177
Lieutenant T. H. Winterborne	88	89	177
Captain M. Duke	88	93	181
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	82	103	185
Captain R. C. Woodbridge	85	—	—
2/Lieutenant G. S. K. Maydon		No returns.	

Last year, at St. Andrew's, Captain Lewis-Barclay was fifth in the championship, 4 strokes behind the winner. This year he moved up to third place—again 4 strokes behind the winner—as a result of completing the course in 78 on the second day.

In the handicap portion of this event Captain Chadwick secured the prize for the best 9 holes under handicap, whilst Captain Lewis-Barclay won second prize on handicap in the second round with 78—3=75. Captain Walford had a useful first round score of 80, whilst Captain Chadwick with 82, and Lieut. Longfield and Captain Woodbridge with 83 and 85 respectively, were not entirely out of the hunt. The weather conditions for the second round, however, were rather too severe and proved their undoing.

Team Championship.

The Unit Team Championship was commenced on the Wednesday, and Royal Signals entered two teams: No. 1 from Catterick, and No. 2 from the remainder of the Corps. These teams were made up as under:—

No. 1 Unit Team—Lieut. J. F. Longfield, Captain M. Duke, Captain R. C. Woodbridge, Lieut. R. G. Muir.

No. 2 Unit Team—Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay, Captain J. E. S. Walford, Lieut. T. H. Winterborn, 2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon.

Reserve—Captain C. A. H. Chadwick.

In the first round No. 1 met the 16/5th Lancers and won comfortably, whilst No. 2 had a bye into the second round.

In the second round No. 1 team came up against a strong team in the Grenadiers Guards and could not quite hold them. Lieut. Muir had only arrived in Porthcawl a few hours before the morning match, in which he played very well, but the long journey overnight told on him when he came to play the second round that day. No. 2 met the R.A.O.C. No. 2 team and won by 1 hole after a most exciting encounter.

In the third round No. 2 team played the Coldstream Guards and again struggled through by 1 hole, and so entered the semi-final. In the semi-final they came up against the Royal Engineers and were beaten after a hard fight. It was, however, somewhat consoling to the team to see that in the final, next day, the R.E.s won very comfortably against a strongly fancied Black Watch team.

The results of the various rounds were:—

First Round.

No. 1 Unit Team.		16/5th Lancers.	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Lt.-Col. P. E. Bowden-Smith	1
Captain Duke	4	Captain E. Wadham	0
Captain Woodbridge	1	Lieut. J. R. N. Loveday	0
Lieut. Muir	5	Lieut.-Colonel G. W. Clark	0
	10		1

Second Round.

No. 1 Unit Team.		Grenadier Guards (No. 1).	
Lieut. Longfield	0	Lieut. P. D. Miller	5
Captain Duke	0	Lieut. D. E. Dixon	1
Captain Woodbridge	0	Captain J. B. G. Hennessey	8
Lieut. Muir	0	Major E. R. M. Fryer	3
	0		17

No. 2 Unit Team.		R.A.O.C. (No. 2 Unit).	
Captain Lewis-Barclay	2	Colonel W. N. Stokes	0
Captain Walford	4	Brigadier B. A. Hill	0
Lieut. Winterborn	3	Major L. H. Aste	0
2/Lieut. Maydon	0	Colonel H. B. Warwick	8
	9		8

Third Round.

No. 2 Unit Team.		Coldstream Guards.	
Captain Lewis-Barclay	0	Lieut. W. L. Steele	3
Captain Walford	3	Major R. V. Martyn	0
Lieut. Winterborn	0	Lieut. B. E. Luard	4
2/Lieut. Maydon	5	Major A. D. Bridge	0
	8		7

Semi-Final Round.

No. 2 Unit Team.		Royal Engineers.	
Captain Lewis-Barclay	2	Lieut. W. B. J. Armstrong	0
Captain Walford	0	Lieut. A. W. Kiggell	7
Lieut. Winterborn	3	Lieut. P. R. A. Millar	0
2/Lieut. Maydon	0	Lieut. A. G. Peart	5
	5		12

General.—This year, both Corps teams have been gathered together with difficulty—particularly No. 2 Unit. A member of No. 1 Unit was only able to reach Porthcawl a few hours before his team's first match. Immediately after a long journey, and without any practice over a difficult championship course, it was asking too much to expect him to do justice either to the team or to himself. No. 2 Unit, as a result of several unfortunate circumstances, was minus several of its best players, and the team was only completed at the very last minute. In the face of such difficulties, both teams are deserving of congratulation on their performance.

Royal Signal teams have always done well in this Meeting, and the time cannot be far distant when this much-coveted championship will be won for the Corps.

In 1929, at Prince's, Sandwich, No. 2 Unit reached the semi-final, but was narrowly beaten by the eventual winners. In 1932, at Hoylake, No. 2 reached the final and was only beaten by 1 hole after a match consisting of 144 holes.

In 1934, at St. Andrew's, No. 1 Unit reached the semi-final and was beaten by the eventual winners.

And now again, in 1935, with a very scratch team, No. 2 Unit has come through to the semi-final, to be beaten by the winners.

In 1936, the championships will be played over the Royal Lytham and St. Anne's links, and it is hoped that every effort will be made to produce the best available teams.

= = Plain Tales = =

Some Gardening.—I am afraid I have neglected this subject for quite a long time. Cries for help have reached me from places as far apart as Shanghai and somewhere else. Mushrooms are due again. Already there are quite a number to be seen here, and occasionally there. These should be planted firmly in a large frying pan and banked up with best back rashers. The temperature must be raised until a pleasant sizzling results. In a few

moments you may expect a yell from the bathroom where father is shaving. He has probably cut himself in his hurry, the greedy thing. Although dahlias are not recommended as a breakfast dish, you may be interested to know that you are just too late to plant these. Tall dahlias require a rich soil, so no one below the rank of R.S.M. could expect to grow them successfully. The best time to cut sweet peas is in the early morning while they are wet with dew. Another good plan is to ask the owner's permission. This will save you the bother of getting up so early.

Infinitives may now be split with impunity and a careless wave of the hand.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—Well, C.S.M. Thomas has gone at last. How quiet it seems, even with Joe Brooke banging the piano. What a party the night before Taff left. I had to hide under the sideboard most of the time because an essential part of the celebrations appeared to consist of carrying him round on the inadequate shoulders of C.S.M. Seymour.

Another departure that grieves me (sez you) must be recorded. Tessa, looking very smart in a new creation, set off for her Whitsun vacation. She came and kissed me and the kids good-bye, and said she hoped I would be able to send them all to a good school. The sarcastic thing. She knows I can't do that with George dead and buried, and me with no pension nor nothink.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

News.—Pursuing a forward policy, it is once more proposed to give you something far in advance of many Christmas magazines. Indeed, it is safe to say that few, if any, of the London magazines will even mention this news in their Christmas numbers. Result of the Derby: 1st, Bahram. Two other horses were second and third respectively or vice versa, and fourteen others completed the course. In the race across the Atlantic, the *Normandie* finished first on the 12th June. There were no other ships competing. Hats off to France. Vive l'Arsenal! and do not throw bottles out of the window.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Came the Dawn.—Ukann Larfe stared with feverish eyes at the beautiful continental spy as the pale light of a new born day filtered through the bedroom windows.

" You may call me Colette, monsieur." The girl shrugged her exquisite shoulders. " But you think of some other name. Eh ? —ca m'est egal."

Ukann Larfe curled his lip in a sneer. Still keeping his lip curled by holding his finger on it, he edged towards the door. His chances of escaping the deadly purpose of the girl began to look slender. " I say, you'll get into an awful row over this, you know," he said.

" Bah! You can't frighten me."

A furious knocking on the door froze the two into instant immobility. Colette looked round fearfully for a way of escape. The detective smiled hopefully. He recognised that terrific knocking. " Let me in, Uky. Let me in." The powerful voice echoed along the corridor, and many joined in a chorus of protest. Hermione rattled the handle and the door flew open. " Oh, why didn't you tell me the door wasn't locked, Uky ?" Then she caught sight of Colette, looking ravishingly beautiful in her pale blue silk pyjamas and a simply marvellous wrap. (Sorry I didn't tell you about that before.)

Hermione looked from one to the other, and Ukann flushed a deep red.

" Oh! So that's it, is it ?" Without giving her husband a chance to speak, she flung her fifteen stone of brawn and muscle at him and grabbed him by neck and pants. " Stand clear, you woman!" she cried.

With one mighty heave she sent Ukann Larfe hurtling through the open window.

It was shut.

BARLEUX.

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Major F. H. DALLISON, M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel A. E. MEREDITH, M.C., A.M.I.E.E., B.A. (Oxon)
Captain E. S. HEFFER, M.A. (Cantab.)

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Much Ado About Nothing.

The Optimist.—He languidly bent over the table and pressed a bell push, and just as languidly came back to his original position in the chair in the most expensive suite of rooms in the Grand Hotel, Bomcutta.

"Yes! this is THE goods," soliloquised Mr. Thomas Atkins, late Signalman, Royal Signals, as he waited for his valet to answer the summons. No more would he have to jump out of bed at 5.30 a.m. on the last note of reveille sounding, have a hurried wash, gulp down a cup of tea (if he were lucky) and rush out on parade in a thin vest and shorts on a cold and frosty morning. No more would he have to do two hours on and four hours off, or creep round like a cat on wire patrols on a dark and dirty night.

Those skylines (a vivid memory yet), countless in number, on the N.W.F. would never strike his aching vision again—thank goodness! That dust, as thick as a London fog, which made one's face like a mud plaster and gave one a throat like a lime-kiln during the column's march over country as hard-baked as the proverbial canteen cakes, was a thing of the past. The soothing influence of the Section sergeant's voice, the rasping bark of the sergeant-major, and the delightful manner of the C.O. when he was being dealt with "on the mat," were episodes that he could remember with perfect joy.

No more would he be one of a band of manly men whose job in life it was to spend five years without the sweet companionship of the dear little things—unless, of course, the term "companionship" meant an occasional visit to Mae West at the one and only "Flicks," where one cracked peanuts, cracked jokes, and behaved as if "she" were the only girl in the world.

Never again would he help to welcome a new draft with the blood-curdling song of the Kurram which commenced with

"No more treacle in your pudden;
No more brides to watch you fight . . ."

No more . . . He sat up with a jerk as a loud knock sounded on the door, and Jones (erstwhile Signalman and pal of Thomas Atkins, Esq., and now valet of the said T.A.) made an appearance. "You rang, sir?"

"I did, Jones; and the next time you knock, just put the soft pedal on a little. You're not in a ruddy barrack room now. Understand?"

"Yes; very good, sir!" said Jones, as he stood at ease in the best approved manner.

"Everything fixed up, Jones?"

"Yes, sir. The baggage has gone to the boat. I've got tickets and passports, and the Rolls is waiting outside, sir."

"Good! what kind of a programme have you mapped out for me?"

"First of all, sir, a fortnight at Singapore. There is a wonderful crowd of naval fellows there; and where the Navy is, there is usually a fishing fleet, and I know you delight in fishing. Then on to Japan, where kimonos and pagodas and an Oriental version of the rumba is the order of the day—and night. From Japan we shall toddle along to the island of Honolulu, where, as far as I can ascertain from the 1870 guide book, the girls only decorate themselves with a hibiscus—whatever that may be. I thought that might be entertaining, sir."

"Ahem! yes, perhaps it may. Go on."

"Well, sir, it's only a few days trip from Honolulu to Los Angeles, in the vicinity of which is Hollywood. The guide book states that some of the beauties of the world can be seen in that place; and it goes on to say that the bathing costumes are the latest things in slender curves, consisting of a two-piece garment, one of which is called a brass—. Can't pronounce it, sir; it certainly isn't brass hat."

"Right, Jones; we'll stop there a month. What next?"

"Well, sir ——"

. . . . . .

"Come on, Atkins; dig yourself out of that bed; reveille's gone five minutes ago," whispered the soothing voice of the Section sergeant.

And the draw for the Irish Sweepstake commences to-morrow!

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 C.S.M.

2306517	C.Q.M.S. Archbold H.	3/2/35	15
2308236	C.Q.M.S. Hobbs G.	20/4/35	14

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

*1042525	Sergeant Keepen A.	3/2/35	73
1856959	Sergeant Shilton E.	7/4/35	16
1856944	Sergeant McEwan P.	20/4/35	16

To be Sergeant.

2312180	L/Sergeant Pattenden H.	3/2/35	28
*5610360	L/Sergeant Collins R.	3/2/35	78
2312805	L/Sergeant McBride J.	13/2/35	29
*2309379	L/Sergeant Hayes J.	13/2/35	78
2313026	L/Sergeant Luck V.	1/4/35	29
5611956	L/Sergeant Freeman K.	7/4/35	29
2309770	L/Sergeant Brett R.	6/5/35	29

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2313752	Corporal Birchall J.	3/2/35	35
2309374	Corporal Wheeler J.	3/2/35	35
2560553	Corporal Berriff C.	13/2/35	34
2312100	Corporal Dawie W.	3/4/35	36
5721522	Corporal Elmes A.	16/4/35	36
2314394	Corporal Williams A.	17/4/35	36

To be Corporal.

2317589	L/Corporal Payne S.	16/4/35	55
2315501	L/Corporal Philpott C.	21/4/35	55
2316168	L/Corporal Connaghton J.	6/5/35	55

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

6396266	Signalman Marchant W.	2/1/35
6138314	Signalman Stares A.	1/2/35
2319240	Signalman Edwards R.	1/2/35
2318437	Signalman Chaffey E.	1/2/35
2321188	Signalman Crust G.	1/2/35
4534132	Signalman Booth A.	2/2/35
2319337	Signalman Young J.	2/2/35
2316440	Signalman Laurenson J.	3/2/35
2311195	Signalman Dillon L.	4/2/35
800491	Signalman Holland E.	6/2/35
2318247	Signalman Webber G.	7/2/35
2321814	Signalman Dixon F.	10/2/35
3650259	Signalman Hodgins A.	15/2/35
4264682	Signalman Bell W.	15/2/35
2319188	Signalman Matthews J.	15/2/35
2320837	Signalman Thompson J.	20/2/35
2320736	Signalman Tuft C.	22/2/35

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318389	L/Corporal Cooper A.	3/5/35	
2319347	L/Corporal Cook A.	13/5/35	61
2318405	L/Corporal Brudenell A.	16/5/35	

Discharges.

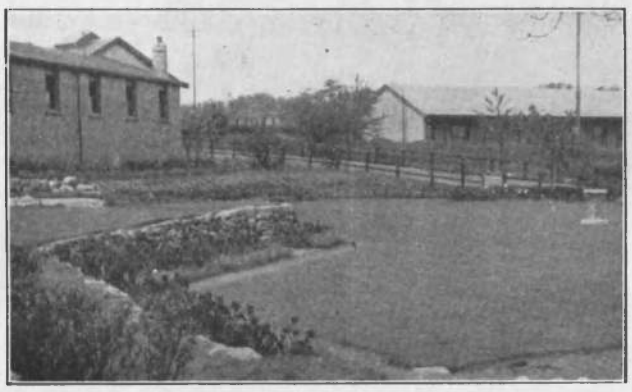
2306295	Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Harris G.	20/5/35	9
2315525	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Whitehead R.	21/5/35	10
2307349	C.S.M. Markham W.	17/5/35	6
2308253	Sergeant Wylie J.	4/3/35	18
2311302	Sergeant Topp R.	2/5/35	28
2306455	L/Sergeant Smith F.	15/5/35	31
3590596	Corporal Sims W.	6/4/35	39

* *Special Roster (India).*

HOME STATIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP — *Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



A View in the Lines.....*Depot Battalion*

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—The chief item of interest during the past month was the " At Home " Day. The weather clerk was sympathetic and, taking it on the whole, the day was very successful.

Our visitors were many and varied, but I think they could easily be split up into two catagories: civvies and old time soldiers. Now, the civvies were really astounded at the different things they saw, and it was pleasing to see their amazement as they were ably guided round the lines to see the many items of interest. I saw one ambitious guide doing his utmost to persuade an intellectual looking gentleman that, although the beds did look small, they could be made larger for sleeping purposes. I heard another say " Oh, yes! we have some wonderful up to date machinery. Take the butter machine: two thousand pats a minute, complete with regimental crest. Beat that in civvy street! Four thousand suits pressed in a week. Beat that!"

But the biggest benefit derived from the at home day is entirely due to a daily newspaper. Will all interested please note that our canteen has ceased to be such and is now a Men's Club. It's a great pity we couldn't have a few more " at homes." Then we could, in all probability, compete with the Kit Kat.

One old timer I talked to was exceptionally sceptical, though. " Different to 1912." Of course, even *I* knew that ; but as he was the visitor and I the guide—well, the customer is always right. Anyhow, when he described it as . . . . . (he used a common phrase of the soldier of to-day) I pointed out the Tanks and said " Can you manage to find your own way ?" ; and when he answered " Yes " and mumbled something like " Before you cum up," I made my way to the Men's Club to drown my chagrin in tea (?).

It is pleasing to hear there were no casualties from this Corps in the recent earthquake at Quetta. I'm sorry to have to report that one n.c.o., on hearing of the earthquake, was seen perusing the little blue book ; and talking of n.c.o.s, I believe there is one more of our seniors who has not only managed to get a nosebag surplus to establishment, but also an offer of a second-hand accumulator and an option on a garden. The condolences of the Wing will be tendered in due course.

I'm sure all our friends, far and near, will be interested to learn that we have commenced our annual musketry course ; but as the interest will be only very, very slight, I don't propose to say any more on the matter.

WALT.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

That's Whitsun—that was. And speaking for those who stayed behind, thank goodness it's over! Jupiter has been in the ascendant, Sol having (presumably) departed.

The Depot has been like Goldsmith's deserted village since last Friday, when all the available M.T. of the North Riding arrived and carried off the Hope of England *en bloc*. The said H. of E. has now returned ; all is well ; and the patron saint of drill instructors is once more having a quiet snigger (at the correct position of " At ease," of course). Several recruits, on being questioned, have testified that they are glad to be back. The liars!

Richmond has had a fair behind the obelisk thing in the square, and the population turned out, backed up by a large clutch (or covey) of cyclists. Three babies—a boy and two girls—were christened in the Parish Church. Otherwise, very little of note has happened, except that several (or at least, one or two) of our number have announced their intention of doing the right thing by our little Nell.

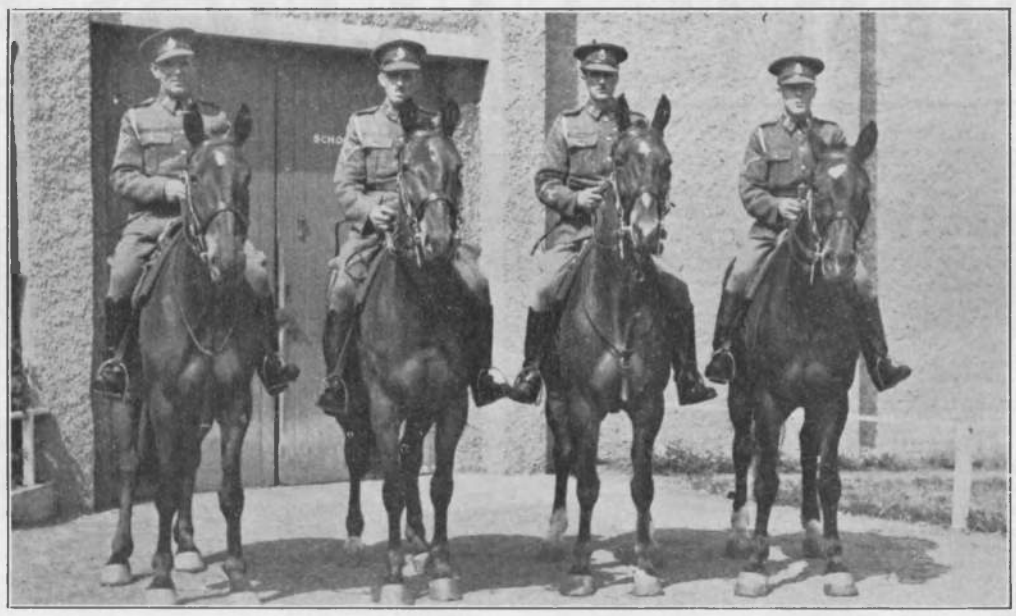
During the past month we have had our " At Home " Day and the Commandant's inspection.

On the day that Mum and Dad arrived to see how little Willie was being looked after, we had quite a busy time, and we were able to put up a show that made Dad seriously think of putting his age down to wangle in, and Mum to wonder what chances she stood for a job in the N.A.A.F.I.

Our gardens were at their best. The goldfish positively strutted around and took everything in good part, even when little brother played " spitting in the well " in their commodious domicile. The bungalows shone, and glittering equipment was reflected in our polished floor in such a manner as to put the Aurora Borealis to shame.

Of course, there were one or two rather awkward moments, such as when one junior n.c.o. thought—duty done—he could get changed and what-ho for the high spots and gleaming lights of the Great White Way (Finkle Street). He was half way through his toilet when he became aware of a just too divine creation in pink tulle with floppy things at the sides: a truly Grade A lump of skirt, standing about twenty hands, and sound of wind and limb despite her twenty-one odd years.

Somewhat abashed to be thus caught, as it were, in the act, L/Corpl —— blushed and stammered ; but Juno, in no wise put out, said " Don't mind me! So this is where you live ? Are you happy ? Do you like the Army ? Do they feed you well ? Are those pants the sort they issue ? When do the recruits change from their winter woollens ?" L/Corpl —— (by now, feeling just a bit less than the irreducible minimum) answered in a strangled voice, " Yes, yes, yes, sometimes. Not on your life!



The Depot Battalion Other Ranks Jumping Team, 1935.
Winners of the Northern Command Bronze Medal Tournament, and third in the Jumping Competition at Olympia.

I got these at Marks and Spencers when May was out. Now go and have a look at our wonderful bath house. The sports people should be there by now."

Credit is due to the gym staff for the display(s) they gave, ably assisted by two squads who combined to give a two-minute show entitled "P.T. without tears." Those taking part, especially the chair tricksters, had so many encores that only by brute force were they persuaded into the last attempt. The brute force was suggested by a crowd of visitors of such numbers that hardly enough room was left for the performance.

Other demonstrations, all on a par with that in the gym, were available, and bands entertained throughout the afternoon ; and we feel sure that a good time was had by all.

The Commandant's inspection passed with credit to those who had worked so hard, and mention should be made of the Wing stores, which were of an exceptionally high standard. The Commandant told those responsible that he gave full points for the effort—and it was well worth it!

Well, it's all over now, and we are once again down to it. Leave is a thing of the past, and sweethearts and wives are once again cheered with lots of barbed wire at the bottom of the daily and high scented billets doux.

Recruits are arriving with regularity, among those of late being two old chums, Hamilton and O'Neill, intent on having another go. Good luck to you both. Make a good job of it.

The undermentioned squads have passed off the square within the last month and are now in the Training Battalion. No. 82 passed off under L/Sergt Chadney, with Sigmn Mackay winning the Colonel's whip and Sigmn James the P.T. medal. No. 84 passed off under Corpl Wilkins, with Sigmn Williams winning the Colonel's whip and Sigmn Allen the P.T. medal.

The foregoing being about the sum total of the month's events, we will now conclude with a pungent remark ref. the quality of the beer in Richmond and an ode dedicated to the shades of Rudyard Kipling's idea of military people.

SUPERFINE.

There's a tale that they tell in the S.T.C.
  Of the Depot Battalion and Square,
Where the D.I. rules with an iron fist
  With his "'Shun!" and his "As you were!"
The story concerns one Archibald
  Woodbine De Reszke O'Moore,
Who joined the Corps for experience
  As he found the Towers a bore.

A good chap—college and varsity,
  Ridin' and huntin', too—
Was Archie. He'd toured Darkest Africa
  And won his shove-halfpenny blue.
A Scroungers Old Boys pin gleamed on his breast,
  And a glass in his starboard light,
And he sported the Narkover colours, you know:
  Chese green and Turkish delight.
He told the police sergeant to garage his car
  And help his man with his stuff.
"I've only six trunks and a tooth brush," he said,
  "But I think that I'll find it enough."
The sergeant just fainted away on the spot,
  And the corporal turned round and said "Lad!"
But Archie just stifled a yawn and replied
  "You low fellow—don't be a cad!"
They gave him a cap badge to stick in his coat,
  And he said it was chic and divine.
Then they gave him a shovel and told him to dig,
  But he thought that it wasn't so fine,
So he packed up his bags and bought his discharge,
  And said "I shall try life elsewhere."
Now he's far, far away with his pa in the Towers—
  Or in Borstal, for all that we care.

P.S.—We want to know "Who was the . . . . . ." Never mind! "Certa Cito," "Gutta Percha," and other ancient college cries.

C.C.R.B.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—In the Signal Training Centre, May and June are annually recognised as very busy months ; but this year, the Jubilee has added further commitments, not to mention the "at home" party given by the Catterick Garrison on the 25th May. However, with all the usual Signal fortitude these obstacles have been surmounted, and we are now settled down to the technical side of training. In this respect, a word of praise must be given to the instructors, who have had a very busy time owing to the extra input of recruits from the Depot Battalion. It is also very pleasing to note that the re-allotment file is very dusty owing to its non-use.

Those who proceeded on Whitsun leave have safely returned to the fold with bronzed complexions. Others who held the fort made the best of the Catterick weather, sitting round the camp fire and awaiting the weather forecast.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that I have to record the death of the infant daughter of Sergt Gresham at the Military Families Hospital, Scotton, on the 4th May. The sympathy of all ranks is extended to his family in their sad bereavement, which was further accentuated by his own admission to hospital.

Arrivals.—Chief among these were Corpl Walsh and family, from China, in mid-April. The corporal has now returned from his furlough, ready to carry on the good work of instruction. The recruits from the Depot have continued to arrive in an ever-flowing stream. We hope they will find their stay in the Company very pleasant, and the training grind not too difficult.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Brown J. on his appointment to paid rank and his courage in volunteering for service in India. Also to L/Sergt Lewis F. H. on his recent marriage. He has not yet volunteered for service in India, but, of course, this may come later.

Information.—I should like to state, for the express information of a certain cadre individual, that M.V.O. does not stand for motor vehicle orderly.

Brighter Cricket Tournament.—The Company entered for this new style of cricket, but no team was fortunate enough to come off winners. The matches were very interesting and provided glimpses of good unrehearsed cricket, from which we should be able to find a winning Company team.

A further effort in this direction has been made by Lieutenant D. W. R. Burridge in the running of an inter-Section cricket competition. We all hope it will be a great success.

I hope to be able to give our readers a full account of the Mackworth trophy in the next issue of THE WIRE.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—We congratulate all Companies on the fine display put up in the sports meetings for the Mackworth shield. The hard training done by our team was well rewarded, as can be seen in our Sports Notes. We had very little difficulty in winning all three meetings ; and on completion of the final, we had a lead of ten points over the runners-up.

Our annual inspection by the Commandant has come and gone. Everyone was, I think, entirely satisfied with the result. The usual standard was maintained as regards barrack rooms and gardens, but with less than the usual sweating of previous years.

We are now busily engaged in rehearsing for the Northern Command Tattoo, which is to take place at Nottingham very shortly. The Workshop boys have been putting in overtime (strange to say, in their own time) on the scenery, tanks, etc. The only moan they had was that they were not paid for overtime. As in previous years, the part taken by the boys is " The Battle in Toyland " (modern version) and will be complete with traffic signals and Belisha beacons. Our next notes on this subject will be from Nottingham. Three trumpeter boys who are to take the part of heralds at the Tattoo are at present attached to the 16/5th Lancers at York.

Agony.—What about a line, Don, to your old pals in F Coy ?

Rejoicings.—Due to the fact that F Company is now entirely free from isolation.

Hopes.—Several boy athletes are going to Ilkeston to take part in the Northern Counties youths' athletic championships. One boy will be good at litter sticking, and there should be no need for him to look far for a job when he leaves the Army.

Drill Course: N.C.O. Boys.—Our budding drill instructors are now on the last lap of the course, and apparently feel more sure of themselves on parade. Let us hope they pass off with honours.

Thanks.—The boys wish to thank all the officers and n.c.o.s who gave up their leisure hours to train them for sports and athletics. We also offer our congratulations to Lieut. Boileau on the way the sports were carried out, and thank him for the interest he has taken and still takes in F Company. When this officer left us and went to the School of Signals, it was certainly one up for them.

Congratulations.—We congratulate L/Corporal Smith F. on passing in English " C " and maths " B " towards his special ; also Corpl Powell, who passed in English " C."

Cricket.—Sergt Napper is at present busy in coaching our First Eleven in a ravenous (one supper = 15 runs) style, in preparation for our match with Ampleforth College. We are hoping to beat them, and have every confidence that we shall do so.

Marriages.—We wish Lieut. P. R. Hyde, who was recently married, the very best of luck. DINTY.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

General.—Many new faces have found their way into our select band, and lots of old pals and comrades have left us. All we hope is that the newcomers are as good as the people we have lost. To all newcomers we proffer the glad hand, and to all who have departed we wish the very best of good luck. May those who have gone into civvy street never regret it.

Among those who have departed is Corpl Wallace F. W., who has been invalided out of the Service (A Corps, Karachi, please note). We are all very sorry to lose you, Fred, and sincerely hope that before long you will have fully recovered your health. In the meantime, cheer up. All the very best.

Others who have recently left us are Signalmen Smith L. and Jenkins L. on discharge by purchase. Signalmen Ayer and Cooper to Catterick. Signalman Willis on transfer to the R.A.P.C. (best wishes, Ramrod). Sigmn Markey to the R.A.O.C. on transfer as A/S/Sergeant—a good lift (good wishes from the Signals). Corpl Edwards F. T. back to his old job at H.Q. S.T.C. office (your stay was short and sweet, Eddie). L/Corpl Welch A. transferred to the Army Reserve and a job at Woolwich (congratulations). Cpl Evans S. on premature transfer to the Army Reserve and a job in the " Smoke " (adios). L/Cpl Jury W. on transfer to the Army Reserve and a job at Guildford (best wishes from Docs). L/Cpl Ball W. on transfer to the Army Reserve and a job in Aldershot (he simply cannot leave us). Cpl Brown C. C. on discharge (best wishes). Sigmn Chilvers A. on transfer to the Army Reserve (how is the Insurance job going ?) C.S.M. Wattley H. V. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford (you have been with us twice, sir ; may you return and make it thrice before you finish).

The last draft of the season, on 9/4/35, included six other ranks for Egypt and one for Malta. May they all have the best of times and stations.

Arrivals.—The arrivals are too numerous to mention by name, but everyone joins in welcoming R.S.M. Wray G. to the unit.

Marriages.—L/Corpl Woolnough to Miss Spada at Aldershot on 2/3/35. Sigmn Leigh F. to Miss Punch at Steyning on 2/3/35. L/Corpl Dean S. to Miss Gray at Aldershot on 6/4/35.

Re-Engagements.—Corporal Durand to complete twenty-one years, and L/Corpl Robson to complete twelve years.

Promotions.—At long last the block in the lil' ole blue book seems to have made a move. Congratulations to all the undermentioned on attaining the rank shown: C.S.M. Wattley H. V., Sergt Barrett A. J., L/Sergt Raymond C., Corporals Matthews C. and Rankin H., L/Corporals Tuft C. and McNiel J., U/L/Corpls Wragg F. H. and Ditchfield O.

Courses.—The 1st April rolled round once more, and once again the G.P.O. course wallahs have returned with doleful faces and love-lorn looks. Why is it that the majority of people look upon G.P.O. courses as matrimonial courses ? But there it is. " Everything comes to an end," so they say.

What we would really like to know is whether Bertie has furnished the drawing-room yet. Several times he has been observed gazing into Drage's with one of those far-away looks upon his face. We have it on good authority that H.J.B. has two rooms furnished now. But beware! it is an expensive adventure, Bert.

Training.—The unit has just finished the annual range practices, and I believe that the average has increased considerably this year. Good news.

Everyone is busy these days in getting everything ready for the annual training. It is rumoured that we go to camp for three spells. By the look of the sports stores, we are going to have

some brighter and better camps this year. What a shame it will be, though, to get all those nice cute little boards dirty.

Enquiry.—Calling N.I.S.C. Alf: Have you run out of stamps? If so, I will forward a couple so that you can write. Harry.
T.B.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

334597.—That is our topographic address at the moment of writing, and Deo Volente that of the 2nd Divl Signals at the moment of reading. Those who seek may find a beautifully sheltered triangle of green sward with a sweeping horizon of trees at all points of the compass. The horizon of trees is really an illusion, for the brown background of heather on the eastern hills fills the gap occasioned by the grazing fields across the meandering brook, on the downward slopes, which form the base of our triangle. A truly rural setting, which only a John Buchan could paint with pen. I can but rely on the reader's imagination to complete the picture with rows of gleaming canvas and stately marquees, with the golden rays of a westering sun seeming to melt the swaying tops of the giant firs which, incidentally, appear to be shouldering each other out of the way for a place in the sun.

That is Thursley Camp—that was. Someone must have been looking over my shoulder. Since the weak moment which produced the above and a thirst for a pint, the fears of a drought for the remainder of my service have vanished. A scheme which we had started was cancelled by higher authority, and finally—discretion supervening before pnuemonia—our period of camp was curtailed. It was all very unfortunate, as the period spent at Thursley is generally the happiest of the year.

Over the rest (as the best novelists say) let us draw a veil . . . . . I'm not fond of fruit!

Copyright Reserved.—Only last month I had occasion to remonstrate mildly (always the little gentleman) with the printer's office boy (very tactful) for getting me wrong. "I really mean for correcting my English, but that's too devastating an indictment," said he, modestly. For example, a happy little hyperbole has just been turned into a cold commonplace. "The old *faces* we used to shake hands with" became (with the best of intentions, no doubt) *friends*. Now, I'd rather be deemed a fulminating fool than a purveyor of platitudes, so if you see anything daft in these notes in future, don't blame the Editor. To the Editor, for his forbearance (also spelled forebearance), I present the magic word "sic." [If our contributor will himself write "sic" just where he wants it in his future notes, it will save possible annoyance *and* some space which would otherwise be required for later explanations.—ED.]

Departures.—Sergeants Mason and Finley have left us for vocational training, and we have high hopes that they will maintain our record for finding employment on discharge. L/Sgt Handford and the messing depression have moved to Canterbury. The unit has lost a handyman, and the football team a trainer who had passed a first aid course and bore a useful stretcher. It is untrue, however, that he advocated a tourniquet round the neck for nose-bleed. Good luck, Jack! Come up and see us some time; the proposition book languishes. Corpl Sims sees opportunities in civil life and, throwing caution to the winds and pies (pronounced pice) to the paymaster, is in process of parting after having settled down as a useful unit in the scheme of things. Our best wishes go with them all, but we retain their promises for Signals Week.

Births.—I am credibly informed that the ladies (bless 'em) watch this heading, so I unblushingly admit diving into Part II. Orders for the following. To Driver Greening C. a son, John Cyril. To Sigmn Allen J. a son, Ronald. To F/S/Sergt Marshall C. a son, James Cecil. To L/Corpl Hall V. a daughter, Eileen Eleanor June. To L/Cpl Ellison E. a daughter, Shirley Margaret. Congratulations all round, and lance stripes to the fathers of the daughters. The coincidence is fortuitous and presages no amendments to Corps Memo.

Pentatholin.—This is not an advertisement for tooth paste, but an orthographical error for pentathalon, which was in turn an etymological boob for a three-phase event in what was ambitiously designated a gymkhana at our camp at Thursley. Now, this preamble would give anyone the impression that the affair was a farce. It was not; and that just shows you what a mistake it is to use a lot of big words in the hope that the other fellow will not understand them, either. Sesquipedalianism should be . . . . . For heaven's sake, let's have another paragraph! I've digressed here somewhere.

Sports Afternoon.—A very successful sports afternoon was held at Thursley Camp on Tuesday 4th June. Three luxury coaches brought the wives and families from Aldershot, and they—the families, that is, not the omnibi—appeared to enjoy the efforts of the committee to present the brighter side of athletics.

Prizes were awarded to winners as follows: Tent pegging, L/Sergt Farlow; drivers' alarm race, Driver Bailey; motor cycle tent pegging, Sigmn Aldridge; ball and basket race, Cpl Tranter and partner; penta. . . . ? ? ?, A Corps Cable Section. [Here we interpolate congratulations to the Corps Cable. The event was shot, discus and javelin in *series*; hence the Cable Section had no *parallel*. K Section might have done better had they not imagined that throwing the *pantechnicon* was involved.] Ladies' flat race, Mrs. Hornett; slow motor cycle race, Sigmn Hawkins; partners' race, Sigmn Chapman and partner.

The tea interval seemed to adversely affect the running in the children's races. The harassed individual who supervised them so far forgot himself that he failed to record the winners by name. I'm sorry, boys and girls. It won't happen again. But you got your telegrams alright, yes?

The motor cycle trick riding was voted a huge success and, considering the uneven ground, it must have exceeded the expectations of the most exacting spectator. Having seen the Royal Tournament show, I can hand out consolation to those who missed that by assuring them that they saw a good imitation of the best portion of it at Thursley.

After the pantech—panto—penta—bother it! the sports—a concert was staged by the N.A.A.F.I., and it proved a first rate show: a fine foil to the criticisms de Barleux. George may gorge himself with lyonches and never get a show like that baksheesh.

Glad you spotted the split infinitive in this paragraph. Or did you?

Fysics and Phlatulence.—Sergt Howler (not in blue book) did not come to camp with us, but my reporters are legion. Hence, when the orderly officer found a horse wind-sucking in stables, our worthy friend quickly grasped the situation. "Don't worry; it's only hiccups," and the tension was over. But his remark that he had been "out all morning on *remount* controls" left us wondering whether he had been at Arborfield or Droitwich.

All characters in these anecdotes are entirely menagerie and have no reverence for any fictitious person.

Condolence.—We are sorry to record that C.Q.M.S. Hall P. is seriously ill in Millbank Hospital. Some sort of poisoning set in from a toe injury that has troubled him for some time. He has undergone a very serious operation, but we trust that his strength will soon be restored to him again. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The 6th May and the 3rd June are dates to remember during the past few weeks. They were both celebrated in Mons Barracks by three rousing cheers in the morning, and the remainder of each of those days was observed as a holiday. Much has already been written of the Jubilee, and those who were not fortunate enough to see the procession and other things in London on Accession Day are looking forward to the 13th July, when His Majesty will review the troops of the Aldershot Command.

Towards the end of May the Company took part in the Staff College exercise, and I understand that everything went off very smoothly. Which was a good thing.

We Take Off Our Hats.—To L/Sergt Forrest, recently arrived from the Depot Battalion, and L/Corporal Smith and Signalmen Ansell, Charlton, Hartley and Kay, from Egypt. Also to L/Cpl Melmore on extending his Colour service to complete twelve years.

Congratulations.—To L/Corporals Dick, Port and White on their appointment to paid rank. To C.S.M. Purseglove, Corpl Gavins and Sigmn Clifton, awarded the long service and good conduct medal.

Despatch Rider's Road Reconnaissance.—A certain king once said " Are there none of the cowards eating my bread that will rid me of this turbulent priest ?" He was speaking of Thomas-a-Becket, then Archbishop of Canterbury. Of course, the king did not really mean this, but a number of his court did. Which was very unfortunate for Thomas-a-Becket, as a handful of the knights anxious to earn their jinglers made off to Canterbury and put the Archbishop to sleep. When the king heard of this he was awfully upset, and to show that it was all a colossal mistake he had Becket entombed in the Cathedral ; and for years after, it was a popular pastime to tramp to Canterbury and visit the tomb. I understand that people still do it to-day—but these are hikers, and can be excused.

I make mention of all this because a party of despatch riders from this Company recently made a trip to Canterbury, and nobody seems to know why. Even now that they are back, they won't speak. However, we have to thank the 4th and 3rd Divl Signals for having rationed and accommodated the party, who returned via Bulford and the Salisbury Plain area.

En Passant.—I was fortunate again this year in receiving an invitation to the Aldershot Traction Company's Hunt Ball held at Ash Vale.

Arrived in the entrance hall, I was pleasantly surprised to find Lady Fayerman and Professor Dicks receiving the guests. As I waited my turn, I could not help but notice how both were completely dazed by the constant stream of guests, and I remarked to my companion that they took in very little of what was said to them. He promptly made a bet with me, and urged me forward to prove my point. So as I reached the distinguished couple, I bowed, smiled appropriately, took the extended hand of the Professor, and said " I murdered your mother this morning." " Very glad to meet you," replied the famous sculptor, beaming the set beam. " This is my fiancee."

Thus passed on while the Professor received the next guest, I had only an instant to gloat over my success and straighten my face before bowing over Lady Fayerman's somewhat soiled hand. " I murdered your father," I said, gravely enough. " Most kind," murmured the tired lady. " Charming of you. . . . . "

No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—The following officers have joined recently and taken over commands as shown. We all hope that they will never have cause to regret having joined the Company. Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., Company commander. Lieutenant H. V. Ewbank, officer i/c L Section. Lieut. L. D. M. Patterson, officer i/c J Section.

L/Corpl Lavender and family from Egypt. We wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings.

Departures.—After months of suffering and anticipation, Sergt Williams has at last left us to take over strenuous duties at Malta. All ranks wish him and his family the best of luck in their new station.

General.—All ranks are looking forward to a pleasant camp at Thursley this month, and it is hoped they will do their utmost to impress on our new officers that they can do their stuff.

We are now the proud possessors of twelve No. 1 sets, complete with cars, but unfortunately we are still the proud possessors of horses also.

K Section are at present at Old Dean Common with the 5th Infantry Brigade.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Hobbs, M.M., on being crowned, and to U/L/Corpl Roberts on attaining his first step to fame. Regarding the former, we shall hear more about him at Thursley (worthy steward, please note).

Whit Leave.—Judging from the excuses given in applications for Whit leave, there will be an increase in married personnel in the unit very shortly—or possibly they are trying to qualify as linemen.

Dreams.—To dream that you are the only signalman in a tent full of drivers at camp is not an evil omen, and does not necessarily mean that you are earmarked for permanent stableman.

Hullo, Malta!—A good substitute for ceilingite is lime wash.

Bravery.—Congratulations to Driver Henry on being awarded Their Majesties' Jubilee medal.

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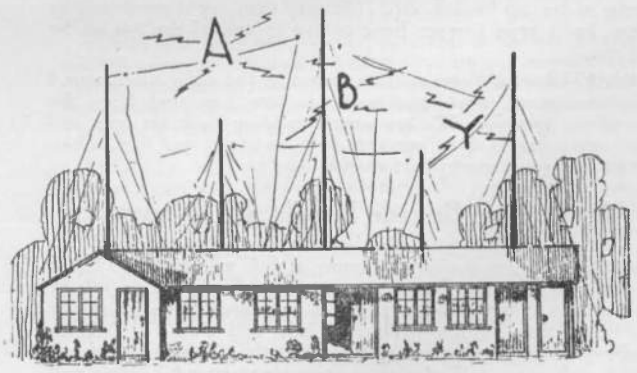
Adaptability.—First n.c.o.: " Mr. ——— is being posted to my Section, and I believe he is hot stuff, too." Second n.c.o.: " Yes, but you can soon overcome that." First n.c.o.: " How?" Second n.c.o.: " Well, find out what his strong points are and then suggest them to him."

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling All Cads.—Apologies once again, mes amigos, for not letting you have any WIRE notes last month. I realise that you must have been very disappointed, but it could not be helped. Nothing happened, so I took a month off from the arduous job of writing notes.

Sad News.—Sigmn Sinclair A., affectionately known to his fellow slaves as Stinky Sink, has left us. He craved for a man's

life, with bags of wide open spaces, so he has departed to the Southern Command Signal Company, Salisbury, and the wide open spaces round about—as a prelude (he hopes) to the wider, nicer and manlier spaces of Ind.

Before he left, he gave a farewell party (pay for your own) in the city of Ash, and did he enjoy himself? The next morning he had . . . . . but, there, perhaps he doesn't want this spotted page in his history noised abroad, so I'll say no more. The whole question is, does he think it was worth the hour's hard work the next day and the ruination of a perfectly good hat? We are now deficient of a really good tea swozzler. Stinky held the title for practically the whole of the time he was here, and no one ever had the nerve to even hint at challenging him.

If the S.C.S.C. have a hockey or soccer team, he will be a good drawback to them ; and if they have a cricket team, well! they are due to see some amazing batting and fielding. His personality is his strong point. He could creep with almost anything. He is a really efficient shield cleaner, having been in charge of our cricket shield since we won it last summer.

We hope that by now he has settled down in his new job, and that he hasn't run foul of the people we mentioned to him. Southern Command, you've got hold of a decent fellow.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Lord has come back to the Company after a trip round various Signal units in England. He went away as a draughtsman and has come back as a clerk. We hope he enjoys his stay here.

Congratulations.—To W.O. i. (Supt. Clerk) Wigglesworth J. on being awarded the Jubilee medal.

Cycling.—Whitsun leave went down very well with those fortunates who managed to scrounge away. Mahatma (Toe Grips) Macken Ji and Georgie (Wee) Summers cycled down to Brighton. Their progress was leisurely, with frequent stops, and (from deductions) I imagine, rather unsteady towards the end of the journey. They arrived back very brown and broke, with the news that draught Worthington was on sale. Our outing this year seems booked for Brighton.

Our other cycling friend (Ronald Stanley) went up on his chariot to see the Derby. He managed the up journey, but cracked when coming back and had to finish the down journey by train. Health and strength is what he wants.

Miniature Rifle Club.—The Company competed for the Powell cup last month, and a team of four from the Company competed in an A Corps competition. In the Powell cup competition the unit came fourth out of a total of twelve teams.

Vocs.—Sigmn Nicholson is now being initiated into the ancient art of laying bricks. (Don't sound right to me.) Anyhow, he is learning to put up houses, etc. He may turn out a good builder in time, but I hope I never have to live in one of the houses he turns out.

Cricket.—Sports Notes will be found in the right place, but I should like to say now that leather-jackets have not been the cause of our trouble. We are simply holding back for bets and we are not going to show our true form until the 3rd July, when we start defending our cricket shield.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 13/6/35.

General.—Section training is now in full swing. The Cable Detachments are very busy training for their full time job of providing the communications for the searchlight lay-outs in the Hornchurch area in the middle of July and the Air Defence Brigade exercise at the end of that month. The Air Defence exercise, this year, will take place somewhere round Tilbury and Gravesend.

Increase.—The unit establishment has now been increased from four officers and 65 other ranks to five officers and 89 other ranks, with a large addition of M.T. When we are made up to strength, we shall seem quite a large unit and may be able to carry off some of those trophies in the field of sports. Who knows? The office work seems to have increased as well. It is one full tray after another these days.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Fisk, Hodgson, Newman, Rawlinson and Ward from the S.T.C. We trust their stay will be a pleasant one.

Marriages.—There have been none up to going to press, but I understand that two members of Headquarters Section are contemplating this very big step—one an n.c.o.; the other works in the cookhouse.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Hawley A. and Corpl Webb A. on being awarded the medal for long service and good conduct. To Sigmn Fellowes R. on being presented with H.M. the King's Jubilee medal.

To Sigmn Wake A. on being elevated to the first rung on the ladder. They say that every soldier has that proverbial baton somewhere in his haversack. Well, Sammy, you had a good chance to find one in the job you were in. All your predecessors did so.

To the unit rifle team on winning the Powell rifle cup competition with a score of 1331 (average 83.18). As I said, we do fairly well for a small unit.

To A.D.F. Signals, T.A.—I am afraid the thought of *winning* a cup would never induce the regular members of our football team to remain behind in barracks for Easter. Nevertheless, I think the idea a good one. Probably both units could come to some arrangement to defray expenses for the purchase of such a trophy.

Found.—In the office of this unit, a small piece of Ireland, namely No. 2318436 L/Corpl McCarthy E. F. (Paddy). Corporal Maguire, of Northern Ireland Signal Company, please note. Is there a reward ?

Here's to the next time. J.M.G.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Headquarters.

Assaye Barracks, June.

General.—I am afraid there's nothing spectacular this month, readers, unless you would so describe hard slogging. There has been a rush of urgent jobs, with everybody generally full up with work. The rush has been so great that on two occasions we have had to work on Wednesday afternoon—and that's abnormal, you must admit.

The offer of Whitsun leave wasn't taken up with our usual vim, owing to the reason given above ; but as the weather wasn't very kind, I don't think we missed very much.

The postponed Jubilee celebrations were held on Whit Monday, and although it rained up to nearly three o'clock, everybody enjoyed themselves. I enclose a few extracts from the local rag on the subject.

" Many a child went to bed in Tidworth and Perham Down on Monday night, fondly hugging a red, white and blue trumpet or another of the souvenirs distributed at Tidworth's grand Silver Jubilee treat at the Oval on Whit Monday."

" When Monday morning dawned, with its showers of rain, it needed a great deal of courage to go on with the final touches as if the brightest sunshine was there for the asking. Rainstorms continued to threaten throughout the morning, and shortly after 1 p.m. there was a regular downpour which, though breaking into lighter showers during the afternoon, made conditions very unpleasant. One thing it did not dampen, however, and that was the Jubilee spirit of helpers and participants alike. The former worked merrily, and were astonished at the number of youthful guests who turned up at the Hippodrome for the fancy dress parade."

" There were minstrels, harlequins, pierrots and clowns in abundance, all in the multi-coloured dress of this light-hearted world ; Britannia, looking dignified with her golden helmet and trident ; white coated bakers ; that tantalising screen personality, Mae West ; nearby a realistic hobo, a cyclist of the future, and a fierce looking Mexican—in fact, all the countries of the globe seemed to have been portrayed in carnival costume."

The account of the celebrations is far too long to give in detail. All I can say is that the programme was an immense success. The fancy dress parade was followed by a performance of country and Maypole dancing, a P.T. display, Punch and Judy, conjuring tricks, sideshows of all kinds organised by the various Sergeants Messes, and Highland dancing. The marshalling of the children, numbering over a thousand, was a triumph of organisation. The loudspeaker van of the Tank Brigade Signals, run by C.S.M.

Hopkins and Corpl Warman, made this possible. The day concluded with dancing on the green to music provided by loudspeakers operated from the loudspeaker van.

Whit Monday 1935 will certainly be remembered in Tidworth's history.

Congratulations.—To L/Cpl Galbraith and Sigmn Mornington on obtaining satisfactory reports for their G.P.O. courses at Leeds and Oxford respectively.

To Sergeants Tebby and Winteringham on being awarded their L.S. and G.C. medals with gratuity. How can they do it ?

To Sigmn Marley on passing in French towards his special, and to Signalmen Freeman and Linton on obtaining their first class certificates of education.

To L/Corpl Legg on making the grade as a first class cook at the School at Aldershot.

To Master Dick Collyer on snaffling the first prize with his fancy dress costume at the Silver Jubilee celebrations. He makes a fine trick rider. Visions of future Tidworth Tattoo feats, eh, Dick!

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We are very pleased to welcome Lieut. R. J. Moberly to the unit, and sincerely hope his stay with us will be an enjoyable one.

Once Upon a Time.—Peggy's promotion came through. A job was sent to the Workshops, *not* marked urgent. Tich forgot to ask us to sign. Frank did an orderly corporal. And we had a fine day.

Our Office Boy Is Learning.—(2) " What's all this *sympathetic* paint they're putting on their cars these days ?" " How many cents are there in a dollar ?"—" The only *sense* I've heard of is hoss sense."

Departures.—The Part II. Order book seems to have let me down rather badly this month. But, no! I won't be beaten. L/Sergt Neal on draft to Farnborough—for one day.

Drafts.—Yes, already! Sergeant Atkinson F. is provisionally warned for service with the Pekin Legation Detachment. Funny! they are having a spot of bother there, too. I should Chink so.

" Want " Ads.—Anybody having a mechanical kink in his nature, a wealth of unlimited patience, and five bob (or near offer) to throw away on a touring car, should apply to Trouble of this unit.

Musketry.—I have been asked to put on record that it was left to the orderly room staff (again, mark you!) to uphold the high standard of shooting in the unit. First, second, third, and last but not least, the only fellow to get a four inch group and five flags.

RUSTY.

A Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to H.Q., 1st Tank Brigade, R.T.C., Farnborough]

General.—Last month we were just nicely digging ourselves into the scheme of things here at Farnborough, and now that half the Section are married (almost), we must perforce rouse ourselves preparatory to taking our summer vacation at the delightful country village of Tilshead.

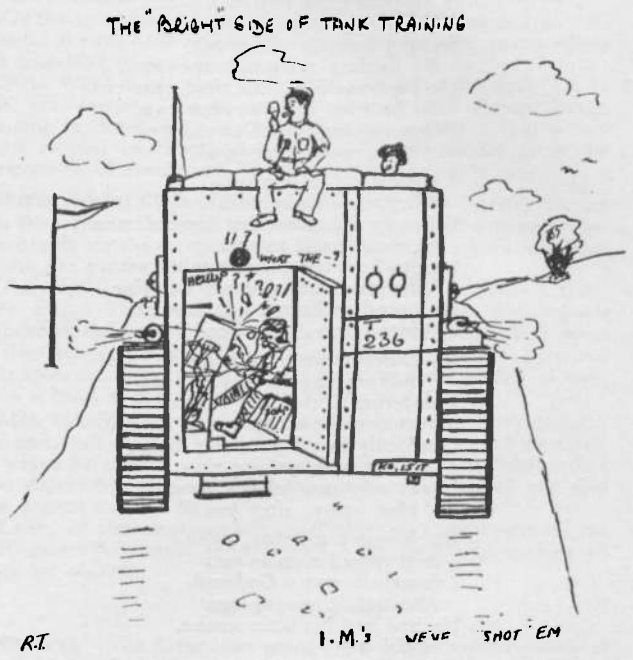
It was during a Brigade exercise that the month's tit-bit occurred. Apparently for no reason at all other than that spring was in the air, the brakes of our W/T van decided to take a rest during the descent of a steep hill. Just as the van seemed certain to crash, the following message sizzled through: " What is your position now ?" Busty (of Tank fame) pondered awhile over his somewhat lurid life history, trying to decide just where he would end up: in heaven or some other place. However, his beaming face and rows of double chins may still be seen in the park, so all's well that ends well.

On Empire Day we worked in co-operation with the R.A.F. in directing Headquarters, Tank Brigade, in demolishing the aerodrome. For the first time we inspected their sets, and met (also for the first time) our old friend Eddy Ack. He was a bit like what his voice indicates, but only a bit, which just goes to prove —what ?

We hope to have a short break prior to taking up our abode amidst the waving palms of Tilshead and spending hectic nights in swatting earwigs during the rainy season.

Arrivals.—Driver (I.C.) Palmer plus W/T van, for which we thank whatever gods there be.

Sport.—We did try to play baseball, but modesty forbids my telling you the score. Our heads are still bowed. Anyway, we did score one—are they rounders or runs ?



Ex-Sectionists.—London, Peshawar and Pindi will be particularly interested in the accompanying cartoon. Jonah is still with us, but I must say that T.236 is nice looking these days with a brand new set frame.

MERCURIOUS.

B Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to the 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Farnborough]

General.—Now that the Whitsun holidays are but a delightful memory—that is, those parts that were not washed away by the climatic conditions prevailing down south—we once more put our shoulders to the wheel, or more correctly when dealing with tanks, we will say tracks, and endeavour to further our progress in preparation for the big war which is due to start on the 15th July.

The exodus from here on that date will be to that delightful (?) holiday camp at Tilshead. Those who are not familiar with that district may have their own opinion on any other camp site, but Tilshead bears out all the names that have already been thought of—good or bad.

Through.—During the day and late evening of the 4th June, and without any elaborate alteration to the normal set, communication was established between A and B Sections—the former being at that time at Lulworth Cove, a distance of just a hundred miles. The sets used were the M.B. at Farnborough and the No. 2 set at Lulworth. Signal strength was maintained at R.8, and the speech was of excellent quality. I might add that both Sections are very proud of this effort.

Tripe and Like.—Has the topography of this district been altered ? One member of A Section says it takes three hours to walk to Camberley, a distance of three miles.

What's for breakfast this morning ? Rissoles mark iv. (with or without jackets) and clarified grease.

Aldershot Tattoo.—This annual event opened on the 12th June. There was a grand spectacle of P.T. and club swinging by six hundred men ; a modern battle wtih artillery and tanks, which faded out to a memory of past methods of battle ; musical rides by three cavalry regiments ; and a grand finale of all those taking part. One big feature that had never been seen before was the largest massed band ever assembled in England.

After You.

BY OUR TAME POET.

It happened one day in T.B.S.,
When cigarettes were scarce.
Bromley gave us all a shock
By lighting a fag-end unawares.
He tried one light, but that went out,
So he tried light number two,
When suddenly our Don shouted
"Hey, mate, after you!"

As was usual, at the time
I happened to be broke.
I thought I'd make that fag-end mine,
So that I could smoke.
I slipped across to Bromley,
Who was looking down and blue,
And gently whispered in his ear
"Hey, mate, after you!"

My cheeks went very hollow
While waiting for that smoke,
Wondering if the first "swallow"
Would make me gasp and choke.
I suddenly heard a roaring noise,
But that was nothing new:
'Twas only two fellows shouting
"Hey, mate, after you!"

Old Bromley got that fag-end
And passed it on to me:
I thought it was a Godsend,
Although it was so wee.
He had had his little smoke,
And I was having one, too,
When Panjang grabbed that fag-end, roaring
"Hey, mate, after you!"

That fag-end fell out of my hand.
Who'll blame me when I grumble?
All the spectators said 'twas grand
To see the rough and tumble.
At last someone snatched up the prize—
I wonder how he got "through";
But I tried to gasp, before I died,
"Hey, mate, after you!"

Finis.—Till next month, au revoir.

PANJANG AND MR. PLAIN.

C Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to the 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Lydd]

MAY NOTES.

General.—Once more we seek our fortunes in the wilds of Kent, and with the co-operation of the 3rd Battn Royal Tank Corps we hope to have as successful a year as the last one. Fortune has so far smiled on us, having given us glorious weather since arriving here on 29/4/35. This, as you may guess, put us in a very pleasant frame of mind.

On the 6th May, Jubilee celebrations were in full swing in the borough of Lydd. The day being observed as a holiday, some of us trotted down to see all the fun of the fair. The most original fancy dress, in my opinion, was that of Gandhi, but this costume (?) failed to win the first prize, which the wearer deserved for an extraordinary likeness to our Indian friend. Then there was the Rector of Stiffkey. I can't say how he got on, though I hear he had fasted for ten days. There was dancing in the evening, which was kept up until 1 a.m., after which everyone went home. Having said so much about the Jubilee, I reckon it's time to change the subject.

Preparation of sets is going on hard. The first exercise was on the 16th May. On the 1st June the Battalion commence a spot of leave. On the 22nd June we move to Lulworth Camp, Dorset. That is that, for the present—or is it future? Sort it out for yourselves.

Garage Bulletin.—Tanky, observing Sam (Musket) for the first time since last season: "Wot, Sam! still got the old guy?" Sam (intelligently): "No. This one's a two stroke!" Exit Tanky, blushing.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Richardson joined us on the 7th May. I hope he will enjoy his stay with us for the season. The Section now consists of Lieut. L. Whitbread, Sergt Smith, Corpl Fletcher, L/Corpl Galbraith, and Signalmen Cheffings, Dowding, Hancox, Mornington, Richardson, Scriven and Smallwood. I suppose the Section mascot must go down under this heading: one gollie girl, Rosie by name.

C. SEC.

JUNE NOTES.

General.—Many things have happened since writing last, but the Section has been playing hard and working hard (?). Four of the personnel took part in the 1st Tank Brigade scheme on the 17th and 18th May. These men upheld the prestige of the Section, being complimented on the successful way in which they kept the communications going. All the Section are busy now putting sets into tanks, ready for further schemes.

Arrivals.—Corpl Fletcher joined our merry band on the 14th May, and was seconded forthwith as Robin Hood.

Annual Revolver Training.—L/Corporal Galbraith fired his annual course with the revolver on the Lydd Ranges on the 14th May. He qualified easily with a score of 48. Signalmen Richardson and Mornington fired their course on the 17th May. Both qualified with scores of 38.

Handshakes.—To L/Cpl Galbraith on obtaining a satisfactory report from the G.P.O. Leeds, being regarded as a suitable telegraphist for employment with the Post Office. Also to Sigmn Mornington on obtaining a satisfactory report and being regarded as suitable for employment with the Post Office as a lineman.

Sports.—An account of two games under this heading will be found on a later page.

Finis.—Until we meet again, au revoir.

C. SEC.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We must start these notes by offering our congratulations to our Quartermaster, Captain C. H. Manton, on being awarded the M.B.E. in the Jubilee Honours. He has now been with this unit for some ten years, and we think we may say that his department is second to none in efficiency. We feel sure that the many individuals who have passed through this unit during his "reign" will join with us in congratulating him.

We also congratulate Sergt Fawl F. on being presented with a Jubilee medal on the 27th May.

We welcome Captain W. D. J. Harries and Lieutenants L. de M. Thuillier and J. Wise, all of whom joined us from abroad at the end of May, and hope that they will like Bulford and enjoy their stay with this unit.

On the anniversary of His Majesty the King's birthday no central parade was held, but units held their own individually. In between showers of rain, we held our parade on the unit sports ground (lately known as the Pimple). The commanding officer was the inspecting officer, and Major G. H. Plummer, M.C., commanded the parade.

Nearly all the R.A. Brigade Sections are away. In fact, there is practically nothing of No. 2 Company left. F Section, who were the last to leave, went to practice camp with the 7th Field Brigade at Okehampton on Saturday 15th June.

Our next subject must surely be the weather, which is unmentionable. The amount of rain during the past four weeks would appear to constitute a record for Bulford for this time of the year. Captain Charlesworth, who has been on leave in Yorkshire, tells us that he found a drought up there!

The next event of importance to us is the Southern Command signal exercise which takes place on the 25th and 26th June; we can but pray for a little fine weather for this period.

We read with interest Colonel Vvvyan's letter on the Eastern Command Review at Delhi, and also the formation adopted by the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals. In our next notes we hope to publish our own formation adopted for ceremonial parades, which has been in use for the last four years and is in many ways similar to that adopted by our sister unit abroad.

Without presuming to criticise higher authority, we are sorry that the new "Manual of Ceremonial" contains such an uninteresting formation for a Divisional Signals, as there is no doubt that a real representative formation like that adopted by the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals looks very fine.

About fifteen of our Display D.R.s gave an afternoon and evening performance at Verwood on Whit-Monday, under what may be described as appalling conditions. It had rained solidly until about two o'clock, and the ground was nearly under water. The team, however, gave an excellent account of themselves, and a few impromptu skids and falls added to the amusement of the crowd. We understand that the committee of the Show were very pleased—and we are, too, as the performers had only a month in which to practise.

Arrivals.—From the Training Battalion, Sigmn Savory E. on 30/4/35; Signalmen Pearse W., Erby W. and Stead W. on 7/5/35; Sigmn Walker F. on 9/5/35; Signalmen Mann W., MacSween M., Payne E., Oliver J., Cook R. P., and Powell A. on 23/5/35. From Egypt, L/Corpl Smith C. and Signalmen Sebborn H., Dixon W., Butler K. E., McDonald G., and Riley J. on 4/5/35.

Departures.—Signalmen Hickson E. and Entwistle S. C. to Army Vocational Training Centre, Chisledon, 1/5/35. Corpl Freeman C. A. to the Training Battalion on 23/5/35. Sigmn Thomas D. on transfer to R.A.P.C. on completion of probation.

Education.—Awarded first class certificate: Signalmen Burgess F., Reedman E. and Hastings J. Passed map reading and regarded as being in possession of Army special certificate, Sigmn Erby W.

Medals.—Awarded the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity: Sigmn Callelly M. Awarded the Jubilee medal: R.S.M. Harrison T., Sergt Fawl F. and Sigmn Simpson J.

Promotions and Appointments.—L/Sergt Luck V. to be Sergeant, 1/4/35. Corpl Williams A. to be L/Sergt 17/4/35. The following U/L/Corporals appointed paid Lance/Corporals: Edwards W. 21/3/35, McLaughlin M. 29/3/35, Jury G. A. 1/4/35, and Fox A. 1/4/35. Sigmn Boffy J. appointed U/L/Cpl 1/6/35.

Marriages.—Sigmn Hall W. to Miss Constance Annie Parker at Northampton on 18/3/35.

Births.—To L/Sergt and Mrs. S. Murphy, on 26/4/35, a daughter (Dorothy Joan). To Signalman and Mrs. J. Excell, on 27/4/35, a son (Michael John). To Sigmn and Mrs. F. Woodward, on 1/3/35, a son (Barry Frederick). To Sigmn and Mrs. R. Lee, on 14/5/35, a son (Powell Anthony).

Sergeants Mess.

There must be some explanation for this quiet cathedral-like stillness in the Mess. The members walk quietly, doors are closed softly, and the radio croons with gentle monotony. There *is* an explanation, for look you, a certain C.S.M. (Taff Thomas) has shaken off the dust of Marne Lines and the odd straws of No. 2 Company. On Monday 3rd June we wheeled him out with full honours. He is not likely to forget that evening. We are really sorry to lose C.S.M. Thomas, and he knows very well that he has only to put his head inside the door here to ensure for himself a vociferous welcome. Taff takes with him the very best wishes of the Mess, and indeed of the whole unit.

L/Sgt Policella has shouldered the responsibility of i/c messing. In addition, he is chief gardener. We expect great things.

Whitsun slipped along in a gale of wind, a thunderstorm and much rain, but who cared? Much work looms on the horizon, so let us get at it before the Royal Signal Band arrives. We are looking forward to that, and hope to have more to say after their welcome visit.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—The unit has returned from Hythe after a fortnight's musketry. Despite the warmth of this year's *sunshine*, the results were good, an average of 66.5 being obtained. Sigmn Bellis was unit shot with a score of 85. No. 3 Company obtained the unit shooting trophy with an average of 66.7. This is the third successive win for them. What about it, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies?

On the 3rd June a parade was held on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday. This took place in the Old Park. The parade was composed of a dismounted, a mounted, and a mechanised Company. The unit, after inspection, marched past, the salute being taken by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C.

The R.A. Brigade Sections of No. 2 Company have left us to join their respective Brigades, so our numbers at Canterbury are somewhat depleted.

On the 22nd May Lieut.-General Sir J. E. S. Brind, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., paid a farewell visit to the unit on relinquishing his command of the Division.

Band Week takes place again this year from the 29th July to the 3rd August. To all ex-R.E. Signals and Royal Signals residing in the vicinity of Canterbury, we extend a hearty welcome to visit us during this period. Further details as to the programme of events will be given in next month's issue.

Wives Social Club.—The members held their meeting on the 6th June in the reading room, as usual, the weather proving unfavourable for the acceptance of Mrs. Henderson's kind invitation to use her garden for the occasion.

Tea was followed by ices—Mrs. Henderson's farewell treat. Mrs. Payne expressed the wives' regret at Mrs. Henderson's impending departure, thanked her for the interest she had taken in the Club, and wished her good luck in the future. A presentation took the form of a small silver dagger book marker in case, with a head in the shape of the Canterbury Cross.

Mrs. Henderson, responding, said she was very sorry to leave the unit, and thanked the members for their support of the Club, of whose future activities she hoped to read in THE WIRE. She also expressed her thanks for the presentation, which she said was a great surprise to her.

Later, all the members who wished to play went over to the R.E. courts for tennis, the threatened shower kindly keeping off until six o'clock.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Company has returned from musketry camp at Hythe. The weather for the week was anything but fine, and I am afraid it rather affected the scores. The Company average was 56.89. Sigmn Strong C. was Company shot with a score of 83.

On the 3rd June a parade was held on the occasion of His Majesty's birthday. A dismounted Company, one Cable detachment, and two C set detachments were provided by the Company.

Arrivals.—Our new O.C. Company, Captain J. L. Henderson, joined us on the 18th May. We offer him a hearty welcome.

The following have also joined us from stations as shown. L/Sergeant Handford from Aldershot. Signalmen Fitzgerald and Wallace, and Drivers Forsythe and Davey from Catterick.

Departures.—The following have left us during the month. Our best wishes go with them in their new stations and jobs. Signalmen Clements and Prebble on discharge. Sigmn Melhuish to Tidworth.

MASKEE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The annual musketry camp at Hythe ended on Friday 17th May. The shooting was good, considering the bad weather experienced during the classification; but although it rained and blew throughout most of the practices, the light was excellent. Fifty-three n.c.o.s and men obtained first class shots and six second class, and no one has a sweat on over August leave. Congratulations are extended to the following, who have obtained prizes as shown. Unit shot, Sigmn Bellis, 85. Company shot, L/Corpl Marshall A., 83. J Section, Corpl Cooke W., 79. K Section, Sgt Boon F., 82. L Section, Sigmn Carey H., 80. Unit H.Q., Corpl Wellock H., 78.

Since the Company's return from Hythe, 75 per cent. of the Company are undergoing a course in light car driving or the No. 1 W/T set, in preparation for the Section training that commences shortly.

Since my last notes were published, we have lost all our horses except two, of which one is being destroyed and the other cast. The horse that is to be destroyed will be remembered by many who have served in the 4th Divl Signals. Gunner, who is eighteen years of age, went through the war and is considered to be one of the oldest horses in the Army. On all ceremonial parades he was the C.O.'s mount, and he was liked by all who came into contact with him. He carried out his last parade on Monday 3rd June, on the occasion of H.M. the King's birthday parade.

Command.—Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C., has taken over command of the Company. We hope his stay will be longer than that of 1931 and equally happy.

Departures.—Sergt Boon F. to No. 2 Company as n.c.o. i/c No. 8 R.A. Signal Section.

Arrivals.—Only one this month, but Corpl Patching F. L. is offered the usual welcome for his yarns of the Display team.

Believe It or Not.—Officer: "Why did you fire on the wrong target?" Sigmn: "Sir, the most extraordinary thing happened. I had my rifle on the ground, safety catch back. I must have bumped my rifle, and I was surprised to see a bull signalled on the target on my right." Quite!

Officer i/c butts: "Score on No. 6 target?" Sigmn (looking at the lowered target instead of raised one): "No shots at all on No. 6 target, sir."

Believe This.—We wish No. 2 Company all they wish themselves. JACQUES.

Obituary.—It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Mr. R. Dowling, ex-Q.M.S. R.E., on the 24th May. He had been employed at the C.R.E.'s office, Chatham, for a number of years. Many ex-boys will remember him well, and also his sons who served as boys in the Royal Engineers. Our deepest sympathy is tendered to Mrs. Dowling (who treated us boys as her sons) and her children in their sad bereavement.

EX-R.E. BOYS.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

It is regretted that, of necessity, the notes for this month must be few. However, little and good is the motto, and so we proceed with the congratulations richly deserved.

First and foremost, hearty congratulations are offered to our commanding officer, Lt.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Q.M. P. A. Harding, R.S.M. Bevan R. and Sigmn Wolsey on being awarded the King's Silver Jubilee medal. Also to Major G. C. Winckley, M.C., on his recent promotion, and (in conjunction with Captain P. Jennings, M.C.) on taking second place in the Northern Command Golf Meeting (two ball foursomes), returning one down, on the Catterick Garrison course on Saturday 1st June.

Whilst on the question of distributing bouquets, one must not forget the secretary of the football section. L/Corpl Vize H. has been secretary for the last two or three seasons, and it must be very gratifying to him to see such tokens of success as the two Hospital cups crowning the labours of the team's efforts. Anyone who carries out the work of secretary finds an abundance of work, and is usually presented with buckets instead of bouquets.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals.—Congratulations on your escape in the recent earthquake disaster. Those who have complained of the distance of the barracks from the city should now cease to grumble. The best of luck. May your WIRE correspondent have sufficient time to collect data for an interesting account of the activities of the unit. OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Very little of importance has happened since the despatch of our last notes. The Jubilee celebrations are over, and although we were not represented on a large scale, we managed to contribute two despatch riders whose job it was to control the route. One Jubilee medal was presented to the unit. Sergeant Packman was the recipient.

The local police held their annual sports at the beginning of June, and there was a pageant in which our H.T. Section figured as out-riders—and did it jolly well, too, despite the moans and groans over sword drill.

Lieut. Aldridge and Corpl Wootton have been touring the district, carrying out the annual classification of signallers, and have contrived rather successfully to miss some of the bad storm weather.

Part II Orders are rather disappointing, for there is very little information to hand.

Moves: Inter-Section.—Corporal Wardley from Belfast to Fort Lenan. Corpl Shillitto from Belfast to Armagh. L/Corporal Blount from Armagh to Belfast.

Promotions.—An out-station cry: nil.

Lough Swilly Signal Section.—Hullo, everyone! this is Dunree calling you. Here is the news in brief for the month. With the arrival of the launch, schemes have started and up to the present everything has gone off smoothly, but we would like to get an I.M. who has some sea experience and is immune from mal-de-mer.

The old stager still pays periodical visits to Derry, and you should hear him relate "how to make love in the nettles." He encountered this experience on his last visit, but, honestly, I am inclined to doubt him, as he is of a romantic nature. Stager No. 2 had local attractions, but had to give it up owing to a large fan mail. He now consoles himself by trying to grow flowers.

Our lineman has a sweat on. He wants to know when the names of those proceeding overseas are published, but here I am going to quote Ernie: Who cares?

The black and white artist mentioned in our last issue has promised to do his best and oblige with a few sketches for the next issue. I happened to find him in a good mood, and with a little persuasion he is going to take over the pen; so in case he changes his mind, I will say "Finis." ENTER COS.

Adios . . . . S.I.D.

A COCKNEY DREAM AT DUNREE.

A naughty bunch was hittin' it grand
'Way down in Shadwell Reach.
There was Limehouse Joe, well out of hand,
And Minnie, the Wapping Peach.

Then Aldgate Alf was telling them all
As 'ow 'e dwindled from home,
With an occasional lisp in an Oxford drawl
More pronounced than one hears on the phone.

Now Sailor Gum was a nondescript bum
Of sixty summers or more,
But he quoted a few, on the short wave, too—
On the long, he forgot a few more.

Old Piexhead Pete was chewin' a beet
As he listened to tales gone by
Of a sailor's dream, of a maiden's scream,
And praise of the old school tie.

Young Gipsy Nell, I remember well
As a kid who savvied a lot;
Sat sucking her thumb as Billie, the bum,
Maintained that Hitler was hot.

"'Tain't easy to speak on a dollar a week,"
Cried Frisco, the lad with the gin;
"But give me some rope an' a bottle of dope,
An' I'll give youse a thrill that'll win."

"Away to the bush!" cried Rosco the Cosh,
And brandished his club in delight.
"When this bottle I drink, it's me for the klink,
Which is one way of passing the night."

The night soon grew thin and the dawn shuffled in,
And the party grew boisterous in glee,
But their money was spent—you know where it went—
What's the odds when the bill ain't on me?

S.I.D.

Hot Pot.—Sharp: Those peppermints you enquired for can be had in York Street.

Afternoon's broadcast: Which superintendent caught the duty operator relaxing and asked for a short broadcast from Jeffrey Farnol? After hearing both sides of the question, would not a few lines from Shakespeare, "Oh that we now had but ten thousand of those men in England that do no work to-day," more aptly have made the broadcast more entertaining to its ready listeners? A.Z.G.

Who is Snowball, and does he consider his identity well guarded? His wireless broadcasts are thoroughly enjoyed.

Wee Drap Scotch.—No. 2316736: Congratulations. Also pass my salaams to L/Sergeant Ball T. Spud.

Conclusion.—That's all. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Friday 7th June.

General.—Leave is very fashionable these days. Compensation for the Lido has been found in the Murree hills. Courses, too, although having their drawbacks, are not to be sneezed at. Evidently, the air of Upper Topa agrees with study and hard work.

Sergt Clark, despairing of a visit from the Arsenal during their close season, took his No. 2 Company footballers to Murree for the Buffalo tournament. They reached the semi-final and looked set for emulating B Corps Signals' success, but injuries and illness caused a weak team to be fielded and they were beaten by C Company, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

We are rather too short-handed to send up a team for the hockey tournament. This is unfortunate, as a really good show was anticipated in this direction. Anyway, somebody has to keep the Murree football tournament trophy in the Corps, so please reconsider your retirement from the managership, Sarge.

I said we were short handed. In support of his argument that it is practically an impossibility for him to find a third man for church parade, the C.S.M. of No. 2 Company has compiled and submitted for argument his fourteen points. In order that there shall be no confusion between these and a set of false teeth, we publish them.

1. Two fast (very) lady typists.
2. One King Solomon (to be kept clear of item 1).
3. Two Pythagoruses (with ready reckoners).
4. One staff officer to C.S.M. Marshall (equipped with item 7).
5. One case of iced Pilsener (daily, if not more often).
6. One heavy weight champ (ex will do, but must be capable of quick ejections).
7. One Encyclopædia Britannica.
8. One hundred reams of soft paper (typing only).
9. One Berkeley chair for orderly corporal (alongside item 5).
10. Two packets of pins (belaying for preference).
11. One C.Q.M.S. (see bracketed note in item 2).
12. One accomplished fire raiser.
13. One prayer book (Church of Egypt).
14. . . . . oblivion.

(x) His Mark.

The keeper of the keys of the Stationery sub-Committee has issued the following award as a result of a round table conference held by the orderly room staff to consider the foregoing fourteen points.

1. Works orders submitted to the Foreman-of-Signals for the supply of these.
2. Corpl Hodge (married) and
3. Signalmen Verrian and Phillips, if Companies are willing.
4. No establishment (Unit Standing Orders, fully amended, to be supplied in lieu of Encyclopædia Britannica).
5. A grant will be made from the stationery fund.
6. Heavy weight not available, but there is a surplus of good bantams.
7. See No. 4.
8. The O.R.S. will supply.
9. Sigmn Dawton will arrange, but this point is understood to be the subject of a libel action by the present orderly corporal.
10. There is an ample supply of ordinary pins, but if belaying ones are required, only Sigmn Cornthwaite's Indian clubs can be had on temporary loan.
11. Any senior sergeant of the Special Roster (but cannot be guaranteed as regards bracketed note in item 2).
12. The documents clerk should be approached for the names of people with the necessary civilian qualifications.
13. Will be supplied from the adjutant's library. (Translation in Arabic by Sgt Clark in collaboration with Sergeants Pout and Ratcliffe. Foreword by Corpl "Chawley" Hodge.)
14. The conference joins issue.

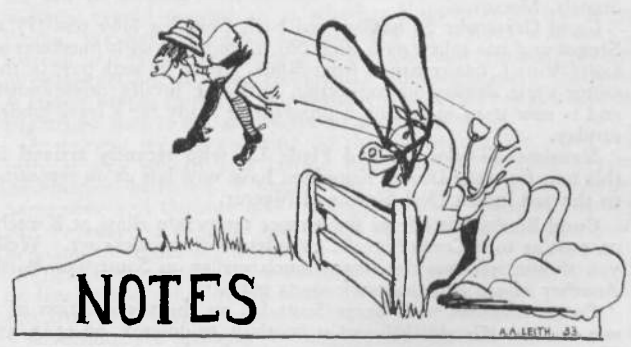
It is to be hoped that the C.S.M. of No. 1 Company will not submit any reforms.

Beautification of the Unit Lines.—This is well under way. Whether by accident or design, there's an ideal spot outside the cook orderly's bunk which has been given the appearance of a small village green. Cpl Bevans is undecided at present whether to locate a bowling green or a quoits pitch there. The contractor could do his bit and open a pub as an additional attraction ; but, there, these contractors are so unenterprising.

The pigeon fanciers have reared their heads again, and we understand that their birds are much in demand in breeding circles. (Note: See what a medium for advertising The Wire provides.) The farrier is disconsolate: he misses his farm. Cpl McKenzie is jubilant: one of his pigeons reached here from Topa in three days.

Jubilee Celebrations.—We had to turn down all star performances offered us in the Rawalpindi Jubilee Tattoo. It was a pity, but to have rehearsed the suggested shows was an impossibility at such short notice. Lieut. Blaker, with the able assistance of Corpl Bevans and others, helped the Cavalry with their show and were also responsible for the loudspeakers. It is understood that both Mr. Blaker and Corpl Bevans possess all the qualifications of B.B.C. announcers.

The 6th May was made the occasion of a dinner and smoker for the B.O.R.s of the unit. This was a definite success, and if the length of the proceedings may be accounted as showing enthusiasm in celebrating such an occasion, then the junior n.c.o.s have it. Their theories on higher economics seemed a fitting close to such a day (and night). S.W.B.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

General.—The present month saw the Troop celebrating the King's Silver Jubilee on the Brigade parade ground by walking past in line. An accompanying photograph shows how well this was carried out when passing the saluting base. A further call on the unit was made when a party was required to maintain communications at the Tattoo given by the Risalpur Garrison. [The photo referred to has not been received.—Ed.]

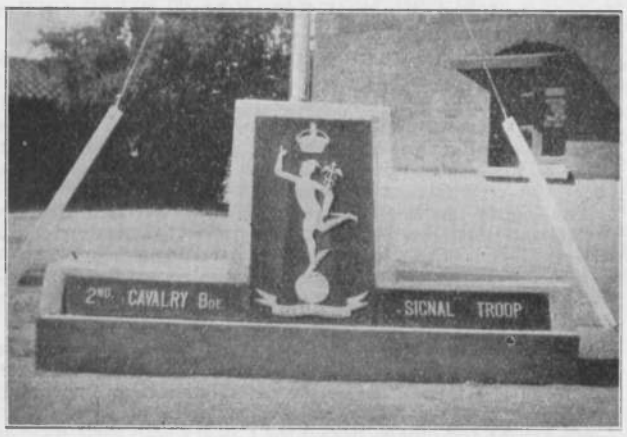
During the past few weeks we have been rather short-handed, owing to a W/T Detachment being required to assist the Peshawar District Signals on column duty in the Khyber Pass, and a party proceeding to Upper Topa on an upgrading course. The former party have returned from "padding it" to Landi Kotal and are now loudly proclaiming the advantages of a horse! Regarding the latter, we are now waiting for eleven remounts to turn up from Saharanpur.

Hockey has been the chief game played of late, the outstanding match being the final of the Victory hockey cup. Unfortunately, we lost this to I Battery R.H.A. by the only goal scored. Other

matches played were between teams picked from the Troop in order to develop more talent for next season's competitions.

Former members of the Troop would be quite surprised to see the number of trees set in the unit lines and other alterations in general. A gully has been made from the watering troughs to the B.O.R.'s garden, which has now been converted into one big lawn. It now gets the required amount of water to ensure its well being.

In conclusion, we must add that everyone in the Troop is o.k., even if our notes are rather short this month. RISI.



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Tuesday 28th May.

N.B.C. Calling.—Sorry, folk, about the lack of notes last month. Now that the annual musketry has taken place, notes are in abundance. Anyway, new punchers are arriving, and we welcome Corporal Cook T. from B Corps Signals, Karachi, and Signalmen Roake J. and Sims A. from the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Corpl Gratwicke S. has arrived back from his long rest (?) at Saugor and has taken over Ride No. 1 complete with musketeers. Corpl Vine J. has returned from Simla, where he took part in the motor cycle display in connection with the Jubilee celebrations, and is now busy in getting a programme ready for a local Jubilee display.

Signalmen Taylor H. and Hyde L., who recently arrived in this unit from the United Kingdom, have now left us on reposting to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals at Meerut.

Corpl Breeze has left us for a more temperate clime at Karachi on posting to B Corps Signals, complete with wireless set. Well, you should now get the scores much earlier on Saturdays, Basil. Another of our Scissors crack shots gone.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Scott H. on the presentation of a son and heir (Gerald William) at Southall, Middlesex, on 13/3/35. The occasion was celebrated in traditional style—one advantage of being caterer.

Condolences are extended to Sergt and Mrs. Lawman on the death of their infant son (Dennis Frederick) at Sialkot on 22/5/35.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Birchall J. on his promotion to that rank. You may be in Blighty now, Oscar, but time waits for no man, so we'll push the boat out in October.

The formal opening of the new jumping lane took place during March, but was marred by a casualty. For the information of the tar slappers, it cost eight annas for turps to get the tar off Pills, who took a short cut through the rails.

The annual musketry has gone a long way towards completion, and the Scissors cup is already packed up for return. First class shots of twelve to eighteen years standing had a day off. All those who fired on No. 8 target will only be allowed to take bows and arrows on shooting leave. The Three Musketeers held a private swindle and scored a first class between them. Esprit de corps!

Most of the recent scandal is centred round the elusive problem of attachment to Records, Chatham, next year. Marriages at Bombay and business sensations are, however, forecast for the next trooper, particularly in March and April. Other reasons and solutions are strictly confidential.

Agony.—To Oscar of T.T.S. fame: Book me a ticket for the Cup final next year. By the way, we have taken over a new chaff cutting machine. Could you supply blue prints of the various circuits ?

Is Geordie (L/Corpl Adamson J.) appointed to the L.P.T.B. yet, or is he crooning for a living ? KHANA.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—We are now well in the throes of hot weather and such remarks as " Stoking up a bit " and " Not quite so hot as this time last year " seem to be the general form of greeting these days.

We are very few in numbers, thanks to those lucky (?) people who have gone to Topa in an attempt to increase their financial resources, and of course the hill parrots, so that one frequently hears " What! guard again ?" to which the repiy " More duty, more honour " is usually given.

Those of us left in Kohat are carrying on with the big dig, and in the wee sma' hours of each morning, small parties (complete with picks and shovels) can be seen in various parts of the camp, attempting to emulate the feats of the good old British navvy.

The Jubilee parade was held on the Brigade ground on the 6th May. After an inspection by Major-General Shutt'eworth, D.S.O., medals were presented to several B.O.R.s, Indian officers and I.O.R.s of the station. Three rousing cheers for His Majesty and the march past saw the end of the day's work for all ranks, the following day also being a day of rest.

In the early part of the evening a Tattoo was held on the Stadium—maybe not quite so elaborate as the Aldershot function, but a really good show, nevertheless. This finished up with a grand firework display, and everyone then repaired to the various clubs, messes, etc., to listen to the wireless programme and the never-to-be-forgotten King's speech. Large bonfires were lit on all the prominent hills for miles around, and these made a really brave show ; and so ended Jubilee Day—one, I'm sure, that will live in everyone's memory as a day not on any account to be forgotten.

Entertainments.—On Wednesday 1st May a very successful tennis " at home " was held, followed by a flannel dance. Invitations were extended to the whole Station, to which everyone responded nobly—so much so that our " long arm of the law " (president of the B.O.R.s tennis committee) was at first rather doubtful of being able to feed the multitude. However, all's well that ends well ; and with the able assistance of Robo, our head cook and bottle washer, something was found for everyone. The results of the tennis are not known, but they were only a secondary consideration. It was a good excuse, anyway. Everyone stayed for the dance, and though the floor was somewhat crowded, everyone seemed to enjoy it and all voted it a good show. Q.: What happened to the ham sandwiches ? A.: Ask 'Appy A.

Arrivals.—Hosts of flies, which will persist in using the bald patch of yours truly as a skating rink, especially during the after-lunch siesta period.

Departures.—On Saturday 1st June we said good-bye to our old scribe and friend, Sergt Wagg W. He will be greatly missed by all for his ever cheery smile and witty greetings. Well, our loss is indeed the S.T.C.'s gain. With him went L/Corporal Shufflebotham, also to Jubbulpore, and L/Corpl Shirly (Uncle Fred) to Meerut. The best of wishes go with them, and we all hope that they have a good time in their new stations.

Congratulations.—To C.S.M. Spracklin and Sergt Murphy G. on being presented with the eighteen years undetected, together with the pice for same, on the Jubilee parade. This was duly celebrated in the usual manner by the recipients and resulted in a wet night.

To Peter, our upholder of law and order. on getting the pice for his pound of tripe. Get a tight hold of that blue book, Peter.

Sport.—Football and hockey. Only the usual bran mashes have taken place this month, mainly due to our inability to field a really representative side.

Cricket. The only match of note was played during the visit of the Welch Regiment from Landi Kotal on the 18th and 19th

May. Despite the absence of two of our regulars, we managed to win by 93 runs. This was the first time that the Welch Regiment had visited us, and we hope the cricket match will be the forerunner of many more. Our win was mainly due to some forceful batting by our skipper (Captain Brown) in both innings, ably backed up by Sigmn Madgewick and L/Corpl McMahon, and to a brilliant spell of bowling by Sigmn Rose in the Welch second innings, during which he took eight wickets for 33 runs in ten overs. Details of the scores appear in the Sports pages.

ROBO.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Headquarters.

Friday 7th June.

We open on a rather sad note, perforce, to comment on the Quetta earthquake. Although some five hundred miles away from us, Quetta is looked on as our neighbour, and we are directly concerned by having a detachment of some fifty strong from this unit stationed there under the command of Lieutenant H. Prince.

Karachi is the main clearing station for refugees, and a source of supply for a lot of the needs caused by the disaster ; and at present our B.O.R.s are prepared to evacuate their bungalows in crder that they may be used as temporary hospitals and accommodation for families.

Our wireless personnel are working continuously and dealing with unprecedented traffic—one of the many messages being of five hundred and twenty groups.

I will not dwell on any description of the consequences of the earthquake ; you will have had full details in the news at home ; but some appreciation of the Signal personnel at Quetta must be shown. No one knows, without experience, what it is like: having experienced an earthquake, to be in continual apprehension of another. Tremors of considerable intensity are being felt daily. An enormous amount of courage and strength of nerve must have been needed, and (typically) this was not found lacking. We cannot do better than quote the local press.

SMART WORK BY ARMY SIGNALS.
TELEGRAPH LINES FREED FROM DEBRIS IN RECORD TIME.

Not the least noteworthy achievement during the Quetta earthquake was the restoration of both telegraphic and telephonic communication by the Divisional Signals, who freed all wires from the debris and thus facilitated the work of the Government Telegraph Department in restoring communication. Otherwise, the situation would have been grave in the extreme.

The position on the 31st May was that the Sub-Divisional Officer, Telegraphs, was dead, and two of his assistants on tour. Mr. Richardson, who was north of Quetta, on hearing news of the disaster worked southwards, inspecting and righting faults, till he met a party of Army Signals under Lieut. Crichton, and thus re-established communication with the northern stations.

Mr. Boalth, who was down the line, did the same as his colleague ; and as the Divisional Signals, under Colonel Vyvyan and Colonel Howe, had rectified all faults in the town area by this time, communication with the outer world was re-established with praiseworthy despatch.

By the morning of the 3rd June the telegraph office was accepting all classes of messages, and though delivery by ordinary messenger was impossible, telegrams were delivered at the office itself in a systematic manner by some European ladies of the station, assisted by Army despatch riders with great tact and courtesy.

The general spirit prevailing throughout the stricken city was one of a cheery compliance with the old slogan " Business as usual."

Certa Cito.—The Signals were at their post at 3.10: roughly *ten* minutes after the disaster. Well done, Signals!

The R.A.F., as you know, were badly hit, and the sympathies of this unit are extended to the officers, men and families who suffered loss and injury.

Karachi.—We have now been in Karachi two months, and first impressions are becoming a little glossed down, so I think I am safe in making some remarks on the station here. Opinion is fairly evenly divided as to whether Karachi is preferable to Pindi. We have lost a lot and gained a lot. What was once a football unit is fast becoming a cricket unit—not through change in personnel but changed conditions. Climate plays a big part. A strong breeze from the sea, without which this place would be frightfully hot, is not conducive to good football.

At present we are sweating on the monsoons, due about the 15th of this month and lasting until July or August. From information gathered, I understand that it gets very hot in September and October and then cools down, while in January and February it *is* cold, and shorts are discarded in favour of breeches for about six weeks.

There are no fires in the bungalows or married quarters, and no fans in the bungalows. Somewhat paradoxical, but nevertheless true, and gives you some idea of the consistent climate.

Diversions are plentiful and varied. Within the unit we have the admirable institution known as the Club, a legacy from A Corps ; and very pleasant it is to sit on the lawn under a shady tree, with the cooling breeze to keep you comfortable. Among other things, here one may play miniature and clock golf, skittles, and (for the more energetic) tennis.

Within the Garrison bounds is the Lido for really good bathing, both sun and sea, and a bus leaves the lines for this spot every afternoon at three and returns at six o'clock. Sandspit—admirable for picnicing, and also by the sea—is another much frequented spot. Picture and dance halls are of a high standard, and the unit bus caters for their patrons. For those of a more pensive nature, Karachi offers a zoological garden and a museum.

Social life promises well. We had a visit from the ratings of H.M.S. *Colombo* last week, and some very gay evenings were spent in the unit club and messes.

Manora.—It is an order in this Brigade that everyone should take ten days leave during the summer months at Manora: an order that no one would disobey. Manora is an island just off the mainland, and although I have not yet had the pleasure of spending leave there, I understand from those who have that it is definitely " what the doctor ordered."

SIGNALMEN!!!

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Construction Section.—At present we are having our meals al fresco, a new mess room being under construction, together with a new block of offices.

Congratulations.—To all those who were presented with the Jubilee medal: Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., Lieut.-Q.M. B. H. Capel, R.Q.M.S. Mitchell P., C.Q.M.S. Moore, Sergt Baker W. A., L/Corpl Bailey, and Sigmn Webb S.; and C.S.M. Eastes and Corpl Sandalls (the two last named are now with the 1st Indian Divl and A Corps Signals respectively).

To Signalmen Edwards C. and Purdue on obtaining their second class certificate of education.

To L/Corpl Mallett on attaining that rank.

Arrivals.—A very belated welcome is extended to Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., and Captain D. A. L. Wade, M.C. BEKORE.

No. 1 Company.

Technical Training.—A stranger passing through the barracks would be pardoned for suspecting a Titanic conflict between the elements. Fear not, pretty one! 'tis only the Company wrestling with the fruits of Herr Ohm's brain. For such as cannot understand my flights of prosody, the Company is now in the throes of technical training. Hearts are somewhat lightened by visions of another two chips per day; but if they get it, believe me, they'll earn it. Being an instructor, I know what they are going through.

Births.—Congratulations to L/Sergeant and Mrs. Steele on the advent of a son (James Patrick) on 4/5/35 to cheer their hearts.

Manora.—Leave has now started for the unit, and several parties have already sojourned on Manora. And very sorry they were to leave!

Buckshee House.—To Blondie Pringle, somewhere in Egypt: What about a line to your sorrowing comrade Thomo?

Tail Spin.—That's all. EKNO.

No. 2 Company.

General.—It's a great attribute in these days to be able to settle down anywhere, and I think that if the unit were detailed to occupy a post in the middle of the Sahara or on the top of Mount Everest, they'd do it without the slightest hesitation or trouble. Karachi, of course, cannot be compared with those two charming spots; but, nevertheless, we seem to be settled comfortably after two months sojourn and know the ropes quite well.

In fact, by this time we are pretty well cognisant of everything you can and cannot do in this little seaside-cum-port. We all know the whereabouts of the Lido, as well as the Oxford and Clifton Pier, which I understand is a soul-stirring place by moonlight. Some of us are even acquainted with a couple of local dance halls, and have found out where the best of the G.M.P.s hang out.

So, you see, everything is going down very well indeed in our new home, and we are getting to know the civilian population by easy stages. As a young lady remarked to one of the locals only a couple of days ago, with a wicked twinkle in her black lustrous eyes, "You know, I think we are going to be very good friends."

Nature in the Raw.—Already small parties of the unit are dribbling over to Manora for that ten days break, and judging by the first party's comments, everything in this insular garden is lovely. To use one enthusiast's expression, "It's the thickest of snorter jake-enoughs." And you must admit that that is pretty strong. The old English angling spirit is gradually asserting itself, and one enthusiast has even seen "a big tiger-shark" in the vicinity of the docks. Why will some of the seniors persist in swimming out so far?

Courses.—Again Messrs. Ohm and Fleming have reared their hoary heads over the unit, and most of the operators are reaching out to grasp that little extra which will at least pay for fags. Unfortunately, weather conditions are not conducive to snappiness of thought or edge-keen attention, and we are thinking of asking the officer i/c if mozzy nets may be brought on parade to make some of the lads really comfortable. At least, that would be one way of getting down to it.

Of course, we have our little laughs occasionally when we turn over on the side. There was the man who said that Fleming's right hand rule was useless to him because he is left handed. And then one of the senior n.c.o.s was going to put a man on a thick 'un because he had been taking the mica, and he was only placated after we had given a little technical explanation.

Baldy Stonehouse is deep in the throes of an 'orse course and is balder than ever on that account, but even he gets a kick out of it. He was telling us about the man who, when trying to mount, put his right foot into the stirrup and then looked round for another leg to cock over the saddle.

Ins and Outs.—To Sialkot (it will be less confusing if we say to 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signals) Corpl Cook. Sounds like a death warrant, Tommy; but if you stand to your feeds with the same precision as when you made out our duty roster here, then those long-faced beauties have our sympathy.

To W.E.S. Quetta, on the 14th May, Sigmn Shepherd G. How you wangled this beats me, Shep; but, anyway, I'll see you again in K. in 1938 if. . . . . .

From W.E.S., 2319934 Sigmn Eltringham J. Contrary to usual custom, and remembering that you have happy ideas about troopers this year, we say "May your stay be short but sweet."

DAKIDS.

The War Memorial.....Fort Sandeman.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Monday, 27th May.

Variety.—We regret the absence of notes in the last issue of THE WIRE, but this was due—though it's hard to believe of Loralai—to a certain amount of variety which kept us occupied.

The Easter festivities consisted of a whist drive, a social, and the 7th Light Cavalry's mounted sports and trick riding. We had a few visitors from Fort Sandeman for the vacation. They enjoyed themselves, and regretted having to return on Easter Monday (regrets were mainly due to heavy heads and dread of the journey owing to that temporary complaint).

The Silver Jubilee celebration consisted of a flag day (Mrs. Cooper being a very energetic official seller), an "at home," and sports organised by the Political Agent, Loralai, concluding with a fireworks display and bonfires on the surrounding hills.

At the sports, members of the Section ran a tote. This was highly successful and resulted in collecting Rs.50 (ten per cent. of the tote total), which was greatly appreciated by the Political Agent, on behalf of the Silver Jubilee Fund for the Distressed in India.

Variety was also provided by a certain outlaw shooting up the Fort Sandeman—Loralai dak lorry. This little incident occurred around the Fort Sandeman area, so we will leave them to give you eye-witness accounts of what followed. We just sat back and did a few days continuous watch.

Promotions.—Congratulations to our Derby correspondent (L/Corporal Smith J. C.) appointed paid L/Corporal (not correspondent) w.e.f. 1/4/35.

Postings.—The gentleman referred to above, who is at present on leave amongst the Derby "brights," has been posted to Peshawar District Signals. We feel sure he will like his new unit—at least, until next October, when he returns to India. We can also recommend him as a good mess caterer, especially if he can run amok among some eggs and chips.

Visits.—C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Gerrish came along from Quetta to instal Milnes h.t. units at our out-stations. We thank him for all he did, and feel sure the Zhob will be a far, far better place for the addition of those h.t. units.

A detachment of the Royal Tank Corps also dropped in while on a tour of the Frontier. They appeared to like Loralai, and spent a couple of restful evenings in our Institute.

Silver Jubilee Medals.—Two of these medals were allotted to the Section—one for a B.O.R. and the other for an I.O.R. The B.O.R.'s was awarded to L/Sergt Cosens, whom we congratulate. He will be presented with it by the Area commander at Fort Sandeman's combined Jubilee and King's Birthday parade on the 3rd June. We think this will set off the remainder of L/Sergt Cosen's medals.

Coming Events.—A visit by the Chief Signal Officer, Western Command. The arrival of a real live C.Q.M.S. Chotair camp.

NUCLEUS.

Detachment, Hindubagh.

Sunday, 26th May.

General.—Hindubagh has been socially active during the last few weeks, owing to an influx of visitors. Garbofeet Fisher brought back our Newell set from Loralai. We did not ask him why, as we thought it too delicate a subject to mention.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Gerrish came here twice and gave us a nice little Milnes unit (advert). He did not mention Hindubagh in his conversation, so we presumed he was used to this sort of country.

Then there were the fellows from the Tank Corps. They thought there was a drought here, and arrived prepared for the worst. The Ghurkha guard turned out and allowed themselves to be photographed by a Tanker, or whatever he calls himself. After that, he said " I Tank Corps go 'ome " (preposterous).

The O.C., accompanied by L/Corpl Hicks, made his monthly call. He promised us a " couple o' dooks " as a donation to our farmyard. A few more cattle, and we shall be well away.

Loralai, apparently, Jubilee'd in an outstanding manner, and we heard something about a tote. Constantine, of course, *would* be in it.

Jubilee Celebrations: Hindubagh.—The hospital, post office and police thana were illuminated with candles. As fast as they were lit, however, they went out, and it was amusing to watch a bewildered native dashing from one candle to t'other. The hills were illuminated with bonfires (in places, that is) and the villagers dined at the A.P.A.'s bungalow. We played our gramophane (*sic*).

Departures.—Our barbu-gi. And as Loralai have him, we are intensely amused.

To the Loraliars.—Thank you for the library books ; and thank heaven for the Red Cross Society!

Congratulations to L/Sergt Cosens on being presented with a Jubilee medal. How many does that make ?

Nota bene—but plenty of peas: Yes, the seeds are coming up. As gardeners, we are argumentative, but not demonstratively so, and we can now chortle like blazes over our success.

NE PLUS ULTRA.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Sunday 12th May.

Since last writing, very little change has taken place and no event particularly worthy of mention has occurred. In fact, to be able to compile a set of notes more or less worthy of the name, one must write practically the whole on sport—for, so far as can be seen, there is very little else to write about this month.

Sergt Fee and his D.R.s left us for Simla to assist in the Jubilee display being held there. Sergt Pack and a party of B.O.R.s also went to Simla to look after the communications in connection with the same display.

This general departure to Simla has cut the Company almost in half, and for n.c.o.s and men alike the duties have been flying

round with uncomfortable speed. However, the Simla detachment arrive back to-morrow, and it is possible that we will survive until then.

Corpl Strickson leaves us for Muttra on the 20th inst., accompanied by Sigmn Campbell. The loss of Corpl Strickson will be very much felt by the Company when the unit annual sports day comes round again. L/Sergt Hayhoe goes to Lucknow on the same day. The Lucknow hockey team's gain is our loss.

Organised games of football, hockey and tennis, too numerous to mention, have taken place, and the Company has had quite a satisfactory number of successful results.

The unit football team received quite a shock on a certain occasion when the opposing team did not turn up. A touchline team, consisting mainly of No. 1 Company men, was quickly recruited in lieu of the absentees and, playing in gym shoes, chaplies, slacks and other odd combinations of dress, gave a magnificent display against the pick of the unit. They were only beaten by the single goal scored.

W.H.

No. 2 Company.

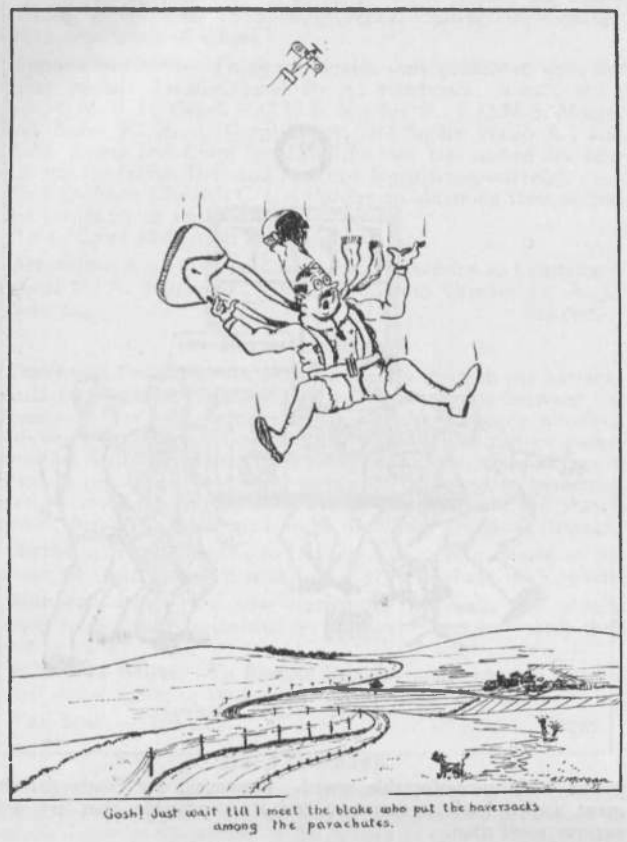
Thursday 9th May.

General.—There has been a rapid rise and decline in our A/C.S.M.'s roster since last month, and at present Corporal Heasman is our dashing C.S.M., C.Q.M.S. and riding instructor combined.

Sergt Gibbs left us to join the band of " untouchables " in Unit Headquarters. He is understudying C.Q.M.S. Gould and learning (we hope) to become an honest quartermaster.

Sergt Shepherd, newly arrived from Jubbulpore, took over the Company from Sergeant Gibbs. Unfortunately, he only lasted a week. Either our haphazard ways of clerking in No. 2 Company shocked his sensitive soul after doing dafter wallah in Jubbulpore, or else the lure of the rebate system proved too much, for (believe it or not) he has now taken over our credits and debits in the pay office vice Corpl Collett, relieved. Incidentally, Sergt Barber will need to look to his laurels on the tennis court on his return from U.K. leave, as Sergt Shepherd has already smartened up all the present Mess champs.

L/Corpl Collington left us on a six weeks boxing course at Kasauli. Although nobody has heard from him since, we con-



Gosh! Just wait till I meet the bloke who put the haversacks among the parachutes.

clude he is still living, and trust that he will still be recognisable on his return.

Signalmen Simms and Roake are shortly to be posted to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot. They are reputed to be studying "Cavalry Training" and polishing up their jack boots. We wish them all the best and no saddle sores.

The unit congratulates C.Q.M.S. Lemon on attaining that rank. J.L.R.

Chakrata Detachment, No. 2 Company.

Tuesday 14th May.

This month, readers are reminded that there is a No. 2 Company in the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals ; and having decided to drop the mask of secrecy which we have worn in the past, we proceed to tell the world.

Like the Psalmist, we have lifted our eyes unto the hills, and are now facing the rigours of the Himalayan climate while No. 1 Company bask in the warm sunshine and our reflected glory on the Plains. Stout fellas, these No. 2 Company lads! Later on we shall describe the dreadful humidity of the "second half" on the Plains. *Very* stout fellas, these No. 2 Company lads!

The journey from Meerut was uneventful, and the only entertainment provided was the low crooning of the dog owners to their pets, combined with the quiet grumblings of the bottom berthers on the train. Here and there, however, a dull monotone could be heard as individual old sweats recited that well known piece of blank verse, "When I was up the khuds four years ago" (authorship disclaimed) to the last arrivals. As usual, a band of volunteer gravel crushers accompanied the baggage from Kalsi to Chakrata, so that if any of the kit did go over the khud, there would be someone to point out where it was last seen—a gesture which reminds us that someone is not without feeling.

On arrival in Chakrata, the local lines were tidied up, the orderly room staff instructed in the art of pressing button B, claims re bed spaces settled, and some of the things that had been forgotten were remembered.

The upgrading course has started. Notable names on the list of undergraduates are Corpl (Uncle Walter) Turner, Corpl Jock Lowes (fresh from his recent triumphs at Jubbulpore—S course) and two likely lads who have decided that the pen is no longer mightier than the No. 1 set (L/Corporals Hollingshead and Halstead). Training is well under way, much creative art is being displayed in note books, and some original theories propounded regarding the construction of certain instruments. With so much inventive ability being displayed, it can no longer be said that we are a nation of shopkeepers.

The Technical School became the rallying ground of all the soccer enthusiasts in Chakrata on the night of the F.A. Cup final, when (thanks to Cpl Lowes) the detachment and numerous representatives from the other detachments listened to the running commentary on the match. The reception was R.9's for almost the entire programme. Some who were present expected West Bromwich to win, and now they even scorn the use of 4×2 when cleaning their rifles.

Speaking of rifles, the detachment fired the annual weapon training course last week. Some good scores were obtained, the top liners being Sigmn Moase with a very useful 59, Sigmn Gooch with 58, and Sigmn Jenner with 57. Captain M. C. Bennett headed the revolver practices with a possible (50), being closely followed by Lieut. J. R. Beeton and Sergeants Child and Morgan, who each scored 48, and R.S.M. Hughes with 46.

Now we come to the question of economics, sometimes referred to as the Scots' mail. No. 5947274 Sigmn (Sailor) Bowden would like to hear from No. 5947123 Sigmn Reeves, believed to be in A Corps ; while Signalman Jock Fox (305) promises to write to L/Corporal Hutley (311) if he can only find his stamp.

It is now possible to obtain Gold Flakes at an anna for ten, and a decided increase in recruitment north of the Tweed is anticipated.

Sweats.—These are many and varied: B.ii.s, Jubilee medals, Blighty leave, short pays, and postings.

Farewells and Greetings.—With regret we said goodbye to Signalmen Sims and Roake, who have left us to break in some horses for the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop ; but we welcome in their stead Signalmen Hyde and Taylor, who are credited with having a Weedon seat.

Laurel Wreaths.—One is awarded to Sigmn Werp Fabian on signing on for the last ten years ; another to Jimmie on finding a new name for rissoles ; and yet another to the student of Urdu who thought that "Tum lakri" meant "You would!"

Congratulations.—To L/Sergt Clarke on attaining that rank. He confidently awaits the predicted rush in promotion now.

Hic jacet. BILL WUM.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Friday, 7th June.

General.—We are now settled down to the summer routine. At the beginning of April the annual exodus to the hills took place, and a few fortunates from the Troop picked up their beds and walked.

Hot weather football and hockey tournaments are now in full swing, and as we have entered teams in both of these events, we make our debut in the Sports section of this Journal this month.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Marshall and his family have left us for A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. Mr. McVittie has been on a two months cruise to Japan—possibly in an attempt to locate that elusive "lure of the East" which, I suspect, was invented by the publicity department of some tourist agency as a variation from the Indian rope trick.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Marshall B. on attaining that rank on posting to Rawalpindi ; also to C.Q.M.S. Bennett J. on joining the Ali Baba Brigade.

L/Corpl Marchant W. J., having accepted pay for his rank, loses his amateur status. This professionalism is spreading in all branches of sport.

Births.—A son to Sigmn and Mrs. Giles, at Meerut, on the 5th June.

Languages.—Congratulations to L/Cpl Wilson G. and Sigmn Hurt F. on passing the higher standard Urdu and B.O.R. Urdu tests respectively.

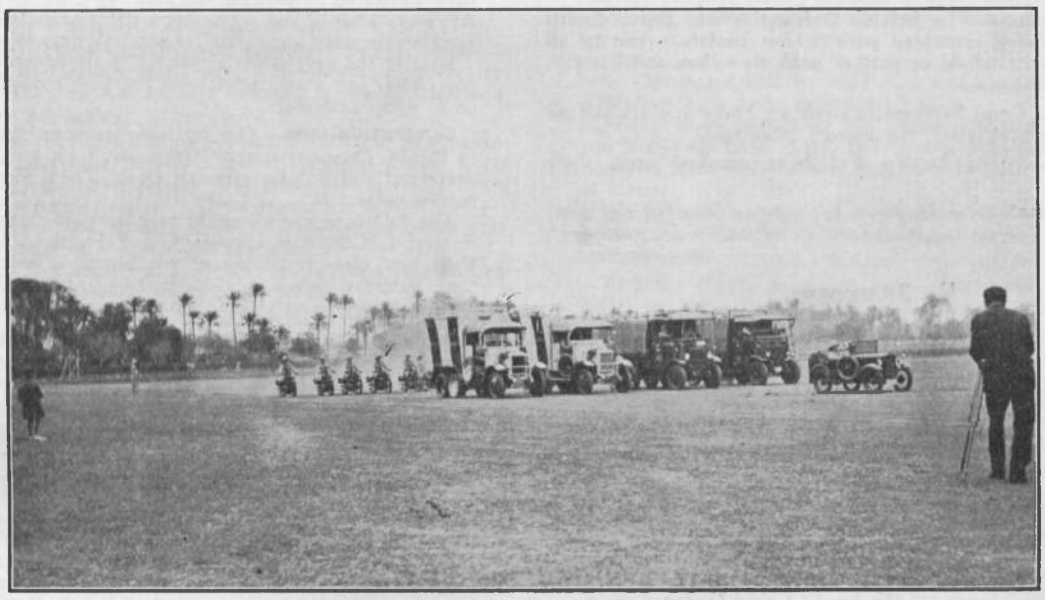
OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

Headquarters.

General.—To commemorate His Majesty the King's Silver Jubilee, a parade was held at Gezira on the 6th May. A detachment consisting of four W/T vehicles and twenty motor cycles, commanded by Lieut. A. B. Ruck, took part in the parade and carred out their job in great style (see the accompanying photo).

The unit paraded at full strength on the 14th May for the presentation of Silver Jubilee medals by Colonel P. R. Bald, D.S.O. (Chief Signal Officer) to R.S.M. Dorrington A. G., D.C.M., and Signm Smith J. Unfortunately, the other recipients—Lt.-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C. (C.O.) and Captain J. Finmore (Q.M.)—were absent on leave from the station at the time. On the conclusion of the parade, three rousing cheers were given for His Majesty the King.



Egypt Signals Jubilee Parade, 1935

The married families of Egypt Signals and G Troop were entertained to tea by Colonel and Mrs. Bald at the Cairo Zoological Gardens during Jubilee week. The families were conveyed in buses from Abbassia and Helmieh to the Gardens, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Tea was served on the island, and Jubilee chocolate boxes were distribtuted to the children by Mrs. Bald. The kind thought which prompted this invitation, and the really enjoyable picnic, were greatly appreciated by all ranks, their wives and children.

No. 1 Company.

Trip to the Gulf of Suez.—A reconnaissance and M/T training trip was arranged by the O.C. No. 1 Company on the 28th May. All n.c.o.s and men not actually on individual training were permitted to accompany the party. Sixty-three were present. Reveille sounded at 02.00 hours, and the column moved off at 03.45. After a few tyre troubles, which delayed the party for a couple of hours, we reached the camping place at Bir Odeib at 16.00 hours, having filled up with ice at Port Suez at noon.

On reaching the site, a bathe and a cold bottle of—never mind what—made things quite cheerful; and with C.S.M. Deyermond's menu of tomato soup and bully stew, with apricots as dessert, we were all merry. Needless to say, the temperature in such a spot, though near the sea, was rather above the normal and topees were in prominence everywhere. A moonlight swim finished the day, and so to bed under the stars.

Many were already in the sea when the rest awoke next morning, and with a wash and breakfast cooked by each Section we "fell to." A rifle parade and orders for the day made up the morning's work, with a general tidy up and overhaul of the transport. The arranged programme was slightly altered, and the column was ordered to be ready to move towards Suez at 16.00 hours that afternoon.

C.Q.M.S. Kendall and a small party next proceeded to Port Suez for a refill of ice and bottled stuff, with orders to meet the column at the new camping site. On arrival there, after another swim and a cold bottle, with some more of the C.S.M.'s cooking, we bivouacked by the seashore.

Transport was overhauled and refilled, and we moved off towards home at 07.00 hours on Thursday 30th. After a severe shaking up and an uneventful journey, we reached Signal Barracks at 12.00 hours, none the worse for the trip.

Thanks are due to Captain Wheatley (O.C. No. 1 Company) and C.S.M. Deyermond—not to mention the M/T n.c.o.s, and the C.Q.M.S. for his ice and lemonade making—for a break in the usual summer monotony of barrack life, and most of us would welcome another such trip.

SCHOOLIE.

No. 5 Tank Signal Section.

General.—As a rookie new to the country, the Section and the literary world, I must have a hard neck to be writing these notes at all. However, as no one else aspires to a chair in Fleet Street, I take upon myself the duties of Section scribe. Don't be too hard on me—you know, be sparing in sarcasm and lavish in praise. Well, here goes.

Most of our personnel are employed in workshops or garages, so nothing of particular note takes place. They say they are busy, but that is the usual tale. Even our police constable fails to get a case or find a clue. He can find his bed, though. Can't you, Percy? Our Section sergeant gets several cases, however, and duly returns the empties—or should I say daily? From this, you will gather that he is doing a turn as licensed victualler at the Sergeants Mess.

Sport.—In inter-Section sport we combine with M Section and Company H.Q. under the heading of M Section. This is due to

our being a small Section numerically. At billiards we bowed the knee to J Section in our first match. I think I had something to do with it. In our second match we lost again, this time to the Command Signal Section. We must have been good boys in our youth. Third time lucky! We beat [?—ED.] in our next effort. At cricket we were beaten by 60 runs by B Section. We boast of three or four unit players, too. We would like our revenge! How about it, B? Two other matches v. A and C.S.S. have had to be postponed. At tennis we have played against C.S.S. Don't ask me the scores, please, as it is a painful subject. Bluntly speaking, we lost. We have come to the conclusion that it is time we put in some secret training. I hope to have some startling wins to record next month.

Arrivals.—Lieut. G. M. de M. Blum to take over duties as O.C. Section. Signalmen Anthony E. and Ryder E. from the last trooper. Lastly, myself, who also tasted the joys (?) of seasickness recently. Welcome to us all. May our stay be a happy one.

Departures.—Lieut. E. R. N.-W. Nanney-Wynn, our O.C., for leave in U.K. We hope you have a pleasant stay, sir. Corpl Adams R. to No. 3 Company and perhaps a pair and set. Corpl Orten P. to A Section. Sigmn Hawcroft to the Command Signal Section. Good-bye to the gramophone recitals, eh, Tich?

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. Dorrington and Sigmn Smith (1850352) on being presented with Jubilee medals. Also to all who obtained the whole or part of their first class certificate at the recent examination.

Agony.—To Corpl Freeman, Catterick: Have you studied all the instrument book you "borrowed" from me?

Apologies.—To M Section if I have poached upon their preserves.

Ending Signal.—You may give full vent to your feelings now. Critics, please line up in alphabetical order. Cheerio, everyone!

SQUARE FEET.

No. 3 Company.

Quite a number of this Section are on individual training and still sweating. What with 100° in the shade and education first and second, we are all busy.

Red Sea Trip.—No. 1 Company arranged a reconnaissance trip to the Gulf of Suez on the 28th May, and a number of this Section and Company were permitted to accompany them. A strenuous motor ride to the camping place, taking all day, was soon forgotten when we stripped and swam in the sea. Many H.T. drivers were present, and it was whispered that they preferred their long-faced friends to the "canned horses," but the majority of us hope that another such trip can be arranged and that we are again permitted to accompany it.

Sweats.—Jubilee medals.

Congratulations.—To our Section sergeant, Jock Lawrie, on gaining the L.S. and G.C. medal with gratuity. He has certainly earned it.

Wanted.—A paybloke who can arrange a five-week month without a "no pay" parade for the last week. Oh, how we miss you, Jock!

Agony.—Brow, Canterbury: How about a line to Larry and Sandy? Robbo, Jamaica: Why for you no write? Hoppy.

SCHOOLIE.

Corporals Mess.

General.—First of all, let me apologise for the lack of notes during the past few months. My excuse on behalf of the ex-scribe is that very little happens beyond events related by the *unit* press agent. The members are very reticent, therefore; and one has to keep a sharp look out on Part II.s for information about sly visits to registry offices or calls from the stork, etc.

We had a Mess meeting a short time ago, with several startling results. The most amazing one was my election as Mess WIRE scribe—unanimously, too! The members, no doubt, wished to get their own back for the "not so plain tales" (apologies to Barleux) which I have been relating. Another notable feature of the meeting was the popularity of the new members. Two of those who helped to prop me against the rail of the *Lancashire* are now big noises on the entertainments committee. I suspect they conspired to pass on the can: new drafts are always easy. Anyway, what about arranging a darts tournament, Tubby? I need a new wine glass (don't snort, my dear Watson).

So now the new talent are about to show their paces. Here is one effort, and who knows what the next month has in store for us? Wait and see.

Congratulations.—Our heartiest congratulations are tendered to R.S.M. Dorrington and Sigmn Smith H. (old sweat) on being presented with Jubilee medals; also to Corpl Morrison on getting his second stripe.

The following can share the rest between them. Corpl Adams R. and L/Corporals Hughes J. and Ponsford W. on obtaining their first class certificate of education. Those who passed in some subjects were Corpl Lea E. and L/Corpl Ogden J. (English and geography) and L/Cpls Trout T. and Webb N. (geography).

Arrivals.—Corporal Couperthwaite (Tubby) and L/Corporals Ransom (Handsome), Howard (Tiny), Hubbard, Russell and Surfleet (Sore Feet) from the U.K. Corpl Gibbs from Moascar to swell the swimming team. Hark to the roar of welcome!

Departures.—Corpl Wardley, L/Corporals Smith G., Smith G. W., Brelsford, Collins, Baker, Lavender, Kenneally, Parry and Rossiter to U.K. on posting. Corporals Betty and Broadley, L/Corporals Webb and Barron to U.K. for a spot of leave. Sherlock Holmes' assistant says the last named has gone to train greyhounds. We wonder! However, our best wishes go with him. Corpl Wright has also left the fold to take the place of Corporal Gibbs at Moascar. L/Corporals Trout and Honor are leaving us shortly for a muscle building course at Alexandria.

We Would Like to Know.—When is George getting his praying mat? P.S.: Don't blame me, George. I'm not in the conspiracy.

Tailpiece.—If ye have tears to spare, prepare to shed them now, for I must leave you until next month. That is, if the Editor does not place a ban on me. Don't grieve, but bear up like men. Au revoir.

ONE-SIX-SEVEN.

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

A health unto His Majesty! Jubilee celebrations and events appertaining to the Jubilee seem to be the most topical news for this issue.

We had a parade here (far less rigid, perhaps, than those at home—nevertheless, a parade) on the occasion of Their Majesties' Silver Jubilee. The Palestine Government provided drinks for His Majesty's troops serving in this country, with which to toast to the health and happiness of the reigning couple. In connection with this occasion, two medals were given to this unit: one for the commanding officer and the other for a selected signalman. We take this opportunity of congratulating Sigmn Mintram on being the one chosen for the honour.

With successful results, members of our entertainments committee put their heads together and provided us with an afternoon's enjoyment. This took the form of donkey racing, and a number of junior sports such as a thread-the-needle race, etc.

The chief event was the Jubilee Cup race. Here's a race card for information.

JUBILEE MEETING AT THE OVAL TRACK.

Jubilee Day, 6th May, 1935.

2.45—Apprentices Stakes, five furlongs.
3.15—Safriya Vase, one mile.
3.45—Jubilee Cup, one and a quarter miles.
4.20—Bazar Selling Plate, five furlongs.
5.00—Jubilee Plate, one mile.

Entries.

1111. Liver Sandwich (ridden by G. Cameron) owned by Baron Cheesman.
0101. Twilight Kiss (C. Medlycotte) Mr. S. Spice.
0021. Move Over (Rushton) Sir J. Shipley.
0000. Nonotmemate (Smith H.) Mr. J. Green.
3210. Bedtime Story (Waterston) Fred Mallett, Esq.
1111. Plausible (Mintram) Mr. Leonard Murray.
1234. Weekly Trip (Owner) Count Simpson.
11. Fleetfoot (Booth) Abbo Smith.
1111. Over the Wall (Rodwell) O. B. Furze.
1111. Light of Israel (Giles) Mr. T. Pettit.

The Tote will be run on the up and up.
Win only. No place betting.

Officials—Tote: Hope and Moran. Starter: Swann. Judges: Major T. B. Gravely and Cole. Announcer: MacWebster. Donkey Steward: Abe Mallett. Course Steward: Robinson. Indicator: Billingsley.

The race for the Jubilee Cup proved a most thrilling event. 'Twas a neck and neck finish. Gordon Cameron, riding Liver Sandwich, was the worthy winner. He is being retained by Baron Cheesman for a further season. Great sport, the Baron.

A grand Jubilee ball seemed to be an appropriate conclusion, proving the success of the year and the bar.

Everyone in this corner of the earth displayed a true festival spirit throughout the whole day's proceedings.

Bulletin.—Summer's here with a vengeance, bringing with it the mosquitoes, dysentery, and every restriction adhering to persons and things at this season of our year.

Folks of every rank, size and age are craving for a cool dip and relaxed clothing. So confusing are all these restrictions that men are to be seen bathing in topees, dashing about the tennis courts wearing life jackets, or washing billiard balls in permanganate of potash.

Our Grim Fairy Tale.—No doubt, all have heard the story of the Guardsman who dropped his rifle. Now let's mention the Signalman who attended the Jubilee parade without a bolt in his rifle. (Now, now, Rushton, you old soldier. Is that the way to maltreat your best friend ?)

Jumps.—Congratulations to Sergt Brett J. R. and L/Sergeant Dowie W. A. C. on their recent elevation.

Births.—No, folks! no Jubilee babies here.

Jews' Post.—Tom Ayres, late of Bulford and China: Please write to Gus Cheesman in Sarafand.

Jock Bain, Wana Signal Section, India (late of No. 2 A.S.S. Larkhill): What about a Jubilee stamp, Jock ? Can you ride a combination yet ?—Gilo Giles.

For Exchange.—We have a nice Egyptian mummy. What have you ?

Our Activities.—Don't forget to read the Sports Notes in the appropriate pages.

'Snuff said. Q.R.U.TUT.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Wednesday 8th May.

When old Tientsinners open the Journal this month and have the usual casual glance to see if someone has really had the energy to put something in, there will be a general epidemic of heart failure. I wish it were possible to put a notice in a conspicuous place, reading something like this: "Beware! notes from Tientsin."

Well, having got that load off my chest, I'll make a start. I'm not going to apologise for the absence of notes in the past. It wasn't my banderbast. But I promise to send in something each month in the future.

It is rather late to report arrivals, as the undermentioned arrived in March, but we give a hearty welcome to Sergt Lockyer, L/Corpl Blanchard, and Signalmen Green, Millar, Dempsey and Keith from Blighty, and hope their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

Since then, Jock Millar has departed to hold 'em back in Peking, where (rumour has it) he is pining away for the high lights of Tientsin. Nuff said. Sigmn Verlander has also gone to that salubrious place for a change of air.

It is also rather late to give a detailed list of the triumphs, etc., in the field of sport, but congratulations are due to L/Corporal Robinson, who was second out of a field of fifty-six in the International cross-country race. It was a gruelling race, and it is interesting to note that the British Regiment teams secured first and second places. Sigmn Verlander came in strongly about half way up the list, and amongst the " also rans " was L/Corpl Blanchard.

L/Corpl Robinson also entered with the Worcestershire Regiment team in the International Sports cross-country race, and came in fourth. Well done, Robbo. Keep it up.

The results at the end of the football and hockey season for the Staff and Departmental team, with which we play, were:—Hockey League, third ; Football League, seventh.

We are a sadly depleted Section just now, as Shanhaikuan has opened and half the Section, under Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Walker, departed on the 1st May to put up the lines and instal the W/T set. Communication by W/T was quickly established, and no difficulties have been experienced since.

Tennis is practically in full swing, and the budding Tildens and Vines are hard at it. But what a dead loss in running two books of chits now. There will have to be a general drawing in of horns.

We have also formed a Cricket Club, and soon we hope to be holding Test matches in miniature.

Departures.—None just at present, but are we sweating ?

To those who wish to save 1½d. Busty and Vic, Canterbury: Hurry up with those letters.

Cheerio! TICH.

Peking Detachment.

British Legation, 21st April.

Prologue.—If these notes never see the light of day in THE WIRE, I shall not be surprised. When the Editor sees them, he will probably send them straight round to the British Museum as rare manuscripts from the Far East. Moreover, I daren't use my only excuse—or I shall be accused of plagiarism by practically all unit correspondents Still, here goes for another effort, which I hope will meet with the reception usually accorded strangers in a strange land.

Assorted News.—The detachment is still coping with a lot of work, but we won't speak of that: it might sound like boasting. However, I may say that the landline to Tientsin is now practically a new one, thanks to the efforts of the personnel at each end. In that connection, the efforts of the attached infantry signallers from the Worcestershire Regiment are worthy of mention, as they seem to have found the secret of perpetual motion. They refuse to get tired, and their demands for more work are sometimes embarrassing. Of course, we are good, too, but we hate to mention it.

The Minister's W/T Station personnel are still hard at it ; but, then, their work is never done. Whenever they read in the papers of questions in Parliament concerning China, they indent for more pencils and pads. They need them.

The present time of the year is a hiatus as far as sport is concerned, as it is too late for winter games and too soon for summer recreations. Tennis is filling in the gap pretty well, but these Gobi dust storms interfere with that. Still, the storms do give us time to get in a few games, and the newcomers are busy learning not to call the racquet a bat.

We have only recently recovered from an epidemic of flu. There were fifty-two in dock at once out of nearly 200, but *no* Signals. The M.O.'s precautions were pretty awful (u no: gargle parades, leather jerkins, etc.) but they were appreciated when we heard the casualty lists of the other Legations. That, however, is old news now.

Spring is here again, as usual. The trees are in bloom, and it is the last time some of us will see that happen out here. (Long and prolonged cheers.)

Receipts.—From H.Q., Tientsin, one fitter—almost new. Sigmn Miller arrived here on Tuesday 16th inst., and was given a welcome he won't forget this side of his dotage. Being a quiet lad, as becomes a newcomer among us old stagers, we can't say much about his capabilities in any direction, but the first impression is very favourable.

Issues.—To H.Q., Tientsin, one operator—part worn, but still good for a few more years of efficient service. Answers to the name of Ginger except on pay parade, when he answers to Cann. As he is going to Shanhaikuan soon, and I am in the party which relieves him, I won't say any more. After all, some meetings (like partings) are painful, and I don't want that to be one of them. Still, he can't object if I say that the Al Ascalon has been forced to adopt a system of economy recently.

Births.—To the Station cat, two weeks ago, one tom and two tabbies—all kittens. If the brick I threw at 2 a.m. three nights ago did its job properly, the suspected father cannot possibly be doing well.

Press News.—The freedom and tact of the British Press are well known, but out here only the freedom is well known. "British barracks bugridden," says M.P., was the headline which appeared in a local paper recently. While we hesitate to absolutely deny that, we recommend that prospective drafts make enquiries and be sure that their sources of information are reliable. Ask Willie Woolcot: he was here long enough to know.

Cumshaw.—B.B.B. Egypt: What about a line? Max. Bennett: Who is to blame this time? Mac.

Epilogue.—And so, for the present, we leave you.

SPUD-CAN.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Wednesday 22nd May.

General.—Hullo, everybody! Equatorial Signal Section calling once again.

During the month of April our usually carefree, happy-go-lucky ways were slightly interfered with, owing chiefly to the call to arms parade at 7 ack emma each day. We were practising for the King's Jubilee parade held on the Padang, Singapore, on Monday 6th May. There were only eight of us: Signalman Twitchen, being unlucky in love, won the draw for the odd man out. Changi and Fort Canning detachments were not represented. I wonder just why the lads of old P.B. always carry the cans. Still, we can do it (it's a case of having to). The actual parade went down o.k. Nobody dropped his rifle or made any crazy movements with his arms. We always have the old excuse, you know: We are tradesmen as well as soldiers.

Jubilee Celebrations.—Possibly old Malaya Sectionites will be very interested to know how the Jubilee was celebrated in their former station.

During the week the town was one mass of twinkling lights. All the important Government buildings were floodlit, and the harbour was well adorned with gaily decorated moving Chinese twakows. The Chettiars, Japs, Chinese, Malays, Indians, etc., all had their various processions and displays, each determined that theirs should be the best.

Sad to say, the only signs of Jubilee on Pulau Brani were a flag flown in the vicinity of Moonstone Pier, and the fact that the *Sir Hastings Anderson* (the flagship of the W.D. Fleet) was hidden underneath a stream of flags of all nations. (Such an expense, indeed, now.)

Pulau Brani Malays (P.B. Bing Boys), adorning themselves in their old national costumes and head dresses, and led by their Kampong chief (a little fellow with a dark chin), joined in the processions through the town and performed a few modernised Malayan flings. It is rumoured that there is going to be a roggeng, too, but that's one of the treats in store. (Ha! ha!)

The New World and Great World cabarets put on their star turns, so one can surmise that one had a good time in Singapore—provided, of course, he had "banyak wong," as Mr. Toogood would remark.

The star show of the celebration, however, was the Jubilee ball held on H.M.S. *Terror*, admission to which cost a mere ten bucks. Everybody who is anybody and scores who were nobody attended, and the whoopee flew high. Oh, it was a grand night. Need we say we were *not* represented? (see my banyak wong above).

Arrivals.—Ah, yes! I nearly forgot. Sigmn Ticky Toogood, locally known as Dua Bagus, arrived a few weeks ago from Changi for an upgrading course. Already—and in such a short time, too—his popularity has penetrated to the four corners of the island (though it happens to be round). Our Dua can daily be heard teaching poor old Digger Hubbard, who is slowly greying at the temples, on the whys and wherefors of Chopin, etc. Occasionally he breaks out into spasms of Malay, when even Mobin (our Malayan assistant lineman) pricks up his ears. Ah, well, Dua Bagus! good luck to you and a happy ending.

Departures.—L/Corpl Morton is at present packing his traps prior to departure to Changi. Any information you require about Changi, Badgy, our Dua will be pleased to provide.

Sigmn Parkin is sweating on departing to Seletar (the Air Base) on a wireless course, prior to being tested for a higher rating. S.O.S. to R.A.F.: How are you off for rations? You'll need 'em.

Heard Rambling Around.—Someone muttering to himself in the Company office. Climate, I suppose.

Scene: Bridge of the *Anderson*. "Hullo, aft! Is the chief engineer on board yet?" Voice from the wireless cabin: "Why don't you look at the darned water line? Can't you see?"

Seen on Parade.—One Boy Scout.

Dance.—The usual monthly dance was held at the lower bungalow on the last Saturday in April. All enjoyed themselves. Nothing startling to report, except that Lily was seen to pick on none other than the Sultan (L/Corpl Pearson) during the ladies' choice. I wonder why all the pretty girls fall for you, Eggy, while all that we poor devils seem to get are the dusky dark-eyed maids who twang guitars and "rollen de hips."

Ah! here is my dusky one coming, so cheerio, everybody, until next full moon.

TANDO (T.B.C.)

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, 30th May.

Well, I am afraid you have not heard from us for some time. I can only offer the same old excuse: Far too busy.

Changes.—Sergt Callegari has left the Section for the home establishment. Records informed us that Catterick Camp would be his future home. Our ex-Section sergeant left Malta in great style per the s.s. *Esperance Bay*. Well in with the embarkation staff at Malta!

Sergeant Williams arrived per the s.s. *Hobson's Bay*. He is settling down o.k. and appears to be enjoying the work.

Events.—Cpl Keywood and Mr. Fenech (our Maltese foreman) were presented with the King's Jubilee medal for excellent work on the communications of the island.

Information.—For the benefit of any who might join our little band during the forthcoming trooping season, I will try to give them a little information about our work.

The duties here are essentially those of a lineman, as all our work is permanent line. We leave the signal office stores early in the morning to commence our daily routine. All faults have to be cleared up as soon as possible. During the winter period faults are fairly numerous, as we are subject to gales and high winds. The calm of summer affords the Section an opportunity to commence re-wiring and make a general overhaul of all lines. Besides the offices of various departments, we have R.A. lines and fort communications under our care.

The island is small, but offers a fair amount of amusement compared with other stations abroad, though not in comparison with home. We are hoping that that kind gentleman, the Officer i/c Records, will consider our plea and consent to an increase in the Malta Signal Section.

Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder.—Our O.C. is at present wandering around in Europe with his Ford car. He sure takes a chance, as the Yankees say. Somebody said that Captain Paterson bought it in Petticoat Lane, but I hardly think so. We all hope that his expedition will prove successful.

Lieutenant J. H. E. Panton has returned to duty after spending several weeks in hospital, and takes over the command of the Section.

Congratulations.—To Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Clark from Goody.

Signalman Henny of this Section wishes to hear from Red.

RUSS.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1.

The unusual activity and excitement of the Jubilee celebrations have now finished, and the normal training programme continues. Preparations are well in hand for the annual Trade Board, and we wish all candidates success. Providing the lectures and practical demonstrations are well attended, there should be no doubt about the results.

We are providing a detachment again, this year, to assist at the Hendon Air Pageant, and as might be expected, we have no difficulty in obtaining volunteers for this particularly interesting job. Sometimes we wonder whether the volunteers will wish to associate themselves more closely with the Air Force and leave us with a few vacancies to fill.

We should like to offer our congratulations to Capt. E. Boggis, who has received the M.B.E. in the recent Birthday Honours. The evening on which this event was celebrated coincided with a visit of the officers to H.M.S. *President*, and it was therefore unanimously decided that Captain Boggis should be allowed to pay the taxi expenses. Each officer is now anxiously scrutinising his Mess bill to see whether there has been any mysterious expenses entered since that date!

Our subalterns have all been busy in preparing for examinations recently, which accounts for their mysterious disappearances at various times. We congratulate Mr. Scarborough, who has recently passed his Certificate "A" with plenty of margin. After many sighs of relief, he now finds himself as busy as before, preparing for the next—a promotion examination. We gather that the subject of examinations is not very popular at the moment among the younger officers.

The annual camp draws nearer, and while preparations are proceedingly smoothly, we have not yet filled the vacancy for a trustworthy weather specialist. We should be easily suited, but have a preference for one with a fine weather outlook. No candidate from Iceland need apply.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—JUBILEE MEDALS. Hearty congratulations to Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing (our hon. colonel), Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C. (our C.O.), Lieut. F. F. West, M.M. (our Q.M.), C.S.M. Gibbings F. J. of No 1 Company, and Signalman Clatworthy G. of No. 3 Company, on being awarded the King's Silver Jubilee medal.

TRAINING.—One is very pleased to observe the keen support given by all Sections to the various Sunday exercises which are being run prior to camp. They are extremely valuable just now, particularly in view of the fact that we have been re-organised since last annual training and certain branches of training are quite new to some Sections. A very interesting camp is visualised under the new conditions.

S.E.W.T.—Yet another successful officers' exercise has taken place—this time in the wilds of North Devon. We were privileged to have with us the C.S.O. Southern Command (Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.) the D.C.S.O. (Brevet-Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D.) and our hon. colonel (Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing). Everyone voted the day an extremely pleasant and instructive one, and our thanks are accorded to our adjutant (Captain J. R. Patten, M.C.) for the trouble he took to produce an exercise which held one's interest to the final problem.

ANNUAL DINNER.—The officers of the unit foregathered at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Exeter, for their annual regimental dinner on the 8th June, and a very convivial evening ensued. We were delighted to welcome our Divisional commander (Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.), our C.S.O. and D.C.S.O., our hon. colonel, Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D. (a previous Company commander), and Major Humphrey (late Royal Signals).

THE GOULD CUP.—The annual shoot for this trophy took place at Honiton Range on Whit Monday, and each Company produced a good team. Drizzling rain and a contrary wind lowered the standard set on previous occasions, but No. 3 Company retained the cup with a fine effort. The scores were: No. 1, 156; No. 2, 125; No. 3, 178. Well done, No. 3! Hearty congratulations, also, to Corpl Judge A. J., of No. 1 Company, on being the best individual shot with 68 out of 80. Incidentally, he was the only competitor to score a possible during the whole meeting.

GENERAL.—Little time now remains before camp, and the pre-camp atmosphere of intensive preparation is noticeable in all quarters. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

We warmly congratulate our hon. colonel (Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing), our commanding officer (Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.), Lieut. F. F. West, M.M., C.S.M. Gibbings F. J., and Sigmn Clatworthy G. on being awarded the King's Silver Jubilee medal—a handsome and worthy decoration.

A Jubilee ball, organised by the officers of the combined T.A. units in the area, was held at the R.A. drill hall, Plympton, on Friday 17th May. Much of the credit for this very successful show can be claimed by us, for Major W. J. L. Cornelius originated the idea and filled the dual role of vice-chairman and secretary of the committee. Mr. P. W. Shaw came down from London for the evening, accompanied from Exeter by Mr. L. E. O. Evans, and we understand that they both thought the ball was worth the trouble.

Each Section has now had its first taste in the field of the new work of No. 1 Company—A Section on the 19th May, D and M Sections on the 26th May, and B Section on the 2nd June. Considering all things, a surprisingly good effort was made by all Sections, and we can look forward to camp with every confidence. Speed is the vital factor, but more practice should bring the necessary improvements.

The Company will go to camp at Cornwood on Saturday 29th June for that night and the greater part of the Sunday. We move by M/T to the inn at 7 p.m., sleeping in the adjoining out-houses overnight, and exercising as a full Company on Lee Moor on the following day. This week-end camp will be organised on the lines of annual camp and should provide useful training.

The Gould Cup.—Congratulations to No. 3 Company on retaining the trophy with 178 points, and also to one of ours—Corpl Judge A. J.—on being the best individual shot with a score of 68 out of 80. A really fine effort. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

We must apologise for the absence of our notes during the past two months.

Jubilee Celebrations.—We had a strong parade which took part in the local celebrations, forming up at the Civic Centre and marching to St. Mary's Church, headed by the Police Band.

A party of men under Sergt Phillips (No. 225 Section) took part in the local town pageant, and they did very well, which was later confirmed by a pleasing letter to our O.C. from the Mayor.

Section Training.—This is now in full swing, and judging by the looks on most faces, it is doing a lot towards ensuring success at the forthcoming camp.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose R.S.M. Herbert A. F. on his being posted to Scarborough. All the best, sir, in your new station. You know where Hamilton House is when you are visiting the south coast.

Promotions.—We congratulate C.S.M. Stone on taking over R.S.M. duties. He can depend on loyal assistance from No. 2 Company.

Section officer ("G"): "Section, dis—miss!" The Section obeyed, except one man. Section officer tries again, but with the same effect. Section officer: "What is the matter with you, my man?" Cause of same effect: "I belong to 225 Section, sir." Collapse of "G." TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Congratulations to our shooting team on again winning the Gould cup. The shoot, this year, took place on Whit Monday at Honiton as usual. The weather, however, was not so favourable as usual, and we had to contend with a nasty drizzling rain. The shooting of our team was very consistent and, in view of the conditions, of a very high standard.

The following represented the Company: 2nd Lieut. F. H. Reeks (non-shooting captain), 2/Lieut H. W. Fenwick and Signalmen Clatworthy J. and Floyde. Although we did not secure the honour of having the best individual score, we got the three next places. We owe a special debt of gratitude to 2/Lieut. F. H. Reeks for the time and trouble he has taken, and also to all those who have practised. We have two or three other men who, if called upon, would not have let the Company down by any means. It was a toss up, almost, who was to shoot.

Congratulations, also, to Signalman Clatworthy G. on being awarded the Jubilee medal. There is no man in the unit who has been more faithful and keen, and he has received an honour that he most richly deserves. Incidentally, perhaps no man also at Exeter will miss the cable wagon more than Sigmn Clatworthy.

We are now in the midst of training, and it is very pleasing to note the way in which everyone has settled down to the new work. If things proceed as at present, then we are in for a bumper camp ; and if the critics are expecting only elementary work from the Infantry Brigade Sections, they will probably get a very pleasant surprise. It is surprising what can be accomplished in a short period when everyone pulls his weight.

And now to camp! Now, runners, boxers, footballers, and the tug of war team, get fit. We want to win the cup outright this year.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.

Congratulations and loyal and sincere greetings to H.M. King George V. and H.M. Queen Mary on the occasion of their Silver Jubilee.

A long silence has ensued since our last contribution. We do not intend to excuse ourselves: too many people know our powers of imagination. We apologise, and state now our intention to be more regular in the future.

It is not possible to link our past with the present: too much dead ground exists, and space is limited. The following notes and observations, it is hoped, will be accepted as sufficient to bridge the gap.

Every effort is being made at present to perfect ourselves prior to camp. This year, we are to visit Aldershot. Such an event is rather terrifying, after hearing so much about the real soldiers who live there. Confidence is not lacking, however, and all ranks are determined to unite in preserving the high standard of Corps efficiency.

We welcome Mr. E. W. G. Harris as our quartermaster. He is our first Q.M., but it is hoped that the strain will not prove fatal to him.

Very reluctantly we said goodbye to R.S.M. Gilbert, who has entered civilian life after nine years with this unit. His departure is a great loss. We welcome in his stead R.S.M. White from the 4th Divisional Signals, and hope his stay will be a long and happy one. He has already proved his willingness to recompense our loss. Anyway, he is quite capable of the " double one " action. This game has many fine " pints."

Awards and Decorations.—H.M. King George V. Jubilee medal: Lieut.-Colonel F. Reid, M.C., T.D., Lieut.-Q.M. E. W. G. Harris, C.S.M. Jordan H., L/Sergt Wheeler C. G. V., and Sigmn Hatcher A. A. Territorial efficiency medal: C.S.M. Jordan H., C.Q.M.S.s Trower C. E., Dell J. and Woodman J. T., Sergeants Barry W., Stone F. and Wallis A. J., and Corpl Hancock. Congratulations to all concerned.

Promotions and Appointments.—(Note: Most of these men are still dizzy.) C.Q.M.S. White F. R. appointed A/R.S.M. Sergt Gardiner A. E., D.C.M., promoted C.S.M. of No. 3 Company. L/Sergeant (A/C.S.M.) Wales—our P.S.I. at Brighton—promoted Sergt in the Corps. C.Q.M.S. Allan J. to W.O. Class ii. (R.Q.M.S.) To be Lance/Sergeants: Corporals Burch E. E., Powning S., Jordan R. and Kemp. To be Corporals: L/Corpls Gooch-Harris and Hammond G. To be Lance/Corporals (paid): Signalmen Cherrington F. C., Hyde E. T., Ball A. E., Drake A. F. and Flint W. To be A/L/Corporals (no dough): Signalmen Harding W. A. and Thomas A. Again our congratulations to all those named.

Discharges.—A/R.S.M. Gilbert F. (almost an R.E. fitting), C.S.M. Geere C. of No. 3 Company (another old-timer, after thirteen years service with the unit), and Sergt Munt W. G. (used to soldier as far back as the horse era).

Marriages.—Sergeant Gibbs to Miss Ena May Goodman—a romance of our camp at Birling Gap in 1933.

Books We Would Like To See Published.—" Midnight at the Barrier," by Lieut. Hann ; " Canterbury Lambs," by 2/Lieut. Brett ; " Nearest the Centre," by R.S.M. Gilbert ; " Recruiting in Chiswick," by R.S.M. White. 0020.

No. 3 Company.

No, sir! We are not quite dead. In fact, we are just recovering from Easter training at Canterbury, where the 4th Divisional Signals made us very comfortable and provided all the tools for some good training. Among the said tools was the No. 1 set—a new one on us—but we were soon R.9 under the direction of Sergt Lewis and Corpl Ross.

Easter training gave us the opportunity of meeting our newly formed L Section from Southgate. This Section is pretty well up to strength, and even with many recruits looked and did well. It is undoubtedly an acquisition to No. 3 Company. J and K Sections were combined to make one complete Section for training purposes.

Saturday morning saw us on the training ground at the rear of the barracks, and Corpl Ross explained the No. 1 set and later had us working satisfactorily. We quickly mastered the password " Ovah."

On the Sunday we ran a short scheme under the able guidance of Captain Gilbert, making use of the new cable layers, which greatly improved our work.

Monday morning was spent in cleaning and retrieving stores. We were quite lost when entering the neat and tidy stores at Canterbury. Does Mr. Harris know how it is done? We departed at mid-day.

P.S.—Why do those Regular horses object so much to Territorial riders?

NICK.

L Section.

A Signal unit has recently been recruited exclusively from the employees of the Southgate factory of Standard Telephones and Cables, Limited. The management has loaned the unit a building in the factory grounds to serve as the orderly room, common room and store ; and training is further facilitated by the use of extensive sports grounds, which enable comparatively comprehensive signal schemes to be carried out on the spot. At the moment, the unit constitutes the L Section of the 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

During the Jubilee celebrations, the unit was formally inspected by the local municipal authorities, and afterwards gave a demonstration to the general public in Oakhill Park of the setting up and operation of a mobile Brigade signal office working to the Battalions and an adjacent Brigade, and back to the Division. Alternative channels of flag, lamp, telephone and wireless signalling were used.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

General.—On the 20th May, the G.O.C. 47th (2nd London) Division (Major-General C. G. Liddell, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.) visited our headquarters and presented the Silver Jubilee and efficiency medals to those officers and other ranks of the T.A. and S.R. mentioned in our notes last month. He afterwards inspected the unit and spoke to several of us, asking about our service and civil employment.

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies carried out a week-end training in the vicinity of Chertsey on the 25th/26th May. Owing to the weather being more summery then than this " flaming June " has been

up to the time of compiling these notes, the training was carried out in ideal conditions. We took our cable and telephone wagons, our C sets, and (of course) a few D.R.s. The Cable and Telephone Sections did quite a lot of standing wagon drill (particularly for the benefit of the several recruits who have recently been posted to Sections), laying short lines, and setting up offices. The C sets were kept very busy, as also were the D.R.s. Altogether a most enjoyable and instructive week-end was spent. About eighty officers and other ranks attended.

Officers.—Major H. C. L. Humphreys, T.D., is to be congratulated on the award of the Territorial efficiency decoration.

The officers' Sunday rides are still as popular as ever. The standard of equitation has greatly improved as a consequence.

Sergeants Mess.—The Murphy snooker handicap cup has been won by the 47th Divisional Signals O.C.A.

It is with much regret that we have to report the departure of P.S.I. Sgt Tiny Joyce, D.C.M., on his completion of twenty-three years service. We are, however, very glad to know that he has secured good employment, and sincerely trust that he will have a successful career.

We take this opportunity of extending the hand of welcome to Sergt Evelyn R. R., who has joined us from the 1st Divl Signals as P.S.I. vice Sergt Joyce. We earnestly hope that his stay will be a very happy one. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Training.—Still another fortnight or so to go before recruiting closes. The number of enlistments has beaten all records for the past fourteen years, and this in spite of the very high standard demanded. This welcome state of affairs is probably accounted for by the fact that a great majority of the recruits have been introduced by serving members themselves, which in its turn is bound to strengthen esprit de corps and be conducive to good team work.

No. 1 Company held a week-end camp at Earlswood on the 1st and 2nd June. A novel feature was a night tactical scheme which, on the whole, worked very smoothly and proved very instructive. A large amount of traffic was handled by line, wireless and despatch riders. The latter must have found it especially interesting, as most of them had only joined this year. A more complicated scheme was worked out on the following day.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Bennett G. G. We hope his gee-gee will not let him down on his appointment. There have also been a number of promotions among the junior ranks. They are too numerous to mention in detail, but to one and all we offer our congratulations.

Gazetted.—We welcome two new officers to this unit: 2/Lieut J. W. E. Fellows, who has just been gazetted, and 2/Lieut P. G. M. Lee, transferred from the 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signals.

Jubilee Medal.—His Majesty's Silver Jubilee medals allotted to this unit have been distributed as follows. Officers: Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, commanding officer, and Lieut.-Q.M. B. J. Rowe, M.M. Other ranks: C.S.M. Langham W. H. and Sigmn Meredith J. W., D.C.M.

Births.—To Captain and Mrs. E. A. James, at 19 Bentinck Street, London, W.1, a daughter (Diana). We tender to Captain and Mrs. James our sincerest congratulations.

No. 1 Company Entertainment.—On Thursday 6th June the Company assembled in the drill hall for the annual concert. C.S.M. Realf was in the chair, and the officers present were Captain F. E. B. Jones (O.C.), Captain Simpson, and Messrs. Collins, Chatterley, Souter and Malins. Mr. Malins was in charge of the concert arrangements and must be heartily congratulated upon the excellent results.

The programme was opened by Sigmn Bill T. H. (a newly enlisted D.R.) with a song at the piano entitled "Sunday School Stories." He was followed by a number of other artistes. The Brothers Henn gave us some solo and double comedy numbers. Mr. Clough then obliged with several excellent songs, including "Mother Macree" and "Passing by." Mr. Ernie Garner (the Staffordshire comedian of B.B.C. fame) gave us some of his amusing Black Country yarns in his inimitable style. Messrs. Workman and West produced a clever little burlesque sketch about an over-sentimental crook and a toothless policeman with a passion for nuts. Mr.West also rendered the song "Trumpeter." Corpl James S. H. livened up the programme with some amusing extemporised verses and a story. Mr. Mallabond, the energetic and versatile pianist, was kept very busy throughout the evening. Beer and sandwiches were supplied during the interval.

During the evening the Company commander made a short speech, in which he commented on the excellent enlistment returns and urged all members to make a last-minute effort to render this year's recruiting figures the highest on record. He emphasised this point by relating a story concerning a famous film star (noted for her figure and pithy sayings) and her adventure with some elephants in Corporation Street. He added that he had heard a great number of very flattering and quite unsolicited comments on the unit's turn-out for the Jubilee parade.

The evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem, led by Mr. West (no relation to the above quoted film star).

Interviews with Famous Men.—No. 4: Doctor Bromulas (whom God preserve!) of Hall Green, the eminent exponent of culinary and gastronomical arts.

Having received instructions to find the eminent man's laboratory, I turned my steps unerringly in the direction from which (my senses told me) came the exquisite aroma pervading the noonday air. Presently I came upon a group of learned-looking individuals clad in spotless white (?) busying themselves around an assortment of weird and scientific apparatus, from which proceeded dense and acrid fumes accompanied by loud sizzling noises.

On my asking for the Professor, one of the staff vanished, presently to reappear, accompanied by a sun-tanned man of dazzling beauty whom I had no difficulty in recognising as my quarry. To my amazement, he replied to my polite greeting in a familiar tone: "Hullo, Tiny! is it cold up there?" I explained my mission, craving his indulgence since my visit was of a serious nature and did not include the exchange of pleasantries, and asked for his views on the modern tendency toward mechanisation. He told me that the matter had not escaped his attention, and he was taking steps to bring his own science into line.

He was experimenting with what he called his mechanical sausage, made of discarded cycle inner tubes stuffed with sponge rubber obtained from Messrs. Frankenburg's rubber emporium, which possessed very high vitamin contents and was in addition practically indestructible, as it could not be eaten. He had also made experiments upon his own motor cycle with bacon fat as an upper cylinder lubricant, with very promising results.

He said, also, that he was a firm believer in the axiom that an army marches on its stomach, and to this end it was his constant aim to supply the aforementioned with ballast sufficiently resisting to withstand the passage even of a tank. He indicated to me a dish he had just prepared. He called it plum duff, and it approximated in outward appearance to Lyons' swiss roll; but when tested by blows with a heavy sledge hammer, it rebounded to a height of no less than six feet.

He then showed me some peas, which he assured me would stand a load of ten tons and could in emergency be used as ball bearings.

Turning to more personal matters, I discovered that his favourite hobby was archery, but he could also turn his hand to needlework and embroidery.

At this point, there was a loud splutter from one of his retorts, followed by a vile smell of burning. This caused my host to utter a loud cry of dismay which sounded like "My rice pudding!" and he disappeared from my sight in a thick cloud of black smoke.

Round and About.—Heard at the M.O.'s inspection of recruits. M.O.: "Well, my lad; have you ever had any illness?" Recruit: "No, sir!" M.O.: "What! never been bad?" Recruit: "Oh, yes, sir. Once I was bad twice!"

Heard on the Square.—P.S.I. (after taking great pains to explain the details of forming fours to a very raw squad): "Now, has everybody got that? Anyone want to ask any questions?" Recruit: "Yes, sir. When do we get our uniforms, sir?"

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—However fertile the brain of a WIRE scribe might be, you will notice, if you study the species closely, that as note time approaches he begins to wear a worried look, which gets pathetic as time goes on. The motto of that gallant but despised brotherhood should be " It's the first forty words that are the hardest," for it is the opening sentence each month that slowly wears away his intellect, like water on a stone—very like it, in fact.

Annual training approaches rapidly, and all ranks are at present hard at it. The general efficiency of the unit will be severely tested at the week-end camp on the 22nd/23rd June, when there will be an exercise set by the G.S.O.2 (49th Division). Meanwhile, A, B, D and C Sections spent a week-end under canvas at Arthington on the 1st and 2nd June, while about fifty of the recruits, under R.S.M. Coffin and Sergeants Bedford and Blackwell, went through four days training at Whitsuntide, together with a Cable Detachment under Sergt Lee, on the same camping ground. The weather was not very good on either occasion, and it is to be hoped that it will be more kind on the big scheme.

Our New Colonel-in-Chief.—This unit has peculiar pride in sharing the high honour and great pleaure associated with the appointment of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, for we are the nearest Signal unit to Her Royal Highness' Yorkshire home at Harewood, and her frequent visits to Leeds will have an added interest for all of us. Lady Kenyon-Slaney, lady-in-waiting, wrote to Colonel W. Boyle (our hon. colonel) conveying the thanks of the Princess for good wishes from the unit, and assuring us that Her Royal Highness is now recovering from the effects of her recent operation.

Discharge.—It is with great regret that we announce that C.S.M. Catherall W. was discharged on 10/5/35 on the termination of his very long and valuable engagement with the unit. For many years he had No. 2 Company under his wing, and his cheery smile will not only be missed by the members of his own Company, but by all ranks. We hope he will not sever his connection with the Mess, where he is always welcome.

Promotion Examinations.—Congratulations to 2/Lieut. C. F. Adams, of No. 205 M.A. Signal Section, on having passed an examination in part two (written) of Certificate "A" (O.T.C.) held on the 5th March.

Promotions and Appointments.—More congratulations to the undermentioned. May they find life's way strewn with roses. Promoted Sergeants: Lance-Sergeants Sellers J. W., Greenwood F. S., Webb R. J. S. and Jackman A. Appointed L/Sergeants: Corporals Edson A., Gartland J., Landy J. T. and Hall J. W. Promoted Corporals: L/Corporals Tolhurst F., Wilson G., Jones W. R. and Plunkett J. P. Appointed Lance-Corporals: Signalmen Allen H., Kerfoot E., Vickers R., Appleyard G., Missett J. and Barnes A. All with effect from 16/5/35.

The following have been selected to be placed in the lance-corporal pool, and are appointed U/L/Corporals: Signalmen Mason A., Johnson L., Nicholson J., Towers A. and Buckle J.

We Would Like to Know.—Who was the recruit who was so thirsty that he emptied the reservoir at Arthington ? It's a good job he doesn't drink beer.

Who pinches all the carbon paper after schemes ? Whoever it is, he must have a terrific stock at home to gloat over on stormy nights.

The Glad Hand.—To the 46th (North Midland) Divl Signals, whom we look forward to meeting in Redcar. We are tuning up and feel very competitive. The Sergeants Mess concert party had a topping rehearsal at Arthington. So roll on, Redcar.

TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—Section training is now in full swing, and although the bad weather has somewhat retarded our outdoor activities, we are hoping that an anti-cyclone will travel north and arrive in time for our week-end camp, which takes place at the end of the month.

The advanced recruits have at last realised their ambitions by being passed out on the 4th June. Our advice to them, now they have completed their recruit training, is to carry on the good work.

Exercise at Edzell.—A very successful tactical exercise without troops was carried out by the officers at Edzell during the week-end, 24th to 26th May. Only one or two officers were absent, and all were glad to see the D.C.S.O. (Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D.) who appeared to thoroughly enjoy himself.

The exercise consisted of two parts. The first was an appreciation of the signal problems of the Divisional exercise held at Gleneagles a fortnight before. The second comprised practical cable laying from hand barrows, and the subsequent erection and manning of signal offices at Rear Division, H.Q. Division and two Brigades.

After dinner on Friday evening, many knotty problems affecting camp and general administration were discussed at considerable length. The first part of the exercise was carried out on Saturday from 9 a.m. until early afternoon.

After tea a most enjoyable golf match was held in the form of a two-ball foursome competition, and judging from the satisfaction expressed by everyone, the standard of play must have been high. The winners were as follows. Handicap, Major T. P. E. Murray and Lieut. A. Fraser. Bogey, Lieutenants D. J. Bogie and J. J. Donald. Consolation, Captain R. B. Williamson and Lieut. T. A. Stewart. Hidden prize, Captains A. T. Wood and J. W. Levack.

In the evening, after dinner—the consolation items being consumed with amazing rapidity—a certain amount of physical exercise was indulged in. The D.C.S.O. proved himself an expert at hoppy bumpy. Mr. Donald's wardrobe suffered considerably from cock fighting and the M.O. complained of various contusions resulting, indirectly, from an encounter with Captain Williamson. Considering the vigour with which the sports were pursued, everyone was surprised when the barrack damages amounted to the paltry sum of £1. It has been noted, for Mr. Bogie's information and future action, that glass-topped cane tables are unsuitable platforms for the delivery of speeches, especially when approached at the canter.

On Sunday morning the practical part of the scheme was accomplished. It was a joy to behold officers of all shapes, sizes and patterns, and embellished with telephones, belts, pliers, spun yarn and jack knives. Indeed, it was agreed that one Company commander required nothing more than a butterfly net and a small jar of poison to complete an outfit worthy of the pencil of a Bateman. His adventures with a bicycle and a crook stick were a joy to behold.

Work was carried out magnificently. It appears that boiler suits were quite the wrong type of garb for the extreme heat of the day. Captain A. H. Reid's efforts as a Cable Detachment commander brought him to the verge of apoplexy. His detachment was never observed working except at the double. His skill with the long crook stick, high above the ground amid the leafy branches of beech trees, evoked reminiscences of Tarzan. When not so engaged, he exhausted himself on a bicycle as a despatch rider.

Early in the exercise, things were nearly brought to naught through lack of ink for the office stamp at Rear Division. It was thought that this technical error brought forth undue comment on the part of the staff in the form of private telephone messages to the superintendent. Crank case oil was about to be tried as a substitute, when the ink supply suddenly materialised by runner sent by the D.C.S.O. The situation was saved.

The exercise finished at 11.45 hours, and by lunch time all had returned to Edzell, in spite of the mysterious disappearance of a long crook stick and one telegraph pole. All are agreed that the exercise was very instructive, and one of the most successful carried out by the officers.

Corps Dinner.—We were very interested to hear from the C.O. of his journey to London, visiting the City of London Signals at their palatial drill hall in Atkins Road, and having us represented (for the first time) at the Corps dinner in the Junior United Service Club. We have not heard yet what big business the various C.O.s were discussing at their informal chat while they

were the guests of Colonels Denison Pender and Ozanne, whose hospitality is already well known in the Corps. We wonder if they have found a solution to the vexed problem of allocating the very scarce and much prized issue of Jubilee medals.

At the Corps dinner our Colonel-Commandant, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, was a most genial and charming chairman. It is many years since he has visited us in the wilds of Scotland, but we are not forgotten, and we welcome the kind message he sent us.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Section training is continuing and running smoothly though our outdoor activities have been seriously hampered by the queer behaviour of the i/c weather, who has issued us with a March variety practically all through May and June. However, the B.B.C. announcer assures us that bright periods are on the way, when every effort will be made to pick up the lost ground.

We hope to hold our Company week-end exercise on the 23rd June. We are looking forward to a successful scheme, and trust we shall be favoured with bright weather and a good attendance.

The recruits proceeded to the open range on Tuesday last to fire their annual musketry, and though once again the weather clerk was most unkind, a very successful result was obtained.

Salaams.—These are offered to the following on their advancing one more step up the ladder of fame: Sergeants Miller, Beveridge and Todd, L/Sergeants Harper and Forster, and Corporals Given, Kay and Peebles. Best wishes also to L/Corporals Nash and McEwan on joining that happy band.

Annual Camp.—A month from now and we shall be there. We are looking forward to the re-union with Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, and a little healthy rivalry when the competitions between Companies take place. One can always tell that annual camp is nigh when the pay sergeant can be seen strolling about with his golf clubs and smile complete.

General.—Excuses are offered for the brevity of notes from this Company for this issue, but nothing startling has happened lately to write about. As the next issue will be just prior to camp, we are reserving our special energies for that. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Recruiting has brightened up during the past month, and we are now only a few men under strength. Recruit training is well advanced, and we have already spotted a few likely lads for the Company drill squad. Section training is in full swing, and members attending are showing a keen interest in the work carried out. Our new quarters, although only temporary pending alterations, have proved of great assistance to us, not to mention the time saved in erecting and dismantling lines, instruments, etc.

The annual signal exercise took place on the 19th May to the benefit of all who attended. Weather conditions were ideal, although one n.c.o. complained of the draught and said it was cold enough for a pair of fur-lined braces (you picked a windy spot, Willy). An amusing incident occurred when Captain George (Gordon Highlanders, T.A.) officiating as Brigade-Major, sent a "signal" message and moved our left battalion out into the blue. This caused a controversy among the n.c.o.s as to what orders such a Staff officer could give to Signal personnel, etc.

Colonel E. B. Reid visited us during the day and tested our abilities with a prefix message. Some of the operators are still looking for the prefix! However, judging by the short talk to all ranks at the termination of the exercise, the C.O. was well pleased with all he saw.

Commission.—We welcome 2/Lieut. D. L. Campbell to the Company.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl English and three signalmen who successfully passed the Trade Board. FIFESIGS.

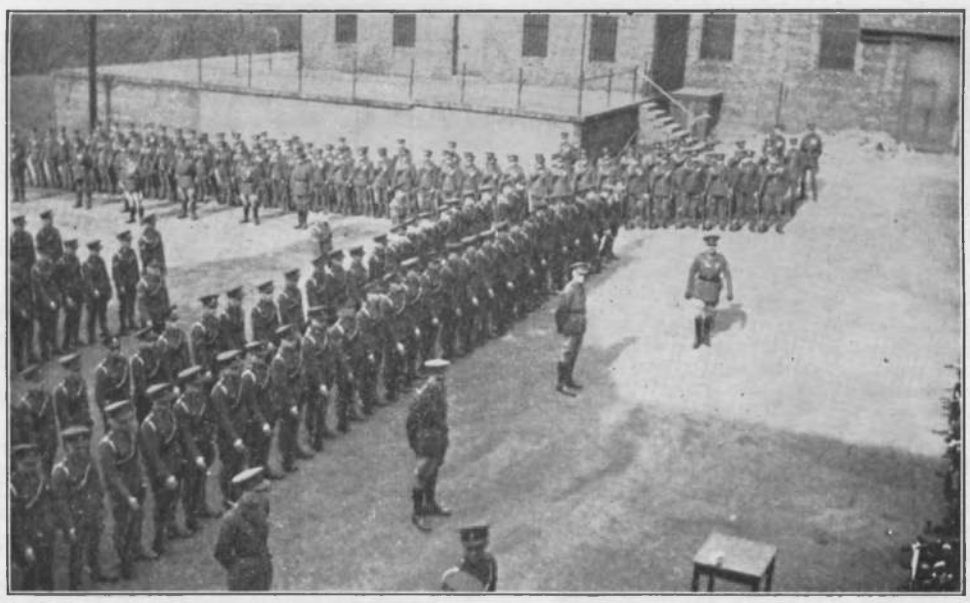
52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Church Parade.—The Lowland Signal units made a very fine show at the Divisional church parade on the 2nd June. After taking the salute from Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., the units proceeded to St. Andrew's Hall. The R.C. contingent, commanded by Major P. McGreechin, M.C., proceeded to St. Patrick's Church. It was most encouraging to note the splendid turn out and appearance of our Territorial youngsters. The S.R. attendance was most satisfactory. A splendidly served tea awaited us on our return to headquarters. The band deserves great credit for its splendid performance. The excellent marching of the units was due in no small measure to Pipe-Major Ritchie and his men. The Divisional church parade is surely becoming an attractive feature. The enthusiasm with which this event is being taken up by all ranks must be most pleasing to the commanding officer.

The Man o' Beith.—It is with great pleasure that we welcome to our midst C.Q.M.S. Brandon J. G., who has been appointed R.S.M. of our units. We are grateful that the powers that be have seen fit to appoint a Scot to fill this important position at the Scottish Mecca of the Corps.



The 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals on Church Parade.

Presentation of Medals to Members of the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Come men frae a' the airts and parts,
Frae London, Wales and Meath ;
Gie me that man abin them a',
The bold braw man o' Beith!

Honours Even.—The allocation of the Jubilee medals has given much satisfaction to all ranks. Long and faithful service would appear to have been the determinating factor. Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson, our commanding officer, who enlisted in the Lowland units as a driver, richly deserves the honour. Major G. W. Cumming, our S.R. commander, with many years of distinguished Territorial service, is well worthy the award. No happier choice could have been made than C.S.M. Haggart J. and C.Q.M.S. Maxwell W., who have given long years of unstinted and excellent service. The worth of Corpl Mackenzie W. E. and Sigmn Cassels W. is known to all of us. We would also congratulate Sergt McKay J., L/Sergt Magarry T. and Corporal McDonald G. on the award of the efficiency medal.

Murphy Mhor.—Murphy Mhor (which, being translated, means Murphy the Great) was deputed to sojourn for three days and three nights with the 4/5th Seaforths in far-off Ross-shire. No more enthusiastic naturalised Scotsman could have been chosen for this mission than our good friend Donald Spud Mackenzie Murphy. It is now the kilt and claymore for Murphy Mhor. He swears that Gaelic is his mother tongue. Cattle raiding and clan feuds have no attraction for Donald Macspud. Give him Scotland symbolised in a bottle. Shades of Rob Roy!

Sergeants Mess.—The pre-camp meeting, one of the most important of the year, was largely attended. Arrangements were completed for the camps to be held in Fifeshire, Yorkshire and at Aldershot. Everything points to the Mess being financially sound and prosperous.

Camps and Classes.—The Dechmont camp proved a big draw. There was no lack of volunteers for this outing, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. A course of refresher classes is being organised for the benefit of those who aspire to higher things and higher rates of pay before the end of the annual training camps.

Curtis, Hoylands, Savage, Tracy.—If this should catch the eye of any of those four worthies, a note to the WIRE correspondent at Glasgow will do much to satisfy enquirers as to the well being and whereabouts of the absent ones.

Schofield Scare.—We are able to state that the venerable Schofield is not to leave us for the position of baggage man at Elstree or principal photographer at Hollywood. He is being retained as our chief cinematographer, at enormous expense.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

General.—Training is now in full swing, and the attendances on drill nights are very encouraging. Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., C.S.O. Western Command, visited the unit on the 27th May and saw the training in progress.

Compliments on the appearance of the unit during the visit of the Prince of Wales to Cardiff continue to pour in, and it is rumoured that the quartermaster is obtaining replacements for buttons which have flown off proud chests. It is to be hoped, however, that the T.A. Association clothing stores will not be staggered by requests for outsizes in headgear.

Shooting.—The seventy-first annual prize meeting of the Glamorgan Rifle Association was held at Porthcawl on Whit Sunday, with the result that the Victory shield passed out of our care for at least one year.

The shield, which was ours in 1932 and 1934, was won by the 246th Company R.E. with a score of 472, whilst our No. 2 Company took fifth place with 444. This year's scores are well below the figure of 490 with which No. 2 Company won the shield last year. However, we congratulate the Sappers on their success.

A prize given by an anonymous donor was offered for the highest scorer in the Signal team, and this was won by Sergt Milton of No. 2 Company.

The under-mentioned were in the list of individual prize winners. R.S.M. McCormick R., Sergeants Pinnel W. C., Milton G., Doyle A. E., Leyshon A. F., Brundell A. and Hawkins R. C., Corpl Lehane G. A. and Sigmn Robinson G. G. Sergeant Milton tied for first place in the trained men's competition.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Captain A. E. Johnson on attaining that rank. Keen enthusiasm and patience is at last rewarded.

Congratulations also to the under-mentioned other ranks who have recently received well merited rewards in the shape of promotion. Sergt Bolton C. E., L/Sergeants Cox E. E. and Merchant F. A., Corpl Fenton B. G. and L/Cpl Thomas C. E. W.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Brevet-Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P. (D.C.S.O. Western Command, and for many years our commanding officer) on being awarded the Territorial efficiency decoration. THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—The accompanying photograph shows the winner and runner-up in the so-called flying billiards handicap—flying, I expect, because it only took six months to secure a result! The winner (holding the cup) is L/Corpl Pond of No. 2 Company, and the runner-up is Sigmn Hurley, also of No. 2. But wait! We of No. 1 have a mention—that of third, or rather, the winner of the two losing semi-finalists—in Sigmn Butcher. The cup and other prizes were presented to the winners by the P.R.I., Lieut. C. Nettleship, who kindly made a special effort to be present on the occasion. The heartiest of congratulations to the prize winners. But for goodness' sake, don't keep us in such suspense over the handicap which is now about to commence.

[Photo by Jerome Ltd.]

Training.—Each drill evening brings to some a new thrill! I am referring to the cable and tele wagons which are trailed behind a lorry to a mystery spot somewhere in the vicinity of Wanstead Flats. These wagons are preceded by either one or two lorries almost overloaded with wireless sets and their personnel. Anyway, judging by the keen competition among the lads to go out, the schemes performed must be very enjoyable, and everyone knows the value of practical work being done.

We shall soon be in the throes of musketry training. Our O.C. is expecting much of his Company this year; in fact, no less than the lifting of the musketry cup will satisfy him. So, No. 1, it's up to you.

This Whitsun we are holding a camp in the vicinity of Southend. A unit scheme is being practised, and if the weather holds fine, we shall enjoy the whole time as much as B Cable Section did their week-end camp on the 25th and 26th May. This, as B Cable Section personnel know, was one hundred per cent!

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergt Hooker J. and Corpl Scott A. on attaining those ranks. Beware of the dice now, Jim, and don't let 'em rook you. This is a reminder that a new game (to you) awaits your pleasure, and it's one in which beginners' luck predominates. So go to it! ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—Company and Section training is now in full swing, and the members of the Company are getting down to it in earnest prior to annual training. Schemes are being carried out on drill evenings, and all ranks are taking the keenest interest in these; and judging from results obtained, the paid evening classes were beneficial to all concerned.

A week-end scheme was held in the vicinity of Hainault Forest on the 25th and 26th May. From a Signal point of view, the scheme was a great success, and everyone is to be congratulated on the excellent work put in. The outstanding feature of the scheme was the manner in which the recruits got down to their respective jobs. This is very encouraging, as it indicates that the right spirit is there, and the only thing lacking now is experience. All ranks thoroughly enjoyed the few leisure hours placed at their disposal, and on returning to headquarters many were the enquiries regarding the three days Whitsun scheme which is being held at Southend on the 8th, 9th and 10th June.

Social.—At last, the billiards tournament has concluded, the results being as follows:—Winner, L/Corpl Pond W. R. (No. 2 Company); runner-up, Sigmn Hurley J. (No. 2); best semi-finalist, Sigmn Butcher W. (No. 1). We offer our congratulations to the successful competitors. Well done!

Courses.—Signalman Durham E. attended No. 464 course in sanitary duties at the Army School of Hygiene, Aldershot, from the 12th to the 25th May. General proficiency attained in the subject. Passed (distinguished). Congratulations. Well done! TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—In spite of the adverse weather that Southend has been contending with during the last few weeks, we have been able to get in a lot of outdoor training with good results.

On the 18th and 19th May the Company proceeded to Hullbridge for their second week-end camp of the season. The arrangements went smoothly under the wise supervision of our able "Q," and Sunday morning found both the Section and the School as busy as as bees. The frequent cries of "Check!" showed that some useful practice was being obtained, and that perhaps explains why our orderlies were so tired at the end of the day's work. The day ended with a downpour of rain, which failed to damp the spirits of those left for the last lorry load. May we suggest, however, that a different song from "Roll along, covered wagon" be selected for the next trip.

Whitsun Camp.—This takes place at Hullbridge from the 8th to the 10th June, and from the look of the ground we should have a busy and enjoyable time. We learn that our Stratford friends are coming down to see us during this period. We must leave a couple of lawn mowers about, in the hope that they will take the hint. However, we hope that they, as well as ourselves, will have an enjoyable time.

Discharges.—At last. One cat. R.I.P.

Believe It or Not.—The quartermaster issued *all* the blankets, including *his own*. (S'fact.) THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

General.—I must mention one thing which I forgot in my last issue of notes. On Saturday 4th May the Detachment did great work during the Jubilee air display. We were asked to supply telephone communication between different points on the landing ground. We laid out five miles of cable and rigged up an exchange (ten-line cordless) in a tent quite near the control tower. Opening up at 10 a.m., the good work was carried on until 10 p.m. with only one casualty. An aeroplane thought it could use our cable for an aerial or summit. Anyway, it tried to go up with some of it. Later in the day, we found the telephone which was attached with its innards outards.

Week-end Camp.—On the 18th May the Section proceeded to Great Staughton. The place was so great that the lorry missed it and landed up in a ditch. This, by the way, happened the evening before, when the lorry was taking some stores out to lighten the load on the Saturday. The lorry missed Great Staughton at 7.30 p.m., missed a corner at 7.31 p.m., missed a telegraph pole at 7.31 and a bit p.m., and hit the dust with a zonk almost at the same time. The O.C. immediately took command (he was *not* driving), rallied the lads around him, and yelled "Heave!" They heaved; but, dear reader, have you ever tried to heave a three ton lorry out of a ditch? The lorry was still

The Bedford Detachment, 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals, at the local Jubilee Parade.

there at 4 a.m. Yes, sir, that lorry was sure some moke! The parade for Saturday was ordered for 2.15 p.m. ; and, be'ieve me, the lorry was there to the tick. The training carried out during the week-end was valuable. [A point to note. Will the O.C. kindly choose a week-end when it does not rain ?]

Jubilee Parade.—As promised in my last issue, here is the photo of the unit marching past the Lord-Lieutenant of the County.

Social.—Nil to date, but wait until the 29th June, when we will again hold a social evening combined with the R.E.s. The sausages are already ordered.

Habit.—I've been sitting here for two hours looking at the word "ordered." I have now decided to finish. TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

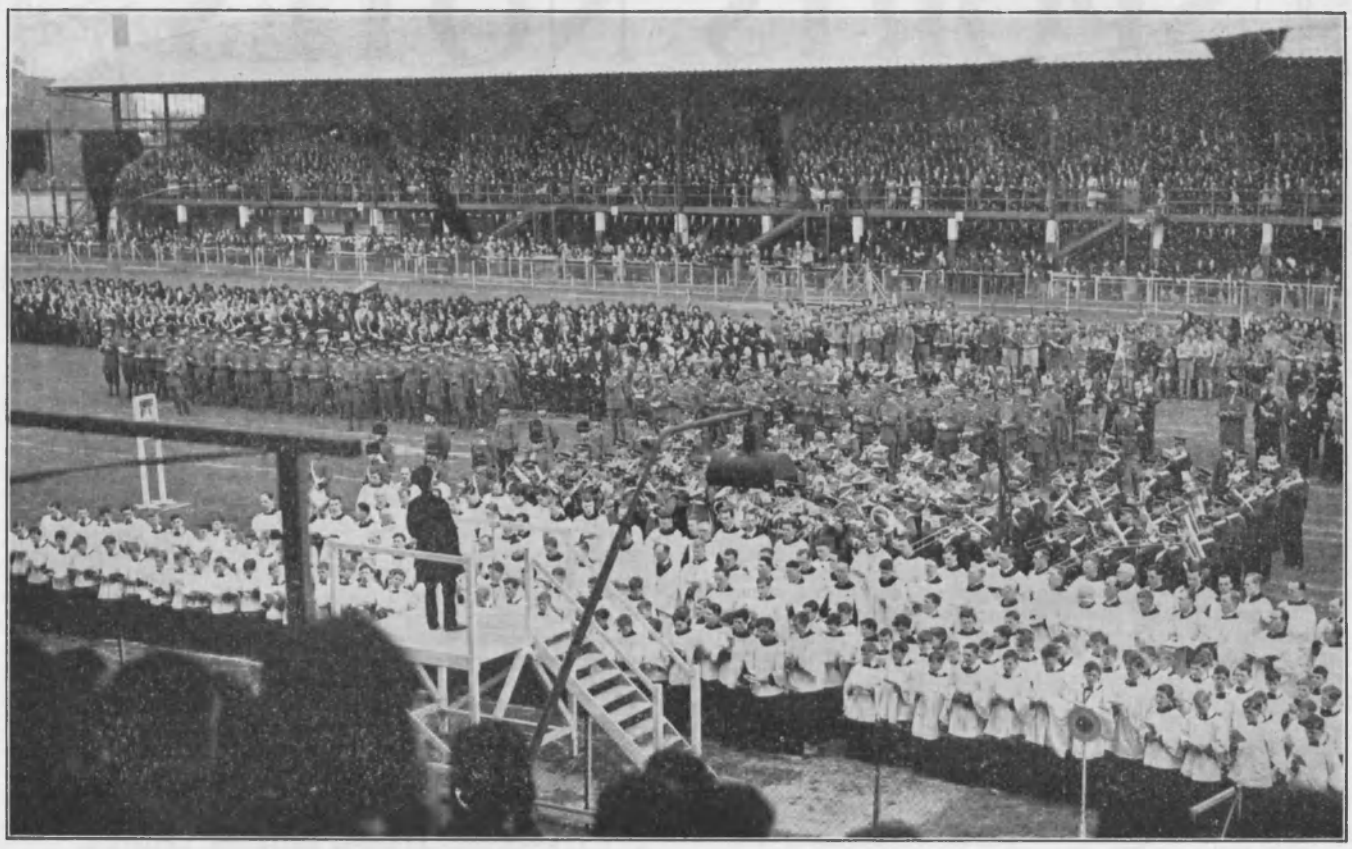
38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7.

I take back all I have thought or said detrimental to the Fullerphone. On the 1st and 2nd June we held a week-end scheme in the Kirkby district. That everything went swimmingly was proved by the absence of the intensive "strafing" usually practised by the directing staff to keep themselves in form and to uphold their vanity. Of course, excluded from these peaceful scenes of harmony are the unfortunate misguided signalmasters, who get it in the neck whatever happens! A signalmaster is to the directing staff what a flower is to a bee. They surround him, fasten on to him, leave him exhausted after sucking his brain dry, and then, staggering slightly (although this becomes more pronounced as evening shadows fall) reel off to disgorge their honey in some dive—I mean hive, where their wants are understood and attended to by a queen bee ensconced in her cell.

The officers had their meals in congenial surroundings at the Railway Inn at Kirkby, while the men fed in bivouac camp in the field adjoining. The scene in the dining room of the inn at lunch time on Sunday was gay. Everyone there was jolly ; and a good lunch was half finished. Suddenly were heard hesitating footsteps, and in stumbled those dashed outsiders, the signalmasters. These latter snatched a bite or two and then, spurred on by the significant glances at their watches by the directing staff and by the sneers of their Company commanders, they groped their way out and departed in an effort to open up again by the time required.

I started these notes with a word of praise for the Fullerphone. Let me say now that these instruments behaved splendidly, enabling us to have perfect line communication all the

City of London Signals lining the Streets for the Jubilee Procession, 6th May, 1935.
[*"The Times" Copyright Photograph*]



Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at Wandsworth Stadium.
Detachment of City of London Signals, including trumpeters in full dress, in the centre.

time. With the W/T also working well, you might think that the signalmasters' and superintendents' jobs would be sinecures. But then, of course, you have not met our directing staff. I did wish that Colonel Llewellyn had been present on this scheme. I know he would have been delighted to see his pet instrument covering itself with glory. FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

Jubilee Thanksgiving Service.—2/Lieut. J. W. Morgan and a detachment of the City of London Signals, including the trumpeters in full dress, attended this parade service at the Wandsworth Stadium on Sunday 12th May. The address was given by the Bishop of Southwark. A photograph of the function, with the detachment of the City of London Signals prominent in the foreground, was published in *The Daily Sketch*, by whose courtesy it is reproduced with these notes.

Week-end Schemes.—These are now in full swing at Compton and Latimer, and are being well attended by all ranks of the Companies.

Despatch Riders.—As from the 1st May 1935, these have been trained as a complete Section under Lieut. S. J. Lovegrove. Aided and abetted by C.S.M. Angell, they have already started the preparation of a display. We hear of great doings, including all manner of figure and position riding.

Recruiting Week.—In accordance with the procedure already described in these notes, we rented a shop in Upper Tooting Road from the 13th to 18th May, set out the window with various forms of equipment (sporting and otherwise), and awaited developments. These considerably exceeded our anticipations. There were a very large number of enquirers, all of whom were most interested in the work of the unit, and no less than thirty recruits were obtained as a direct result of this.

We were not so lucky with a similar venture in Streatham High Road a fortnight later. Although every endeavour was made to interest enquirers, the results were comparatively meagre. Streatham is a difficult area to recruit in, but we feel that, having broken entirely fresh ground in that district and distributed a great deal of literature, satisfactory results may ensue in due course.

Meanwhile, the permanent staff, assisted by a number of T.A. n.c.o.s, are running an extra drill night to cope with the large number of men who have joined the unit since the end of the individual training season. This is a considerable task, as will be realised from the fact that while at the end of May 1934 the strength of the unit was 167, as these notes are written it is 239, and an additional twelve whose documents await approval by Records brings the total to 251. This increase of eighty-four in strength is a result of continuous hard work on the part of all concerned. It would have been much greater but that a large number of the older members of the unit are finding it increasingly difficult to make the long journey to the new headquarters.

Band.—Under the able guidance of Mr. Duys the Band is really taking shape, and we are promised the first programme of music on the occasion of the annual dinner on the 26th June.

C.O.L.S.

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION ?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on pages 302-303 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

SPORTS NOTES

Corps Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals v. Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.—Played at Woolwich on the 8th June. The Corps won by 27 runs. This is now only a one day match.

The Shop won the toss and put us in to bat. Our first tragedy was Watts. He arrived with a lot of runs in his bag, but unfortunately met a ball that never rose an inch. Lewis-Barclay and Williams batted well and made the score board look more presentable. The former was obviously a bit out of practice, but made few mistakes with the ball that wanted hitting. The Shop bowling was not impressive, but Skipwith was a good deal better when he changed ends and when the wicket started helping him. All the same, a couple of our " bowled " were out from straight full tosses.

Knowing the strength of the Shop batting, we were not very satisfied with our total, but the wicket was getting a bit patchy as it dried out, and Cole bowled very well indeed, mixing them up as only a bowler of his calibre knows how. Lewis-Barclay did his share by getting two very important wickets. At about 5.0 p.m. there were nine wickets down for 60 runs, when it rained quite hard for twenty minutes. This took all the bite out of the wicket and made it slippery for the bowlers, and with Leapman and Skipwith batting like a first wicket pair, the runs kept creeping up. It was a great pity that the Shop innings should have been brought to a finish by a misunderstanding which resulted in the two batsmen standing together in the middle of the pitch.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

Colonel G. G. Rawson c and b Skipwith	7
W. H. L. Gordon c Bryan b Wakelin	12
Captain J. A. I. Watts b Skipwith	0
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay st Hayles b Wakelin	45
E. S. Cole c Washington b Atkinson	5
P. C. Williams b Skipwith	25
L. C. Harrison b Skipwith	1
P. M. Bradley b Skipwith	0
G. Thomson b Skipwith	6
A. F. McGill b Skipwith	2
J. C. Hardy not out	7
Extras	9
Total	119

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY.

J. M. Barton b Lewis-Barclay	6
P. B. Wakelin lbw b Cole	0
J. R. Rawlence c Cole b Lewis-Barclay	2
G. V. C. Washington b Cole	5
B. R. M. Hayles c Cole b Williams	12
R. C. P. Bryan b Cole	5
M. G. McComas b Cole	4
J. F. M. Leapman not out	12
B Atkinson b Cole	0
H. F. Stanton lbw b Cole	14
P. J. T. Skipwith run out	23
Extras	9
Total	92

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Mackworth Athletics.—Congratulations to F Company, Training Battalion, on winning the above trophy ; and here's to us as runners-up. This effort was not easy. Mounted Wing and the School, who tied for third place, were close behind and sometimes even in front of us. The goodly crowds who attended the meetings were treated to some good sporting events, in spite of the fact that wretched weather attended the first meeting on the 14th May, when snow, hail, wind and rain kept the competitors and spectators blue-nosed but none the less determined. It would be monotonous to mention in detail what everybody did, because they all did so well ; but we pick out the outstanding features.

We won the pole vault in no doubtful manner. L/Corporal Vaughan was the winner at each meeting. He was ably assisted by Corpl Wilkins and Sigmn O'Neil.

Long jump. Two firsts and one second. Good going! Sergt Easton jumped well over 20 ft., and Sigmn Hall was a good second string.

High jump. Two more firsts and a second to our credit. Cpl Gibson (5 ft. 6 in.) and L/Sergt Jones (5 ft. 5 in.) did the dirty work.

The two miles. One second and two thirds make a fair reading. Signalmen Barron and Talbot ran like heroes, while Signalmen Sutton and Potter fought very well against fearful odds.

The shot. A discovery in the shape of Sigmn Morrison helped Corpl Myddleton to gain for us the second position in the final meeting. We were last at the previous one. A good pull up for . . . . . [Nosey: " You don't ' pull ' the shot, you fathead." Scribe: " I'll pull your . . . . . "]

Let's get on. Sprinters of note were Signalmen Searle, Davison and Buchanan, well mothered by L/Sergt Spearpoint, who himelf showed a clean pair of heels: he ran so fast on one occasion that he left the baton standing!

The 880 yards. Very consistent running by Corpl Bennet's squad: Signalmen McGee, Booth and Brooke. One second and two thirds reflect great credit on them, considering what they were up against.

All concerned were pleased with the performances in the other events, especially in the hurdles, where we pluckily gained third place, thanks to L/Cpl Bray and Signalmen Walker and Buirski.

L/Sergt Chadney, as the team skipper, is recommended for the job next time.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Athletics.—Since last month the Signal Training Centre athletics have held sway, and the programme included two Mackworth meetings and the S.T.C. individual championships. The competition for the Pinsent cup was held in conjunction with the individuals.

PINSENT CUP AND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.—We entered the whole of our Mackworth team for these competitions, and as we were allowed two more representatives for each event, we utilised this margin by placing our all-rounders in their respective events. This system proved very successful and we won the Pinsent cup. The following table shows the points gained by the Companies, and although it gives the impression that we won easily, it was not so, for it was possible (though hardly probable) for the Mounted Wing to have overtaken us and won by half a point in the last event of the meeting. This was the 440 yards, in which we had three representatives in the final. 2/Lieutenant Gordon ran a very fine race and won by about five yards.

Congratulations are due to the following on gaining first place in their events, and special congratulations to L/Cpl Boy Barrett on bringing off such a fine double.

Points gained by Companies.

1	F Company	68
2	Mounted Wing	53½
3	Dismounted Wing	36
4	School of Signals	27
5	E Company	27
6	D Company	8½

Individual Winners.

Boy Adams—Javelin, 134 ft. 11¼ in.
Boy Croston—Hammer, 83 ft.
L/Corpl Boy Barrett—100 yards, 10⅖ sec. ; 220 yards, 23⅗sec.
L/Sergt Harrison—Discus, 90 ft. 9¾ in.
2/Lieut. Gordon—440 yards, 55 1/10 sec. ; shot, 33 ft. 2 in.

In closing, we must add that points were obtained in every event by members of this Company.

	Hammer	Pole Vault	Javelin	Long Jump	110 Yards	Hurdles	220 Yards	440 Yards	Shot	Discus	High Jump	One Mile	880 Yards	Two Miles
First Meeting...	12	10	12	10	10	12	8	12	12	12	10	8	6	12
Second ,, ...	12	4	12	8	12	12	10	10	12	12	8	8	4	12
Third ,, ...	10	8	12	12	10	12	10	10	12	10	4	8	4	12

Totals—First Meeting, 146; Second, 136; Third, 134.

MACKWORTH SHIELD.—We succeeded in winning each Mackworth athletic meeting and, consequently, the Mackworth athletic shield. Our success was due to the way in which everyone developed the fine team spirit and strove his hardest. Special thanks are due to Lieut. T. W. Boileau for the time he has spent in training our team, and our 880 yards team for the way in which they ran, although they knew they were outclassed, and fought every inch. The following table shows the points gained by this Company in each event throughout the Mackworth meetings. The award of points was : first 12, second 10, third 8, fourth 6, fifth 4, and sixth 2.

Cricket.—Bad weather and scarlet fever have interfered to a great extent with our cricket practice. Our annual fixture with Ampleforth College had to be cancelled. The past month has seen a series of Boys Garrison Cricket Cup fixtures. It is a knock-out competition, and we entered four teams: "A" operators (with the initials A to M); " B," operators (with the initials N to W); " C," electrician fitters; " D," instrument mechanics. Five matches have been played, and two of our entries still remain in the competition. The following are the results:—

First round—"A" team v. 1st Battn The Essex Regiment won by an innings and 16 runs (Deane 47). " C " team v. East Lancashire Regiment won by an innings and 101 runs (Billett 88 not out, Murray 38). " D " team v. The Lincolnshire Regiment won by 84 runs (L/Corpl Boy Moore 28 and 42, Hawley 27).

Second round—" B " team v. The Cheshire Regiment lost by 7 runs. "A" team v. "C" team won by an innings and 62 runs.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Sporting activities have been confined to athletics and water polo. Several games of cricket have been arranged, but rain has allowed only one to take place. This resulted in a win for the R.A.M.C. by three wickets on a pitch affected by rain. Corpl Green was our top scorer—in fact, practically the only scorer—with 44. Well played, Dodge.

Water Polo.—In the Aldershot Command Water Polo Junior League, we have the honour to be runners-up, having won five, lost two and drawn one. Since our last match Sigmn Wild, our centre half, has left us for civvy life. But, fortunately, Records posted L/Corpl Kenneally to us from Egypt, so that our team should still be at good strength.

Athletics.—The inter-Company and individual athletics were held on the 16th May. An excellent day's sport was enjoyed by all. The times and distances, although not phenomenal, were good. Long damp grass on the sports field, combined with a nasty wind, probably helped to make the times slower than they might have been.

No. 2 Company walked away with the honours, providing the winner in ten of the thirteen events and winning the Company event. Five runners or jumpers got a double. Corpl Green A. H., the 100 yards and 220 yards. Sigmn Porter E., the mile and three miles. Sigmn Greenwood W. H., the high and pole jumps. Corpl Hickmott, the javelin and hammer. Corporal Jerram, the discus and shot. All those five " doublists " belonged to No. 2 Company, thereby giving them a great advantage over Nos. 1 and 3, who incidentally are smaller Companies numerically.

Athletic training is the order of the day, and our friends and rivals, the 1st and 2nd Divl Signals, will have to look to their laurels in Signals Week in July.

Athletic Results.
Tabloid Sports, 7th and 10th May.
Inter-Company and Individual, 16th May.

Individual.	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
100 yards	0 ...	8 ...	2
1 Corpl Green, 11⅘ sec.			
2 Sigmn Bowen, 11⅗ sec.			
3 Sigmn Greenwood, 11⅗ sec.			
220 yards	4 ...	6 ...	0
1 Corpl Green, 25⅘ sec.			
2 Sigmn Smith, 26 sec.			
3 L/Corpl Millichip, 26⅕ sec.			
440 yards	0 ...	3 ...	7
1 Sigmn Botting, 55⅘ sec.			
2 L/Corpl Cokayne, 57⅗ sec.			
3 Sigmn Ingram, 59⅗ sec.			
880 yards	7 ...	1 ...	2
1 Sigmn Chilcott, 2 min. 9⅗ sec.			
2 L/Corpl Grigg, 2 min. 9⅞ sec.			
3 L/Corpl Cokayne, 2 min. 20⅕ sec.			
One mile	0 ...	7 ...	3
1 Sigmn Porter, 4 min. 58⅗ sec.			
2 Sigmn Jennings, 5 min. 5¼ sec.			
3 Sigmn Kendall, 5 min. 10⅗ sec.			
Three miles	3 ...	0 ...	7
1 Sigmn Porter, 17 min. 1⅘ sec.			
2 Sigmn Jennings, 17 min. 31⅘ sec.			
3 Sigmn Aston, 17 min. 35 sec.			
High jump	2 ...	6 ..	2
1 Sigmn Greenwood, 5 ft. 1 in.			
2 Second/Lieut. Fuller, 5 ft.			
L/Corpl Wragg, 5 ft.			
L/Corpl Glover, 5 ft.			
Long jump	7 ...	2 ...	1
1 L/Corpl Milligan, 18 ft. 6 in.			
Sigmn Bowen, 18 ft. 6 in.			
3 Sigmn Chandler, 17 ft. 6 in.			
Pole Vault	0 ...	6½ ...	3½
1 Sigmn Greenwood, 8 ft. 6 in.			
2 Corporal Green, 8 ft.			
Sigmn Botting, 8 ft.			
Discus	5 ...	4 ...	1
1 Corpl Jerram, 84 ft. 8 in.			
2 Sigmn McDonald, 84 ft. 4 in.			
3 Captain Morrison, 77 ft. 2 in.			
Javelin	5 ...	4 ...	1
1 Corpl Hickmott, 123 ft. 1 in.			
2 Corpl Waghorn, 112 ft. 1 in.			
3 Sigmn Webster, 104 ft. 8 in.			
Shot	2 ...	7 ...	1
1 Corpl Jerram, 35 ft. 9½ in.			
2 L/Cpl McKeer, 33 ft. 2½ in.			
3 Sigmn Randall, 32 ft. 5½ in.			
Hammer	5 ...	4 ...	1
1 Cpl Hickmott, 94 ft. 7 in.			
2 Driver Smith, 78 ft. 4 in.			
3 Sigmn Tucker, 63 ft. 10 in.			
Total points ...	40 ...	58½ ...	31½

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Cricket Results.—v. No. 4 W/T Company, A Corps Signals, lost by 77—84 runs (C.Q.M.S. Yates 16, L/Corpl Mohrstadt five for 9); v. A Corps Signals, lost by 19—71 runs (Sigmn Williams six for 24); v. No. 1 Company, R.A.M.C. won by 67 for three —20 (Sigmn Williams 45, and four for 8; L/Corpl Mohrstadt three for 8; L/Sergt Stanley two for 0).

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.—The weather down in this part of the country has of late been more conducive to hockey and football than to cricket. Here are the results of the few matches that we have played to date.

v. F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, lost by 24 runs
*v. 3rd K.O. Hussars, won by 55 runs
v. Milton C.C. lost by 72 runs
v. D.C.R.E. Staff, won by seven wickets and 75 runs
v. E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, lost by 47 runs
*v. 3rd Divisional Signals, drawn (scores below)
v. A Company, 1st Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, won by 34 runs
*v. R.A.O.C. lost by seven wickets

*Combined Signals team.

TANK BRIGADE SIGNALS.

Sigmn Nicholas c Jerram b Marsh	1
Sigmn Cassidy lbw Law	32
Sigmn Smith b Law	90
Major Mathews b Law	9
Corpl Warman b Marsh	5
Sergt Honnor c Warr b Reedman	6
Capt Knight not out	9
Lieut Gordon not out	3
Extras	10
Total for six wickets (declared)	165

3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.

Mitchell b Warman	5
Burrell c Gordon b Smith	1
Law b Smith	4
Reedman b Smith	1
Jerram b Warman	7
Lieut. Harrison b Smith	41
Lieut. Pearce c Cassidy b Honnor	20
Marsh c Cassidy b Nicholas	29
Morris b Nicholas	3
Warr not out	2
R.S.M. Harrison not out	0
Extras	13
Total for nine wickets	126

C Section, Tank Brigade Signals, Lydd.

Pass Ball.—On the 13th May we were invited to play No. 3 Section of the Royal Tank Corps in an inter-Section pass ball competition. Most of us had never seen it played, but we got dug in, and although the score against us was 4—0, the Tanks were extended all the way. A little practice is all we want.

Hockey.—This was an arranged friendly game, and as our Section consists of just eleven men, everyone turned out. Both teams were evenly matched, and from the start it was a ding-dong struggle. Eventually, we got away quickly and L/Corpl Galbraith finished a nice solo effort with a goal. Two minutes later the Tanks scored to even matters at half time. The second half started, much the same as the first, with end to end fighting. L/Corpl Galbraith again snatched a chance to score. The Tanks were not to be denied, however, and soon came along to score a second for themselves. Five minutes to go with the score at two all. We went as hard as we could for the winning goal, but the Tank defence held out. On the whole, the score justified the merits of both teams, with perhaps a shade more balance in ours. The team we played was one selected from B Company. More next time.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—The unit sports were held on the 21st and 22nd May in dry but cold windy weather. Five new performers were discovered in Signalmen West (440 and 880 yards), Smithers and Cook (mile and three miles), and Hall (hurdles and long jump), and L/Corpl Moore (high jump).

2/Lieut Read, L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Moore and Sigmn Cook were selected for a Southern Command team versus the Milocarians at Tidworth on the 5th June, whilst Sigmn West was reserve for the 440 yards. All our representatives did very well. 2/Lieut Read won the shot, L/Sergt Murphy the hurdles and L/Corpl Moore the high jump; and only through lack of experience did Sigmn Cook lose in the mile.

Our team for the S.P.A. inter-unit championships on the 18th and 19th June will be weakened by some of our members being away on Section training, but we are confident of making the best teams race their hardest.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Cricket.—Although having lost a number of last year's team, we have started the season in a very satisfactory manner, having played to date thirteen matches, winning ten and losing three. Results are appended.

6th May v. Royal Scots, Dover (away). 4th Divl Signals 150 for five; Royal Scots 49. Lieut.-Col. R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., 47 not out, Corpl Hall 47. Corpl Wellock five for 15, Sigmn Cox J. three for 2.
8th May v. Herne Bay College (away). Lost by 11 runs. Lieut.-Colonel Henderson 21. Sigmn Cox J. six for 17.
11th May v. Sturry C.C. (home). 4th Divl Signals 142 for eight; Sturry 60. Lieut.-Colonel Henderson 34, L/Corpl Lundie 30, L/Corpl Walton 23. Lieut. H. L. Lewis five for 21, R.S.M. McGregor three for 12.
15th May v. Margate C.C. (away). 4th Divl Signals 170 for two; Margate 73. Corpl Wellock 75 not out, Lieut. Lewis 44 not out, L/Corpl Lundie 29. Corpl Wellock six for 15.
18th May v. Cavalry Records and Pay Office (home). 4th Divl Signals 105; Cavalry Records and Pay Office 59. R.S.M. McGregor 24, Sigmn Willis 29.
28th May v. Hastings Police (home). 4th Divl Signals 127 for ten; Hastings Police 55. Lieut. Lewis 38, Corpl Wellock 35. Corpl Wellock four for 15, Sigmn Cox five for 8.
29th May v. Depot The Buffs (home). 4th Divl Signals 70; The Buffs 24. Corpl Wellock four for 13, Sigmn Cox three for 8.
1st June v. Dawes Institute (home). 4th Divl Signals 162 for nine; Dawes Institute 47. Corpl Wellock 36, Sigmn Cox 24, Corpl Coton 22 not out. Corpl Wellock four for 3.
5th June v. Herne Bay College (home). 4th Divl Signals 140; Herne Bay College 35. Lieut.-Colonel Henderson 33, Lieut. Lewis 38, R.S.M. McGregor 38. Corpl Wellock seven for 18.
8th June v. Ramsgate St. George's Club (home). Lost by 7 runs. R.S.M. McGregor 45 not out. Lieut. Lewis two for 13, Corpl Wellock two for 18.
9th June v. Signal Experimental Establishment, Woolwich (home). 4th Divl Signals 154; S.E.E. 49. R.S.M. McGregor 59 not out, Corpl Wellock 32. Corporal Wellock three for 17, Sigmn Cox three for 6.
12th June v. Chartham Mental Hospital (away). Won by 3 runs. Sigmn Adcock 23 not out. Sigmn Cox seven for 32.
13th June v. Herne Bay C.C. (home). 4th Divl Signals 82; Herne Bay 122. L/Corpl Lundie 23, R.S.M. McGregor 19. Corpl Wellock four for 45, Lieut. Lewis three for 21.

Athletics.—Athletic training has continued apace and, with the welcome addition of some talent from Egypt and Catterick, we have got together quite a good team. So far, the full side has not yet been available for any of our matches, but we have put up quite a good show with those we could lay hands on.

On Friday 31st May we went over to Shorncliffe and had a very pleasant afternoon's sport with the 2nd Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment. Their field events were superior to ours, but we held our own on the track.

440 yards relay—1st, R.W.K. 46⅘ sec. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 47 sec. A very close race in which we spoilt our chances by two bad hand-overs.
Long jump—1st, R.W.K. 37 ft. 10 in. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 36 ft. 11 in. Running uphill always was difficult!
Two miles relay—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 8 min. 49 sec. 2nd, R.W.K. Won without trouble.
Javelin—1st, R.W.K. 325 ft. 10 in. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 245 ft. R.W.K. first string threw 180 ft.
Putting the shot—1st, R.W.K. 68 ft. 10 in. 2nd, 4th Divisional Signals, 57 ft. 8 in. Our proper men were away elsewhere.
880 yards relay—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 1 min. 37⅘ sec. 2nd, R.W.K. A good race, which we won owing to a good start.
One mile team—1st, R.W.K. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals. First man, 4 min. 42 sec.
High jump—1st, R.W.K. 10 ft. 7 in. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals, 10 ft. 6 in.

480 yards hurdles—1st, R.W.K. 1 min. 15 sec. 2nd, 4th Divl Signals.
Discus—1st, R.W.K. 200 ft. 2 in. 2nd, 4th Divisional Signals, 158 ft. 10 in. This order would have been reversed had C.S.M. Griffin been there.
One mile relay—1st, 4th Divl Signals, 3 min. 37⅕ sec. 2nd, R.W.K. Won by half a lap.
Points—R.W.K. 19, 4th Divl Signals 14.

On Thursday 6th June we visited Wye Agricultural College for a contest consisting chiefly of field events.

100 yards flat—1st and 3rd, Wye. 2nd, Corpl Wilbraham. 4th, 2/Lieut. Gardiner. Won in 10⅔ sec. About a yard separated first and fourth.
One mile team—1st and 3rd, Wye. 2nd and 4th, Divl Signals. Run in a gale. The time seems to have been lost.
Javelin—1st, Wye, 136 ft. 3 in. 2nd, L/Cpl Evans, 125 ft. 11 in. 3rd, Wye, 115 ft. 4th, Sigmn Haynes, 111 ft. 2 in.
Hammer—1st, Wye, 122 ft. 10 in. 2nd, Wye, 106 ft. 3rd, C.S.M. Griffin, 102 ft. 6 in.
Shot—1st, Wye, 37 ft. 6 in. 3rd, Corpl Wilbraham, 32 ft.
Long jump—1st, Wye, 18 ft. 9 in. 3rd, Sigmn Brelsford, 18 ft. 4 in.
Hurdles—1st, 2/Lieutenant P. A. Duke, 18 sec. 2nd, Corporal Wilbraham, 18⅕ sec.
Discus—1st, C.S.M. Griffin, 107 ft. 3 in. 2nd, Wye, 97 ft. 3rd, Sigmn Doe, 95 ft. 4 in.

The weather was most unkind for this match. It was very cold, and a gale was blowing which considerably slowed down the hurdles, mile and long jump.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

The annual tennis " at home " at the Volunteer Club proved an enjoyable affair, although the Club knew too much about the game to suit us. The pairs were Lieut. K. C. O. Bastyan and Mrs. Owen, Corpl Milne and Mrs. Bastyan, T.S.M. Edwards and Sergt Westicott (Field Troop S. and M.), T.S.M. Weston and Corpl Connor, and Sergeants Standen and Marsh. We lost by 33—72 games.

Football and hockey are beginning to assume their original position in Troop life, and the results of matches played to date this month are published below. The Troop have entered in the Hot Weather Tournament, and we narrowly lost our first game.

Football—L/Cpl Wright ; Signalmen O'Connell and Mitchell ; L/Corpl Grant, Corpl Connor and Sigmn Barrett ; L/Corpl Bain, L/Corpl Robertson (captain), Corpl Milne, Sigmn McLeod and Corpl Gratwicke.

Hockey—L/Corpl Robertson ; L/Corporal Grant and Corporal Gratwicke ; Sigmn Roake, Corpl Connor and Sigmn Mitchell ; T.S.M. Weston, Sigmn McLeod, Sergt Standen (captain), Corpl Cook and Sigmn Flowers.

Football Results—

3/5/35 v. A Company Dorset Regiment, away, drew at 1—1
5/5/35 v. A Company Dorset Regiment, home, won by 3—2
8/5/35 v. A Company Dorset Regiment, home, won by 3—1
11/5/35 v. D.S. Company Dorset Regt., home, won by 3—1
12/5/35 v. D.S. Company Dorset Regt., home, won by 3—2
15/5/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, drew at 1—1
16/5/35 v. A Company Dorset Regiment, home, won by 3—2
18/5/35 v. A Company Dorset Regiment, away, won by 2—1
19/5/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. home, won by 3—1
25/5/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, drew at 2—2

Hockey Results—

2/5/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, won by 2—1
10/5/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, lost by 1—5
14/5/35 v. H.Q. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 4—1
20/5/35 v. H.Q. 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 4—0
24/5/35 v. A Squadron 13/18th Hussars (Hot Weather Tournament) away, lost by 1—2

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

The following are the results of the matches played in the Hot Weather Tournaments to date.

Football.—v. R.A.M.C. drew at 1—1 ; v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals won by 2—0 ; v. 91st Field Battery R.A. drew at 1—1 ; v. C Company 2nd Battalion Green Howards lost by 1—4 ; v. E Battery R.H.A. drew at 1—1 ; v. H.Q. Wing 2nd Battalion Green Howards won by 1—0 ; v. A Company 2nd Battalion Green Howards drew at 1—1 ; v. C Squadron The Royals drew at 0—0.

Hockey.—v. C Squadron The Royals drew at 0—0 ; v. H.Q. Wing The Royals won by 1—0 ; v. S Company 2nd Battalion Green Howards won by 1—0 ; v. B Squadron The Royals drew at 1—1 ; v. C Company 2nd Battalion Green Howards won by 1—0 ; v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals lost by 0—1.

Jubilee Football Tournament.—The Troop had very hard luck in the Meerut Jubilee Football Tournament. We were drawn to play the 2nd Battalion The Green Howards in the semi-final, and only after a replay and extra time did the Troop lose by 0—2.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket: K.D.S. v. The Welch Regiment

KOHAT DISTRICT SIGNALS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Sigmn Madgewick b Cuthbert	22	c Cuthbert b Nicholls	32
Sigmn Rose c O'Conell b [?]	8	c Tyler b Nicholls	28
Sigmn Price b O'Conell	7	c O'Conell b Cuthbert	1
L/Corpl McMahon b Cuthbert	36	c wkt-kpr b Mathews	5
Captain Brown b O'Conell	58	c Mathews b O'Conell	43
Lieut. Fegan b Nicholls	1	st wkt-kpr b Phillips	3
Lieut. Milner run out	18	absent	0
C.S.M. Spracklin b O'Conell	12	c O'Conell b Phillips	0
L/Corpl Angus not out	2	not out	7
Sigmn Wood b Mathews	1	lbw b Nicholls	0
L/Corpl Mitchell b Mathews	1	st wkt-kpr b Phillips	11
Extras	11	Extras	5
Total	177	Total	135

THE WELCH REGIMENNT.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
L/Corpl Ivemey c McMahon b Price	9	c Fegan b Rose	1
Private O'Conell b Price	14	run out	2
Lieut. Tyler st Madgewick b Rose	3	st Madgewick b Rose	5
Capt. Phillips c Madgewick b Brown	35	st Madgewick b Rose	0
Lieut. Warren b Brown	48	not out	17
Private Mathews b Price	12	c Price b Brown	0
Pvte Dewan c Madgewick b Price	17	st Madgewick b Rose	3
Sergt White b Price	10	st Madgewick b Rose	1
W.O. McDonald b Brown	1	c Madgewick b Rose	5
Sergt Nicholls b Brown	0	b Rose	13
Private Cuthbert not out	0	b Rose	10
Extras	10	Extras	6
Total	159	Total	63

It will be seen that our wicket-keeper had a very successful match, claiming eight victims—three in the first innings and five in the second—in addition to contributing a very useful 54 runs towards the grand total.

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

Cricket.—Although we have not started the season in a blaze of glory, the results to date have proved fairly satisfactory, bearing in mind that we have fielded our strongest team on only two or three occasions. We accomplished one of our best performances for some time, on the 19th May, against a very strong side of the Jerusalem District Police. We were unfortunate in having to be content with a moral victory when stumps were drawn. One of the outstanding features of this game was the fine fielding of the home side. After losing our first wicket cheaply (L/Corpl Pettit, a " duck ") the team rallied and we were able to declare with the useful score of 140 for eight. Sergt Smith, who took three wickets in one over, and L/Corpl Pettit soon had the Police in difficulties, and when stumps were drawn we held a commanding position.

No. 2 Wireless Company.

L/Corpl Pettit c Ormiston b Mitchell	0
L/Corpl Whitaker b Ormiston	18
Sigmn Page b Woolnough	34
Corpl Furze c Doxat b Woolnough	0
Sigmn Billingsley c Pritchard b Woolnough	28
L/Corpl Swann lbw b Woolnough	8
Sergt Fegan not out	10
Sergt Smith C. O. b Woolnough	23
Sigmn Smith H. b Temple	9
Extras	10
Total for eight wickets (declared)	140

Jerusalem District Police.

Greig b Pettit	18
Kiddle b Smith C. O.	20
Doxat b Smith C. O.	0
Mitchell c Swann b Smith C. O.	0
Watson b Pettit	0
Goult c Fegan b Pettit	4
Peak c Smith J. b Pettit	13
Pritchard c Swann b Pettit	3
Temple b Pettit	4
Ormiston not out	2
Woolnough not out	0
Extras	4
Total for nine wickets	68

Bowling—L/Cpl Pettit, six for 23 ; Sgt Smith C. O. three for 17.

Other Results.

24/4/35 v. R.A.F.G.H. Home. Won by 114 runs. No. 2 W/T Company 143 for six declared (Pettit 69, Swann 25). R.A.F.G.H. 29 (Billingsley five for 11, Whitaker five for 18).

28/4/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh. Home. Lost by one wicket. No. 2 W/T Company 96 (Pettit 36, Whitaker 24). R.A.F. Ramleh 100 for nine (Pettit five for 31).

1/5/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh. Away. Drawn. No. 2 W/T Company 138 for five declared (Pettit 31, Whitaker 31, Billingsley 24 not out). R.A.F. Ramleh 61 for six (Smith C. O. four for 10).

4/5/35 v. R.A.F.G.H. Away. Lost by 14 runs. No. 2 W/T Company 90 (Page 20). R.A.F.G.H. 104 (Smith C. O. five for 20, Billingsley three for 38).

11/5/35 v. Detachment Royal Berks. Home. Won by 4 runs. No. 2 W/T Company 58. Royal Berks 54 (Billingsley five for 22, Whitaker five for 31).

15/5/35 v. B.S.P.P. Jaffa. Home. Won by 84 runs. No. 2 W/T Company 113 for six declared (Page 47, Pettit 33). B.S.P.P. Jaffa 29 (Billingsley six for 8, Smith C. O. two for 0).

25/5/35 v. Depot Police. Away. Lost by 87 runs. No. 2 W/T Company 49 (Pettit 25). Depot Police 136 for six declared (Pettit four for 60).

Tennis.—As the Area League has not yet begun, we shall have to wait until next month for any results.

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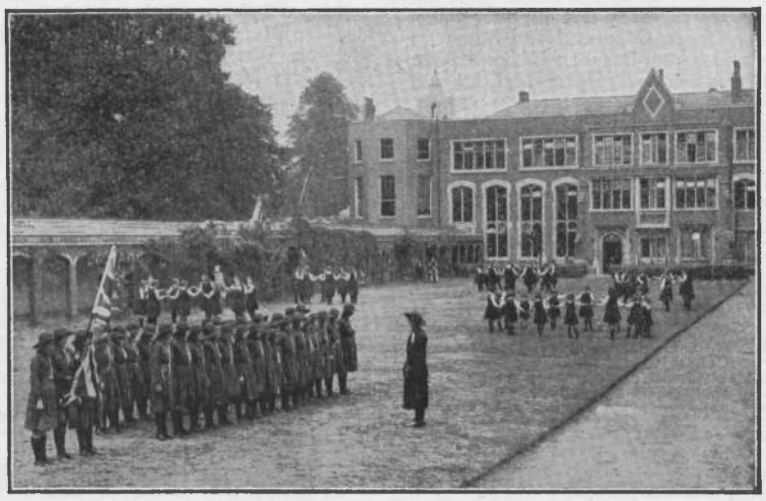

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- Editorial Notes -

On the occasion of the appointment of H.R.H. The Princess Royal as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, and with the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, the following telegram was despatched:—

"To Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Harewood House, Leeds. From Brigadier Le Cornu, Signal Officer-in-Chief, India. All ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals in India present their humble duty and welcome Your Royal Highness as their Colonel-in-Chief."

Her Royal Highness was graciously pleased to send the following reply:—

"To Brigadier Le Cornu, Signal Officer-in-Chief, India. Please express my sincere thanks to all ranks. It gives me great pleasure to have been appointed your Colonel-in-Chief. MARY."

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

The Earthquake in Quetta.

"The work of the Signal Corps in this emergency has been altogether admirable. Without it, I scarcely like to think what might have happened. All soldiers responded splendidly to the call, but it was the Signals who enabled the work to be co-ordinated and effective. Please tell them how much I admire their work.

(*Signed*) **P. CHETWODE, Field-Marshal,**
Commander-in-Chief in India."

The above commendation of the work of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Indian Signal Corps was conveyed personally by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India to the Signal Officer-in-Chief, and by His Excellency's order was transmitted through Commands to all units concerned.

The appreciation of His Excellency is a fine tribute to *all ranks*, British and Indian, who upheld throughout the highest traditions of the Corps. The work was, of course, carried out under a terrific strain continuing for many days. The Signals carried all the traffic of the Government of India as well as the Army and private work on their own shoulders, while the Government telegraphs were completely demolished. It was also due to their efforts that the Government telegraph system was restored as early as it was.

Units of the Indian Signal Corps in Quetta at the time of the earthquake were:—

C.S.O. Western Command (Col. R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C.).
2nd Indian Divl Signals (Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.).
Detachment, B Corps Signals (Lieutenant H. Prince).
Wireless Experimental Section (Captain A. E. Barton).

It is hoped to publish a complete account of the work done by the Corps at a later date in THE WIRE and in the CORPS JOURNAL.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

The King's Review, Aldershot.—We raise our hat to Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command for the recent laudatory reports published in the daily Press. The following extract needs no further comment:—

"The admiration evoked among the spectators by the Guards' marching past was not rivalled until near the end of the parade, when the 2nd Divisional Signals appeared on the scene."

[The unit marched past in three Companies—dismounted, mounted and mechanised.]

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

The Agar Memorial.—It is notified for general information that the Memorial to Lieutenant J. W. Agar erected in the Royal

Military Academy Chapel was unveiled by Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., on Sunday 23rd June 1935.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Exchange.—Major on the Indian Establishment wishes exchange to Home Establishment for two years or one year during trooping season 1935-36 and/or 1936-37. Reasonable remuneration offered. Apply in writing to Major "X," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Passage to India.—R.Signal officer's sister-in-law is willing to take charge of children during voyage to India in return for passage, or part payment of passage, during next trooping season. Apply in writing to "Companion," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Wife of N.C.O. serving with the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut, offers her services as nurse to an officer's family in return for passage to India during next trooping season. Apply in writing to "Nurse," c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1. THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Northern Command Branch.

The second annual reunion of the Northern Command Branch of the Signals Association—sub-Branches of which are now working in Leeds, Scarborough, Derby and Darlington—which was held at Burniston Barracks, Scarborough, on the 29th and 30th June, evidences the growth of the Association and its healthy condition in the North by the fact that it proved the biggest gathering of Signals, past and present, and old R.E. Signals, ever held anywhere.

The hundred and fifteen members who gathered in the barracks were treated to a real royal week-end, and their thanks are due in no small degree to the personnel of the 5th Divl Signals, who proved themselves such perfect hosts.

The Old Comrades began to arrive on Saturday afternoon, and after being met by the reception committee and each given a badge, they were interested spectators at the 5th Divl Signals' annual sports and display by the Corps motor cyclists, following which they were entertained to tea. In the evening there was a smoking concert in the gymnasium, at which the Corps Band was in attendance. Accommodation was found for the members in barrack rooms during the night.

On Sunday morning, together with the 5th Divl Signals, they marched through Scarborough, headed by the Band, to St. Mary's Church, where the service was conducted by the Rev. A. B. Carter, Vicar of Scarborough.

After the march back to barracks, the parade was addressed by Major-General Sir M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold, who took the salute at the march past. He paid tribute to the worthy way in which the present serving men of the Royal Signals were upholding the traditions of the past.

Officers present on the parade included Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant, S.T.C. Catterick; Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command; Col. H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Officer Commanding 5th Divl Signals; Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate, Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command; Major G. C. Winckley, M.C.; Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E.; Captain P. Jennings, M.C.; Captain C. R. H. Firth; and others.

A photograph of the gathering was taken in the lower square before dinner was served, prior to the members departing to their respective homes.

The Northern Command Branch now has a membership of nearly two hundred, of which just over one hundred are in Leeds. An effort is being made to get not only old members of the Corps into the Association, but also as many as possible of the present serving n.c.o.s and men, and so establish a further link between past and present.

A proposal is also afoot for Leeds to be cut away from the Northern Command Branch as a sub-Branch and for a Branch to be formed in that city.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

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-N.C.O. London	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Messenger
3	Ex-Signalman, Taunton	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Government (Postal)
5	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Wireless Electrician
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
7	Ex-N.C.O. London	Porter
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
9	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Lorry Driver-Salesman
10	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Telephonist
11	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
12	Ex-N.C.O. London	Instrument Maker
13	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Lineman
16	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Motor Driver
17	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Motor Driver
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Part-time Telephonist
20	Ex-N.C.O. Yorks	A.A. Patrol
21	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Bus Conductor
22	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesex	Lineman
23	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Vegetable Hand
24	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Barman
25	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	A.A. Patrol
26	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephone Operator
28	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Clerk
29	Ex-W.O. London	Foreman
30	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Labourer
31	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Telephone Fitter
32	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
33	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Salesman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

B Corps Signals, India
Peshawar District Signals
Major F. W. S. Jourdain, R.Signals
Royal Signals Sergeants Mess, Meerut
Wana Signal Section, India
Officers Mess, 55th (W.L.) Divl Signals, T.A.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Lieut.-Colonel O. P. Edgcumbe, M.C.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	ExDriver Gateshead. Domestic difficulties	Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Aldershot. Temporary difficulties	Loan	10	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Southsea. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	10	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Kirkcaldy. Temporary difficulties	Grant	1	0	0
5	Signalman, Ireland. Domestic difficulties	Loan	2	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Berks. Temporary difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Essex. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn Durham. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
9	Ex-N.C.O. Sussex. Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0

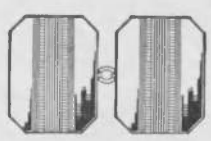
(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

By Appointment

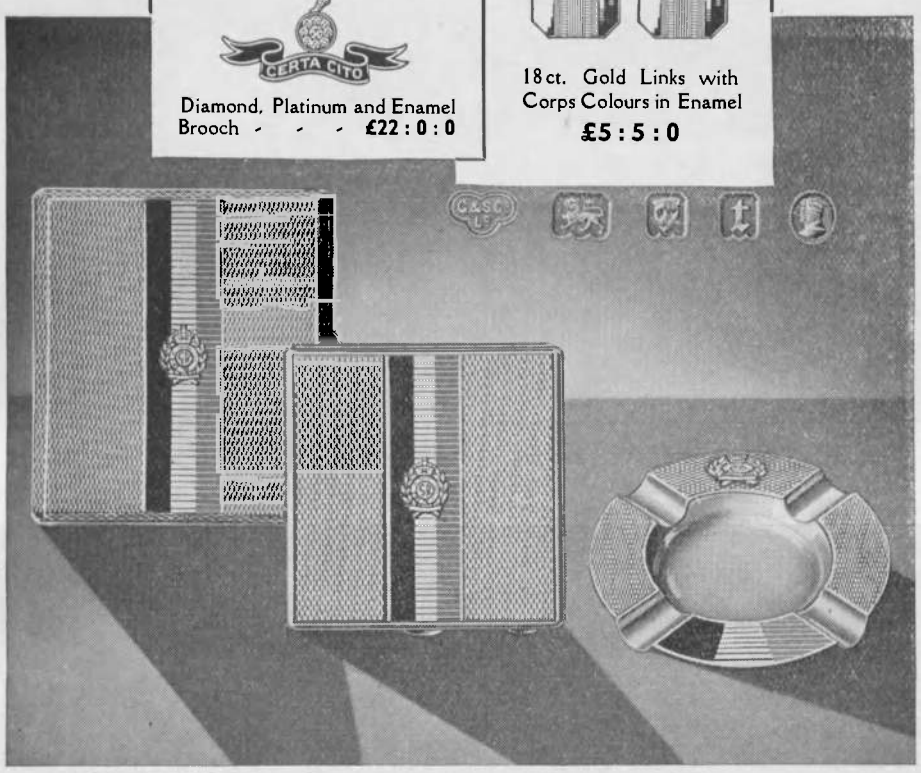
THE "JUBILEE MARK" reproduced below, commemorating His Majesty's Silver Jubilee, has been authorised for this year. This interesting and unusual feature should enhance the value of 1935 Silverware.

Illustrated brochure on application.

Diamond, Platinum and Enamel Brooch - - - £22 : 0 : 0



18ct. Gold Links with Corps Colours in Enamel
£5 : 5 : 0



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Flap Jack Vanity Case, ditto. 3 x 3 inches - - - £2.17.6
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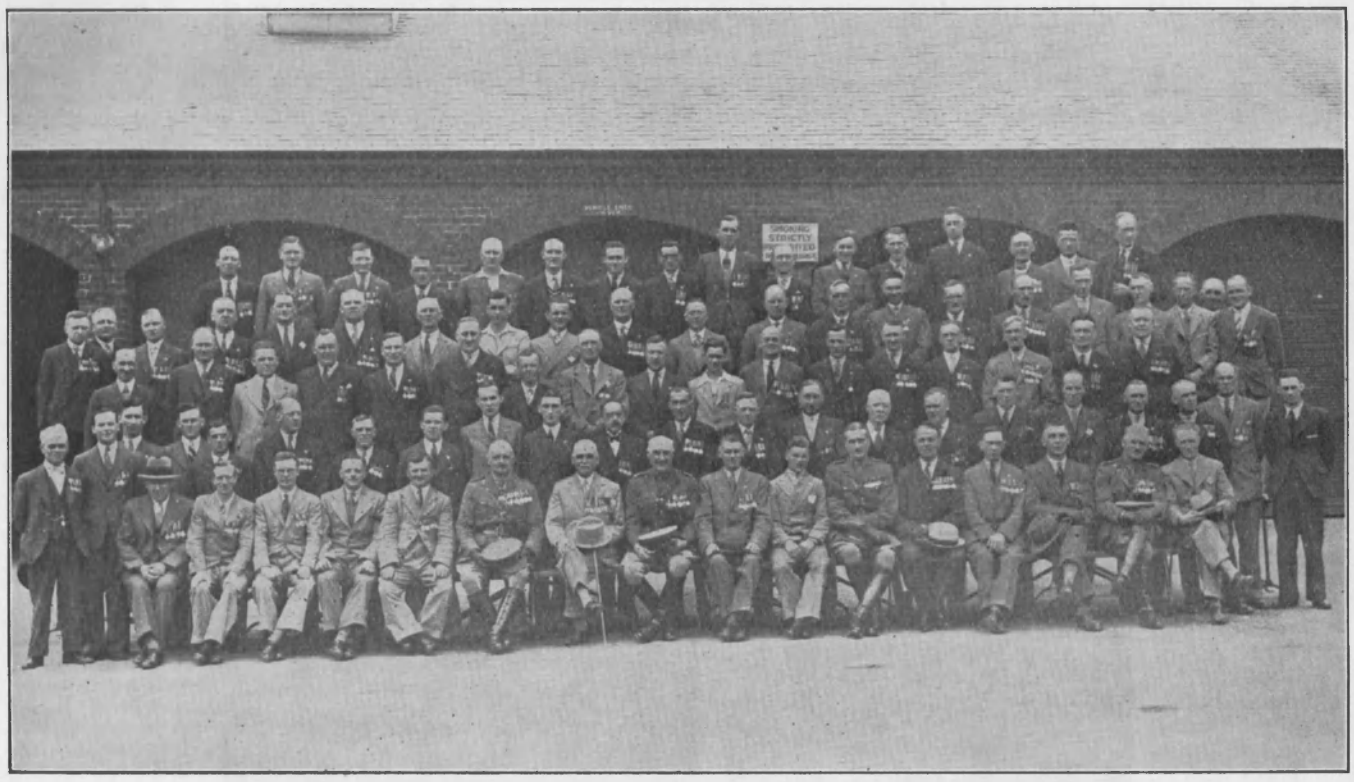
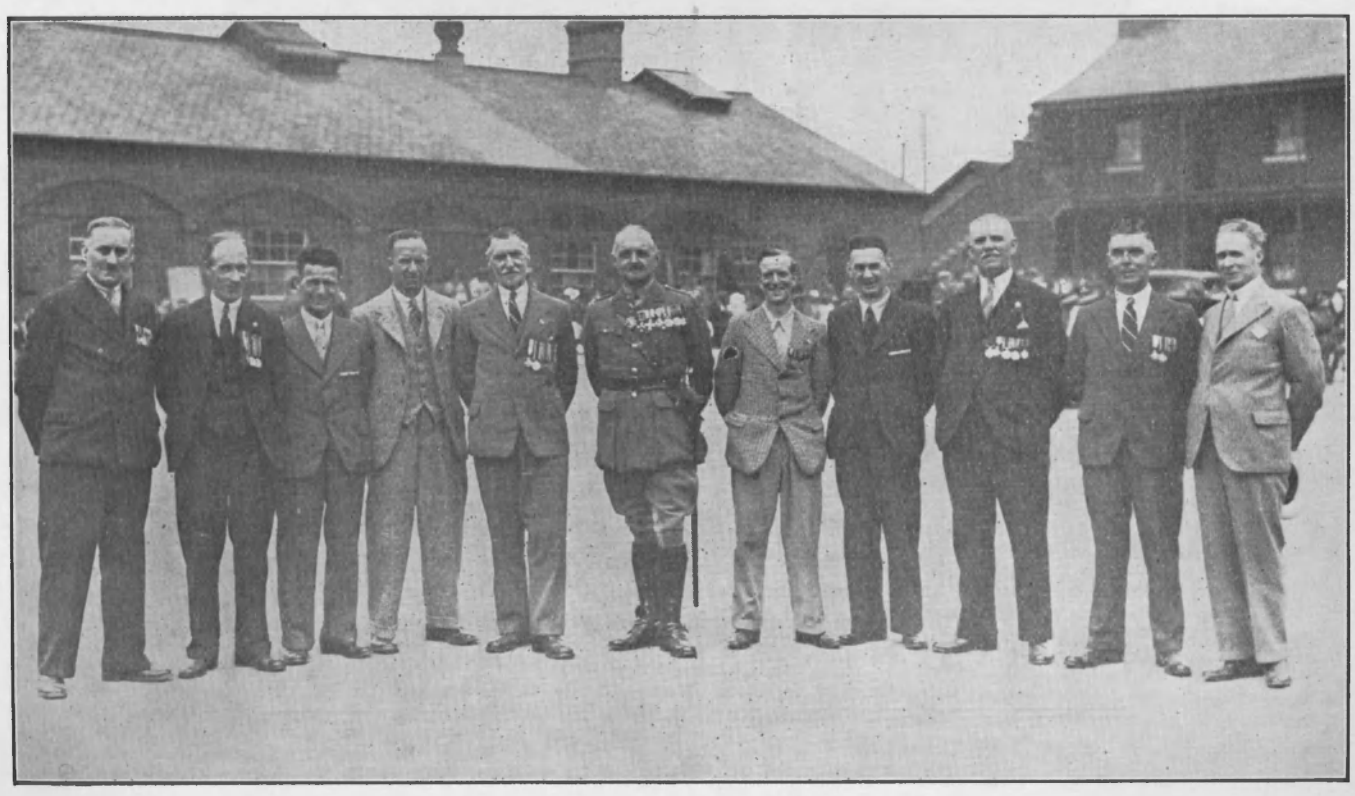
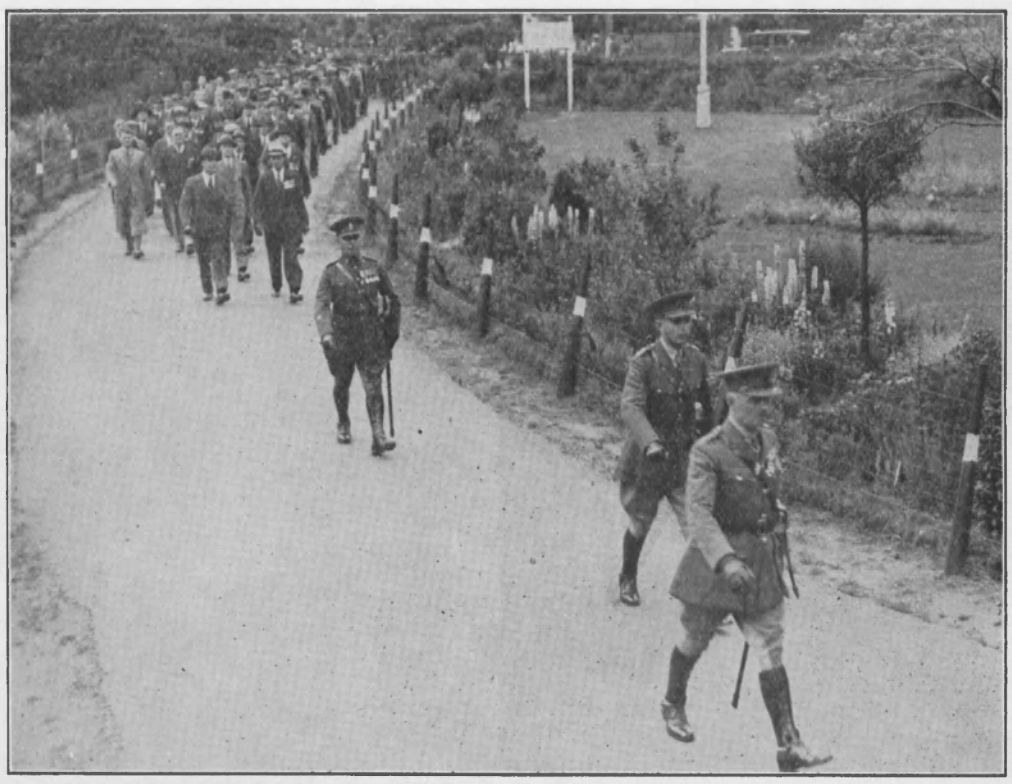


Northern Branch Old Comrades Reunion at Scarborough, Sunday, 30th June, 1935.
[Photos by Walkers Studios Ltd. Scarborough]



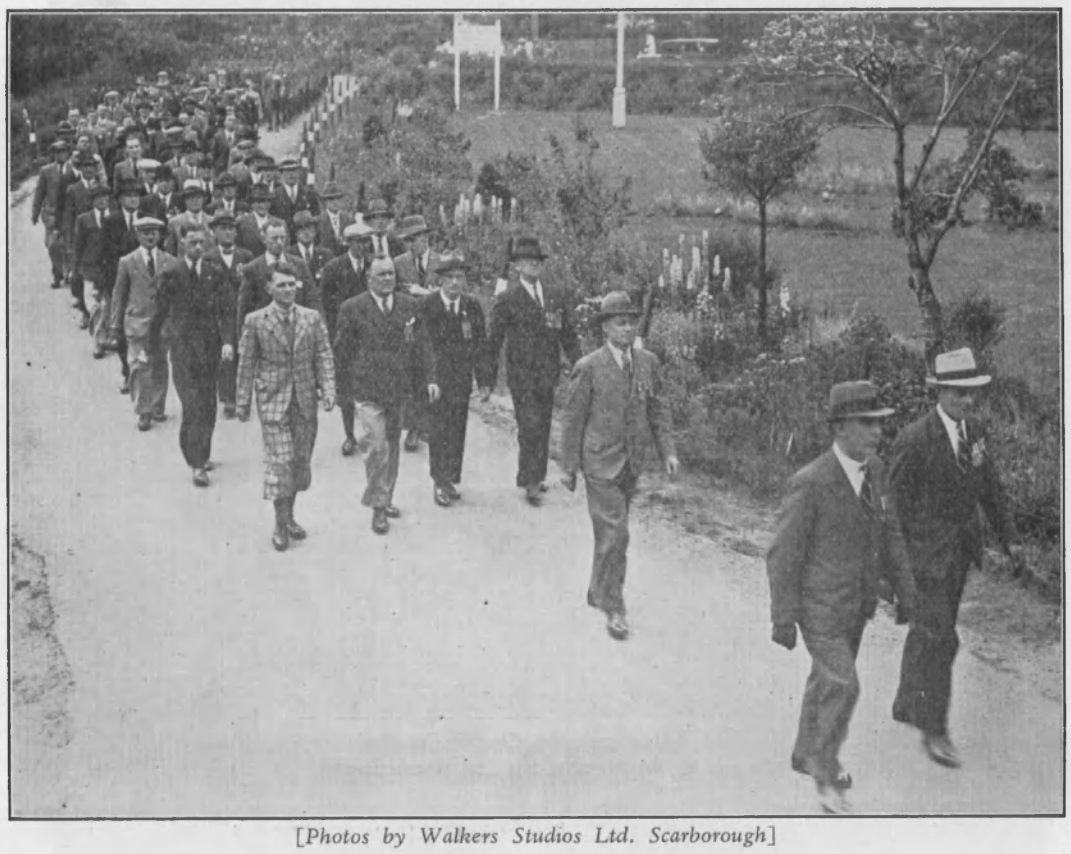
Left to right—Sergt F. Passey, Sapper G. Hawarth, Sapper H. Moulds, Sergt R. Slinger, C.S.M. J. Ecuyer, Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., Corpl P. Jowett, Sapper R. Newall, Sergt T. Savage, D.C.M., Lieut. J. J. Graham (S.R.), Corpl G. Boulton.

The Band heads the Church Parade.
[Photos by Walkers Studios Ltd. Scarborough]



Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., and the Old Comrades follow the Band.

The Old Comrades Contingent at the Church Parade.



[*Photos by Walkers Studios Ltd. Scarborough*]

No. 1 Company, 5th Divisional Signals.
[Photos by Walkers Studios Ltd. Scarborough]

No. 3 Company, 5th Divisional Signals.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—
Lieut.-Colonel Parsons from Aldershot to Canterbury
Captain F. S. Thompson from London to Canterbury
Captain W. Scott to R.E. Board

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 18/6/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

56th (1st London) Divl Signals—A. V. Brandle to be 2/Lieut. 15/6/35

[War Office 21/6/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

R.E. Board—Captain F. S. Thompson, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of 2nd Military Member (Cl. CC.) 19/6/35

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned, having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Reserve of Officers:—
Lieut.-Colonel K. E. Edgeworth, D.S.O., M.C., 22/6/35
Captain T. G. Halsall, 8/4/35
Lieutenant F. H. Millward, 24/5/35

[War Office 25/6/35]

REGULAR ARMY—

Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., half-pay list, late R.Signals, to be Colonel 26/6/35

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., on completion of four years service as Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel, is placed on the half-pay list 26/6/35

Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E., is placed on the half-pay list 26/6/35

Major H. G. Henderson to be Lieutenant-Colonel 26/6/35

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain J. C. Cree, from Supplementary Reserve of Officers, to be Captain 7/5/35, retaining his present seniority.

[War Office 2/7/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain W. Scott is seconded whilst holding the appointment of 2nd Military Member R.E. Board, 19/6/35

Capt. F. S. Thompson is restored to the establishment 19/6/35

Half-Yearly Brevets—The undermentioned promotions are made 1/7/35:—
To be Brevet Major: Captain E. G. W. Pearse, R.Signals, Captain L. C. Bell, R.Signals
To be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel: Major A. Newton, O.B.E., Qr.-Mr. R.Signals (I.A.)

ESTABLISHMENTS—

R.E. Board—Captain W. Scott, R.Signals, to be 2nd Military Member (Cl. CC.) 19/6/35

MEMORANDUM—

Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E., half-pay list, late R.Signals, retires on retired pay, 3/7/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—H. Wilson to be 2/Lieut. 21/6/35

[War Office 5/7/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (Wessex) Divl Signals—Lieut. S. E. Bridgwater to be Captain 1/6/35
Lieut. L. E. O. Evans to be Captain 3/6/35

[War Office 9/7/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Lieut. H. J. Rudgley ceases to hold a commission in the T.A. 10/7/35

MOTOR CARS

Major F. H. DALLISON, M.C.
Lieut.-Colonel A. E. MEREDITH, M.C., A.M.I.E.E., B.A. (Oxon)
Captain E. S. HEFFER, M.A. (Cantab.)

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[War Office 12/7/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. D. P. Greenwood resigns his commission 8/6/35

51st (H.) Divl Signals—J. McLaren to be 2/Lieutenant 13/7/35

[War Office 16/7/35]

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major W. V. G. Fuge, M.B.E., retired pay, to be Major, 3/7/35, with seniority 3/6/27

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—H. D. Brown to be 2/Lieut. 17/7/35

54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—Lieut. L. H. Gentry to be Captain 15/6/35

Plain Tales

Technical Knock-out.—Gasping for breath, Barleux staggered from his corner. With the blood streaming from a cut in his contribution, he faced his formidable opponent. A left hook from Bulford and a series of sharp jabs from London shock him to the very bottom of his ink well. The crowd roared, hissed, cheered and booed, guided in their vocal exercises by their private opinions.

Barleux made a plucky effort to come back with a consignment of eggs, but ——'s superior weight had him on the ropes and in very bad shape. Definitely ——'s round.

When the gong went, —— sprang in to the centre full of fire. A small boil seemed to be troubling Barleux and he was unable to get into his stride. Another series of shocks from Aldershot had Barleux tottering to his corner. He was practically out on his feet. He knew what he wanted to do, but lacked the training to accomplish it.

—— was about to throw him to the Lyons when the seconds decided that Barleux was " dead " from the knees up, and threw in towels, socks, pens, typewriters and even a little blue calendar. The crowd dispersed quietly.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Enter the Inspector.—Ukann Larfe sat up in the yard of the hotel and rubbed the back of his head, on which he had most fortunately landed.

" You're about early, aren't you?" said a gruff voice.

" Why, Facey, old boy—you here ?"

Inspector Faceache helped Ukann to his feet. " Come with me. I want you to see something."

Ukann clung to the Inspector's arm and they made their way into the hotel. The only sign of life was a girl struggling to light a fire in the kitchen range. Ukann Larfe broke away and kissed her heartily. " Habit," he said, as he rejoined the Inspector.

They traversed several corridors and arrived at a grimy door labelled " No exit." "Ha!" said Ukann, his natural intelligence beginning to return. " We can't get out this way."

Inspector Faceache pushed the door open and passed into the darkened room. " Come in, Ukann, and take a look at this." The body of a tall dark man sprawled in a shabby armchair. " Now," said the Inspector, " this man has been shot. One through the heart and one through the brain."

Ukann stepped up to the body. " Is he dead ?" he asked. Our hero landed on the back of his head for the second time within the hour.

" Look here, Facey ; there's no need to be rough."

The Inspector dragged him to his feet. " Shut up!" he said. " Get a load of this." He handed Ukann a bundle of papers, several of which were obviously blue prints.

The detective ran through them rapidly and his eyes sparkled. " Gosh, Facey, the aeroplane plans!"

Inspector Faceache looked very pleased with himself, the conceited wretch. " What are you going to do with them, Ukann?"

" What am I . . . . . Eh ? Why, I shall hand them over to the bloke who commissioned me to recover them, see ?"

" Who was that ?"

Ukann Larfe looked worried. " Well, Facey, now you ask me, I don't know."

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" How do you mean ' You don't know ' ?"

" I've forgotten."

Outside a cock crowed loudly and the girl in the kitchen dropped a shovel with a resounding clang.

Startling developments next month, all being well.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Reflections of Minnie.—For a cat of my age, it is very trying to have so much trouble with the children. Last week I packed their little cases and sent George off to the Boys' School and little Mary to the Convent. Back they came the same day with discreet little notes from their teachers. I felt such a fool, having to send George to the Convent and Mary to the Boys' School, but it is entirely the fault of that man Barleux. He doesn't know a thing.

I had a letter from Tessa the other day. She is enjoying life somewhere near Folkestone, but even dogs have their troubles. Tessa spent an hour in tearing down some wire netting, and eventually secured two beautiful rabbits which she promptly killed and deposited on Aunty's bed. The fact that the rabbits were White Angoras, much prized by the owner, merely gave them added value in Tessa's eyes. She tells me that she hopes to be able to sit down comfortably in a day or two.

We had a flying picquet in Camp for a few nights in June, though why " flying " I am unable to say.

Sergeant MacIntosh is back at work, looking quite fit though perhaps not quite so stout as of old.

Notchy Knight's record of one mushroom per mile per hour has yet to be beaten.

One of our C.S.M.s, whose other title is Lord Hillingdon, is anxious to get in touch with a firm specialising in the art of invisible mending. He will see more in this than the average reader, so I should apologise.

The only other thing I heard last week was something about a young orderly officer who gave the guard the order " Present Arms." Many wild guesses have been made as to why he did this. One popular opinion is that he was bored with Bulford and craved amusement.

Begone, Dull Care.—Just about the time we are dropping this in a letter box, the Royal Signals Band will be arriving at Bulford for their annual visit. Mr. R. R. Ricketts and his boys are assured of a hearty welcome. In addition to the gymkhana, we hope to run a concert, an all ranks dance and a sergeants' dance. Your not very humble scribe is on the committee, but the only other calamity could be inclement weather. Being on the committee is great fun. All you have to do is to throw buckets and buckets of cold water on everything the others suggest, and laugh like—but I must tell you another time.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

In Garden Fair.—Specimen Coleus may be nipped to make them grow more bushy, while Buckshee Stores pinched here and there will help to make life cushy.

Lorraine Begonias must be grown in humid atmosphere. If this is not available, they'll be a flop, I fear.

Your cabbages and other greens should now be watered daily and tested for a healthy heart, which should be beating gaily.

The root crops, meaning spuds and things—if any there remain—may be well fried, or mashed or boiled, or else put back again.

The second chorus now begins. We'll try to make it neater. A slightly different subject with some small change in the metre.

Fair handed Spring unbosoms every grace,
Throws out the Snowdrop and the Crocus first.
The Wadsworth Rambler flits from place to place,
Seeking the wherewithal to quench his thirst.
The humble Daisy and the modest " Daffy "
May oft be seen on counters in the —— Sorry, folks.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Advert.—Look out for our great Fashion paragraph after the Aldershot Reunion. We can be squared. BARLEUX.

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 shown in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2306508	C.S.M. Kingman G.	3/4/35	6

To be C.S.M.

*1045348	C.Q.M.S. Marshall B.	13/3/35	73
2306738	C.Q.M.S. Harrison B.	18/5/35	15

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2310446	Sergeant Bradbury E.	13/2/35	16
1860324	Sergeant Quick P.	4/3/35	16
*5610124	Sergeant Bennett J.	13/3/35	73
2306851	Sergeant Minns C.	1/4/35	16
*5875148	Sergeant Lemon P.	1/4/35	73
2308511	Sergeant Gregory G.	18/5/35	16

To be Sergeant.

5999529	L/Sergeant Cole V.	4/3/35	29
2313753	L/Sergeant Isaac R.	13/3/35	29
1850317	L/Sergeant Bygrave S.	1/4/35	29
2313031	L/Sergeant Parsons J.	1/4/35	29

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

*1038205	Corporal Clarke R.	4/3/35	78
2310622	Corporal Weeks G.	19/3/35	36
731478	Corporal Beard C.	1/4/35	36
2310767	Corporal Evans J.	1/4/35	36
2306823	Corporal Robson L.	6/5/35	36
2306650	Corporal Dawson S.	18/5/35	36
5998833	Corporal Clarke C. W.	21/5/35	36
2315599	Corporal Gibson G.	25/5/35	36

To be Corporal.

313889	L/Corporal Johns J.	21/2/35	53
2316172	L/Corporal Funnell H.	13/3/35	54
2318167	L/Corporal Freeman F.	1/4/35	54
2316479	L/Corporal Brennan W.	1/4/35	54
2317576	L/Corporal Williamson T.	1/4/35	54
6839605	L/Corporal Watts L.	2/4/35	55
2314600	L/Corporal Morrison H.	17/4/35	55
2312788	L/Corporal Peters A.	16/5/35	55
2317800	L/Corporal Williams C.	18/5/35	55

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

1860322	Signalman Ranson J.	4/3/35
2321430	Signalman Brown J.	5/3/35
2318679	Signalman Norton G.	5/3/35
2313258	Signalman McNeil J.	9/3/35
2317134	Signalman Funnell A.	16/3/35
2318821	Signalman Vaughan J.	19/3/35
2321962	Signalman Clement R.	21/3/35
2316781	Signalman Edwards W.	21/3/35
3053538	Signalman McLoughlin M.	29/3/35
2317178	Signalman Corbett J.	1/4/35
4385391	Signalman Hargreaves J.	1/4/35
2320070	Signalman Marshall P.	1/4/35
2317200	Signalman Pearson H.	1/4/35
2315502	Signalman Sumner T.	1/4/35
2318121	Signalman Knox R.	1/4/35
2318421	Signalman Howard N.	1/4/35
2560884	Signalman White M.	1/4/35
2322342	Signalman Lynam W.	1/4/35

Discharges.

2306253	R.S.M. Grigg W. H.	3/7/35	3
1855177	C.S.M. Thomas T. O.	12/6/35	14
2306452	Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Simmonds P.	6/6/35	9
1855003	Sergeant Bartlett C.	1/7/35	22
2308070	Sergeant Finley F.	2/7/35	28
5663391	L/Sergeant Joyce F.	25/6/35	30
2317299	Corporal Sims N.	19/6/35	38
2315605	Corporal Smith J.	9/7/35	45

* *Special Roster (India).*

Official Biography of Earl Haig.

The Sunday Pictorial announces the publication, commencing on the 4th August, of extracts from the official biography of Earl Haig by Mr. Alfred Duff Cooper.

No General in modern times has excited more controversy than Field-Marshal Earl Haig. On the one hand he was denounced as an incompetent blunderer, and on the other praised as a military genius.

What is the truth ? Here at last is Haig's own story of the momentous happenings of the Great War. Now the secrets of his famous diaries, which have been eagerly awaited by the whole world, are at last revealed. They show that Earl Haig subordinated everything else in his life to his overwhelming desire to fit himself for his great profession.

Haig's biography will prove an inspiration to every young soldier, and a vindication of the soldier's outlook as against the politician's in the conduct of hostilities.

This is more than the mere biography of a great soldier. It is a document which will take an important place in history. It is the answer to those who have traduced the reputation of the foremost military leader of the greatest war the world has ever known. This is a feature which no ex-soldier or serving soldier should miss.

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HAIG SPEAKS

SECRETS OF THE FAMOUS DIARIES REVEALED.

LOOK OUT FOR EXTRACTS FROM THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF EARL HAIG BY MR. ALFRED DUFF COOPER . . . appearing exclusively in the

SUNDAY PICTORIAL

More About Picture Telegraphy.

By W. T. LOWE and E. PHILLIPS.

What the future holds for telegraphy we dare not prophesy. So numerous are the ingenious devices being introduced at the present time that they threaten to bewilder us.

But, after all, the ideas are not new. Take, for instance, that of telegraphing writing, drawing, etc., in facsimile. An instrument was invented for this purpose as long ago as 1850. Indeed, the generation of that period can surely claim to have been gifted with a wonderful flair for invention. We of to-day have merely improved upon their ideas. And although their apparatus was crude, it worked ; for in 1862 we actually find a picture-telegraph system in full swing on the Paris—Amiens line.

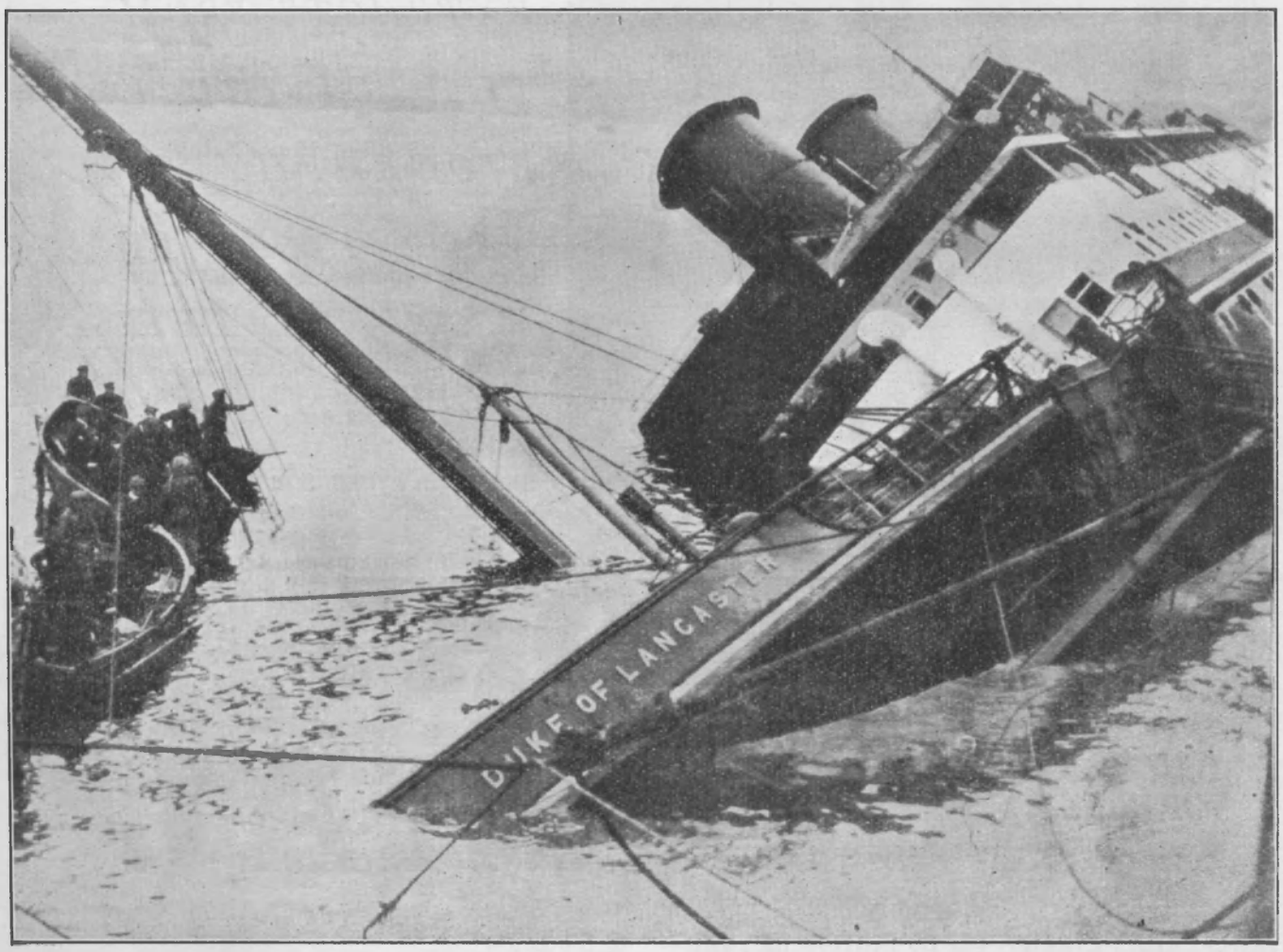
Another system, which produced a picture in black and white, was tried in London about the year 1880. It took seven minutes to transmit a picture measuring 12 inches by 2½ inches. This operation was not rapid enough for the British Post Office, although the French authorities gave the system a more extensive trial. Apart from the question of speed, difficulties of synchronisation were also encountered.

As with television, the perfection of picture telegraphy is based on this running of sending and receiving apparatus at exactly the same speed, and it was not until 1919 that inventors solved the problem by using a tuning fork. All systems of picture telegraphy are now controlled by this means.

But although in the meantime this branch of telegraphic science had not reached a stage where it could be commercially applied, much research was carried out by inventors of various countries.

Mr. Thorne-Baker, an Englishman, and Professor Korn, a native of Germany, made use of selenium after its light-sensitive properties were discovered in 1873. The Korn system was actually used by the German police ; and *The Daily Mirror* used it on their Manchester—London telegraph line, purchasing the British patent rights.

Discovery of the thermionic valve eventually provided a solution of the relay and amplifier prob'em. The photo-e'ectric cell, providing the means for turning the light and shade of a photograph into electric current, and improvements in photographic materials, rendered picture telegraphy a commercial possibility. Consequently, in 1926 three systems were introduced: the Siemens—Karolus—Telefunken in Germany, the Belin in France, and the Bell in America. The small distance between large towns and cities in the United Kingdom did not offer much inducement, but on the Continent and in the U.S.A. the use of picture telegraphy was obviously an advantage. So the first pub'ic picture telegraph service was opened from London to Berlin in 1930. It has now been extended to many other Continental cities. London also acts as intermediate station between these and the U.S.A.



Irish Mail Boat sinking in Heysham Harbour.
Telegraphed by " The Daily Mirror " private wire. (By courtesy of " The Daily Mirror.")

The best of modern shows — and better than ever this year. Here, in one enormous exhibition, are all the wonders of next year's Radio, while in Radiolympia's vast theatre the most popular broadcasting stars appear three times daily. See and hear Henry Hall, Roy Fox, Elsie and Doris Waters, Norman Long, Leonard Henry, Lily Morris and a host of others. All in all, this is the "top" in entertainments. Be sure to save a day for Radiolympia.

Organised by the Radio Manufacturers' Association

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
17th July 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the August 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 30/11/29.

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

Arundel Chambers, 183/9 Strand, London, W.C.2,
26th June 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—Would you be good enough to publish this letter in THE WIRE regarding Cavalry Corps Signals.

Every year since the war, Z.C.O. have held very successful reunion dinners at the Coventry Restaurant, Leicester Square, and the attendance has generally averaged about fifty. Unfortunately, a number of old Regulars (who were originally in the 1st Signal Squadron, Aldershot) have been conspicuous by their absence. We should very much like to see them at these dinners, and if they would like to get in touch with me at the above address, I shall be pleased to forward their names to the hon. secretary, who will send them full details in due course.

I am sure that we shall be more than pleased to see such old faces as Phil Harding, Butch, and Dick Bevan again.

Yours faithfully, R. JEFFERIES.

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12 Ruskin Road, Staines, Middlesex,
9th July 1935.

The Secretary, Royal Corps of Signals Association.

Dear Sir.—I would like to place on record my appreciation of the strenuous efforts of the Royal Signals Association to obtain remunerative employment for me.

Although I had obtained a non-progressive situation in London at £3 per week, I have been thankful to resign that in favour of a situation as a Post Office lineman at less pay. In the first job, I could never rise; whereas in the second, I have every prospect of promotion and a pension when I am too old to work.

If you could, through the medium of THE WIRE, bring to the notice of the younger members of the Corps the desirability of obtaining both the City and Guilds certificates in order to ensure almost certain employment with the G.P.O., I think you would be rendering both the Corps and the G.P.O. a service. These two certificates are not easy to get, but they are not beyond the scope of the average Signalman, provided he concentrates assiduously on their attainment. Furthermore, the study for these certificates would add to the efficiency of the finest Corps in the British Army.

However, this letter is written in appreciation of the good work performed by the Signals Association. During one of my visits to the office, I was brought face to face with one of their many difficulties, and I am sure that their work must be tedious and at times disheartening. The numerous and varied applications they receive from ex-Royal Signals personnel call for much patience and hard work.

Thanking them once again.

Yours fraternally, C. M. BARTLETT,
Ex-Sergeant, A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

208 Kingsway, Levenshulme, Manchester,
6th June 1935.

To the Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—Enclosed are two snaps of prominent buildings at Quetta which have probably suffered damage in the earthquake: (1) the Town Hall and (2) the Sandeman Memorial. These were

taken in 1923 whilst I was serving with C Divl Signals (now Wazirdist Signals). The snap of the hockey team may be of interest to old members of that unit still serving. The person in

uniform will probably be remembered by some folk, as he was well known (Tashy Folkes). I hope you may be able to use the snaps in our Magazine.

Yours faithfully, J. BIRCHALL, L./Sergeant
(2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop).

HOME STATIONS

5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH — *Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

The Reception Room.....Depot Battalion.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes for the preceding month, the scribe having been detained at Hythe, the Kentish seaside resort.

During this period many important events have taken place, including the Commandant's inspection and also an " at home." These events have been previously described elsewhere, but special mention must be made of the eneregtic youth who, in the excitement of the moment, polished the coal with blacklead. Nevertheless, judging from remarks heard recently in the outside world, many folk were agreeably surprised at the smartness and comfort of the military homes.

It was with great relief that everyone heard of the escape from serious tragedy of the entire personnel of the 2nd Indian Divl Signals in the earthquake catastrophe. We all hope that a full account of the distressing event will be submitted to THE WIRE in the near future.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant F. W. P. Bradford, who has assumed command of the Battalion weapon training. May his stay be a long and happy one!

Departures.—Several links with the past have been severed recently. We wish them all every success in their new units. Lieut. H. Winterbotham to the Training Battalion. Corpl Brown H. W. to the 3rd Divisional Signals. L/Corpl Barwick A. to the 4th Divl Signals. Sigmn Otto to York.

In addition to the above, several other links—in fact, almost the whole chain—have been warned for an early departure to the customary land where the sun remembers to shine and the wind forgets to blow (which they seldom do in Catterick). Our polar explorer has been warned for India. It seems a pity that we have no stations in Iceland.

Musketry.—The cadre are undergoing their usual preliminary training before firing their annual course. The old marching song " I'm happy when I'm hiking " seems to have lost its popularity on the tramp back from Bellerby.

Who is the n.c.o. who celebrated the advent of a renovated gun with a " possible." Needless to add, it is helping him to live down his 93. He has quite recovered from the chronic attack of ague shivers which he had on that occasion. It is said that he finds Vinolia powder has restored his shattered nerves. No names, no Pickering's product.

Congratulations.—To G Signals on having won the shooting trophy for units abroad.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Borne on the balmy breezes of soft and seductive summer come the silver tones of the drill instructor following his gentle vocation. Wafted on the wings of a warm wind comes a clatter that tells of a brick in the Battalion's best lawn mower. Never mind ; blame the gym staff! Those holes in the lawn by the gym, sweet observer, and those trench-like furrows were left by little me after I had given up trying to take " a little off the top, sir " with one of those confounded Father Time machines. Not an hour glass, you idiot ; the hook thing which the old geezer carries around with him.

Do not, though, I beseech you, blame me for the hole a trifle deeper. That was the work of our Drains Commission, headed by our dowser. We possess a dowser. He's a bit of a wonder, and I have come to the conclusion that it is a gift. I tried it with a Y-shaped bough in the gym, but I must have picked the wrong lakri, because all I got was a boxing glove on the aural appendage. The left one, to be exact.

These light nights are providing a splendid fillip to the working capacity of our clerks. Anyone passing the Battalion office at about 4.30 a.m. the other day would have noticed the energetic darlings just packing up after a good day's work. Marvellous how the air braces one here, isn't it?

The cadre personnel are proceeding in batches to Bellerby for the purpose of giving recruits a little practice in flag bashing and of indulging in sweepstakes. It's a nice journey out, but the bus service in the return direction is simply deplorable. In fact, just to show our disgust we are walking back: about eight miles. My blisters are going along nicely, thank you. I shall probably be able to abandon crutches by the time we get Christmas leave.

Recruits.—The usual number of civilians modified for military service—No. 87 Squad, with Sigmn Ballard winning the C.O.s whip and also the P.T. medal ; No. 88 Squad, with Signalman Chapman claiming the whip and the P.T. medal ; No. 89 Squad with Sigmn Talbot winning the whip and Sigmn Brown S. the P.T. medal ; and No. 90 Squad, with Driver (I.C.) Cappleman winning the whip and Sigmn Buirski the P.T. medal.

This Month's Best.—Since no self-respecting WIRE notes are complete without an alleged joke, here is ours. It was during the cake eating and scone wangling interval during a successful " all male " whist drive in the N.A.A.F.I. A large and brutal looking recruit, with a swarthy chin and eyebrows like broomheads, approached a high priest of the cult and asked " Where do I move, please, sarg? I'm a woman!" (end of joke)

Catterick Amusements.—Whist seems very popular in the Depot just now. Under the able supervision of C.S.M. Ingles, another successful drive was held in the N.A.A.F.I. on the 11th July. The Corporals Mess were good enough to give an entertainment during the interval. Some of the recruits enjoyed seeing their Squad commander on the stage, and various complimentary (?) remarks were heard from the rear.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Gibson (Hoot) married to Miss L. Keith at St. Peter, Wallsend, on the 3rd July. We hear rumours of a further depletion of Baghdad Lines N.A.A.F.I. staff, and that another n.c.o. is contemplating joining the ranks of the ration bag carriers. At this rate, they will soon have to rename Scotton.

Overseas Drafts.—L/Corporals Stares and Allen have been warned for service overseas. Now you can laugh, you former members of their squads. They look like getting that warmer climate to which you have consigned them now and again.

" Pommes de terre " and other French greetings.

C.C.R.B. AND EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Hooray! The heat wave has at last reached us, and naturally most people are taking advantage of it by swimming at the Lido in Richmond. The sun commenced his stay with us at a most opportune moment, as on Saturday 29th June a party of thirty-two paid a visit to York.

The Company cricket team played Messrs. Rowntree's in a friendly match. The Company batted first. Our new team mate, recently arrived from the 4th Divisional Signals, was very helpful in this victory. He opened the innings with Corporal Atkinson and saw four wickets fall rather cheaply. He will be an asset to our side for the forthcoming Mackworth trophy, so we hope that he can keep up his form. Six wickets for 34 runs looked very black, but a stand which produced 38 for the seventh wicket helped matters somewhat. The last three wickets only produced 16 runs and the final total was 88, Sigmn Parsons carrying his bat for 25.

Owing to good fielding (the best seen for some time) and some very good bowling, we put our opponents out for 56. It was a very enjoyable game, and we are all looking forward to some more of these friendly meetings.

After the match we all proceeded to invade the city and to do some sight-seeing. Everything was merry and bright, and I am sure that almost everyone enjoyed the outing. Did you, George? Before I leave the subject, I wish to remind Lolly, Tommy, Bob and George about their lunch in " The Spotted Cow."

Sportlets.—We have now in our midst at least eight coming open golf champions. Any challengers?

Departures.—These are not so numerous as in past months, but we should say a few words concerning the following. Corpl Farmer S. has left us after fourteen years to take over duties as manager of a public house in Salisbury. Don't forget the old friends at the month end. Surplus! Signalman Wyld D. (ex-assistant storeman) is now sharing in the joys of Blackpool. Good luck, Derek! Of course, our boxing instructor finds the weather too warm for him up here, and he is taking a vocational course in Aldershot. What about a spot of Doncaster butterscotch, Arthur? We have also lost a good n.c.o. in Corpl Patching F., who has gone to the 4th Divs. Are you ready for the boat yet?

Arrivals.—The Company is still open to newcomers, amongst whom are Corpl Freeman C. (3rd Div.) and L/Corpl Walton (our Bill Bowes from 4th Div.) How does the sunny clime of the north suit you?

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Russell H. and Pescod H. on their appointment to U/L/Corporal. To Signalmen Erby W. (now with 3rd Div.) and Clark M. on being awarded their Army specials. To L/Corpl Taylor E. on his marriage on the 1st June. To Sergt Merritt W. on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. To W.O.i. (Supt. Clerk) Burgess L., R.S.M. Butcher E. and Sergt Halls E. on being awarded H.M. the King's Jubilee medal. To Corpl and Mrs. Rees T. on the birth of a daughter.

Enquiries.—Who is the future ping-pong champion? No names, but he is Ginger. At present, no one can stand up against him (they are all doubled up with laughter). M.C.

E Company, Training Battalion.

General.—The Company has suffered a great loss in the departure of R.Q.M.S. Lane for the Army Vocational Training Centre prior to returning to civil life. His stay in the Company was, no doubt, a pleasant one, and all ranks will wish him the best of luck in his new sphere of life. Sergt Jarvis has taken over the cards, and we are sure he will play them to the best of his abilities.

Health and strength is the main topic of the month, and with the annual physical training test in view we are busy preparing for huge feats of strength and speed. The suggestion that the Triangle should be levelled for these events has not been adopted.

The Catterick Garrison inter-unit lines competition will be judged on the 17th July, and we have high hopes of collecting a prize. There has been a vast improvement in our lines during the past twelve months, and it is generally agreed that we could supply the S.T.C. with vegetables for a long period. Our Company gardener has left the bumper for the spade. " Keep off the grass " is the theme song.

Departures.—Sigmn Roberts to A.V.T.C. Chisledon, L/Corpl Hales to D Company, Sigmn Marsh discharged, and twenty others to field units.

Arrivals.—Signalman Tant from D Company, and L/Corporal Routledge from the Depot Battn. complete with twenty recruits.

Appointments.—Corpl Clarke to L/Sergt 21/5/35. All the best, Nobby. (4th Divisional Signals, please copy.) We hope K Section will leave the covered wagon when this is known.

Drafts.—Corpl Philpott C. has been provisionally warned for service in India, and is expected to embark during the trooping season 1935-36. Who said " Roll on, that boat "? His stable companions are wondering if they will go to the post and make a race of it.

Drill Course.—The annual drill course for the n.c.o.s of the Training Battalion is in full swing. The weather is good, the instruction good, the period of training decidedly beneficial to all concerned, and we are optimistic enough to state that the members of the course will enjoy it.

Found.—In the vicinity of Bedale, an n.c.o. trying to get home by rail. N.H.S.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Northern Command Tattoo, Wollaton Park, Nottingham.—Company Headquarters closed at Catterick at 9 a.m. on June 25th and opened at 2 p.m. on the same day at our new country seat.

The Chief of the Imperial Staff, who visited the Tattoo on the 9th July, paid us the great compliment of saying that our show was the best in the whole Tattoo.

Heartiest congratulations to Barrett on winning the Army enlisted boys 220 yards at Aldershot for the second time and equalling the record time of 24⅕ sec; also to Gamble on being second.

Our special correspondent will now describe life and conditions in our new abode.

Tuesday morning, 25th June, saw F Company, less the recruit boys, busily packing the last items of clothing into their kit-bags. The day promised to be fine, and so it was, as we found when marching in the middle of the day from Radford Station, Nottingham, to the Tattoo Camp in Wollaton Park. We were made acquainted with the more important Camp Orders and were then shown to our tents. How small those tents looked against the fact that eight boys had to sleep in each! We speedily got into canvas and went down to dinner.

Considering the cooking arrangements in this camp, the food is excellent, and the mess orderlies are nearly as good as waiters (look out, Sigmn Potts!) The K.S.L.I. have treated us remarkably well and have done everything possible for our comfort in camp. No Army bread for the four thousand odd soldiers in this camp, but civvy bread, and everyone appreciated this item.

It was very unfortunate that a thunderstorm marred our first night at camp, and several tents were under water by the time it had finished. By the way, we should like to know the name of the person who, during the thunderstorm, told the sergeant-major that a spring had burst underneath his tent.

The days passed very quickly, and were enlivened by Tattoo practices and full dress rehearsals which took place nearly every day. And then a stir was created. Rumour had it that a mad man or boy had cut one of our boy's arms with a razor, but when investigated, the crime was found to have been due to a small boy of tender years. Waterfield happened to be the injured party, and he looked very much like Sherlock Holmes when he identified the small boy.

We were then subjected to scarlet fever isolation. Williams had become a victim and was sent to Lichfield, and the whole Company moved their quarters to the outside of the camp, where we were kept in isolation for ten days ; and that meant that L/Corpl Boy Moore and Boys Adams and Smith R. D. were unable to go to the White City to compete in the Junior A.A.A. championships at the shot, javelin and discus respectively.

An accident befell the French tank on the first night of our show, " The Battle of Toyland," and it refused to move an inch once it arrived on the arena. Luckily, the audience thought it was intended as a slur on foreign-made articles, and the show passed off very well indeed. The French tank has now been repaired and is very unlikely to break down again.

Summer leave will soon be here, and everyone is in the best of spirits and busily working out credits ; but all the same, by so doing they don't help the paybloke. Many backs are sore at present, but then, those people who sunbathe . . . .!

We heartily congratulate the Company athletic team on giving us such a good kick-off in the Mackworth trophy by winning the three Mackworth athletic meetings.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Sic.—Heigho for the freedom of the Press! To use a Latin expression, " Kcotch ne printer me buddley avec impunity." If that's Greek to you, see last month's effort under this heading. With this new *imprimatur* on my P.P., I can now proceed to indite with glorious disregard for the effect of my effusion on the growth of grass (joke).

Sergt. Howler Speaking.—" Shut that blinkin' wireless off! We don't want to know that a nancycyclone and a valuable wind is scattered over the North Sea." But it wasn't our gallant friend who produced the " 120 *miles* hurdles " and " 45 *minutes* for the rapid." He can't be expected to think of everything. Can he?

Savings Association.—This is where we get serious again. We had a telling lecture by the representative of the Army Savings Association which made us furiously to think. A branch has been inaugurated—started, I mean—and the results should be forthcoming as, after all, we do have our share of grey matter. More of this anon. There is no truth in the rumour that bank books have to be shown on kit inspection.

General.—We have just come through a period of great stress, but seem to be bearing up pretty well under it. Our return from camp was followed shortly after by the departure of A Corps and 2nd Divsigs. Both units went off to camp, but the cleaning areas, guards, etc., stayed behind. With the incidence of an R.M.A. demonstration, weapon training, and practice Royal Review parades, it will readily be seen that we didn't have time to miss them—that is, our comrades-in-arms: not the cleaning areas.

It may be of interest to those abroad to know that we are marching past in column: No. 1 Company with thirty-six files dismounted ; No. 2 Company with sixteen riders, two cable wagons and two L.G.S. wagons with six horse teams ; and No. 3 Company with twelve No. 1 set cars and sixteen D.R.s. Quite a—er—cavalcade, if one might use that expression.

Incidentally, the weapon training so far completed—and that represents about half the unit—has produced 83 per cent. first class shots and no thirds. Truly a stiff job for the other half to beat, and a leg up for those uncompromising statistics they turn out at the War House.

Congratulations.—To Captain W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., on the award of that decoration for services as Assistant Commandant and Inspector of Wireless with the Burma Military Police. Well done, sir! Also to U/L/Corpl O'Brien on his appointment.

Seeking Light.—Why has the old route march we used to indulge in turned itself into a rout march? and should we move in column of rout? The expression is becoming practically universal since the peace, and recently led me to my lexicon for enlightenment. By transposition, the following mutinous medley seems a possibility: " The Company is going on a disorderly march. Advance in column of tumultuous confusion!" Gentlemen, I ask you! (There *sic* are some *sic* use in tumultuous, aren't there?) Can anybody rout this rebuttal and put me on the right route?

The Shipping Subsidy.—Perhaps it is only natural that the boat list should create a flutter in the dovecote when it arrives. The reactions to the editions so far out have traversed the whole gamut (whatever that is), the predominant one being resignation —which is just as it should be.

The complete roll of the first Indian draft is too lengthy to reproduce, but here are the n.c.o.s: F/S/Sergt Marshall, Sergeants Knox, Storey, Bennett and Freeman, L/Sergeants Henshaw, Shaw and Farlow, Corporals Hibbett and Ravenhall, L/Corporals Oliver, Griffin, Curtis, Dobson, Burgess and Chapman. Thirty-four other ranks will accompany them.

China Command Signals claim L/Corpl Govev and Signalmen Hutton, Ashford, Stanford and Wilson. also. The " au revoir " said by Sigmn Austen was prophetic. Hong Kong are to be honoured with Corpl Pratchett, L/Corpl Ellison and Signalmen Banham and Edwards T. ; and the Malaya Signal Section may expect Signalmen Tomlinson, Alexander and Campbell.

Corpl Hamilton, L/Corpl Bryan and Sigmn Warner may have their Christmas dinner in Sarafand. Malta may count on Sigmn Melville, while a single passage to Aden has been booked for L/Corpl Green E. E.

All of which will tell you that we are awaiting the Egypt draft. That, however, can wait till next month.

Departures.—Sergt Evelyn R. takes our best wishes with him to the 47th Divisional Signals, but we hope to see him now and again, as liaison (military) is good. Signalmen Bates, Parsonage, Westropp, Aveling and McKune left us on the 1st July, having completed their vocational courses. Their parent units abroad may be interested to know. Good luck to them!

Vocational Training.—Sergt Chenery and Sigmn Lee have gone on vocational courses, preparing for the big battle. Lance-Corporals Castell and Hiscock and Signalmen Seymour and Fellowes have arrived from various places for the same purpose, so that our vocational training hut is as densely populated as ever.

Re-Appropriation.—Old friends wouldn't know No. 4 stable now. No more can Q Section make up their deficiencies at the expense of X and vice versa. The front now has numerous sliding doors disclosing natty little compartments, semi-detached and self contained—in fact, just built for one Section. The workshops are now in the old No. 3 Company end and well fitted up. The harness rooms in the rear have been converted into stores. In fact, the tout ensemble is topping. And weren't J, K and L Sections sorry they didn't come to rest there!

This Freedom.—On mature reflection, it seems that this freedom of the Press business can be overdone. Were we that way inclined, we might take umbrage at *The Evening News* report on the Royal Review rehearsal. Not because they said " The . . . . wireless equipped motor-cars and motor cycles wheeled so perfectly that it seemed they were attached to some unseen bar," but because they attributed this phenomenon to the Royal Engineers. *The Daily Express* photographer also sensed this unseen bar, sprang to attention, sloped, and presented his telephoto apparatus and (*sic*) shot us. But by this time we had passed the saluting base and were in process of changing direction for the wheel. Even then, the camera found no dog's leg or " S " formation but a distinctly original elongated sea-gull. However, in spite of the Press, we hear that the dress rehearsal went off satisfactorily.

Stop Press: Royal Review.—The daily papers have stolen all our thunder regarding the Royal Review, and any lengthy discourse here would be out of date. Suffice it to say that most of us consider ourselves lucky to have been in Aldershot and able to

take part in it. It took place on one of the hottest days of the year, and the troops thoroughly enjoyed the pint of beer which (strictly in accordance with regulation—and tradition) awaited them at dinner time. The toast was " Their Majesties the King and Queen," and on all sides it was remarked how fit and well they looked. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Thursley Camp.

By the time these notes are published, our limited Company will have returned to Aldershot and exactly one month will have elapsed since the camp was folded up. But to be reminded of Thursley, however, should bring nothing but a warm thrill to the heart of both my dear readers. In any case, if the reader of to-day suffers, these notes may serve a purpose in guiding campers of future years, and it is intended that a copy shall be stored in the west wall of the forage barn for the edification of posterity.

Nearly everyone I know motored over to Thursley on the 17th June by way of Tongham, Seale and Elstead, except that the people with the horses took the more appropriate route through Kicking Horse Pass and Medicine Hat.

What a glut of correspondence the camp evoked. Most of the letters concluded: " . . . . . hoping this meets with your consideration and approval," or " . . . . . this is the last opportunity I shall have of seeing these relations before they depart for darkest Africa."

In one letter I received from Miss Cork, written in her usual girlish style, she praises all and everything connected with the camp. She writes: " . . . . . such tentage, bandinage and garbage to delight the ear and eye. Such dear horses cropping the green, green grass. Such bracing air and bulgery in brace-girdles. Delightful crickets in the field and clacketts in the C sets."

Of course, some valuable signal work was put through during the camp period, there being five schemes in all, including one night scheme. I know little of what happened, but I am told that they were awfully exciting and immense fun.

The unfortunate people left in camp while these schemes were in progress amused themselves by lighting heath fires, one of which deserves mention. It occurred about mid-day on Monday 24th June in a plantation flanking the Thursley road and overlooking the camp. Only thirty to forty hands could be mustered to fight the flames, but all these responded gallantly to the call for assistance. Under the leadership of Lieut. G. Thomson and Lieut.-Q.M. W. Clark they swarmed the hillside in a determined body, armed only with crude choppers, bass brooms and other peculiar paraphernalia. When they reached the fire and saw that it had already laid waste about ten acres, they were not so determined, and only the idea of getting a buckshee pair of trousers or boots kept them going. It was very fortunate that the wind blew from the south-east, as otherwise it might have descended the slopes to the Thursley road and threatened the camp with a pile of blazing 50 feet pines. But even in its accomplished form and direction it provided a terrific menace to the miles of Hankley Common, and had it continued unchecked it would have taken all the water in Frensham Ponds to subdue it. But, of course, the Signals arrived just in the nick of time and wrapped a couple of wet sacks round the lot, stamped about for a bit, and it was all over. Phew! . . . . . .

Camp cricket proved popular again this year. The only equipment required is a bat, ball and four stumps: there being only one wicket, one batsman at a time, and several bowlers. Any number from three to fifty can play this game, but there must be a batsman and a wicket-keeper; all the rest are bowlers. No umpires are required, as there is only one side or team. Batsmen are carried off or thrown off according to their size and stamina and their ability to withstand the abuse and balls hurled at them by the bowlers. A bowler can bowl or throw any sort of ball or stone at the batsman. The batsman can only make strokes in self-defence, except that hard leg driving is encouraged when the sergeant-major appears in his tent. If a batsman wilfully strikes a loose ball, he is liable to be either struck himself or charged under Section 40. If the ball strikes the batsman first, that's quite all right.

Blind policeman was another popular pastime, but as a new regimental policeman was required for every game, and the supply was not adequate, the game lost prestige. Once a policeman had been secured, the game could proceed merrily. All that was required was to trip him up and gouge his eyes out. During the hunt for the " man with the glaring eyes " this game was to be tried out on the locals, but everyone pleaded stiffness.

Everyone played tag once a day. It consisted of a combined charge on to a strip of land marked out with flags. The first complete party of players to stand still, with their hands behind their backs, were the prize winners in this fascinating game.

Tent-pegging was not so popular and was only played after sessions at the Red Lion.

Beside all this, there were countless events that must go unrecorded or be reserved for discussion amongst the topers. Only water colours could record accurately the pictorial beauty of such as Metcalfe the medicine man, clad only in his hair shirt the while he ladled and lobbed out the liquors and sweetmeats. And then the Lidoesque charm of the Lady Fayerman and her court lying limply among the bullrushes by the moat! MOLLY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We must, of course, start with the usual apologies, etc., for our absence last month. Truth to tell, we really have been busy, and that's no hoey. Preparations for the King's Review parade and what not. Unlike the mechanised Company who lock their geegees up for the night, we have to groom, etc. Even the dismounted Company has its advantages. Who wouldn't do a drill order if a joy ride came after it? Dear me! this modern Army of ours—whatever is it coming to?

By the time these notes appear in print, the Royal Review parade will be over. I wonder how many of the spectators will have given a thought to the hard-working efforts of Tommy Atkins who will have made it such a roaring success—I say success, because I'm sure it will be. Every n.c.o. and man of the Company has worked with untiring enthusiasm. The drivers of B Cable and F Sections have entered into a real competition to see which turns out the smartest harness. To the casual observer it is really hard to decide, but judging by the number of B Cable personnel who take a sly peep at F's harness when hung up, I should say that . . . . . Oh, boy! what lovely steels they have!

For the benefit of our comrades in Signals outside the Aldershot Command, I would like to mention that the 2nd Divl Signals will have marched past His Majesty with one Company dismounted, another Company with sixteen mounted men in line followed by two cable detachments, and yet another Company in two seater cars with No. 1 sets and motor cyclists in half-sections.

Births.—Quite a lot this month. To Driver and Mrs. Haylett, a son. To Sigmn and Mrs. Bedden, a daughter. To Sigmn and Mrs. Jones, a daughter. Congratulations!

Marriages.—Nil, but we know of a few in the offing. What about Wokingham, Midge?

Drafts.—So many that I cannot remember the names, but congratulations (?) all the same. India is such a nice place that I'm sure they are all looking forward to it. The sea voyage is good, too. Wonderful moonlight nights in the Mediterranean (if you still have an interest in life).

Tit-Bits.—This is probably a new heading. You should see the smiling faces and bloated chests of F Section just because a sergeant and four men relieved B Cable Section at Thursley Camp. Yes, and did their work, too. Congratulations, F; you are certainly a 100 per cent. Section.

We Want to Know.—Who is the driver who turned out for a fatigue twenty-four hours too soon and then got into a flat spin because no brakesman had turned up?

Who is the signalman who laid his kit in the middle of his tent at Thursley and then took a snap of it?

Who promised to meet a young lady but forgot the time? and who engaged her in conversation until he turned up? Swift work, eh?

Who detailed Fizzer to ride Thorpe?

Arrivals.—Sigmn Dyson from 1st Divl Signals to that sun bathing Section at Brighton.

Agony.—L/Corpl Swift H., North Ireland: Am on draft for India. What about a line?

Sigmn Hancock: We miss your cheery smile. What about a letter? E.

Big brother Anderson, Abbassia: How about it, Pete ? ain't you got 1½d ?

Chappell, late of No. 2 Company and at present in India: A snake never forgets.

Bedfordians, Please Note.—A Bedfordian Regular is delighted to see the photo of the Jubilee parade at Bedford. Recognised all the lads. See you soon. THE ROUGH.

No. 6 Artillery Signal Section, Deepcut.

Introduction.—Pre-eminent among the moves of the Home Army is the annual migration of No. 6 A.S.S. to Deepcut, the hill station for Aldershot. I have written " No. 6 A.S.S.," but that is rather a misnomer because four of them now recline amidst the fragrant splendours of the East, and on reading these lines they will no doubt bray a welcome chord of interest or otherwise. However, the flock having migrated to their summer residence, it is time for the scribe of the tribe to seize his inky quill and relate to eager readers all the farings of the ol' sect. since the world was last acquainted of its happenings about a year ago.

Tempus having seemingly " fugited " with more than its usual celerity, one has to ponder deeply to gain a favourable sequence of events worthy of recording. However, to note the latest changes in the Section. Sergt Field (Stagger) has just hopped in from Catterick. Corpl Adams (Tiny), of whom I heard murmurs wondering how much longer he would be in the Section. " Bodyline " Bowling and L/Corporals Pike and Parry have also arrived. The latter, in spite of the prevalence of woodpeckers in this vicinity, continues to walk about hatless. L/Corpl Macey has left us for E Section at Brighton, much to the unit auditor's delight, for grey hairs will not now be so prevalent in that department.

Romance.—In the world of love, that tender and impulsive emotion, record must be made of Gnik, who journeys far into the rustic regions across the Hog's Wapas, where resides, with yearning heart, the youthful maiden of his destiny. He propels himself to these pursuits bi-cycle, and 'tis said that so great is his ardour that he tires not, although the sustenance taken before the long and hilly ride may only be a Mars bar or an R.A. rissole. I am sure that the dark man of Karachi will join us in wishing him every success in the plighting of his troth.

Mechanical Monstrosities.—Love has been mentioned already, but there is yet another love: this for a worthy battle-scarred monarch of the tribe. It is of French ancestry and boasts of its name of Crossley-Kegresse. It has had a dash and a curse over it ever since it was created, I believe. It still survives, O ex-Sixites.

Last year it nearly succumbed to rather harsh treatment, for it became awfully pugnacious and chased a poor little Austin, only half its horse-power, down a hill on Chobham Ridges and hit it a terrific crash with its tailboard. It then snorted and made several leaps, both in reverse and forward gear—just to frighten the poor Baby Austin, I suppose—and shook a ragged track in the dust. Poor Austin! its little radiator was all bent, and big tears gushed into a dusty grave ; but the Kegresse—callous thing!—heeded not its grief, but shook two ragged tracks in quick succession and snorted to the crest of the dusty hill again, leaving the vanquished Austin in the depth of despair and the valley below.

Its driver, Herr Von Rams Den, tried hard to curb its brutal passions, but alas! no sooner had its tailboard been repaired than it was off again, but this time securely lashed to a railway truck bound for Okehampton in Devon. It just hated the Devon scenery and made another brutal attack, this time on the railway station of Oke, thereby tearing its side ; and not content with this display of recalcitrance, it attacked the garage door on its return to Deepcut.

There followed a period of recuperation and idleness during the winter season, but this has not curbed its pugnacious tendencies, for on entering again into military activities it just stopped and kicked off its starting handle, and after that, with ferocious determination, inflicted terrible facial injuries on a Morris Minor called Pansie, deprived it of its lamps and pushed its face back amidships, whilst its nether regions also suffered embarrassing chastisement. It is now residing within the precincts of Ordnance, its usual habitation.

Personal.—Will Cagney or Burbling Brooks give my regards to Ram Singh of India? I remember, when he was bitten by a

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nondescript hound of the Kogkpur Kennel Club, he came to me and said " Kutta your dog is, corporal sahib ?" " Nahin varmint," I replied. To which he answered " 'Cos this dog him breakit my esslacks," and pointed to a formidable rent in his voluminous pants. SCHNEEIG.

P.S.—When visiting our patient in Ordnance recently, we heard a rumour that this was the last time that the authorities were going to stand its malingering. On the next occasion, they promise us that it will be invalided from the Service. We are considering whether to set up a fund to ensure that it spends its last days in peace. Will old Sixites please notify us of the amounts they are prepared to contribute ?

P.P.S.—We are not quite so sure about that dash now.
SCHNEEIG.

No. 3 Company.

General.—A busy month, my friends. Section training ; odd camps here and there ; Jubilee parades craftily inserted by the orderly room staff just as you thought you had crept with an afternoon off ; and finally, a unit camp for three weeks at Thursley showed Satan that he wouldn't stand a chance of finding any idle hands in No. 3 Company.

Our sojourn at Thursley was a huge success, despite the fact that in the early stages the unit resembled a training school for lino-layers. The only person in the Company to enjoy that was our renowned flesh eater from Catterick who, being well in, had dug himself a lair in the forage tent, where there were no tent boards.

The unit had a couple of two day schemes each week, only two Sections of this Company being out each time. The third Section, although officially in camp, was utilised to reinforce the two Sections on schemes. Cans were handed out to all deserving cases at the conference which followed each scheme. Traffic was originated by w.o.s and n.c.o.s representing " G " Staff and Brigade-Majors. The wit which followed seems to indicate that, should they ever return to civil life, such puny people as G.B.S. and P. G. Wodehouse, Hannen Swaffer and others had better cast round for some comfortable place of retirement.

With the exception of the first few days the weather was fine, but even when it rained most heavily I heard no mention of a return to Aldershot. However, the camp is now finished. If next year is going to be as good, then I'm sure we all say " Roll on!"—hoping, meanwhile, that the kind fairy at Records does not catch us for another trip on the Bara Bateau.

From Another Angle.—Thanks to the R.S.M., the corporals were taken unto the bosom of the seniors for the duration of the camp. This was an excellent arrangement for the corporals and the Mess profits. I believe Cpl Butler wishes especially to thank our pay bloke for rallying round.

The word has gone around Aldershot that our seniors are easy. In the eyes of certain of our juniors, the sergeants mess is a land of milk and honey: a place where the entrance of two or more juniors is the signal for two or more seniors to flock round (after certain formalities pertaining to a box and bones have been completed) with free liquid refreshment. A little ground-bait was laid now and again by the juniors just to prevent wholesale suicide among the seniors, who by clever wrist work invariably achieved clear rounds. The caterer could be depended on to dead flop two nines any time.

On Sunday 1st July the Mess entertained the married families. Thursley dog races proved as popular as in the previous year, the

Sergeants Mess Dog Races at Thursley Camp.

tote showing a good return (but not to me). Tea, pony rides, camp inspections, and some snappy work on the R/T sets (the farrier figuring prominently) passed away the time pleasantly until 9 p.m., when the ladies were sped on their way with floral offerings. Then, after a smart piece of elbow drill by the hounds to celebrate their release from the leash, it was called a day—and a good one, too.

Seen at the Home.—Corporal Trudgett in an unnatural rôle: blustering bookie instead of peevish punter. R.Q.M.S. Wensley refusing to play hide and seek. Corpl Walker in a new pose (we will publish that photo next month, Mick). Sergeant Jones in a futile endeavour to teach the chitty system to infants in arms.

Thursday 4th July saw yet another function. This was the visit of the officers of the unit, led by the C.O. himself, to the Sergts Mess for the purpose of playing a triangular games tournament against the seniors and juniors. Contrary to expectations the officers proved winners, the corporals being second and the seniors applying for re-election. The officers showed an unexpected proficiency at poker, dice and shove-ha'penny. Whether it was beginner's luck or proof of a misspent youth, I don't know ; but the fact remains that the challenge cup was presented to the commanding officer, who showed clearly that he knew what to do with it.

Then followed two more presentations—both to Corpl Walker. He now has a broom, witch's, with hairs, wooden, all to himself (infantry stable picquets, please note). He has also received a remarkable hand-engraved medal for being the best purveyor of cowboy's blacking that the unit has possessed. There is no doubt that he deserved it. Congratulations are also due to the same n.c.o. on being adjudged the best male dancer (limber-gunner style) at the Thursley village ball. You old cave-horse, Micky!

We Found Out at Thursley.—What a disguised policeman looks like. A short cut from the Red Lion to camp (the route can be had from Corpl Butler, who has it engraved on his shins).

We Want to Know.—What certain seniors did with the white-wash supplied by two juniors. The real facts about the witch's broom. What Sergeant Jones knows about the man hunt on Thursley Hill.

Moves.—Corpl Smith and a band of K Section warriors to the assistance of the 55th T.A. Signals at Buxton. I suppose that they, too, want the Mess funds boosted. Of this more anon.
And now for a gargle. PIG.

Royal Review.—For the purpose of the Royal Review, this Company was mechanised. Here is an extract from a well known newspaper: " Loud applause greeted twelve tiny motor cars of the 2nd Divisional Signals, with tall wireless aerials above them, when they wheeled in line after passing the royal pavilion as perfectly as the infantry which had preceded them."

Conclusion.—Au revoir. THREECO.

[*See also Editorial Notes in this issue—Ed.*]

Sergeants Mess.

We had a wonderful camp at Thursley, glorious weather, and a contented Unit Mess. The advance party arrived on the 13th June, and managed to have the camp ship-shape by the time of arrival of the main body on the 16th.

The corporals, who were made honorary members of the Mess during the camp period, soon began to throw their weight about ; but when they found they had to dig deep in their pockets for the necessary to pay Jones the caterer, they soon quietened down. Their champs (Pay and Petrol) were really easy at that skilful game of darts, but when pokey dice was mentioned, they flocked to it and, with their usual luck and the fact that the seniors had to carry the Shoey's weight on their shoulders every time, managed to win. (Who was it who said " Um ko malam nahin cam?" when poking for one at lunch time?) The messing was good, and the caterer and Mess staff are to be congratulated on their good show.

The corporal of " new comers only " fame (Depot, please note) kept up his reputation of telling the tale. His story of the witch's broom (the one with the wooden hairs) at 11.0 p.m., after a few Nut Browns, will long be remembered.

On Sunday 30th June the wives and families arrived in full force. Dog racing was their first greeting, and after a heavy tea at which the kiddies pulled their full weight, they were supplied with pop and ices, and had a look round the camp. Many good stories were told. Some the writer memorised, and others he wrote down for future telling (especially those two about the young men from Newcastle). A very enjoyable day, but how did the cocktails manage to disappear ?

On Thursday 4th July a triangular games tournament was held: officers v. sergeants v. corporals. Competition was very keen, and the competitors had trained (I think the winners had had some secret practice) for nearly three weeks for the event and on the night were fighting fit. Owing to a lot of luck on No. 2 at darts and the painting of the top bed at push half-penny, the officers took the cup, winning by four clear points. I will not say who were third in the table, but they will win next year's tournament. A fitting climax to the evening's sport was the presenting of the cup (filled to the brim) to the captain of the officers' team, and a broom, birch, and medal to the champion Corporal Gripper.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 15th July.

General.—A unit scheme took place at Thursley during the period 27th to 29th June. The weather clerk was good to us, and I understand the stunt was enjoyed by everyone taking part. The 2nd Divl Signals, who were in camp at Thursley, very kindly cooked our food, the rations being brought from Blackdown daily. I believe they did us fairly well.

The Cable Detachment are in for a rather busy time during July. Immediately after the Royal Review at Rushmoor on the 13th July, they are moving off to Hornchurch area to lay a spot of cable for the 1st and 2nd A.A. Brigades R.A. and 1st A.A.

S/L Group R.E., who are in training in the above area from the 15th to 21st July. On or about 16th July two detachments move to the Tilbury-Gravesend area to commence laying communications for the Air Defence Brigade exercise. Of this I shall endeavour to give you the low-down in my next notes.

Warmer Climes.—Once again the usual sweat appears on many faces, and Unit Orders are carefully scrutinised these days. So far, the following have received provisional warning for stations as stated.

India: Lieut. A. J. Hamilton (Waziristan District Signals), 2/Lieut. E. F. Mervyn-Smith (3rd Indian Divl. Signals), Corpl Webb A., L/Corpl Harper W., and Signalmen Hughes E. and Crockett F. China: L/Corpl Pfeiffer G. Aden: Sigmn Couzens S. D. Malaya: Signalmen Merriman and Fisk (any information on this station can be had on application to the unit office). Gibraltar: Sigmn Blake A. (for the second time).

Courses: A.V.T.C.—Sergeant French H. proceeded to the A.V.T.C. Aldershot on the 1st July for a course in electrical wiring.

Arrivals.—2/Lieut. E. F. Mervyn-Smith from the S.T.C. on the 30th June. His stay with us won't be very long, as he has been earmarked for warmer climes. Sigmn Thompson W. from the S.T.C.

Royal Review.—The Royal Review at Rushmoor is now a thing of the past, but it is something to be remembered. The whole unit did not take part. Those representing us included the commanding officer (Captain C. F. Newsom), G Cable Section under Lieut. A. J. Hamilton, 2/Lieut. T. de B. Miller, C.S.M. Bale H., C.Q.M.S. Mears L., Sergt Brown, Corpl lent, several others whose names I do not know, and six despatch riders. I understand the march past of the mechanised portion of the Command was a fine sight. When one compare this review with that of 1925, it shows what strides have been made in the mechanisation of the Army.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Conolly, our pay bloke, on becoming a cad. He looked a bit on the egg and egg-green side when I saw him reading the rules of this caddish club. Anyone requiring further details regarding membership should apply to the aforesaid pay bloke. Come along, you cads.

Jew's Post.—To Sergt Bloodworth H., 1st Indian Divisional Signals, from Corpl Webb A.: Even if all the ink in India has dried up, there is no objection to your using a pencil.

Hints to Wives.—The above subject has been referred to me by several pads of this unit, so each month I will endeavour to give you details (said he, speaking from experience).

Hint 1—Good wives are tender, maternal sort of creatures, ever ready with a sympathetic demeanour or a good juicy—I was going to say steak, but I just thought of Army rations, so nuff said.

Hint 2—A good wife is a silent wife; she never chatters (this is a good hint for some husbands).

Hint 3—When your lawful lord and master wishes to rush off to cricket on Saturdays, see that his flannels are laid out in readiness for him, and speed him on his way with soft speeches such as "Have a good time, dear, and don't hurry back."

Hint 4—Remember there is no pay for rainy days, and see that he has enough money at the end of each month to enable him to pay his C.R.A.

I think the above is quite sufficient for the dear ladies to digest in one month, so here's to the next time. J.M.G.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Assaye Barracks.

General Salute: Present Arms.—All ranks are extremely gratified at the signal honour bestowed on the Corps by H.M. the King in appointing H.R.H. the Princess Royal to be our Colonel-in-Chief.

General.—The unit, with the exception of a few details, went under canvas on the 10th July for a spell of camp life. So far, glorious thirsty weather has attended them. Hope they have a nice little pub near. You know, one o' they nice cool country pubs, where the beer is about 3d. a pint, cool and clear; where old yokels play shove-ha'penny with undreamed skill and darts with either hand; where the barmaid is a buxom wench with cheeks like rosy apples; where a man can sit and enjoy his pint at peace with the world and himself. Yes, but they pubs want foinding. Phew! It must have been this hot weather that set me day-dreaming like that. I'd better get back to the subject on hand before I get any worse.

The unit is attached to the 1st Tank Brigade at Tilshead until approximately the 10th August. Now and again, information leaks back to us here in Tidworth of jobs attempted and done well.

The unit "at home" is scheduled for Wednesday 17th July, when we all gather for a chin wag and to hear the Corps Band play to us. We're expecting great things of them—so more anon.

The Tidworth Tattoo is gradually taking shape. The rehearsals take place on the 30th July and 1st August, and the actual show is from 3rd to 10th August (excepting Sunday).

L (Nery) Battery R.A. have just arrived to do their bit towards the show, and are attached to us for accommodation until the Tattoo is over.

It will be an even better show this year, so roll up in your thousands. The D.R.s are giving a show again this time after a year's rest. This time the 3rd Divl. Signals are training them, so I'll leave the commentary to that unit's scribe.

Congratulations.—To Dick Collyer the elder on regaining his form. See appropriate page in the Sports Section.

To the following on attaining trade rises:— Corpl Marsh H., D.R. D.ii. Signalmen Mullen, Price E. and Linton J., A.ii. Sigmn Freeman A., D.R. D.iii. Sigmn Robinson, op.sig. B.iii.

To Corpl Blight G. on being put on the married quarters roll at last. All moans and sweats off.

To L/Corpl and Mrs. Dale on the addition of a little valley (Jean Kathleen) at Tidworth. Also prize peas, docks and nettles. To L/Sergt (Peggy) Neal and his wife on the birth of a son (Alfred John) at Tidworth. Another spark off the old anvil. To Sigmn (Peter) and Mrs. Weeks on the birth of a son (Ronald Albert) at Andover. You've had my battery a long time, Peter. What about it? To Sigmn Marley E. on joining the select band of class ii. clerks. Oh, he's good—he must be, 'cos he said so.

Departures.—Sigmn Freeman A. to civvy street. Bad luck, Al. Everybody here wishes you the best of luck and a speedy recovery. Sigmn Clark A. C. to the Army Reserve. Hope you learned a lot on the voc. course. All ranks wish you the best of luck in your new sphere. Sigmn King L. D. on transfer to the R.A.O.C. to join his brother. Best of luck to you, sub-conductor.

Curses.—(Ditto. I've left out the "O.") Sergt Atkinson F. to Leafield, Oxfordshire, for a short course of instruction at the G.P.O. Wireless Station prior to proceeding to Tientsin for the Peking Legation in October.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—Corpl Brown J. from A Corps Signals. This is our prospective Foreman-of-Signals. We tender him a hearty welcome, and hope his stay with us will be a very pleasant and profitable one.

Drafts.—Officer i/c Records move. For the information of our chums abroad, and to give them the necessary authority to draw corner beds, the following moves *may* take place. India: Corpls Frank Etwell and Alf Button, L/Corporal John Potts, Signalmen Johnson W., Williams F., Price E., Lennon C. and Bromley W. China: Signalmen Songhurst J. and McGinley J. Tientsin: Sergt Atkinson F. Egypt (this is secret, so keep it dark): L/Sergeant Bill Warren and pay warrant.

Theelephantstail.—Au revoir till next month—I hope.

RUSTY.

A Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to H.Q. 1st Tank Brigade, R.T.C., Tilshead]

General.—Yet once again we are preparing to re-visit Tilshead. Much have I written about that thrice glorious land where speech is loud but seldom clear, and, furthermore, neither is the tea. I remember once learning a poem which began something after this manner:—

"I will arise and go now, and go to Innesfree,
And nine bean rows will I have there,
And a hive for the honey bee," etc.

Now, my idea was to be very kind to the rest of the Section in the (apparently forlorn) hope of finding a Masefield or a Kipling

embryo. I have a pet cartoonist—at times, that is. Still, as Busty said when he found himself on the steps of the U.J.C., "I wonder . . . . . ?"

Knowing you, Rusty, I am just a little chary of your prize, because I still have memories of a spot waltz prize (ask Ritchie ; he knows).

The summer break is now but a memory of sun and wind and rain and—well, I think you can guess the rest. L/Corpl Richards has deserted us awhile for the R.A.F., but since he rejoins us at our country residence, we may forgive him if he promises never to leave us Ginger to argue with alone.

Arrivals.—We welcome our new O.C., Lieut. R. J. Moberly, fresh from the wide open spaces of Ind, and hope he will enjoy his holiday at Tilshead. He took us in hand on the 17th July. Also Driver (I.C.) Stones A. with a present from Tich, who, however, completely forgot the four by twice.

£ s. d.—Congratulations to our I.M.s, Signalmen Mullen and Price, on being paid for their A.ii. Maybe, now our matches will last longer. Who knows ?

We Want to Know.—Who said, on a morning after, "Leaf me alone" ? Did Herr peel or eat all those potatoes ? If Banjo the flannel merchant's record is beatable (never mind, Pop ; you ran him close). Has the Sewing Guild a new member ?

Hospital.—We hope that Sigmn Gear will soon be saying good-bye to the Cambridge Hospital—or is it the Sister, we fondly ask. Still, old chap, we do long for that angelic smile of yours.

Personal.—I am a disappointed man. No one has dared to take the plunge yet, though there are sundry waverings on the brink. Maybe, next month will be more successful. If not, I will have to see about this sad state of affairs. Is there anyone save Busty who hasn't a sweat on ? MERCURIUS.

C Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to the 3rd Battn Royal Tank Corps, Lulworth, Dorset]

Around and About.—Maybe, most of you have heard of or been to Lulworth Cove. A nice place! I say this because Tilshead calls very very shortly. I'm afraid most of the Section will be sorry to leave Lulworth. For scenery it has Tilshead (or any other resort) beaten to a frazzle.

Now to business. Our journey from Lydd in Kent commenced on the 20th June. I say commenced, because some came by the Section lorry in one day. Others came via Farnborough (Tank Brigade exercise) in two days. Corpl Fletcher assisted Sergeant Atkinson (of Tank Brigade Signals) with the experiment of a new set designed for light tanks. They accompanied the road party of the 3rd Battalion R.T.C., the journey being completed in three days.

Our new C.O., Major F. A. H. Mathew, paid us a visit on the 5th July.

As our stay here lasts only a fortnight, we considered ourselves fortunate in enjoying two concerts given by the Imperial Players of N.A.A.F.I. fame during that time.

Having said so much for the general outlines, we will switch over to the sidelines.

Streamline.—Or redline, as the case may be. Tanky to Signalman: "Wot can she do, mate?" Signalman (proud of his bike): "Oh! about 50's, I should say." Tanky: "Does she run smoothly, I mean." Signalman: "Well, you know—swom, snick, swom, swom! telegraph poles, zwop, zwop, zwop—like that!" Ask Hank. He does it better than I can write it.

Missing.—Or nearly: one signalman, one week-end! One bike, one small-end! Now, I wonder? Perhaps he'll miss this part.

Combines, etc.—Of course, Sam knows all about this! He wrote on a box (that held the cups, cocoa and other such things for brewing) the words "Combine—handle carefully." A certain person asked what kind of set that was. Another went one better and asked why we kept such gun-powder! Sam gives it up as a bad job after that. Yes, he went right off frequency and blew up.

Post Bag.—John Malay: Sam would very much like that letter you owe him. How about it ?

Conclusion.—Not a lot this month, lads. We therefore bid you all adios till Tilshead. C.SEC.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Apology.—First, I must apologise for the absence of notes for the last two issues of THE WIRE. I can only put it down to the pressure of work.

General.—On the 17th June the Troop left barracks at about 9 a.m. to scheme down to Southbourne, just south of Christchurch on the south coast. The scheme involved the Troop in supplying W/T communication from various scout patrols back to R.H.Q. of the 3rd Hussars. From all accounts this was a success, and long distances were covered with the No. 1 sets, despite such setbacks as working on the main roads—where great interference was experienced from power lines, telegraph lines and passing cars—and the difficulties due to the fact that atmospheric conditions were far from good.

We halted for the night at Cadnam in the New Forest, where the horses joined us ; and sad to relate, the weather was very bad and it rained practically the whole time. After tucking the horses in and bidding them good-night in varying terms of endearment, we proceeded to "The Barleycorn," to imbibe, boast, and show the locals our skill at darts. We were quite good at the latter up to about the eighth or ninth bunker (in the form of beers) but after that, I rather think we got a little stale. I have a vague remembrance of a dart sticking in one of the player's puttees, and a little while after one was found in the table behind him ; and when spoken to about it, he said he had too much come-back on it. After spending a very good evening, we proceeded to our beds—some to sleep in tents and the remainder (poor fellows!) in the cars.

Up bright and early next morning, we again carried on the scheme and eventually arrived at Southbourne. Much to our surprise, we were met by the T.S.M., who directed us to tents already erected and informed us that we were messing with the 3rd Hussars—who, I must say, did us exceedingly well. Sea bathing and de-saving (if I may coin a word) was the order of the day, and to all intents and purposes we had a splendid holiday by the sea.

Mac arrived home one night and woke me up from a perfectly good sleep by babbling something about "Flimping Fanny," and produced a photo of one of the local celebrities—sorry! I mean ladies. After I had passed a rather non-flattering remark about her features, he rambled on for another hour or so about "under her bosom beats an honest heart," until finally he went to sleep. I was just dozing off again when Von started the same ramble, but I fell asleep again and left him talking to himself.

We worked a scheme on the way back and halted at Downton for the night. Some of the troops enjoyed a spot of moonlight bathing, less the moon but plus—their clothes. I think that in future they will remember the old adage "A good soldier never runs away," as all the local lad wished to tell them was that they could have used the punt more easily on the other side of the river.

Next day we arrived back in barracks, to prepare for a signal exercise which was to take place two days after.

We left barracks on Monday evening and proceeded to Gasper, and camped for the night by the side of a lake amidst beautiful scenery. We had a welcome surprise during the evening in the form of a present of both beer and cigarettes from Lady Hoare, for which we were very grateful. I will not bore you with details of the signal exercise, except to mention that the Troop maintained its very high standard of efficiency—at least, I have not heard anyone say that they did not.

We are now back in barracks and have practically reverted to our normal routine, and are working hard to prepare for the Brigade Commander's inspection which is to take place shortly. It is marvellous how all hands pull together when preparing for these inspections, as—believe it or believe it not—I actually saw one of the Troop pick up a used match on the verandah and thrown it down to the 4/7th D.G. parade ground.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt McLoughlin from leave to take over duties of i/c horse lines. Sigmn Loughrey from Exeter.

Departures.—Sergeant Honnor to undergo a short vocational course at Hounslow. Best of luck, Toby.

Entertainments.—A certain bright youth in the Troop put in a pass to Liss, to which place he was going to hike, and kept half the Troop worried for some days in trying to locate the place in

question. He is a confirmed hiker, and the other day, whilst out with the lads on driving instruction, he had the misfortune to run into one of our stationary cars before he could pull up his own, causing the wreckage of three of our Morris W/T cars. Well, I am all against cars tearing along the road, poisoning the countryside with their evil smell (you're smelling me) and driving everyone else off the road ; but we hikers, you know, Hector, must stand aside and let the march of progress go on. Ours not to exterminate that which we do not like. BEECEE.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Candahar Barracks, 12th July.

General.—The training season is now in full swing and we have been fairly busy during recent weeks. Our first seasonal gift (?) has been received from Chatham, and Sergt Archer has the doubtful distinction of being allotted an individual provisional warning. Unfortunately, in this enlightened and mechanised age we doubt if there is a unit having one hundred and fifty horses on stable charge, but we have no cause to believe that this minor detail will damp the enthusiasm. India seems to be a popular domicile this trooping season.

Re-Engagements.—Corporals Penny C. and Pawsey H. and Sigmn Faulkner B. have re-engaged to complete twenty-one years with the Colours.

Trade Ratings.—The results of the recent trade test have been received, and the following have been classified as shown. To operator wireless B.i. L/Sgt Williams H. B. and Cpl Pawsey H. To operator signals B.i. Corpl Penny C. and L/Corpl Speakes F. To operator signals B.ii. Signalmen Wilsdon L., Fleckney T., Cardew F. and Faulkner B.

Hospital.—We are pleased to record that Sigmn Addis has been discharged from the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, and is at present browsing and sluicing on furlough.

Entertainments.—This paragraph could also be headed " Entertainments at which we have (unfortunately) not been present."

And it came to pass that a certain high personage of F Troop was called upon to provide transport for a wedding or a funeral —we cannot remember the exact nature of the occasion. Having arrived at the place of celebration, the aforementioned H.P. proceeded to park the mobile hay net in a place of security adequately screened from aircraft and hostile observation. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the triumphant exodus from Shipton was somewhat marred by the fact that an ill-bred horse (civilian pattern) had made a fairly hefty meal of the coachwork. It is reported from a reliable source that the air was literally rent with screams for plastic wood and insulating tape. The widows of Ashar were as mutes compared with the wailings of the H.P. We understand that nets, hay, complete with two refills, now form part of the spares equipment.

Cricket.—A match has been arranged with D Troop at Aldershot for Saturday 20th July, and we are all looking forward to the trip. Many of us were fortunate enough to be with the Troop when we played D Troop at football last year, and if the cricket match is as enjoyable we shall not have cause to moan.

Agony.—Viv, Baldy, Thomo, Steve, Wally (snooper of socks) and 'Aggis Bowie: Have great hopes of proceeding from Tid in the very near future. Any claims against the Rut estate should be forwarded (in triplicate) as long after my departure as possible. Remember there are others, and it may not be possible to include you in the shuffle.

Onions, G Troop: Shall be seeing you shortly, I fear. Bunker.

R.U.T.

Extract from the Log of the Bluebird.

SUNDAY, 1ST JULY.

9. 0 Weather fine. Toy with the idea of a 150 mile run.
9. 5 Examine tyres and hastily revise original plans. Cancel 150 mile run and substitute 50.
9.25 Proceed to the kiosk to toy further with the idea. Surprised at the lack of enthusiasm displayed by potential ballast.
9.45 Borrow Bunkers' Karpol and proceed to beautify the tumbril. Caustic and insulting remarks float down from the region of F Troop verandah. Poppa churns vigorously at starting handle, but nothing happens.
10.50 Poppa still churning. Standing room only on Troop verandah.
11.30 Engine starts but clutch refuses to disengage.
11.33 For the honour of Matilda, and for the sake of peace and quietness, decide to venture into the blue.
12.00 Arrayed in gent's natty spring suitings (Hock and Co.) sally forth on the great adventure.
12.10 Going strong. Arrived Hampshire Cross. No defects. Call at Tidworth Motors and treat Matilda to four gallons of Esso.
12.11 Call at British Legion and treat ourselves to small—er, quantities of I.P.A.
13.25 Leave B.L. and proceed to amuse the rustics with a rendering of the Austin symphony in three gears.
14.00 Steaming majestically in the direction of Savernake. Ballast yell lustily when we miss caravan trailer by ⅞ in.
14.05 Savernake. Engine sluggish, speedo only registering 53.5 m.p.h. Discover hand brake left on since departing from Tid.
15.30 Arrive Oxford, and cruise gracefully around to the detriment of sundry pedestrians. Realise with horror that the amusements do not open until 7 p.m. Decide upon mystery tour . . . . . .
19.30 Arrive Witney. View passing traffic from delightful bay window of local hostelry. Local inhabitants view tumbril with grave suspicion.
20.30 Depart for Tid. Pass several Bentleys (proceeding in the opposite direction).
22.30 Arrive Marlborough. Wonder how ? Collect first puncture. Advise ballast to effect the repairs. More lack of enthusiasm.
22.45 Repairs effected. Proceed in direction of Tid.
22.47 Collect second puncture. Proffer more advice. Atmosphere frigid. Ballast assume role of technical advisers. Progress retarded. Gent's natty spring suitings somewhat tattered. Ballast hold forth on joys of motoring. Suspect sarcasm. Puncture eventually repaired and proceed once more in the direction of Tid.
22.51 Collect third puncture plus abuse from the ballast. Feeble-minded member of party suggests removing tube and stuffing with ferns. Remaining members, slightly more feeble-minded, accept the suggestion. Savernake Forest devastated in search of suitable foliage. One member, absent twenty minutes, returns triumphantly bearing two small leaves in upraised hook. Five-minute lecture on supply and demand. Passing motorists continue to pass. Scan the assembled company and decide Poppa is giving a bandit effect to the proceedings. Banish Poppa to the undergrowth. Stuffing completed. Vote of thanks to first feeble-minded individual and proceed to Tid.
23.15 Ferns not an unqualified success. Require only roast and one veg. to have roast and two veg. Withdraw vote of thanks to first F.M.I. and pass strong vote of censure.
23.20 With the application of team spirit and a few quotations from some of the minor poets, eventually effect repairs and proceed to Tid without further mishap. R.U.T.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Last month we groused about the weather, having had nothing but rain. This time it is the other way about, but we are not grousing. Salisbury Plain in decent weather is a grand place, except when you are sitting in a tin hut. As a matter of fact, it has been very hot, and it is amusing to see those lately returned from the East trying to keep cool and not always succeeding. Being hardened koi hais, they will not admit defeat by comp'aining of the heat, but occasionally a muttered oath can be heard.

The Southern Command signal exercise took place on the 25th/26th June, and we spent the preceding night at Bruton in Somerset, some forty miles away from here. One detachment of B Section and K and L Sections marched out on the 23rd in appallingly hot weather, but a thunderstorm cooled things down on the 25th and, incidentally, completely " did in " W/T communication for the rest of the scheme. It shows we cannot rely too much on wireless, even in this country. We spent the night of 25th/26th at Maiden Bradley in a field selected by the directing staff, who had skilfully persuaded the Divisional commander

to go there. The 1st Divl Signals were acting as enemy interception sets during the exercise, and many interesting points have arisen as a result of their efforts.

The Corps Band arrived on Saturday 13th July. We were very pleased to see them again, and hope they will enjoy their short stay here.

Yesterday we had our gymkhana, and the unit was " at home." We had lovely weather, and everyone enjoyed themselves. The display despatch riders gave an excellent performance which augured well for the Tattoo. To-morrow they are giving a display at Bournemouth. We have been told that we were wrong in having Norton machines this year, but so far we cannot agree, as they are standing up well and are (we understand) beautiful to handle.

We will leave the description of the various social events of this week until our next notes. We hope to send up a few photographs, especially of the O.C.A. church parade which takes place next Sunday, at which we hope we will have a record attendance.

Arrivals.—From the S.T.C. on 30/6/35, 2/Lieut. J. W. Smith-Ainsley. From the Depot Battalion on 25/6/35, Drivers Bedding H., Davies D. and Johnson H. ; on 9/7/35, Corpl Brown H. ; and on 11/7/35, C.Q.M.S. Stevenson W. From the Training Battalion on 9/7/35, Signalmen King A., Porter V. and Taylor E.

Departures.—Sigmn Tyler H. to the Training Battalion on 25/6/35. Signalman Clegg to A.V.T.C. Hounslow on 1/7/35. Signalmen Rogers G., Roberts F., Lawson J. and Saunders C. to A.V.T.C. Chisledon on 1/7/35.

Promotions and Appointments.—C.Q.M.S. Harrison B. to be Warrant Officer class ii. (C.S.M.) 18/5/35. Corporal Gibson G. appointed Lance-Sergeant 25/5/35. U/L/Corporal Mitchell G. appointed Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster 1/4/35.

Marriages.—Sigmn Williams J. to Miss Lucy Ellen Sedgewick at Clerkenwell, 4/6/35. Sigmn Milligan W. to Miss Annie Dillon Johnstone at Clydebank, 4/6/35.

Births.—To Driver and Mrs. D. Colgrove, a daughter (Ruth Constance) 16/4/35. To Driver and Mrs. H. Evanson, a son (Douglas) 17/6/35. To Sigmn and Mrs. S. J. Morris, a daughter (Patricia June) 30/6/35.

Sergeants Mess.

You must all be patient a little longer, for the Band does not arrive until just after these notes go to press. The ceiling in the large room has been scrubbed, and all traces of tobacco and beer fumes removed. The stage is set for a period of whoopee. Mr. Ricketts and the Royal Signals Band are heartily welcome. Congratulations on their recent broadcast from Paignton.

Many old friends are expected for the big parade, and our next notes should be of great interest to those fortunate people who have been privileged to serve in the 3rd Divl Signals (cries of " Hear, hear!" and in some cases " 'Ear, 'Ear.")

Our late landlord, Sergt Pickering, wishes to thank all members who so kindly treated him to pints during his tenancy. Sorry! he now says " Please don't bother."

Mr. T. O. Thomas (look you!) sends greetings to all friends, and reports that he is comfortably settled in a job. He is very surprised to find that civilian life is not so bad after all. We are pleased to hear this, for a few of our members are tottering on the brink. One or two others ought to be but are not. Where's our blue book ?

Barleux wishes it to be known that he is in agreement with the remarks in the July WIRE concerning the Q.M. Department, but regrets that the Q.M. staff have so far evolved no effective scheme to circumvent the kleptomaniac activities of conscienceless visitors. If all their lost pencils were placed end to end on the Q.M. office floor, the staff would be dumbfounded.

There being no further business to discuss, we will resume the struggle to earn our daily bread.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—Referring to last month's General Notes, we regret to inform readers and friends in the Canterbury area that the proposed Band Week is now cancelled. Until manœuvres about 50 per cent. of the unit will be away training with their affiliated Brigades, and those remaining in barracks have many schemes, etc., to occupy their time ; so instead of listening to the Band on the sports ground, we must carry on, and a select few may listen to the No. 1 set.

The Cambridge University O.T.C. Signal Section arrived on the 19th June and remained with the unit until the 3rd July. The weather was ideal for the occasion, and according to remarks overheard, all our future officers like Canterbury and the 4th Divl Signals and hope to renew acquaintances in the future.

Swimming classes are held on four afternoons a week for the children of the Garrison. Much progress has been made under the able tuition of C.S.M. Terrell. Families now say " Send the kids for a swim ; they will be safe with Mr. Terrell." Anyone requiring a really good swimming and athletic instructor should apply to the 4th Divl Signals, as C.S.M. Terrell terminates his engagement at the end of the year and proceeds to fresh pastures.

Cycling is greatly in favour. A Curry's Cycling Club has been formed, and during the present fine spell most of the members are enjoying evening trips to the coastal resorts. No last train or bus worries for them. So far, there have been no cases of " Sir, just outside Margate I had a puncture," etc.

The first provisional warning orders for the forthcoming trooping season have been received. Not many shocks, but according to rumours there will be quite a few shortly.

The unit congratulates the tennis team on reaching the final of the Eastern Command inter-unit championship for the third year in succession. On Saturday 13th July the team played the Military School of Science at Woolwich in the final, but unfortunately lost again. Keep on trying, and better luck next year.

To our new commanding officer, Lt.-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., we offer the usual best wishes on taking over command of the unit, and hope that he will enjoy his tenure of office.

To Lt.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., our late commanding officer, we also offer our best wishes and congratulations on his promotion.

Captain R. R. A. Darling has taken over the adjutancy from Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C.—or rather, he took over for a short time. Unfortunately he is on the sick list, so Captain Thompson resumes office again until his recovery.

Signals Wives' Social Club.—For the July meeting, members assembled and proceeded by cars, kindly loaned by various officers of the unit, to the residence of Captain and Mrs. T. C. Thompson. Tea was very much enjoyed amid the lovely surroundings of roses, etc., and the thanks of the whole Club are due to Captain and Mrs. Thompson for a delightful afternoon.

No meetings will be held during August and September.

No. 1 Company.

Activities during the month have been confined to Company training and assistance to the Cambridge University Officers Training Corps. Instructors for the latter were supplied by the Company, with horses, vehicles and equipment. Several schemes were held, and I think that the O.T.C. thoroughly enjoyed their stay with us. They have left behind them one or two relics as mementoes of their " garbage hunt," and we are seriously considering disposing of them at the next jumble sale in aid of charity.

Several Supplementary Reserve and Territorial officers have also carried out their annual attachment during the month.

The first provisional drafting list has arrived, and judging by the expressions on the faces of certain individuals, it has not been any too heartily received. Cheer up! there is more yet to come.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Peters and L/Corpl Bridgeman on their step up.

Arrivals and Departures.—L/Corpl Walton has left us for the S.T.C. after a stay of eight years with the unit, and L/Corpl Barwick has been posted as his relief. May they both enjoy their new stations.

Corpl Smith and Sigmn Davis have taken their discharge from the Service. We hope they have both dropped into good jobs in civilian life.

MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—At present three Sections are away with their affiliated Brigades and will not return to Canterbury until after Army manœurves in September, so we have not much material from which to collect notes—but here goes.

On the 1st July we said farewell to C.S.M. Griffin, who left us for three months training at the A.V.T.C. Hounslow prior to discharge to civvy life. During his stay in the Company he became very popular with all ranks, and his cheery personality will be greatly missed. (No more civvy passes now, sir.) We take this opportunity of wishing him the very best of luck in his new sphere of activities.

Trooping.—Now that the first list of names for the boat has come through, many and various are the questions asked of the old sweats—and a lot more varied and colourful are the replies. Still, cheer up! if someone sticks a foot out of a hammock into your face on the boat, just take a good bite—it won't happen again. And do not leave your boots behind at Port Said for some marzipan, as you will probably need them for kit inspection.

Arrivals.—We we'come to the fold 2/Lieut. W. H. L. Gordon, and hope his sojourn with us will be a long and happy one.

F Section, Woolwich.—To write even Section Notes requires technique and ability. I haven't either of those qualifications, but who cares? The Section proceeded to join its Brigade on Thursday 13th June. It was decided that the M.T. should proceed direct, and that the cyclists and mounted parties shou'd break the journey at Chatham, making a two-day march of it. By 3 p.m. on Friday 14th June all the Section had arrived at Woolwich safely.

During their stay of ten days, a few schemes were held in co-operation with the R.A. On Wednesday 26th June the who'e Brigade, including F Section, proceeded on a three-day march to Colchester, stopping for two nights at Warley and Witham respectively. They eventually reached Cockwatch Camp at Colchester on Friday 28th June.

On Monday 15th July the Brigade will return to Woolwich, and various n.c.o.s and men are leaving to help other Sections and the Terriers in their training.

A number of others are preparing for the inevitable boat by asking for tips and any spare drill lying about. But it is only for five years.

G Section, Colchester.—Once again we have joined our Brigade and have settled down to training, which is more strenuous than that in previous years owing to the addition of M.T. and W/T. The journey was performed by road and rail, the road party arriving shortly after the others and with *no* casualties (Sergeant Hunt, please note). W/T training is in full swing, a scheme being held every other day. Unfortunately, our Brigade have not been issued with cars yet; hence no training can be done whilst on the move.

F Section arrived here a few days ago, and we were pleased to see a few old faces once again. We wish they would not occupy the whole of the training area whilst on schemes.

Arrived, one renowned horsey pal. Corpl Maddison rejoined the Section after being in isolation for ten days.

Hoots Moody has gone to No. 3 Company (no horses).

Finis.—Company password for month of August: "Pots fire tele mechanic one"—pronounced as one word. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Having completed a month of Section training, we are about to commence Company training this week in conjunction with No. 1 Company, and from now until the August break unit schemes will be the order of the day. During the past month Sections have been carrying out schemes with a shortage of personnel, and in this respect K Section have felt it badly, having only sufficient men to run a skeleton Brigade office.

During the August break J Section are proceeding to Shorncliffe with the 54th Divisional Signals, T.A., and they are looking forward to an enjoyable time both on and off parade.

Arrivals.—This month we have an increase over last by one, and as we only had one arrival last month, we are graced this month with two. One of them commenced work in the cookhouse the day after he arrived, so as far as bringing the Sections up to strength with working numbers is concerned, we are as badly off as we were before.

Departures.—Sigmn B'ackham T. is at present on leave pending discharge, and as he has a job to go to, we wish him the best of luck—with more luck if ever he is unemployed.

Scheme Howler.—Who is the Sigmn i/c W/T Station who sent the following message: "Delay caused by losing way. No sign posts." Maps must have been issued for other reasons than finding the way to a given reference. Bear up, Strapper.

JACQUES.

W.O s and Sergeants Mess.

A pleasant afternoon and evening was spent in the w.o.s and sergeants mess on the occasion of the tennis "at home" and farewell to Lieut.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C., and Mrs. Henderson. Mixed tennis continued until 7 p.m., during which period R.S.M. McGregor made an appropriate speech of farewell to our late C.O. and of welcome to our new C.O., Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C. A glorious day finished up with a flannel dance in the evening.

On the 2nd July we entertained the Cambridge University O.T.C. to a games tournament in the mess. This proved very popular, but what a shock to lose the mopping race! However, the C.T.C. seemed very happy, and we hope in the future they will remember that very enjoyable evening. We hope to entertain them again another time.

We are thoroughly taking advantage of this glorious weather, and every Sunday afternoon sees the tennis courts full with members' wives and friends, who welcome the change of having tea served on the lawn.

We bade farewell to C.S.M. Griffin in the mess after the semi-final of the Eastern Command tennis tournament. All members wish you the very best of luck in the future, Griff. May we see you some time!

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, 12th July.

General.—Training now being in full swing, members of the unit are scattered far and wide. Tynemouth, R.A. Camps, etc., all claim their quota, and a couple of men have even wandered as far away as Trawsfynnyd.

It is anticipated that, after our summer holidays in camp at Catterick, the majority of the unit will migrate to the vicinity of Aldershot, presumably to show others how we carried out our manœuvres in the north last year. However, one good turn deserves another. Last year we borrowed men from the south, and this year we repay in a like manner. To many it will be a foretaste of what is to come, unless an early boat is reserved for many. Up to the present we have only been detailed to provide fifty-four for abroad. Thirty-five are for India, and the remainder will disperse to the various corners of the earth.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Sargeant W. on obtaining his long service and good conduct medal, and to Sigmn Louttit D. on being selected to receive the King's Silver Jubilee medal.

Previously, congratulations have been shared pretty evenly between Companies, but something appears to have gone wrong of late. No. 1 Company have taken all, while No. 3 are left with their barrack room unadorned except for the Jubilee pictures (they were a present, not a prize). The Section clock and family plate will continue to receive its accustomed attention, and will no doubt be given a prominent position when the barracks are thrown open to the public at the end of the month.

Society of Clod Pickers.—The Society continues its activities with vigour—or did until the competition took place. Since then many eruptions have taken place, and many fires may now be seen consuming evidence of untidiness. The autumn competition will continue to keep interest alive, especially now that several are in the running for the prize. Twenty points are obtainable, and there are five or six with seventeen or over, so the result is still open. Potatoes like footballs, peas like marbles, and marrows over three feet in length have not yet made their appearance. Evidently they are being reserved for the local shows or the anticipated Association vegetable and flower show. As the latter will not take place before the middle of September, the prize specimens may as well be eaten.

C.C.A.—The Northern Command Branch of the Old Comrades Association held its annual reunion early this month. For any further notes I must refer you to the General Secretary's report on an earlier page. To the committee who arranged the reunion must be given full credit. Everything appeared to work exceedingly well. The weather clerk, too, played his part and helped enormously in making things very pleasant.

The committee take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Walkers Studios, Scarborough, for the excellent photographs both in this and previous issues, supplied free of charge.

Marriages.—Corpl Warburton to Miss Edith Taylor. Sigmn Cooper A. to Miss Rowena Mabel Trotter. Sigmn Beech N. to Miss Marjorie Kenyon.

Births.—To L/Cpl Lane A. a daughter, June Elizabeth Lydia.

Agony.—To Sigmn Williams F. (345) somewhere in Tidworth: How about a line to Pip (late 46)?

To Sigmn Robinson W. F. (China): Beat up the red carpet and prepare the band. Signalmen Smith L. H. and Harrop will join you later in the trooper.

Sigmn Clifford L., Army Vocational Training Centre, Aldershot, sends his congratulations to L/Corpl Morris J. C. and Signalmen Canham H. and Voller W. on the occasion of their respective marriages. He also sends greetings and felicitations to Signalmen Miller T. and Matchett B. OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

On the 15th July the unit was to have gone to Ballykinler for the annual Signal Concentration, but as the local gentry are engaged in celebrating Guy Fawkes' Day in advance, our move has had to be postponed.

The drafting returns have been received, and not a few have been provisionally warned for service overseas. To some Mr. Records has brought surprise, for after all, there's something charming about Erin's Isle, and one can overlook those gigantic drums.

Arrivals.—We welcome L/Corpl Stretch from A Corps Signals (he has already made himself at home) and Sigmn Yard from the Training Battalion.

Movements.—Sigmn Rowden from Belfast to Londonderry. L/Corporal Castell from Belfast to Aldershot, to undergo a voc. course in acetylene welding. We wish him luck with the jolly old drill, and hope his waistline won't depreciate. Sigmn Seymour to Aldershot from Londonderry, to take up a course of cabinet making. Belfast sends her regards to you civvies.

Who Says a Single Line . . Eyes Down?—Provisionally warned for India, Corporals Salmon and Wootton, L/Corporals Dickenson, Swift H. and Thompson J., Signalmen Stevens, Hooper, Arnold and Hunter. For Malaya, Signalmen Smart and Smyth.

Hot Pot.—Sidney wants to know how far Valletta is from Malta?

Three insipid Signals attached to a Terrier camp were wondering why they suffered from indigestion until one morning the cook attended sick parade and, on being asked what was his trade, he replied "Grave-digger." So now we know.

A newcomer to the Company avers that the battle of the Boyne was fought in North Queen Street.

Omagh.—Not even the daft return has touched these rustics, so we guess they can go on adding Jeffrey Farnols to their library.

Armagh.—Corpl Shillitto has settled down here and now appears resigned to a reign of peace.

Things we want to know—Has Ernie's uncle coughed everything up yet? Who is winning the loan club? Who keeps the overcoats during the summer? . . . . . who cares? When will two beers win a race?

Baronscourt.—Here we have romance and the lake . . . . but Belfast were glad to have the services of L/Corpl Turner for the cricket match. He seems to stay in residence more often than the Governor, so he was a stranger to Belfast.

Ballykinler.—We congratulate the fitter on gaining his A.ii. We are sorry to hear the i/c has received orders for the big boat. Shure ye should depart with a real Down accent, me bhoy.

Magilligan.—Who said they sounded Tattoo at G.M.T.? Was it a case of cherchez la femme?

Sport.—After a gallant effort on the part of our cricket eleven, we were defeated in the semi-final of the N.I.D. cup. With luck we shall go farther next season.

Scots Mail.—W.L.C.P. Peshawar: How abcit a line? Smudger. Blackdown: Many thanks. Is he worth a reward? V.M.

Tailpiece.—Q.R.U. till next month. HEC ME.

Londonderry.

Hello, troops! Derry calling. Spud Can, Peking: Ask Leon and the cook how many bottles of Five Star were consumed when laying new land lines. Yours, Dick Salmon,

We regret to announce the departure of Sigmn Seymour W. from this station (after having spent many banana seasons here) to the Vocational Training Centre, Aldershot. We can assure him that if he has any spare cabinets on hand, they would be greatly appreciated here for stowing our kit away. We all join in wishing him luck and prosperity in his new adventure.

We welcome the arrival of Sigmn Rowden W. to this station from Belfast. May his stay be long and glorious. Judging from appearances, he is getting his eye in on the hard work here.

Does anyone want to back me this year for the silver spoon? After reaching the semi-final in the N.I.D. cricket cup, with the aid of Signalmen Smart and Spencer, the Northern Ireland Signal Company just managed to lose. I hear rumours that our only representative, Sigmn Spencer, did exceedingly well and managed to get a duck. I always did say that the talent lies dormant here.

Impudence.—I was asked this morning to sign my name to some correspondence directing me to proceed to Batchy Land in the near future. Being perfectly sane, naturally I refused.

Geography.—Heard on the married families outing. Troops blowing their bugles about what they did in France to an old Irish lady. Old Irish lady: "France must be a big town, mustn't it?"

Young lady, whose husband was in England on a vocational training course: "Where is your husband working?" Another young lady: "Oh, he's working a hundred miles from England and he's learning everything."

Extract from wireless message: "Please arrange that the Battalion bag goes up this afternoon."

Lough Swilly Signal Section.

It is generally known that we are outcast, and we would be very glad if some kind person in the Company would keep us up to date in news. It was only a few days ago that we heard Sidney had a new suit. This information was supplied by one of our own Section who happened to be on a week-end (he is again making preparations for the matrimonial plunge); and we would like to know if this suit was procured to mark the occasion of the Jubilee or to relieve some unemployment in the tailor's branch?

Now the shoot is over, I know a few who are looking forward to a spot of leave, and I hope (for my sake) they will not be disappointed. Cos has wonderful vision. He was trying to intercept a message coming from Belfast, but this one beat him. Throwing down his pencil in disgust, he was heard to exclaim: "I can't read that fellow's writing!"

OURSELVES.

We are a little Section
  On a hill in Donegal,
And a master mind called Freddie
  Is the leader of us all.

Our number one old soldier,
  Of Pindi—Bad Man's Reach—
Has ofttimes missed a courier
  Through things on Swilly Beach.

Paddy is our number two,
  Of X book fame renown;
He wanders round the top fort
  When not on pass in town.

And next we come to Turnip Pete,
  The man who lost his snore
Through listening fer ol' Albert's croak
  When Albert was no more.

Dutchy is our lineman;
  I guess he knows his stuff.
He tests the lines out once a week—
  Well, bless me! that's enough.

Then there's Skippy, good and true,
  Who ran away from home
And tried to make a triode
  From a toothbrush and a comb.

Some say old Wardy's come to stay,
  While others say he's glad.
He ticks and ticks from morn till night,
  An' sez "Dis Section's mad."

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

June 1935.

I must apologise for the absence of our notes in last month's issue of THE WIRE owing to the change of times of the air mail service.

General.—The Company have just completed their annual musketry course, and the shooting this year was of a very high standard indeed. Some 97 per cent. of the unit fired, and we had only one second class shot. The annual revolver course gave us 100 per cent. "Q's," which I think is excellent.

All operators of the Company are now undergoing a course, and each operator has to put in at least two hours of his own time weekly, which is logged against him accordingly.

Postings.—We have had a few more postings this month, and on the 1st we said farewell to Signalmen Duncan and Poole, two of our boxers, who were posted to Rawalpindi. Our loss is their gain, and we hope they both do well in their new unit.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company Sergt Wagg W., an old friend, and also Signalmen Henrick and Scanlon. May their stay with us be a long and happy one.

Entertainments.—The Company whist drives and dances have started again, and we now run one a month. Our last show, although there was not such a big crowd, was quite a success. When the weather gets a bit cooler, we hope to have some good shows.

Wo Would Like to Know.—Why does Percy now wear a permanent smile ? Who is Robbo's new dancing partner now that Tich has gone ? Who fell asleep in the middle of a dance floor ?

S.C.S.—Will Sid Thompson, believed to be stationed in Rawalpindi, please communicate with S/Sergt Markey W., R.A.O.C., Military College of Science, Cambridge Barracks, Woolwich, S.E.18 ? MUTT.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

At the beginning of the month the Mess held their annual gala against the 1st Battalion The King's Regiment, which was a huge success. We certainly missed Sgt (Lew) Baker, our star swimmer and entertainer. However, the result was a very close one. A fanfare by the well-known trumpeter Pedlar Palmer heralded the approach of the Lady Mayor of Jubbulpore (Mutt Matthew), who kindly consented to open the annual gala. The Lady Mayor, wearing a dress of green material and a close-fitting red hat and carrying her latest craze, two small Australian terriers (recently imported into the Mess by friend Wally Wagg) stood upon the springboard and opened the meeting with a delightful splashing speech. The following are the results of the various events.

Obstacle race—1st, S/Sergt Main (King's Regiment)
Lighted candle race—1st, L/Sergt Cooke (R.Signals)
Ladies' relay—1st, Mrs. E. C. Wheeler's team
Ladies' free style (open)—1st, Mrs. Fishwicke
Tipping the tyre—1st, Royal Signals
1936 new style race—1st, L/Sergt Cooke
Chariot race—1st, The King's Regiment
Ladies' breast stroke (open)—1st, Mrs. Fishwicke
Ladies' back stroke (open)—1st, Mrs. Humphreys
Canoe race—1st, C.S.M. Beasley (King's Regiment)
Ladies' diving—1st, Mrs. Fishwicke

The following events were serious, and they counted towards the Ashes trophy.

Variety relay race—1st, The King's Regiment
Back stroke relay—1st, Royal Signals (L/Sergeants Matthew and Cooke)
Breast stroke relay—1st, Royal Signals (Sergeants Mackie, Nokes and Bramwell, L/Sergeant Matthew)
Free style relay—1st, The King's Regiment
Sidestroke relay—1st, The King's Regiment
Diving—1st, The King's Regiment

Final result—King's Regiment, 10 points ; Royal Signals 9.

Leaving the baths, the visitors were entertained with a tea fight on the Mess lawn, followed by dancing, gripping and a general social evening. R.S.M. Beattie presented the medals to the winning individuals, and on handing over the much-coveted trophy—the Ashes—he said that we only allowed the King's Regiment to carry it off because we had no spare men to clean it. R.S.M. Foster, of the King's, replied in thanking Mr. Beattie for the splendid evening, and said that the Ashes would be cleaned and ready for us to bring back if we beat them in the return competition.

Consolation medals were presented to Pop Humphreys as the best looking non-competitor (that's a lie, Pop, ain't it ?) and to Frankie Prebble as the best onlooker (you deserve it, Frankie).

Before ending with the gala, I would like to say that we *did* win back the Ashes for the Mess at the King's gala at the Ridge Barracks, but there is not enough space for details this month.

A special vote of thanks is due to all those who helped to make our gala such a success.

Congratulations.—To Tich Kilford on winning the Grippers shield for the month of May. Who is your successor, Tich ?

Wo Want to Know.—Who has a craze for eating water sponges ? Why the quiet game of Yonk ? Who likes losing golf balls, and why ? Bram's idea of the tac. MUTT.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Vouched for by "Q".—That a certain Sergeant handed over a flit pump as a fire extinguisher.

The Weekly Wangle.—If you don't know what I mean—hold on! you will in a minute.

The time is 13.00 hours, any Friday during the tomato season. Where? Well, I ask you. Here they come, converging on that little cubby hutch where passes are inquested, visaed and initialled—sometimes. Occasionally one is cast forth, like a Queen's head rupee, over the bar. See the sickly wan smile of the owner as, with assumed indifference, he holds the pathetic post-mortem. Hear the stricken sigh as he receives the fell stroke with stoic fortitude. Ah, well! there's next week. Leave him in his dire distress. Note the seraphic grins of the æsthetics who've clicked for the week-end. Here they come! For the last ten days they've been snooping around like badly frayed ends of indifferently tied nuptial knots. For the past ten minutes they've been peeping surreptitiously round the corner of No. 1 bungalow, hard by No. 2 Company office. How do I know? I've seen 'em doing it.

Our New Feature.—You can't really write about the unit from Pindi. Only a skeleton of it swelters here. The rest of it, practically, is enjoying the coolness of the hills. This being the case, the services of a well known gossip writer were requisitioned to provide our "Monthly Murree Letter." It is felt that the securing of his services is quite a scoop. Having a style so reminiscent of Lord Castlerosse, he is a distinct acquisition to our columns. Here's his maiden effort.

THE HIGHLAND GAMES.

Ho! ho! without there, varlet. Without what? Darn near without socks and last ration certificate, of course. Forsooth, 'tis passing strange. As has been previously remarked, week-enders are sometimes cast forth. Mine came out fifth, hurriedly. Peradventure, it was a tactical error or a strategical blunder. After training so conscientiously for the hunt the haggis event, too. A murrain on it! Why didn't you tell me to wait until he'd developed writer's cramp, and then he wouldn't care if it was a death warrant. However, as a first effort, a modified semi-week-end ain't so bad, especially when one gets up on the jew's mail.

Boys, have you ever been in the Great Alone—I mean, have you ever been up there alongside a class xvi. driver M.T.?

Fie upon him for a bold faced rapscallion. Thank heaven, I had a snifter with me. When I debussed at wherever it is, my knees were oscillating with such frequency (tips) that my legs must have been forming alternately the letters X and O (you know how you feel when you are wheeled in). Had they had neon lights on them, with the piggery as a background, they would have formed a shimmering advertisement worth a thousand bucks to the Oxo Company.

Talking of bucks. The razor-backed—sorry! piebald palfrey I rode to Gharial gave one and nearly put me through the front door. Why did he eye me like an adjutant bird, with his ears back, and do a couple of caracoles? (It serves you right ; you shouldn't have borrowed that hosiery from the orderly room sergeant.) But they can't get rid of an ex-driver like that, especially when he's got a date on.

Twilight. If only I'd got that pass in a bit earlier. Feeling, but not looking, like a depressed Sir Lancelot on a wet Saturday night, with never a rescuable bird within a hundred metres (that wireless again), or a Russian droshky run out of vodka, I pushed doggedly on, on, ye noble English. I bucked up a few holes when a passing cad—lad—volunteered the astounding tip that a C.S.M. had won the tossing the caber event. I bit hard on that, and thought all around it. Tossing the caber ? Naw, mon, cutting the caper. I agreed with him and rode on, still thinking. Bless my soul! Cutting the caper. On, Stanley, on! I must find out about this.

" Hey, tat-wallah, why's this horse laughing ?" " Neighing with delight, sahib. Ex-drum horse, Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard."

Listen! Dinna ye hear it ? Too true, I can. Must be nearly there. The pibroch. The dirge that might be nectar to the musical palate of a Plymouth Argyllander, but a wail that sears the soul of a Sassenach. We are right there, boy. Into the jousting pavilion. " Give us a double peg, Jock, and keep your thumb out of it." " Have this one with me, laddie." "Righto! and as Mac-Levi said to Mae West, come up and see me some time—when you're free."

What a lovely drop of games! Now, how *did* I get to that wireless station ? JOSEFIO SABONIO (Latin for Joe Soap).

Congratulatory.—Heartiest congratulations are extended to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) A. Newton, R.Signals (I.A.) on his promotion to that rank. It is with great pride that we say that Colonel Newton is the first officer in the Corps to hold this rank as Quartermaster. All who know him will agree that this is a well merited honour both for him and the Corps.

Obituary.—It is with something more than regret that we record the passing of the late No. 2320822 Sigmn Skinner W. R. His death after a short illness came as a great shock.

It is perhaps true that most fellows in the Army are judged by their prowess at sport. He was not an outstanding sportsman, but he went one better than that by always being the first to " make up the number." We had lots of fun last year in the inter-Section competitions ; and one calls to mind that when a relief was wanted for a star performer who happened to be on duty, or we were just that one short in the Scotch mists, Old Skin never failed to turn out—and to pull his weight was a point of honour with him. In numberless little things, he was always the first to volunteer help.

Of his four and a half years service, two and a half had been spent in India, partially with the Cavalry Troop at Risalpur and the latter two years with A Corps Signals. An excellent tradesman, he devoted most of his spare time to study. His sense of humour made him good company in a barrack room, and one feels that no better tribute could be paid him than to say that it is there that we shall miss him most. S.W.B.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Entertainments and competitions of various kinds have been the most popular and frequent incidents in the life of the Troop during the last few weeks, but before dealing with these in detail we must congratulate Sergt Hopkins, Sigmn Cox, T.D.M. Fateh Ali, and the one and only Lall Khan on receiving a commemoration medal of the King's Silver Jubilee. Of course, the supply of these medals was meagre in comparison with the number required to put everybody at ease.

In a local " at home " the Corporals Mess entertained the Sergeants Mess to tea and a games tournament consisting of tennis, ping pong, darts and various minor games. That well known saying " A piece of cake " was often heard, but more popular was " What's yours ?" Altogether a very pleasant time was spent, and in conclusion the health of T.Q.M.S. Minns and L/Corpl Rhodes was drunk prior to their posting to Quetta and Sialkot respectively. (How often the latter word is used as a stop-gap.) By the way, those sharp things which a porcupine wears on the back of his flannel vest are called quills and have a length of about eight inches.

The triangular hockey tournament between the officers and sergeants, the Corporals Mess and the signalmen proved a very evenly and keenly contested affair, and eventually the officers and sergeants ran out winners, while the corporals carried the wooden spoon—a very useful thing for mixing chicken food. It speaks well for the Troop that it can turn out three good teams from its present strength of about thirty-six availables. We might add that in the winning of this tournament " youth was not served " as in the majority of cases.

Another competition to be held was snooker, and as in previous years opposing pairs were drawn from a hat or jackboot (it doesn't matter which). Those pairs who were knocked out of the first round had the consolation of being able to play in the subsidiary tournament. In these games anything may happen, especially if the " fluking iron " functions or the balls roll in the " not required " direction. Final results: Winners (proper) Signalmen Bryan and Wood, runners-up L/Sergt Way and Corpl Andrews. Winners (subsidiary) Sergt Shaw and Sigmn Pearson, runners-up Signalmen Harvey and Mason. At the conclusion of the tournament the winners were presented with cups by the commanding officer, who congratulated those who had made the whole show such a success. Everybody is looking forward to a billiards competition. (Handicappers, please note.)

Jalala has always proved a pleasant swimming haunt for members of the Troop, and on a recent Sunday a happy bathing party decided to sample its pleasures. Some fine figures were seen cutting a splash in the water, but none equalled our Freddy in his transparent costume. Does anybody know when the stream rises a foot in a second ?

Something quite different from sports occurred about three weeks ago. This was a practice turn-out of a mobile column for inspection by the Brigade Commander. As usual, everything went off quite well considering that the inspection clashed with the arrival and departure of the I.O.R. leave parties. The latter entailed quite a lot of chopping and changing of personnel, and some very strange folk were seen in the saddle.

All WIRE notes come to an end some time, and these are no exception to the rule ; but if anyone cares to offer a few more for next month's contribution, well, come up and see us some time at Risi.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

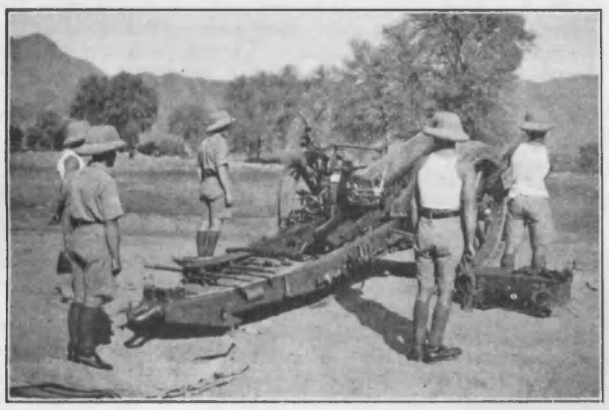
[Received too late for the July issue]

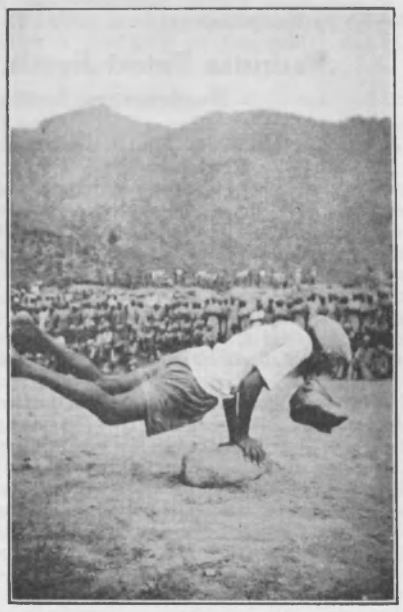
Friday 14th June.

Quetta Earthquake, 1935.—All ranks of this unit sincerely sympathise with 2nd Indian Divl Signals in the calamity that has recently befallen their station, and take this opportunity of congratulating them on maintaining the high prestige of the Corps by their speed and efficiency in establishing W/T communication with the outside world when all other means had been destroyed. To quote *The Civil and Military Gazette*: "The quake occurred at 3.3 a.m. and the Signals were at their post at 3.10 a.m." ; so I guess there was some quick thinking and action there—a jolly good show.

Amendments to the Blue Book.—C.Q.M.S. Stainer H. to W.O. class ii. (C.S.M.) ; Sergeants Quick P. and Snook H. to C.Q.M.S. ; L/Sergeants Hayes J. and Pattenden A. to Sergeants ;

With the Peshawar District Signals on the Loe Agra Operations, 1935.





Corporals Stockton F. and Berriff C. to L/Sergeants ; L/Corpl Long G. to Corporal ; and U/L/Cpl Barker R. to paid appointment. Heartiest congratulations to all. May you creep up some more pages.

Howler.—An officer rang up the exchange and asked for the Power Station. A cool, calm and collected operator gave him the Fire Station in the heat of the moment. Guess what the officer said!

Loe Agra Operations, 1935.—In this Journal, placed at the Editor's discretion, you will find a selection of snaps relevant to these operations, contributed by Signalmen Simmons A. and Rickitts T. I am afraid I cannot dwell upon the necessity or description of the actual operations, but this unit supplied one I.B. Section, one R.A. Section and three C W/T sets. The operations, brought to a successful conclusion after almost four months, were notable for deeds of pluck and endurance by both British and Indian ranks, but were marred by the death of the Political Agent, Malakand Agency, the late Mr. W. Best, I.C.S., who was shot in a tribesmen's ambush.

The snaps on the preceding page (reading across and downwards) show: Tribesmen recruited to help the Sappers and Miners in road making ; the late Mr. W. Best, I.C.S., out on his morning exercise ; a hint for the Unemployed Bureaux in England —why not two English labourers to one spade ? ; two photos of useful " friends " ; some disreputable fellows (in the centre) who tried to " pinch " some of our rifles ; two Levies who assisted in the operations ; and a feat of balancing (try it before breakfast).

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Quick P. to the Zhob Signal Section. From the ordinary: cool weather in June. One battered Ford car from the unit lines. These notes, before they are too late.

MIIM.

Why go to Switzerland ?.....Come to Razmak!

Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Headquarters Section.

Thursday 20th June.

Jubilee Celebrations.—Jubilee celebrations in Razmak were in the form of a Brigade parade. The Brigade paraded on the landing ground, and everything went off without a hitch. The weather was ideal, and to a spectator it was quite a thrill to see the Brigade formed up on a large plateau, almost surrounded by hills (or perhaps I had better call them mountains). After the feu-de-joie, three cheers were given with great gusto for His Majesty. The parade was then inspected, and the march past commenced. The Mediums led the way with their mechanised six-inch howitzers. Signals were represented by the Razmak Brigade Signal Section. They certainly kept up the reputation of the Corps for both smartness and steadiness. Well done! The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday.

Having suitably celebrated this auspicious occasion in the only possible manner, only a few days had elapsed when we heard of the terrible disaster in Quetta. Our sympathy is extended to all who lost relatives and friends, and we especially sympathise with the relatives of our comrades of the Royal Air Force. The wholesale collapse of the civil telegraph lines caused heavy work to be put on the W/T Station, which had to maintain continuous watch during the period 31/5/35 to 14/6/35 in order to provide the extra link between Murree and Quetta.

Command.—All ranks extend respectful congratulations to H.R.H. the Princess Royal on being appointed Hon. Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Medals and Awards.—The following officers, n.c.o.s and men of the Royal Corps of Signals and Indian officers and n.c.o.s were awarded the Jubilee medal: Major A. W. Roberts, M.C., Lieut.-Q.M. J. T. Cussens, C.S.M. Bew G. J., C.Q.M.S. Steed, Sergeants Applegate, Szarkowski and Keegan, L/Sergeant Double, Subedar D. Narayansami, Jemadar Jaswant Singh, C.H.M. Sheik Mastan, C.Qm.H. Pilliarsami, Havildar Neelaya, Naik Chintada Erranah.

TERMITE.

Bannu Signal Section.

Saturday 15th June.

Our absence during the past few months, while regretted by all, must be attributed to intense pressure of work. In view of the so-called slack season, this sounds ludicrous. Nevertheless, it is really true.

We must first welcome from Rawalpindi Lt. C. L. Ommanney, who is now performing the duties of O.C. vice Lieut. J. M. C. Hoblyn, who is presumably enjoying a well earned leave prior to studying for the Staff College examination at Simla. We sincerely hope Lieut. Ommanney's stay will be long and happy.

The column season over, we are now running a course for operator signals iii. to ii. for our latest arrivals from the U.K. They appear to be enjoying themselves immensely, though one fellow is rather doubtful about his map reading abilities and received quite a shock when, after arguing with an instructor, he was told that he (the instructor) had been a map drawer!

The hot season is just on us and early morning parades are the order of the day. However, when morning P.T. consists of half an hour's swim in the Bannu swimming pool, one can rise at five o'clock with a gay heart. There are a number of aspiring Channel swimmers in the Section, and a number of very queer costumes, too, for when the Section is in the bath en masse some very queer sights may be seen.

A number of our happy band are away at present—some in Upper Topa, attached to the 1st Indian Divl Signals and trying to earn a few extra pice by gaining a higher rate ; others in various parts of India, enjoying a spot of leave.

The climate in Bannu is very trying during the summer, and we all look forward to our annual leave as a well earned privilege. However, as the budding top raters will only bloom in a more temperate clime than sunny Bannu, we suffer in consequence and, owing to our depleted strength, duties come round at an alarming rate. We shall be glad when, summer over, the training season begins once again and we return to our normal strength.

Owing to the heat, sport has dropped off considerably, but our occasional games of hockey and football are much appreciated by all who take part. A basket ball ladder was commenced in order to find talent for a Section team to play in an inter-Section tournament. Six teams were formed—two B.O.R. and four I.O.R. —each being named after well known local places such as Miranshah, Spinwam, etc. We could not term it much of a success, as after the first few games enthusiasm dropped off owing to complaints of prickly heat.

The Brigade sports were held in April, and we showed our neighbours the true Signal spirit. In the field events our only two entrants came in first and second in the 100 yards sprint—Signalmen Healy and Palling respectively. Later on Sigmn Healy was again first—this time in the 440 yards sprint.

We were given a bye to the final in the hockey tournament, being drawn against the detachment of the Armoured Car Company, Bannu. They gave us a fine game with plenty of hard hitting, and ran out winners by two good goals to nil.

In the football tournament we were far more fortunate. In the semi-final we beat the detachment of the Armoured Car Company, Bannu, by two goals to nil, L/Sergt Butler and L/Corporal McFee hitting the ball at the right moment. In the final against Brigade Headquarters we were extremely lucky and were able (partly through their goalie being absent) to net three goals in the first half, two of which were scored by L/Corpl McFee and L/Sgt Butler, while the third one was helped in by one of their own men. On resuming play, and with the arrival of their goalie, they settled down and kept us in check, the game becoming

more even ; but fifteen minutes from time Sigmn Healy received the ball on the wing, ran in, and scored the fourth goal, so that we ran out winners by four goals to nil. The results, considering the size of the Section, are very good, but we hope to do even better next time.

We Hear.—That Ferdie was not on the King's Birthday parade this year. We wonder why ?

That men due for the home establishment this trooper are sweating on a real Christmas dinner this year. How these rumours spread!

That a certain very junior signalman is wondering whether it will be 39—40 or 40—41.

That the Section "Q" almost burst his sides over the following. The audit officer, checking up stores ledgers, came across the item " Sticks, solder," and with a mystified look on his brow exclaimed, " Oh! I didn't know that you kept ' walking-out canes ' in stock." Believe it or not.

In conclusion, we tender our deepest sympathies to all in the Quetta earthquake area, and to bereaved relatives who waited in vain.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

June 1935.

General.—This month, I must commence with an apology for the brevity of these notes. I must plead lack of inspiration (another word for laziness).

We have spent a very quiet month, with sundry comings and goings of leave details, who have no doubt been improving the shining hour (moonlight) down by the wood pile or touching the high spots in Murree.

The first Topa party will be with us again in a few days. The second party are already sorting out their silk shirts and fancy socks in preparation for their three months sojourn in the khuds.

Shsh! The big dig has finished, and for the last few days a steam roller, preceded by a red flag, has been seen wandering around the camp, very carefully rolling all that portion which we so very carefully dug up.

Departures.—Those flies, thanks to a short spell of real Indian summer. The hot weather gets them down, you know!

Congratulations.—All ranks heartily congratulate the following on the award of the King's Silver Jubilee medal: Major B. G. Rowley, Lieut.-Q.M. H. L. F. Fegan, M.M., C.Q.M.S. Small, Sergt Turner and Sigmn Utting. Also those who successfully bluffed the examiner on certain subjects at the last examination for the first class certificate.

Musketry.—The results of the Scissors cup are now to hand, and Peshawar District Signals are the winners with a figure of merit of a fraction over 99 per cent. This unit was fourth with a fraction over 97 per cent. " Good shooting, Peshawar ; see you at Bisley," sez us.

Entertainments.—Every Friday evening we are regaled with a programme of music by the Band of the 2/13th Frontier Force Rifles. This is much appreciated by all ranks as being the means of spending a pleasant hour on the lawn in front of the mess room. Not much like the Green Park on a Sunday afternoon, is it, Angi ?

ROBO.

Corporals Room.

Everything is more or less quiet, mainly due to the 'eat and the 'umidity (as John used to say in days gone by).

This year we are blessed (?) with a greater number than is usual during the khud season.

Two of our members are leading the life of bloated plutocrats, having a spell of six months in Blighty. Here's hoping they are both making the most of it. Thanks for the halfpennies, Jim. We saw them arrive, but somehow they seem to have got mislaid since. We can't blame the bearer this time. We think Peter is saving them towards his fare home.

Bud is a hill parrot for the whole season, whilst Sago and One Pint have just returned to the fold after a month's well earned (?) leave.

Old members would scarcely recognise this place, for where there used to be a patch of hard stony ground there now flourishes a beautiful expanse of lawn bordered by flower gardens. With a fan erected in the centre of the lawn, many a pleasant and convivial night has been spent during the present hot weather period.

Our head mali (Chiefy) has now turned his hand to husbandry and is endeavouring to produce some Kenya corn ; and up to date it looks as if he is going to be successful.

As mentioned in last month's unit notes, we have lost two members in L/Corpl Shufflebotham, who has gone to Jubbulpore, and L/Corpl Shirley to Meerut. What are we going to do about entertainments now, Uncle Fred ?

Two very enjoyable tennis matches have been played against the senior n.c.o.s, the first being won by our opponents by a margin of 30 games (age before beauty). In the second we had our revenge, even though it was only by two games and our opponents were a lot under weight.

OLD 'UN.

SIGNALMEN!!!

Tap "The Wire" and call Pip Emma for Everything Regimental

Sweater in Corps Colours

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Monday 1st July.

General.—Quite a change has been effected since writing our last notes. The Company now occupy two I.P. tents on the former football pitch. Surrounded by divers tents and bricks surreptitiously rescued from the ruins—the said bricks being beautifully decorated by an overdose of whitewash (also unfortunately rescued from the 'quake)—Headquarters tents occupy quite an important position.

Our married n.c.o.s are settling down quite surprisingly to barrack room (or tent) soldiering. I am told the kits last week were quite a credit, considering the service of the said n.c.o.s. It was unfortunate that one of the new soldiers, on unpacking his kit, found that his best pair of puttees were on board the *Karanja* nearing a land where earthquakes are as scarce as Woolworth's shops are in Quetta,

The weekly concerts under the supervision of Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., our adjutant, are no doubt a smashing success. One bright youth was heard to ask whether "compere" was the R.S.M.'s christian name. We hear all sorts of rumours: that the concert party have been considered for the B.B.C.; that they are getting a grant from the Murree Brewery to continue on; and that when the unit gets that leave in Karachi, they are all going to leave us for the stage. The topic of the day is when is the leave coming through, and how long are we getting. Apparently everybody is longing for a change. Earthquakes *are* monotonous!

We all breathed a silent prayer when we found that the Matheson swimming bath was not affected, and our appreciation was shown by subsequent attendances. We were asked one day if the baths belonged to the Signals, as they seemed to be the only people there. It certainly appears to us that we are the only unit in Quetta with any swimmers. Time will tell. The competitions are to be held next month. The ex-Scarborough folk are taking to the fresh water very well, although it is a bit different to Cayton Bay.

Arrivals and Departures.—Uncle MacCullum from a scrounge at the S.T.C. Jubbulpore. He says he couldn't recognise Quetta when he returned. I should say not—there is no Quetta.

Education.—Congratulations are extended to Jock Hay on gaining "D" in map reading at the recent first class examination. I believe that is "D" in all subjects now. Well done, Jock!

We Want to Know.—Why are the last draft looking depressed? Will there be any more earthquakes before 1940? Why Dorothy didn't write? (this was heard in the Quartermaster's office—no names, no Pattys). How is Premby faring with the D.R.s? (I am told they are all on short pay).

Agony.—Chad calling from the distressed area on 468: What about a call from Pritchard, Egypt Signals?

Conclusion.—We will have a change of initials this month. R.C.D. is still attaching his initials to petrol issues and M.T. requisitions, etc. I don't know much about his branch, so I cannot quote any more of those mysterious Army Forms in which he is always engrossed. I believe they are his only company nowadays.

EFIEE.

No. 1 Company.

Having read the unit notes, you will realise that we have nothing much to talk about other than the earthquake. After doing rescue work from 3.40 to 6.30 a.m. we were called out at half-past seven to establish communications with the outside world. Seemingly you have not read of our good work in the daily papers. That is owing to the fact that we have been far too busy to elaborate the good work done. The whole of No. 1 Company were employed in maintaining the communications and every single man pulled his weight, working continuously for thirty-six hours almost without a break, after which we were able to form proper reliefs. A detachment from A Section went to the remote village of Mastung in the Kalat State, which was entirely cut off, and maintained communication with Div. H.Q. We took over all civilian lines and maintained communication, and were able to get in touch with everybody, even Blighty. It was a rather unique experience to hear Major-General Karslake talking to London on a tele 110.

Perhaps you would like to know one's own personal feelings during the earthquake. From my point of view it is like being on a roundabout, a high swing and a cake walk at one and the same time, accompanied by the terrific din of falling bricks and mortar and a crashing of glass; and then the awful feeling in anticipating a recurrence of the whole ghastly experience.

On the 9th June the wives and children of the unit were evacuated. In the evening all the married men found their way to the wet bar, where they endeavoured to drown their sorrows. If sufficient beer had been procurable, this would decidedly have happened. However, they were able to retain their senses to ruminate on and discuss their misfortunes (I've sold my home for five rats, etc.)

All the buildings of Quetta are now vacated and the men are living in tents, the outsides of which resemble old English gardens. It appears that the only thing to take the men's minds off quakes and tremors is plenty of real good hard work, which appears to have succeeded. However, we have other diversions in the form of cricket, tennis, hockey, swimming and concert parties. It is surprising to find what talent we have in the unit—the Sutcliffes, Perrys, Crabbes, the stars of hockey, and even the stars of the footlights—and it would not surprise me in the least to see applicants putting in for postings to Hollywood.

Arrivals and Departures.—Corpl Blake and Sigmn McCallum from Jubbulpore. (Cheer up! it's not too bad now.) Corporal Trew and L/Corporal Manton to Risalpur and A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, respectively. Some of us think they are lucky. Anyway, we wish them the best, etc.

Agonies.—S. Steers, Scarborough: What price a corner bed? Hawkins.

Curtis, Aldershot: What about a reply? Steve.

Dewd (last heard of in Aldershot): Are you struck dumb? George.

Bill Edwards, A Corps: Kuch nai curry puffs abbi. A Section.

Sayings of a Great Scotsman.—"Now let me tell you summat." "Scram sucker!" "Dinna ye ken Eddie?"

SEMI-CONSCIOUS.

E Section.

Monday 20th May.

General.—HVC calling all stations at home and abroad!! Once more we are on the air, so gather round to hear our tales of woe.

Since our last broadcast the strength of the Section has been decreased by two B.O.R.s. It was a sad day when Barra Lover and Mrs. Beeton's Adviser were told to pack their goods and chattels, collect packets of Tiz, and hike away to L Section. The loss of Barra Lover means that in future "The love affairs of the Section gigolos" will be substituted by "Snooping by the Snoopers."

To counteract the loss of M.B.A. our worthy fitter has stepped into the breach and has ably proved that the duties of a fitter and i/c messing in the field can be combined. Up to the time of going to press our vehicles have the correct number of tyres, and no men have been sent to hospital suffering from over-consumption of petrol, neither have any been sent to workshops to be decarbonized; which goes to prove that Tashy is keeping his dual duties well and truly apart.

If a Morris six-wheel lorry can do ten miles on a gallon of petrol, how long can a man exist on a pound of bread, five-seventh ounce of tea, twelve ounces of bully, and two ounces of butter (or gear box grease in lieu)? Ask Tashy!

During the past training week we were engaged on a Staff College exercise. This proved a good test for a mechanised Artillery Brigade Signal Section. The scheme was the defence of Quetta from two angles. During the afternoon of the 7th we opened up communication at Kechi Beg, about four miles from Quetta; at 9 p.m. on the same date we moved to Sheikh Manda, seven miles distant on the other side of Quetta. There we remained till about mid-day on the 8th, after which we returned to within a mile of our previous position until four o'clock. This was followed by two retirements towards Quetta, "A" office opening up twice in two hours, whilst "B" office retired to the far side of Quetta to open up in readiness for the final retirement, which was due to take place at 9 p.m. The time taken in each move never exceeded an hour, and after each "Close down" all lines were picked up and laid in the new position. This good work by the Section goes to prove that our motto "Speed with accuracy" was well tested.

Have You Heard This One?—During a recent scheme an operator at Command post received a strange code call. Nevertheless, he religiously proceeded to deal with the situation and approached the orderly officer, saying "Sir, can you tell me whose code call is Jumbo?" The orderly officer replied "Yes, that's my nickname. Who wants me?"

Brighter Subjects.—(1) Tashy's new swimming costume. (2) The same individual's sports vest (colours, egg and egg). Cads, please note.

[*Later*]

General.—We enter with our signature tune "The Brigade Concentration Blues," followed by that soul-stirring anthem "Oh

where, oh where, can that pay cheque be?" This is not the cue to drop your copies of THE WIRE, but the call to gather round No. 2 Bungalow to hear our daily broadcast: a series of debates on football, rugby, hockey, boxing, dancing and hopping. This interesting programme will be compered by a well-known Scottish broadcaster, whose voice is often heard by all who reside within hearing distance of Quetta. This entertainment is the outcome of throwing together two Jocks, one Paddy, eleven cosmopolitans, a blonde from Durham, and a lad from Oldham.

When not engaged in this occupation known to every occupant of a barrack-room, we comprise the 1st Field Brigade R.A. Signal Section. Our duties at work consist of manning two signal offices, a Command post, a spur layer, and a cable wagon, all of which are mechanised. We work in conjunction with a mechanised Brigade, so our motto, needless to say, is " Speed with accuracy."

As regards sport, we are able to turn out a good football or hockey team, whichever may be necessary. Notes on the matches played to date are to be found in the Sports columns. What with having two Scottish and one Irish " not-intentionals " in the football team, there should be no need to tell you that we are going to plant a forest with the laurels we hope to win in the future.

Lost, Stolen or Strayed.—Several X's of unknown quantities. Will anyone who may have witnessed the accident——Sorry! wrong station. Will anyone who may know of their whereabouts please communicate with Corpl Beard?

Wanted.—One pair of self-balancing football boots. Hookey is quite willing to give his kindest regards in exchange.

WANTED URGENTLY. One zone silence, any width ; length not essential. Also one self-respecting week. Applicants must contain at least four pay days.

SITUATIONS WANTED. Two young and handsome n.c.o.s offer their services as dancing instructors. Experts in all kinds of clodhopping and the elephant rumba ; also suspected of being able to dance. All offers should be addressed to Devedrue and Co.

We fade out with a duet by Sandy Devlin and McDrury entitled " We are some of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit," and a ditty by the scribe entitled " Oh, bay rum! won't you bring it back to me?" SEMI-CONSCIOUS.

Sergeants Mess.

Since the earthquake great changes have occurred in the composition of the mess, which at present can be classified under three headings:—

(1) Dining room—Smoke room and dining room combined, with tables so arranged conveniently near the door as to allow of rapid exit.

(2) Smoke room—Mess verandah, arranged to allow for a clear dive off if occasion arises.

(3) Sleeping quarters—I.P. tents on Mess lawn.

Mess members are now also one hundred per cent dining members, their families having departed (in bulk) for a better land. Many sad husbands are mourning their departure, and such remarks as " What would my pension be if I packed now?" " Thank goodness, I only have a ? to go for eighteen years," " Roll on, my pontoon," "Any hopes of leave or posting," etc., are commonplace, although one or two who were known to have assisted considerably in domestic duties are strangely silent.

We welcome C.Q.M.S. Minns from Risalpur. Unfortunately, this now being a bachelor station, his family are living at Karachi.

Sergt Jarvis, whose family for domestic reasons could not board the *Karanja*, has proceeded on two months leave.

Tennis has restarted with a swing, and two unit friendlies have been played—against the officers, whom we beat by a narrow margin, and against the B.O.R.s, who beat us by the odd set. Both evenings were very enjoyable.

Advert.—The first boat sails in November. Applications and enquiries are being sympathetically considered, and civil answers given under extreme provocation.

Who was it who said " That's it " when the quake caused the ten skittle to move?

Who was it who asked under what para. R.A.I. could he be granted free *payment* furlough? D.W., Sergt.

The War Memorial.....Fort Sandeman.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Tuesday 2nd July.

Editorial.—We tender our humble apologies for failing to assist with last month's WIRE production, but the omission was not our fault. For once in a way the excuse was definitely *not* laziness. The disastrous earthquake in Quetta temporarily paralysed the human machine in this part of the world ; but more of this anon.

The weather prevailing at the time of writing is decidedly unusual, the heat being particularly intense for a place such as Loralai, where fans and punkahs do not exist. A recent arrival from the U.K. is making out that the mercury touched 106°, but I think this is probably going a bit too far. Amateur meteorologists are nearly as bad as those who are paid to fill up the temperature columns of newspapers.

We regret the absence of notes from Hindubagh in this issue, but nothing has been heard of that outpost since the Quetta earthquake. One wanderer—stating that he had walked from Hindubagh—staggered into Loralai, looking rather disreputable and carrying a load of unserviceable equipment, and tried to tell us he was a refugee. Seeing that he appears to be enjoying his sojourn here, we think he is a genuine case. We only hope we get no other refugees from that area.

The Earthquake.—By the time this reaches our readers, everyone, even in the remotest parts of the world, will have heard of the disastrous earthquake that took immeasurable toll of life and property in Quetta. Although none of us has been able to see the havoc wrought in that part of Baluchistan, the reports from refugees passing through are sufficient to indicate that the disaster is perhaps the greatest the Empire has suffered in post-war years.

It is quite impossible—nor would it be fair—to praise any individual who took part in the rescue work. Suffice it to state that, without exception, everyone who was fortunate enough to avoid being killed or maimed worked to his utmost and under the most distressing conditions imaginable. We would, however, like to tender our heartfelt thanks to Signals, Wazirdist, who helped us no end during the rush of W/T traffic, and to congratulate all ranks of the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, on escaping without any casualty to life.

We in Loralai suffered little or no damage, though the main shocks stirred up the spirits of the general company almost to panic level. For the first three days the buildings and premises likely to collapse were avoided, but with the assistance of our invaluable seismographist Mrs. Bosworth sufficient warning of impending tremors enabled us all to enjoy our oscillations in the fresh air. (Mrs. Bosworth can now give us at least three seconds warning that a tremor is to be, and it takes her half that time to quit her bungalow, irrespective of sun or moon.)

Fort Sandeman did their best to shoot a good line and convince us that the Supply Depot had collapsed, but as the Heavenly Twins managed to survive it, we were but little interested. In anticipation of the O.C.'s visit, one building of the Supply Depot was deliberately put into a state of disrepair and well battened up by certain inhabitants of the monastery. Even Maskelynes couldn't put up a better illusion.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Dungey and Watson from detachment, B Corps Signals, Quetta. C.Q.M.S. Quick, with family, from Peshawar District Signals. We wish them all a rattling good stay in the Zhob, and hope that they will enjoy the available amenities to the full. As a measure of economy, the number of sessions in the local picture houses has been stringently reduced.

Departures.—Signalmen Wi'eman and Davies to the Command W/T Station at Quetta. L/Corpl Smith J. C. (on paper only) to Peshawar District Signals. We wish the latter all the very best with his new unit, and trust that he may be given further opportunities in the N.W.F.P. for keeping A.B.s 48 and blowing valves. The Zhob has lost a worthy character, but we hope he will do us honour by dropping a line or even returning to his old haunts for a spell of leave.

Congratulations.—To Lieut.-Colonel B. C. Ashton, I.M.S., late A.D.M.S. of Zhob (I.) Brigade Area, on his safe escape from the debris of the Alexandra Hotel at Quetta. All ranks earnestly hope he has made a full recovery and is none the worse for his nasty experience.

To Sigmn Shields on drawing Robin Goodfellow in the Uniacke Sweep and annexing the sum of Rs.2580. His success was duly celebrated in the normal way.

To Norman Fisher on at last producing a super Norman-cum-Fisher-cum-super-cum-whatnot W/T receiver. It is anticipated that the girls at Birmingham will be particularly proud of his recent effort, not to speak of the ten ton loudspeaker which is now completely equipped with drag links and castors.

Evacuation (not from Quetta).—Having set her house in order, and finding no more opportunity of carrying out improvements and rearrangements of furniture, Mrs. Cooper decided to quit her old bungalow for one which offered further scope in this direction. The new bungalow is by no means up to standard yet, but it is anticipated that this will be fixed in a very short time. We all wish she would pitch her tent properly and not allow the present disfigurement to the back gardens of White Road to continue.

Obliterations (still not Quetta).—All trees and shrubs in the front garden of Bosworth Villa. We do wish people would bring up their goats properly.

Things We Want to Know.—All movements of Fort Sandeman gigolos for the rest of the summer. What size in collars is taken by certain applicants for payment furlough. Whether Charbi Burke is still in Quetta or moved to Sibi. Whether Tubby will ever return to India. PAWINDAH.

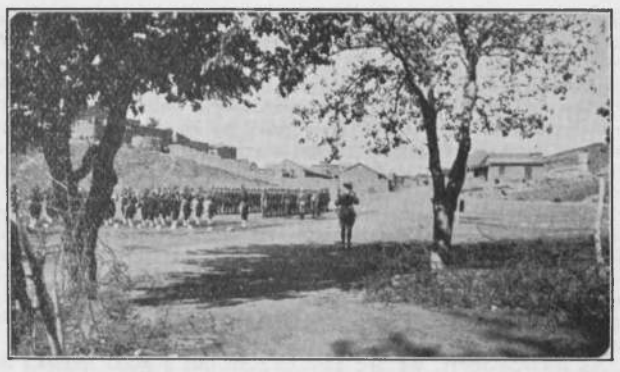
Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Owing to the hot weather, I am feeling very dull this month. Those who read the June issue of THE WIRE will know all there is to know about Fort Sandeman. I can't tell you any more apart from the fact that it still exists—which is more than can be said for some places around this part of the world. Everything is very quiet just at present ; there is not even a drop of sheiking to break the monotony. Half the unmarried females left the station last week, and I think the other one is going soon. Perms are not in fashion this month.

The great annual battle against mosquitoes has started. Slasher is in the thick of the fight. We were all sleeping outside, but one or two stormy nights put us off that, and now only the wild man from Scotland may be seen staggering across the open spaces with his bed in the evenings.

The building of our new institute is progressing favourably, and we are all looking forward to the day when we will be able to sit down to our meals in comfort. Sandeman with an institute is bad enough, but Sandeman without one . . . . . Well! we are at present taking our meals and spending our evenings in a tent, or outside, as weather permits. This will probably last a couple of months.

Nearly all members of the detachment are showing an unusual interest in education. We have pie squared for breakfast, tiffin and dinner. We hear more about squares, circles and triangles every day. It is a change, because the conversation always used to be flat. I have noticed a number of new topees in the detachment as well, although I have not troubled to look at the sizes. L/Corpl Jamieson and Sigmn Fortes are creeping up to Loralai with a view to acquiring a little more mallum about maths, etc. Perhaps they think they are dodging the big bad mozzie as well.



Farewell Visit of the G.O.C. at Fort Sandeman.

Leave.—Some of our members have been taking advantage of a spot of leave since I last wrote. Signalmen Donnelly and Taylor enjoyed ten days in Quetta ; at least, we hope they did. We don't know what they did, but the place collapsed the day after they came back. You never know what that man Donnelly is up to. Sergt Cosens took a change of air in Karachi and came back looking very cheerful and fighting fit.

Sport.—On account of the continuous watch which immediately followed the Quetta earthquake, we have had little time for games this month. The heat also makes it a trifle uncomfortable for the spectators. However, I am very glad to inform you that the swimming bath, although small, is open and we are able to take our daily exercise without risk of heat exhaustion. Sigmn Taylor has acquired one of those expanding gadgets, and may be observed easing springs in the mornings by those who care to rise early. (Smith, late of Buxmith fame, please note.)

Arrivals and Departures.—People keep passing through.

Visits.—We were all pleased to see our O.C. (Lieut. G. I. Burgess Winn) looking full of beans and likely to weather the summer well when he arrived on his tour of inspection on the 28th. Unfortunately, he can't stay long ; but during his brief sojourn in the station, he affords every member of the detachment individual consideration, and no one feels neglected when we are once more left in the care of our worthy detachment commander Sergeant Cosens.

Agonies.—Harry Fortes is still in the Zhob, and wonders why his fan mail is so light these days.

We all extend our sympathies to our friends in the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, who have had a rough time since the earthquake. SCHNEIDER.

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

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Wednesday 12th June.

General.—Sergeant Fee (plus Jubilee medal) and the rest of the D.R.s returned from Simla on the 14th May. For a week all one could hear was " What we did in Simla." Still, according to the Press and the congratulatory letters received, they appear to have put up an excellent show.

Old timers of the Div. now serving at home will remember the old football ground next to the Bijnor Road. Well, the railings round it have been uprooted and transplanted over a huge area on the maidan in front of the guard room. This will doubtless occasion a big loss of time to the orderly officer when dashing across half an hour after reveille to see the exercise party out, as he will now have to go round by the road and so lose that extra half hour in bed.

What it's going to be, nobody seems to know. Sigmn Bovill will doubtless use it as a dirt track. In any case, after the monsoons have finished with it, more fatigue parties (and much bad language) will be required to fill in the holes left by the rains, as experienced in past years. The work is almost complete, thanks to our extremely energetic sports officer (2/Lieut. A. J. E.

Johnson). No. 1 Company provided the labour, as No. 2 never have any unemployed. That's where Dale got his blisters (so he says).

Sport.—There has been plenty of tennis, swimming and hockey, but as the Company is only twenty-five strong, we haven't been able to do much in the winning line, although we can give most Sections a run for their money. J.L.R.

Chakrata Detachment, No. 2 Company.

Thursday 20th June.

General.—The period of martyrdom is nearly over in Chakrata. In two weeks time the Trade Board will be a thing of the past, and fortunes will have been made and lost—and then to Meerut, to be lulled to sleep by the punkah's mournful lay.

Judging from *The Statesman* and the naturally exaggerated reports received from an unusually large influx of jaded visitors from Meerut, it appears that this has been an excessively hot summer which so far has not been relieved by the rains, and therefore more than usual discomfort is anticipated during the second half.

During the time we have been in Chakrata the detachment, considering its numerical strength, has more than kept its end up. A one act comedy with an obscure title (something to do with the drink question) and stage managed by Sergt Child, supported by his better half, Sergeants Gavey and Yates, and Signalmen Bowden and Simms, was enthusiastically received by a very crowded house in the sergeants mess. They are repeating the performance in the Technical School in the near future.

In the field of sport the histrionic abilities of the above named were slightly overshadowed by the success of L/Sergt and Mrs. Clarke. Mrs. Clarke romped home with the Depot singles championship, and hubby emulated her by pulling off the doubles, in which he was ably partnered by Mrs. MacDonald. Our B Platoon won the inter-Platoon hockey knock-out competition by defeating No. 1 Platoon of the K.S.L.I. by one goal to nil in a thrilling final.

There being no King's Birthday parade this year, a treasure hunt was organised for the 3rd June. After negotiating a five mile course, the treasure (a 5 rupee note) was eventually located in a dog kennel by Signalmen Ryan and Beatt. Their powers of elucidation should stand them in good stead on the Trade Board.

Brigadier-General P. Neame, V.C., D.S.O., visited the detachment on the 29th May. The gallant officer (as they say in St. Stephen's) expressed his satisfaction with all that he saw.

By still further extending his Colour service for an indefinite period, R.S.M. Hughes may safely lay claim to being an old soldier. All arguments from Chelsea will be dealt with by our band of experts.

R.S.M. Hughes, C.S.M. Gradden and C.Q.M.S. Batchelor were recently presented with Jubilee medals. We offer our hearty congratulations.

The Five Year Plan evidently has no admirer in Sigmn Payne, who joined us from the U.K. in March this year and returns there per the s.s. *Rajputna* on the 29th June. Unfortunately he goes as a class "A" invalid, but we hope that amid the congenial surroundings of Southampton he will soon be fit again and ready for his *second* tour in India. BILL WUM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

General.—Those who read THE WIRE may have noticed the absence of Trimulgherry notes for a couple of months. For this lapse we apologise, whilst explaining that the regular scribe is at present in the throes of a B.i. course. If my efforts this month attain the heights to which my predecessor rose, I might go ahead and try to write some good notes. As a beginning, let me quote from Part II. Orders.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant R. C. Yule from Peshawar District Signals. He arrived on 16/5/35 from Saugor, where he underwent an equitation course.

Departures.—There were quite a number who disappeared en route to Blighty, but as we expressed our sentiments to them before their departure, I will not repeat them here. Corpl Eisele (Bill) has left us to throw in his lot with the Experimental Wireless Section, 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Births.—We congratulate Lieut and Mrs. S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan on the birth of a son (Timothy Swynfen) at Ahmednagar on 17/3/35. Also Sergt and Mrs. Kelsey on the birth of a son (Gordon Patrick) at Trimulgherry on 11/3/35.

Wedding Bells.—This sounds more bright and seasonable than the commonplace "Marriages," and anything to brighten up life is so welcome.

Lieut. and Mrs. Vulliamy after their Wedding.

Our adjutant, Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy, took the plunge on the 20th April last, but denied us the privilege of attending the festivities by being married at Ahmednagar. His bride was Miss Rosamond Farrell Palliser. A photo of the happy pair leaving Christ Church, Ahmednagar, is included with these notes. The whole unit offer congratulations and best wishes to Lieut. and Mrs. Vulliamy, and hope that they will enjoy long life and happiness in double harness.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on their rise to their respective heights. U/L/Corpl Howard to be L/Corporal w.e.f. 1/4/35. Signalmen Holt, Wood, Mitchell and Bennett to be U/L/Corporals w.e.f. 11/5/35.

Transfers.—We welcome Sigmn Adams, who transferred from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. It is a remarkable coincidence that the beer bar receipts have gone up lately, but we'd hate to pin a thing like that on him.

Medals.—We congratulate our commanding officer, our quartermaster, C.S.M. Westwood, Sergt Peerless and L/Corpl Goodwin on being awarded the King's Jubilee medal.

[*Continued on page* 390]

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

No. 1 Company.

Owing to an M.T. instructional drive coming at the end of the month, the notes for May were overlooked.

The operators, etc., undergoing driving instruction were given the opportunity of taking vehicles out on a long run over desert roads. The D.R.s of the unit also joined in, and after twelve hours on the road the convoy arrived at the destination, a delightful spot called Bir Odeib, on the Gulf of Suez. The whole party arrived back in barracks under their own steam after a run of approximately 250 miles over very bad roads.

The unit was represented on the Jubilee parade held at Gezira by one Austin, two load carrying vehicles, two Morris six-wheelers, and twelve motor bicycles, the detachment being commanded by Lieut. A. B. Ruck. The march past was in line at a speed of 10 m.p.h. The D.R.s and the drivers kept a perfect line. The commentator who was broadcasting the proceedings was beaten when the gin palaces moved up. He described them as "furniture vans with bedsteads on top." The arms drill of the Guards was perfect. They took the time from the Signals, who were on their right (alright, I've been called that already).

This being the leave season, Corpl Broadley (he looked nice in my socks) and Sigmn Oxley have departed to U.K. Signalman Nicholls first away on line leave. Corporals Barnett and Renton first on change of air camp. Sergt Nicholson first prize in a cricket sweep (£26). Good old Jock! do you remember when you were poor and one of us?

Sigmn Tomes has joined the Alex detachment for the bathing season. Corpl Morrison to Abbassia. Sigmn Joyce to Cyprus. Sigmn Swale to Abbassia. L/Corpl Ponsford to H.Q. B.T.E. It may be of interest to report that Corpl Dargan is now chief clerk to No. 1 Company. What! Lofty? Yes, and can he type?

Step-Ups.—Congratulations to Corpl Morrison and L/Corporals Davies E., Wrench and Robertson (unit office) on their rise in the world; also to the numerous people who obtained first and second class certificates of education.

Cricket—Bouquets: To Captain Thursby-Pelham on his 76 for Fleet (you can't keep our newshounds down). To Lieut. Cole on being selected to play for the Army. To Lieut. Ruck and Sigmn Clayton on being selected to play for the Army (Egypt). To the members of the Company scratch team on turning out and bringing off the seemingly impossible on more than one occasion.

Outings.—The married families of the unit were the guests of Colonel and Mrs. Bald at the Gezira Zoo, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Buses from door to door, tea on the island, and Jubilee boxes to the children were all happy thoughts on the part of our hosts. I understand that this is the last year that Colonel and Mrs. Bald will be able to invite us, so I take this opportunity of thanking them very much for their constant interest in the families of the unit.

Stop Press.—To Tank Brigade Signals: We hope to fill a cricket cup this year.

Hearty congratulations on the award of two Jubilee medals (just in time, sir)

A Section.

'Ello! 'ello! ici Cairo Radio, vous avez entendu (a French class, PT.5 a week) . . . . "Wait till I get hold of the blank fool on that other set"; "I bet I get a B.i. before I leave the country"; and "I can read decent sending, anyway." These are oft-used phrases in these days, and as we are nearly all on the operators course (ninth week) everyone is sweating on upgrading.

Inter-Section tennis, swimming, cricket and billiards are in full swing, and the Section is doing very well in the first two and moderately well in the others. M Section nearly caught a cold against J Section cricket team in the Section League, only just winning.

Twisted music, as rendered by two hearties of the Section, was not appreciated by a number of people. I can't understand why the music of the country should be encouraged.

Those on the last week of the M.T. course are "sticking a chest." Nobody has been killed, and nothing even smashed.

A cup for the tallest yarn oscillates round the Section rooms. The holders' names are too numerous to mention, but one chap has about six stars neatly ranged round his name.

Have you heard this one? Egypt is to be a three years station.

N.E.B.

No. 3 Company.

Red Sea Trip.—A few of us were permitted to accompany No. 1 Company on a trip to the Red Sea and Ismailia, lasting three days. Again the cold bottled stuff was very welcome, and thanks to the O.C. No. 1 Company (Captain M. S. Wheatley) and C.S.M. Deyermond, we all had a very enjoyable time.

Heard on the Courses.—Question by instructor: "What is meant by permanent and temporary magnet?" Answer: "If you rub a piece of ebonite with cat's fur, magnetism becomes induced and is a temporary magnet, which later becomes permanent."

Question: "What is local action?" Answer: "Small cells eating holes in the side of a cell which becomes useless and has to be thrown away."

Billiards.—Ex-C.S.M. Markham, please note this. Signalmen Drury and Harley are still in the third round of the individual C. of E. Institute billiard cup. Sigmn Drury is in the semi-final of the snooker championship. Up to date the unit billiard team has been doing well in the C. of E. League. We have played seven, won five, and lost two games. In the King George's Home knock-out competition we were beaten by the R.A.O.C. by one point.

Corporals Room.

General.—There is very little to record this month, but junior members have been undergoing a short drill course under the R.S.M. The ground shook for four mornings per week, either through strong voices or weak knees. After Jock Robertson had tried to throw his voice away, several members resorted to cotton-wool ear plugs. There were no moans about the rissoles at breakfast, either; or were they fish cakes? I must ask the cooks that one. Having created a good impression, or rather expression, we will now proceed to a musketry course.

Congratulations.—We congratulate and welcome the following new members: U/L/Corporals Smith D. H., Robertson, Perree, Wrench and Davies E. May you soon dispense with the "U." We also congratulate Corpl Williams on pulling his second stripe, and L/Sergt Dawson on being elevated to the Sergeants Mess. Corpl Henshaw gets the salutations for winning the unit table tennis championship. I understand you are going to buy a sideboard now, Dick.

Departures.—L/Corpl Ransom to Alexandria on a gas training course. Shortly, L/Corpl Smith D. H. and yours truly to the same place, for a different vocation—or is it recreation? We aspire to admission to the Health and Strength League and to send photographs to Brooms. I understand that Charlie will show us where the canteen is.

Arrivals.—Corporal Morrison J. from Alexandria. Welcome, Stein. L/Corporals Trout and Honor from a short refresher at the Muscle Factory. What about some tips, you fellows, instead of sympathy?

Top of the Class.—Certain members think Buller, of Bulford fame, should be after his June WIRE effort. What about a postal course, Cyril? Insulting remarks returned with interest and without a stamp.

Passing Thought.—I wonder if it's to prevent the writer's cramp, my going to Alexandria on a P.T. course. Also if Smudger is accompanying me to escort my body back.

Agony.—What about that darts tournament, Tubby ? Also save some beer for the Barrage trip.

Finis.—We are now closing down. Tune in on this wave length next month for amazing announcements. Cheerio!

ONE-SIX-SEVEN.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Saturday 6th July.

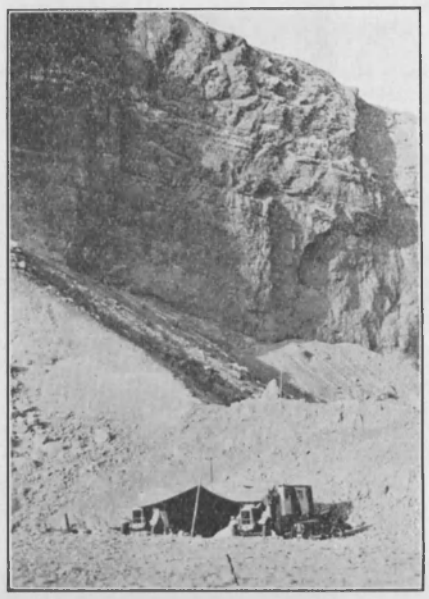
Training.—Now you poverty-stricken people who have nothing but this to read can stop thinking, whilst I try to force my over-taxed brain to collect some facts about our latest Troop scheme.

We all left Helmieh (with the exception of Corporal Shaddick, who was working the set in barracks, and one other) at 6.30 a.m. on the 2nd June and journeyed to the banks of the Suez Canal, a little way beyond Ismailia, arriving there in the afternoon. We saw many ships passing through the canal. Yes, we did see some Italian ships on their way to Abyssinia and looking very warlike, and we gave them the Fascist salute.

The following morning two-thirds of the Troop moved on. The remainder stayed on the canal until the last day of the scheme, and were given a series of lectures with practical demonstrations on card-playing. Most of the time was spent in bathing —and grand bathing it was.

The Wadi Khafuri, Egypt.

Camp was established on the second day at a place very near the hot springs on the Gulf of Suez coast. The next day some of us walked down to the beach to the famous springs, but they don't appear so hot when it's 105 degrees in the shade outside.



Our Camp at the Entrance to the Wadi Khafuri.

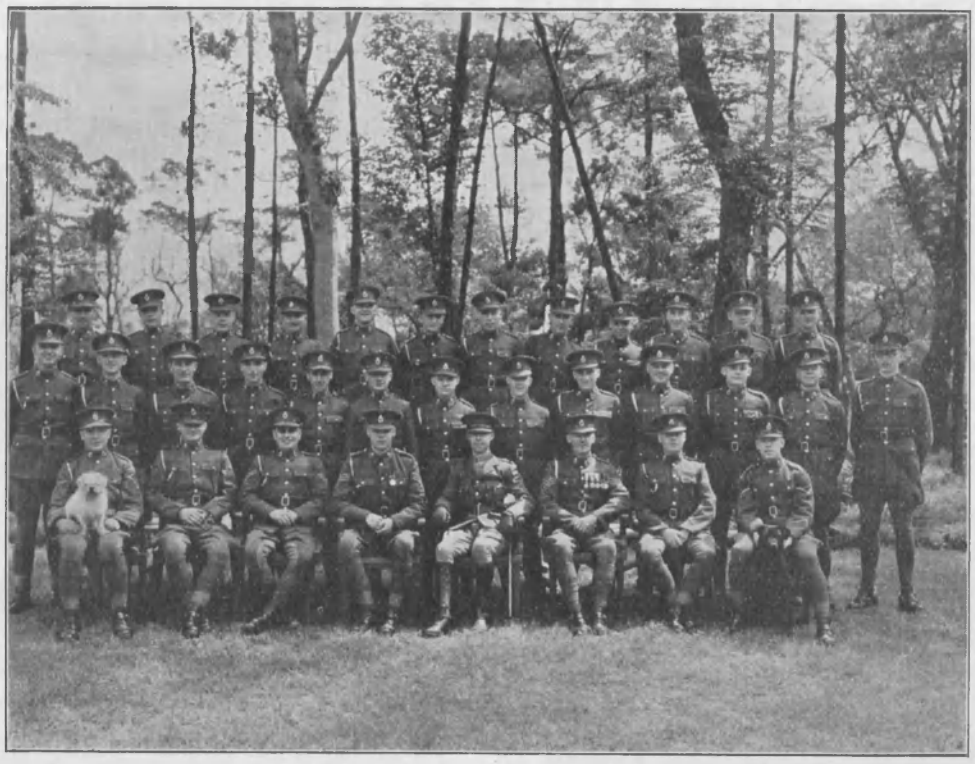
Others rambled over the hills with far-away looks in their eyes, but they all came back for dinner—and then half of this party moved off to the Wadi Khafuri under the O.C.

This is a remarkable gorge in the North Qalala plateau, from 20 to 200 feet wide and from 1000 to 1500 feet deep. Originally

G Troop A.R.A. Shooting Team, 1935.

discovered by an Englishman a hundred years ago, it was forgotten until his diaries were recently found in the British Museum. Since then it had only been visited by two parties of Europeans, and we were the third.

We had a very rough passage to the Wadi, but the 11th Hussars drivers—mostly new to the Leylands and to the desert—put up a first class show over most appalling going. When we got there, though, the scenery amply repaid our trouble. It must, without doubt, be quite the finest in Egypt, and nobody believed that anything like it could exist in this country. (Look out for our Christmas card!)



Shanghai Signal Section, 1935.

Greetings to the above from Shanghai Signal Section.

During our stay at the camp, we were given a very interesting talk on "Old Egyptian Potteries and All That." One of our number must be congratulated on discovering an old tomb near the camp. Yes, Harry, very interesting.

Anyway, on the 8th June the Troop united again at the Hot Springs and so back to Helmieh.

Work? Of course, we worked, but we have only told you what we did in our spare time ; nobody wants to read a lot of shop.

Shooting.—Many congratulations to the shooting team on winning the A.R.A.s Corps shield (abroad). It is an enormous trophy, and we all feel quite small beside it! After Hank's unlucky jamb in the rapid, we thought we were lost ; but although our score was only average, so, fortunately, was everyone else's. We were very proud to have received our first letter of congratulations from our late commanding officer, Colonel Hornby, which bucked us up even more than the shield itself.

May we return hearty congratulations to C Squadron on winning the Machine Gun cup.

Education.—Congratulations to Flowett and Rogers on their firsts ; to Butler on three subjects ; to Brooks on his English special ; and to Corpl Shaddick and Knight on E. and M. specials.

Tifeng Road Camp, 11th June.

Congratulations to Sergt Willis E. S. on being awarded a King's Jubilee medal. To Corpl Stevens B. J. and L/Corpl Hesford J. on attaining that rank. To Sigmn Hutchison on obtaining his second class certificate of education.

Jubilee Celebrations.—The Section was responsible for the communications and searchlights at the Tattoo held in connection with the Jubilee celebrations in Shanghai. A photograph of the personnel of the Section who took part is shown opposite.

Musketry.—We fired our annual range practice in April, with good results. Only one man failed to qualify as a first class shot. (Tank Brigade Signals, please note: Sergeant Lake did not fire.)

Gardens.—After plenty of enthusiasm and more hard work on the part of the Section, the camp looks like a public park. In the garden competition, we succeeded in obtaining first place for the best camp and first place for the sergeants mess.

In conclusion, we send our best wishes to the maskee draft whose portraits face this page. SHANGHAILANDER.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Wednesday 22nd May.

When notes appeared last month, I suppose old Tinsinners, after recovering from the initial shock, said to themselves "This is too good to last." However, here we are again, confounding the critics by once more appearing in the Magazine.

General.—The hot weather is here now with a vengeance, and those of us who have been east of Suez before—especially Near, Middle and Far—are revelling in the heat, but the others are not quite so happy.

The British Regiment here, with the exception of a few details, has departed for Shanhaikuan, where we have a small detachment of five men. This detachment has done great work in the erection of telephone lines round the camp, etc., while Ginger Allen and Sigmn Phill were instrumental in helping to catch a couple of silver smugglers. These smugglers are getting very active just at present, smuggling silver out of North China into Manchuquo.

Jubilee Day was spent very quietly. Being only a small Section, we could not hold any parades and so were content to watch a grand military display given by the 2nd Battalion The Worcester Regiment. This included the Trooping of the Colours and altogether it was a great show. There was a good sprinkling of foreign troops, especially Japanese, and these were very much impressed by the smartness and efficiency of the British troops in North China.

Sports.—Tennis is now in full swing. Although we have not yet played any matches or tournaments, we are hoping to do so at an early date. We have challenged the Garrison Staff Sergeants Mess, but up till now have received no acceptance. The truth is that they are a little windy of getting torn up by our Perry and Hughes combination.

The Staff and Departmental cricket team is also on the go. So far we have only played one match, against the officers of the Worcester Regiment. Our score was 87, while the Worcesters succeeded in compiling 135. We play the detachment of the Worcesters on Thursday.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Blackett (the Yank) came and stayed a few hectic days with us, but soon got browned off and longed for the lights o' Peking again ; so back he went, and he has been replaced by Slosh Powell. May they each be happy in their respective spheres.

At the end of this month we have the change-over at Shanhaikuan, and until then I think the Section will remain the same.

Congratulatory.—Congratulations to the Training Battalion on winning the Garrison hockey cup for the first time. Great show, Signals. Hang on to it now you have it.

To Vic, Canterbury: Have had that one on you. Now you have one on me. Cheers!

Cheerio, everybody. TICH.

Peking Detachment.

Tuesday 18th May.

Contrary to the usual lament, we have some news this month. Nothing startling, we'll admit ; but anything out of the usual here is hailed as an event, and this month has brought *the* event of the century. It has been very pleasant to read in THE WIRE of the various preparations for the Silver Jubilee, but we are so few here that anything in the nature of a big parade is impossible, no matter what the occasion.

Jubilee Day.—The day started well with the Legation Guard sergeant-major handing out tins of fifty Players at breakfast—the cigarettes being the gift of the British Board of Commerce, as also was the beer issued later in the day at the sports.

The Guard sports started at ten o'clock, and the Signa's were represented by Signalmen Foley and Harrison in the 100 and 220 yards races. It was impossible to enter for the team events owing to our numerical weakness and the duties we had to carry out, holiday or no holiday. However, as Foley won both his events and Harrison put up a good show, although unplaced, we feel that the Signals did well and are definitely on the sports map.

When the beer was announced Lofty Lewin was well up amongst the first, closely followed by the remainder of the Section. In the accompanying snap Lofty may be easily seen, head well above all the others. Our tame photographer would like to point out to all critics of his efforts that the crowd refused to get out of his way, in spite of his entreaties ; hence the blurred effect.

In the evening the Corporals Mess held a very successful smoker, to which members of the other Legations were invited. As he was the only French-speaking member of the Mess, Corpl McLaren had the pleasure of entertaining the six French guests ; and as three of the American guests had been invited by him, he had to look after them as well. The result was apparent after a few pints had passed: a wonderful mixture of French-American

The Beer Interval.

[Jubilee Day Sports] Foley being presented with his Prizes.

with a Scottish accent passing muster as a speech. L/Corporal Lauriere was heard trying to sing "Ramona" in French, and replying to all complaints: "Goldarn you, you suckers; whash marrer, anyhow?"

Tennis.—The Junior Staff and Departmental Tennis Club, of which most of the seniors are honorary members, held a very successful "at home" on Thursday 16th May, the occasion being the finals of the singles and doubles tournaments which have been running for the last month. As the tournaments were merely run to enable the committee to assess the handicaps of the members for the Club cup tournament, which will start in another month, no prizes were offered.

Club all said they had a very pleasant afternoon, and they didn't leave until the end of the proceedings.

Some accompanying snaps show the tea in progress and the ladies, Mrs. Banham, Mrs. Croft and Mrs. Karn, who were responsible for much of the afternoon's success.

Finis.—I'm sorry these notes are a bit sketchy, but if you could see me industriously looking for the letters on the typewriter before I dare hit them, you might give me full marks as a correspondent.

Take it easy. SPUD CAN.

The Ladies.

[Tennis "At Home"] The Tea Interval.

As usual, surprises were sprung by various people. Trudge Newton managed to stagger into the doubles final, and not all thanks to his partner either. The most interesting game of the singles was in the semi-finals, when Sigmn Terry played Mr. Banham (the N.A.A.F.I. manager) a three set game which left them both half dead and still leaves a bit of doubt about their respective merits, although Mr. Banham won. The finalists were Mr. Banham and Sigmn Foley in the singles, and Mr. Banham and Sigmn Newton v. Bandmaster Wilkinson and Sigmn Foley. Mr. Banham won the singles by 6—1, 6—3, 6—2. Foley and Wilkinson won the doubles by 6—2, 10—8, 6—2.

The refreshments and tea were provided by the ladies of the Club, and the vote of thanks passed at the conclusion of the afternoon was well deserved. The quality of the "chow" was equalled by the quantity, and that may be guessed from the fact that a lot was passed on to the hospital patients and the Club members did not go in to supper that night. The guests of the

Stop Press.—Since typing the WIRE notes, I have been informed that I am no longer in the British Legation but in the British Embassy. Query: What do I do with my Legation stationery? and since the Minister has been promoted to Ambassador, does that mean we all go up one?

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 342.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

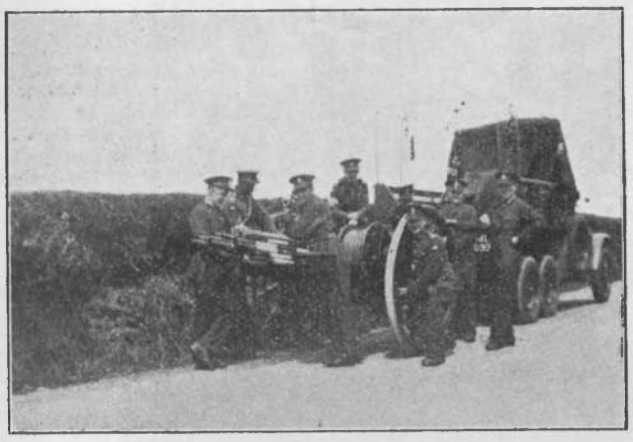
Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE "TERRIERS"

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester 16.

At the moment this scribe appears to be suffering from an attack of " the willies." It is a seasonal complaint, and always comes on immediately after the return from camp.



The Cable Detachment.

Twenty-four officers and 356 other ranks arrived in camp at Caernarvon on Sunday afternoon, 9th June. The camp site was voted the best we had ever had. This was, perhaps, due to the fact that our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley, had been appointed Camp Commandant. We had as neighbours the 10th (Oldham) Battn. Manchester Regiment, two detachments of R.A.M.C., R.A.S.C., and a small detachment of R.A.O.C.

The C.S.M. and Sergeants of No. 1 Company.

The lay-out of the camp had been well planned by Lieut.-Q.M. J. McVittie, who had been in charge of the advance party.

The first week was well spent in Section training and generally brightening up the recruits. D Section and No. 3 Company arranged potted schemes for giving full play to the " come back " of the Fullerphone. These instruments, on the whole, were very satisfactory and worked well.

Friday of the first week was set apart for the unit sports, and although we had a whole morning of torrential rain—and it *can* rain at Caernarvon—it cleared up for us in the afternoon. The boxing tournament was a great success, and a number of good bouts were seen. There is now every reason to hope that this unit will make a good show in the Divisional tournament this year.

Our hon. colonel (Colonel F. J. West, C.B.E.) paid us his annual three day visit and brought along with him our old commanding officer, Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C. We were all very delighted to welcome them, and hope they were pleased with all they saw.

On Saturday we had the usual spit and polish parade for the C.O.s inspection.

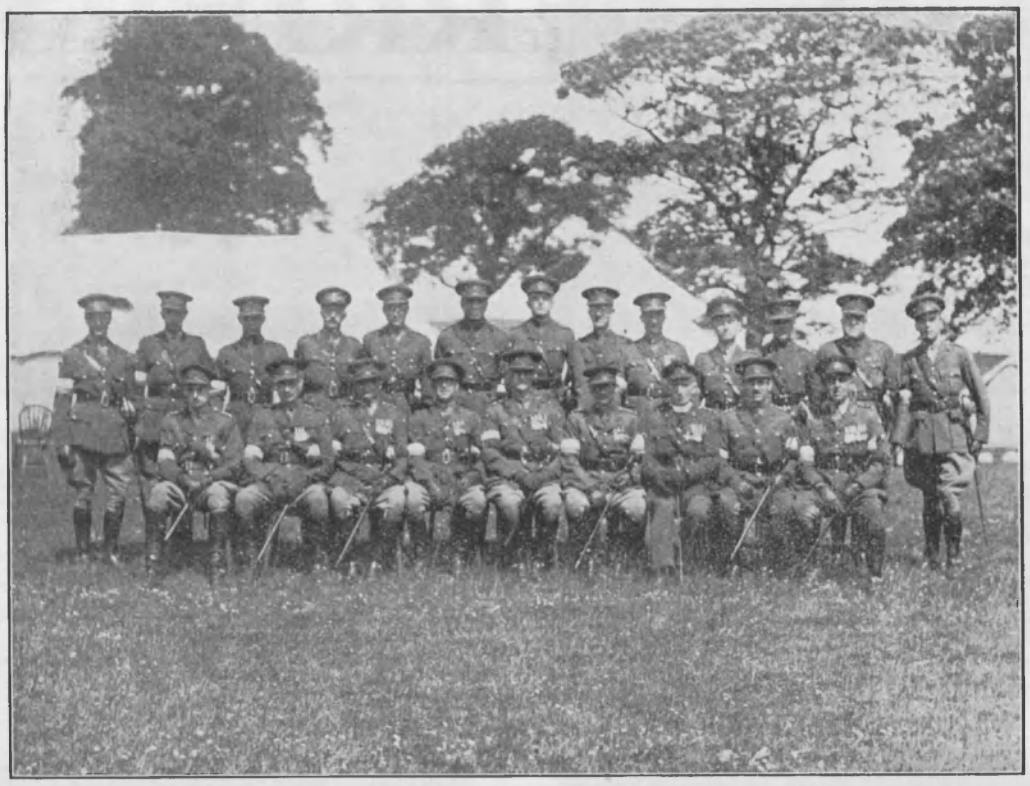
Mr. E. T. Grundey, the Bandmaster.

On Sunday morning the whole of the troops in camp assembled for church parade, which was attended by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff (General Sir A. Montgomery-Massingberd, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., LL.D.) and his Staff, after which came the inspection and march past, and from all accounts this unit got very high praise for our smart appearance and general turn out.

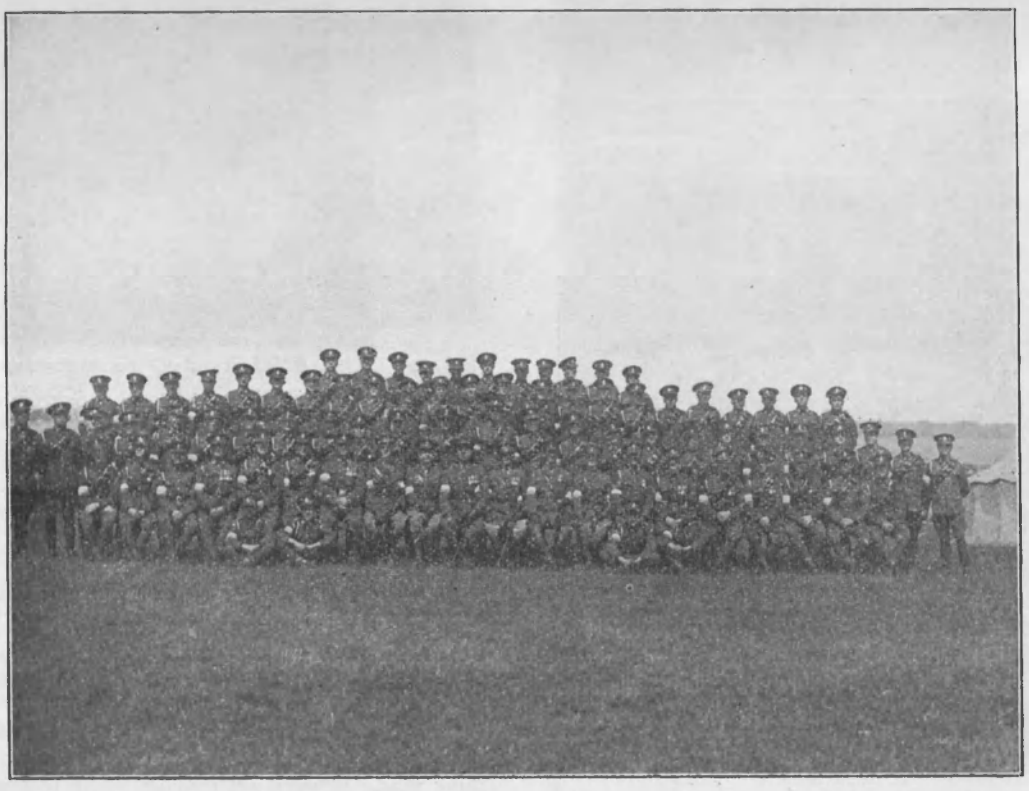
I feel I must at this stage put in a word for our Band on their smartness and playing. They have come on by leaps and bounds since last year, under the able conductorship of Bandmaster E. T. Grundey. This year the Drums have been put into full dress, so now the Band and Drums are alike and make a fine show when on the march.

Arrangements were made by the entertainment manager at Rhyl for the Band to give two performances there, but unfortunately only one date could be arranged. However, they had a very good reception from the people of Rhyl and the holiday-makers, after giving a good programme.

The thirty-six hour scheme started in a deluge of rain, and I think nearly all were wet through before leaving camp. However, this did not deter us and we got out in record time.



Officers of the 42nd (East Lancs) Divisional Signals during Annual Training at Caernarvon, 1935



No. 1 Company, 42nd (East Lancs) Divisional Signals during Annual Training at Caernarvon, 1935

The scheme was for a Division in the advance, and communication was well maintained throughout the day by line, wireless and D.R. A Section maintained their reputation for getting into communication quickly, and the Cable Sections worked extraordinarily well under great difficulties. Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Western Command) and Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C. (D.C.S.O.) visited us on the scheme.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The Company notes chronicle the main events of the past month, leaving little to be recorded.

The various Sunday exercises have again proved a popular feature of pre-camp Section training, and as we go to press the final exercise has just taken place.

We tender hearty congratulations to Captains S. E. Bridgwater and L. E. O. Evans on their recent promotion to that rank.

Ere these notes appear we shall have sampled the air at Long Bredy, and be in a position to comment on its advantages as a training centre---being new ground to us. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

The week-end camp at Cornwood on the 29th and 30th June was in the nature of a full dress rehearsal for the bigger show at Long Bredy next month. All Sections worked together for the first time and gave quite a promising exhibition. The usual snags presented themselves ; wireless sets developed faults—mainly because of the jolting received in transport, and office instruments refused to behave themselves, but the movements were prompt, the lay outs were good, and the general appreciation excellent.

The social side was first class. The messing was in the capable hands of Sergeant Ernie Ford, who was also the entertainer-in-chief (self-appointed!) Mrs. Sandover, hostess of the Cornwood Inn, provided for the Officers Mess, and right royally she did it. All Company officers were present. Altogether a very enjoyable week-end, and the forerunner of more on the same lines, we hope.

Recruits.—In contrast to last year, the shooting course for recruits at the Shillamill Range, Tavistock, which was held on Sunday 7th July, was favoured with glorious weather and the shooting was considerably better.

Promotions.—Hearty congratulations to Captain S. E. Bridgwater (of No. 2 Company) and to Captain L. E. O. Evans (of No. 3) on their recent promotion to that rank. ONECOY.

No. 224 F.A. Signal Company Exercise.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

General.—We extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Captains Bridgwater and Evans upon their third pip.

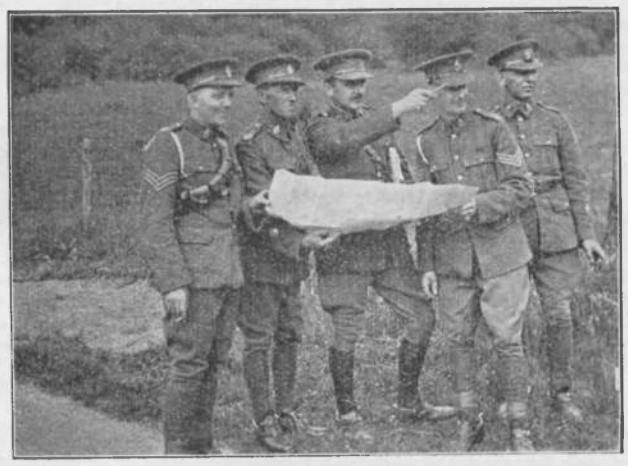
Hamilton House is now the scene of great activity. All concerned are eagerly looking forward to the annual training camp, especially the first year men—their interest being accentuated by the various week-end training schemes, which have proved very beneficial. At the moment everybody is extremely busy in checking, repairing and overhauling stores, etc., ready for our annual reunion.

Our training programme of Sunday schemes, etc., terminated with a scheme for No. 224 F.A.Signal Section in the Hurs.ey and Sparsholt (Hants) area. Despite the hot weather, the exercise was very instructive and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Photographs of the exercise events are associated with these notes.

The recruits carried out their weapon training at the Romsey Range under the keen eye of the adjutant and Captain E. R. Moore.

We congratulate the following on their promotion to the ranks shown: L/Sergeants Dickinson H. and Murray, L/Corporals Dally H., Spink and Griffiths.

All ranks of No. 2 Company heartily congratulate Colonel The Lord Basing (our hon. colonel), Lt.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C. (our O.C.), Lieut.-Q.M. F. F. West, M.M., C.S.M. Gibbings (No. 1 Company) and Sigmn Clatworthy (No. 3) on receiving the King's Silver Jubilee medal. TWOCOY.



No. 224 F.A. Signal Company Exercise.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Annual training is once again on us, and we are very busy. Employers have on the whole been very kind—in one or two cases, exceptionally so—and we are hoping for a good attendance.

News is scarce, but we have to congratulate J Section on again winning the Michelmore trophy, for they won it as No. 225 F.A. Section last year. Heartiest congratulations, also, to K Section on being third. This is good going, especially as they actually beat the runners-up for shooting average but lost second place because of absentees. Seeing that the runners-up are a Section of only eight men against about thirty-five to forty, their performance was exceptionally good.

The Sunday exercises have been very well attended, and it says a lot for the keenness in the Company when so many men go out without pay. The exercises showed that the Section officers and n.c.o.s are settling down to their new job in a most remarkable way, and we look for a continuance of the high standard in camp.

Congratulations to the following on their respective promotions:—Sergt Gregory to A/C.Q.M.S. Corporals Drew, Welsman and Harris to L/Sergeant. L/Corporal Ward to Corporal. Sigmn Pearce to L/Corporal. THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.

Editorial.—In another fortnight we are due at camp. This period of the year is eagerly looked forward to by us all. Remembering the splendid days spent under canvas in the past, our present enthusiasm is warranted. Our pessimists murmur " The weather can't last." Who cares, anyway. We are all busy

doing the last-minute jobs, commencing to pack this and that, attending Mess meetings, and hunting for articles mislaid last year. Hope they don't find those 252's.

The 132nd Brigade weapon training competition took place at Purfleet Ranges on Sunday 7th July. Competing with the infantry battalions of the Brigade, we proved our strong interest in open range shooting, despite difficulties in obtaining regular practice.

This year, we managed to show appreciable improvement of form and added to our previous list of successes in the competition one of the chief trophies, the Middlesex Justices' shield. This trophy is awarded on the results of practices as laid down for the Lord-Lieutenant's challenge shield, and was won by the 44th Signals (unit team of sixteen members) with a score of 845 points.

No. 1 Company team, competing in the practices laid down for the High Sheriff's challenge shield, obtained the highest number of points amongst the Companies and secured bronze medals. In addition, Major Read and Lieut.-Q.M. Harris obtained fourth and sixth highest scores in the Brigade individual championship, and Sigmn Coles (of the New Southgate Section) obtained a prize for the second highest aggregate in the B.S.A. guns (young soldiers competition).

Altogether, we had a very successful afternoon, and it is encouraging to see that the interest in shooting is well maintained, and that a number of promising young shots have this year managed to shoot their way, by regular practice, into the unit team. Hearty congratulations to all.

Answer to Queries.—(B Section.) When an irate householder complains of the pole-crossing in front of his gate, remove the householder.

Books We Should Like to See Published.—" Stink'e, stinkle, little car "—O.C. M Section. " And then there were six "—Captain Rand. " The sliding scale "—all Captains.

Musketry Results.—At the Middlesex weapon training competitions at Rainham Range on Sunday 7th July, the 44th (H.C.) Divl Signals scored a notable success. The competitions were open to all infantry units of the Middlesex Brigade and the 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

MIDDLESEX JUSTICES' SHIELD.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals	845
7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment	842
9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment	818
8th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment	709

HIGH SHERIFF'S CHALLENGE SHIELD.

No. 1 Company, 44th Divl Signals	440
C Company, 9th Middlesex Regiment	423
B Company, 7th Middlesex Regiment	420
D Company, 5th Royal West Kent Regiment	413
C Company, 5th Royal West Kent Regiment	402
H.Q. Wing, 5th Royal West Kent Regiment	387
B Company, 5th Royal West Kent Regiment	386
D Company, 7th Middlesex Regiment	383
A Company, 7th Middlesex Regiment	376
H.Q. Wing, 7th Middlesex Regiment	375
A Company, 9th Middlesex Regiment	372
H.Q. Wing, 9th Middlesex Regiment	356
No. 3 Company, 44th Divisional Signals	354
C Company, 7th Middlesex Regiment	350
A Company, 5th Royal West Kent Regiment	349
H.Q. Wing, 8th Middlesex Regiment	343
A Company, 8th Middlesex Regiment	313
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No. 1 Company.

Training schemes have claimed most of the interest in recent activities, as is to be expected just before camp and when the summer weather makes outdoor work most attractive.

A Section, as usual, manage to incorporate some interesting diversion to add to the difficulties of establishing wireless communication in congested areas. On a recent occasion, instead of doing their best to disturb the local telephone communications, they were entertained by spectacular descents by adventurous youths from the top of a haystack ; and even when first aid was required of them, they displayed their usual all-round efficiency in meeting the demands of the moment.

B Section, having now been equipped with spare wheels for their cable wagons, are fully competent to cope with all the traffic problems of Sunday main-road journeys in the vicinity of London. Such is their zest for acquiring recruits and for making an imposing display en route, that their mobile column usually embodies motor buses and numerous private cars when proceeding to their training area. Their ubiquitous commander is fully equal to all the demands made upon him, and he experiences little difficulty in smoothing the path for his lines, even in the face of proud and somewhat disputative householders whose regard for the beauty of the pole-crossings adorning their entrance gates is not always appreciative.

D Section continues to pursue with some success the difficult path of Morse operating, and of persuading its D.R.s that motor cars, while no doubt an indication of worldly status, make less appeal than their two-wheeled steeds when viewed with official eyes.

ONECOY.

No. 3 Company, and General.

Extra Training.—Carried out during the month: B Cable Section, Iver and Stamford Brook, 2nd June. No. 1 Company, Iver and Harrow, 23rd June. No. 203 M.A.B. Signal Section, Canterbury, 8th and 9th June. No. 3 Company: Combined J and K Sections had a good scheme at Wimbledon on the 26th June, and it was discovered that D.ii. makes rotten fan belts and that Topper's perfectly timed remarks made a good photograph better. No. 3 Company, Southgate, 16th June ; ? dampish, and good spread.

Sergeants Mess.—A blow for H——ry H——l. The O.C. Band and aspiring choristers will be pleased to hear that Sergt (there was a little) Spanawe has re-engaged for one year from 26/6/35. N.B.: It is not true that Herr Tauber had anything to do with this.

TEMPUS FUGIT.—We support, with enthusiasm and rousin' cheers, the suggestion that a curfew be sounded in the orderly room at 11 p.m.

BESTEN DANK.—Sergeant Sealey and S/Sergt Nicholson wish to return thanks to YD for their recent most enjoyable stay at Canterbury (canter first and bury afterwards), where they experienced the usual hearty welcome and hospitality. Although their visit fell during the holiday season, plenty of useful knowledge was gained and life in the Mess was found most congenial. Ask Browse.

On Thursday 11th July ex-C.S.M. Geere blew in and lightened the Mess by his presence for an hour or two. Incidentally, the weather was very hot and the bar seemed to be worried by the weight of the barrel, so we lightened that, too.

All the cads are busy preparing for the annual spot of huntin', shootin' and fishin' at a noted beauty spot rather adjacent to a burg the name of which ends in " shot "—dash it! the title eludes me for the moment. Anyway, everybody is making boxes and snakes, and wiring this to that. Seems we will only have to press a button or two to get everything cracking. Really, judging by the work that has been put in lately, we should have a super-efficient communication everywhere.

Stop Press.—J Section welcome Lieut. Rowe to the fold in place of 2/Lieut. Brett, who has gone to K Section.

Rumours among the P.S.I.—A visit by a 6 ft. 2 in. "avenging angel " to No. 3 Company store to make it look like the Ideal Home Exhibition, less the Axminsters (?) All o.k. until the Hoover seizes up, I suppose.

Who is considering doing seven days voluntary jankers in sackcloth and ashes as a token of sympathy for J. C. P.t.r..n ?

Who is exploring the possibilities of Hyde Park as an allotment?

AESMIJ.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 12/7/35.

General.—The usual activity which immediately precedes the annual training is very evident these days. Wagons are being poshed up and stores and equipment scrupulously overhauled. A steady influx of recruits is being maintained, but there is plenty of room for quite a number of likely lads.

Week-End Training.—On the 22nd and 23rd June Nos. 1 and 3 Companies proceeded to Chertsey, Surrey, for a week-end training. After duty on Saturday evening a little welcome bathing was indulged in by some of the younger members, while a small party of the cooler-blooded tried their hands at a spot of fishing. Great success, however, does not seem to have crowned their efforts, as the catch amounted to three or four minnows, landed with the aid of a net, at the expense of some pounds of bait!

Early on Sunday both Companies moved off to the vicinity of Chobham and got down to some real training. The weather, so far as B Cable Section were concerned, was perhaps a trifle too tropical for really comfortable work, but, judging from reports received, they put up a very good performance. It is rumoured that they are going all out for the cable competition this year.

As for the W/T Sections, they were, of course, able to take things a little less strenuously and so did not reach the "dripping" condition of their L/T comrades. The D.R.s had their usual good time, dashing around the countryside and making their own soft and balmy breezes.

By way of a change, M Section put in a day on map reading. We hope they won't get mixed up in their bearings.

The brilliant sunshine enabled some of the members of the Infantry Brigade Sections to indulge in the rather rare experience of manipulating the helio. It was noticed, however, that a considerable amount of " spot chasing " was necessary.

No. 2 Company performed their week-end training, also in the Chertsey area, on the 6th and 7th July. The Sections worked independently under the direction of their respective officers and spent the whole time in standing wagon drill, the laying and reeling in of short lines, and the setting up and working of Brigade signal offices. The thermometer was again bobbing on the high mark, and was not really helpful to the usual dashing display of the Gunner Sections. The most energetic beings around the countryside appeared to be the myriads of flies which forsook their usual haunts for sweating humanity.

Altogether, however, the three Companies put in an enjoyable and instructive week-end training.

Sergeants Mess.—On the 29th June a very enjoyable and lively smoking concert was held on the occasion of the presentation of the Murphy snooker cup to this year's winners. Towards the end of the evening Mr. Gander, captain of the 25th Cyclists O.C.A. team (the holders) handed the cup to ex-R.S.M. Stockwell, captain of the 47th Divl Signals O.C.A. Short but well worded speeches were delivered by each, and the cup was duly filled—and emptied!

We tender our congratulations to Sergt Davis, Supplementary Reserve, on being awarded the King's Jubilee medal.

Shooting.—Each year since 1922, with the exception of 1934, a match between the 25th Cyclists O.C.A. and this unit has taken place on the open range at Purfleet, Essex. During all those years we have managed to be on top three times only, which shows what really marvellous marksmen these old wallahs are. This year, however, on the 16th June, we just pipped them by one mark and so carried off the competition spoons. During the day we were visited by a terrific thunderstorm and were forced to take shelter in our transport. Whilst we were waiting with that what's-going-to-happen-next kind of feeling, lightning struck the ground on one side of us and the range warden's building on the other. Strangely enough, the mark made on the ground was in the shape of a broad arrow. The chimney stack on the building was damaged, and falling brickwork narrowly missed a C.S.M. of the R.E.s who was sheltering against the wall. Of course, some wag wondered why!

Equitation.—We congratulate Signalmen Ward P. E., Wall W. B., Myers E. N. and Nelson-Esch D. on obtaining first class certificates in this (so far as we are concerned) obsolescent art.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

The past month has been a crowded one for everyone. Apart from the feverish drawing and cleaning of stores on ordinary drill nights, each of the Companies has had either a week-end camp or Sunday training. Recruiting having come to a close, the enlisted recruits—of whom there is a record muster—are receiving their final polishing up on the square under the P.S.I.s, whilst several squads have already reached very creditable stages of proficiency in their respective trades and should by August be sufficiently advanced to reinforce the trained Sections when called upon at camp.

No. 2 Company Week-End Camp.—(By Andu.) It is said that variety is the spice of life. If that be so, then No. 2 Company had plenty of spice (oh! Getcher) at the week-end camp at the edge of Earlswood's famous lakes on the 15th and 16th June. It really was an experience to see what a succession of changes of weather and otherwise could be crammed into a short twenty-four hours. Brilliant sunshine alternated with darkness, rain, hail, gentle breezes and sudden squalls, to say nothing of a terrific thunderstorm which broke just as we were about to strike camp and delayed our return to barracks by nearly an hour.

Touching the question of work, which somehow or other seems to form a necessary part of these stunts (shame, G!) this was—notwithstanding everything—carried out to everybody's satisfaction, not excepting our jolly old sergeant-major, who was in his element staffing a visual station with the assistance of the quarter-bloke and the sergeant cook (the three muststaytheres, Getcher). There were a few pert enquiries as to why the aforesaid jolly old C.S.M. should have chosen to establish his station so close to the cookhouse. Some wags have it that 'ops had something to do with it ; but leaving night 'ops and day 'ops out of the question, I find nothing to substantiate this rumour except perhaps a few dead soldiers labelled " Bass."

Talking of bass reminds me of fish, and fish again reminds me of the J.O.S.M.—not in the way you think, though he does take a wee drappie now and then, but with reference to a wondrous tale he told the denizens of the " Reser " about the 120 lb. pike hauled out of the lake and the man who came back to life (we've heard it, G.)

Company Entertainment.—This was held on Tuesday night, 25th June, and proved a huge success. The programme was well balanced in variety, with the artistes appreciating the audience as much as the latter approved the endeavours of the entertainers, not forgetting the home talent. If the other Companies could supply equal talent (just ask No. 1 Company, Getcher) there should be no difficulty in running a unit show of entirely Signal production. Each man present was given a ham roll and half a snifter of the working man's food, over which they showed their appreciation to a popular Company commander, Captain Challen.

[We should like to commend Andu's suggestion anent a unit concert party. If only some of our talented members (and there must be plenty) would come forward, there is no reason why the annual unit concert could not be made a very pleasant family affair.]

No. 3 Company Week-End Camp.—This took place at Earlswood on the 22nd and 23rd June. The Company was favoured with glorious weather. Saturday afternoon was occupied with general instruction in camp routine, button cleaning, etc., and when darkness fell a short night scheme was arranged. Sunday was devoted entirely to musketry, in preparation for the visit to Kingsbury Ranges which took place on the 7th July.

No. 1 Company Sunday Training.—All the Sections of No. 1 Company carried out their training independently of each other on the 30th July. The Cable Section repaired to Earlswood, where both detachments engaged in practice, laying short lines. The D.R.s, taking advantage of their mobility, went further afield in the vicinity of Bidford-on-Avon and Evesham for map reading exercise. Ack and Don Sections remained in barracks, where a complete Divisional H.Q. signal office was established.

Births.—To Sergeant and Mrs. J. Fellows, on the 5th July, a daughter (Joan Margaret). Congratulations, Johnn'el We all thought there was more than met the eye in that posh new side-car outfit of yours,

To C.S.M. and Mrs. Ryder (who have until now managed to keep the fact a very close secret) a son. We regret that Barney has not even informed us of the name of the new arrival. Many have said they noticed you had lost some weight lately, Barney.

Believe It or Not.—There is a certain D.R. who runs his B.S.A. very successfully (so he claims) without any piston rings. He has not yet tried to dispense entirely with the piston.

A lecture on the motor cycle engine recently given to D.R.s was based on the second verse of the first chapter of the Book of the Triumph (Model H. 1918).

A certain instructor at Kingsbury, when he fired himself, never hit the target.

Four members of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, who warbled with the sweetness of corncrakes in church the other day, are about to form a glee party.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Allen on his entry into the Mess in record time, and to C.Q.M.S. Baker (S.R.) whose promotion dates back to January, though we did not hear of it till now. Congratulations, also, to a whole string of budding F.M.'s. Sergt Boden and L/Sergt Mulgrue have been awarded the Territorial efficiency medal.

Annual Church Parade.—The annual church parade was held on Sunday 14th July. The service took place, as in former years, at St. Christopher's Church, Woodlands Road. There was a good attendance of all ranks, although the heat proved too much for some of the weaker vessels who shirked khaki and stayed away. The turn-out was exceedingly smart. The unit marched to the church via Stratford and College Roads, headed by No. 1 Company. The address was given by the Rev. F. H. Farncombe, vicar of St. George's, Edgbaston, and was based upon the three D's: duty, discipline and devotion.

The hon. colonel, Colonel B. J. T. Ford, T.D., met the unit at the church and marched back at the head of the column after the service. The other distinguished visitors present were Colonel J. W. Danielson, D.S.O., T.D., Lt.-Colonel Erskine Murray, D.S.O., Colonel P. H. Keeling, M.C., and Major F. Braine, M.S.M. The return was via the same route, but with No. 2 Company leading. We were very pleased to see Captain N. E. Steeley once again in khaki on this occasion.

The Band of the 8th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment played the unit to and from the church. On the return to headquarters, Colonel Ford, out of consideration for the comfort of the troops and in view of the heat, refrained from holding an inspection, and the parade was dismissed. Tea was served to all members and friends in the drill hall, and in the officers and sergeants messes.

GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—With annual camp so close at hand and Section training coming to its climax, there is a great deal of activity in Gibraltar Barracks. By the time these notes appear in print, the unit will be encamped at Redcar alongside the 46th (North Midland) Divl Signals, and the results of our season's efforts will be seen. It has been a time of ceaseless work, and we hope in consequence to have a good camp, with better weather than in the previous year.

Training.—All the Sections of No. 1 Company and a Section from No. 3 took part in rather extensive operations over the country north of Harrogate on the 22nd/23rd June. After spending a night under canvas on our week-end ground at Arthington, the Sections set out on Sunday morning and worked a Divisional attack scheme towards Harrogate. The earth-return system did not function too satisfactorily on this occasion and produced one or two pretty knotty problems, particularly some connected with induction. It was a roasting day, and the Cable Section had everybody's sympathy. On the whole, however, the scheme met with a reasonable degree of success, and laid bare several defects which can be remedied for the night operations on the 13th/14th July in the Green Hammerton—Whixley area.

Promotions and Appointments.—Rather a lot this month. There's going to be a bit of a wetting for some of us in camp. The basket of flowers goes to C.Q.M.S. Brown G., who has been promoted warrant officer class ii. and becomes Company sergeant-major of No. 2 Company. Congratulations in no less degree are also accorded to the following: Sergt Emmens W. on promotion to C.Q.M.S. w.e.f. 19/6/35. Promoted sergeants: L/Sergeants Gaunt G., Ashe A. E., Harrison A. S. Appointed lance-sergeants: Corporals Thornhill H. J., Wrighton A. C., Hall S., West J., Tolhurst F. Promoted corporals: Lance/Corporals Crossley H., Robinson H., Hyman A., Allmark L., Parker A. Appointed lance-corporals: Signalmen Denton G. E., Bowers G., Williams J. P., Buckle J., Taylor C. W. All with effect from 1/7/35.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Sigmn Romano E. in London on the 20th June. He had been a member of B Section during his service.

Signals Association.—Fifty-five members of the Association visited Scarborough on the 29th/30th June for the annual reunion of the Northern Command Branch. They were conveyed there in lorries (lent by kind permission of the adjutant, Captain L. W. Schneider) and they join with those who were fortunate enough to be present from other units in expressing their great thanks to the 5th Divl Signals for the excellent arrangements.

Mr. L. W. Green, our local secretary, arrived in time to win the old comrades' race at the 5th Divl sports, beating several present servers to the tape.

A meeting was held in the barracks on the 2nd July to discuss the social programme for the winter, and after several really helpful suggestions had been put forward, it was decided to form a local entertainments committee and call a further meeting after camp. We are rather proud of the rapid progress made in the unit by the Association, for in the few months during which it has been active here, membership has risen past the hundred mark and is still growing. The next move will be to endeavour to form a fully fledged Leeds Branch.

Curtain.—Apart from a number of rehearsals by the Sergeants Mess glee party, and a little wagging of the quarterbloke's persuasive tongue in setting forth the joys of being on the advance party, the unit's doings seem to be fully covered. So roll on, the 28th July, when, with a fanfare of trumpets, we shall see the unit Rolls Royces majestically sweeping away from Leeds, packed with cheering troops, and eating up the miles to Redcar.

TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Now that the training season is well advanced (the weather reclassified from N.F.R. to B.i.) and the time of our departure to Catterick Camp (28th July) for annual training is almost at hand, everyone is too busy for words. Even the paint pot and brush have been worked over the six hours. Although Catterick is not advertised as a health resort, the boys will be out for a real good time. Our numbers may be small, but there is an old adage that good stuff is found in small bundles. We wish the whole unit a really good and enjoyable camp this year.

Congratulations.—To the undermentioned on their promotion:—Corporals Jones S. H. and Johnston F. C. to L/Sergeant. L/Corpl Havelock H. to Corporal. Signalmen Thornton H. and Pettit C. to L/Corporal.

To Sigmn Donkin, one of our latest recruits, we wish the very best now that he has enlisted into the Regular Army.

Obituary.—We extend to the relatives of the late Sergt Wood A. (Timber) of the 107th A.T. S.R., our deepest sympathy in their very sudden and sad loss. His presence in our midst will be greatly missed. His jovial manner was an outstanding feature at many of our social evenings.

MIDBRO.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Reserves' Ramble.—A very successful training scheme was held by our S.R. units on the 6th and 7th July. The scene of operations was Finty Moor. Glorious weather favoured the venture. There was a very good attendance of all ranks. Everybody worked with a will. The officers played their part nobly. It was good to see our young officers donning overalls and manning the cable wagon in splendid style. There are more S.R. short train-

ing camps to follow, and the outings are eagerly looked forward to by the members.

Adieu, Armstrong!—It was with much regret that we bade farewell to Sergt Armstrong T. of our permanent staff, who has left us for the 56th Divl. Signals, London. During the short time he was in Glasgow, Sergt Armstrong impressed us all by his unassuming and kindly personality. He has left in Glasgow many who hold him in high esteem.

Hail, Hayles!—Honest John of the Corps, serving in Glasgow, heartily greets Dub Hayles. A word through the medium of THE WIRE from dear Dub would not be amiss. There are others in Glasgow who would hail with pleasure news of Hayles.

Peerless Parker.—It was long before 1914 that Sergt Parker J. of our No. 1 Company T.A. commenced his service with the 52nd Divisional Signal Company at Rutherglen. Yet Parker, the perky one, is still going strong. His activities are manifold. He has for years been the property expert of the Sergeants Mess. He has long served as Mess librarian. A war wound sustained in Gallipoli does not damp Jock's ardour. He is as sound a Territorial as ever. A man of hard work and horses, the mechanical business is not at all to Jock's liking. He tells us he may take his discharge one of these days. We hope not. He is good for a few years yet.

Promotions.—We congratulate Corporal Hutchison J. (No. 3 Company S.R.) on his promotion to L/Sergt. Other promotions in this Company are Signalmen Armour, Bannerman, McNiven and Paul to L/Corporal.

Sir Hugh Reid.—We have to note with very deep regret the death of Sir Hugh Reid, Bt., the distinguished locomotive engineer. Sir Hugh was at one time an officer in our units when we were known as the Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers. Retiring with the rank of lieut.-colonel, he maintained a lifelong interest in the Territorial and S.R. units which succeeded the old Volunteer organisation. Sir Hugh Reid did much for the Territorial movement. His name will always have an honoured place in the annals of Jardine Street, and his death is a great loss to the Territorial movement in Glasgow.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 15th July.

General.—Recruiting this month has been very gratifying, and the quality appears to be well maintained. Judging by the appearance of the squads under the care of Sergeants Brundell and Merchant, we shall have some good stuff coming along to replace the losses we must inevitably sustain when the age limit axe begins to fall, as it soon must. They should realise from the first that they have a very high standard to work up to, for some of those who will pass from our ranks were with us twenty years ago this month when we set out for the great Gallipoli adventure at Suvla Bay and the subsequent wanderings in the East.

One or two will, perhaps, fail to stay the pace, and others, no doubt, will have reasons for taking their discharge at the termination of their first period of service ; but we confidently hope there are quite a number amongst our younger members who will in time be able to say (as these old 'uns are saying now) " It's just thirty years since I joined." Those years have been full of adventure which they least expected when they also, as youngsters, took the oath of service.

Week-End Training.—A very enjoyable week-end training was held in splendid weather at Cefn Mabley Park on the 6th/7th July. We hear that the catering side was a great success, and much credit is due to C.Q.M.S. Williams and Corpl James for producing such splendid results. From the O.M.s department we hear that several alterations to clothing have been cancelled owing to the excellent " blow out " the lads received.

No. 3 Company also held a voluntary week-end camp at Porthcawl on the 13th/14th July.

Camp.—Annual training draws near, and we go into camp at Penally Hutments on the 28th July. Tenby is always a favourite camping place for us, and this year we shall meet the 158th (North Wales) Infantry Brigade, whom we have not seen since the 1925 camp at the Isle of Man.

The Sergeants Mess held a very successful outing on Sunday 22nd June. Sixty members paid a visit by bus to Shakespeare's home town, travelling via Monmouth and Malvern and returning via Gloucester and Chepstow. The weather and catering arrangements were all that could be desired.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—Why is it that every day—during the last three weeks, that is—the sun has been . . . . well! you all know what 84 in the shade is like ; and yet, when the cooling rain comes, it decides that the best time is on one of our drill evenings. I ask you, is it fair?

But does that put the damper on us? Emphatically, no! The Wireless Section have found a spot under some trees on the Whipps Cross " Lido " area, and they have proved that it is waterproof. The only snag, they say, is that the aerial gets wet ; but, as I tell them, it does the aerial good to get a dusting sometimes. Besides, they have proved, by immediately getting " through " and passing traffic, that the rain does do some good after all! By the way, the only thing that breaks down now is the lorry. But who cares?

Well, after getting that off our chest, we now view our prospects for the working and training of the Company at annual training camp. Everything seems set for an enjoyable and profitable (no laughing) fifteen days.

First, we have an A W/T Section and a B Cable Section who can both function quite efficiently. Secondly, we have many likely lads who are keen to learn and will get many facilities to do so on the individual training classes. Thirdly, we have most probably the potential winning V/T team, who are very anxious to get to grips with Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. And last, but not least, we have the prospect of sunny weather (smiles among the other ranks). So all in all, and leaving out the likely snags, our prospects for camp this year are very bright, and we also are to have a record number of men attending. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—A three-day scheme was held in the vicinity of Hockley on the 8th, 9th and 10th June. The scheme was carried out by Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies, and everything went off according to plan.

The three V/T teams put in a couple of days useful training, and were brought a few steps nearer the required standard.

The W/T team is still quietly training on drill evenings, and we are getting more optimistic every day regarding our chances in the competition held at annual camp.

General.—Recruiting is on the upgrade, and we only require a small number now to bring the Company up to strength.

The recruits of the Company fired their musketry course on Sunday 30th June on the ranges at Rainham, and the results were very satisfactory. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Congratulatory.—We take this opportunity of heartily congratulating our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., Lieut. and Quartermaster C. Sharpe, D.C.M., and C.S.M. Simpson of No. 1 Company, on being the recipients of Jubilee medals. The member of this Company to receive a Jubilee medal was L/Corpl Kirby. All ranks join in congratulating this n.c.o. on the honour he has received. Rumour has it that the medal will be duly anointed at annual camp.

Whitsun Camp.—This was held in the vicinity of Hullbridge in company with Sections of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies from Stratford, who spent their Whitsun sampling the ozone of Southend—that is, when they were not connecting everyone up with cable and wireless in the manœuvre area.

No. 3 Company provided one Infantry Brigade Section, and some useful work was put in by all members, including the poor old " check," who is contemplating the purchase of a pair of roller skates for the next exercise. The visual terminals worked very well, doing the bulk of their work with the aid of the telescope. During the three days the weather was very good, and all ranks (including, I believe, a waitress at the camping ground) enjoyed their brief stay in the wilds,

On the 13th and 14th July we are due for an exercise at or in the vicinity of East Horndon. Of this, more anon.

Recruiting.—We are slowly but surely approaching the 100 per cent. figure, and at the same time enrolling the right type of man. If we could but delay annual camp for about two months, we should be certain of proceeding to annual training with a full strength Company.

Bedford.—Sausages again? Why not rissoles (a la W.A.A.C. 1919) for a change?

Wanted.—A typewriter that doesn't make mistakes.

THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—The unit proceeded to camp for the Whitsun holidays at Turvey. (You know, the place where the cows live.) Arriving at 16.00 hours on the Saturday, tents were erected and the camp laid out in time for tea at 17.30 hours. Nothing much doing after tea, except a bit of poshing up to visit the village.

Training started in earnest at 07.30 hours on the Sunday morning with a bit of squad drill. Special tea was brewed by the cook for the n.c.o.s breakfast, as he thought perhaps their larynxes would be a bit twisted. A small scheme was held later in the day in preparation for a larger one on the Monday. The weather was not too kind: rather cold and wet.

Social.—During the Whitsun camp a tea party was held for the families and relations of members of the unit. At 17.00 hours on Whit Sunday we sat down to a fine spread which our noble cook (Signalman Deverick) had prepared. Cakes, jellies, custards, tinned fruits, etc., all went west in about fifteen minutes. The cook was rather disappointed with the jellies. He had put them out of doors to set, but later he discovered that the chicken had been having a good feed. After melting them down again, however, they still tasted just as good.

On the 29th June a combined Royal Signals and R.E. whist drive, supper and dance was held in the drill hall. Between the dancing, a trio on the piano accordion gave some old favourites which made a welcome break. Tom Sayers and his band (himself) gave a solo "Tiger Rag." The supper consisted of sausages, mash and gravy, and three hundred and one sausages were eaten that night. The odd one was "overweight," given gratis by the family butcher.

Footnote.—Next time I write these notes, I shall be in camp. Take a good sniff at them, and most probably you will get a whiff of the air at Shorncliffe.

TOMASS.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

Tactical Exercise Without Troops.—The officers are hard at work on an exercise of a novel nature, designed to study the signal problems involved in a landing on a hostile coast. Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., has very kindly given the directors the benefit of his advice and experience in arriving at a satisfactory solution of the problems set.

Divisional Rifle Meeting.—A party of No. 1 Company S.R. went to Purfleet on the 22nd and 23rd June to set up the necessary means of communication for the smooth running of the meeting, and a party of No. 4 Company S.R. manned the exchange and telephones for the actual meeting on the 29th and 30th. We are informed that the great success of the meeting was largely due to the excellence of the communications provided.

Classification and Week-End Schemes.—The City of London Division is in the throes of the annual classification of regimental signallers. As this unit finds the classifying officer and assistant instructors for all units, we are kept busy.

Despite this, the usual week-end schemes at Latimer and Compton continue to the enjoyment and benefit of the participants.

The Supplementary Reserve have also entered into this field of activity, and on the 29th and 30th June two Cable Detachments went to Aldershot to train under the wing of A Corps Signals.

Annual Training: No. 4 Company L. of C. Signals.—Major F. H. Dallison, M.C., and his Company departed for Winchester on Sunday 7th July to join up with other Supplementary Reserve personnel. As these notes go to print, they will be assisting A Corps Signals in the Staff College exercise.

War Memorial to the 56th (1st London) Divisional Signal Company, Royal Engineers.—This is now taking shape on the wall of the drill hall. The panel is already in situ, and the committee of the Old Comrades Association are engaged in the selection of the photographs, maps, etc., which are to be displayed thereon.

City of London Signals Display.—As already announced in these notes, we are attempting to emulate the Signal Training Centre in running a display by our despatch riders. The team are working hard and have already reached a standard of efficiency which augurs well for the future. One remembers the small beginnings of the display given by the Regular Army. Our team is already well up to that standard. They hope to give a short display during the sports at camp this year.

Annual Dinner.—The officers entertained a very distinguished company at dinner on the 26th June. A report of some of the things that were said is given below. Besides those members and guests mentioned, we were honoured by the presence of Mr. J. H. Williams (chairman) and Mr. S. Wilding Cole, O.B.E. (vice-president) and others of the Radio Manufacturers Association. Dinner was announced by the sounding of the Mess call by ten trumpeters of the unit in full dress. The band of the City of London Signals played during dinner.

In his speech, the commanding officer referred to the difficulty experienced by C.O.s of the Territorial Army in adjusting their civilian outlook to official procedure. He pointed out that in his private capacity a commanding officer, as the head of a business, was accustomed to making quick decisions often involving matters of considerable magnitude. He made his decision and results were often quickly apparent. In his official capacity a commanding officer would often make a considered recommendation in a matter not involving any considerable cost, but was astonished and often baffled by the time taken by the official machine in making up its mind. Commanding officers were often obsessed by the futility of it all.

He questioned whether the authorities who control the affairs of the nation knew or cared what the Territorial Army was, what its strength was, or whether it was ready for war. He spoke of the apathy of the nation, and stated that at the present time there was some stirring up of public interest in national defence, but that this was primarily directed towards the provision of bomb-proof shelters and the like.

It was not in the best traditions of the British race to consider only passive defence. He referred to the recent formation of committees to advise on the question of defence against aerial attack, and suggested that if Territorial Army commanding officers served on these committees, it would provide them with that prestige in the town or borough which they so greatly needed and which, in London, was so difficult to achieve.

The commanding officer himself belonged to the generation who, having had military training before it, had also had the experience of the Great War. They had been brought up with the feeling that on them depended this country and the Empire. Those of this generation had carried the Territorial Army through the difficult post-war years, chiefly because of their memories of the war and all that it had entailed. Those upon whom the burden of the Territorial Army would shortly fall had not had that experience to buoy them up. Their enthusiasm must have been dulled by years of peace-time soldiering under conditions of great financial stringency.

Two great things must, in his opinion, be done if the Territorial Army was to continue. There must be a statement of policy on very definite lines made by a really high authority in the Government. This would do much to offset the national apathy referred to and to raise the morale of the Territorial Army. Conditions of service in the Territorial Army should be improved. Old and out-of-date premises must be abolished. There might be an extension of the Territorial Army Association system, who should have certain sums of money allotted to them so that every minor item of expenditure is not held up for an indefinite period while superior authority considered whether or not it should be incurred.

The commanding officer then referred to the remarkable increase in the strength of the unit during the past year, and to the commencement of a display by the despatch riders of the unit. Practices for this display have already started, and the team have very favourably impressed all who have seen them. The C.O.

The Dinner of the 56th (1st London) Divisional Signals

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also paid a tribute to the work done by the adjutant and permanent staff in connection with recruiting.

Proposing the toast of "The Guests," Major A. C. C. Willway referred to the fact that the mess was to a large extent the focus of the life of a Territorial Army unit. They were therefore glad to welcome their distinguished guests to the annual dinner. He was especially glad to welcome there the Director-General of the Territorial Army, Lt.-General Sir Charles Bonham-Carter, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The Director-General had many claims upon his time. He had in the past fought many battles on behalf of the Territorial Army. It was hoped that later in the evening he would be able to give the Mess and their guests some idea of what went on behind the scenes. Major-General P. R. C. Commings was another honoured and welcome guest. A Divisional commander must be assured of being very much at home in the mess of his own Divisional Signals.

Major Willway referred to the pleasure it gave the Mess to entertain such distinguished guests as Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O. (Colonel-Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals), Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. (G.S.O.1, S.D.6 Signals, the War Office), Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchens, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command) and Lieut.-Colonel A. G. Lee, O.B.E., M.C. (Engineer-in-Chief of the Post Office). As a slight palliative to the remarks of the commanding officer on the subject of the difficulty experienced by commanding officers in getting things done, he referred in glowing terms to the very great assistance the unit had invariably received from Colonel Evelyn Wood, D.S.O., O.B.E. (secretary of the City of London Territorial Army Association).

Lt.-General Sir Charles Bonham-Carter, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., replying on behalf of the guests, paid a tribute to the services of the Territorial Army to the State. He dealt with many of the points raised by the commanding officer, and gave a resume of the history of the post-war years in so far as they affected the Territorial Army. He refused, however, to give any hint as to the future organisation of the two London Divisions and their Divisional Signals.

Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., proposed the toast of "The City of London Signals." While a Divisional commander was, naturally, most interested in the welfare of his own signal unit, he did not forget the presence at Signal House of Headquarters and two Companies of Lines of Communication Signals, Supplementary Reserve. He understood that Colonel M. F. Allan and his unit were going to take part in Army manœuvres this year, and he wished them good luck. He referred to some of the recent achievements of the City of London Signals, notably the parade for the Jubilee of His Majesty the King, and to the attendance at Easter training.

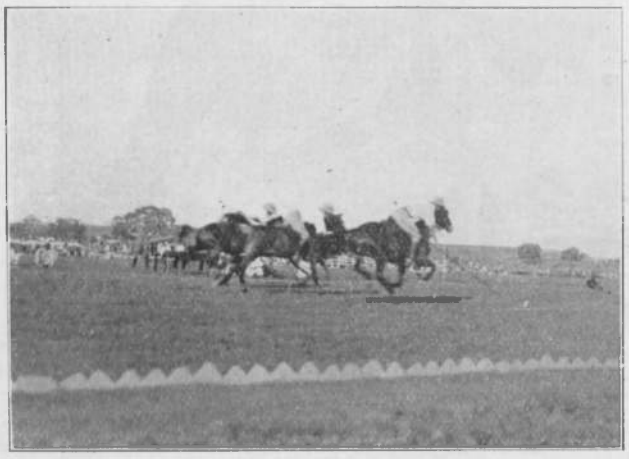
Colonel J. C. Denison Pender, the honorary colonel, in replying to the toast, paid a tribute to the assistance given the unit by Colonel Evelyn Wood, and to the manner in which the commanding officer had raised the unit to its present high level of strength and efficiency.

In proposing the toast of "The Royal Corps of Signals," Col. M. F. Allan referred to the origin of the Corps in the old Signal Companies, Royal Engineers, and to the now almost legendary names of the original officers who, having served in Signals throughout the war, supervised the beginnings of the new Corps. He referred to the way in which the Regular members of the Corps were invariably ready to assist the Territorial Army and the Supplementary Reserve.

Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., referred to the fact that we were all one Corps—Regular, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army—and reiterated that no Regular officer would ever withhold assistance that was asked for. He mentioned the excellence of the buildings and arrangements at Signal House.

INDIAN SIGNAL CORPS. 4th Indian Divl Signals, Trimulgherry *(continued from page 375)*

Individual Training.—We are happy to announce that success has crowned the efforts of those who underwent the first period of individual training, and the results are as follows. L/Corpl Small and Signalmen Jamieson, Hughes E. and Heseltine now become fully fledged B.ii. operators. Sigmn Adams, our new acquisition, qualified as B.iii. operator.



This photo was received some time ago, but without any descriptive title.

Education.—We congratulate the following on obtaining their first class certificates at the March examination. Sergt Tucker, L/Sergt Copp, and Signalmen Heatherington and Boulter; also Corpl Alexander on passing in physics, electricity and magnetism, and L/Corpl Wood on passing in maths "B," towards their special certificates.

Dance Band.—For the information of ex-Trimulgherryites, we report that the Signophonists dance band is again under way. Unfortunately, we could not complete the band from our sadly depleted numbers here, so we have included two members of the R.A. The composition of the band is now as follows: L/Corpl Missen (drums), L/Cpl Mitchell (piano), Sigmn Boulter (trumpet), Sigmn Taylor (banjo), Sergt Green, R.A. (violin) and Bombardier Mills, R.A. (clarionette). On present form, they should do well.

Pro Bono Publico.—It is rumoured that Sydney's solo has been ousted by a quartette. Who first thought of making ping-pong into a game of "Your turn to go out into the rain"? Why call our Scotsman "Rigid Economy" just because he likes his forty winks? Is "Love in Bloom" fatal?

G Signal Section, Mhow.

Saturday 15th June.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Small N. and Sigmn Jamieson F. from an upgrading course at Trimulgherry (successful). The former is a newcomer to the Section, and was extended the glad hand and introduced to his future long-nosed friends.

General.—At the present time the Section stores are receiving a thorough overhaul, and plenty of cleaning and painting is the order of the day. The wagon shed is the scene of much labour, but we are a tough Section and thrive on it. The Section chippy gets heartily cussed for the mess he makes on our nice clean floor.

The Section is short-handed at the moment, most of the Indian ranks being on leave or courses, but the work gets done with everyone pulling his weight. Even Chota grooms two horses.

It was recently discovered that it is next to impossible to fall off No. 8 (Busty) and that he has only one kind of trot. We wonder what ex-G thinks of that. Write up and tell us some time.

It is with much pride that we mention the fact that Mr. Stuart's horse John, alias Soldero, won the seven furlong race at the C.I. race meeting held at Mhow in March last.

Chota has discovered that one does not need Silf for weight reducing at Mhow. For the information of one or two people at Trim, "Prepare to mount" is a very welcome order.

Next Christmas 60 per cent. will be spending their last Christmas in India. They will be "on the beer official."

Agony.—When is that boat going? TOUGH "G."

SPORTS NOTES

Corps Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals v. Catterick Garrison.—Played at Catterick on the 14th and 15th June. The Corps won by seven wickets.

The Garrison won the toss and went in to bat. Cole and Lewis-Barclay opened the bowling, but could get nothing out of a soft easy wicket. Quick changes of bowling was the policy to prevent the batsmen settling down, and runs came very slowly, only 50 being up by lunch time. Just before then Gordon had come on to bowl and looked promising, and he quickly finished off the innings after lunch, his five wickets for 17 runs being a very good performance.

For the Corps Rawson batted confidently until he met a good one, and Lewis-Barclay very efficiently kept one end going while five wickets tumbled down for 44 runs, which was very depressing. The lower half of the batting order, however, came to the rescue, Atkinson (who had come into the team at the last minute), Holden, Bradley and Mills all batting well and giving us a comfortable lead of 78 runs.

The Garrison had five minutes batting before stumps were drawn. Next day, after a rainy night, the wicket was again easy, and the Garrison wiped off the arrears for the loss of three wickets. But after lunch Cole started to get something out of the pitch, and the Garrison were all out for 156, Lieut. Anderson carrying his bat through the innings. We were left with 79 runs to win, which we got for the loss of three wickets.

One pleasing feature of a very enjoyable match (which was blessed with real summer weather) was the Corps fielding, which was keen and good, while L/Corpl Mills made an excellent debut behind the stumps. Another was to see our old enemy, Captain Hinde, again bowling fast and well.

CATTERICK GARRISON.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Lt. D. H. Anderson b LewisBarclay	15	not out	54
L/Corpl Moxley c Gordon b McGill	13	b Williams	26
Lt. C. L. C. Roberts b LewisBarclay	17	c Rawson b Holden	3
Capt G. B. Sugden lbw b L.-Barclay	2	lbw b Cole	17
Lt. L. C. Ramsey c Ferrier b Cole	2	c and b Cole	18
Private O'Gorman b Gordon	18	c L.-Barclay b Gordon	12
Lt. R. W. Littlehales c Rawson b Gordon	0	b Cole	0
Sergt Lewin st Mills b Gordon	6	b Cole	0
Captain R. K. Spurrell b Gordon	4	lbw b Cole	16
Captain H. M. Hinde b Gordon	2	c Lewis-Barclay b Cole	2
Drummer Grimes not out	4	c Holden b L.-Barclay	2
Extras	5	Extras	6
Total	88	Total	156

Bowling—Lewis-Barclay, three for 16 and one for 24 ; Cole, one for 37 and six for 39 ; McGill, one for 5 ; Williams, none for 8 and one for 27 ; Gordon, five for 17 and one for 26 ; Holden, one for 34.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Colonel G. G. Rawson b Hinde	16	not out	34
2/Lt. W.H.L. Gordon b O'Gorman	0	lbw b Hinde	2
Corpl Ferrier b O'Gorman	1	c Grimes b O'Gorman	5
Capt. H. S. Lewis-Barclay b Hinde	39	c Lewin b Hinde	2
Lieut. E. S. Cole b Hinde	0	not out	42
2/Lieut. P. C. Williams b Moxley	10		
Corpl Holden b Hinde	15		
2/Lieut. P. E. M. Bradley b Hinde	27		
Corpl Atkinson not out	25		
L/Corpl Mills b Moxley	14		
2/Lieut. A. FitzG. McGill b Hinde	7		
Extras	12	Extras	0
Total	166	Total (for 3 wickets)	85

Bowling—Hinde, five for 40 and two for 27 ; O'Gorman, two for 57 and one for 27 ; Moxley, three for 39 and none for 14 ; Anderson, none for 9 ; Spurrell, none for 9 and none for 17.

Royal Signals v. Royal Military Academy.—Played at Woolwich. The Corps won by 27 runs.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

Colonel G. G. Rawson c and b Skipwith	7
2/Lieut. W. H. L. Gordon c Bryan b Wakelin	12
Captain J. A. I. Watts b Skipwith	0
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay st Hayles b Wakelin	45
Lieut. E. S. Cole c Washington b Atkinson	5
2/Lieut. P. C. Williams b Skipwith	25
Lieut. L. C. C. Harrison b Skipwith	1
2/Lieut. P. E. M. Bradley b Skipwith	0
Lieut. G. Thomson b Skipwith	6
2/Lieut. A. FitzG. McGill b Skipwith	2
Lieut. J. C. Hardy not out	7
Extras	9
Total	119

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY.

J. M. Barton b Lewis-Barclay	6
P. B. Wakelin lbw b Cole	0
J. R. Rawlence c Cole b Lewis-Barclay	2
G. V. C. Washington b Cole	5
B. R. M. Hayles c Cole b Williams	12
R. C. P. Bryan b Cole	5
M. G. McComas b Cole	4
J. F. M. Leapmann not out	12
B. Atkinson b Cole	0
H. F. Stanton lbw b Cole	14
P. J. T. Skipwith run out	23
Extras	9
Total	92

S.T.C. Athletic Notes.

With the conclusion of the Northern Command individual athletics on the 25th June, the S.T.C. athletic season finished for the year 1935. On the whole, it has been a successful season and has brought plenty of promising talent to light.

A feature of interest in this respect was the success of the young members of the Dismounted Wing in the Mackworth trophy meetings. The Wing were second to the Boys Company in the final order, and showed that there will be some good performers in the Training Battalion next season.

An attempt was made this year to train all athletes in the S.T.C. on a schedule taken from F. A. M. Webster's books, and it is a point of great interest to see that the three Companies which paid most attention to the system and stuck to their training were placed first, second and third in the final order for the Mackworth trophy.

A special word of praise must be awarded to the Boys Company for their great success—a direct result of hard work and keenness. The School of Signals, also, are to be congratulated on their efforts in showing that the older men can still run.

In the individual meeting, L/Corpl Boy Barrett put up a very fine show by winning the 100 yards in 10⅗ sec. and the 220 yards in 23⅗ sec. It is hoped that, before these notes go to print, we shall be able to report that he has won the Army individual 220 yards (boys) at Aldershot in record time. (See F Company Notes.)

Another good performance was made by Boy Butler in the mile and three mile races. We hope to hear more of these boys in the future.

A full report of the athletic meeting between Royal Signals and Durham University is given later in these columns. This is of great interest, as the meeting is the first Corps athletic fixture

that has been held. The result, a decided win for the Corps, was most gratifying.

Sergeant Harbin (attached to A.P.T.S. York) made two records in the Command individual meeting, winning the pole jump and the long jump—a grand performance.

In the junior championships of the Northern Counties, we are able to record further successes of our younger talent. Boy Adams won the javelin with a throw of 138 ft. ; Boy Smith R. was second in the discus throw with 109 ft. ; and Boy Player was third in the long jump with 18 ft. 7½ in. Player also gained a standard in the high jump with 5 ft. 1 in. Further details of this meeting will be found in F Company's Sports Notes.

It is hoped that everyone will profit by the lessons learned during this season and will stick to their training next year. Success in athletics can only be attained by great attention to detail and adherence to the training schedules. Regular training—" little and often "—is the keynote of success.

Results of the individual meeting and the Pinsent cup are appended.

S.T.C. Individual Results.

220 yards—1, L/Corpl Boy Barrett (standard) ; 2, L/Cpl Thomas (standard) ; 3, Sigmn Beck.
440 yards—1, 2/Lieut. Gordon (standard) ; 2, L/Corpl Thomas ; 3, 2/Lieutenant Starr.
Putting the weight—1, 2/Lieut. Gordon, F Company (standard) ; 2, 2/Lieut. Mervyn-Smith, Mounted Wing ; 3, L/Sergeant Harrison, F Company.
Throwing the discus—1, L/Sgt Harrison, F Company (standard) ; 2, Boy Smith R., F Company (standard) ; 3, Corporal Hatton, Dismounted Wing.
High jump—1, Corporal Gibson, Dismounted Wing ; 2, 2/Lieut. Watts, 2/Lieut. Atkinson and L/Sergt Jones tied. All obtained a standard. 3, Corpl Holden and Sergt Easton tied.
Throwing the hammer—1, Boy Croston, F Company ; 2, L/Corpl Routledge, Mounted Wing ; 3, Sigmn Bevan, D Company.
Pole vault—1, L/Corpl Vaughan, Dismounted Wing ; 2, Corpl Gibson, Dismounted Wing, and Sigmn Bevan, D Company, tied; 3, L/Sergt Morgan, D Company, and Sigmn Devine, D Company, tied. All obtained a standard.
Throwing the javelin—1, Boy Adams, F Company (standard) ; 2, Driver Maisden, School of Signals (standard) ; 3 Driver Button, Mounted Wing.
Long jump—1, Sergeant Easton (standard) ; 2, Signalman Alvey (standard) ; 3, 2/Lieut. Mervyn-Smith.
100 yards—1, L/Corpl Boy Barrett ; 2, Sigmn Alvey, 3, L/Corpl Thomas. All obtained a standard.
120 yards hurdles—1, 2/Lieut. Atkinson ; 2, 2/Lieut. Mervyn-Smith ; 3, L/Corpl Smith.
One mile—1, Corpl Collins ; 2, Sigmn McKinnon ; 3, Boy Butler.
880 yards—1, Corpl Collins ; 2, 2/Lieut. Yearsley ; 3, Sigmn Lutener.
Three miles—1, Sigmn McKinnon, School of Signals ; 2, Boy Butler, F Company ; 3, Sigmn Barrow, Dismounted Wing.
Victor Ludorum—Corpl Gibson, Dismounted Wing, 13¼ points.
Pinsent Cup—F Company, 68 points.
Open relay—1, Cheshire Regiment ; 2, Lincoln Regiment.

Royal Signals v. Durham University.

The Signals were represented by a strong combination against Durham University, and were winners by 52—45 points. The fixture had been arranged as a triangular test. Owing to studies, however, Manchester were unable to fulfil the engagement.

Lieut. C. H. Stoneley, the Milocarian runner who represented England in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic games, made one appearance, competing for the Signals in the quarter mile, which he won in impressive fashion. Boy Adams put up a good performance with the javelin, obtaining second place with a throw of 136 ft. 6 in.

We were especially glad to see several of our veterans performing again. Corpl Broadley, on leave from Egypt, turned out and ran well in the three miles, and C.S.M. Griffin and Sergt Murphy both contributed largely to our success.

Next year, it is hoped, we shall be able to collect an even stronger team and gain further successes.

100 yards—B. S. Brazier, Durham, 1 ; Lieut. Stonestreet, Royal Signals, 2 ; P. G. Rowsell, Durham, 3. Yard ; inches. 10⅗sec.
440 yards—C. H. Stoneley, R.Signals, 1 ; F. S. Thompson, Durham, 2 ; C. G. Lister, Durham, 3. Five yards ; yard. 51⅞sec.
Half mile—F. S. Thompson, Durham, 1 ; R. M. Gray, Durham, 2 ; Corpl Collins, R.Signals, 3. Five yards ; twenty yards. 2 min. 6⅘ sec.
Long jump—Corpl Harbin, R.Signals, 1 ; B. S. Brazier, Durham, 2 ; Sergt Easton, R.Signals, 3. 21 ft.
Three miles—Driver Groom, R.Signals, 1 ; T. O. Grady, Durham, 2 ; Corpl Broadley, R.Signals, 3. Twenty yards ; thirty yards. 16 min. 20⅗ sec.
120 yards hurdles—F. W. Kimber, Durham, 1 ; 2/Lieut. Lyall, R.Signals, 2 ; S. Thornton, Durham, 3. Two feet ; seven yards. 60⅞sec.
Putting the shot—2/Lieut. Read, R.Signals, 1 ; W. Ford, Durham, 2 ; Sergt Easton, R.Signals, 3. 36 ft. 7 in.
Pole vault—Corporal Harbin, R.Signals, 1 ; L/Corpl Vaughan, R.Signals, 2. 10 ft. 6 in.
Throwing the discus—C.S.M. Griffin, R.Signals, 1 ; R. K. Gascoigne, Durham, 2 ; W. Ford, Durham, 3. 110 ft. 2 in.
220 yards—B. S. Brazier, Durham, 1 ; P. G. Rowsell, Durham, 2 ; 2/Lieut. Read, R.Signals, 3. One yard ; two feet. 23⅘sec.
Throwing the hammer—Sergt Murphy, R.Signals, 1 ; Lieut. D. Young, R.Signals, 2 ; C.S.M. Griffin, R.Signals, 3. 109 ft. 6 in.
High jump—Lieut. Deacon, R.Signals, 1 ; Corpl Gibson, R.Signals 2 ; A. Gee, Durham, 3. 5 ft. 7 in.
Throwing the javelin—G. B. Jamieson, Durham, 1 ; Boy Adams, R.Signals, 2 ; 2/Lieut. Read, R.Signals, 3. 146 ft. 3 in.
440 yards hurdles—F. W. Kimber, Durham, 1 ; 2/Lieut. Lyall, R.Signals, 2 ; 2/Lieut. Atkinson, R.Signals, 3. Ten yards ; ten yards. 62 sec.
One mile—R. M. Gray, Durham, 1 ; Corpl Collins, R.Signals, 2 ; Sergeant McKinnon, R.Signals, 3. Six yards ; twenty yards. 4 min. 55⅘ sec.
Four×220 yards relay—Durham (G. G. Lister, F. S. Thompson, P. G. Rowsall, B. S. Brazier) 1 ; Royal Signals, 2. Sixteen yards. 1 min. 36⅕ sec.
Final placings—Royal Signals, 52 points ; Durham, 45.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

The Athletic Shield.—This trophy goes to No. 92 Squad for the month of June. They carried all before them in the pass ball knock-out competition. Two of their games were won by the scoring of 30 points, only two points being registered against them. They beat No. 98 Squad in the final by 6—1 points. All the squads enjoyed their tournament and are asking for more. The names of the winning team are:—Signalmen Rooks, Mason, Soady, Dignan, Tyrie, Walton and Brookfield.

The St. John shield was also won by No. 92 Squad. Corpl Payne and his men are certainly the " blue eyed boys " this month. Congratulations! Team: Signalmen Rooks, Brookfield, Furtado and Tyrie.

Tennis.—The Sergeants Mess and the Corporals Room kindly allowed the use of their tennis courts to help the committee solve the problem of finding players for forthcoming events. There is certainly no shortage of new rackets and balls. These have appeared like magic, and with the expert eyes of Sergt Shardlow and Co. on their job, players will appear likewise. The good work goes on.

Cricket.—Here are the results of the matches played to date. We are still on the look out for talent.

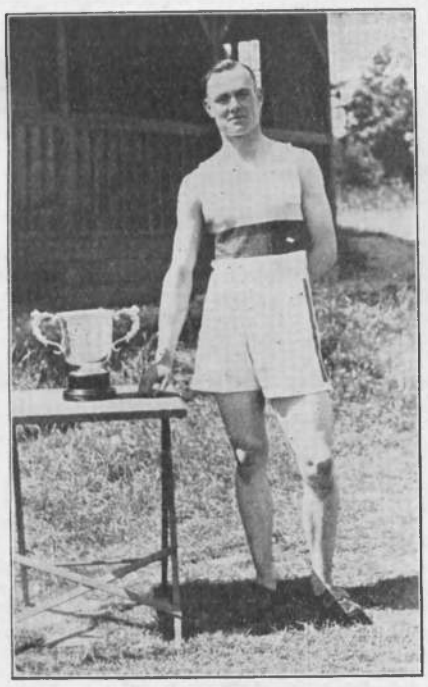
Dismounted Wing 151 ; D Company 107
Dismounted Wing 109 ; School of Signals, 128 for 7 wickets.
Dismounted Wing "A" 112 ; School of Signals "A" 114
Dismounted Wing 32 ; D Company 42 for seven wickets.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Athletics.—F Company have been distinguishing themselves on the sporting fields during the past month, although the Company has actually been away on Tattoo duty. Our activities have been in the individual field, and once again thanks are due to Lieut. T. W. Boileau, who has spent a great deal of his time in training our boys. The results of this training are to be seen in the following notes.

Boys Barrett and Gamble with Lieut. T. W. Boileau, their trainer
[*Photo by Avison*]

ARMY INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.—Enlisted boys' 220 yards championship. In this event, run at Aldershot on the 5th and 6th July, the Corps created a precedent in that we provided the first and second. The winner's time equalled the Army record, which was an exceptionally good performance, inasmuch as the race was run against a strong wind and there was no competitor within eight yards of him when he reached the tape. Our representatives were L/Corpl Boy Barrett, winner, and Boy A/T Gamble second. L/Corpl Boy Barrett won this event last year, and by this second win creates an achievement that should stand for many years before being equalled.



Lance-Corporal Boy Barrett.
[*Photo by Avison*]

NORTHERN COUNTIES ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS.—These championships were held on the 22nd June at Ilkeston, near Nottingham, on one of the hottest days on record. Even the ex-India wallahs felt quite at home that day!

Three cars set out on their 125 mile run with six competitors from the Company, three drivers and three spectators. All went well until four miles from Boroughbridge. One car decided to lie down and die, which it did to no small tune. Pistons, con-rods and bits flew through the sump and spelled "finish" to its efforts. This needed some re-adjustment, and finally two cars went on loaded with five apiece. The third driver and a spectator stayed behind. We hoped to see the spectator later in the day, but after a series of great efforts to get to Ilkeston, he gave up in despair. The remainder arrived safely at the ground in good time, and a very enjoyable day was spent in watching some of the best athletes in the North perform and also our own competitors doing their stuff. There is not space to describe the events in detail, but the results speak for themselves.

In the long jump Boy Player, although jumping from a board sunk in the grass and under strange conditions, made a great effort in clearing 18 ft. 7½ in. and gained third place. He then went on to gain a standard in the high jump, clearing 5 ft. 1 in.

In the discus Boy Smith R. D. came second with a throw of 109 ft. 8 in. He was handicapped by a strong cross-wind and a sticky discus (we come from the Frozen North and the heat was abnormal). He did one good throw which would have won him the event, but the wind carried the discus outside the quadrant. Boys Croston and Adams also threw, but were unable to qualify for standards.

Things looked up again in the javelin cast, and Boy Adams won this event easily with a good throw of 138 feet. For this he received a gold medal and the badge of the N.C.A.A. L/Corpl Boy Moore M. also threw, but was only able to reach 110 ft., thus missing a standard by 5 ft.

Finally, in the mile Boy Butler ran a fine race in the face of very strong opposition. The race was won in the amazing time of 4 min. 36 sec. Butler found the pace hot, but stuck to his guns and ran to finish well under 5 min. As the winner was at least two and a half years older, Butler has no need to be disappointed in his effort.

After Smith and Player had collected their medals—silver and bronze respectively—the journey home commenced and barracks were reached at midnight.

What has been done can be done again, and nearly all these competitors will be eligible for two years to come. Next year, look out for results!

MATCH V. BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL.—This annual fixture was run off at Catterick on the 21st June. F Company won a very sporting and enthusiastic fixture. We set up a very commanding lead in the sprints, which were the first events on the programme. This was a pity, for it removed a lot of the excitement that can be found in these fixtures. The events following the sprints were won, turn about, by Barnard Castle and F Company—in many events, the points being shared. Our senior sprinters—again, L/Corpl Boy Barrett and Boy Gamble—ably supported by Corpl Boy Smith J. and L/Corpl Boy Smith E., were the mainstay of our team, although the juniors provided a few of the winning performances.

Cricket.—The annual fixture v. Ampleforth College Juniors was played on Scotton ground on the 13th lune. The game resulted in a win for Ampleforth, who batted first and completed 120 runs for six wickets. F Company started very slowly, but seemed to settle down a little when the third wicket had fallen at 16. This did not last, however, and the last three wickets fell without any runs being added. The scores were:—

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE.

Redfern c Barker b Moore	12
Cardwell c Moore b Hawley	7
Mahony b Hawley	0
Wells c Hawley b Smith	38
Considine c Quinn b Lander	15
Potts b Lander	0
Liddell not out	32
McManemy not out	14
Total (for 6 wickets, declared)	120

Bowling—Hawley, two wickets for 20; Moore M. one for 35; Smith, one for 13; Lander, two for 5.

F COMPANY.

Moore M. c McManemy b Munro	11
Hawley c Mahony b Horner	3
Creed b Horner	0
Deane W. st — b Horner	5
Murray b Horner	4
Parker lbw b Munro	1
Lander b Munro	26
Mayhew c Considine b Munro	0
Quinn c Redfern b Munro	0
Smith R. c Wells b Munro	0
Terrey not out	0
Extras	2
Total	52

Bowling—Horner, four wickets for 29 ; Munro, six for 8.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Athletics.—I believe we entered teams for everything except the pole vault in the Aldershot Command athletic team championships, but in the events I saw we failed to get a place. I haven't heard that we have annexed any laurels worth mentioning. A contributory factor is explained below.

However, we gained first place in the open regimental relay of the R.E. (Aldershot) and of the Oxford and Bucks (Bordon), the team being Lieutenants Stoneley and Stephenson and Signalmen Husband and Scarisbrick.

In the latter relay Lieut. Stoneley ran the 880 yards, as he intended to compete in this event at the Southern A.A.A. championships, and returned 2 min. 1 sec. without being unduly pressed. He also won the 440 yards in the Kinnaird trophy at the White City, beating F. A. R. Hunter in 50 sec. After being out of action for a few weeks owing to foot injury, he was second to the Swedish runner Stromberg in Paris: the winner's time being 48 3/5 sec., with Lieut. Stoneley 1/5 sec. behind. And now we are sorry to record that Lieut. Stoneley has unfortunately been compelled to give up running for the remainder of the season owing to the injury to his foot. Hard luck, sir. We had hoped to see you get an eyebrow in front of Lieut. G. L. Rampling this year. Now we'll have to wait till next.

Cobb Cup, 1934-35.—The fight for the Cobb cup was taken to the bitter end by Nos. 1 and 2 Companies. As you may be aware, this cup is awarded for the best all-round positions gained in winter and summer games, together with swimming, boxing and shooting. The shooting ended the league for this year, and the final points were: No. 1 Company 54, No. 2 Company 53, No. 3 Company 33, and Command Signal Company 29. And now, if you will look at the next paragraph, you will see what a close thing it was.

Powell Cup, 1935.—This cup is awarded for miniature rifle shooting, and is competed for by all Companies in Mons Barracks. Nos. 2 and 3 Companies tied for fifth place with 1245 points, and No. 1 Company were seventh with 1238. Had No. 2 Company just managed that one extra point, the venue of the Cobb cup would have been changed. However, more power to No. 1 Company's elbow. They'll have to fight to keep it.

Strangely enough, No. 1 Company went on to win the May miniature shooting competition with 373 points, the next best being No. 2 Company A Corps Signals with 364. Sergt Chalmers produced a 96 and was awarded the Bell medal.

Cricket.—Cricket in the unit, this year, has at last taken a step in the right direction. At the moment of writing, the results have been as follows.

v. XIX. Field Brigade R.A., away, won by 53 runs
v. XI. Field Brigade R.A., home, won by 43 runs
v. Milford C.C., away, lost by 122 runs
v. Cove C.C., away, lost by two wickets
v. A.S.P.T., home, won by 29 runs
v. Norfolk Regiment, away, won by three wickets
v. 3rd Divl. Signals, home, won by 16 runs
v. Mount Pleasant C.C., away, won by five wickets
v. 3rd Divl. Signals, away, won by 112 runs
v. A Corps Signals, home, won by five wickets

Except for the catastrophes seen above, which we are all itching to avenge, the standard of play has been very good.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.—Owing to training and the like we have had, unfortunately, to cancel several of our fixtures. Those we have managed to play have been very nice games, and we're not doing so badly. Here are the results of the matches played since the last issue of THE WIRE.

Versus Shipton C.C. Shipton were 120 for eight wickets (declared) and we had just commenced to bat when rain stopped play. (Did I hear somebody have the audacity to say we were lucky?)

Versus C Squadron 12th Royal Lancers. We managed to win by 52 runs (Wilsdon six for 24, Wills four for 23 ; Sergt Collyer 41).

Versus 9th Q.R.Lancers. A win for us by 2 (two only) runs. What a game. Phew! I haven't recovered yet. Here are the scores. You can see for yourselves how the tide of fortune ebbed and flowed—truly an example of the glorious uncertainty of cricket.

9TH LANCERS.

Aslett b Warman	5
Huxford b Warman	5
Crooks lbw b Warman	23
Barnham c Smith b Warman	26
Leahy b Allen	7
Collyer b Wilde	22
Berry b Warman	22
Dewdney b Warman	19
Sweeney b Wilde	5
Trayte c Knight b Wilde	4
Stanford not out	0
Extras	11
Total	149

Bowling—Smith, no wicket for 36 ; Warman, six for 40 ; Allen, one for 21 ; Nicholas, none for 4 ; Wilde, three for 37.

SIGNALS, TIDWORTH.

Nicholas b Huxford	31
Cassidy b Collyer	4
Smith b Huxford	71
Allen c and b Huxford	0
Corpl Warman c and b Barnham	6
Sergt Archer b Barnham	0
Captain Knight b Barnham	0
Lieut. Gordon b Barnham	0
Sergt Collyer c Leahy b Collyer	28
Penman not out	1
Wilde b Collyer	0
Extras	10
Total	151

Bowling—Collyer, three wickets for 61 ; Huxford, three for 36 ; Barnham, four for 23 ; Crooks, none for 10 ; and Berry, none for 11.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Cricket.—The season, so far as it has gone, has been quite a successful one. Great keenness has been shown by all members of the team, which is always half the battle.

Congratulations are due to Sigmn Smith, who was selected to play in the following matches: Southern Command v. Aldershot Command (Army trial) ; Corps v. R.A.S.C. at Aldershot ; and Corps v. R.E.s at Aldershot.

In addition, the following have been regular members of the Signals (Tidworth) eleven: Captain W. C. Knight, Sergt Honnor, and Signalmen Smith, Cassidy, Wild, Penman and Rapson.

Considering the size of the unit, I think you will agree that this is not a bad effort.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Farewell to a Popular Corps Athlete.—We have just said farewell to C.S.M. Griffin, who has left us for civilian life. We understand he has quite a comfortable job. He will be remembered by all as a popular athlete and very keen sportsman. We

do not know his full record, but it goes back further than the following.

In the shot, hammer and discus, he represented the following units: S.T.C. Maresfield, 3rd Divl Signals, S.T.C. India, 3rd Indian Divl Signals, and 4th Divl Signals ; and only last month he represented the Corps in the hammer and discus.

He holds first, second and third Army badges, four Army standards, one Southern Counties standard, and the hammer championship of the Central Provinces of India, 1926.

An expert at the hammer and discus, he was always training youngsters to take his place ; but he had to carry on himself until he left us.

At tennis, he won the 3rd Indian Divl Signals handicap in 1930; was doubles winner, 2nd Divl Signals, in 1931 ; and during 1933—35 was in the 4th Divl Signals team which reached the Eastern Command final for three years in succession. He actually had to come from business to compete in this year's final on Saturday 13th July.

Besides the above sports, he has represented his various units at soccer, rugger and hockey.

Well, Griff, the very best of luck to you, wherever you go. You have made room for younger blood, but it will be hard to find someone to take your place.

Cricket.—The following seven matches have been played since last month's notes, and we have won three, lost three and drawn one.

15/6/35 v. Training Battalion R.E. (away). Won by 143 for four—139. L/Corpl Walton 20, L/Cpl Lundie 39, R.S.M. McGregor 28 not out, Lt. Lewis 23 not out. Corporal Wellock three for 31, R.S.M. McGregor three for 42.

22/6/35 v. Victoria Club, Sheerness (away). Lost by 59—60 for eight. Lieut. Lewis four for 32.

26/6/35 v. The Dorsetshire Regiment (home). Drawn. 183 for seven (declared)—139 for seven. L/Corpl Lundie 60, Officer-Cadet Smith 66 not out. Sigmn Carey three for 31.

29/6/35 v. St. Lawrance Cricket Club (away). Lost by 60—168 for seven. Officer-Cadet Smith three for 30.

1/7/35 v. The "Warrigals," Oxford (home). Won by 166 for six—160 for four (declared). L/Corpl Lundie 43, Officer-Cadet Prichard 56, Lieutenant Gordon 20, R.S.M. McGregor 19.

3/7/35 v. Chartham Mental Hospital (away). Lost by 99—146 for five. Lieut. Gordon 35, R.S.M. McGregor 17. Lieut. Gordon four for 39.

6/7/35 v. National Liberal Club, London (home). Won by 221—120. L/Corpl Lundie 68, R.S.M. McGregor 38, Sigmn Cox 34, Sigmn Adcock 32. L/Cpl Lundie four for 32, R.S.M. McGregor three for 3.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Swimming.—On Monday 24th June the first inter-Section swimming competition was held, and this was witnessed by a goodly number of spectators, among whom were the married families. The standard of swimming was good and competition was keen. Captain Pearse and Lieut. Eraut carried out the duties of judges in the diving, and this was no easy job, as the first two strings were diving exceptionally well. The duties of starter were carried out by Captain Boyd. Although No. 1 Section won by 9—6 points, the finishing in most of the events was very close. The results are as follows.

One length breast stroke (teams of four)—No. 2 Section (L/Sgt Matthew, Sergeants Jones and Mackie, Sigmn Barran)
One length free style (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (Corporal Gourlay, Signalmen Nelson, Jackson and Smith)
Diving (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (L/Sergt Murphy, Corpl Gourlay, L/Sergt Ellison, Sigmn Tyler) 312 points. Best individual diver, L/Sergt Matthew, 91 points ; runner-up, Corporal Gourlay, 87.
One length back stroke (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (L/Sergt Cooke, Signalmen Nelson, Smith and Jackson)
Medley race, one length (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (Signalmen Jackson, Davidson, Smith and Nelson)
One length side stroke (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (Corpl Gourlay, L/Sergt Murphy, Signalmen Smith and Nelson)
Four lengths free style (teams of four)—No. 1 Section (Sigmn Jackson, Corpl Gourlay, Signalmen Nelson and Smith)
Under water, one length—Signalman Jackson, No. 1 Section ; runner-up, L/Sergt Cooke, No. 1.

Sports Competition.—At the moment the inter-Section clock competition is being held. For this particular clock we compete in five games: football, cricket, rugby, swimming and hockey. There are three Sections to take part: Nos. 1 and 2 and the Attached Section. The keenness for this clock is splendid, and so far No. 2 Section is leading from the Attached.

Golf.—During May the Barton golf trophy was competed for on the S.T.C. (I.) golf links, and there was some excellent play throughout the competition. To give all details would take up too much space, but the following are the results from the third round.

Sigmn Strutt beat Corpl Wright by 4 and 2 after a good game. Sergt Whittington beat Sigmn Sanders by 3 and 2 after a very good game. Sergeants Fishwicke and Paskins had a very keen struggle, Sergt Fishwicke winning by 2 and 1. C.S.M. Price lost to Sigmn Newall after a very good game.

In the semi-final Sigmn Newall beat Sergt Fishwicke by 3 and 2 (the referee was Sergeant Nokes). Sigmn Strutt beat Sergt Whittington by 1 up (the referee was Sergeant Paskins). Both these matches were very fine games.

Final: Sigmn Newall v. Sigmn Strutt. This match was refereed by R.S.M. Beattie. Newall won rather easily by 5 and 4.

At the conclusion of the competition, Captain L. C. Boyd presented the trophy and a replica to the winner, and a small trophy to the runner-up.

During June the Club ran a tombstone competition. This was a great success, and was won by Corpl Wright, who reached the fourteenth hole with his 71st stroke, which was a good round.

Special thanks must be given to Sergeant Whittington and his committee for running the show ; also to the ladies who worked hard to provide some excellent refreshments. Well done!

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Hockey.—The three most important matches played to date have been in the Peshawar District Hot Weather League. Results: v. Peshawar District H.Q. won by 1—0 (Roberts) ; v. No. 20 Squadron R.A.F. won by 1—0 (Moseley) ; v. No. 2 Light Tank Company, R.T.C. won by 1—0 (Barry).

The regular team is as follows: Sigmn Gamble ; Sigmn Holt and Corpl Whitefield ; L/Corpl Rumford and Signalmen Roberts and Seager ; Signalmen Dolaghan, Barry, Moseley, Blaikie and Lambert J. Our star performer, Sigmn Lambert C., is at present up in the hills helping the Signal units along.

Waziristan District Signals, Razmak.

Headquarters Section.

Football.—During the past month the following games have taken place: v. C Company, D.C.L.I. won by 3—1 ; v. H.Q., D.C.L.I. won by 1—0 ; v. C.I.M.H. won by 5—1 ; v. 1st Battn D.C.L.I. won by 2—1 ; v. B Company, D.C.L.I. lost by 0—2 ; v. A Company D.C.L.I. lost by 0—2 ; v. R.A.F. Miranshah won by 4—1.

Second Eleven v. D Company, D.C.L.I. lost by 1—4 ; v. Band and Bugles, D.C.L.I. won by 6—3 ; v. Toc H. drew at 0—0.

Hockey.—Combined First Eleven v. A Company, D.C.L.I. won by 3—1 ; v. 1/9th Gurkhas won by 9—2 ; v. B Company, D.C.L.I. lost by 2—4.

Combined Second Eleven v. 1/9th Gurkhas lost by 1—3 ; v. D Company Transport lost by 1—3.

H.Q. Second Eleven v. 2/6th Gurkhas drew at 3—3.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Sports Notes.—Both in football and hockey, we have only had the usual hot weather games. Serious matches are more or less out of the question at this time of the year.

Tennis.—Two matches have been played against the R.A.F., both being lost—the first by a large number of games. In the

second, however, we gave a much better account of ourselves, losing by a very small margin of games.

Saturday and Sunday, 22nd and 23rd June, were devoted to a B.O.R.s tin and bottle tennis tournament. Partners were drawn for, so there could be no cribbing. Ack's two old 'uns, Robo and Mac, were the eventual winners, carrying off a large assortment of choice (?) tinned and bottled goods. Mac sez it was a good job we did not have to scoff the prizes before leaving the courts. Just imagine baking powder and pineapple or sardines and condensed milk! Ugh!

Cricket.—Two matches have been played in the annual hot weather tournament, both of which we have won—the first against the Best Eleven by one run: Best Eleven 93, K.D.S. 94. In the second we were treated to some really " brighter cricket," our batsmen going for the bowling right from the first ball and scoring our total in an hour. R.A.F. "A" 72, K.D.S. 141 for five wickets.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

No. 1 Company.

Cricket.—Owing to the earthquake very little sport has been played, but this last week we have been participating in a few games of cricket. A Section (nineteen B.O.R.s) beat No. 2 Company by 56 runs. I think that No. 2 Company will have to give up after this, as previously H.Q. Company had also beaten them easily. The unit had played only one game since the quake, and that against the remainder of the R.A.F. left in Quetta. Quite a good game, with the unit winning by seven wickets. We have not yet discovered any fresh talent, but are hoping to get a team good enough to hold the Baluchistan cup for the third year running (Tommy Holden, please note). Anyway, we'll let you know all about that later.

E Section.

Football.—v. M.T. Drivers, 1st Field Brigade R.A. won by 4—0 (L/Corpl Parker 2, Corpl Drury, Sigmn Kennedy); v. H.Q. 1st Field Brigade R.A. won by 1—0 (L/Corpl Devlin) and by 3—1 (Corpl Drury 2, Sigmn Flemming); v. Drums, 2nd Battn Queen's Regiment won by 10—0 (Parker 6, Flemming 3, Downs).

E Section Football Team.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Sigmn Walsh, Sigmn Gallaher, L/Cpl Parker, Sigmn Hallam, Sigmn Soutar, Sigmn Flemming, Sigmn Kennedy
Front row—Sigmn Downs, Sigmn Taylor, Corpl Drury, Sigmn Ryalls, Sigmn Kistruck.

Hockey.—v. Drums, 1st Battn Queen's Royal Regiment, won by 5—2 (L/Corpl Parker 2, Sigmn Gallaher 2, Corpl Drury); v. 80th Field Battery R.A. won by 4—0 (Corpl Drury 2, L/Corporal Parker 2); v. Band, 2nd Battn Queen's Regiment, won by 1—0 (L/Corporal Parker).

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

We offer sincere apologies for our lack of Sports Notes last month. The main sporting events in Meerut during the last two months have been the hot weather tournaments in hockey and football.

With No. 2 Company away in Chakrata, we have relied on No. 1 Company and H.Q. to uphold the prestige of the unit. The football team has been a little unlucky. Chiefly owing to a continually changing forward line, it has found its opponents' goal very much too small, and we are not as high in the league as we might be.

The hockey team is at present second in the league, and has played consistently well throughout. It has not lost a single match, and we have great hopes of reaching the top before the tournament finishes.

During the Jubilee week-end there was also a knock-out football tournament. We were supposed to meet the Royal Dragoons in the first round, but owing to an unfortunate mistake their team did not turn up. In the next round we met E Battery R.H.A., probably the strongest team in Meerut, and we regret to report a defeat.

As regards swimming, this year we are forming a team of our own without the aid of Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, and so far the team is showing good signs. Of course, as is always the way in this world, by the time we get the team in good form No. 1 Company will be going to the cool of Chakrata and No. 2 will be coming down, and we shall then have to start all over again.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Summer sports are now in full swing. The tennis court is never free from aspiring Austins and Perrys. The swimming bath is open, and the water polo team is getting in some good practice. Almost everyone in the Section is able to swim, no doubt owing to watching Angus (the Section's pet duck) perform. Speaking of pets, we have two new recruits. L/Corpl Hesford has acquired a monkey, and Sigmn Thompson a cockatoo. To walk into the camp now, one would think it a menagerie. We have canaries, budgerigars, Javanese sparrows, etc., not to mention the two dogs Peter and Peggy, Angus the duck, Wilbur the monkey, and the cockatoo. Oh! just arrived—two chicks.

Cricket.—We have managed to commence the season with a fair amount of success. Several members of the Section have obtained a place in the Shaforce team in Shanghai. Results to date are as follows:—

22/5/35 v. H.M.S. *Sandpiper*, won
28/5/35 v. Royal Inniskillings, won
30/5/35 v. Royal Inniskillings, lost
4/6/35 v. R.A.S.C. won
7/6/35 v. R.A.S.C. lost
9/6/35 v. R.A.M.C. won

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VOL. XVI.—No. 187 SEPTEMBER, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

We are indebted to Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., for the following correspondence between His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India and the members of His Excellency the Viceroy's Council, Department of Industries and Labour, in connection with the Quetta earthquake emergency, for publication in the Corps Magazine.

[COPY]

Simla, 24th June, 1935.

From the Members of Council,
Department of Industries and Labour, India.

Your Excellency.—On behalf of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, I write to express our appreciation of the valuable assistance we have received from the Army authorities in restoring postal and telegraphic communications with Quetta. Mr. Bewoor, the Director-General, visited Quetta immediately after the earthquake, and he and his officers have expressed to me the gratitude they feel for the courtesy and patience shown by all ranks in the Army to all ranks in their Department. In particular, the Indian Signal Corps, under Colonel Vyvyan, freely placed their resources at our disposal, and the assistance afforded by the Indian Signal Corps transport, signallers, despatch riders and fatigue parties greatly facilitated the disposal of arrears of work and the restoration of normal traffic conditions.

I must also acknowledge, with an even deeper feeling of gratitude, the great kindness shown by all ranks of the Army to the injured officials of the Department and their families. The blankets, rations and other necessities so promptly, methodically and ungrudgingly distributed by the Army authorities did much to relieve the sufferings of the survivors, and the kindly and cheerful manner of the distribution had a value of its own which I cannot adequately describe.

On behalf of the Department I wish to convey to Your Excellency, and through you to Major-General Karslake and Colonel Vyvyan and all officers and staff under them, sincere thanks for the assistance given and kindness shown. The Department must always be thrown into close contact with the Army in times of great emergency, and I wish to emphasise that in this instance the closeness of the liaison has been of the greatest value to the Department.

Yours sincerely,

(*Signed*) D. G. MITCHELL.

His Excellency Field-Marshal Sir Philip Chetwode, Bart.,
G.C.B., G.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.

[COPY]

29th June 1935.

Dear Mitchell.—I have to thank you for your letter of the 24th June, in which you convey the appreciation of the Posts and Telegraphs Department for the assistance the Army Signals were able to render to them in restoring communications in Quetta and with it.

I have sent a copy of your letter to General Karslake at Quetta, and another one to Brigadier Le Cornu, the head of our Army Signals; and on their behalf, I have to thank you very much for the compliment you have paid my Signal Department, and to say how greatly they will appreciate it.

Yours sincerely,

(*Signed*) PHILIP W. CHETWODE, Field-Marshal.

The Honourable Mr. D. G. Mitchell, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Member, Industries and Labour Department,
Gorton Castle, Simla.

The undermentioned list of Royal Signal subscribers to the King George's Jubilee Trust is published for the information of all concerned.

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4th Divisional Signals	15	12	4
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Western Command Signal Company	0	17	6
1st Divisional Signals	14	3	0
South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section	1	0	0
Malta Signals	2	0	0
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2nd Divisional Signals	10	5	0
A Corps Signals	16	16	0
Tank Brigade Signals	5	8	0
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3rd Divisional Signals	7	3	0
G Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt	2	4	7
Northern Command Signal Company	1	1	11
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Malaya Signals	3	0	10

TERRITORIAL ARMY.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals	7	17	0
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55th (West Lancs) Divisional Signals	2	8	6
51st (Highland) Divisional Signals	7	3	3
Air Defence Formations Signals	3	10	0
46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals	3	3	0

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Corps Rugby Matches, 1935.—

The Corps v. Royal Engineers (Command Ground, Aldershot) Monday 11th November.

The Corps v. The R.M.A. (at Woolwich) Wednesday 13th November.

The Corps v. The Royal Artillery (Command Ground, Aldershot) Friday 22nd November.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Old Comrades Reunion at Bulford.—On Sunday 21st July, sixty-seven Old Comrades met at Bulford for the annual church parade, and the numbers in attendance were sufficient indication that the occasion had been looked forward to with keen anticipation. Amongst those present were Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O. (Colonel-Commandant), Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Colonel C. L. Day, Major J. W. Western, M.C., T.D., Major E. W. J. Hobkirk, Major Gill, Major G. R. Halliday, Captain Score, Captain C. L. Wicks, Lieut. E. G. Leader, M.C., Lieut. Scattergood, Lieut. G. H. S. Balmain and Lieut. W. Ison.

Members were also in evidence from such distant places as Hereford, Cardiff, Southampton, Portsmouth and Exeter, with a strong representative gathering from Salisbury and district.

The parade assembled in the unit lines at 10 a.m., when, after a preliminary inspection by the Colonel-Commandant, and headed by the Corps Band, they proceeded to church in the following order: Band, led by R.Q.M.S. Adcock as the officiating drum-major; Old Comrades, led by Colonel H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O.; 3rd Divl Signals, led by Lieut.-Colonel C. P. Prescot, the commanding officer.

The church service was conducted by the Rev. H. W. Hutchins, M.C., M.A., S.C.F., and the congregation were privileged in listening to a most inspiring sermon by a very old friend and comrade in the person of the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A., Assistant Chaplain-General, Southern Command. This, perhaps, is neither the time nor place to comment upon his discourse, but we are authorised to say that as "Paddy the next best thing" he may always be sure of a warm corner in the affections of his R.Signal Old Comrade listeners.

After the service, the parade reformed on the lawn outside the church, where the Old Comrades were welcomed by the Divisional Commander, Major-General R. G. Finlayson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. Addressing all ranks on parade, he emphasised the importance of the aims and objects of Regimental Associations generally, and congratulated R.Signals on the fine representative gathering of old soldiers in attendance. He also expressed the hope that such annual reunions would flourish and increase in numbers as the years went by, and added that he would look forward to those occasions with the keenest interest.

On the return march to barracks, the salute was first taken by the Divisional Commander and again at the entrance to the officers mess by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O.

Before dismissal, the latter welcomed all the Old Comrades present, and expressed grateful thanks to Lieut.-Colonel C. P. Prescot, his officers and all ranks of the 3rd Divl Signals for their very cordial hospitality. He also extended a welcome to the newly formed Branches in the Southern Command area, and warmly congratulated the Branch chairmen and hon. secretaries on the result of their activities during the preceding year. It was, he said, difficult to single out any particular individual, but he would like to say how much he appreciated the services of Mr. W. Ison and his untiring staff of helpers in the Salisbury area, which had resulted in the launching of sub-branches at Southampton, Portsmouth, Exeter and Birmingham.

Colonel Prescot then called upon all serving members of the unit for three cheers for their Old Comrade guests, to which they responded in no uncertain manner.

Upon dismissal, the visitors adjourned to the sergeants mess, where a most enjoyable lunch had been provided. On behalf of the Old Comrades Mr. W. Ison thanked the Mess president and his Mess members for their warmhearted welcome and reception, to which R.S.M. Harrison replied. All Old Comrades in the Southern Command area once again desire to convey their thanks to Lieut.-Colonel Prescot, his officers and all ranks of the unit for their very kind hospitality.

A photograph of those present at the Reunion is shown opposite.

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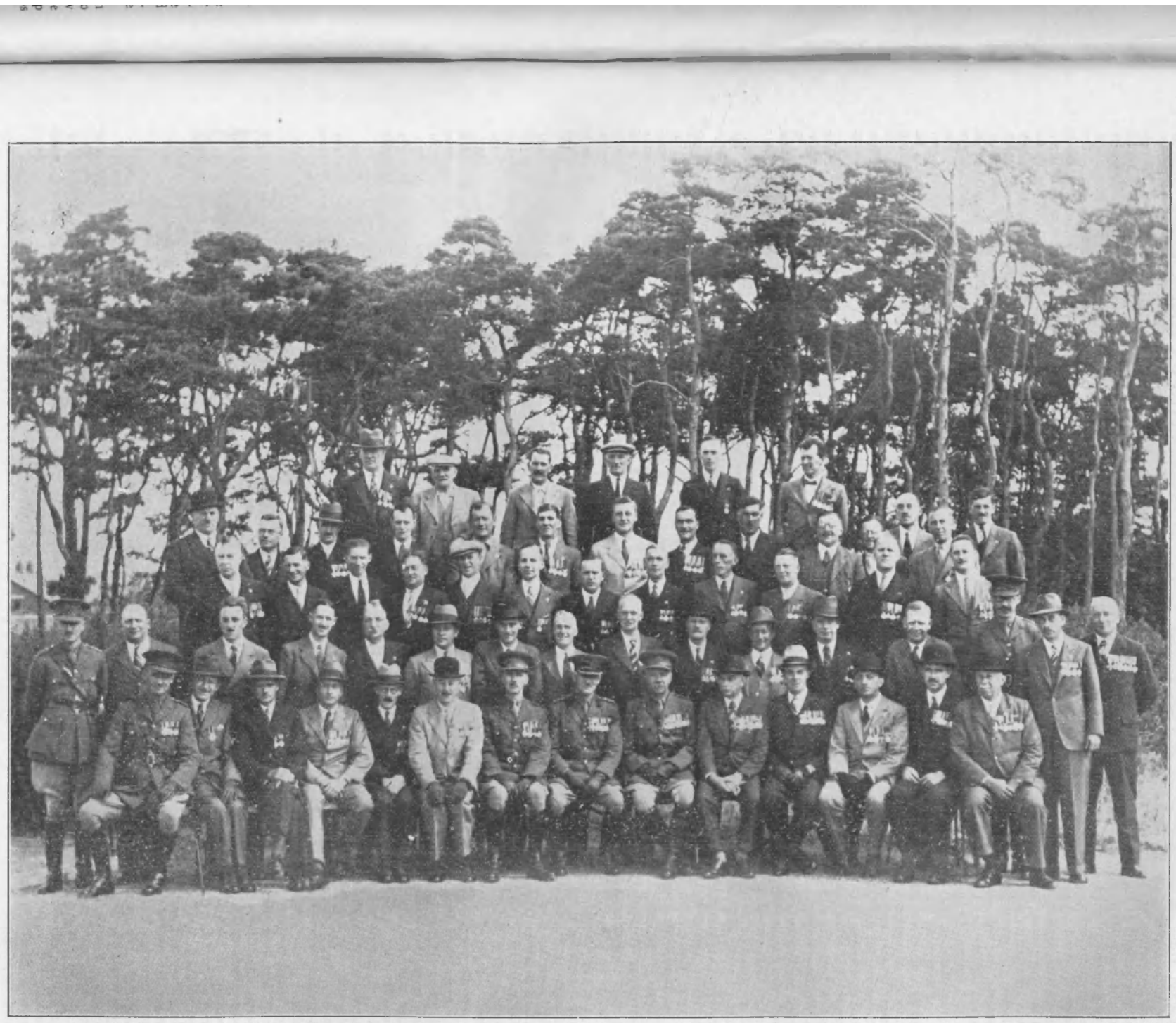
Aldershot Re-Union of R.Signal Old Comrades.—As in previous years, all ranks of R.Signals in the Aldershot Command threw open their doors and entertained the Old Comrades of R.Signals with their customary lavish hospitality on Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th July 1935. They appear to have adopted as their motto on these occasions the utterance of a celebrated Dickensian character, Dick Swiveller, who said "What is the odds so long as the fire of soul is kindled at the taper of conviviality and the wing of friendship never moults a feather." Their welcome to the Old Comrades and other guests was both cordial and spontaneous, and the same happy spirit of good fellowship which had characterised this function in former years prevailed also on this occasion. The general census of opinion seems to be that the Aldershot Reunion this year was an unqualified success. Even the much maligned clerk of the weather continued in good humour, and dispensed sunshine with a liberal hand to add to the gaiety of a function which increases in popularity as the years go on.

Saturday 28th July was certainly a setback to those superior individuals who have the temerity to question the immortality of old soldiers, and precisely what does happen to them is now more of a mystery than ever. They don't even fade away, but show up at each gathering looking as though, in some miraculous manner, they had succeeded in shedding a few more years in the preceding twelve months.

I think we may conclude, without fear of contradiction, that the Aldershot Reunion this year was an extraordinarily happy affair and thoroughly appreciated by each individual in the large numbers who attended. Every conceivable thing which could be done for the comfort and convenience of guests was done, and the Reception Committee (R.S.M. Elsmore B. A., R.Q.M.S. Spindler and C.S.M. Robertson, to mention only three) are to be complimented on the excellence of their arrangements.

It is very evident that these periodical Reunion gatherings mean much in the lives of Old Comrades and are looked forward to with pleasant anticipation, since it is impossible not to notice how unfeignedly glad they are to meet each other again. Everyone appears to know everyone else, and the sense of good fellowship which prevails between past and present members of the Corps must be wholly inexplicable to the casual civilian observer.



Royal Signal Old Comrades Reunion at Bulford on Sunday 21st July 1935.
[*Photo by Fuller's Snapshot Service, Amesbury*]

From about 1.30 p.m. the guests commenced to arrive and continued to do so throughout the afternoon. The sports ground, which an hour before had presented such an attractive picture of peaceful tranquility, was soon crowded with spectators, and the whole of the many tents were filled to capacity. Old Comrades and serving members mingled together, exchanging reminiscences, and the murmur of animated conversation was audible even above the medley of sound which emanated from all parts of the field.

A thoroughly enjoyable programme was provided in the evening, when a smoking concert was held for the male guests and a whist drive was arranged in the sergeants mess for the entertainment of the ladies. I have yet to attend a smoking concert which was not a success, and this was no exception to the general rule. I have grave doubts whether the "male voice choir" would qualify for a diploma from the Royal Academy of Music, but what the singing lacked in purity of tone was made up in volume of sound, and everyone was happy. Musical accompaniment was provided by a piano-accordion, and although I am not qualified to enter into an argument on the respective merits of a suitable instrument for solo accompaniment, I must say that the piano-accordion impressed me. I cannot think of any other instrument capable of dominating male singers quite so completely, excluding of course the big drum, cymbals, and an instrument (popular in brass bands, but difficult to describe) for which I have a profound respect. It always strikes me as being capable of anything.

Rain fell on Sunday morning and threatened to continue, but fortunately the weather broke in time, and a strong representative gathering of Old Comrades, under Captain E. A. Longley, D.C.M., paraded for church with Aldershot Command Signals, being given the place of honour behind the Band.

Reforming after church, the parade proceeded back to barracks, and the salute was taken en route by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O. (Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals) who was supported by Major-Gen. S. H. Powell, C.B. (Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps) and Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule.

The ceremony of side-tracking the Old Comrade contingent and playing them through the ranks of serving members was dispensed with this year, and instead they were halted at the forked roads in front of the officers mess, where the Band rejoined them. Resuming their place at the head of the column, the Band played the parade on to the parade ground in their original formation. The Old Comrades stood fast when the Regular units were dismissed, and Brigadier Clementi Smith, Major-General Powell and Lieut.-Colonel Yule proceeded down the line, conversing with the visitors.

A group photograph was afterwards taken, and this is shown on the opposite page.

The visitors then assembled in the Institute, where lunch awaited them. Having descended upon the bar en masse and had their respective wants attended to by a quick and efficient temporary staff, the Old Comrades seated themselves and then Brigadier Clementi Smith rose to address them. On behalf of Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., his officers, and all other ranks of R.Signals in the Aldershot Command, he accorded to the Old Comrade visitors a cordial welcome, and said that he looked forward to seeing them all again next year. He went on to express his indebtedness to our hosts for their kind and generous hospitality, and the Old Comrade visitors responded to his call for three cheers for Colonel Sampson, his officers and all other ranks of R.Signals in the Aldershot Command, with spirit and enthusiasm.

Brigadier Clementi Smith referred to the year 1935 as "a red letter occasion in Corps history." We were now, he reminded us, fifteen years old, and His Majesty the King had recognised the good work of the Corps by appointing a Royal Princess as Colonel-in-Chief of Royal Signals. He trusted that we would continue to live up to the honour conferred upon us and add lustre to our name. Regimental tradition, he said, was built on service, and that we have proved a child worthy of our parent Corps, the Royal Engineers, had been amply demonstrated. He quoted, as an instance, the invaluable service rendered during the Quetta earthquake, when that city fell in ruins at three o'clock in the morning. Within half an hour R.Signals were in the devastated area under war conditions, and were commended upon their magnificent work by the Viceroy of India and also the Commander-in-Chief in India. The flag of the Corps, he added, was flying very high.

Referring to Sir John Fowler's retirement, Brigadier Clementi Smith said that when Sir John was present at the 1934 Reunion he did not know that it was to be his last appearance as Colonel-Commandant, R.Signals. At seventy years of age he was still active, and it was a great pity that he had to retire. Brigadier Clementi Smith went on to say that we had much to thank him for, and expressed regret that he was not present this year. On Sir John's retirement, he added, His Majesty the King had been graciously pleased to appoint two new Colonels-Commandant: himself and Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C. As the present representative Colonel-Commandant, he was deeply conscious of the honour conferred upon him, and would do his utmost to carry on the high traditions of the Corps in every way.

Brigadier Clementi Smith then touched upon the matter of recruiting in the Corps, which he said was bad. Old soldiers know the type of young man we require, and he hoped that everyone present would constitute himself a recruiting agent. The General Secretary of Signals Association, he added, would be provided with a quantity of pamphlets for circulation, describing openings in the Corps for suitable recruits, and he appealed to his listeners not only to assist themselves, but to enlist other helpers, to obtain the right class of young fellow needed to bring the Corps up to strength.

The Reunion coincided with the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the Indian Signal Corps, and Brigadier Clementi Smith took the opportunity to proffer his congratulations to Major-General Powell, its Commandant, on the event, and asked him to convey the greetings of that gathering to all ranks of their Indian contemporary.

In conclusion, Brigadier Clementi Smith again expressed his pleasure in seeing so many old friends, and hoped that he would see them all again next year.

Replying on behalf of the Old Comrade guests, Captain Longley said he felt sure he was voicing the sentiments of all present in expressing his great pleasure in having the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with so many who were Section officers in days gone by. It did us all good, he continued, to meet again some of those who made us what we are, and he hoped that we would not miss the chance of seeing one another each year whilst we could. He called for three cheers for the officers present, which were given with a will; and with one accord all linked hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne."

An appetising lunch was then served to the Old Comrade visitors by members of the Sergeants Mess, who constituted themselves waiters for the occasion; and then, suitably fortified against their journey, the Old Comrades commenced to take farewell of each other and their serving comrades. With many handshakes and good wishes for the future, they gradually dispersed to their various homes, carrying with them pleasant recollections of many half-forgotten incidents of days that are passed, now newly revived by contact with old friends. On behalf of them, we tender our warmest thanks to all ranks of Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command for their kind hospitality and an exceedingly pleasant Reunion.

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Golf.—The annual Corps Golf Meeting will be held in the Aldershot area on Thursday and Friday, 3rd and 4th October next. Full details will be circulated to all concerned.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Old Comrades Reunion Gatherings at Bulford and Aldershot.—See Editorial Notes in this issue for reports of these events.

Visit of the Royal Corps of Signals Band to Salisbury.—The Royal Signal Band visited Salisbury on the 19th July and entertained about one hundred and seventy members of the Old Comrades Association and serving members of the Royal Corps of Signals in the Victoria Hall. Among those present were Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., the Rev. J. E. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A. (Assistant Chaplain-General, Southern

Royal Signal Old Comrades Reunion at Aldershot on Sunday 28th July 1935.

Back row (l. to r.)—A. Jenner, N. Ramsay, (?) —, F. Rhodes, R. Shea'e, J. W. Smith, F. Hayes, C Burgess, W. Bent, J. Hutchins, B. Tidmarsh, W. H. Tyler, D.C.M., A. Floyd, C. Harrington, H. A. Armfield, P. Sunnett, H. O. Hogben, F. J. Willis, D. Andrews

Fourth row—W. Caley, J. R. Cadwell, A. E. Bundy, N. Grant, R. V. Spalding, W. Hoare, J. Daw, G. Purchase, G. H. King, J. Collyer, F. Gilbert, F. Harrington, F. E. Smith, H. Cotton, A. Johnson, H. Kirby, W. H. Welks, S. Gadney, F. Prior

Third row—W. Stevenson, F. H. Barnes, F. T. Early, F. W. Saye, T. Thompson, H. L. Adams, W. Butler, W. Hayward, W. Foster, M. P. Field, N. J. Ferguson, F. G. Lowe, H. R. Barber, H. R. Strawn, C. Hoskyns, F. Hatherby, C. H. Evans, J. Annells

Second row—W. Wish, D. Gardener, M. Morgan, A. Muntzer, W. Ives, W. Healey, S. Davey, A. Doree, J. Campbell, H. Winlow, A. Jenkins, H. Hose, G. Squibb, A. Cox, A. Johnson

Front row—W. Purkiss, W. H. Grigg, D.C.M., M.M., R.S.M. G. Wray, Major F. W. Nicholls, O.B.E., Colonel R. M. Powell, D.S.O., Capt. E. A. Longley, D.C.M., Colonel E. A. Osborne, D.S.O., Major-General H. S. Powell, C.B., Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Major-General E. V. Turner, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., — Allan, C. Mepham, — Gibson, — Murfet, H. Roper, C. Cadwell, W. Bellinger

Command), Lt.-Colonel G. Lammie, M.C., Major G. R. Halliday, Major E. W. J. Hobkirk, and other officers of the Royal Corps of Signals at S.P.A., and Mr. W. Ison (chairman of the Salisbury Branch Signals O.C.A.).

Mr. R. R. Ricketts, as usual, had produced a most skilfully selected programme. At 7.30 p.m. the Band rendered a march "The Passing of the Regiments" (Winter) followed by a selection from the opera "Il Trovatore" (Verdi). A piccolo solo "Picaroon" (Green) rendered by Bandsman E. Moore was well applauded, as were part songs rendered by the Male Voice Chorus. A descriptive fantasia " For Service Overseas " (Alford) portrayed very vividly episodes incidental to the departure of British troops for service overseas and their subsequent return home. After an interval of fifteen minutes we were given " A Musical Jigsaw " (a potpourri by Aston) and a xylophone solo by Corpl Robinson A. A. entitled " Heather and Sea " (Geldard). A selection " Rose Marie " (Friml) was followed by "Sanctuary of the Heart" (Ketelbey) and then a selection of popular songs (Arr and Stoddon) in which the audience were invited to join.

Towards the close of this programme Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., rose to speak. He said it seemed to him a sacrilege to break in upon such an attractive concert, but precedent and custom did not always consider the fitness of things, and custom insisted that the president and chairman should give an account of their stewardship at this their annual Band concert. He explained that the main business of the year had been the formation of new Branches at Birmingham, Exeter and District, Southampton and Portsmouth, and thanked the local committee for their support of the scheme and for mothering these new children. The family were extremely vigorous and doing well. Birmingham, under Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D., and Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C., had ninety-seven members. Southampton and Portsmouth, under Captain A. F. S. Fane and Sergt Davis J., R.Signals, had ninety-six members. Exeter and District, under Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and Major J. W. Western, M.C., T.D., had sixty-seven members. Apart from this Command, the Northern and Western Commands had been getting very busy and generally the Association was very much alive.

This general extension of the work of the Association was very healthy and most necessary ; it was the duty of all members, if they really believed in the objects of the Association, to see that this healthy state of affairs continued. As all our social gatherings were organised to forward the objects of the Association, he considered it was good occasionally to clarify our own minds as to what those objects are. Briefly stated, they are firstly, to foster the spirit of esprit-de-corps in the Corps in which we have all had the honour to serve, and secondly, to protect the interests of our brother Signalmen.

Public opinion plays a very big part in the process of carrying out our objects, and this is where the Association can play such a very important part. A virile system of Local Branches should produce such a strong family spirit that no man should enter our Corps unless passed fit by that family, and no man should leave it except to find friendly hands to help him on return to civil life. He referred to the importance of collecting the young generation into the Local Branches on leaving the Colours. This can be done if a closer liaison is maintained between units and secretaries of Local Branches.

In conclusion, he thanked Mr. Ricketts and his Band for the very attractive concert they had given them.

Mr. W. Ison, speaking after Colonel Bradley, said there is a spirit being spread abroad by ignorant people, who are trying to tell us that these Old Comrades Associations are inclined to foster the military spirit. He spoke of his own service in various parts of the world during the Great War, and left his listeners to conjecture whether he looked like a person who wanted war. It is not true, he said. The object of these Associations is to foster that spirit of esprit-de-corps which existed in 1914 to 1918, when we were all pals. Forget the war. We do not want it. Continuing, he said the strength of the Salisbury Branch was seventy-two. It was not enough ; we want to make it more.

Mr. Ison next spoke of the Corps Journal, THE WIRE. In this, he explained, was to be found the various activities of Branches of the O.C.A. and serving units of R.Signals. This year 236 copies had been sold by this Branch of the Association.

He then spoke on the subject of employment. Fifty members had been found employment during the past year. On the register were the names of two men, and the names of six men who were shortly leaving the Service for civilian life. He spoke of the valuable liaison which existed between the Salisbury Branch of the Old Comrades Association and the National Association for the Employment of ex-Regular Soldiers. Whilst thanking the Band for their excellent programme and services, he deplored the fact that so many old faces were missing since the last performance at which he was present.

The concert terminated about 10 p.m. with the Regimental March and " The King."

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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-Driver, London	Porter
2	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Coffee Bar Attendant
3	Ex-Signalman, Lancashire	Fitter
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Camp Orderly
5	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
6	Ex-N.C.O. Croydon	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Yorkshire	Motor Cyc'e Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Hotel Service
9	Ex-Signalman, Reading	N.A. Works
10	Ex-Signalman, Reading	N.A. Works
11	Ex-N.C.O. Brighton	Clerk
12	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Cleaner
13	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Film Extra
17	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Petrol Hoist Driver
18	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
20	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
21	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Part-time Telephonist
22	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
23	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Telephonist
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Instrument Mechanic
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Night Hall Porter
26	Ex-N.C.O. London	Garage Hand
27	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Attendant
29	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Mechanic
31	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Motor Cycle Postman
32	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Welder
33	Ex-Signalman, Wilts (Salisbury & District Branch)	Labourer

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

B Corps Signals, Karachi
Royal Signal Officers Mess, S.T.C., Catterick
Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.
Peshawar District Signals
School of Signals, Catterick
W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot

GIFTS OF CLOTHING from:—

Captain C. Childs
Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D.
Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-N.C.O. Suffolk. Domestic difficulties...	Grant	£1	0	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Colchester. Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0
3	Ex-Driver London. Temporary difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Salford. Domestic difficulties ...	Grant	3	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn Gt. Yarmouth. Temp. difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Wilts. Domestic difficulties	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Plymouth. Domestic difficulties...	Grant	3	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn Essex. Domestic difficulties	Grant	3	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

The Royal Signal Display.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp.

Owing to our rather busy summer, no member of the Display Party seems to have had time to sit down long enough to chronicle our adventures. We are now having a short respite, however ; and in answer to requests from various quarters, I will try to describe briefly our tour this summer.

The last WIRE notes left us at Olympia. I think that everybody enjoyed their stay there. The weather was not too hot, and we had rehearsed our show to a sufficiently high pitch to give us a comparatively easy time while we were in London. The Triumph Company were kind enough to give us our old friend Charlie Evans as chief engineer. Charlie is a wizard at his job, and also does much to keep the party going. We also have to thank our old friends Captain Firth and Sergt Angell and the City of London Signals for their hospitality and help during our stay in London. I don't know whether every member of the Corps came to see us at Olympia, but it seemed like it to us, and we were delighted to see all our visitors.

It was with feelings of sorrow at coming to the end of a very happy stay in London, mingled with relief that everything was so successfully over, that we steamed out of Addison Road station on the morning of Sunday 26th May. At King's Cross we were honoured by having the "Papyrus" (holder of the world's speed record for railway engines) attached to our train. The engine driver wanted to have a "try-out," to show us what his engine could do ; but unfortunately the signalmen thought otherwise and held us up at every possible opportunity. We took home with us the third placing in the other ranks jumping cup and the second prize in the Prince of Wales' cup.

On the 5th June, having had a brief rest at Catterick, we left for a short tour of the south. First of all, we went to the Suffolk County Show at Halesworth. Here, and at all subsequent outdoor shows, we put on two completely different performances of twenty-five minutes each on each day of the show. We had excellent and very appreciative audiences.

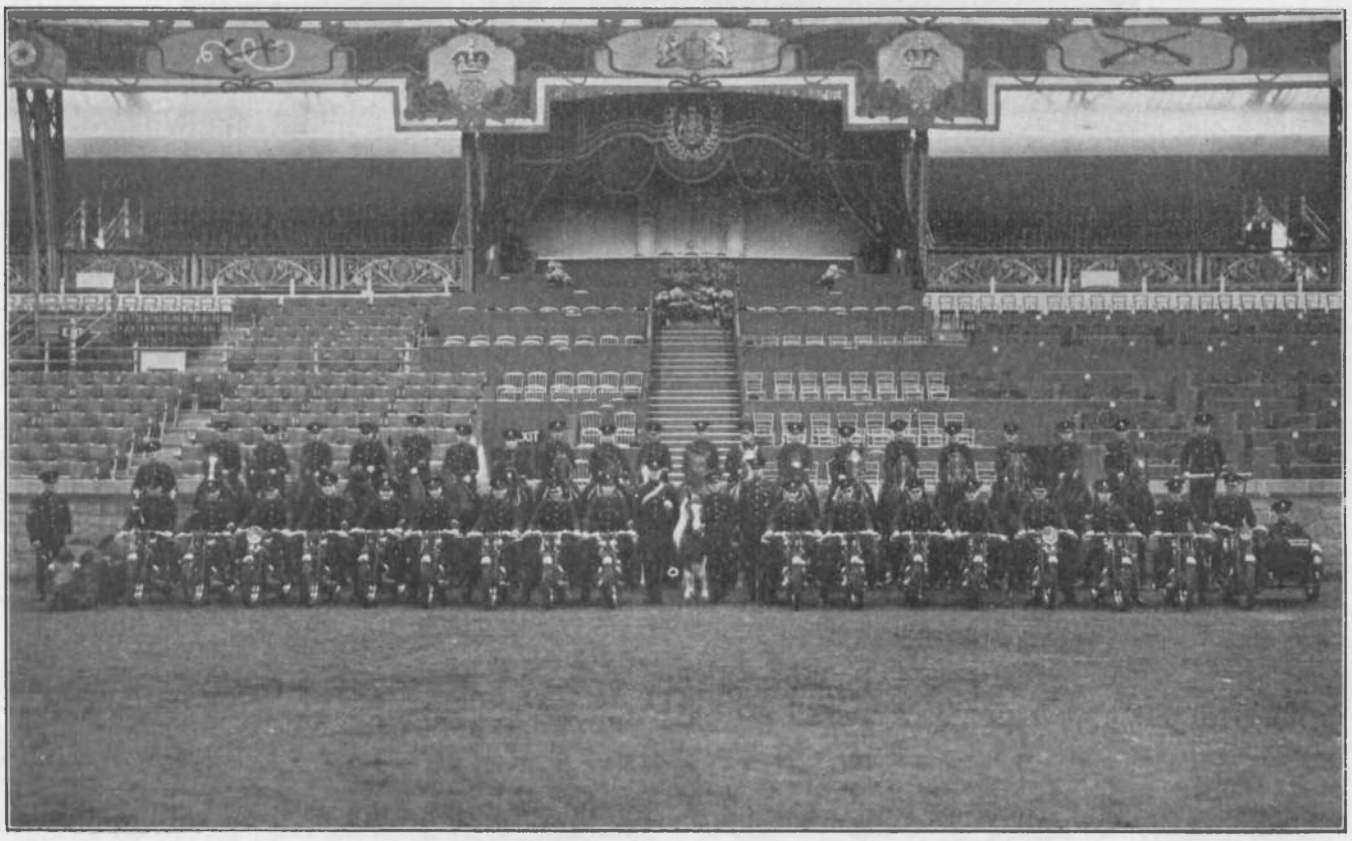
After a three days stay at Halesworth, we moved on to Colchester and stayed with the Inniskilling Dragoon Guards until the start of the Essex County Show at Halstead on the 12th June. We were sorry that the 4th Divisional Signals were not still in Colchester to welcome us. The Essex Show went with the usual swing and record crowd, which we always expect there.

Packing up at Halstead on Friday 14th June, we entrained for Darlington, where we gave a display on Saturday. After this we returned home. In addition to a very successful trip, we also took home with us a good collection of jumping prizes. Hot-Pot (with the O. i/c Display up) won the open class on both days at the Suffolk Show. She also won the evening open class and the Show Jumping Association's silver medal at the Colchester Horse Show while we were staying with the Inniskillings, and then went on to win the open at the Essex Show.

Our next trip was to the Lincoln County Show at Grantham. Unfortunately, the weather here was not so good for the first two days. Hot-Pot again won the jumping on the first day, and then she and the O. i/c Display left for the International Horse Show, leaving Lieut. F. R. Booth to carry on the good work. Luckily, the third day was fine and hot and we had a record crowd. Grantham proved an attraction for many of us. We were much impressed by the kindness of the local inhabitants.

In the following week the motor-cycle side of the Display went over by road to Scarborough, where they were royally entertained by the 5th Divl Signals, and gave a display at their annual sports.

Our next fixture was the Northern Command Tattoo. Here we had to find a programme lasting for fifteen minutes, and set to work to select suitable items from our sixty-minute repertoire. We endeavoured to use only items which kept the arena filled, and tried to avoid solo turns. Judging by our "Press," we seem to have been successful. At the Tattoo, as at all of our displays, the Band played our signature tune, "The Mechanical Horse,"



The Royal Signal Display Party at the Royal Tournament, Olympia, 1935.
[*Photo by Sims (Photographers) Ltd. London*]

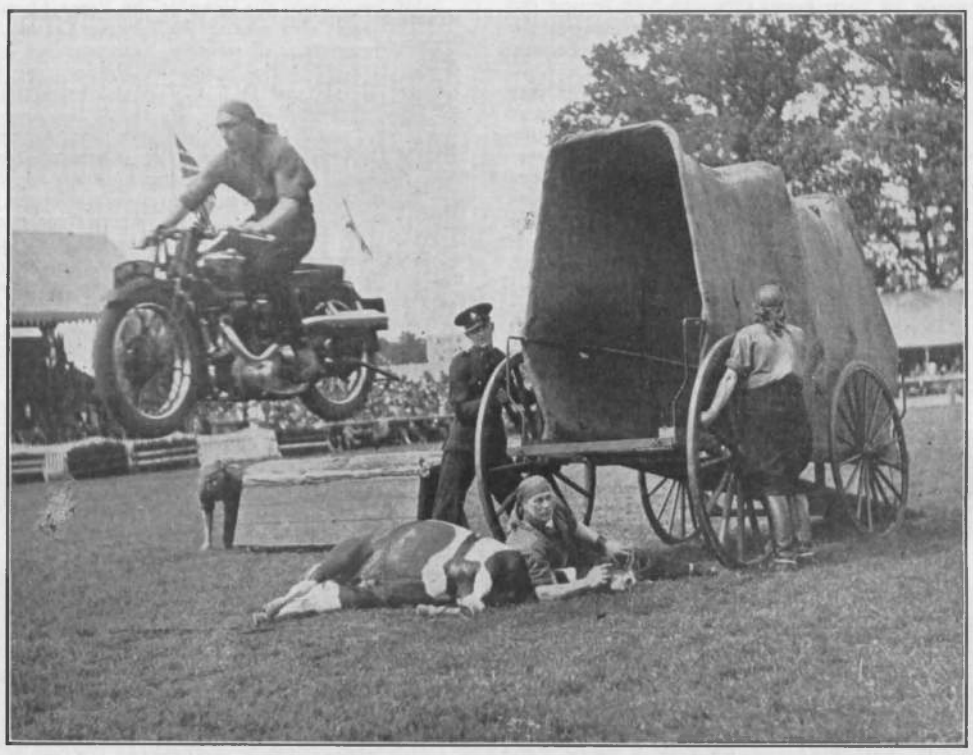
composed by Mr. R. R. Ricketts. Within a few days this tune was being whistled and sung all over the Tattoo camp. The Columbia Gramophone Company honoured us by recording it and, if it has come out all right, it should be available for purchase in the near future.

On Saturday 20th June we again left Catterick, for a one-day show at Sheffield. On the following day (Sunday) the horse party returned home, and the motor cyclists, headed by the O. i/c Display in his car, made a road trip on to Donnington Park, where we were due to give a motor cycle demonstration at the Auto-Cycle Union Rally that afternoon. We were all very impressed by the wonderful organisation of this rally. Thousands of motor cyclists, riding every sort and description of machine, turned up from every part of the British Isles. The checking in of these took the best part of the morning.

During the season we have been very impressed by the wonderful performance of the 250 c.c. " Triumph " motor-cycles. They are quite the best we have ever had ; they consume practically no petrol or oil, and are completely trouble free. For a 2½-h.p. machine to carry ten men is surely a wonderful tribute to its strength.

In the foregoing notes I have tried to give a rapid review of the wonderful time we have had this summer. I only wish I could show the many readers of THE WIRE our book of Press cuttings and pictures which have come in from every corner of the world, and which describe our " goings on " much more vividly than I can within the limited space at my disposal.

H.N.C.



Jumping through a Covered Wagon.
[*Photo by J. E. Stutter, Colchester*]

In the afternoon, after we had prepared our " props " and machines for the performance, we went up and watched the racing on the famous Donnington track. It is amazing to see what high average speeds can be obtained on a track with a surface not so good as the Great North Road and with two hair-pin bends in it.

On the conclusion of the programme on the race track the crowd adjoined to Donnington Hall, where our arena had been prepared on the front lawn. We gave our display under considerable difficulties, for the grass was very short and slippery and the ground as hard as a rock. We were also somewhat awed to learn that we were being watched by nearly all the stars in the motor-cycle world, including the famous " Ariel " trick motor cyclists. However, apart from the figure riding, which suffered from the fact that it was impossible to go fast on such a slippery ground, we put up a very creditable show. It was much appreciated by a huge crowd consisting entirely of expert motor cyclists, who gave us three cheers at the conclusion of the performance. That night we enjoyed the hospitality of Donnington Hall, and returned to Catterick the following day by road—a distance of 140 miles.

Since our Donnington trip we have given displays at Chester-le-Street and at our own Garrison Horse Show—both successful.

Corps News—Officers

We regret that, owing to the absence on furlough of our contributor, the usual information under the above heading cannot be included in this issue.—ED.

The following note has been forwarded from the War Office, with a request that it should be published in these columns:—

Any friends of Lieut. I. F. Meiklejohn, R.Signals (at present with the Grahamland Expedition in the Antarctic) who may wish to write to him should address their letters: " The British Grahamland Expedition, c/o the Ellsworth Expedition, Messrs. Gordon, Firing and Co., Zabala, Montevideo." Such letters must be posted in London by the 12th September. The letters, it is hoped, will be picked up by Sir Herbert Wilkins at Montevideo and taken by him to Deception Island, to be collected later.

Plain Tales

New Design.—I'm sure you will be interested in a neat little badge I am having made for distribution to a few intimate friends on payment of a heavy fee. It may be worn on the left breast of the blazer, or the centre of the swim suit. Silly ass.

Orders is Orders.—" The annexes of Nos. 4 and 5 huts will not be used the paint is dry."

Which reminds me of the celebrated order issued at —— in 19... in the days when discipline was a religion: " The Battalion will remain at the slope after the G.O.C. has left the parade ground."

At eight o'clock that evening the Guard commander decided to get a message through to headquarters. He was successful. A fatigue party from another regiment was detailed to remove the rifles from the shoulders of the men on parade. Not a man fell out. The colonel was so touched by their devotion to duty that he personally went along the ranks and placed a half-crown in the cramped left hand of each man. The occasion was commemorated by a song entitled " Until " and a foxtrot " What a difference a word makes." Which just shows you.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

One Dance.—A most enjoyable and remarkable dance was held in the Marne Lines Institute, Bulford, during Signals Band Week. This was an all ranks dance after the gymkhana. The dance band under Corpl Robinson entered into the spirit of the evening and played superb dance music. They possess a noteworthy swing and the ensemble was beautifully balanced. That, however, is only for musician fans.

This was essentially a he-man's show, and I believe that one or two ladies gave a fearful glance through the doorway and fled. Nevertheless, a number of brave souls really enjoyed themselves.

No. 1 Company, led by Sam (Celanese) Way, charged up on the right wing in the first foxtrot and reached their objective with the loss of only two ankles and a kneecap. A detachment of No. 2 Company counter-attacked with a rumba and knocked the stuffing out of their opponents. No. 3 Company then sent in a strong party, led by Edie Wozzaladi, and these succeeded in kicking the entire population in the required direction; after which the dance proceeded with some appearance of rhythm.

Rashly enough, I undertook to do M.C.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Another Dance.—This time in the Sergeants Mess, 3rd Divl Signals. A really topping show, but as the clock continues to tick and the hands are going round with deadly persistence, we start by congratulating the committee on their splendid work. C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Paterson and Fuller and Sergeant —— but why not let you guess? Let us extract a few high lights from the jumble of impressions.

A special cheer for Mr. N. A. Clubb, the Officers Mess chef, who arranged all the refreshments. Two hundred and thirty marvellous sausage rolls, and they vanished like a puff of smoke in a gale.

R.Q.M.S. Jim Adcock, in front of Robby's dance band, giving an extraordinarily clever impression of Roy Fox.

Joe Sweeting with a pint in each hand. No table handy. Trying to say good-bye to someone.

On Sunday: Mr. Butler making a gallant effort to speak to fifty-four old comrades and forty-eight serving members. The fifty-four and the forty-eight all trying to do the same.

Canvas roof erected by committee over a space between two mess buildings; transformed into a bar and dedicated to Mr. Heath Robinson. Huge success.

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⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Reflections of Minnie.—I don't hold with all this gallivanting about. What with Signals Week and the Tattoo, my usual routine has been badly upset. All my sleeping arrangements have gone by the board. No sooner did I park myself in an armchair than a hulking brute rushed up and shouted " Take that away and put it in the marquee." Bah! Or that Mr. Mewis from Birmingham would want to sleep on the sofa after lunch.

I was sorry I couldn't go to the dance in the mess. I've only got this old black fur, and my allowance doesn't come until next week, if then.

By the way, don't you agree with me that if a man invites a lady to a dance, he should look after her right to the end?

Listen! That's Cuthbert. What a lad! I must tell you about him another time.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Conversation Piece.—First Old Comrade: " I know you. You left us in '99." Second ditto: " Ah! Do you remember when we used to go sick together?" First O.C.: " Ah!" Both: " Whatcher gonna 'ave?"

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Stop Press.—I almost forgot to mention that I went over to Aldershot for the week-end 27th/28th July. For further details please see any of these famous essays: " Beds I haven't slept in." " Shun! Not a move." " Shoes your weapons." " Does bad beer exist?"

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Ukann Larfe.—" Come on, Facey. We ought to get out of here."

Inspector Faceache's jaw dropped and he turned the hue of ashes. Not very nice ashes either.

" Yes. Come on. Let's go."

[*Interval for ten days leave*] BARLEUX.

Tidworth Tattoo, 1935.

BY A SPECTATOR.

This has been a record year for the Tidworth Tattoo, which has had an attendance numbering 150,439 (excluding rehearsals).

The community singing was conducted by Mr. T. P. Radcliffe under the auspices of *The News Chronicle*, and the firework display was given by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co.

Looking from the control tower, one can see the remarkable natural beauty and appreciate the acoustic excellence of the arena. Its compactness is utilised to the best possible advantage, and the Tattoo throughout is presented in a pleasant atmosphere of intimacy between performers and spectators.

At 9.30 p.m., on the Marshal's word of command, the arena is lit up by searchlights and trumpeters of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade enter, followed by the "Beating of the Tattoo" with massed drums, fifes and bugles. When they have moved off, the searchlights die out. Suddenly the silence is broken by the burr of motor cycles, and the searchlights come into play again—this time on figures in white with silver-like motor cycles. "Here are the Signals!" Sixteen motor cyclists then commence their hair-raising stunts—jumping over cars and through covered frames; section riding; forming figures of eight; balancing wheel-less sidecars; taking off sidecar wheels and fixing others on; all done with great skill and judgment. They are heartily applauded as they line up in front of the Royal box. Well done, Signals! They ride off, and their place is taken by the 9th (Queen's) Royal Lancers with their activity ride, followed by the entry of the massed Bands.

The men of the 1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, dressed in blue or orange shirts and white shorts, give a splendid physical training display, after which the 4/7th Dragoon Guards' ride is put on, followed by the 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

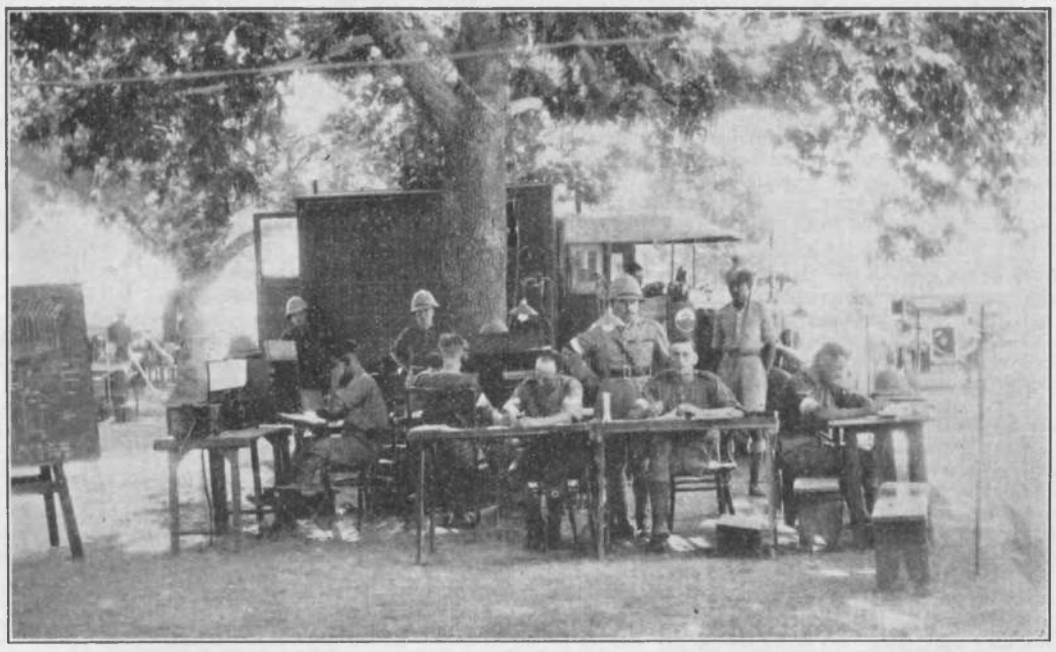
At eleven o'clock the setting back of the clock 176 years brings us to the item "Quebec" (13th September, 1759) showing the climbing of the Heights of Abraham and the battle which followed on the plains beyond. This is succeeded by the musical drive of "L" (Nery) Battery R.H.A., and so to the grand finale, when the arena is packed with performers. There can be no doubt that the spectacle and the thrills will live in the minds of those who witnessed it for many years to come.

Stirring are the closing scenes of the Tattoo. A great silence falls upon the multitude as in the distance there appears in the sky a brilliant Cross. The massed Bands play over the tune of the hymn "The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended," and then the vast concourse joins in singing the first verse. After this, across the arena, there is a burst of fireworks from which emerge the brilliantly lit heads of Their Majesties, and once more the thousands join in singing—this time, the National Anthem.

Now for the rush! Everyone is commenting on the excellent show, and wending his or her way to a car park or to the railway station.

Yes! but how many thought of those working hard behind the scenes from 8.30 p.m. until midnight and after? The telephonists on the searchlight platforms, with their head and breast sets on, experiencing great difficulty in getting their messages through on account of the din. In the control tower exchange is the switchboard operator, plugging through all orders and enabling the Marshal to control the lighting effects; others are listening in all the while, ready to repair faults indicated on the test frames. Amongst those unseen actors are members of the Southern Command Signal Company, keeping communications intact from the control tower to various points of the arena and, despite weariness, doggedly and cheerfully carrying on. We congratulate the 3rd Divl Signals, Tank Brigade Signals, and E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals, as well as the Southern Command Signal Company, on their magnificent work behind the scenes. We must not forget the box office switchboard operator and personnel provided by E Troop, who through the difficult conditions kept up the communications so well. The Royal Signal display team are to be congratulated on the excellence of a show which, adding considerably to the prestige of our Corps, gains in popularity as time goes on.

So ends the annual Tidworth Tattoo for the sixteenth time, and we raise our hats to the Royal Corps of Signals and all others who took part. May the seventeenth Tattoo produce as many thrills as its predecessor?



Temporary Telegraph Office of Army Signals at Quetta after the Earthquake.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
17th August 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the September 1935 WIRE.

Dates on which the top individuals were registered on the waiting lists for the Married Quarters Roll:—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 11/1/30.

Yours faithfully, J. C. ANGUS, Lieutenant,
for the Officer i/c R.Signal Records.

A Pleasant Surprise.

Ardersier, Inverness-shire, 17th July.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Tucked away in a beautiful corner of the Moray Firth—little more than halt way between Inverness and Nairn, and nestling at the foot of a kindly sheltering ridge of hills by the sea—lies the village of Ardersier. About a mile away is Fort George, the depot of the Seaforth Highlanders.

The population of the village is not great. However, in spite of being so near other units, the boys of the village have in most cases chosen the Royal Corps of Signals for a career. Altogether, since the inception of boys' competitive examinations for the Army, about eleven boys have joined the Corps.

As the father of four sons at present serving in this popular Corps, it is but natural that I am often asked "Why is this?" or "What is it in the Signals that draws our lads to them so much?" My reply, as a rule, is: "Ask any one of the boys themselves when they come home on leave. They will soon tell you. Their very happiness and contentment, and 'pride of Corps,' will tell you far better than ever I could!"

Knowing all these lads intimately, I always make a habit of speaking to them when they are home on leave, and I have yet to find one who is not full of contentment and happiness, with that quiet confident esprit de corps which we old ones value so much. My own four sons are no exception to the rule. Indeed, they enjoy nothing better than to "pull my leg" on the difference of life in *their* Corps from that in my old Corps, the Infantry.

To-day, however, threw some light on the question—for me, at least. Four lads are at present home on summer leave from Catterick, having only arrived yesterday almost straight from their performance at the Northern Command Tattoo, Nottingham. It was a very pleasant surprise, then, for us when we were honoured to-day by a surprise visit from the boys' Company commander, Captain V. C. Holland, who had broken his journey north in order to visit some of his boys' parents and, perhaps, to see this little village which has given so many boys to his Corps.

To me—an old soldier—and to others, that little personal touch on his part went a long way and explained much. My wife and I—and other parents, too—were very pleased indeed to welcome an officer under whom our boys are serving. Though pressed for time, Captain Holland refused to leave the village until I had taken him round to see the parents of the other boys now home on leave. We learnt much, and it was with regret we heard that the boys are soon losing their popular commander.

It has always been a longing of my wife and myself to visit Catterick, to see for ourselves what it is that makes our boys so very happy there. Having now had the pleasure of meeting their commander, we feel we can understand it better. Such is the happiness and bearing of my sons—and, in fact, of all the village lads now serving in the Royal Corps of Signals—that had I a dozen sons, nothing would give me more pleasure than to see them all in the Corps. More! could I but reduce fifty years to fourteen, I, too, would join!

It was indeed a happy day for us here in the far north to be honoured by a surprise visit from our boys' officer, to whom we wish Godspeed, a pleasant journey East, and good luck.

Yours truly, E. VERLANDER.

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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

*5718294	C.Q.M.S. Stainer H. C.	3/4/35	...	73

To be C.Q.M.S.

*6077517	Sergeant Snook H.	3/4/35	...	73
1856975	Sergeant Saul J. W.	6/5/35	...	16

To be W.O. II. (Q.M.S., F-of-S)

2306648	C.Q.M.S. Sherman B. T.	21/5/35	...	9
2314524	C.Q.M.S. White A.	7/6/35	...	9

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

6451125	Corporal West C. E.	1/4/35	...	36
2312630	Corporal Rawson W.	7/4/35	...	36

To be Corporal.

2317770	L/Corporal Stevens B.	1/4/35	...	54
4792569	L/Corporal Lauriere J. L.	1/4/35	...	54
5376660	L/Corporal Long G.	3/4/35	...	55
2317215	L/Corporal Taylor P. W.	7/4/35	...	55

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2320851	Signalman Hesford J.	13/1/35
6395578	Signalman Jordan E.	1/4/35
2319964	Signalman Roberts A.	1/4/35
2320476	Signalman Johnson T.	1/4/35
2562435	Signalman Ware A.	1/4/35
2319124	Signalman Powell V.	1/4/35
2563217	Signalman Smith J.	1/4/35
2319216	Signalman Carr H.	1/4/35
2321559	Signalman Mallett B.	1/4/35
2320013	Signalman Griffin H.	1/4/35
2323113	Signalman Thompson H.	1/4/35
2319568	Signalman Cutis S.	1/4/35
2319302	Signalman Wattle W.	1/4/35
2315728	Signalman Jury G. A.	1/4/35
2319835	Signalman Thompsett S.	1/4/35
2317769	Signalman Cullen M.	1/4/35
2567669	Signalman Fox A.	1/4/35
807536	Signalman Douglas-Beveridge J.	1/4/35
2317465	Signalman Port C.	1/4/35
2318337	Signalman Mitchell G.	1/4/35
6700023	Signalman Dicks R.	1/4/35

Discharges.

2312214	Corporal Farmer S.	5/7/35	...	46
315038	Corporal Marsden E.	12/7/35	...	43

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2317825	Corporal Denyer J.	31/7/35	...	45
2318582	L/Corporal Gillott F.	25/7/35		

* *Special Roster (India).*

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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 page 402.

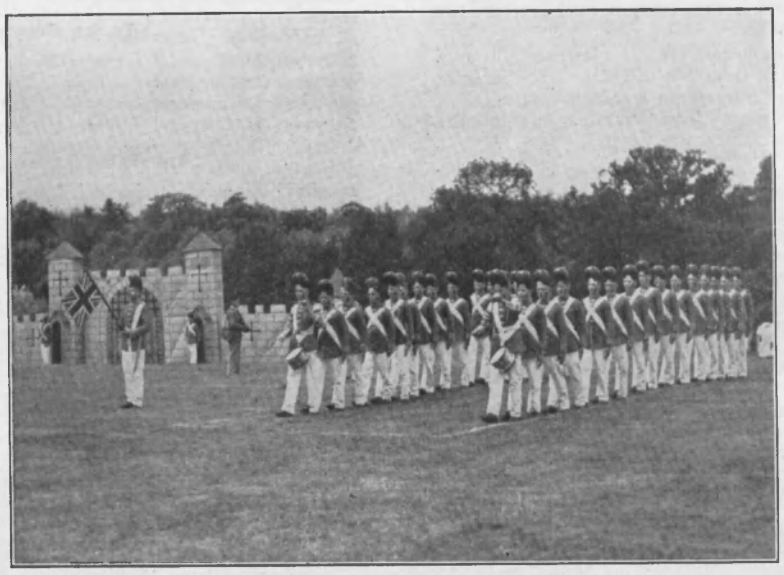
The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

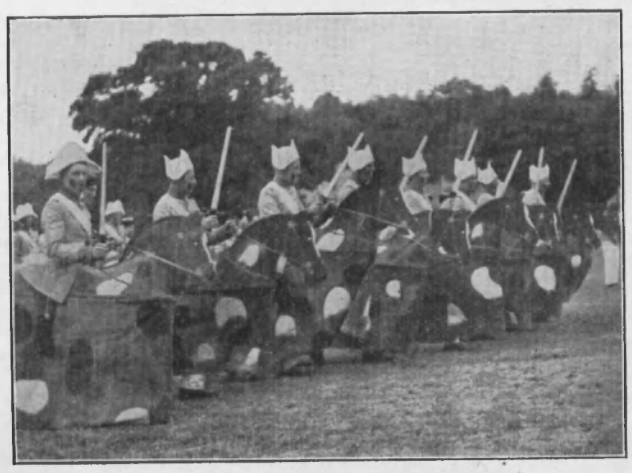
"The Battle of Toyland" at the Northern Command Tattoo, Nottingham, 1935

Our Camp (owing to the hot weather, we decided not to inhabit the Castle seen in the background)

Our Trumpeters, who were attached to the 16th/5th Lancers for all Tattoo Fanfares



The English Infantry marching to the Battle Front



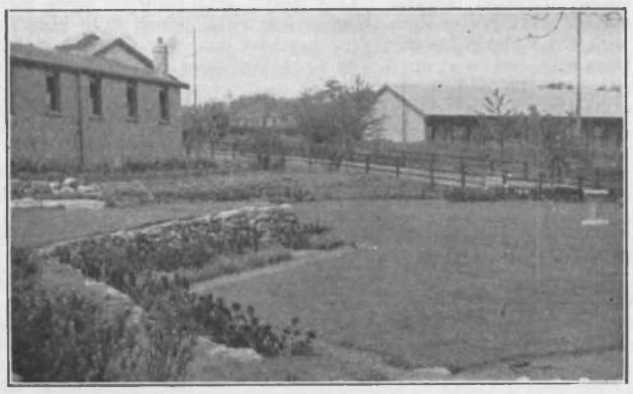
French Cavalry awaiting the order to charge

The culminating point in the Tank Battle

HOME STATIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP — *Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



A View in the Lines.....*Depot Battalion*

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Summer and the brief August holiday having arrived together this year, the majority of the unit personnel have enjoyed a few days respite at well known watering places. These must, of necessity, include the Richmond Lido, much frequented by the Wing's Don Juans. We suppose they must have their little flutter before taking the all important step of ration bag and accumulator. We wonder if we really will have to offer congratulations to Blanco in our next issue ? We are told that he looks so sorry for himself nowadays that many fellow n.c.o.s are commiserating with him. The burning question is, will Bellerby or the Town Hall Hotel win the race. We will certainly have to interview the bookie to see what odds are offered.

The unusually sunny weather Catterick has enjoyed of late added considerably to the popularity of the summer camp of the 50th Divl Signals (T.A.) held at Waitwith during August. On the 8th they paid a visit to the Depot Battalion, when they were conducted on a tour of inspection, viewing the various aspects of a recruit's life. Judging from conversations with various T.A. n.c.o.s during the morning break, they appeared to have been quite pleasantly surprised by the smartness of the recruits at drill and the general tidiness of the various rooms which they visited.

During the camp at Waitwith an athletic team from the Depot, comprising Corpl Stone, L/Corporals Thomas and White, and Signalman Alvey, competed in the 880 yards relay race open to Catterick Garrison, in which they kept the Corps colours flying by winning.

Congratulations.—To Mrs. F. O. St. John and Mrs. Tayleur on their successes in the recent Garrison Horticultural Show. Their efforts are all the more commendable as they were entered in classes open to professional gardeners, a number of whom competed. Congratulations are also due to L/Sergt Andrews on obtaining first prize for roses, and his excellent care of the guard room rose garden, which gained a prize in the show, competing in the open class. In addition to the above, the Depot Battalion met with a small measure of success with their vegetable exhibits.

If only the weather had been more kind, we would have had a happy day. However, it was normal and we had the usual Catterick hurricane, which played havoc with the marquees, completely upsetting the whole show and causing it to be abandoned in the early afternoon.

Agony.—Is it true that, whilst a certain n.c.o. was on leave in Wales, there was much more food available for the remainder of the Corporals Mess ? Whose trilby did he borrow ?

We must ask the new daddy which tune meets with most success: " It's just like heaven " or "You may not be an angel."

On the 14th August a number of our shooting experts compete in the Northern Command shoot. We hope to be able to record their successes in the next issue.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

General.—It will be of interest to many of our old members to know that during the last two months many alterations have taken place in the mess building. Prominent in their memories will be the old Glory Hole. It is a memory to us now that the old partition is down, the caterer's pretty picture transferred to the recreation room, and the " hole " transformed into a respectable lobby. This is entered by way of a glass building which one might call a sun room. The interior of the mess has been very well decorated and more or less refurnished. For this added comfort we must thank our commanding officer, R.S.M. Caulfield and L/Sergt Quinn—the latter being solely responsible for the erection of the outer building.

Entertainments.—On the second Sunday in July we were " at home " to the School of Signals. It was a nice fine day, and we all enjoyed the games very much. I think bowls was the most popular game of the day, and C.S.M. Nash's bowling green was well and truly tested. Of course, the tournament ended in a draw. I overheard our rough riding sergeant-major remark that we should have won if Maxy Shardlow had not contracted tennis elbow through eating too much lettuce at teatime.

On the following Sunday the College was " at home " to us. We had a very enjoyable day out. The School maintained that the final game of putting gave them the honours. We are hoping that before we meet them again at bowls, they will allow us a bit of practice around those bunkers.

On the 9th August we invited the 16/5th Lancers to an outdoor and indoor games tournament. They were our neighbours during their summer camp, and I'm sure they thoroughly enjoyed that bit of relaxation during their month of intensive training, even though they had to down dominoes and up with the hose.

On the day previous to the Cavalry's visit, the 50th Divisional Signals were shown around the barracks. C.S.M. Devy and his merry men spent an hour in the mess during their visit. The Terriers were greatly impressed with the various stages of training, the barrack rooms, and messing of the recruits.

Arrivals and Departures.—During the past month we have welcomed into the Mess Sergeant Levy D., our new orderly room sergeant, from Egypt (ex-Rhinelanders, please note) and L/Sergt Chota Small from Scarborough. We have said au revoir to

C.Q.M.S. Stevenson (now settled in Bulford), Sergeant Shardlow (loaned to the Training Battalion) and L/Sergt Russell (to civvy life). Good luck, Darky!

L/Sergeant Carnegie has gorn an' done it. Joined the Ancient Order of Martyrs at the end of July. Our congratulations to Jock and Mrs. C.

Our Shoey would like 1st Div. Pindi to give their scribe a dig; and to Chota Club Jack he sends the Scotsman's wire: Youngers will oblige.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Sunday 13th July saw the return of the Company from Nottingham, in boiling weather, to the dear old homestead of Catterick—but not for long.

Monday was a day of rejoicing, big (?) pay day, and leave, and again a promise of three weeks hot weather. Some enterprising boys decided to take a holiday afloat on the Norfolk Broads, which was apparently successful, as all returned safely. Only one boy (we wonder who?) forgot to return on the 7th August, and he awoke quite surprised on the 9th! All joys of leave are now over, and as usual we have settled down to the old routine.

Departures.—Signalmen Devine, Brown W., Garfield, Whittenham and Scarsbrook to their respective field units. We wish them the very best of luck.

Cricket.—We have managed to survive the first round of the Mackworth cricket by defeating the Mounted Wing. The score was Mounted Wing 26, F Company 35 for two wickets.

Northern Command Tattoo.—We publish in this issue a page of Tattoo photographs which were sent in last month. We sympathise in the disappointment of those who expected to see them in the August number, but the omission was unavoidable. Faced with a perfect "deluge" of notes and photos from all quarters, we were unable to include everything sent us, although adding eight pages to our usual maximum edition, and several other items had to be held over as well.—ED.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

General.—From the 30th June until the 20th July, the unit camped at Worthy Down, a spot some four miles north-east of Winchester. Ideal weather conditions prevailed throughout, with the exception of one severe thunderstorm on the second night in camp.

During the first week schemes were carried out by cable, W/T and signal office personnel, whilst the M.T. Construction Sections commenced building airline in preparation for the Staff College exercise. On Sunday 7th July we were pleased to welcome the Supplementary Reserve units from Clapham and Putney. Among those present were Sailor Haines and Paddy Dunphey.

Our friends the R.A.F. at Worthy Down Aerodrome made life at camp very pleasant. On the day of our arrival an informal "at home" was held in the R.A.F. mess. Tennis matches were played on the 8th and 15th July, Signals gaining the honours on both occasions by 6—3 and 8—7. Teams were mixed, consisting of sergeants, corporals and signalmen. Permission to use the sports ground for cricket matches and athletic training was granted—a concession much appreciated.

During the course of our camp, arrangements were made for the majority of the unit to gain air experience. Parties of men were taken up in troop-carrying aircraft of the latest type. These "flips" coincided with the Royal Naval Review, and some of the parties were fortunate enough to obtain a bird's eye view of the Fleet at anchor. To our R.A.F. friends at Worthy Down we should like to repeat, "Thank you all very much."

On the 10th July the married families came out from Aldershot by bus to visit the camp. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent. Swings and games for the children had been arranged, and tea was served at 5 p.m. The return journey commenced at seven o'clock.

On two occasions the corporals were entertained in the sergeants mess, and very enjoyable evenings were spent.

The 18th July saw the commencement of the Staff College exercise, which terminated at about 5 a.m. on Saturday the 20th.

The unit returned to Aldershot on the same day in three convoys, the last of these reaching Mons Barracks at 6.45 p.m. Thus ended a very pleasant camp.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of No. 2308555 Corporal Charles Waghorn (of A Corps Signals) at the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, at 11.15 a.m. on Friday 2nd August. All ranks join in tendering condolences to his wife in her sad bereavement. Many readers will remember Corpl Waghorn as the Army javelin champion of 1922. Recently he had been an active member of the training staff of our boxing team, and his services will be sorely missed.

We also deeply sympathise with Sergt Huggett E. in the death of his wife after a long and painful illness, patiently borne. R.I.P.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Mons Barracks, 10th August.

Signals Week.—This week may be divided into three parts: the foremath, the math and the aftermath—the math undoubtedly being the most popular. This year's arrangements were considered even better than those of last year, which is in keeping with the Colonel-Commandant's remark that the Corps is going from strength to strength. It is to be hoped that someone will chronicle the doings of the week as a whole; it would not be quite the thing to do it here. We commend you to the Sports Notes which appear elsewhere. We attended the luncheon and managed to contend with that, but 1888 to us refers to vintage, and Rorke's Drift isn't on the Aldershot map. One youngster said to another "Have you seen the new rooty medals?" All of which gives point to the accompanying sketch, kindly drawn by our old colleague Mr. L. H. Drake and reproduced by the courtesy of *The Aldershot Command News*.

This sketch, entitled "The Old Comrades Relay Race," formed the somewhat libellous illustration on the Royal Signals O.C.A. luncheon menu. We suggest that while a walking stick may be a poor substitute for a crook-stick, the old gentleman in the lead could not have followed a cable wagon with greater alacrity.

Contemporaneous.—Writing of old soldiers, we notice that the half-yearly Army List credits us with a superintending clerk having over 240 years service. But we refuse to believe that things are quite as bad as that.

Staff College Exercise.—Bouquets were flying in all directions over our efforts in this year's Staff College exercise. From start to finish, all the various phases were met and dealt with as if the whole thing had been rehearsed. The inference is that we . . . . Modesty suggests the ellipsis. We started off in shirt sleeves and finished up in greatcoats. We'd have finished up in Dartmoor if the irate innkeeper at Bullington Cross had had his way. He certainly objected to mechanisation in the dewy morn. Incidentally, our Administrative Group deserve honourable mention for their catering arrangements.

Home Counties.—The glad hand of fellowship was extended by the Sergeants Mess of the 44th (Home Counties) Divl Signals, T.A., from their camp at Ash Ranges. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and all present, from the commanding officer to Tiny,

showed that there is no lack of understanding between the Territorial and his professional comrade. But we shall certainly refuse to " jouez les cartes " with Major Darby. Among the old hands we recognised were Lieut.-Quartermaster E. H. C. Harris, Blanco White, Josey Jordan, Peter Wales and Pete Ewald. At the risk of " speaking out of our turn," we can't help remarking that the camp gave the impression of good staff work.

Foreign Exchange.—It has been brought to our notice that a certain Fairy Prince is making large deals (in theory) in the boat list. One of his clients, a mess orderly, has been warned for India and offers a king's ransom for a substitute who is at the bottom of the roll for abroad. What this F. Prince lacks in *locus standi* he appears to make up in hard neck. When we think of the commissions going spare here, we feel like undertaking the job on behalf of the benevolent fund. We are sericus—sometimes.

Musketry.—This anachronism still keeps obtruding itself. Why can't we stick to weapon training or, say, riflery for short. May we put musketry in its proper context just to exemplify its redundance ? " Ye under-yclept will draw their firelocks, flints and primings and, incontinent, hie themselves to ye Ashe Raynges for ye annual musketry course. Dress: gauntlets and gaiters." Any more for musketry ?

Ab Masr.—The Egyptian draft is now to hand, and the following have been earmarked for Ab Kahera—Le Caine—The Anger —Cairo: Corporals Lynch and Sowles, Signalmen A'dridge, Peter, Evans, Rowland, Petrie, McHugh, Thrumb'e and Willoughby.

Pardon!—Saw Editor, Signals Week. Says space scarce. Just remembered. Good excuse. Good-bye. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Royal Review.—The unit figured prominently in this, and the three Companies (dismounted, horsed and mechanical transport) received much applause in passing through the Rushmoor Arena.

The rehearsal parades, occurring as they did on some of the warmest days in July, inspired no little perspiration and effort. But everyone agreed, when this culminated in the actual review and afforded that brief glimpse of the Royal Family, that all the efforts were justified.

Staff College Exercise.—This occurred in the week following the Royal Review and concluded on Saturday 20th July, which was perhaps the best thing that could have happened; although I heard that a certain minority in A Section would have elected to carry on indefinitely.

The same week saw some radical changes in the staff employed, such as Paddy Crowther with a signal relief and Adam X recruited as a regimental policeman.

Signals Week.—A lot of tentage appeared on the sports ground, the west parade ground was converted into a car park, and Sergt Leath into a drum-major. The Band played at regular intervals, and the O'd Comrades enjoyed themselves in the usual way. The sports were much enjoyed, and some of the running events—notably the mi'e—were very exciting. On the whole, there was a good deal of running about. Even Lady Fayerman excelled herself as unit office runner, whilst Yorky continued to run a critical eye down the list headed " also ran."

Pots, Mustard.—In my notes for the June issue I omitted to mention Signa'men Leah and Murdoch, who recently placed themselves at the disposal of the Chemical Research Department for tests with mustard gas. With becoming modesty, both of them have said very little concerning the terrors of the Gas School. But whatever the nature of the tests, it did little to undermine their appetites. I attempted to " draw " Adam on the subject, but he could only talk despairingly of his provisional warning for the Near East and then not so sadly of the Nearer Forty West.

Traffic Accidents.—This month's prize for the best road accident goes to David Copperfield Dickens. It appears that David was in temporary possession of one of the new Morris cars during the Staff College exercise, and when in Andover on the 18th July he so enraged another car driver by tootling his horn and grimacing through the wind screen that the infuriated victim reversed his car sharply into the radiator of the Morris by way of retaliation. MOLLY.

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No. 2 Company.

General.—August holidays. The annual summer break—a period of six days—was granted by our commanding officer, and the first batch proceeded on leave from the 29th July to the 4th August. The second batch went off on the 5th August and returned on the 11th.

Many tales of woe are floating on the air of girls with golden hair, eyes like sapphires, silvery moons, etc.; but there, with forthcoming manœuvres and exercises they will all get over it.

Influenza. That one word in itself indicates the enormous amount of work which has been experienced by the Company (the while being short-handed) during the past three weeks. Owing to the fact that some silly horse decided to start coughing (foolish beast!) all horses have been stationed on piquet lines in the vicinity of the sick lines. In the meantime, men have been running around searching for packles and shegs—sorry! shackles and pegs—and have been generally busy. It was decided that all fit horses should be exercised, but we have since discovered that the men in charge of them were exercised as well, having to walk and lead the said horses.

Previous to our misadventures with our long-eared friends, the Company proceeded with the unit on a Staff College exercise, and to the joy of all concerned we were mechanised, having two small lorries and two small wireless cars as B Cable Section and ditto repeato as C Cable Section. At the conclusion of the exercise such cries as " Roll on, mechanisation!" were heard, the while our Snake bazoomed around and just said " Snaky effort."

Signals Week.—Congratulations must be accorded to our athletic team on winning the inter-Company sports trophy for athletics, special mention being made of the great work of Lieut. Williams and Signalmen Thorpe and Paynter, who practically shared the trophy between them.

We must also congratulate B Cable Section on winning the inter-unit communication race, special mention being made of our " horses "—two-legged, less harness, etc.—who did the pulling with the aid of drag ropes. All " horses " were watered (wet bar) and fed (surplus cakes) after achieving this success.

Marriages.—Nil. But hopes still run high. What say you, Jock ?

We Want to Know.—If a certain signalman has recovered from the shock of seeing a supposed sergeant in his bed and then finding it was a dummy ?

Who is the Farnborough radio announcer ? R.9.

Who is the Scruff and the Green Linnet Midge ?

Agony.—Sigmn Conway, Scarborough: What about it, Paddy? George and Andy.

L/Corpl Bount (last heard of in Belfast): How's how ? Am on draft this year. Pat.

Calling Oscar of Shanghai: What about it ? Jock.

ICKIE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—The Staff College exercise seemed a rather popular one with those who took part, and several ratings were mentioned in despatches during an attack on Popham at about 7.30 p.m. on the 16th. It is not yet fully understood why the D.R. sergeant refused to part with the location of the sixth I.B., but making a rough guess, I should say he really could not pronounce the name.

By the time these notes are in print, all ranks will be in harness once more on Divisional exercises, and I feel sure that the traces will again be kept fairly tight. Anyhow, should the Welshman get a leg over, more will be said next month.

Signals Week.—A huge success. I will say no more, as I feel certain that our secretary will require all the space in THE WIRE which he can get to discuss that enjoyable time.

Unit Sports.—This was another huge success, and very much enjoyed by everybody. As No. 2 Company were successful in winning the trophy, I hope they will give a detailed account in their notes.

August Leave.—All deserving cases have had a spot of leave. So far, only one marriage has been reported, although several extensions were asked for and several excuses put up to show why longer leaves should be granted.

Malta: Vacancies.—The Editor will, no doubt, reserve space for your long awaited notes, especially if the author is H.W.

Births.—Congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. McClounan on the birth of a son (Kenneth William Alfred) at Aldershot on 28/7/35.

Obituary.—It was with deep regret that we heard of the death of the late Corporal Waghorn C., and we tender to his wife and children our deepest sympathy in their very sad bereavement.

THREECO.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

We apologise for the recent absence of our notes from THE WIRE. Camps and collective training interfere with the best of intentions.

Signals Week.—The annual Officers v. Sergeants cricket match took place on Wednesday 24th July. Conditions were ideal and an interesting match was witnessed, which resulted in a win for the sergeants. Scores: Officers 110, Sergeants 116. During the afternoon the Corps Band under Mr. R. R. Ricketts played selections. Stumps were drawn at 6 p.m., after which the Sergeants Mess members were entertained by the officers. This was apparently a priming for the Sergeants Mess dance, held the same evening in the Marlborough Lines Gymnasium. Arrangements for this dance were excellent and, thanks to everyone who assisted, a most successful evening ensued.

Sports.—These were held at Mons Barracks on Saturday 27th July. Old Comrades (and in a good number of cases, their wives also) commenced to arrive about 1.30 p.m. As each made an appearance, suitable refreshment was forthcoming at the bar situated in the sports ground. Tea was served in two sittings, commencing at 5 p.m.

The officers and sergeants relay race was, as usual, won by the officers. This was no doubt due to the winning team's superior handing over of the football at the end of each relay. The Sergeants Mess team consisted of R.S.M. Kneebone, R.Q.M.S. Wensley, C.S.M. Strange, C.Q.M.S. Shilton, Sergeant Cutler and L/Sergeant May.

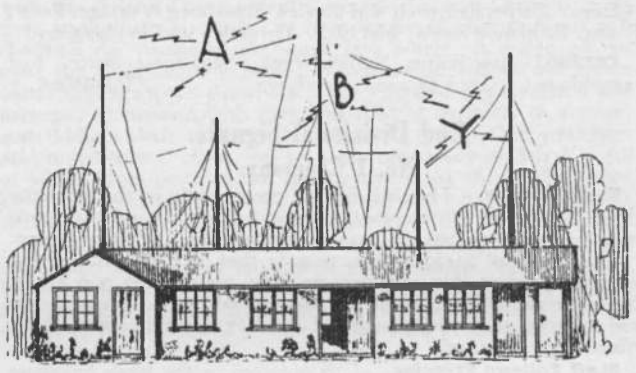
Owing to the fact that all horses were segregated, the intercommunication race was carried out under difficulties. Wagons were man-handled, and the whole business reminded one of the Inter-Port competition. The 2nd Divl Signals won with a small margin of points.

On Saturday evening the Old Comrades were entertained with a concert in the N.A.A.F.I. Meantime, their wives and the wives of serving members held a whist drive in the mess. An impromptu dance followed, music for this being supplied by ex-Sergt Jimmy Low, R.E. Signals, on his piano-accordion.

SUNDAY.—Breakfast for Old Comrades was served in No. 4 dining hall, after which the church parade formed up. Unfortunately, a heavy shower of rain kept a number away from the parade. On return from church, the salute was taken by Brigadier Clementi Smith, this being his first re-union as the representative Colonel-Commandant.

Lunch was served at 1 p.m., at which the Colonel-Commandant spoke before taking his departure. On Sunday evening, for those remaining, a farewell smoker made a good wind-up to a very successful reunion.

Departures.—The following having claimed the bowler hat and packet of sandwiches, we wish them the very best of good luck in civil life. R.S.M. Grigg W. H., A Corps Signals ; L/Sgt Thomas, A Corps Signals ; Sgt Finley, 1st Divl Signals ; C.Q.M.S. Winkle, 2nd Divl Signals ; Sergt Green, A Corps Signals ; Sergt Chenery, 1st Divl Signals ; Sergt Mason, 1st Divl Signals.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling All Cads.—A very distinguished draft will sail from England during the forthcoming trooping season. Mr. Kismet has kindly condescended to allow Corporal Chamberlain J. and L/Corpl Mohrstadt H. (Austen and Molly to you) to travel to India, and Sigmn Verlander E. to draw Chinese dollars for a spell. Some say that Molly and I used our influence to get to India. We didn't. We were content to allow Mr. Kismet to pick a cushy country for two hard-working fellows, and he did, although it was just a matter of chance that we should have " clicked " such a lovely country. Mahatma Ji and Abdul Hamp are absolutely green with envy that I should be going back to India. My only hope is that all the different wallahs I dealt with before have now retired.

Cricket.—Congratulations to Sigmn Williams L. (Bill) on being selected to play for the Corps this season. He did very well both in batting and bowling. For a small Company like ours, we have done well in cricket honours this season. C.Q.M.S. Yates, L/Sgt Stanley and Sigmn Williams have played several matches for the Command Etceteras. These three and L/Corpl Mohrstadt are regular members of the 1st Div. team. Mahatma Macken Ji and myself very nearly won our caps for the 1st Div. We played in one match, but they do not seem to want us again. Strange!

Comes and Goes.—Sigmn Mitchell W., complete with Frontier gong, has joined us from Catterick. He is settling down very well. Sigmn Hale E. C. was posted—or shall I say reposted—to us, but he didn't arrive, as he was subsequently reposted to A Corps Signals.

Aro Dra'men Easy ?—This is the woeful tale of a smart guy, to wit, Abdul Hamp ka Butch. We know he is a smart guy, because he often says " Not for catching me, sahib," and other caddish Eastern proverbs. Now, Abdul has been working very

hard down here on the Plains during all the heat wave, and he decided to spend his August holiday week-end up in the Bahut Burra Smoke Cantonment. His real reason for doing this was to watch the puggled trains that go underground (there are only horse-drawn trams in Wigan); but, being a good soldier, he trotted along to see the changing of the Guard. Whilst he was standing in the crowd, some nasty person relieved him of his wallet and all therein. Did this shake him? We'll say it did! It simply rocked him to his foundations and caused his hasty return many hours before his leave expired. This should serve as a warning to others. Never mix with the common herd if you are wearing your old school tie. Have a trusting face and happen to be a smart guy.

Scandal.—One of the cads—no names, no tears in Manchester, and consequently no loss of that title Mahatma Ji—has suddenly developed a passion for Eversley. He cycles over there at least three times a week, and is willing to do all other night duties so long as he can have his three nights off. He is also on the tack. Now, there is only one reason for this revolutionary change in the order of a man's life, and I leave you, dear reader, to consider whether we should start collecting for a wedding present.

Dit Dit Dah Dit Dah.—Is it a good and acceptable excuse for a married soldier who is late on parade to say that the milk came late? Is it frightfully infra dig for an E/F to ride a bike made up of a G.P.O. frame, Army handlebars, G.I. wire brakes, roadster wheels and a motor cycle saddle (total cost 2/6¼)? AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 13th August.

General.—The Air Defence Brigade exercise is now over, but, alas! not the work of our Cable Detachments. They moved off again on Monday 5th August to the Lewes and Arundel areas to lay a spot of cable for the 1st A.A. Searchlight Group, R.E., who were giving the low-down to T.A. infantry units of the London district on the work carried out by A.A. searchlight units. We seem to have more commitments this year, but so far have managed to rally round.

As regards the Air Defence Brigade exercise which took place in the Gravesend—Tilbury area during the period 22nd to 25th July, one detachment of G Cable Section left at Tilbury constructed and maintained lines for the 1st A.A. Battery R.A. and one visual plotting station. The two other detachments constructed lines for the other three visual plotting stations and two A.A. Batteries south of the Thames. Two Post Office lines from Gravesend to Tilbury were hired for connecting the 1st A.A. Battery, R.A., to Brigade H.Q. and the visual plotting station to the control room. Owing to the unsuitability of the 110 telephone, these lines did not work satisfactorily, and on the second day of operations the visual plotting station was moved south of the river. The remaining lines worked satisfactorily except for a small amount of malicious damage, and the burning of about 200 yards of cable which was laid in grass on the side of the road. Eighty miles of cable were laid. Four despatch riders were attached to A.A. Brigade H.Q. and two others were made available for H.Q. 1st A.D. Brigade. Reeling up commenced on the 25th July and was completed by the 30th.

Births.—Ah! that's made you all start. Well, well. The proud father is our Sandy. Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. Powell on the birth of a daughter (Patricia Margaret) at Aldershot on the 11th July. I bet she turns out a " bullet " fiend. (India and Irish papers, please copy.)

Hints to Wives.—Nuff said on this subject. My spouse has been reading the unit notes. She gave me so many hints that I shall have to delete the item from my notes in future. Hard lines and all that.

Obituary.—It is with regret that I have to announce the untimely end of Snips, our commanding officer's dog. He was killed by a lorry on Saturday 20th July. I am sure he is missed by his owner.

Warmer Climes.—Once again this subject appears. Signalmen Newman, Ward and Thomas are under orders for service in Egypt during the forthcoming trooping season.

Education.—Congratulations to U/L/Corporal Wake A. E. on gaining his second class certificate of education.

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Congratulations.—To the three members of this unit who did a spot of rescue work in High Street, Brentwood, on Saturday 27th July. Apparently, a fire broke out in the premises of a corn and seed merchant, and our three heroes (L/Corporal Kirk and Signalmen Davidson and Carmichael) were walking up the street when their attention was attracted by a reflection in the sky. They went into a yard and found a stable with the door blazing. Pushing the door open, they found a horse at the far end of the stable, which they managed to lead out backwards. They also entered other parts of the building, but found only saddlery. Their prompt action, I am sure, is deserving of mention. Well done, Signals! keep it going (not the fire).

We Want to Know.—Who looked for the bubbles in the Basingstoke Canal? How to bring up young cats. JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Hedge End Camp.

General.—As you can see by the above address, we are in camp—for the first time for many moons. We went under canvas at Tilshead on the 10th July and have now moved to Hedge End. A small detachment has been left at Tidworth, and from what I can hear they are having the time of their young lives. Anyway, the war that is brewing will have to end some day, and perhaps we will resume our normal lives once more.

L/Corpl Moore and his Bride.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Hancox N. on passing his A.ii. instrument mechanic trade test.

To Corpl and Mrs. Blight G. on the birth of a son (Derek Anthony) at Andover on 7/7/35.

To L/Corpl Moore S. C. and Miss Olive May Etherington on their marriage at All Saints Church, Portsmouth, on 27/7/35.

Hitherto this poor unit scribe has only been able to let a few words flow on the virtues or otherwise of the bridegroom. This time I happen to know the bride. But there! my inherent sense of fair play forbids me to say more—or should it have been Moore ? Time! seconds out! and may the best man win.

The Best Man (Corpl Steele) and Chief Bridesmaid.

" At Home."—The R.Signals (Tidworth) " at home " took place this year on Wednesday 17th July on the Oval at Tidworth. A very good show was made, and our thanks are due to those who worked very hard to make the " at home " the success that it was.

The show commenced at 3.30 p.m., and I must say that the clerk of the weather was very good to us—we had a perfect day. The comic events, races, etc., which the officers and R.Q.M.S. Noonan had arranged were very well patronised and went with great gusto. Major and Mrs. Mathew, Captain and Mrs. Hughes, and Lieut. and Mrs. Moore passed round amongst their guests, chatting here and there to make us all feel very much at home. The well chosen music was a delight to everyone, being ably rendered under the skilful baton of Mr. R. R. Ricketts. All ranks wish to thank the Band very much for coming and playing so delightfully to us.

After several events on the sports field and some 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. Then followed more items in the sports line. These proved very amusing to the spectators, if a trifle hot to the competitors. The winners of the various events are shown as follow:—

The Wheelbarrow and Tennis Ball Race.

Blind squad drill (teams of three men and a driller)—1st, Corporals Read, Warman and Button, and L/Corpl Adkins.
Children's race, over 10—1st John Hopkins, 2nd Ethel Wood.
Children's race, under 10—1st George O'Neil, 2nd Doris Read.
Wheelbarrow and tennis ball race, for men—1st, L/Cpl Ashford and Sigmn Milner.
Cotillon race—1st, Mrs. Atkinson and L/Corpl Galbraith.
Potato race with spoon, for men—1st Sigmn Blake, 2nd Corporal Warman.
Potato race without spoon, for children—1st A. Honnor, 2nd George O'Neil.
Egg and spoon race, for ladies—1st Mrs. Archer, 2nd Miss Nichol.
Motor tyre hoop race, for men—1st, Sigmn Blake.
Blind tandem race—1st Miss Winteringham, 2nd L/Cpl Lafford.
Three-legged race for children—1st, Ethel and Marjorie Wood.
Three-legged race, mixed—1st, Mrs. Berry and L/Corpl Berry.
Sack race for men—1st, L/Corpl Galbraith.
Man, woman and child race—1st, Marjorie Wood, Mrs. Honnor and Corpl Appleton.
Musical chairs for children—1st Ethel Wood, 2nd Marjorie Wood.
Stake your claim, for ladies—1st Marjorie Wood, 2nd Mrs. Etwell.
Band race—1st, L/Corpl Purvis.

One of the Heats in the Motor-Tyre Hoop Race.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Mathew amid cheers, and the playing of " The King " ended a very pleasant afternoon. I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and I am sure that everyone else did. We all tender our sincerest thanks to Major and Mrs. Mathew and the officers for giving us such an enjoyable time.

Departures.—L/Corporal John Potts to the 2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment for a shouting course. Every success, John.
Sigmn Baxter D. to the A.V.T.C. Chisledon for a course of plumbery. Yes: look it up in the dictionary. RUSTY.

A Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Hedge End Camp]

General.—Only a few of Tank Brigade Signals are unaware of the active life of Tank Signal Sections in camp, their attendant difficulties, and the spirit of liaison which keeps things running smoothly. A small detachment of Tank Brigade Signals has been left at Tidworth. (Yes! very few can carriers this year.)

Intensive Section training was carried out whilst in camp at Tilshead, combined with work of an experimental nature. We are now settled in camp at Hedge End, in readiness for the Brigade training which commences almost immediately.

The Brigade double-action tank, nerve centre of the Brigade and nerve rack of the I.M.T.s, is reality itself. The operators need no Morris system of physical culture as they gaily slide and twist through wires and the paraphernalia associated with them. Several defects have been remedied officially, but I hear of one operator who requires a stool—and that not to sit on!

" B " Echelon miss the famous control operators of last year, who remained deaf to all they heard outside their phones when heads of columns would take the wrong turnings. Our I.M.T. at Peshawar will, I believe, go green when he hears that we have six No. 2 sets.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corpl Brown (our Foreman-of-Signals).

Departures.—L/Cpl Potts J. left us for a period of attachment with the Loyal Regiment. Every hope for his success is registered by the Section personnel. There is a baton of some sort in every knapsack, as Peggy said when he told us the reason.

Provisional.—The Section can carrier (so you have them, too?) and our other I.M. have been warned for service in Egypt and India respectively. They seem pretty cheerful about it. We, however, dread to think that next year there will be no war cry for M . . . . n and no link worries for P . . . e.

Blessings.—All sets o.k. And so to bed. JUNGLE BEATS.

C Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Tilshead Camp]

General.—Here we are, then! Back once more to the wide open spaces that are better known as Salisbury Plain. Plenty of land around here, to be sure. We all took a last lingering look at the English Channel on the 8th July before proceeding here from Lulworth Camp. Many minds thought alike that morning: wondering when we should see the sea again.

Having settled down for hard work, we were not disappointed! The Section have been hard put to it, and the progress made has been very satisfactory considering all things.

Now to the lighter side of notes. One or two of the Section managed to attend the Signal "at home." After the slap-up feed . . . . ! Sorry, I am ahead of myself. Being star reporter, I had to go. Games for the children and grown-ups were well patronised, and the prizes were really worth winning. I had a basinfull of the tyre race, but could only manage a second place. The tea went down well, I'll say, and the Royal Signal Band played some good music to help us scoff. Excuse my grammar—Eton, I'm afraid. I expect Rusty will give you a more detailed description of the " at home," so no more from me now.

The majority of the Section proceeded on week-end leave on the 3rd August to recuperate from all the hard labour they have had showered on them. Most of them looked very thin indeed on their return to camp. So much for the general outline.

Extracts.—From the Gobblers' Gazette: "The Eatmore Society will hold a grunch meeting at the Gobblers' Hall, Gobbler Ritchie presiding. Subject: When not to eat. Members only to attend."

From the Layton Observer: " The Wizards' Association will hold a strokes meeting at the Wizard Assembly Rooms. Stroke Dowding presides. Subject: Tips. All are welcome. Gather round."

Conclusion.—For the present we leave you. Adios. C SEC.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Tuesday 13th August.

General.—With the termination of the Tidworth Tattoo, the Troop are now concentrating on the question of August leave. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to despatch the Troop en masse as has been the custom in previous years, and it has been found necessary to form two parties. The first is at present on furlough and, judging by the absence of the usual communications commencing "Dear Quartermaster," the financial difficulties are being overcome.

Drafts: Overseas.—Signalmen Fraser D., Robertson H. and Wills A. have been provisionally warned for service in Egypt. The date of sailing is as yet unknown. The Troop office at this time of the year is—or would be, if the locals had their way—transformed into a Cook's Enquiry Department. Fortunately, in the case of the above named, we have more than sufficient experienced Egyptian veterans only too anxious to impart pearls of wisdom to the uninitiated.

Births.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) and Mrs. Taplin on the acquisition of an heir to the family millions: a son, Robert George, born at Tidworth on the 14th July. The addition of armour plating on the landau is at present unexplained, but we have no doubt that the innovation will be the subject of a theoretical discussion in the very near future. Truly a credit to the industry of Reading.

Drafts: Overseas (Special).—At long last! The one and only Bunker has been caught in the tentacles of the trooper. He has been provisionally warned for service with No. 2 Wireless Company, Sarafand, during the forthcoming trooping season. Yet another to swell the chorus of the " Roll on!" fraternity. We sometimes doubt the sincerity of that chant.

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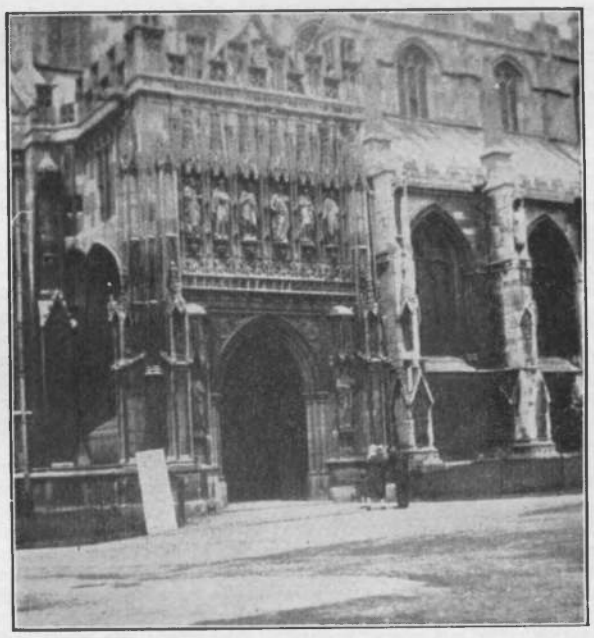
Troop Cricket Match.—The match against D Troop at Aldershot was unfortunately brought to an abrupt end owing to the weather conditions. Judging by the efforts of D Troop, we probably had every reason to thank the inclemency of the weather, as they put up a remarkably good score in the short period of play. Apart from sundry members of F Troop diving into the canal undergrowth for reasons best known to themselves, the interest was intense. We take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all ranks of D Troop. A good show!

The grey mare was to be observed straining at the leash in the vicinity of Aldershot Hippodrome at the hour of departure. There is something in night driving, after all.



Point of Interest.—The accompanying photograph of Gloucester Cathedral should awaken the chords of memory in at least one departed member. Truly a noble pile! We have not been in the vicinity of Gloucester this year, George, but the inhabitants have concrete proof of our previous visit.

Courses.—L/Corporals Allen C. and Speakes F. have been selected to attend No. 14 R.Signal n.c.o.s wireless course at Catterick Camp. We wish them every success. What a life for a crust!

Inspections.—Having successfully passed through the period of inspections, we are now able to rest on our laurels for a short while. The annual inspection by the Brigadier, 2nd Cavalry Brigade, took place on the 29th July, and judging by the remarks passed, we have not lowered the usual standard of F Troop.

Without Comment.—A certain operator created a stir amongst the elders of the tribe of Eff Troop quite recently. Time, 1 a.m. Place, S.P.A. Barracks stand-by set enquiries for " position." Streaky replies as follows: " VE VE VE VE etc. ii ii ii ii My position is—ii ii ii ' Q ' (interval whilst Streaky shrieks for car commander) ii ii ii (more ' Q ') iiii (erase). Don't know!"

Bargain Corner.—Owing to the devastations of Chatham, we are able to make the following offer. For sale. Sacrificel (owner shortly proceeding to Ponky). One Austin Seven. Complete with mascot and mortgage. Colour, unreliable grey. Requires four new tyres and new chassis. Owner at present engaged in running it off the road. Battery crude, self starter more so. Ideal for the wide open spaces. Previous owner lost 2 st. in four weeks. No reasonable offer refused. Would consider exchange for reservation of reliable and comfortable lifebelt locker on H.T. *Lancashire.*

Trade Tests.—Congratulations to Signalmen Wills A. and Rowse W. on being successful in the recent trade test. Both have been classified as electrician fitter class ii.

Appointments.—We offer our congratulations to Lieut. C. G. Moore, who is leaving us for the Staff College, Camberley, in January next.

Agony.—Ike, G Troop: Cancel last insertion. Have received tempting offer from Sarafand. What offers ? Bunker.

Edgar, what have you been up to ?

Viv.: Wedding bells are ringing for Baldey, but *not* for Bowie and me. Insulting replies from Dead Letter Office. What about it ?

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Here we are again—I'm afraid one day late, but with a lot to say.

We must hark back to the middle of July, when the Corps Band under Mr. R. R. Ricketts entertained us so well for a week. We had our unit gymkhana on the 15th, and everybody enjoyed themselves but found it very hot. On Wednesday the Band went over to the Tank Brigade Signals, and on Thursday they played at the officers mess for the guest night. On Friday they gave an excellent concert in Salisbury for the Old Comrades, which was much appreciated by everybody. On Saturday we had an all ranks dance in our own N.A.A.F.I., when the music was provided by the dance portion of the band, and again everybody enjoyed themselves very much.

On Sunday we held our old comrades church parade, which was very well attended and constituted a record for numbers: officers 26, other ranks 68. After the church parade the old comrades adjourned to the sergeants mess, where the sergeants kindly asked all the officers in, while the band played for us out in the square. The old comrade officers had lunch in the officers mess and the other ranks in the sergeants mess. Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., the representative Colonel-Commandant for the year, inspected the parade before they marched off to church and gave a short speech before dismissing.

It was very nice to see so many old comrades, and we always look forward to this reunion. We hope that next year may see even larger numbers. There were several who came from afar, including a contingent from Exeter where there is a prosperous branch, and they stayed the night on Saturday. We are particularly grateful to them for taking the trouble to come long distances in order to make the reunion a success. We have been particularly fortunate in the past with the weather, and this year was no exception ; the sun shone brilliantly throughout the week, and we hope that the members of the Band did not find it too hot playing in full dress.

After Band Week we entered upon a period of disintegration, during which various parties left for T.A. and O.T.C. camps and other special duties, and the Tattoo rehearsals began in earnest.

Our chief concern in the Tattoo this year was, of course, the D.R. display of which Lieut. R. E. Crawford was in charge, and the members of which were drawn from the Tank Brigade Signals and our own unit. In spite of a few minor accidents, they put up an extraordinarily good show and thrilled the crowds nightly during the Tattoo week. They had a tremendous reception on the last night (Saturday) when they gave what was really their best performance, and they were cheered by the crowd. One of the most exciting items was that of jumping over a car. Unfortunately, on the opening night the frame of the bicycle broke on landing and the rider made a complete somersault over the handle bars ; luckily he was not seriously damaged, but he crocked his shoulder and was unable to take part in any more jumps. Other volunteers, however, were forthcoming ; and Nortons brought down one of last year's T.T. machines, which was taken into use and very successfully jumped by Sigmn Dannan on the last night, although he had only been on it for the first time that morning.

We would like to congratulate Lt. Crawford on the successful running of the display : Sergt Brook, who worked so hard on the administrative side and in maintaining the machines ; the riders who took part ; and those who helped in other ways. It is not an easy matter to run a display in a field unit and at the same time function in the field, and credit must go to those who gave up their evenings in order to make the display a success. We cannot pass on without mentioning Messrs. Drake and Mewis of Norton Motors, who were here during the whole Tattoo and were of the greatest assistance to us. We liked having them with us, and we hope they enjoyed themselves whilst they were here. We should also like to add that the Norton machines behaved splendidly throughout and stood up to really hard work, as we always thought they would.

One amusing incident was caused during the Tattoo by a party of Frenchmen who took exception to the show piece in the " Battle of Quebec " and started to comment loudly during the performance. On being asked by their neighbours to keep quiet, they attacked them with their fists, and a really good scrap followed. This was eventually quelled by the arrival of the Military Police, and the Frenchmen then marched out of the ground in formation. This only goes to show that you cannot please everybody!

We are now preparing for various exercises, and three R.A. Sections and a Cable Detachment are going to take part in the Aldershot Command R.A. exercise from the 19th to 24th August. We are therefore looking forward to a very busy time until the end of manœuvres, and also to meeting our friends of the 4th Divl Signals when they come down to these parts.

Arrivals.—Driver Loughrey from E Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals on 16/7/35. Corpl Bush and Sigmn Sherwood rejoined the unit from the Training Battalion on 13/7/35.

Appointments.—U/L/Corporal Hutley D. appointed Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster w.e.f. 28/5/35. Signalmen Brooks C., Middleton A., Cole S. and Whitelaw J. appointed unpaid Lance-Corporals on 26/7/35.

Births.—To L/Corporal and Mrs. L. Shorrock on 2/7/35 a daughter, Kay Leslie. To Sergt and Mrs. V. Little on 6/7/35 a daughter, Patricia Anne. To Corporal and Mrs. C. Dodd on 6/7/35 a son, Alan Leslie. To Sergeant and Mrs. A. White on 8/7/35 a son, Barry Frederick. To Corpl and Mrs. G. Chidgey on 10/7/35 a son, Ernest Leo George. To L/Corpl and Mrs. W. Edwards on 23/7/35 a son, Donald Stewart. To Sigmn and Mrs. J. Bramley on 24/7/35 a daughter, Valerie Ellen. To Sergt and Mrs. S. G. Vignaux on 3/8/35 a son, George Anthony.

Sergeants Mess.

The outstanding event of the past month, of course, was the visit of Mr. R. R. Ricketts and the Corps Band. It is not easy to find words with which to express our appreciation of their very fine performances and their willing spirit. That everyone enjoyed their visit goes without saying, and from what they told us themselves, they also had a very enjoyable week with us.

The high spot was the Mess dance, where Robby and his boys were able to let themselves go in a few red-hot numbers. The dance programme was greatly appreciated by all Mess members and their many guests from the garrisons of Bulford and Tidworth who came and spent a very enjoyable evening.

On Sunday 28th July we welcomed a good crowd (about sixty-five) of old comrades, and many friendships were renewed. It is almost impossible to mention names, but all may take it for granted that we shall be more than pleased to see them again next year. That is, those of us who are left, for alas! we find the ranks gradually thinning.

Sergt Mick Fawl has just left us to undergo a vocational course before embracing the great big world. He will return here before making his final departure, so we will not wish him good-bye yet.

Further information about Signals Week at Bulford will be found in "Plain Tales." My immediate ambition is to catch a train that will take me into Sussex for a few days.

Once more we had the pleasure of entertaining Mr. Drake of Norton Motors Ltd., who has been with us watching over the motor cycles during the Tattoo. Mr. Mewis, also of Nortons, has been another very welcome guest of our Mess during the Tattoo. We trust they will leave us with a pleasant memory.

BARLEUX.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—There is little to write about this month, half the unit being away and the remainder up to their eyes in preparation for manœuvres. On the 18th August we pick up our bags and away to battle. Longstock Park, near Stockbridge, is our destination, and there we shall remain for the next five weeks. We are all praying for fine weather, but in case of accident we are packing our umbrellas in our kits.

August Leave.—This was enjoyed by the majority of the unit in two parties. The week's rest was much appreciated by everybody, and it will go a long way to fortifying us for the next five weeks.

We are glad to say that the adjutant, Captain R. R. A. Darling, is now much better. To him we all wish a speedy recovery and return to the unit.

No. 1 Company.

General.—This month has been spent in Company training, assistance to T.A. units, and August leave.

Three Company schemes, in conjunction with No. 3 Company, were held at the beginning of the month, and all went off quite well.

One sub-section of D Section was attached to the 44th (H.C.) Divl Signals for annual camp at Ash, and then proceeded direct to Longstock as advance party for our own camp. In addition, we also supplied instructors for the n.c.o. cadre courses of the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals at Dibgate.

The majority of the Company were able to enjoy August leave, which was taken in two batches of seven days. Judging by appearances, they must have spent it in sunbathing—quite a cheap holiday. One well known character of B Cable started to cycle to his home in Essex, but gave up the ghost after reaching Chatham. (You want one of Curry's long distance machines, my lad.)

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Newton has rejoined the unit after a tour of duty with the T.A. (Just in time for the big push, Snowy.) Corpl McCulloch from the S.T.C. Catterick as understudy to the Foreman-of-Signals.

Departures.—L/Corpl Gillott to the Army Reserve. L/Sergt Worth to No. 2 Company.

MASKEE.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Since my last notes were published, very little has happened in the Company. August leave of seven days being the main feature. Except for those who were attached to T.A. units, the Company have been on leave in two batches for seven days, and those who were not fortunate enough to get the leave will have it after manœuvres. J Section were attached to the 54th Divl Signals (T.A.) at Dibgate from the 28th July to the 10th August, and they spent an enjoyable fortnight there. Wilbur has forwarded some Section notes, and his humour can be seen under "J Section."

On the last unit scheme prior to August leave, Sigmn Mudie A. had a bad motor cycle accident and broke his leg in two places. He is progressing favourably and hopes to be out of hospital by the end of the month.

The Company are leaving for the manœuvre area on Sunday, and Sections are joining their Brigades at the following places in Hampshire: J Section, Horsebridge Camp, Stockbridge; K Section, Picquet Twenty Farm, Andover; L Section, Hollom Down Farm, Stockbridge.

Departures.—I regret that, last month, I failed to publish the departure of Corpl Ross W. S. to the Sudan Defence Force as wireless instructor. From letters received, he is settling down quite well.

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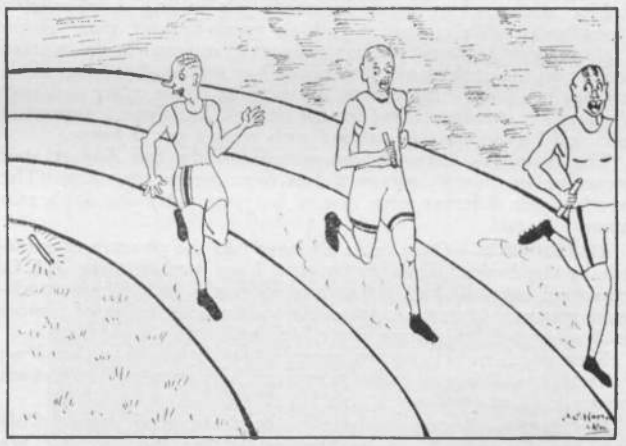
Signalmen Hetherington and Brett H. are now on leave pending discharge. I don't suppose they will have much leave, for both have jobs to go to. Best of luck to you both.

Congratulations.—The Company generally were pleased to see that a certain handsome corporal (late of K Section) has been promoted lance-sergeant, and send their best wishes. The wagon will not be uncovered, Nobby, but the 30 cwt. will. How would you like to come on manœuvres with us this year? Shades of Bures and the tent coming down at four o'clock in the morning, with Stumpy salvaging the shaving gear, etc.



The Relay Runner who "dropped it."
[*With apologies to Bateman*]

Sports.—The attached drawing of the Army relay championship held at Aldershot tells its own story. Bear up, Curley; better men than you have done it—but not in this unit.

3 COMPANY.

J Section.

During the past two weeks we have been stationed with the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals at Dibgate Camp, and a very enjoyable time it has proved. Several schemes were held, and we were agreeably surprised by the keenness and efficiency of the various Sections with whom we worked, and also the quick way in which they picked up the working of the No. 1 sets, etc.

On August Bank Holiday the annual sports were held, and we were gratified to see No. 3 Company win these by quite a good margin of points. It is a funny thing, but in all units No. 3 seems to be *the* Company! We also congratulate Sigmn Barratt of this Section on winning the bun and treacle race, and the Cable Detachment on winning the event set aside for the Section. It is rumoured that "the Lout" had the former race well in hand, but stopped for *two* buns. As we know him, we believe this is quite in order.

One other event—not run in conjunction with the annual sports—was the nattering contest confined entirely to J Section. In

this, Palpitating Price (of " no signpost " fame) scored a very narrow victory over Calamity Callan by a fine effort on No Pay Day. It was a record—non-stop!

In closing, we thank the 54th Signals for a very enjoyable time, and also for their appreciation of our efforts to assist them —not forgetting to thank them for presenting each member of the Section with an " Eversharp " silver propelling pencil. We look forward to joining them again at some future date.

JUBILANT J.

5th Divisional Signals, Catterick.

Waitwith Camp, 15th August.

General.—The months of July and August appear to be the most favourable for visitors to the " Queen of the North " watering place (Scarborough). The most important events to date have been the visit of the G.O.C. 5th Division and the " at home " to residents and visitors. We were very fortunate that the two events took place close together. The extra polish expended on the occasion of the G.O.C.'s inspection lasted well, and formed a good base from which operations for the "at home" were carried to a successful conclusion.

The annual inspection appeared to be satisfactory, and subsequent reports proved that the unit was up to the excellent standard of previous years. (In other words, junk, if any, was well hidden.)

The " at home " proved very attractive, and about two thousand visitors availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the troops at work. I understand that one of them presented a shilling to the man he saw working hardest. (I wonder if the Farrier staff-sergeant got a lemonade out of it.) I followed a party round with a view to picking up tit-bits for these notes. I must have followed the wrong party, interest being centred mainly on the cookhouse. One of the fair sex displayed incredible courage in asking if there were any samples of the many puddings displayed! Another asked for the recipes, but there I stepped in and said I was perfectly satisfied with what I got at home.

The march to Catterick commenced on the 8th August, and according to general opinion things went pretty smoothly. The weather was different from that of last year, only one day's rain being recorded.

Attachments.—Once again we have had the pleasure of entertaining the brains of the Army, and I am sure that the A.E.C. personnel enjoyed their fortnight's stay with us. Their attachment was not, however, responsible for the great influx of visitors to Scarborough on August Bank Holiday.

Several other parties have spent a few days with us, and we have had no difficulty in keeping them fully occupied with work of one kind or another.

Marriages.—Business appears to be slacking off again. Only two have entered the great handicap stakes this month. We congratulate the following, and trust that whatever obstacles may be encountered they may be easily overcome. Sigmn Trotter J. to Miss Dorothy Boyes. Sigmn Costigan L. to Miss Eileen Gray.

Births.—I nearly had to omit this paragraph this month, but at the last moment Sergt Sargeant stepped in and reported the birth of a son (Brian Douglas) at Bury St. Edmunds. The usual congratulations, Havildar. (I.J.L., please note.)

Arrivals and Departures.—Arrivals are wending their way slowly to the unit, and are hereby accorded a hearty welcome. As for departures, well! one must give and take.

During the past few weeks we have parted company with the following: C.S.M. Waller to civilian life. L/Sergt Small, M.M., to the Depot Battalion, S.T.C. Signalmen Bell W., Clark R. V. and Woolcott to A.V.T.C. Aldershot. Sigmn Patterson G. to A.V.T.C. Hounslow. Signalmen Sinclair H. and Parker V. to A.V.T.C. Chisledon.

During the next few days we lose the services of Sigmn Hodge, who is posted to the Air Defence Brigade, Blackdown. As long as he leaves us the fiddling board, we shall still be able to argue on the mileage for compilation of Army Forms O.1771. OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

With the exception of the attached w.o.s and sergeants, we have had no arrivals during the month. We still retain one single member in the mess: a situation which cannot really last much longer.

Of losses we have had our share, and to celebrate the departure of our friends we held a dinner late in July. On this occasion C.S.M. Waller and L/Sergt Clevett, M.M., were presented with clocks. Speeches were made and toasts answered, but they only went to prove how futile mere words can be on such occasions.

Everyone regrets the departure of C.S.M. Waller and family on completion of twenty-one years service. He is well known and liked throughout the Corps, and I am sure that all readers will wish him and his family the best of health and prosperity in the future. C.S.M. Waller has been successful in obtaining a situation with Vauxhall Motors Ltd., Luton, and anyone calling on him is assured of a hearty welcome. He wishes to thank all members of the unit for the good wishes and marks of appreciation showered upon his wife, family and himself.

L/Sergt Clevett and family leave us in a few days for civilian life. It is regretted that Sergt Clevett has not of late enjoyed the best of health and is to have a Medical Board before he departs. We all hope that he will soon be fully recovered and able to follow any employment he may wish to undertake.

L/Sgt Small, M.M., has left us for the Depot Battalion, S.T.C. Best of luck to all.

Agony.—To 52nd Div. Sigs (T.A.): Nick thanks you all for the welcome. He wishes to know if the key and chain are still being used in Glasgow; if Andy has beaten his record of 4½ min.; if Stuart uses his twisted music to stir his porridge; if Spud is still doing his jerks; what the officer said when he was asked at Scarborough by an ex-Guardsman for the crown from his epaulette as a souvenir.

?—Who occupied the barber's tent at Thirsk ? OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

It is possible that other units have heard of the recent disturbances in Belfast. We played our part in maintaining communication, both wireless and telephone. Two wireless lorries were equipped with C.mk.1 sets. Each lorry carried a Signal officer, who acted as intelligence officer by communicating news back to headquarters.

The I.M.s spent a busy time in overhauling and repairing sets, whilst the D.R.s were in constant demand. Our Baby Austin rendered valuable service in conveying the O.C. Street Patrol on his visits to the outposts. In short, it was a " war " in which we all did our share.

For the first two or three days of the trouble we were not required, as the excitement was confined to York Street area and near enough to the barracks to avoid the necessity of wireless communication. Our two mobile sets were standing by to turn out at short notice.

It was the burial of the unfortunate victims which spread the trouble further afield, and the police called for our assistance at the second funeral. One mobile set accompanied a lorry column containing two platoons of infantry, and we arrived at the end of Falls Road to find the police in action with the mob outside the city boundary. Sergt Davies came gallantly into action on his key as soon as we had halted. Having exchanged calls, we found that we were fifty yards from the mob in front of the column of troops and fifty yards from the other mob shooting at the police. We were accordingly persuaded that Signals had successfully repeated the Ashanti episode, and we withdrew ten yards up a side street behind the cordon. The police eventually fell back and the mob, some four thousand strong, followed them up. When they arrived within fifteen yards of the troops, however, the bayonets looked too formidable an obstacle—and a somewhat sticky situation was over.

Our other trips were not quite so eventful. Larger bodies of troops and concertina wire overawed the funeral processions, and one look was sufficient to persuade them that discretion was the better part of valour.

Communication between the mobile sets and the barracks was highly successful, and the Northern Ireland Signal Company was congratulated by the District staff. We were not sorry to return to normal routine, which meant freedom to see a film and other things once more.

In the midst of this trouble Corpl Catt, our Foreman-of-Signals, arrived. We take this opportunity of welcoming him, and hope he will find everything peaceful now he has settled down.

The unit has completed the annual musketry with incredible results; our average is quite high,

Promotions.—Last heard of in a war diary.

Draft.—Our A/C.S.M. (Sergt Wasford) has been provisionally warned for Egypt, and also Sigmn Naddox.

Inter-Section Moves.—Signalman Maddison from Belfast to Dunree. Sigmn Inskip from Dunree to Belfast. L/Corpl Clarke from Belfast to Magilligan. Sigmn Lawley from Magilligan to Aldershot for a vocational course.

Marriages.—We congratulate Signalman Inskip on his recent marriage, and wish him luck in the future.

Voc. News.—We send good luck and best wishes to our latest civvy, Sigmn Lawley. The WIRE correspondent expresses his regret for having associated L/Corpl Castell with a drill (thought it was impossible). He assures me the course is welding, and so far jolly interesting.

The cabinet maker has been so busy making cabinets that he has forgotten to use the pen. Never mind; we will accept a cabinet instead.

In conclusion, we wish all continued luck on their courses; and if they find time to communicate with N.I.S.C., it would be appreciated, as their knowledge may help some of us who are still wondering over a voc to make a decision.

En Passant.—Our W/T n.c.o., Sergt Davies, brought in some interesting remarks about Dublin's fair city, written on the back of his lorry after one of the W/T expeditions.

Sidney wishes to convey his thanks for the kindly interest shown in his new suit, and feels so flattered that he is ordering another one shortly—autumn fashions.

Who said, at the recent Company meeting, that the rock cakes were as hard as bullets? Terrible things, we agree. Someone did mention service: a nasty word—thought I left it at the Depot.

Londonderry Notes.—Hello! Derry calling. To Tim Blackham, Colchester: Good-bye; good luck. Salmon, old A Section.

If the Officer i/c Records has not miscalculated, we shall be losing two famous local notabilities in the professional can carrier Soop and William Earl of Waterside. His Grace is one of the few peers of electrical blood, and will, we expect, do much to enhance the exclusive inner circle of Malayan society, though we feel that the feminine section of that set will be disappointed owing to those regulations which prohibit the wearing of mufti abroad. Too, too, humiliating, what, old bhoy! Nevertheless, naught beats our hero; he can always find ways and means. Derry regrets the loss of such a prominent all round sportsman, and one who is well to the fore in the social life of the maiden city. In conclusion, beware, all you Malayan cricket and tennis champions. Surprise is in store for you.

Two basins of water are placed one on either side of our W/T Station. No, they are not for drinking or washing. They are emergency landing stations for R.A.F. seaplanes which occasionally visit the maiden city. After watching their wonderful landings on the river, we are sure they could land in a basin without the slightest difficulty. R.H.S.

Finis.—R.H.S.: We young soldiers wore mufti abroad in '30. That's the last word till next month. HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

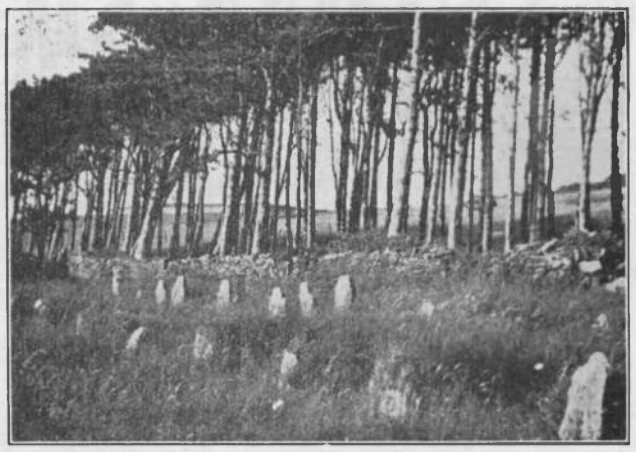
Spike Island, August.

Having accumulated about four months' back news, I feel that I have enough matter to make a splash in THE WIRE again. The mackerel are in and the spinners are out; the I.M.s are working about eight hours a day, making spinners. The n.c.o. i/c the Battery room has been observed spending a lot of his spare time in making what seemed to be a cross between a rat trap and a rabbit hutch. Was it tall enough for the rhubarb, Ernie?

To L/Sergt and Mrs. G. W. Richardson we tender our congratulations on the birth of a son and heir at Spike Island on the 9th August. Though rather belated, we must also congratulate the lance-sergeant on getting his third stripe in February.

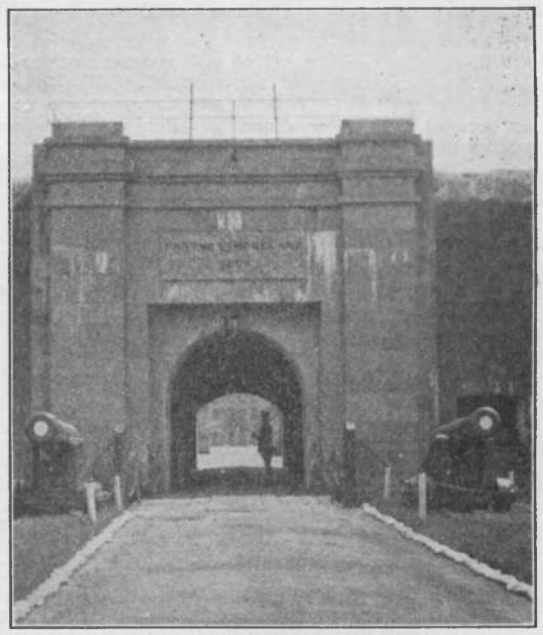
At Buckland in Dover, on the 27th June, Miss Alice Louise Dunford was married to Corpl Knight E. R. To both we offer our congratulations. We hope that every happiness will be theirs. I feel certain, Sprawker, that all the old hands of India and Burmah will join us when they read of your marriage.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tilford C. I. arrived here on the 26th June in relief of C.Q.M.S. White A., who has returned to Jamaica. We hope that the stay will not be too bad, Quarter, and that on your departure you will be able to look back on happy days spent in the Defences.



A Corner of the Convict Cemetery, Spike Island.

Sigmn de Burgh Wilmot L. U. had a smack at his special in March, and turned up a "distinguished" in maths and E. and M. and a pass in the rest of the paper. Not too bad, Duke. Sigmn Bowler J. passed in English and geography, Sigmn Cartwright R. L. in maths and map reading, and Sigmn Hirt S. J. in English, towards their first. The two first named of the "first" wallahs can now be seen "crawling like snails unwillingly to school," accompanied by a small and dark lance-corporal who does not mean to be left out in the cold. We are getting "head-youkated," Mac—are we not?



Entrance to the Fort at Spike Island.

Sigmn Healey T. was awarded His Majesty's Jubilee medal, and though late, our congratulations are none the less sincere. Bere Island certainly beat Spike there, and I'll bet Tim looks good on church parade.

Sigmn Morgan has taken on to complete his pontoon, whilst Sigmn Thomas has promised to do another four, just to make an even twelve. This unemployment is becoming a serious thing, Molly.

The two snaps accompanying these notes have been pushed in by Babsy-Wabsy, the Section photographer. LANKA MK. IV.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

General.—Hullo, everybody! A Company S.T.C. (I.) calling. Herewith weather forecast for the month: rain—rain—rain. Of course, it is the monsoon. There seems to be a heavy sale of mackintoshes from the tailor's shop—five rupees a time. Where's the catch ? I heard they are alright if it doesn't rain.

As gripping seems to be the order of the day, one naturally expects a rendezvous for grippers, and I know the operating school is an ideal place from 5 to 7 p.m. daily. They rip keys there and learn to become good operators.

Entertainments.—During the month the Company held a fancy dress dance and whist drive in the Institute. The proceeds of this show went to the Quetta Earthquake Fund. The affair was a huge success and realised a clear profit of 129 rupees. Many thanks are due to the married families of the S.T.C. (I.) who gave the excellent refreshments, which were sold at moderate prices. Mrs. L. C. Boyd, wife of our Company commander, kindly presented the prizes. The committee who ran the show are to be congratulated on their splendid work.

Arrivals.—Nine B.O.R.s for the I.M. and E.F. courses. May their stay in Jubbulpore be a pleasant one, and the courses very interesting.

Sport.—Our rugby team are getting into good shape. For results see the Sports pages.

Golf.—Congratulations to Sergeant Palmer H. on winning the S.T.C. (I.) stroke competition.

Boat.—Many sweating. In fact, our C.Q.M.S. is now counting the hours. How many more, Sam ?

We Want to Know.—Who played golf under an umbrella one day ? Who wants to become an operator ? Who knows an awful lot about wireless ? Who is the Company can carrier ?

" Say, mate! what's for dinner ?" Reply: " I'm only a common signalman—not a detective."

Congratulations.—To Egypt Signals on winning the C. of E. Small Units trophies. Keep going, Tommy. MUTT.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

" It's a far, far different thing that I'm about to do than I have ever done." (With apologies.) However, as our scribes of the past have been found wanting, the duty has fallen to my lot.

With the monsoon now in full swing, the Monday tennis " at homes " have been discontinued. Members are transferring their affections to that silly—and as some would have it, expensive—game of golf. Oh, yes! he's in Aldershot. Stop hitting!

All members anxiously look forward to the second Wednesday of each month, when the Mess hold their customary guest night. The special feature on these occasions is the presentation of the grippers shield. At the dinner held on the 10th July an additional emblem, in the shape of a wooden spoon, was very kindly presented to the grippers by Mr. Neaves, an honorary Mess member.

Perhaps for the lay folk some explanation is necessary. To be elected a fellow-bore of the modern Society of Grippers, an extremely high qualification is essential. The name of the elected fellow-bore is a closely guarded secret until the actual presentation is made. He is then called on to make a speech.

On Saturday 13th July a concert and dance was arranged, to which members of the Corporals Room and their families were invited. Amongst new local talent we evidently have some nigger —I should say, dark horses. PEEMSEE.

Corporals Room.

Since losing Corpl Manning, things have quietened down and it is quite refreshing to go into the Corporals Room without a stranglehold being put on one. We are expecting Bert Lambird to open out very soon, though.

The members of the Corporals Room have been invited to a social evening at the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess on Saturday 13th July. According to the tit-bits one hears about the preparations, we are going to have a royal time. A full report will be given next month.

Salaams are sent to course wallahs Jock Hoar and Co. We miss the silver-voiced tenor in our impromptus. Remember them, Jock ?

The R.A. are still enquiring for Roscoe Yates. T.G.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. Bayliss G. and L/Sgt West C. on being able to style themselves linguists. We hope that the munchis, Indian ranks, bearers and sweepers are remembered out of the accruing fifty rupees.

Our Monthly Murree Letter.—Our correspondent has changed his hill station to Mussooree. As we don't know anybody there (and it's doubtful if he does) this will have to be discontinued. Any Highland games there ?

Fire! Fire!—Being an entirely imaginary oration and situation in which the provost corporal is involved (or should be) every Monday morning.

" Are they all here yet ?"

" No, corporal. There's a man here as hasn't come."

"If he doesn't come soon, send him away for my brass he'met."

" Where's this fire they're talking about ?"

" On the golf course, I think. Old Flintlcck has sliced his niblick and murdered his caddy, and his lurid language has caused spontaneous combustion on the eighteenth."

" Impossible! It's only the seventeenth to-day."

" Anyway, there's a fire on somewhere, so you'd berra gerra a move on."

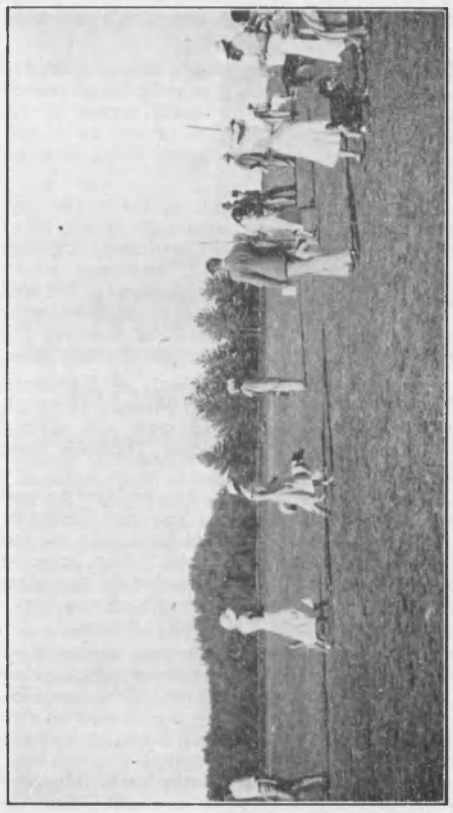
" Is it a private fire, or can anybody join in ?"

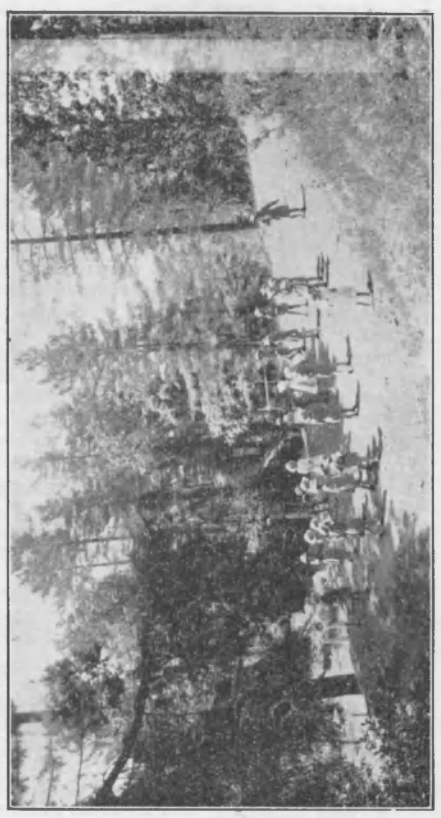
" All right! Don't be so facetious. Now, you fellows, pay attention. This is serious. We'll just run through the hcokums once, just to make sure, you know. First thing is to get her cracking. She's always a bit fractious at first, but if you pat her on the bonnet, loosen her big end, and ease her up a bit, she'll function all right. Stop that sniggering! Is the orderly officer here yet ? Gather round. You ought to know these numbers by now, but I'll just give 'em the once over.

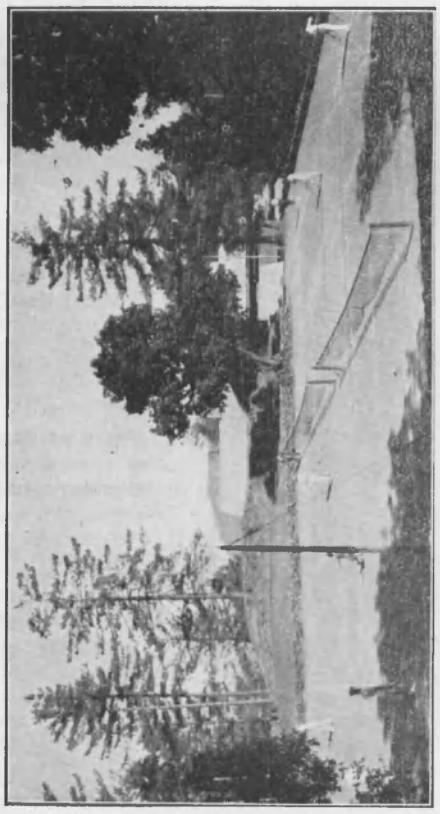
" No. 1 doubles round the-trail eye, catches hold of No. 2, and pummels him until he wakes up. They both grapple their hooks on the body (habeus corpus). No. 2 also writes to B Corps Signals for a missing spanner and some I.A.F. H.2.O (permission to have a fire). No. 3 takes the hose of her and doubles away with it. No. 4 adjusts his old school tie and tries to catch No. 3. No. 5 grasps the nozzle firmly and directs the jet (when and if any) at my chin. Must be cooled down a bit before I can deal with this 'ere conflagration. No. 6 strips her of her water-jacket and writes out a situation report. No. 7 turns on the water, hot and cold. The remainder form a cordon round her, sing 'Hallelujah!' twice, and then fall out for a smoke. Lucy (the mk.i. fire appliance) is then what you might call ready. The halberdiers seize their halberds at the lower band and fall in (and over the drag ropes), three in front, three in the rear. Those in front cry ' Peachy,' those behind 'Ahgay,' and ground halberds, and pick them up again. I think we can push off now. But don't go too fast. When she's exceeding her speed limit, she rumbles like a tumbril and gives out a gurgling sound. But don't get flustered about that. It's only the spirit of Mephistopheles having his morning pint. Now they can have as many fires as they like. Come on! beat it."

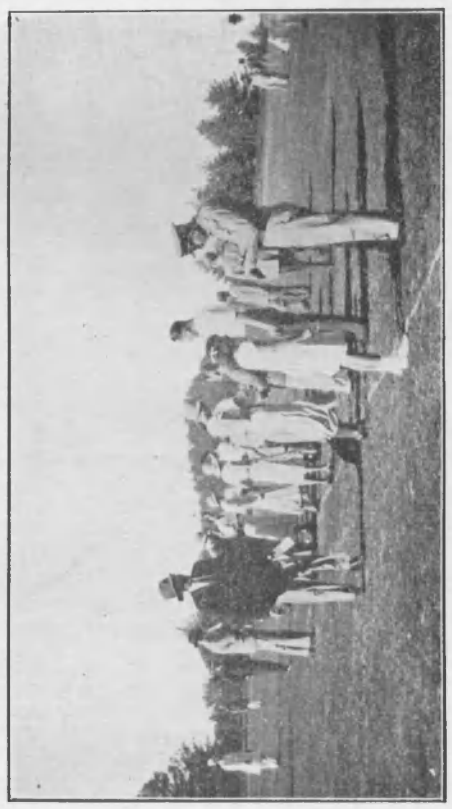
" All right, corporal. You can stand easy. The jemadar sweeper's beat it—out." S.W.B.

Snaps from the 1st Indian Divisional Signals (see "Photographs" on next page).









1st Indian Divisional Signals, Upper Topa.

Saturday 3rd August.

General: Upper Topa.—Peccavi! We have sinned, and we apologise to those who for months past have been longing for news of us.

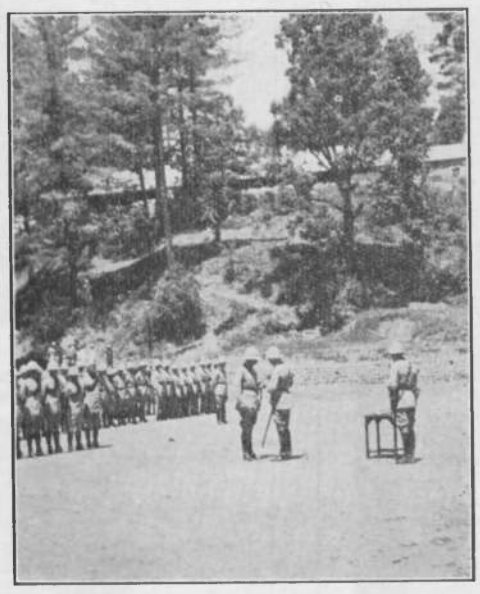
By the time these notes appear, the hill season for 1935 will be drawing to a close, so we will endeavour to give a brief summary of the unit's activities during the season.

The advance party, under the command of Lieut. J. R. G. Walker, left Rawalpindi on the 2nd April and opened the station, which was then very much covered with snow and quite different from what one imagines India to be. The families arrived on the 6th April and, showing a great spirit of cheerfulness in face of wretched weather conditions, soon settled down in their new quarters. The weather was so bad about this time that the march of the main body had to be postponed from the 23rd April until the night of the 1st/2nd May. However, they left by march route under the command of Captain R. W. Morgan, completing the march in three days. In this country we *do* march!

By this time Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., had arrived and assumed command of the station. The unit was formed into two Companies, No. 1 (Administrative) and No. 2 (Training), and we soon settled down to the business of individual training.

Jubilee Week.—His Majesty the King-Emperor's Silver Jubilee was celebrated by a ceremonial parade on the 7th May, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney. I think we can claim that our feu-de-joie was fired at a higher altitude than anywhere else in the world.

The same afternoon the officers of the station gave a children's Jubilee tea party in the sergeants mess, to which all married families and senior n.c.o.s were invited; and a very successful affair it was, both from the grown-up as well as the children's point of view. Prizes were given for the best fancy dress, boys and girls, and the best patriotic fancy dress. The Sergeants Mess gave a Jubilee dance on the 8th May. There was also an all ranks fancy dress dance on the 10th May, which was well attended and where some very original and striking fancy dresses were seen. The sum of Rs.41/12/0 was realised from the sale of flags on behalf of the Silver Jubilee Fund, and Rs.205/8/0 resulted from special subscriptions by all ranks, British and Indian, for the same fund.



Presentation of Jubilee Medals.

Quetta Earthquake.—We were all deeply shocked to hear of the terrible earthquake which took place at Quetta on the 31st May, and we offer our congratulations to all ranks of the 2nd Indian Divl Signals on the splendid work which they carried out in restoring communications. Well done, 2 Div! In response to the appeal for subscriptions for the Viceroy's Quetta Earthquake Relief Fund, the commanding officer was able to send a cheque for Rs.552/8/0, subscribed by all ranks of the 1st Indian Divl Signals and attached details. A fine response to a deserving cause.

Dog and Stick Walks.—The dog and stick walks on Saturday mornings, which take place about once a month, have proved very popular indeed. Khud sides which would appear to the uninitiated to be absolutely unnavigable have proved to be just nothing to our lads, even if some of them do slide down them on the seat of their trousers.

Leave Parties.—During the present season, several n.c.o.s and men of outside Signal units have taken advantage of our leave facilities here. The leave bungalow has been constantly full with individuals enjoying our invigorating climatic conditions, which we are sure they appreciate after the heat of the Plains. We also frequently see the arrival of various married n.c.o.s and men, who turn up for a spot of well-earned leave and to enjoy the comfort of their family hearths after their periods of single bliss.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of Signalman Skinner W. of A Corps Signals at the British Military Hospital, Murree, on the 17th June. He was buried with full military honours in the Royal Signal cemetery at Upper Topa the same evening.

Congratulatory.—This is rather belated, but we have to congratulate C.Q.M.S.s Bradbury E. and Saul J., Sergeants Collins R. and Bygrave S., L/Sergt Weeks G., L/Corpl Dickinson A. and U/L/Corpl Pollard J. on attaining those ranks. Also Sergeant Mills W. and L/Cpl Shepherd N. on being awarded the first class certificate of education, and Sigmn Morey E. on obtaining a "very good" certificate at the Army School of Cookery, Poona.

Plains Detachment: Rawalpindi.—Whilst we are up here enjoying the cool breezes, we must not forget to mention our comrades who are weathering it in Rawalpindi all the summer. To celebrate the Silver Jubilee the detachment provided a Company of Indian ranks for the station ceremonial parade, and the British ranks celebrated by having a special dinner.

The detachment of B.O.R.s is, of course, very small, but they have been keeping themselves well occupied and a B.O.R.s ride has been held under the watchful eyes of Lieut. C. D. Gardiner and Corporal Allston.

Corpl Gandey is endeavouring to instruct selected Indian ranks in the rudiments of wireless telegraphy. C.Q.M.S.s Dempsey and Bradbury and Sergt Powles are keeping the "Q" flag flying, and Sergt Bygrave is keeping our M.T. nicely greased in readiness for the time when we can next use it.

Howlers.—As usual, several howlers cropped up in the test papers, one of the best which we remember being that by a man who went to great lengths to explain how he would "stroke a magnate."

Welcome.—We welcome the arrival at Northern Command Headquarters of our new Chief Signal Officer, Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C.

Musical Note.—Although rather late in the season, we have just managed to get together a dance band from the various musicians we have with us; and considering the short time they have had to practise, their performances have been very good indeed, both at the Sergeants Mess and B.O.R.s dances. I think we all appreciate having a real dance band of our own.

Heard at Upper Topa.—"Why, when I first came out here, they were issuing William IV. rupees." And he was serious!

Photographs.—On the preceding page of illustrations are shown: (1) a view of our hill top at Upper Topa; (2) the officers' tennis courts; a match in progress between the officers and the junior n.c.o.s and signalmen—won by the latter; (3) lemonade and bun and "whistle a tune" race at the pagal gymkhana; (4) the pagal gymkhana dog show; (5) dog and stick—checking in; (6) another form of activity: Blue Birds.

Trade Test Boards.—To conclude these notes, we must mention that a quarterly Command Trade Test Board was held on the 8th July on completion of the first half courses—as a consequence of which, we hope quite a lot of people will be drawing an increased rate of pay. The number of B.O.R.s who attended the first half of the season courses were: 43 operator signals,

class iii. to ii. ; 47 operator signals, class ii. to i. ; 6 despatch riders, class iii. to ii. There were also 18 linemen and 11 workshops trades, but their course covers the complete season.

ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

July being the hottest month of the year accounts for the Troop taking it easier during the past few weeks. Fortunately, rain broke the spell of hot weather which had accompanied the arrival of July, and everybody is now enjoying the benefit of some cool breezes. No doubt, we shall look for quite the reverse when our time eventually comes round to soldier in England.

Speaking of the latter place reminds us that this trooping season will see nearly all the older hands going home, and already the cry of " Roll on, November!" is often heard. The great thing, of course, is not to be caught for the last period of Brigade training or annual manœuvres, and great is the contentment of those who manage to escape. The following are going home: Captain J. J. and Mrs. Duvivier, Sergeants Shaw and Hopkins, L/Sergeants Lambert and Way, L/Corporals Cross and Ferguson, and Signalmen Pearson, Cox and Mason. Those who have already left us are C.Q.M.S. Minns to Quetta, Mrs. Minns and daughter to England via Karachi, and L/Corpl Rhodes to Sialkot.

With departures we normally get arrivals, and a hearty welcome is extended to Corpl Trew and family from Quetta, and Signalmen Phipps and Falkingham from Peshawar and Waziristan respectively.

Although promotion has not been prominent by its rapidity, nevertheless there is some movement in the Corps, and C.Q.M.S. Minns, Corpl Johns, and L/Corporals Hargreaves and Strong are to be congratulated on attaining those ranks.

Equally scarce these days are awards, and everybody was pleased to know that Sergt Shaw and Corpl Johns had received their long service and good conduct medals. It is not true that between them they have more medals than the rest of the Troop put together, because we have Sigmn Cox on our side with his Jubilee medal.

A very successful whist drive and housey-housey party was held recently and quite an enjoyable time was spent by those present. Many men were turned into ladies (it depended on whether they had more tricks than the leading lady or gentleman). Sigmn Cox eventually proved to be the winning lady, while Signalman Bryan carried off the gentlemen's prize. Much credit is due to those who organised the event and carried it through. It is the general opinion that one should be held every month, if possible.

A very pleasant function was the one in which the senior n.c.o.s invited the corporals to dinner, followed by a games tournament. Everybody voted it a great success, and although opinions differed as to the best dart throwers, it must be stated that the spirit put into the show was o.k.

[We regret that a cartoon accompanying the foregoing notes was not suitable for reproduction.—ED.] RISI.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

" Calling all cars." Oh, sorry! ladies and—er—gentlemen. I seem to have got a bit mixed up with the " Here, there and any old where " column. What I meant was " carrying all cans." At least, that's what the chief function of the WIRE scribe seems to be these days. Of course, it's all a lot of guff (Latin for that which makes the grass grow green in Texas) but it has served its purpose in getting these notes under way.

The chief function this month has been " sweating "—some due to the hot weather (very), some on the extra pice they hope to get after the upgrading courses, and last, but by no means least, on the boat list. Why anyone should sweat on the latter amazes the old hands, for (as they say) it's a wonderful country for getting all your washing done, dried, starched, aired and returned the same day. As our oldest member is continually telling them, " You won't get that in England, my lad " ; and of course the younger faction, understanding not these words of wisdom, ask " Who wants to, anyway ?"

But to be a bit serious. Old King Sol has not been at all kind to us this month. In fact, he has done his level best to make us long for cool shady spots and the longest of long iced drinks—from which you will probably gather that it has been a bit of a scorcher this month. Well, you are right. Hence the month has been spent very quietly by all ranks, with a minimum of outdoor work for which we are all duly thankful.

The first Topa party has rejoined us, and the second party left to carry on the good work of swelling the income tax returns. Judging by the smiling faces of the first party, they are for the most part satisfied that the Trade Board results will be in their favour, although no official results are yet to hand. Anyway, here's wishing them all the best of luck.

We Would Like to Know.—Who was the n.c.o. who sat on his bed one Sunday in July and absent-mindedly blew on his ice cream, and when tackled about it said " Well, it's jolly hot, you know " ? We are still wondering whether he meant the ice cream or the weather. Oh, Chiefy! it's a good job there are only about 192 d.t.g. Another tomato season, etc.

We Would Like to Believe.—That Angi has definitely gone on the water wagon for good. That Chiefy now has the fan working permanently. That Peter will now stop twiddling when he has a station tuned in. That the guard room clock is now keeping correct time. ROBO.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Thursday 11th July.

Headquarters.

General.—We have had a busy month. During the first half of the time we were busy doing our little bit towards the evacuation of the earthquake refugees, i.e., guards and picquets on the rest camps, meeting trains and generally helping where we could. Special mention must be made of Mrs. Wade and party and Lieut. E. H. Clarke. They rendered splendid service. The Wireless Station, of course, was still carrying on its good work, as mentioned in last month's notes.

For the latter half of the month we have been busy arranging communications for the use of Western Command Headquarters, who have now arrived and are apparently settling here to make a permanent home. We are still maintaining these communications, and the wireless personnel are now preparing a remote control station in the lines preparatory to taking over the Western Command group.

During the passing through of the refugees many old friends paid us a visit, and we had one or two of our 2nd Div. friends messing with us for a few days.

Visit of H.E. the Viceroy.—Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Willingdon stayed at Karachi during the week-end just passed, on their way from Quetta, and Mrs. Wade and Lieut. E. H. Clarke had the honour of being presented to them in respect of their services during the evacuation of the Quetta refugees.

Congratulations.—Our heartfelt congratulations are extended to our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., on his return to duty from sickness, and we sincerely hope that he is now perfectly fit and well again.

Congratulations are also extended to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Newton, O.B.E., I.S.C. (S.L.) on his appointment to that rank, and to Major Smitherman, I.S.C. (S.I.) and R.Q.M.S. Trapmore on being awarded Jubilee medals.

Trade Board Gleanings.—Class iii. to ii. "Cypher is a method of sending a message so that no other person can read or make sense of it." "Cypher—the hidden meaning of a plain language message."

Speed (?) at the G.P.O.—The gun announcing the arrival of the English mail steamer sounded at 9.30 o'clock this morning. The mails from England will be delivered to Karachi residents at 5.30 p.m. Eight fleeting hours—all of sixty fleeting minutes! To the Karachi postal officials a snail appears to travel recklessly fast. BEKORE.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Notes being very scarce this month, it will afford more pleasure to write them.

Congratulations.—Firstly, to Sergt Harper of this Company and Sergt McBride of No. 2 Company on the award of the long service and good conduct medal. (We agree with the first part of the name, but what about the other ?) Secondly, to all members of the Company who were successful in the last educational examinations.

Query.—Can anyone tell us where the gramophone from No. 7 Bungalow went after a fortnight? The first sender of the correct answer will receive three hearty cheers.

Communication Bon Marche.—To Taffy Merrick, last heard of in Egypt: Wot abaht a line ? Sanger.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We settled in Karachi just in time to undertake many duties in connection with the disastrous Quetta earthquake, and besides duties, have had to perform many other jobs entailing continuous watch. The whole unit has done its bit, and good even if tiring work was put in by those who assisted during the influx of refugees into the rest camp.

We extend our congratulations to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals and the B Corps detachment (attached to them) on the splendid work they did during and after the earthquake, and also to Zhob Signals, who so ably assisted in relieving the traffic pressure at Quetta. Working under terrifying local conditions, snowed under by both bricks and pips, they nevertheless performed their job with the cheerfulness characteristic of the British soldier all the world over.

And now that Western Command H.Q. has made its new home in Karachi, it would seem that we are to have plenty to do in the very near future. To think that I received a letter this week from Bulford which stated quite definitely that nothing ever happens in Karachi!

Local News and Views.—Old Karachi-ites would be surprised at the new and imposing building that has sprung up, overnight almost, to replace our old mess room. The latter, during its prime, was the scene of many revelries by night, and was very popular with the population of Karachi, so we're told.

The Departed.—We bid a fond farewell to Baldy Stonehouse, who left us recently for the 2nd Cavalry Signal Troop, complete with hound and the inimitable grin. Also to Bobbie Smart, our late dietary expert, who has gone south to the Army Signal School to have a break from rissoles and one veg. salads ; and to L/Cpl Sims and Signalmen Jordan, Davis and Roscoe, despatched to Quetta to carry on the good work there with B Corps detachment.

Aquatics.—The local lads still besport themselves on the Lido, but unfortunately our one and only motor tyre is condemned. What we really want to know is whether Bill Muir can swim yet.

By the Way.—Any of the old L.M.A. folk who left B Corps within the last two or three years will be grieved to learn that our pet kangaroo has gone in dock. No, Flash, certainly not ; our Yakka never was a boy like that! Even when he was in hale and hearty mood, he was always like a bear with a sore head ; but now that he's a patient, they tell me that a wild wapiti has nothing on him. Yakka thinks he's going home peachy to the land of the bush where men are men, where you can ride the rabbit fences for days and days, and where everybody gets drunk on kiwi's liver.

Calling 3 Div. Blighty.—To Cyril, Bulford: A reception committee has been formed to meet you on the dock at Karachi. Please don't disappoint us again. Urdu classes held every evening. Put your posh civvies in the sling pop-shop. A.D.

Sergeants Mess.

General.—With the exception of perhaps a couple of evenings when life became suddenly hectic, we have led a very sedate life since our arrival. Unfortunately, our efforts towards entertainment have had several setbacks. The main one was the Quetta earthquake, which prevented us holding the time-honoured Derby ball—a relic of our predecessors. A pity, as we hoped to make it as successful as A Corps did before us ; but circumstances, of course, would not permit.

The hectic evenings mentioned were those on which our friends of H.M.S. *Colombo* honoured us with their presence. Some splendid fun. Widge, as leader of the Chelsea pensioners, wants some beating, although the new teeth, when they arrive, may spoil the effect. We believe George is still sending love letters to the Marines.

We had many visitors during the time the families from Quetta were passing through Karachi—so many, in fact, that the sides bulged a bit. We hope to see some of them again some day under brighter circumstances.

Medals.—What a lot of them!—Jubilee *and* L.S. and G.C. The latter, of course, come naturally to some people ; but the others are perhaps harder to come by, eh, Mac ? Seven for the unit—one in each rank. We must congratulate them all, though, especially George Harper and McBride on getting away with eighteen. When do we celebrate the event ?

Sport.—Not so much as we should have liked, but then it takes time to get going. We have managed to play one cricket match against the Royal Sussex Regiment Sergeants Mess, but failed to pull off a win by a very small margin—149 to 157. We have heard that if Poney had been higher up in the batting list, it would have been an easy thing for us. We wonder!

Western Command W/T Group, Headquarters, Quetta.

Saturday 13th July.

General.—Since we are now a semi-independent concern with our own O.C. (Lieut. Prince) it is hoped that a monthly newsletter may have a fairly general interest.

What is now known as the Western Command W/T Group replaces, on a larger scale, the old A Corps summer W/T reliefs at Quetta, and we have also taken over Chaman and have three operators at Loralai. In addition to this, there is a solitary soul (the unconscious carpenter) at Fort Sandeman.

Our organisation will probably receive a jolt in the near future owing to the move of Command Headquarters to Karachi. There is general satisfaction at this move, however, since it means more "trade" for B Corps.

The Earthquake.—No doubt, the 2nd Indian Divl Signals have dealt with the general aspects of the earthquake, and pointed out that this Section were responsible for all external communications—not a very light responsibility.

The difficulties that had to be overcome in keeping up communications during this period were as varied as they were numerous. Since most of these troubles are peculiar to Quetta, they hardly warrant discussion in these columns. One fault, however, is worthy of note. Owing to the transmission room being a small tent, sand could seep into the generators in such a way as to grind grooves in the commutators at an alarming rate. The local Arsenal being flat, the supply of generators was consequently very limited, and at first our position appeared to be rather precarious. Thanks to someone's initiative, however, the situation was checked by building them off the ground.

Acknowledgments (for want of a better word).—It is impossible to adequately express our thanks to those people in other units who rendered us so much assistance during the upheaval. Special mention must, however, be made of the Zhob Signal Section who, in addition to making our task as light as they could, had a whip round and sent us enough food and cigarettes to keep us going for quite a long time. This was one of the most thoughtful and generous deeds that have come to my knowledge in the Corps. In saying this, I only echo in a small way the view of the whole Section. Thanks again, Zhob.

Arrivals.—Six B.O.R.s and one I.O.R. (D.R.) arrived on the 17th June. They were just in time to move with us from the maidan to our "tents, private" (ha! ha!) and enjoy the fly plague. The latter was (or is) one of Quetta's lesser plagues, but

we will skip lightly over the plague of whitewashed bricks and that of the hexagonal rissoles.

Information Sought.—What happened to Joe Kells and his Beer Barons ? Does he still croon, or did the community lemon sucking episode finally cure him ? What does Blank keep in the ice chest at Chaman ? Why was Snoogleberry Davies so named?

Jew's Mail.—Does the corner bed wait in vain, Joe ? Will be in Karachi when you read this. Q.R.T.

[A further set of notes, dated 9th August, are held over until next month, it being quite impossible to include them in this crowded and extended number.—ED.]

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Earthquake.—A complete report, including Signal diagrams and diary in connection with the employment of the unit during the Quetta earthquake, is under preparation and will be published in due course. Pending its issue, we publish the following congratulatory messages received by the unit.

From His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India.—" The work of the Signal Corps in this emergency has been altogether admirable. Without it, I scarcely like to think what might have happened. All soldiers responded to the call splendidly, but it was the Signals who enabled the work to be co-ordinated and effective. Please tell them how much I admire their work."

From Signal Officer-in-Chief, Army Headquarters.—" His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief told me personally, yesterday, that he considered the work done by the personnel of the Corps in maintaining communications after the earthquake at Quetta to have been absolutely splendid. I would like you to pass this on to your units. I am quite sure it is no more than they deserve, and that when official reports are published your officers and men will be shown to have added a very fine page to the history of the Royal Signals and the Indian Signal Corps."

Quetta Garrison Parade.—On Friday 5th July the unit, together with small detachments of B Corps Signals and the Wireless Experimental Section, paraded with the Quetta Garrison on the Garrison parade ground to be addressed by the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief. The following officers were on parade: Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., commanding ; Major C. E. Sketch, second-in-command ; Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., adjutant ; Lieutenants J. H. L. Crichton, G. E. G. Brown and H. Prince, British Company ; Subedar Purshotham Parsad Singh and Jemadars Ali Mohd and Jindwada Shah, Indian Company ; Lieut. H. Worrall and 2/Lieut. E. B. Elliott, Mounted Company (British and Indian) ; Jemedar Joginda Singh, Wagon Company.

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

I consider it a very real privilege to-day to have this opportunity of paying my tribute to you all, in my position of Governor-General of India, for the discipline, courage and devotion to duty you have shown during the past few weeks since that night when, with appalling suddenness, this city of Quetta and the surrounding areas were overwhelmed by an earthquake shock which caused a loss of life and destruction of property probably without parallel in the history of this country.

This is not the time or the occasion for me to refer to the splendid efforts of both men and women to undertake any duty or service for the relief of the sufferers and refugees. My purpose to-day is to give a short message, as head of the Government of India, to every officer and man who is on parade. I wish to express, as head of the Government of India, my most deep and grateful thanks to you, one and all, for your splendid service at this awful crisis. It can truly be said that the Army in India, both British and Indian, has once again proved itself worthy of its history and tradition.

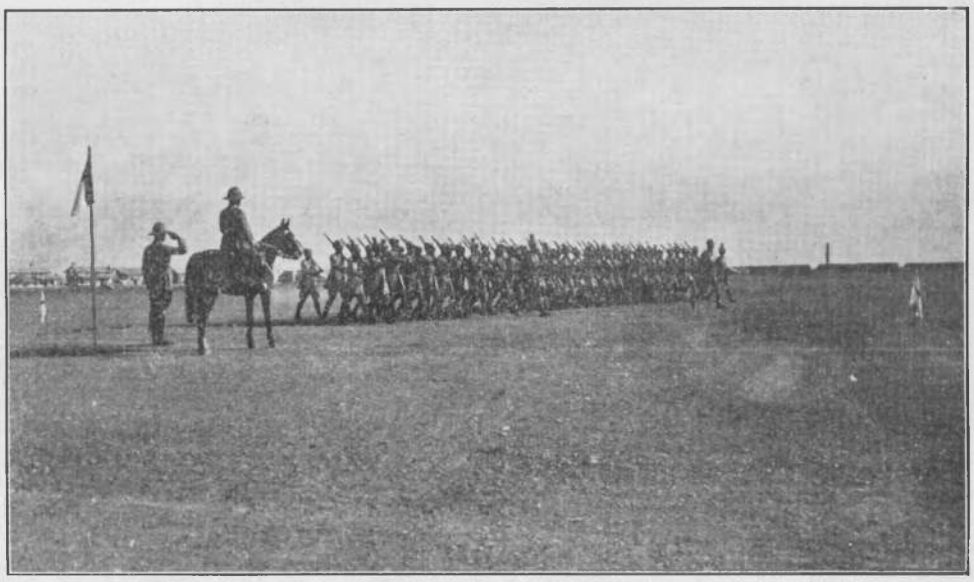
I should like to add this in conclusion. It is difficult to refer to particular individuals when all have done so well. But this morning I think I may make special mention of one name—that of your commanding officer, General Karslake—and thank him, on behalf of the Government of India, for displaying a spirit of leadership which gave confidence to all who worked under him, and for showing a power of initiative and organisation which diminished the dangers of the very much graver consequences which might have resulted from this terribly sudden catastrophe.

TELEGRAM FROM HIS MAJESTY THE KING EMPEROR TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

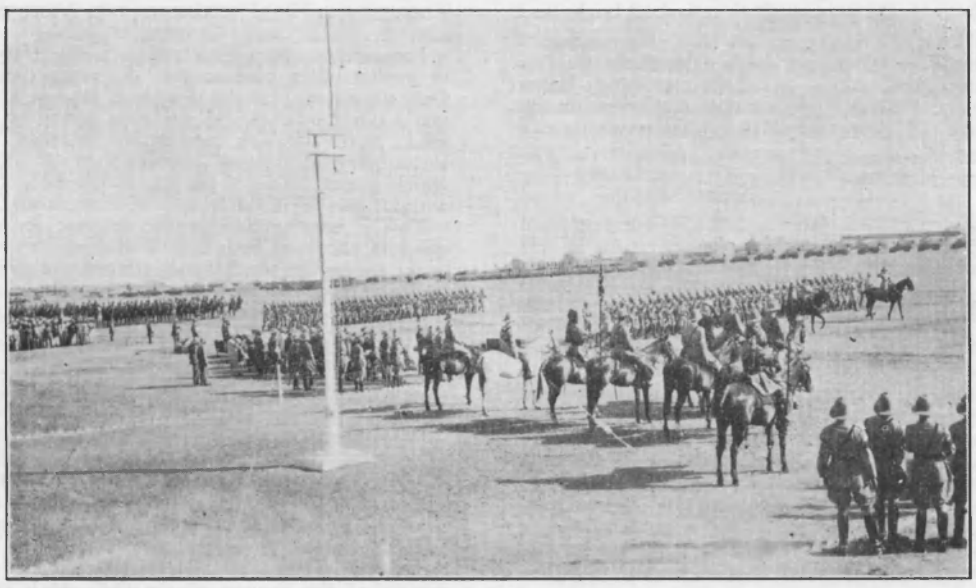
From all accounts I have received of the disaster at Quetta, I have been deeply impressed by the measures taken with such promptitude and efficiency to relieve distress and to help the sufferers. Please convey to all concerned, both men and women, my heartfelt thanks and admiration for their splendid efforts in meeting such an awful tragedy.

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.

His Excellency the Viceroy has been so good as to ask me to speak to you to-day. It is my last chance of seeing you before I leave India for good, and I welcome the opportunity he gives me. His Excellency has paid you a very great compliment—one of the greatest I have ever heard paid to troops on parade. I should like to add that I have never known praise better deserved, and I am proud personally to be the Commander-in-Chief of an Army whose commander, whose officers, whose men—and I may say, whose ladies—have stood up to and dealt with a situation of



Practice Parade for the Viceroy's Visit.



The 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, B Corps Detachment and W.E.S. marching past the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief.

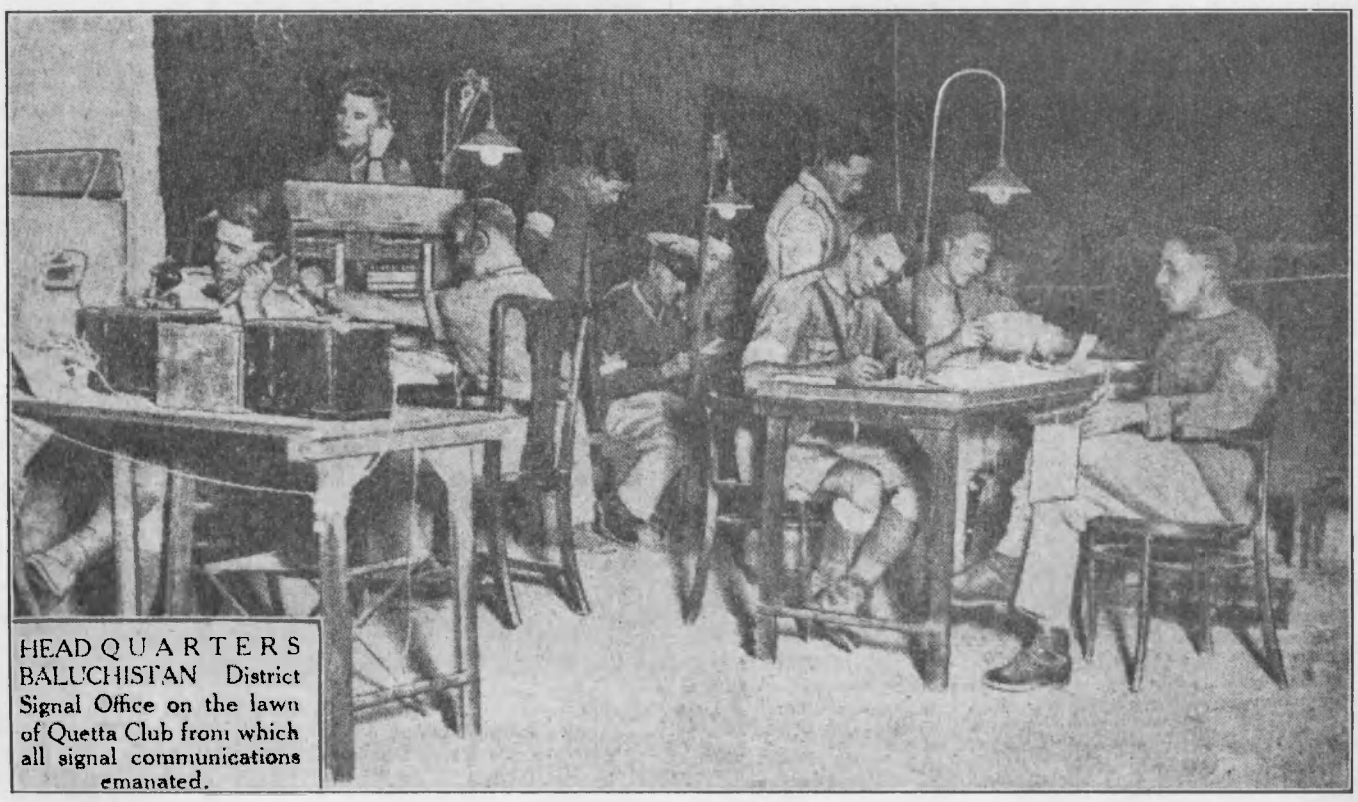
unexampled horror and difficulty, as you have all done, so devotedly and so successfully.

After the speeches, all troops marched past the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief. The remarks made by the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief regarding the parade were published in Station Orders, a copy of which is appended.

Complimentary.—The G.O.C. has received the following letter from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India:—

"I am instructed by His Excellency the Viceroy to tell you how greatly he was impressed by the appearance and steadiness of the troops on parade to-day, and how glad he was to have the opportunity of addressing them. His Excellency will be very grateful if you will convey to all ranks an expression of his deep appreciation."

Farewell Parade to the G.O.C. 2nd Indian Division.—Major-General H. Karslake, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the G.O.C., paid the unit a very high compliment when he announced that he would like to say good-bye to all ranks on parade. The unit, under the



HEADQUARTERS BALUCHISTAN District Signal Office on the lawn of Quetta Club from which all signal communications emanated.

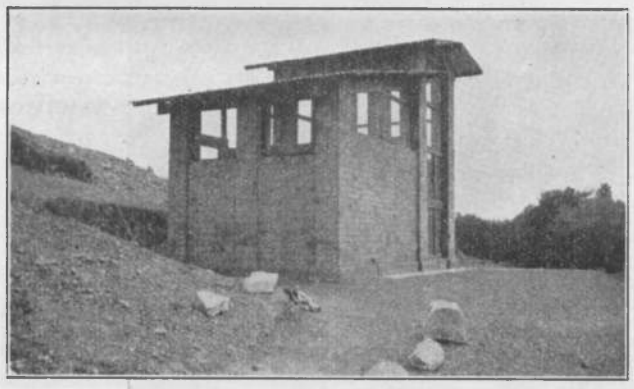
command of Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., paraded in the barracks in review order at 07.30 hours on Friday 12th July.

After saying how glad he was to have this opportunity of saying farewell to the unit, the G.O.C. added that he had known the unit in Quetta during the last seven years. He regarded Divisional Signals as the closest friend of the Divisional commander, as their work brought them in close personal touch. He had always found that the harder he worked the unit, the better it was. During the Viceroy's parade on the 5th July, when the unit marched past, he drew the Viceroy's attention to it and informed him that it was the first unit to arrive in Quetta City after the earthquake and commence rescue work. Shortly afterwards it had opened up communications to all units and formations in Quetta in record time. He further informed the Viceroy that we were the first unit in Quetta to organise a concert party (the Quetta Quakes) after the earthquake. This, he said, greatly interested the Viceroy, and showed what an excellent spirit there was among all ranks in the unit.

He had seen many Divisional Signals in his long career, and in his opinion we were the best Signal unit in the British Army. He felt leaving the unit very much indeed, and concluded by wishing all ranks good luck and good-bye.

The G.O.C., accompanied by the C.O., then carried out an individual inspection of the unit, during which he spoke to many of the British and Indian ranks. He then said good-bye to all the officers individually. Before taking the salute, he congratulated the C.O. on the very smart and soldierly bearing of all.

[We have received further lengthy (but undated) notes from the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, together with several photos—all of which must perforce be held over until the October issue. It is quite impossible to include them in this issue, even though it is extended to 56 pages.—ED.]



The War Memorial.....Fort Sandeman.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Friday 2nd August.

Inspections.—At 7.30 a.m. on Monday 22nd July we were visited by our new G.O.C.-in-Chief, Lieut.-General Sir Ivo L. B. Vesey, K.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., and he was very pleased with all he saw (even at that time on a Monday morning!)

Here is a sidelight. O.C. (congratulating n.c.o. i/c on clean bungalow, prior to G.O.C.'s visit): "Very smart this morning." Non-com. (wearing a specially purchased new topee for the occasion): "Yes, sir, it's a new hat."

Sergeants Mess Social.—We were invited by the Station Sergeants Mess to a games and social evening during the month. Our attendance was 100 per cent., and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The ladies' dart team put up a splendid show. We suspect that the usual sewing meetings had been utilised for secret training.

Arrivals.—Mrs. Cooper on return from her annual summer vacation. She is looking fit and well, and has obviously been making full use of the amenities offered at the Sanjawi sunbathing Lido. All are looking forward to her forthcoming beach pyjama parade, which is being held with the object of introducing all the latest fashions essential for making a better and brighter Loralai. We wish her every success in her new venture. Tenders have been made by all members of the Section for the provision of mannequins, and it is certain that all those selected will rise to to the occasion.

Condolence.—All ranks in the unit join in tendering their heartfelt sympathies to Sgt and Mrs. Bosworth in their great loss.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Pout A. J. on serving eighteen years without being found out, and to him and L/Sergt Ward (Tubby) on being granted the King's Silver Jubilee medal. Both these n.c.o.s were lately with this unit, and we are proud to think that two old members are still carrying on the good work.

To Lieut. E. Hughes on his recent elevation to the peerage. He will be remembered by many ex-Zhobites who served at Fort Sandeman as being inseparable from his half-section Mr. Cooke. The former is now king of the Loralai Supply Depot, and all ranks of the unit (past and present) tender him their very best wishes on his promotion.

To Sigmn Scantlebury on successfully informing us that all is well on the Pindi front. We trust that his weekly Nazi meetings are bringing forth fruit, and that the membership of the Swastika Union is spreading far and wide in the Punjab areas.

To Corpl Burke W., late of this unit, on his promotion to that rank. All ranks of the unit are pleased to hear that he is doing well, and trust that ere long he will pay us a visit, even if he travels via Khanai and not Sibi.

To Professor Norman, president of the Loralai Piscatorial Society, on being appointed principal of the Loralai Girls High School. This institute has recently been formed with the object of preparing pupils for diplomas in higher education and furthering the existing scope of social uplift. Interested persons should note that no charges are made for tuition, all expenses being met by local philanthropists. We wish the professor all the best and crowned success in his efforts.

To Mr. A. V. Davey, I.A.O.C., on being fortunate enough to rescue a car that had been condemned by the local salvage authorities at Quetta. The car is of such a type that it will be most useful during the next local operatic season, occupants being conveyed from door to door (we hope) with the acme of comfort, in the maximum of time, and on a basis of "no cost to the State."

NUCLEUS.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

General.—Things are very quiet in Fort Sandeman at present. We all seem to be waiting for something to break out. If it were not for the occasional howl of a dog (bewailing its lost master who has gone to Loralai) and the ducks treating us to a rehearsal of their own inimitable chorus about half-past five every morning, there would be nothing to break the monotony at all.

The vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the bungalow is just at its best, and with the steady cooing of the pigeons, the buzzing of mosquitoes, the constant ticking of Bonds and the running of a tap, everything is peace and harmony in the Detachment. Having two swedes amongst us, we are often treated to a discussion on turmet hoeing or chopping; and I should like to inform all who are finishing this year that they can get 3d. per hundred yards—I just forget what of, but no doubt I will be hearing more about it soon and will tell you next month.

Inspections.—The G.O.C.-in-Chief had a look at us the other day, on his way round the Zhob. Of course, we had everything spick and span as usual, and the inspection went off just as such an affair should. Our O.C. and quartermaster are with us at present—both looking very well—and we hope their stay in Fort Sandeman won't do them any harm.

Alterations.—The building of our new institute is not progressing very fast. In fact, it has been at a standstill for a while, which is rather a pity, as we are all anxious to celebrate the opening and live in comfort once more. I wonder how Sergeant Ward would have managed without a pub.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Goodhand and Watson, from Loralai, who have come to help us make big splashes in the swimming bath.

Departures.—Sigmn Bonds goes to Loralai to-morrow. May his stay be a long and happy one.

Agonies.—To Soapy, North Ireland: What about it? Chuck.

Sport.—It gives me great pleasure to announce that after a considerable lapse of time, during which our only sport has been aquatics, we celebrated our return to hockey by defeating the officers of the station by 5—1 goals. This must have been a blow to the officers, although I am sure the fact that they only played ten men must have influenced the result. We arranged to bully off at 18.00 hours, but although we were late, it was still too hot ; so we are making it 18.30 hrs. next time. Everyone seemed pleased to get back to a spot of exercise, and I hope we will have matches regularly in the future.

The only other sport is playing with the hornets which are prevalent round here every summer. Someone thought Goodhand had " gone native " one day, as he appeared to be revelling in the joys of a khuttack dance or something. But he was only making the acquaintance of one of our yellow pals.

SCHNEIDER.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Tuesday 6th August.

General.—Owing to the lack of interesting matter, our notes will, as usual, be short. The summer heat has been tempered with the cool winds, and altogether we have spent a very pleasant season. Apart from the earthquake shocks, nothing of note has happened except the demolition of our prize potato crop by our ravenous poultry. How many false hopes those humble murphies raised in our virginal bosoms! We were, however, sorely disappointed in their base results.

Early in June we were visited by our friend Donelly from Fort Sandeman. We suppose he is now *completely* bald through trying to prove how one may live on " thirty a month."

From the look of our garden, we are wondering if Cpl Malvern is seriously thinking of preparing for a sappers and miners course. Deep excavations of startling proportions show everywhere, endangering life and limb. How he must love those pigeons!

Sigmn Moad is still worrying and using stacks of paper and pencils in reckoning whether he can achieve those mythical hundreds of pounds before he leaves the Zhob.

Sympathies.—We extend our deepest sympathy to Sergt and Mrs. Bosworth in their recent bereavement.

Arrivals.—To Sigmn Eley, from Fort Sandeman, we extend the glad hand of welcome.

Departures.—Sigmn Clarke to Loralai.

Agonies.—To Dodger (last heard of in Wana): What about it? Jim. To Brookie and Biff Lyons in Pindi: What about a line ? Eley.

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

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Thursday 18th July.

This month we unfold a tale of two cities: Chakrata and Meerut. Lest the greybeards and the fond sisters at home into whose hands this Journal will assuredly fall become bewildered, a word of explanation is tendered.

No. 2 Company relinquished the title of " Detachment 3rd Indian Divisional Signals " on being relieved by No. 1 Company of that ilk. In view of the recent Trade Board, the line " To you from failing hands we throw . . . . . " suggests itself.

The social aspect at Chakrata received considerable impetus during the last month of our stay there, and jaded nerves received restorative treatment at the hands of the Detachment concert party under the leadership of Sergeant Child. Three amusing sketches were given by them in the Technical School one evening,

3rd Indian Divisional Signals Hockey Team.

Winners of the Inter-Platoon Knock-out Competition. First Half, Hill Season, Chakrata, 1935.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Signalmen Leverstone-Allen, Gartery, Ryan, Moase and Thorpe, L/Corporal Halstead, Corporal Lowes. *Centre*—L/Sergeant Yates, Captain M. C. Bennett (O.C.), Lieut. J. R. Beeton.
Front—Signalmen Lewis and Cashmore.

the programme being supplemented by L/Cpl Hollingshead and Sigmn Deakins, who rendered violin solos and duets ; Sigmn Rice, who (after having trouble with his timing) gave a one-man-band performance with much success ; and an impromptu jazz band which included Corpl Hunter and Signalmen Boatman, Page and Moran.

Two whist drives were held, and these proved immensely popular. When a fair partner is conducting a post-mortem on the last hand, one can forget the post-mortem on the last scheme.

A dog racing meeting organised by the Royals at Kailana attracted several entries from the Detachment. Betty (Corporal Hunter) fell out half way up the course in the Kailana grand scurry. After all, a stuffed jackal was a poor substitute for the English hare she sniffed in the paddock. Peter (Sigmn Payne) was also entered in the same race, but broke training—cherchez la femme—and couldn't be found at the weigh in. Jimmie (Sergt Udell) carried the Detachment colours to victory in the 3.30 race, thus inspiring confidence in the breast of the Detachment clerk to the tune of eight annas in the 5.30. Put not your faith in princes or in dogs.

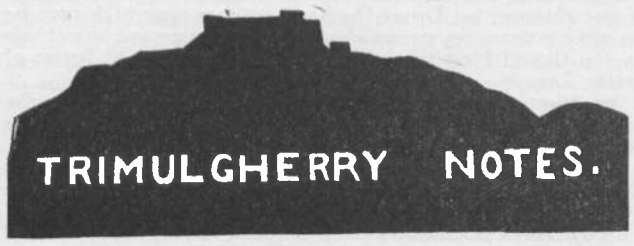
Came the Trade Board. The term " Shock Troops " is now understood. Congratulations are offered to Signalmen Lewis, Bratt, Bould and Drysdale from the Div. on qualifying as o.s. B.ii., and also to Corpl Scott from Lucknow and Sigmn Glew from the Troop, who likewise were elevated to the peerage.

The Trade Board dinner was a highly successful function, and it went down very well. R.S.M. Hughes gave the loyal toast, and Sigmn Whayman proposed " The Officers and Staff." Capt. Bennett answered in a few well chosen words. The dinner was also attended by Lieutenants Webb and Beeton.

We said good-bye to all that on the 9th July and got back to Meerut in time to catch the beginning of the monsoon. Several of our recent transfers are being broken into the idea that the horse is a noble animal and is man's friend, and they are now less sceptical regarding the healing properties of Blanco.

Each verandah has its full complement of gripping schools in the evenings, and drowsy tinklings—nuff said. BILL WUM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY



4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—The past month has been an unusually quiet one—no doubt, owing to the amount of water which has descended upon us from the clouds.

Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) our commanding officer, returned from two months leave on the 16th July and resumed command of the unit.

Before our next notes are compiled, Major D. A. Brown, M.C., will have left us for England. Our best wishes will go with him, and we hope that he will find life in England as pleasant as he made it for us here.

Education.—We congratulate Sigmn Scrivener on obtaining his first class certificate of education at Mhow in March.

Trade Ratings.—Sigmn McQuire was successful in his course at Jubbulpore for electrician fitter class i. He is now resting from his labours, being on leave at Bangalore. Sigmn Fairclough E. has gone to Jubbulpore to tackle the instrument mechanic class ii. course. We hope that his efforts, too, will be successful.

Sidelines.—An applicant for enlistment in the Indian Signal Corps wrote the following statement, " My measurements are as follows: Height 5 ft. 6 in. ; weight 117 lb. ; chest (on *expiration*) 32 in. ; chest (on *inspiration*) 34 in." No comments are necessary. He also stated that " Being young, I am desirous of joining the Army." 'Tis well said that folly and youth go hand in hand.

It was reported that a snake had entered the petrol store and lay hidden behind a sand box. Consequently, an army composed of one C.Q.M.S., two sergeants, one corporal and four followers, armed with sticks, whips and gardening shears, advanced upon the store. Two remained outside, but we will be kind and credit them with the motive of cutting off the snake's escape. The remainder, whose numbers had now dwindled by one quarter, entered and prepared to wage bitter warfare. The atmosphere was tense, and all eyes were upon the box behind which lay the alleged snake. Then the attack began ; the box was rudely thrown to one side, and sticks and whips whistled through the air to beat a tattoo on the ground. When the smoke and dust had cleared, imagine their surprise and chagrin when they discovered that the culprits were nothing more than a couple of now badly-scared squirrels in a nest. " Oh! that some power the giftie wud gie us . . . . . "

Should any film company require a crowd scene for one of their super productions, we can save them a lot of expense by loaning them our ration-drawing staff—that is, if they have a studio big enough to accommodate them all.

Sergeants Mess.

General.—So little has been heard of us for so long that I can quite imagine ex-members of this Mess remarking " So they did get back from Burma quite safely, then."

Entertainments.—Yes, dear friends, we are very much in evidence, though sadly depleted in numbers. So much so that, when we heard that L/Sergt Cooper was rejoining us, we decided that we had enough (just) to field a cricket eleven against the W.O.s and Sergeant Mess of the 1st Battalion North Staffs Regiment. The latter, thinking that they had a stiff proposition, fielded a strong side and got us out for about 40 runs and then went in to pile up 104. We went in again, and were thinking about making a game of it when light took a part. Two of their battalion bowlers, unfortunately, were amongst their eleven and they made havoc with the " pegs."

One incident worthy of note was our change bowler, C.S.M. Westwood, deciding to separate their most brilliant pair. After a few balls he warmed up, and the last ball of the over was one the like of which has not been seen since Drake used to play for the Plymouth team. It bounced half way up the mat, performed a half passage to the right and a kind of right shoulder in, and then gently rolled on to the middle stump. Ye gods, what a ball! The batsman had two successive swipes at it.

We later adjourned to the mess, and to even things up we rolled the pitch afresh and made all-round honours at darts " leg-leg." I think we played some other deciding game to run out champs, but things got rather hazy owing to the peculiar monsoon atmosphere at present in vogue.

Recently we have had a new tennis court built. A very impressive looking one, too, with steel poles, wire netting and blue purdah curtains. It was well and truly opened with a friendly team from all messes in the station, Major D. A. Brown, M.C. (then C.O.) performing the opening ceremony.

Medals.—We tender our congratulations to the members of this Mess who have been awarded the Jubilee medal: C.S.M. Westwood and Sergt Peerless.

Greetings.—To those lucky ones on leave in U.K.: Even if you say the weather is mild, remember you had a heat wave. It's different here. Committed yourself yet, Fairy ? Handed in your topi yet, Fred ?

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on page 402 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

Signal Barracks, Abbassia.

General.—Although this is the leave period when the married families go to the rest camp at Alexandria, the weekly whist drives continue to be well supported, thanks to the hard work of L/Sergt Smith and his staff. Our record up to the present is 54½ tables. An all ranks dance is also held on alternate Tuesdays, and these affairs have become very popular. The new chief of the entertainments committee is Corporal Smith H. (L/Sergt Smith is due home this trooper.)

The Corporals Mess members had an outing to the Nile Barrage on Sunday 4th August, and the Sergeants Mess the following day. I hope to collect all the news concerning these outings during the month for publication in my next notes.

No. 3 Company.

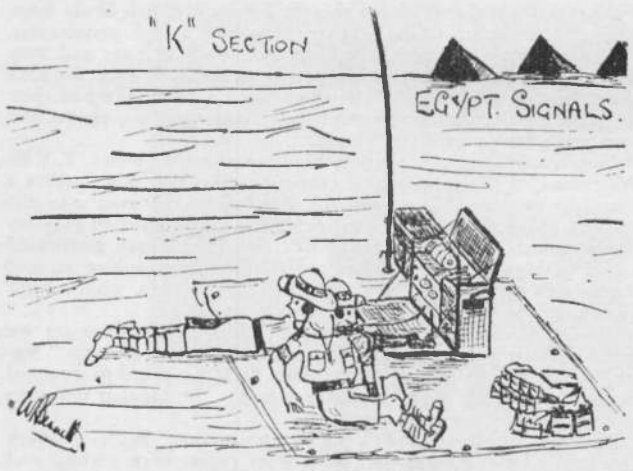
J Section.

General.—Although rather late, we welcome the new draft and wish them success in the various upgrading courses. Musketry is in full swing, and soon we shall be having some transfers to the "lancers."

We suffered heavy losses (Mick, for one) in our sports team when the last boat went, but I expect ex-J-ites will be interested to learn that the Section is not doing so badly as was expected.

Agony.—Lappy has been posted to J (A Corps Signals, please note).

Will Sergt Newmarsh (Sarafand) drop a line to Sigmn Hicks F. H. care of this Section? E.K.I.P.S.



Again, nothing has happened but musketry and courses—a few sweats off and a couple of B.ii.s.

Our old scribe sends his latest from England. He is there scrounging, though he does not seem to think so. Another poet (?) with the same initials thinks he can write poetry, so maybe we will ask the Editor to publish one of his efforts next month.

Agony.—Plenty this month. *Why don't you chaps write?*

Tich (4 A.S.S.): Dry rot has set in. Dear Little One.

Ridgeway, 2nd Div.: Why is paper so scarce in Blighty? Tich (renamed Cornie).

Roger, Blackdown: Still waiting. Mush.

L/Corpl Mac, Scarborough: Congratulations. Love to all the lads. Hoppy. (Mind, I am very jealous and training to use a gun. Paleface.) SCHOOLIE.

B Cable Section.

General.—One of our chaps already receives letters addressed "Abyssinia." Of course, it may only be an error in the spelling of Abbassia.

Now let me apologise for the lack of notes in the past months. Either our late scribe got cheesed off or he was putting in a little extra time in the lecture room and forget 'em (lineman C.iii. bardin).

During the past few weeks we have had the opportunity of trying out some of the drivers H.T. whom somebody kindly sent us from various units in Blighty. Are they good? One of them entertained us to an exhibition of long rein driving which very nearly resulted in the removal of the stable gate and the forage barn. Somebody said he would have done much better by himself instead of taking Charlie up on the box with him. Don't worry, Turnip; you'll get through the farm gate at Braintree o.k. after five years desert practice.

The upgrading course for linemen has just finished after thirteen weeks of hard graft under the instruction of Sergeant Lewis, Corpl McCreeth and L/Corpl Watson, and now it's "sweat on" until the results are put up.

Musketry in the unit is the order of the day, and the pass word now is "Bat eye." The stable party much preferred to attend to the comforts of their long-nosed playmates as usual, and volunteered to do their lead slinging in the evening to the tune of "Close your eye, rest your cheek on your rifle, and squeeze." What about next week, when we change the tune to "Home on the range"? Two up on your eye shade, Jervis.

Sport.—We are doing a little better this year, having played five water polo matches and won three, drawn one and lost one—20 goals for and 5 against. Cricket: won three and lost two, so far. One of our victories was over K Section, who only wanted thirteen runs to beat us and had five wickets to fall; but thanks to the demon bowling of B, we skittled 'em out for five runs. Buck up, K; you'll improve with practice. Billiards and tennis: we don't have a look in.

Congratulations.—To Driver Perree (Swede) ex B, on his first one up. Only two years to go, Swede.

Arrivals and Departures.—Driver Merrick has left us for H.Q. Section, and our Section officer (Lieut. Mellor) has gone for a spot of leave; but Driver Hughes (Legs) has come back amongst us after undergoing various operations, twistings and stretchings in the Citadel Hospital. What about those two wild horses of yours, Legs?

We Want to Know.—Who is the driver who objected to the wall of our new officers mess, and why he must use the drag to remove part of it?

Who is the gigolo driver in J who is trying to rival Buster Crabbe? (all in seven days, Stebbing)

Who is the Canterbury rough?

Why Driver Sexton Blake tries to speak Arabic, and if his legs ache from trying to sit cross-legged? (No! not on his horse; on the deck.)

Who is shove-ha'penny champ now that Merrick has gone?

Why a wog brings letters to Tanky Boardman?

Jew Boys Mail.—Driver Jarvis would like to hear from Blabber, Dillinger and Al Capone, of L Section 5th Div. Driver Boardman wishes to hear from Tich Coultish, 5th Div.

Name It.—Has one black eye, four legs, hinds like a camel, yellow spots on body, and a piece of rag round its tail. Can be seen in No. 7 room. No prizes offered.

Conclusion.—The price for the loan of No. 7 room's garden for photographic purposes is now five ackers a time. Occupants of Nos. 8, 9 and 10 rooms, please note that L/Corpl Watson only charges half an acker per week (perhaps) for his chatti water. Someone says he has doctored it. We don't know, but he may have done so. In any case, does anyone feel like a sick report?

SPIDER.

Signal Troop.

Trade Boards.—Gratters to the lads who succeeded on the Trade Boards. Keep going, boys; you'll soon be as good as I am.

Arrivals and Departures.—Our O.C. Section (Lieut. D. A. L. Dwyer) has resigned his commission, much to our sorrow,

Cheerio, sir! The Troop wish you and your lady the best of luck.

L/Corpl Barron has returned from U.K. leave.

Sport.—The Troop at last begin to be a power in the sporting world, being freely tipped to win the Swimming League and one or two other events. All these events depend on the all-round skill of our great sportsman Plum Fairclough. Of course, we more than hold our own in the local Debating Society and the Sand Strangling League.

Cheerio, chaps! Tha mun coom oop an' see I some time.

NEDGO.

Sergeants Mess.

It is ages since we managed to get something to write for THE WIRE, but things have been happening here lately. Old members will be pleased to hear that the space between the mess and the tennis courts has been converted into a lawn with grass—perhaps not so green as that found on the Oval, but still, green grass, and looking better every day.

The fortnightly whist drive and dance has been a social success, and we have been fortunate in having such good vocalist friends from the various regiments in Abbassia to visit us. " Ladies, why the laughter and the tears?"

Palestine, Please Note.—Stan (or should I say Snookums) has now got both feet very much under the table here.

Cats.—Old members note: Gafter's cat is now on the messing strength.

Jim T, A Corps.—Bring a few Scotch haddocks out with you.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

Thursday 8th August.

General.—Everything comes to an end at some time, and most of our people are glad that the individual training course has followed this old established custom. All our operators who attended the course as class iii. men are now class ii. We have good reason for believing that the same thing applies to the fitters. Sigmn Brooks passed the test for operator class iii. and holds this rating as an additional qualification. Well done, all!

One Troop leave period is now over, but the next period comes very shortly. Those who have been there state definitely that Alexandria is still as good a holiday resort as ever, and the leave already spent there this year was appreciated by all indulging in this scrounge. Our O.C. is on leave in Europe at present. His holiday sounds delightful, and we sincerely hope that it turns out that way. The lesser known parts of Italy and Albania are included in his itinerary. The mention of Albania somehow reminds me of brigands, ransoms, etc., but the Troop fund is rather low at present, so we must hope for the best. Our one and only Joey has just returned from his wanderings through Greece, Palestine and goodness knows where. He is now in sympathy with practically every nation—bar one.

We are at present in the throes of our annual musketry course. As a matter of fact, to-morrow will be our final day of classification shooting. Some of our dead-eyes seem more dead than usual this year, while some bat-eyes are surprising the local lads. As a bat-eye myself, I should really keep quiet about this until the shooting has finished ; but as our friend Bottle says, " Maleesh the Condys."

Some time ago our shooting committee called a general meeting of the whole Troop to discuss and decide whether we should endeavour to train a team for this year's Command meeting. Their theory is that ordinary ginks such as you and I, possessing the necessary enthusiasm and given plenty of training, are much more likely to make a winning team than lukewarm marksmen. The committee painted a very bad picture of what it would be like if people decided to undergo the training course, and eventually asked us to vote either for afternoons in bed, without the slightest need to worry whether one's rifle was accurate, or afternoons in the glaring sand 'neath the blazing sun (P. C. Wren), running towards a slightly wavering target (even the non-firers are employed in the butts, holding up targets) and eventually staggering back that weary mile to barracks in a state of semi-coma. Strange as it may seem, we voted unanimously for the latter course.

As we have been employed in this way every afternoon, it took our breath away when a note reached us from Egypt Signals inviting us to enter in their swimming sports. We had quite forgotten that there is such a thing as a swimming bath in Helmieh.

To Headquarter Company, Depot Battalion: Thanks for your congratulations re the A.R.A. shield.

Well, I've finished. Go and buy a book.

Tifeng Road Camp, 12th July.

After many days of rainy weather giving a shivery aspect to Shanghai's June, July has brought the warmer caresses of the season in vindication of the city's good name. At last it is possible to don the garb of summer, and to think of the camp swimming bath and the joys of swimming and plunging without chattering teeth. At the time of writing the thermometer is registering 98 degrees in the shade. This is nothing in comparison with last year's heat, when everyone was expecting the thermometers to burst.

The doings of the Section are about the same as usual. We are carrying on with normal routine work, helped out by a good sprinkling of sports and games such as swimming, cricket, tennis and fortnightly tombolos.

Several members of the Section have taken advantage of the change of air cruises to Wei-Hai-Wei in His Majesty's ships. Those who have returned seem to have benefited both in health and experience, and have received a good insight into the mysteries of the Silent Service. This is borne out by the whiteness of our barrack room floors.

We welcome the return of our O.C., Lieut. C. H. Lyddon, after his spell of leave. If looks count, he certainly spent most of his time out in the open spaces.

Casualties.—It is with regret that I have to report the demise of Angus the duck at the age of one year and three days. Apparently he ate a worm that did not agree with him.

Peter the dog has also been unlucky, having been shot by the local police whilst out on one of his nocturnal tours. Through the careful nursing of his keeper, he is once more on his legs and still attends parades and challenges all strangers. It will be of interest to old Sectionites to know that he is now duly registered and recognised as a lawful inhabitant of Shanghai.

We Want to Know.—Is a certain D.R. of the Section now satisfied that motor cycles are not made for surf riding ? How long did the fitter take to dry the above D.R.'s magneto ?

What did the Section sergeant say on being asked over the telephone if " that was Miss Sergeant of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. " ?

SHANGHAILANDER.

Tientsin Signal Section.

General.—After the absence of our notes in the June WIRE, and just to show old Tinsinners that we *can* revert to normal, I am endeavouring to once again amuse (?) you with news from North China. The boys here do not believe me when I say that they will in due course see my notes in print,

Some Snaps of Shanhaikuan.

On the Rocks.

Sunbathing.

Fruit Boys.

Which proves it was SHK.

The End of our Holiday.

On the Sampan.

Good-bye to SHK.

Once again the change over took place at Shanhaikuan, and this time the casualties from the station are Sergt Lockyer and Signalmen Griffiths and Dempsey. As the Section scribe is due to go up on the 23rd, the query is who will do the correspondence next month ? Still, there is always the log medium.

After our cricket efforts against the Sergeants Mess (see the Sports pages) the latter became extremely proud and said they could beat us at anything we liked to name. This resulted in a side challenge against two of the leading lights of the G.S.M. in a game of ping pong, and at long last the juniors emerged victorious. Nothing has been heard of the seniors lately in that department. We are waiting for the winter months, when we can challenge them to an organised games match. Wanted, a few young men who can throw a nifty feather or push a wicked halfpenny. It is to be hoped that the seniors improve their poki di standard before then.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Powell arrived here from Shanhaikuan, and departed the next day for a rest in Peking on temporary duty. L/Corpl Robinson came back to Tientsin from Peking, where he has been stationed on temporary duty. Corpl Neeve departs soon to take over at Peking while Sgt Newmarsh enjoys a rest by the sea. They say that the Marines are closing the club when Freddie arrives. The Shanhaikuan party will be relieved by the last party but one. They are all looking forward to a spell of sun and sea bathing.

Only one agony this month. It must be the sea air that promoted the thought. When are you going on the married quarters roll, Dodger ?

To Jock Melville, 1st Div.: What about an answer to my letter ? Dodger.

To Jock, Scarborough: May all your troubles be little 'uns. Tich.

Cheerio till next month. TICH.

Peking Detachment.

British Embassy Guard, Thursday 4th July.

Our location is now the British Embassy and not the British Legation, and thereby hangs a tale. The diplomatic benefits, if any, do not worry us, but as an excuse the elevation was great. The local bad lads took advantage of it, with the result that the station ghost was seen by them at midnight prowling round the verandah dressed in a natty little shirt.

On the principle that all sunburnt men are slightly handsome, put in for Peking this year. The people from Shanhaikuan, our summer camp, are now wandering round showing their blisters and peeling skin. For further details see the accompanying snaps taken there.

All the returned members of the Detachment agree that the holiday was hunky-dory, but the rivalry was awful. However, one of our lady killers got out of the difficulty by meeting his lady friend as she came out of school. His interest in her school report was pathetic, and he asked us to rejoice when he heard she had been put up to Form IV. Any correspondence on the subject should be addressed to the Kidnapper, Peking.

The four shadowers also did pretty well, but it is a bit tough when you have to go out in a small sampan, especially if you can't row the thing, to get away from the others. Other dodgers had other ideas—all quite good and worthy of the Signals' good name for achieving their purpose.

Of course, our easies were in full force, and the way they were stung was lovely to behold. Incidentally, I wonder if Red has a new racquet yet.

Bulford cooks, please note. Don't admit your past experience, or you will surely get the job of cooking at S.H.K. We are saying nothing, but we were glad when the married families undertook our dinner. Still, the boiled eggs weren't bad.

For some unexplained reason some three hundred bandits stole an armoured train from Feng Tai, a short distance from here, and attempted to take the city of Peking. Foiled in their efforts by the local Chinese Army, they got busy and cut up the telegraph lines, ours included. The results were that Powell and Robbo were held at their stations, Tientsin and Peking respectively ; work for us—loads of it ; and the city is now under martial law, which somewhat restricts our pleasures (details censored).

The bandits are being roped in gradually by the shimbos (local police) but martial law will be in operation for another week at least.

These notes are somewhat rambling and incoherent, but please remember that the temperature is 100 degrees in the shade, and the number of advisers I have would send anybody rambling.

To Ginger, A Corps: How about it, mite ? Jock.

Jock Lauriere (Dad to F Company) is now Corporal.

That's all. Cheerio! SPUD-CAN.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

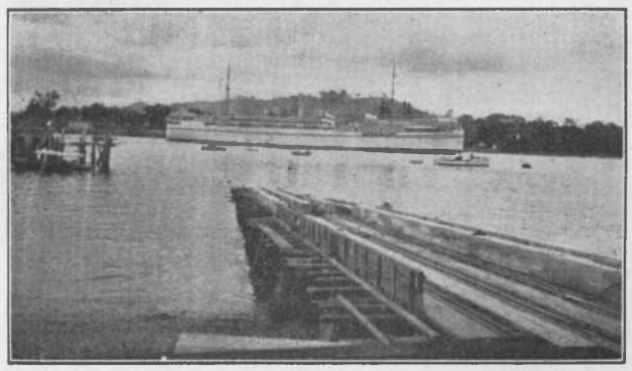
Sunday 16th June.

General.—Malaya speaks. Having spoken, let's proceed to relate the doings, achievements and scandals of this little Detachment during the past month.

King's Birthday Parade.—Oh, yes! sure enough, the lads of old P.B. were there once again, marching gaily along with bright smiling faces. The salute was taken by Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor of the Straits Settlements, accompanied by the Sultan of Johore and the General commanding the American Army in the Philippine Islands.

Arrivals.—Signalman Cave J. from Changi to take over cable communications on Pulau Brani. There is plenty of work knocking around, Johnnie, if you care to look for it.

Trade Tests.—Usually, after people have endured the oppressive and relaxing heat of Malaya for a few months, they become tired and listless, and such ambitions as gaining higher trade qualifications, education certificates, etc., are sadly neglected. However, somebody has evidently been at my Eno's, judging from the recent qualifications gained. Lineman's course, C.iii. to C.ii.: Corpl Ellis F., Signalmen Cave J., Brown J., Chetwynd C., Foster W. and Grey C. Education: Not content with one dose of Eno's, somebody has evidently been having a liberal helping. Note the results. Sigmn Cave J., first class certificate ; Sigmn Parkin J., geography, maths (well done, Slim) ; L/Cpl Pearson R., English.



A Transport sailing for England.

Departures.—To Changi, Sigmn Toogood D., accompanied by a huge bundle of washing.

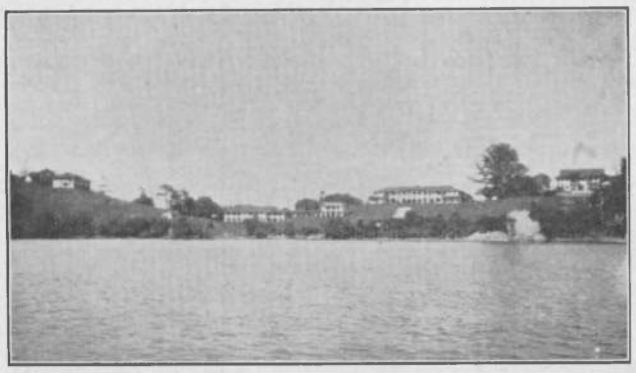
Balls.—We've had a succession of Jubilee balls lately, Signals being very well represented at Blakan Mati, Pulau Brani, and H.M.S. *Terror* (junior ranks ball). At Pulau Brani L/Corporal Pearson R. attended to the bar, as usual, whilst to keep Dicky Hubbard out of mischief, the dance committee of the R.E.s put a dishcloth over his left arm and allotted him the task of collecting the glasses. Being an amateur snoop, he was frequently seen to sniff at the glasses after dainty ladies had touched them with their rose-bud lips. With reference to the other balls, see " Seen and Heard " below.

Charity (for want of a better word).—We are greatly indebted to Captain E. J. H. Moppett, our second-in-command, for presenting the Detachment with an Eddystone short wave receiver.

Every night budding young short wave fiends, indulging in "busmen's leisure," can be seen twiddling the knobs and searching the ether for " they know not what they may find."

The best wireless " howler " so far, apart from reaction, is here given. Scene: Wireless shop. Amateur radio fiend, having played with the knobs for a few hours, suddenly discovers a station. With a deft manipulation of the gadgets he fetches it in louder ; then, proudly sitting back in his chair, he exclaims " Russia!" and then, more emphatically, " Yes, Russia." The low hum of conversation ceases and wondering eyes are focussed on the little magic box (as the Malays term it). Russia! real live Bolshies actually heard on old Pulau Brani. Unbelievable! The music stops. We anxiously wait to hear a succession of itchski, oskie, ruski, etc., issue forth. But, alas! " Hullo, everybody! Station Z.H.I. Singapore is now closing down. Goodnight!" Russia, Stalin, Five Years Plan—go sick! The tuner was only a little chap, but he didn't have a dark chin this time.

Seen and Heard Rambling Around.—In an English newspaper: The Royal Corps of Signals personnel are going to be issued with nail files (?) and full length mirrors, too, with trouser presses, Wolsey woollies for winter wear, etc. Catterick! Catterick! oh, where are you leading us ? In Malaya we are content to shave with our mess-tin lids for mirrors, and crease our pants by putting them under the mattress and lying on them (it's an old Army custom). But nail files! Why ? If our nails get dirty, we know it's only nature's way of reminding us that they need cutting, and we do so. Nail files, powder puffs, lipstick —bah! where's my vanity box ?



The Bungalows on Pulau Brani
(Signals on the left)

Seen at Blakan Mati ball. A beautiful Malay Kitchi Binnie. Sorry! upon close inspection it has proved to be one of the lads from P.B. And by the way, that dark tan kiwi you have on your face is melting and running down your neck.

Seen at the *Terror* ball. A certain Scotsman giving the low-down to a young Singapore society editress on the International Rugby players, etc., present.

By the Way.—We have started a Pulau Brani Jubilee Fund, our object being to purchase a bath chair for Sigmn Twitchen. That will enable us to wheel him to and from the Old Curiosity Shop (P.B. Signal Stores) each morning. His legs are bad these days. Must have been from those drill parades.

Conclusion.—Before closing, may I recommend the following books by our old friend and advisor, Mr. Chadwick, whose company in the bungalow we have enjoyed for the past six months (old Sectionites please note):—

" The Lives of a Pulau Brani Private " (with apologies to the Bengal Lancers).
" See all, hear all, know all, and speak all."
" Beware, my spies are on your tracks."

It may interest you to know that old Chad still retains his dynamic personality, and wherever he goes he radiates happiness.

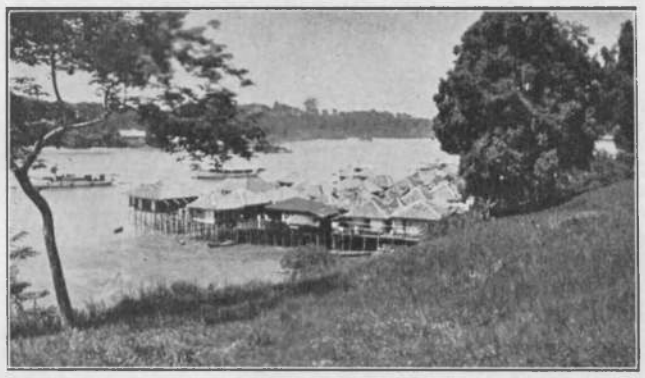
And so we come once again to the end of Pulau Brani's scandal. Cheerio, everybody! and all the best from the Equatorial Signal Legion.

TANDO (T.B.C.)

[*Received later*]

General.—" Slowly the now crimson sun stealthily approaches where sky and waters meet. Softly tinted clouds scurry past ; the heavens are arrayed in gorgeous hue, the surrounding isles like diamonds set in a sea of scarlet sapphires. Ah! it's sunset in Malaya, and my thought are romancing with you." That is the way in which the late Signalman Hubbard always used to commence his letters when writing to his Ivy somewhere near Colchester.

Oh, no! he has not departed from this world of sin. He has been appointed lance-corporal complete with " Engineer Training —vol. ii.: Drill." Congratulations, Digger Boy.



A Native Village on Pulau Brani.

Obituary.—We offer our deep sympathy to all our R.E. friends in the loss of a popular sapper, Harry Holden, who died of malaria in the Singapore General Hospital last month.

At present there is quite a malaria scare on the island, but we all hope it will soon die a natural death.

Departures.—Sigmn Blunt to Seletar for short wave training with the R.A.F.

We would also like to inform all old Sectionites (especially Mr. Peter Weekes, somewhere in England on the C.I.D.) that the Section dog Moonstone has left this world for the joys of the next. He was getting too old, so it was decided to do away with him.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Parkin has now returned to the " Isle of the Braves " after a month's training at Seletar Air Base.

Dance.—The usual monthly dance was held on the last Saturday in June. We would like to know why L/Corpl Paddy Gerety of the Ordnance Corps (i/c bar) insisted on selling a certain fighting beer to all Signals present.

Seen and Heard.—A certain signalman running around the bungalow with a letter written in Hindustani, wanting to know if anyone could read shorthand. Even those individuals who answer to the name of Ordnance clerks were baffled (including Chad and the Professor). Eventually the Indian boot boy was kind enough to decipher the shorthand.

The Pulau Brani Bathing Pagar.

Conclusion.—By the time these notes appear, the new draft for Malaya will have been posted up on the order boards of old England. If by chance any of the lucky lads who are thus warned should see this, we advise them to turn elsewhere and read the description of the land in which they will have to spend three years of their young lives. We enclose it in the hope that the Editor will publish it.

Cheerio, everybody! BARON (T.B.C.)

A Description of Singapore.

"The undermentioned are posted to Malaya Signal Section w.e.f. . . . . ." Usually, when a man reads that, he realises that he has not the slightest idea where Malaya actually is. After having borrowed a Philips' map of the world and searched in vain round the south coast of America, the Himalayan mountains and the Dead Sea, he discovers Malaya to be about one degree north of the equator and north-west of Borneo. He also discovers that the "Gateway to the East"—Singapore—is in Malaya.

His next step is to buy up and read all "Rovers," boy's magazines, etc., containing bloodthirsty stories dealing with the Malays and Singapore. Even when taken with a pinch of salt, these leave him with the impression that his new station is overrun with head hunters, cannibals, wild animals, etc., and that Singapore is still a hotbed of pirates and robbers.

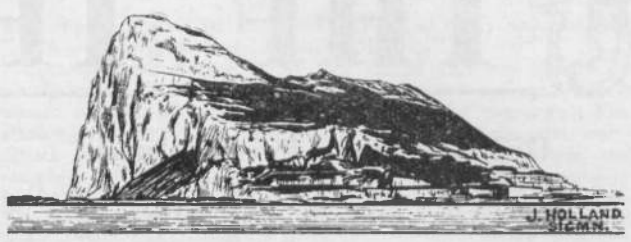
We are sorry to disillusion him. Singapore is a perfectly up to date and peaceful trading port of the Far East, harbouring every nationality under the sun. Indeed, it is said that Singapore is the most cosmopolitan city in the world. Places of amusement such as cabarets, theatres, etc., depend largely on the patronage of the Services, and to encourage members of H.M. Services to frequent these places the managements usually make considerable concessions. There are ten or twelve cinemas in the town of Singapore, but Europeans frequent only three, the chief one being the Capitol in the centre of the town. Here, for the modest sum of 50 cents (1/2) one can see and enjoy some of the latest films released, very often shown in Singapore before London. One enjoys it all the more when one realises that one's civilian friend has to pay a dollar entrance fee (2/4).

Occasionally one has a chance of seeing a first rate variety show (that's what the bills say) touring the East. For those who care to dance, we have the Great World and New World cabarets, but—a word of advice. Dancing in Malaya is a very dear pastime. One cannot go to a sixpenny hop here as in England, for the simple reason that there is none available. At the cabarets, dances are "by ticket only," and a book of seven tickets costs a dollar or two. A ticket entitles one to dance with any professional dancing girl present. Each dance, however, lasts about three minutes only, so one can surmise how much money has to be borrowed before going dancing.

Apart from cabarets and cinemas, Singapore has little to offer in the way of amusement. In England, one can always go visiting the rounds (having a drink at every pub) if other attractions fail to amuse. Here, there are no pubs; therefore, no rounds to be visited. If a drink is indicated, the Union Jack Club is always fairly handy, being in the centre of the town, and here one gets one's refreshment cheaper than elsewhere.

For those who love wide open spaces and swimming, hiking or fishing, Malaya offers great scope. The bathing pagars (portions of the beach railed off for protection against sharks) leave nothing to be desired. Here one can enjoy a good long swim with no fear of bumping one's head against "Aunt Sarahs down for the week-end" such as infest the bathing pools and seaside in England. In the surrounding jungle can be found many weird and wonderful creatures, all waiting to be killed, stuffed and sent home.

The foregoing lines have, I hope, conveyed to prospective Malayans some idea of their future existence in Malaya. May it live up to their expectations! and needless to say, we are all looking forward to seeing *them*.



Gibraltar Signal Section.

South Bastion, 12th August.

Apologies must be made for the absence of notes from this Section during the last three months. We *would* like to say this was due to the stress of other work, but we leave that for ex-Rockites to judge.

We take the opportunity of placing on record in this Journal the change in command of this unit, Captain B. H. House having been relieved by Captain R. H. Gem from Catterick. To judge by appearances, he finds Gibraltar to his satisfaction. We hope that he will have an enjoyable tour on the Rock.

As many of our readers will know, we have lost a well known landmark from the Rock in Q.M.S. Harris, our late Foreman-of-Signals, on his completing twenty-four years service (seven of which were spent in Gibraltar). We bade farewell to him on the 13th May when he proceeded to the United Kingdom per s.s. *Mooltan*, en route for Catterick for his discharge. We trust that he will emulate his military successes in civilian life. To his relief, C.Q.M.S. Diamond, we extend a belated but nevertheless hearty welcome.

We are looking forward to the arrival of our two reliefs and three other ranks (increase to establishment) who are due this trooping season. Having heard that Signalman Blake, who was repatriated to the United Kingdom in April of this year, is being reposted, any comment upon the advantages of this station are needless.

We take this opportunity of assuring any Signal personnel who should call at Gibraltar en route for further East that they will be heartily welcomed if they have the opportunity of visiting us.

In common with the rest of the Empire, the Silver Jubilee was celebrated in Gibraltar with all pomp and ceremony. A Tattoo was staged for five days on the racecourse at North Front, and this was much appreciated by both the civil and military population. Owing to the small number of military personnel on the Rock, it is needless to remark that all units had to take their share in the production. From reports received, the telephonic communications, which were carried out entirely by this Section, were all that could be desired—which was very satisfactory. Mention must be made of the good work of the Royal Engineers, who were responsible for the searchlight display and all other illuminations which were a feature of the Tattoo.

In addition to the Tattoo, the city May Day celebrations were held during the same period. As in former years, the Alameda parade ground was brilliantly illuminated and packed with roundabouts and side shows of all descriptions. A firework display was given on three evenings during the week, and a large bonfire was lit on Rock Gun (the northern point of the Rock) on the first night of the celebrations.

In conjunction with the military celebrations, the Navy (in the shape of His Majesty's ships *Delhi*, *Durban* and *Shamrock*) staged a Navy Week, of which advantage was taken by all inhabitants. During the evening these ships were brilliantly illuminated and made a most pleasing effect in the harbour.

We congratulate Signalmen Postance and Bull on their appointment as U/L/Corporals w.e.f. 1/6/35, and hope that the "unpaid" will be deleted in the near future.

If You are not already a Member, join the Signals Association now.

Refer to page 402 of this issue and see what is being done to help your Comrades

THE "TERRIERS"

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester 16, 15/8/35.

As this is the close season, this unit's activities are very few and consequently there is very little to report. Everybody seems to be on holiday.

As regards the future, the first thirty hours course will be held from the 6th to the 22nd October for officers and n.c.o.s, followed by courses for operators and linemen in November.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The Priory, The Friars, Exeter.

Headquarters.

Editorial.—Having recently returned from annual training, we can review the activities of the past fortnight at our leisure.

The camp site at Long Bredy was a delightful spot on private property, made available to us by the kind permission of Captain Kane (late R.E.). The weather for the whole fortnight was perfect, and in the writer's experience of ten camps this was the first one without a spot of rain.

The training programme was a comprehensive one, and embraced recreation as well as technical and tactical training. Our first week was devoted mainly to the exercising of Sections individually on miniature exercises, followed by Company exercises on a miniature scale. The unit left camp during the afternoon of the first Friday for a night exercise, which proved entirely successful. A few vehicles developed minor ailments, causing a little delay in returning to camp, but everybody enjoyed the night ride.

The Bank Holiday was set aside for unit sports (the results of which appear in the Sports section) and, like its predecessors, claimed full support from all ranks. In addition to many official guests and relatives, the ground was well patronised by spectators from the neighbouring villages. Mrs. Walsh, the wife of our commanding officer, made her first appearance among us on this occasion and presented the prizes at the end of the meeting.

The next four days were full ones from the training point of view. Tuesday and Wednesday witnessed the co-operation of the three Companies on combined exercises. On Thursday 8th August the unit left camp at full strength to carry out a signal exercise set by the Divisional commander. To make the exercise as realistic as possible (in the absence of a complete Division) Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Divisional commander), Lt.-Colonel O. H. Tidbury, M.C. (G.S.O.), and Captain D. Paton (S.C.) were present, together with a number of Regular Army officers and other ranks who represented Infantry and Artillery Brigades, battalions and batteries.

The weather was perfect, and an entirely successful show terminated at 3 p.m. with a conference of all officers on the ground. This is the first occasion for many years that such an exercise has taken place, and we hope it will become a regular feature. On the Friday we terminated our tactical training with a unit exercise.

The Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command (Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.) and the D.C.S.O. (Brevet-Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D.) honoured us with their presence in camp for several days, and gave us valuable assistance on our various exercises.

Following the procedure of the past few years, two Regular Army officers (Messrs. L. de M. Thuillier and J. P. North) and a number of n.c.o.s were attached to us to assist in training, and we heartily thank them for the splendid help they gave us both on and off parade. This attachment of Regular Army personnel to a T.A. unit during annual training has proved of great value from its inception, not only from the fact that it gives us a glimpse of the up to date training of the Regular Army, but also because it gives us the personal touch with our parent unit and they get the opportunity of appreciating our many difficulties. Mr. North was no stranger, as he and some of the n.c.o.s were with us last year. We hope to meet them all again next year.

Prior to the semi-dismantling of camp on the final Saturday, the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.) presented the unit trophies to the various Companies and Sections.

At various times during the fortnight we received official visits from our hon. colonel (Brevet-Colonel The Lord Basing), the A.D.M.S., and representatives from the Devonshire and Hampshire T.A. Associations. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

So much happens at camp, both on and off duty, that it is difficult to make a selection of those happenings which are worth recording. Individual memories which will make this year's training remembered by many must be omitted for obvious reasons. These memories are largely connected with some unofficial haunt where pleasant nights were spent in glorious relaxation after the day's work. In this connection, the 19th, The Bull, and Litton Cheney will not be forgotten for a long time.

The weather, of course, was just perfect, and the camp was well situated for training ; but it is a relief to know that we may be going nearer the sea next year.

The Company performed creditably in the field in its new role of No. 1, and although we lost the Moore efficiency cup, it was no disgrace to us, as No. 2 performed splendidly and thoroughly deserved it. Our congratulations to Captain Fane, C.S.M. Baker and the whole of No. 2 Company. We retain the boxing trophy, but obtained second places only in the sports and football competitions. Mr. Clemas did well to win the open mile and run second in the cross-country race. Incidentally, in the last named event—which started at 6.30 a.m.—it is rumoured that certain competitors had a " gentlemen's agreement " to walk together for the greater part of the journey and run in only on the last few hundred yards!

It is understood that certain junior officers have spent the week following our return almost entirely in sleeping. This fact is well appreciated by their batmen, who on occasions were surprised to meet them outside their tents awaiting gunfire.

The n.c.o.s night was the usual jolly affair. On behalf of the Company, C.S.M. Gibbings paid a farewell tribute to our adjutant, Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., who is leaving us very shortly. The speaker—an ex-Regular himself—knew that no greater compliment could be paid to Captain Patten than to say he is a soldier first and last, determined to do his duty without fear or favour. Those of us who have been temporarily aggrieved on various occasions have witnessed the ultimate benefit both to ourselves and our unit. We wish Captain and Mrs. Patten the best possible luck in the future, and sincerely hope we shall meet again. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Once more we have to report on a year's training, terminating in a strenuous but nevertheless enjoyable fortnight's camp.

Fortunately, the weather remained fine throughout, enabling us to carry out our full programme. In this direction the increased efficiency of our Company as a whole was most noticeable. The schemes, though ambitious, were very well carried out, and the surrounding countryside was most suited to our type of training—certain parts of it calling for plenty of thought!

This year we were visited by a large number of Staff officers, and the unit exercise we carried out under their direction was something new to a good many of us. The G.O.C., however, was very pleased with the way in which it was performed. We hope that such exercises will be a regular feature in the future, as they bring out very clearly the lesson of close co-operation with other arms of the Force and close liaison with the staffs concerned.

The usual sporting activities were keenly contested, despite the heat ; the work and recreation during the fortnight being well supported. We now look forward eagerly to next annual camp, and a busy time between now and then. TWOCOY.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Another camp is over. The training has been most interesting and successful. The unit's activities will, no doubt, be dealt with elsewhere, but I think everyone in this Company should be con-

gratulated on the way he has settled down to his new job in No. 3. Everything went with a swing, and great keenness was shown. The turn out of the Company and general discipline has shown a marked improvement. The lines were well kept, and it was a great struggle between the Companies in the competition for the efficiency trophy. Better luck for us next time. Congratulations to No. 2 Company on winning it this year. Well done, everybody in the Company!

Sport.—The sports day this year did not prove a very happy one for us. We won the tug of war and all ranks relay, but our team was not quite good enough for the other events. The cross-country run, after an easy victory in the first attempt, was just won by us by the odd point over No. 2. Our heartiest congratulations to L/Sergt Colwell on his fine running and on winning both races. We once again secured the football shield, and the team are to be congratulated on their display.

The recruits this year have been very keen and well turned out. Special mention must be made of Sigmn Ward H. and Boy Ward.

Now for home! It is hoped that, by the time these notes appear, work will have started again with real zest in the drill hall.

These notes would not be complete without reference to our C.O. and the permanent staff. We thank them for their guidance and sympathy. Their first thought throughout camp was for the welfare of the men. Their watchfulness was greatly appreciated.

This was our present adjutant's last camp. We shall miss him greatly. We cannot say more.

Mr. Stone, our new R.S.M., has won the respect of all, and we are glad that he has obtained an extension. To everyone else who helped to make the fortnight's camp such a success, we tender hearty thanks. THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6, 17th August.

Editorial.—In commencing our notes this month, it is necessary to apologise for the incomplete way in which they are rendered and also the lack of detail. Returning from camp only a few days before the Editor required our observations, etc., it has been quite impossible to be thorough. Unfortunately, the various contributors to our column have not been able to foregather, and consequently many details have been temporarily omitted. In the October issue, it is hoped (and expected) to supply a full account of our actions at camp during August.

General.—Previously, it was mentioned that Ash Vale was to be the rendezvous for our annual training. The location proved beneficial from many points. One was its being so near Aldershot: we were next door to the Royal Signal barracks, and could thus visit many old friends and simultaneously borrow a few stores by great exercise of tact. What joy the No. 1 sets brought to the hearts of Infantry Brigade Section commanders! The thought of handling such sets had played on many minds to such an extent that, when the moment arrived, the exuberance was without limits. Then the training area was perfect, and permitted of our work progressing undisturbed. Even the Cable Section found no opposition to their scattering line around the countryside, and pole crossings were a joy to erect. Other points were more connected with our personal amusements—Maidenhead, for instance, being quite close at hand.

The usual sequence of training was pursued, and all ranks worked hard to make the programme interesting and profitable from a training aspect. During the last few days huge battles were fought and won. Every available officer and n.c.o., and in some instances men, were turned into Brigadiers and Colonels, until eventually a General Staff far exceeding the Army List was produced, to enable war to continue at its best.

On the Friday K combined with J and L Sections in assisting the 131st and 132nd Infantry Brigades to stage a gigantic struggle for possession of the canal crossings in the vicinity of Brookwood. The signal work was efficient and highly praised, showing great credit to all concerned, especially in view of the small experience we have had in working with other units in the Division.

Sport was indulged in, practically every avenue being attempted. Two cricket fixtures were completed. Against the 1st Div. we were definitely off colour; perhaps Capt. Lewis-Barclay's energy spent in judging Section competitions prior to the match upset our form. It was a most enjoyable match, however, and the visitors were undoubtedly deserving of their success. Against the 9th Battalion Middlesex we shone brilliantly and easily won the day. "We were in great form, Captain L-B was."

Entertainment during camp was varied and run mostly on simple lines. General satisfaction was expressed, and appreciation shown towards all who helped to brighten the evenings. Two smoking concerts were included in the programme, and many artists were produced on each occasion. Mr. Dalrymple and members of the 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment very kindly helped us with the musical arrangements. Their appearance in our midst and the excellent entertainments they rendered were heartily appreciated by all.

On August Bank Holiday the annual sports day was upheld, when we were favoured with the visit of many old comrades. Glorious weather, coupled with the use of the Royal Signal sports ground, made an enjoyable day for all. Many of our athletes endeavoured to set up new records in order to commemorate the occasion.

Towards the end of our stay, a heath fire was staged for those of us who had never seen one before. Captain Booth and his merry men gave valuable assistance, and returned with almost a complete set of equipment. A little confusion was experienced in the use of guards on such occasions, although this was soon remedied and mistakes were noted for future experience.

Summing up, it may truthfully be stated that not one single member of the unit was really glad when the final whistle blew.

Books we should like to see published: "The Varied Menu" (Captain J. H. V. Charlton); "I want to be alone (Captain H. M. Rand). "0020."

25th Construction Section, S.R.

We are now resting after camp, as it was not by any means a rest cure. Anyhow, we are very pleased to know that, to a man, we were able to stand up to all that was asked of us. In all we must have put up about 6½ miles of airline, laid 5½ miles of cable from a very improvised lorry, and then dismantled about six miles of airline to finish off our training. We are very "bucked" to know that, in spite of the fact that we had never before worked as a Section, we received praises from every direction. Of course, we have among us quite a number of ex-Regular Signals, namely Mr. Loadsman (our Section officer), Bill Henson, George Adams, Bill Foster, Bob Bray, Ted Everett, Jimmy James, Sacco Saxton, Cooper and Bolding.

During the Staff exercises held on the last three days of our camp period, we met several old acquaintances of A Corps and 1st Div.—to mention but a few, C.S.M.s Strange and Robertson, Sergeants Griffiths, Overington and Mick Wensley, and Sigmn Crowther.

On our return we held our usual Wednesday drill parade, and we were confronted by a yard chock full of stores. These give us everything we require for carrying out Sunday or week-end training, so we should be really a first class unit when we next appear at camp, as most of us are handling pliers and wires all the year round.

If any reader knows anyone who resides within a reasonable distance of our H.Q. and is likely to help reduce our number of vacancies, we should be very grateful to have particulars.

We would like to know the S.R. sergeant who shot all the rabbits at Worthy Down. CONSR.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Annual camp at Redcar from the 28th July to 11th August will remain in the memory of many members of this unit as being one of the best, from all points of view, that has ever been held. From the most important angle—that of training—it was an undoubted success and produced a crop of really first-class schemes. The weather could not possibly have been better, and the camping ground was admirably situated in good training country and within very easy reach of sea and town. Indeed, to sum it up in a word, it was a fitting Jubilee camp.

Thoughts are now turning to the winter entertainment programme and to a continuance of last year's "father and son" experiment for the training of junior operators.

Annual Training, 1935.—It is quite certain that the competitive spirit produced by camping alongside and working in com-

bination with the 46th (North Midland) Divl Signals went a long way towards making the training so successful and the standard so high. The first week was occupied with schemes for E, J, F, K, and No. 1 Company Sections, ending with an inspection of the camp by Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., on the 3rd August, and a church parade in the lines of the 46th Divl Signals the following day.

Tuesday 6th August saw the event of the fortnight. The entire personnel of the 46th and 49th Divl Signals combined in an exercise (Trunk Murder No. 4) in the North Yorkshire area. Four " murderers " of a gang of international crooks—two officers from each unit—in two fast cars, were reported to be making a desperate bid to retrieve certain damning evidence held by the police ; and the signalling resources of the two units were placed at the disposal of the police, whose headquarters were supposed to be at Great Ayton. An outer screen of wireless vans and an inner network of telephone lines with report points forwarded information to the Big Five—Major H. Richardson, T.D. (49th), Captain T. A. Darling (46th), Captain R. J. de C. Barber (46th), Captain C. Bray (49th) and Captain W. L. S. Moxon (49th)—as to the whereabouts of the crooks.

The exercise commenced at 11.30 a.m., and the car of the 46th got through to H.Q. at 1.10 p.m. and was assumed to have achieved its object. The 49th car also evaded capture and arrived at the police headquarters at 2.20 p.m., declaring to the world on its electric horn the occupants' opinion of the police methods. The car, driven by Lieut. W. L. Hey, carried a W/T set tuned in to the reporting C sets, and those particular " murderers " were strongly suspected of having chopped a 50 yard length from one of the lines. It was felt, however, that they cheated just a little, for they carried out a close reconnaissance of the area covered by Signals shortly after the commencement of the scheme, using Mr. Hey's Puss Moth aeroplane, and thus learned the location of the hidden police reports.

However, as the object of the exercise was to practise rapid transmission of information and speedy repair of severed communications, and to keep Signal personnel in an alert frame of mind, rather than the capture of foul criminals, it can safely be said to have been a success. The directing staff was Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. Northern Command), Lieut.-Colonel G. J. Underwood, Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, Major W. F. Jackson, Captain L. W. Schneider, and Captain E. Levett.

The unit also carried out schemes set and supervised by the O.C. 46th Divl Signals and by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command (Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate) who also paid a visit of inspection to the camp.

This year's recruits are shaping very well, and had a special course of drill (foot, arms and whip) and elementary technical training under the R.S.M. and T.A. instructors.

The camp was remarkably free from accidents and sick cases, and the fifteen days of constant sunshine made something of a record.

The 205th Medium Artillery Signal Section camped at Bridlington with the 54th (Yorks and Durham) Medium Artillery Brigade, and night operations were included in their programme of training.

S.R. Camp.—At the time of writing, the R.A.F. Signals S.R. were in camp at Rolston, Hornsea, and only a few details were available. Over four hundred were under canvas, including the two Companies from Leeds, one from London and one from Birmingham. The training included two 24-hour schemes, the construction of airlines, etc. Lieut.-Colonel Fladgate paid a visit to the camp, and it was expected that the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, General Sir Alexander Wardrop, would do likewise. Unit sports were held on Sunday 11th August after church parade.

Night Operations.—July and August have been the busiest months in Gibraltar Barracks for some time. On the 13th/14th July the annual day and night operations were carried out over the country between Harrogate and York. H.Q. was at Whixley School and Advance Div. at Green Hammerton. A good deal of traffic passed over both lines and W/T, and the D.R.s had quite a busy time. The scheme formed part of one worked by officers of the 148th Infantry Brigade, with Colonel Brudenell-Bruce as commander.

Open for Engagements.—Bands, bazooka, one. This was a feature of the sergeants mess, and after its members had burned the midnight oil in becoming proficient on their instruments (?) and the sergeant-major had revealed a hidden flair for side-drums, it made a grand turn out on sports day, 4th August. It seems a shame that such an institution should lapse into disuse, and there is a strong suggestion that the members should carry on practices for annual ball night. The Terrib'e Toyke and Gunner Bennett might also rehearse their act, together with the scholars who attended school daily in the 46th lines.

Agony.—Agony was written all over Sergt Emmens' face when he found that a threepenny bit will not work a penny-in-the-slot door. You were cruel, boys, not to change it into pence for him.

There is no truth in the insinuation that the unit is to exchange several pairs of pliers, Army pattern, for some of those sheep on the North Yorkshire moors which displayed their prowess in chewing cable. In any case, the sheep would not be acceptable, because they *do* cut wire.

Conclusion.—And so off to bye-bye. If anything's forgotten, blame the scribe for his " Slout Revels." TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Headquarter Notes.

Excuses.—Owing to the hurry and scurry in preparation for annual camp we failed to supply notes for July, and in consequence this month's notes are a little more copious than usual.

Camp.—Through the energy and enthusiasm of Provost Boase, captain of the Royal and Ancient, and his members, a match was arranged between the R. and A. Golf Club and our officers. The indisposition of the captain at the last moment laid the onus of the arrangements upon Dr. George Fyfe and one or two fellow members. The great success of the match was entirely due to their zeal and energy. The following are the results: Two wins for the R. and A. and one match drawn. Although the officers were beaten, the game was a great success and much enjoyed by all. Several arguments were put forward to account for the apparent lack of skill displayed by the officers, the most favoured (and, indeed, likeliest) being that which laid stress upon the boundless hospitality of the R. and A. at the luncheon before the match! A more worthy excuse for the result could hardly be found, as there is a good deal of talent in the Mess with the wee white ba'. Shades of Tiny ara Bieldside!

The Unit, headed by the Pipe Band, marching past at Camp

[*Photo by G. M. Cowie, St. Andrews*]

The visit of part of Sir Alan Cobham's Air Circus during the second week was a great attraction. Using the field next the camp, the circus performed all day till the noise of the machines became almost unbearable as they roared overhead. The manager of the Air Circus had lunch with the officers, and very kindly gave instructions that all w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men of the unit in uniform should have free admission to witness the display. This generous offer was received with great enthusiasm, and most of

the unit took advantage of the privilege of seeing the Air Circus at close quarters. Several officers made flights, chiefly with a view to observing the camp from the air. Mr. Bruce Nicol developed a fine technique as a bomber. From an autogyro, he nearly scored a direct hit with a flour bag on the adjutant's cup of tea! Before he had finished, the entrance to the mess looked like an accident to a baker's cart.

There was frightful consternation in the H.Q. office during the day. The R.S.M. was understood to announce that Lady Godiva desired audience with the C.O. in the orderly room. Such things could not happen at St. Andrews! No white palfrey had been observed in the immediate vicinity, nor was the local Watch Committee at hand. Nevertheless, true to the spirit of Highland Divl Signals, she was not turned away. Through a *lapsus linguæ* (or perhaps his Cornish accent, although not strange now in our Scottish ears) the R.S.M. misled us with regard to the lady glider Miss Meakin, a member of the Air Circus who was unable to use her glider on account of the very bad air eddies. She desired to park the machine with us over the night, until it could be removed by towing with one of the planes. The request was granted with pleasure, and she was invited to the ball in the Town Hall that evening. It is understood that a special reveille was played by a piper for her! The O.C. No. 2 Company is believed to have arranged this interlude.

As a counterblast to air circuses, the Royal Air Force staged a very impressive demonstration on the 26th July. The Army Co-operation Squadron from Leuchars came over, and one of the machines demonstrated flying at various heights while in direct contact with an R.T. tender on which a loud speaker was mounted. The whole unit heard the orders given and the pilot's replies, and saw the evolutions carried out promptly. The demonstration include the dropping by parachute of supplies in special containers, and the picking up of messages from the ground. This latter is a familiar happening on all our schemes. The remarkable clarity of the R.T. was a revelation to many, as well as the clock-work precision of the plane in action.

But enough of all this concerning the fun and sport we had at camp this year. The two schemes were every bit as enjoyable and successful. Perhaps the most striking features of these were the exploits of Laurel and Hardy. We are looking forward to seeing them next year, together with their jolly fellows of the Cable Detachments.

Thanks.—Our very grateful thanks are extended to our hon. colonel for the presentation of a " quaich " to the Officers Mess.

No. 1 Company.

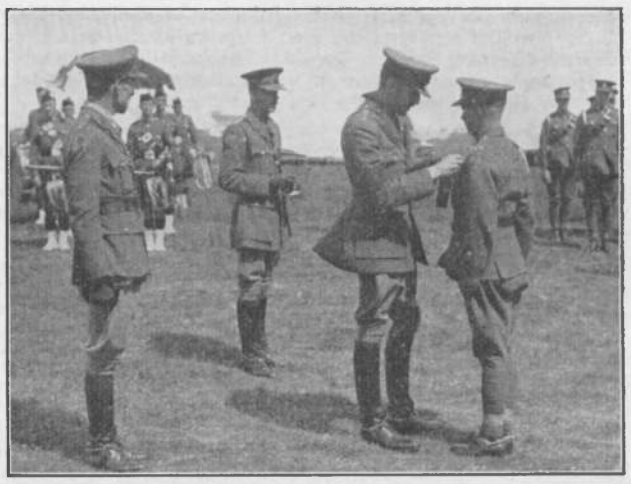
General.—Owing to the large amount of interesting news to be recorded in connection with annual camp, previous interesting events and photographs are being held over until next month.

Camp.—We arrived at the headquarters of the Royal and Ancient at St. Andrews on Saturday 13th July, to find that excellent work had been done by the advance party.

Schemes.—Two schemes were held, one under unit arrangements and the other under Divisional management. Although of an ambitious character, both went without a hitch. The Divisional arranged scheme was attended by many brass hats, etc., cutting our lines indiscriminately with pliers, side cutting, 8 inch (and their fingers too, incidentally), but everybody was on tiptoe and all difficulties and interruptions in communications were quickly overcome. The provost sergeant gallantly defended our camp—and the lady glider—whilst we were on the Divisional scheme. Did I note a tear in his eye when she departed ? or was it at the thought of my arrival on the scene before the scheme had finished ?

Decorations.—On Sunday 21st July, after church parade, the Territorial efficiency medal was presented to C.S.M. Ferguson, and Jubilee medals to C.S.M. Bremner and Sigmn Warner. The presentations were made by Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., and after the presentations the unit, headed by the Pipe Band, marched past.

Sergeants Mess.—On the evening of the 21st July the R.S.M. and members of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess of the 52nd (L.) Divl Signals, complete with piper and Spud, paid us a visit and a very happy evening was spent with song, story and refreshment. Spud Murphy on the bagpipes was a delightful entertainment, and Nobby Hall in the crow's nest also proved a diversion. It is



C.S.M. Ferguson decorated with the Territorial Efficiency Medal by Colonel R. F. B. Naylor.

[*Photo by G. M. Cowie, St. Andrews*]

regretted that a representative party from this unit was unable to pay a return visit, but it is hoped that occasions will prove more plentiful in future for the two Scottish Signal units to spend many more such delightful times together.

Unit Smoking Concert.—A smoking concert, held in the wet canteen and arranged by C.S.M. Bremner, was voted a huge success by all ranks.

Annual Dinner.—The annual officers and sergeants dinner was held in the sergeants mess on the 22nd July, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. L/Sergeants Fensome and Watson (1st Div.) did their stuff on the programme, and Jock Ellerbeck (our popular P.S.I.) gave a beautiful rendering in braid Scots of " Lassie we' the Yellow Coatee." The song now entitles Jock to his B.ii.—he has one more rating to pass.

Regimental Ball.—An all ranks ball held in the Town Hall, St. Andrews, was generously supported by Lieut.-Colonel E. Birnie Reid and officers. A company of four hundred and fifty foregathered, and with R.S.M. Hillman and C.S.M. Bremner as floor masters we put in a glorious night, little reckoning on the 4.30 a.m. reveille the next morning (scheme day).

Cups.—All ranks rallied round their new Company commander and, besides helping to overcome technical difficulties, secured the cups for the best laid lines, kits, etc., and drill. Well done!

Sports.—The annual sports were held at camp on the 25th July. These were run on the tabloid system, and each section of the unit put forward a team of eight to compete in the customary events. The *Daily Mail* loud speaker van was in attendance, and was invaluable in keeping the spectators up to date with the results and in supplying music while the unit Pipe Band had a breather.

The sports were keenly contested, and it was difficult to say which team would win until the last round had been run. Very few succeeded in passing the standard (80 yards) for throwing the cricket ball, but little difficulty was experienced in passing the standard set for the long jump (14 ft.). The results and winners of all unit events will be found in the Sports pages.

At the close of the sports our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, gave the competitors well earned praise and mentioned that tabloid sports appeared far more suitable for the unit than the usual type. The prizes were graciously presented by Mrs. Birnie Reid.

In addition to the sports, there was an inter-unit football match against the S/L Company R.E. (who were in camp at Leuchars) which was won by our unit, and a football and a cricket match between the officers and the sergeants which resulted in two victories for the latter. The cricket match was played on time principle, and although the sergeants are credited with having won by one run, it is just as well that time was not synchronised at the guard tent at 7.0 a.m. On the other hand, the moral effect

of seeing the P.T. instructor bowled over so easily by Major Murray—well, I ask you! A special feature of this match was the wicket keeping of Lieut. Donald. The football match brought to light some unknown talent as well as quaint dress. Uudoubtedly, the officers provided the best dressed goalie.

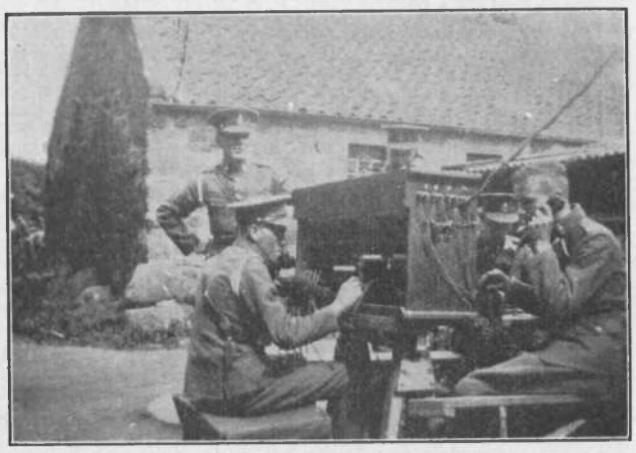
Basket ball was a new game for the unit, but after a few games the teams played well and soon realised that biting and kicking would not be tolerated.

Altogether, we had a very heavy sports programme, but on enquiry later it has been found that the arrangements made were much appreciated.

Conclusion.—Numerous " snaps " of interest were taken at camp (especially the one showing a Signal Pipe Band, complete with kilts) and it is hoped the Editor will find space to reproduce some of them. As you may gather from the above, we spent a very happy camp. Roll on, 1936, whether it be St. Andrews, Nairn or Stonehaven. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Complimentary.—We commence this month by extending the glad hand of welcome to 2/Lieut. J. McLaren, who was commissioned on the 13th July, just in time to proceed to annual camp with the Company. We also congratulate C.S.M. Todd J. F. on his promotion to warrant rank. The very best to you both.



Headquarters, 76th Field Brigade R.A.

Annual Camp, 1935.—It is universally agreed that annual camp this year was the very best ever held. The weather was more than kind, and everything went with a swing. Two signal schemes were carried out—rather more ambitious than we are accustomed to—but the commanding officer was quite pleased with us, and the resu'ts, after being checked, show that the extra training we did prior to camp was quite worth while.

On the sporting side we did rather well, and managed to win the inter-Company football, inter-Company boxing, tug of war, basket ball, and inter-Company shooting. 2/Lieut. W. R. Muirhead also captured the golf cup for the Company, so, all being considered, we had a very successful camp. The cups look well in the officers mess, and we are sure that neither No. 1 nor No. 3 Company will begrudge us any of our victories. We were handicapped by lack of numbers, being twenty-six below strength, but our young blood played up well and we are thankful to them. We were very unlucky to lose the inter-Company swimming competition, being in the lead for three laps out of four.

One other very pleasing feature of this year's camp was the entertainment side. A smoking concert for all ranks held in the canteen, which the whole of the officers attended, was voted by all to be a really first class show. We had no lack of talent, and our Company commander, Captain A. H. Lennie, proved a really wonderful mimic. Thanks are offered to the R.S.M. for his able chairmanship.

This was followed by the annual officers and sergeants smoker in the sergeants mess, which was better than ever. We hope the officers enjoyed it as much as we did,

Another innovation was the regimental ball in the Town Hall, which was voted by the civilian population of St. Andrews to be the most successful function ever held in that historic building. A great night indeed.

Unit sports day was, as always, a very great success, and though we did well, we would like to have done better. Our small sections were very badly handicapped against the much stronger ones of No. 1 Company, who were made to go all the way before being declared winners. Our thanks are due to the adjutant, who kindly ran for our weakest section ; and we would add that, had we had two more athletes of his standard, it would have been an easy thing for us.

Technical.—This Company had the pleasure of supplying the communications for the 75th Field Brigade R.A. during their scheme at Montrose, and E Section, under the command of Lieut. James Gray, proceeded there by road on the 21st July. They came back with a very good report on the work they had to do, and we hear that the arrangements made for their comfort during their short stay with the R.A. were excellent.

And so that's another camp past! We start off again with our winter training on the 15th September, when we are hoping to see many faces attending and chasing the elusive pennies held out by the promise of passing yet another Trade Board. We are also hoping against hope that we shall have a little greater rush to enlist than last year, in order that we may get our sections somewhere near their correct strength before we go to camp next year.

Scotsman's Post.—Did our friends from 1st Div. catch their train alright ? and is it a fact that both have already applied for attachment to us next year ? TUCO.

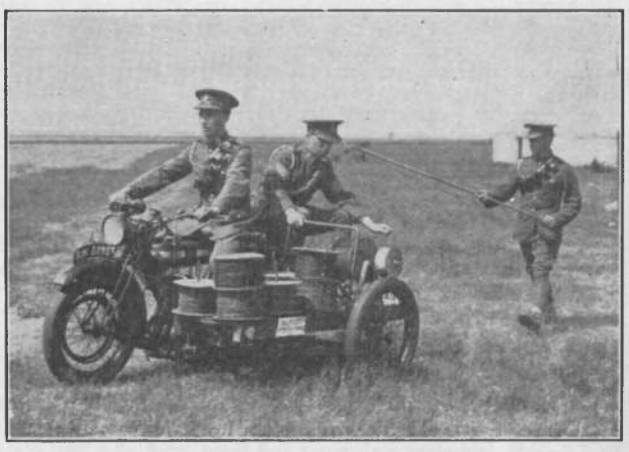
No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—We extend a hearty welcome to our two new officers, 2/Lieutenants Campbell and Mitchell. We heartily congratulate C.S.M. Ferguson, Sergeants Beveridge and Hutchison, and Corpl Beveridge on receiving the Territorial efficiency medal.

Annual Camp.—We have just arrived home from St. Andrews, after a happy but strenuous fifteen days under canvas. In each of the schemes No. 3 Company provided two Infantry Brigade Sections, and on every occasion put up a splendid show.

We enclose a photograph of our experimental Cable Detachment. This device for reeling in cable was a great success, and we hope to have each Brigade Section similarly equipped before another camp comes round again.

Sport.—Congratulations to K and J Sections on their excellent performance at the unit sports. K Section won the sports cup, and J Section were third. We also congratulate the team who won the visual signalling cup for No. 3 Company. FIFE SIGS.

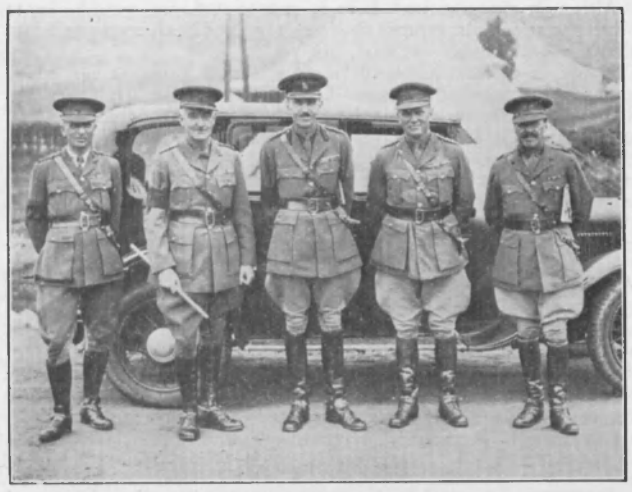


No. 3 Company's Experimental Cable Detachment.
[Photo by G. M. Cowie, St. Andrews]

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Craigluscar Camp.—Craigluscar Camp has come and gone. The great event of the year for our Territorial comrades is now a thing of the past, but resplendent with memories of good companionship and carefree days. The end of the first week in camp saw everything in good working order.



Group of Officers at Camp.

(*l. to r.*)—Lieut.Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., Lieut.-Col. P. C. Snatt, M.C., Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., Captain R. G. L. Giblin (adjutant).

The 20th July was the units' annual sports day. It would be impossible to find a more novel, interesting and merry event than this proved to be. Results:—

Tilting the bucket—1, Sergt Hall ; 2, Corpl Wright.
Pillow fighting (greasy pole)—1, Sergt M'Culloch ; 2, L/Corporal Leuden J.
Inter-Company relay race—No. 1 Company (L/Corporal Shields, Signalmen Russell S., M'Dermott and Woods.
Balloon shooting and surf riding—1, Sergt Parkes ; 2, Sgt Shields.
100 yards (open)—1, Sigmn Russell S. ; 2, L/Corpl Shields ; 3, L/Corpl M'Donald.
Inter-Company tug-of-war—No. ? Company.
Obstacle race—L/Corpl Kilsey.
Officers' race—Captain V. D. Warren.
Sergeants' race—C.S.M. Houston.
Half mile—1, Sigmn Henderson ; 2, Sigmn M'Dermott ; 3, Sigmn Lardner.
Lloyd-Lindsay race (86th Field Battery, R.A.)—1, "A" Sub-Section ; 2, "D" Sub-Section ; 3, "B" Sub-Section.
Blindfold boxing—1, Piper MacAulay ; 2, Sergt M'Culloch.
Combined Band race—1, Piper MacAulay ; 2, Drummer Dunn ; 3, Corpl Smail.
Boys' race—1, J. M'Donald ; 2, Francis Carberry ; 3, A. Morris.
Girls' race—1, Isa Morris ; 2, Violet Davis ; 3, Agnes Cook.
Officers v. sergeants relay race—Officers won.
Officers v. sergeants gun driving—Sergeants won.
Recruits' peg-driving (86th Field Battery, R.A.)—1, Left Section ; 2, Right Section.

An event of special interest was a peg-driving display by some recruits from the 86th Field Battery R.A.—a Regular Army unit also stationed at Craigluscar.

The rivalry between the officers and the n.c.o.s in the various events provided sporting contests. In the officers' race Captain V. D. Warren, one of Glasgow's civic fathers, set up a unit record by winning the event for the third successive year.

The dull and cloudy weather did not dampen the enthusiasm of either competitors or spectators, and a most delightful afternoon

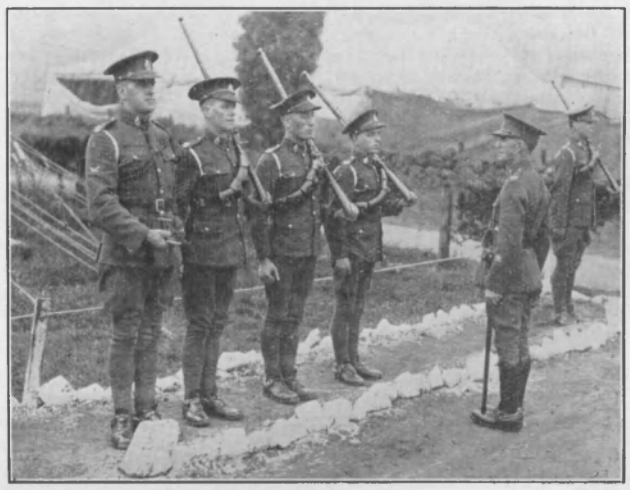
Highland Dancers of the Lowland Signals.

closed with the presentation of the prizes by Mrs. Robertson, wife of Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., the commanding officer.

On the 23rd July a number of the officers visited the *Mauretania* on the invitation of Mr. R. W. McCrone, managing director of Metal Industries (who are breaking up the famous liner) and an ex-officer of the units.

The second week at Craigluscar was given over largely to advanced and night training schemes under the direction of Col. Robertson. The camp is regarded as one of the most successful in recent years, and everything points to the results being entirely satisfactory.

The Ceremony of the Key.—The ritual of the key is still observed in our W.O.s and Sergeants Mess. At Craigluscar the rites held the Air Force spellbound and the Artillery were mystified. It is remarkable that the only mistake in procedure was made by Hog Houston. He is now a broken man. His great pay out of four shillings and sixpence has left its mark on this farmer of farthings.



The R.S.M. inspects the Guard.

Our Sympathy.—We would tender to Mrs. Barton, wife of Sergt Barton of our S.R. units, our deepest sympathy in the death of her mother. Sergt and Mrs. Barton have been staunch supporters of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess functions for many years. It was with much regret that we learned of their loss.

Photographs.—The three accompanying illustrations are reproduced by the kind permission of The Scottish Pictorial Press.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 14th August.

Camp.—Annual training at Penally was a great success. The weather was kind, and the whole period was a very happy affair. The 158th (Royal Welch) Brigade from North Wales were our neighbours this year.

The unit was visited by the G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command (Lieut.-General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) whilst it was engaged in a signal scheme arranged and directed by our Divisional commander, Major-General G. Thorpe, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The C.S.O. Western Command (Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C.) and the D.C.S.O. (Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.) visited us during this occasion. We were also honoured by the presence of a War Office representative in the person of Major R. F. H. Nalder, R.Signals.

A number of medals were presented prior to church parade. We congratulate C.S.M. Maynard A. R. G. on receiving the L.S. and G.C. medal, and twenty-seven others—including Shackells—who received the Territorial efficiency medal.

A few who were comrades at Suvla Bay in 1915.

An interesting event took place on the 4th August at the camp of the 5th Royal Welch Fusiliers. A reunion luncheon was held for officers and men who took part with the 53rd (Welsh) Division in the landing at Suvla Bay twenty years ago. Unfortunately the 6th Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers, who held their training at Porthcawl earlier in the year, were not represented. Twenty-five of the old stalwarts were present, of whom Signals contributed five: Captain T. J. Gollop, T.D., Captain-Q.M. W. S. Catleugh, C.S.M. Baxter E. O., D.C.M., and Sergeants Forse T. W. and Pugsley F. It was the first time Signals had had an opportunity of joining in what has now become an annual event in the 158th Brigade. Many yarns were swopped, and several pints of ale were quaffed.

The sports were held on Sunday afternoon, 4th August, and we were honoured by the presence of a goodly number of visitors. The display by the D.R.s was a striking event, and our parent unit, the 3rd Divisional Signals, will have to look to its laurels. Corpl Alexander has some fine fellows in his party, and there is still room for others who fancy themselves as motor cyclists.

We welcome the many new faces amongst us, and we hope they enjoyed their first camp.

Congratulations to Mr. P. S. Banbury on obtaining his Certificate "A" at the first go and after so short a period of service.

Queries.—Did the C.O. mean it (in dismissing the office staffs, cooks, and batmen from a " strong as possible " parade) when he said " March off the unemployed "?

Why did so many young officers lose their voices at this camp?

Is it not unusual for the orderly officer to throw a couple of somersaults and then sit down on the grass whilst inspecting the new guard at guard mounting?

Who is this Senior?

Who was left behind when the train pulled out of the station on the return journey?

What was the romance that necessitated telephone calls at ten minute intervals throughout the evening?

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Dibgate Camp, Shorncliffe.

No. 1 Company.

Annual Training Camp.—The ether around Dibgate Camp at Shorncliffe has, since the arrival of A Section, been vibrating with call signs and, of course, different species of waves. The activities of the Section have so far been confined to Section training and preparation, but the whole are looking forward with eager anticipation to the coming big show.

Although the transport here is appreciated, we would like to inform friends (and others) that we have not been converted into an ambulance squad—at least, not yet!

A course of instruction for n.c.o.s is now going at full speed under the guidance of Lieut. Goldsmith, of the 4th Divisional Signals, and almost every subject is being taken, including signal office duties, wireless sets, etc. We are informed that great progress is being made by the students, so that at Stratford E.15—especially during the next training season—we shall be able to call upon very efficient instructors.

Our representatives on the drill and weapon training course are receiving some excellent tips from some splendid instructors supplied by the Depot Battalion, The Essex Regiment. C.Q.M.S. Warner is so keen that all his conversation and greetings issue in the tone of words of command, and Sergt Long (Eddie) can now only drink his pint of sherbet by numbers! They are both looking forward with eager anticipation to the second period of the course, which includes Lewis gun training. Perhaps, one day, they will get an opportunity of having the other n.c.o.s and the sergt-major of the Company on drill—and who will be laughing then?

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Training.—A week-end scheme was held in the vicinity of Hockley on the 13th and 14th July. Some excellent work was carried out by E Section, and the V/T team advanced a step nearer to the required standard. The unit was accommodated under canvas, and the recruits declared that they enjoyed the experience immensely.

Annual Training.—This is in full swing. Every man is putting his shoulder to the wheel, and good work is being done. The training camp is at Dibgate, near Shorncliffe. The weather up to now has been great. The Company is sixty-three strong, and out of those fifty-seven are attending camp.

Parades.—" The unit church parade in camp would have done credit to any Regular unit." This remark was passed by a Regular.

Medal Presentations.—Brig.-General Sir Richard B. Colvin, K.C.B., T.D., J.P., hon. colonel of the 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals and Lord-Lieutenant of Essex, presented the L.S. and G.C. medal to Sergeant Newton and the Territorial efficiency medal to Sigmn Burks R. W. C.

Promotions.—We offer congratulations to the undermentioned on their recent promotions. L/Sergt Clarke to Sergeant. Lance-Corporals Anderson, Cook, Hopkins and Pond to Corporal. Signalmen Hurley and Singer to L/Corporal.

New Arrivals.—We extend the glad mitt to Sergt Hitchin, our new P.S.I., and hope his stay with us will be lengthy and enjoyable in every respect.

We Want to Know.—What our late P.S.I. said to the " Pearl of great price." What a certain sergeant's girl friend said to Sergt ——— on receipt of the handbill that night on the pier at Folkestone. Who was the sergeant who gave the diving display at Sandgate when the tide was out? Who is the Cherry Picker at Bedford? What is a Green Goddess? (Southend to reply)

THE BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—On the 13th and 14th July we held our final week-end camp before proceeding to annual training at Shorncliffe. This exercise was carried out at East Horndon, King Sol materially assisting in the sweat that everyone had on. The scheme (combined with Nos. 1 and 2 Companies) consisted of an advance and gave our visual terminals, who represented Battalion Headquarters, some quick work to do. In spite of difficult country,

visual communication was maintained during the latter two moves and some very useful experience was gained.

Annual Training.—We have arrived at Dibgate Camp, Shorncliffe, and at the moment are enjoying some very fine weather. The Company has settled down quite comfortably, and we are getting some useful lessons from the attached Regular Army Infantry Brigade Section lent to us by the 4th Divisional Signals, who are showing us what can be done with up-to-date equipment. (Don't those little cars look comfortable?)

Arrivals.—Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. Jefferies on the arrival of a bonny baby girl.

Departures.—L/Sergeant Palin H. from the ranks of single blessedness to those of married bliss. (Yes, I had to sell my motor-bike, too.) THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Training.—On Saturday and Sunday, the 20th/21st July, the unit held a week-end scheme out at Biddenham. For once the weather was glorious, and on the Sunday we had a nice day out, doing valuable work. A small scheme was held, primarily to practise the layout of a Brigade signal office with Batteries attached.

At the end of the day a competition was held between the tele wagon and visual teams, the prize being awarded to the team which passed an identical message in the quickest time. The tele wagon team won, owing to the fact that the message, instead of being fifty letters long, was fifty words. The poor visual team was still sending when the tele wagon had reeled in.

Annual Camp.—Sniffed the ozone yet? You see, we are having a glorious time at Dibgate Camp, near Folkestone. Arriving here on Sunday 28th July, the lads soon got used to tripping over the tent ropes and settled down to camp life. They are enjoying themselves.

We are due back in Bedford on the 11th August. I'm sure everyone will be sorry to return to work. Possibly the girls in Bedford will brighten up a bit, though—which is a great thought.

The Day's Good Deed.—Will the sergeant known as Ivor kindly jump over the sea wall at Sandgate again? It would be advantageous to all if he remained there.

In Town To-night.—Ivor, Alf, Nobby, steak and chips.

TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7, 13/8/35.

These notes embrace our annual training period from the 7th to the 21st July. We arrived at Hindlow without a hitch, and found the camp was only a hundred yards from the railway. This was in contrast to the camp at Kinmel Park, where we had to march four miles from Abergele station. The site was a good one, if we exclude from our minds the deplorable lime kilns at our back and flanks. Luckily, the wind was usually helpful and only occasionally was the camp blotted out by waves of thick white smoke, which somebody assured us was quite healthy.

On one of these murky mornings, a certain Company commander is reported to have been seen looking round to find out if his juniors were on the job. Of course they were, and this so pleased him that the next day he contented himself with turning out the Company only a quarter of an hour too early instead of the usual half hour. This enabled the said juniors to have a more or less normal breakfast, just like the other subalterns.

One Company at camp earned the title of the Chinese Labour Squad. Whether this was on account of the facial peculiarities of its senior member, or of his tyrannical methods, I cannot (or rather, will not) say.

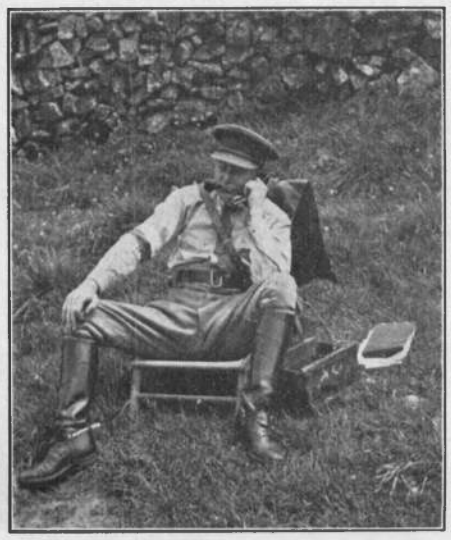
The subalterns guest night was a great success. A new initiation ceremony, superseding the old one, was brought into being. This being secret, I cannot describe it (unless heavily bribed), but it involved much agitation on the part of the subalterns and much laughter among the seniors.

Our three-day exercise was entirely enjoyable and successful, as usual, and the commanding officer congratulated all ranks on their performance. Some new cable ensured perfect lines, while lateral communication between Brigades was strengthened by R/T sets made by Sergt Drudge, one of our respected P.S.I.s. Had it not been raining on the last of the three days the Gunners who were in camp near us would, I feel sure, have joined in our operations.

The best part of those three days was, I think, the nights. The balmy air, the stars, the moon, etc., and a sense of well being after a day's work conscientiously done. Yet in my otherwise dreamless sleep did I hear the vague mutterings of a bantam—I mean phantom—voice: "Good gracious! . . . . a complete shemozzle." Then a new day, dawning bright and full of hope, blasted completely when the voice of one's dream comes again, not this time disembodied but housed in a frame most suitable.

During camp the officers and sergeants formed a party to go to Nottingham to see the Tattoo; and well worth while it proved. A magnificent show was put on. Only the Army seems able to organise such a tremendous undertaking so efficiently. The Signals' part in it was undoubtedly, and deservedly, the most popular of the evening. One of our party passed for a wealthy if slightly eccentric American tourist, and came in for a great deal of respectful attention from passers-by who, I think, were expecting a stream of wisecracks to pour continuously from his lips. Nottingham, by the way, has a marvellous old pub named "The Trip to Jersulam" and dating from goodness knows when.

The main fact emerging from this year's training is that the unit is steadily improving and increasing its efficiency. Especially is this noticeable in the increased speed with which communications are established. I think the renewed use of the Fullerphone, also, has tended to speed up things. The old S.C. sets, even with relays, gave a great deal of trouble.



The accompanying photograph is of Captain R. W. Bailey, O.C. No. 1 Company. I have snaps of other people in various attitudes, but as Captain Bailey's was the highest offer for publication, his goes in.

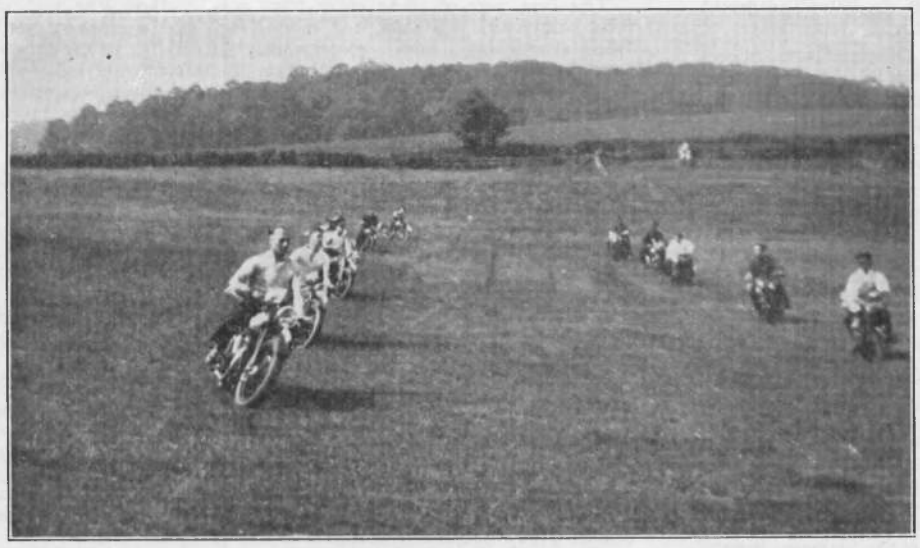
Well, here's to the next camp. May it prove as enjoyable and instructive as the last. FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Greenways Bottom Camp, Roedean, near Brighton.

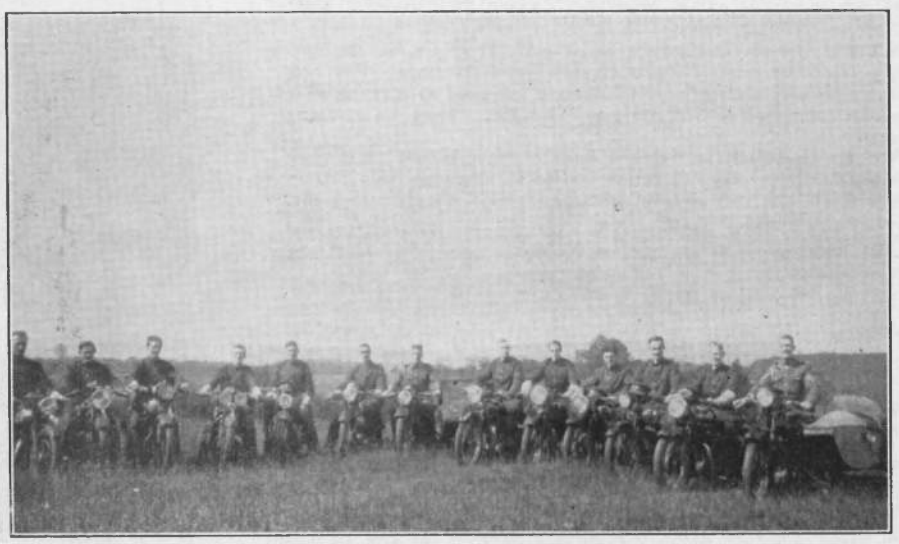
Advance Party.—Lieut.-Q.M. Barnes, D.C.M., together with the advance party, travelled down to Roedean on Wednesday 31st July. They were accompanied by Mr. R. E. Denison Pender, whose primary duty was the supervision of the working of an air line detachment kindly lent by the Supplementary Reserve. Very hard work for all concerned, but though few in numbers, they made up for this by tremendous energy and had practically all the canvas up before the main body arrived on Sunday 4th Aug.

Movement of Main Body to Camp.—After a scene of great activity, the main body got away from Atkins Road in two detachments—first the D.R.s and the lorry column, and then the rail party, and by two o'clock all were concentrating on the work of settling into tents. Training commenced on Monday, which left a rather large number of fatigues to be done in the afternoon.



The 56th (1st London) Divisional Signals Display Party in training for their Show

Commencement of the Cross-Over.



The Display Party ready for the Day's Work.

The Display Party receiving instructions (Captain H. R. Firth, R.S.M. Hales and C.S.M. Angell can be seen)

Training in Camp.—The first week was devoted to the training of B, M and D.R. Sections of No. 1 Company and a composite Section from each of Nos. 2 and 3 Companies. Fifty of the recently joined recruits did a very good week's work at individual training.

It was very interesting to note that the twenty n.c.o.s and men of the 2nd Divl Signals, who were kindly lent to assist us and joined on the Sunday evening, were most clearly distinguishable on parade by their sunburnt skins, whereas we of the T.A. still had the pallor of London. By Wednesday all this had changed: white had turned to blistered red and then to brown, and it was quite clear that everyone was benefiting from the sunshine and fresh air.

Annual Sports.—Saturday 10th August was devoted to a C.O.'s parade in the early morning, and sports until dinner. The following are the results of the sports:—

Communication race—G Section, No. 2 Company.
Best turn out, Cable Detachment—Detachment G Section, No. 2 Company.
Guard mounting competition—No. 3 Company.
Inter-Company tug of war—No. 1 Company.
Inter-Company cricket cup competition—No. 1 Company.

Display by Despatch Riders.—A feature of the sports, which drew a very large audience of officers and others from nearby units and also of civilians from the district, was an extraordinarily good display by the despatch riders of the unit. A large number of very excellent photographs were taken by the Press.

The display was modelled on that given by the despatch riders of the Signal Training Centre when working without horses, and fully equalled any display so given. The men, as is usual in the T.A., were riding their own machines. Though of very high quality, these cycles were not suitable for jumping, and therefore jumping was not attempted; but in all other respects (so we are informed) the display was equal in merit to any that has been put up by the despatch riders of the Regular Army from Catterick or Tidworth. This must be regarded as a very remarkable achievement for a Territorial Divisional Signals, and the greatest credit is due to all concerned. It is noteworthy that out of a strength of sixteen D.R.s in camp, fifteen actually took part in the display, including several who had only joined the unit very recently.

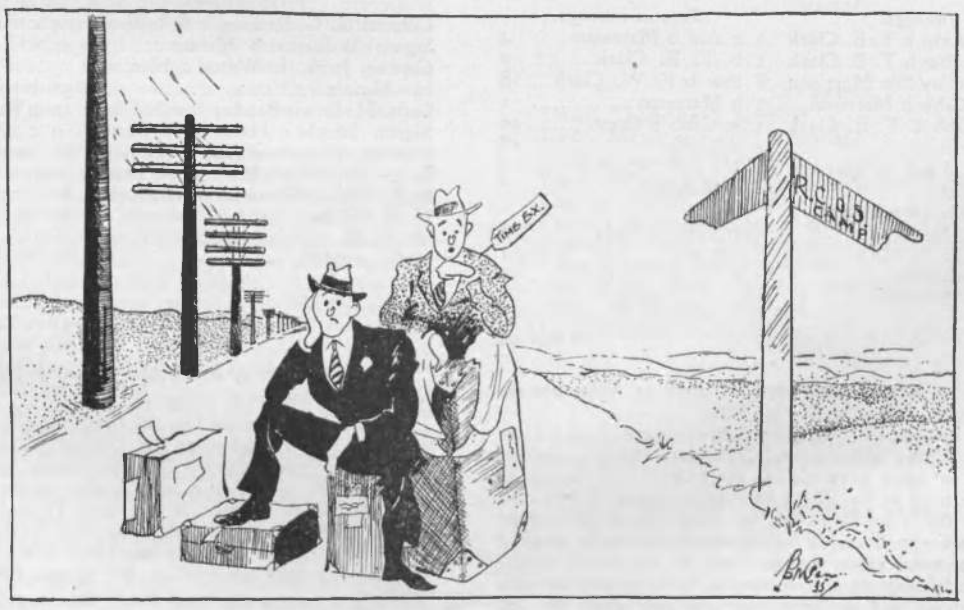
The display received very favourable notices in the Press and, coming as it does from a Territorial unit, must do something to enhance the great reputation which the Royal Corps of Signals already possesses for this sort of work. A further display was given on Wednesday 14th August before a very large audience at the police sports at Shoreham.

Band.—A feature of this camp has been the work of the Band. Although not yet sufficiently practised to play for the unit on the march, they have rendered selections of music each night outside the officers mess.

Ladies' Days.—Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th August were officially ladies' days, and we were delighted to welcome a large number of ladies of the unit to the sports and to show them round the camp afterwards.

Weather.—This broke on Monday the 12th, and we had a very violent rain storm which commenced at a most awkward moment when everyone was out of camp. The tents were only saved by considerable energy on the part of those who remained in camp, in going round and loosening guy ropes, etc. The next day, Tuesday, was cold; but at the time of writing these notes, it has been getting steadily warmer again.

General.—The fifteen days annual training in camp is, of course, the culmination of a Territorial unit's year, and we are happy to realise that this camp has been a very successful one. A great deal of work has been done in improving the efficiency of the unit, which has had to compete with the difficulty of having a very high percentage of partly trained men who have joined within the last eight months and who have never been to camp before. Despite this, really valuable technical training has been done, and as camp begins to draw to a close the unit is definitely a Signal unit within the true meaning of the term. This, and the fact that we have put ourselves properly into the public eye through the favourable Press notices given to the display, will doubtless ensure a good flow of recruits into the unit during the forthcoming individual training season. C.O.L.S.



"WELL, WE'VE SERVED OUR TIME, BERT; WHAT DO WE DO NOW?"

SPORTS NOTES

Corps Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C.—Played at Aldershot on the 5th and 6th July. Lost by an innings and 62 runs.

This was a disappointing match from our point of view, as we had a good side and hoped for better things. The fact that we lost the toss, and that what looked like a plumb wicket started to crumble badly on the first afternoon, may afford us a little excuse for the failure of our batting, but not for four dropped catches in our opponents' first 70 runs. Clark and Sadler were thus able to give the R.A.S.C. a good start while the going was good, and we were kept in the field until tea time. Our bowling honours were evenly divided.

When we went in to bat the wicket was certainly doing funny things, and Captain T. E. Clark and R.S.M. Marrison are good bowlers at any time. All the same, 35 runs for seven wickets was a poor advertisement for our batting. Lieutenants Williams and Bradley and Captain Thursby-Pelham brightened things up a bit, but 92 was all we could manage. Captain Clark took five wickets for 20 runs.

We followed on the next morning, and our second innings was a repetition of the first—and we were soundly beaten.

R.A.S.C.

Captain T. E. Clark b P. C. Williams	40
L/Corporl Sadler b Cole	57
H. B. Arbuckle b Cole	24
Captain F. W. Clark c and b Gordon	12
J. F. Rush b Gordon	0
R.S.M. Marrison b P. C. Williams	15
Lt-Col.Fitzherbert c Thursby-Pelham b P.C.Williams	41
Corporal Hamlin c Mills b Sigmn Williams	0
Corporal Paul b Lewis-Barclay	24
Corporal Grey b Lewis-Barclay	13
L. Gibb not out	0
Extras	23
Total	249

ROYAL SIGNALS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Colonel G. G. Rawson b T. E. Clark	0	c and b Marrison	4	
W. H. L. Gordon lbw b T. E. Clark	2	b T. E. Clark	0	
Capt H. Lewis-Barc'ay lbw Marrison	8	lbw b F. W. Clark	18	
C. C. Worrall st Gibb b Marrison	2	b Marrison	1	
Sigmn Smith c Gibb b T. E. Clark	5	st Gibb b Grey	10	
E. S. Cole b Marrison	1	b Sadler	18	
P. C. Williams c Paul b Marrison	13	b F. W. Clark	3	
P. M. Bradley b Sadler	11	b Marrison	17	
Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham c Marrison b T. E. Clark	25	st Gibb b Grey	8	
L/Corpl Mills b T. E. Clark	7	not out	1	
Sigmn Williams not out	6	b T. E. Clark	10	
Extras	12	Extras	5	
Total	92	Total	95	

Royal Signals v. Royal Engineers.—Played at Aldershot on the 8th and 9th July. Won by five wickets.

Once again we lost the toss, and the Sappers went in to bat on a hot sunny day. Sigmn Williams and Capt Lewis-Barclay opened the bowling, and we were very glad to see Harris well caught in the slips with the total at 3. Good batting by Major Shortt and Lieut. Grove took the score up to 103 for three, when the former was well taken in the gully, and we managed to snatch another wicket at the same total before lunch.

In the afternoon Williams and Lieutenants Williams and Gordon all bowled really well, and we were very pleased when the last wicket fell at 188. Lieut. Gordon took four wickets for 45, and Williams three for 38. The latter had two long spells of bowling on a hot day and hardly bowled a loose ball: a very fine performance, as he kept his pace throughout,

He followed this up by going in first and sharing a splendid partnership with Captain Watts, the pair putting on 73 runs for the second wicket. Our next three batsmen failed, but Lieut. Williams started hitting with the middle of the bat from the first ball he had, and with glorious drives all over the ground had made 70 before close of play. Carpenter, too, batted confidently and well, and the two of them added 74 for the sixth wicket.

Next morning Lieut. Bradley hit six fours in his 30, and our innings closed, giving us a lead of 66 and our opponents an hour's batting before lunch. Once again we got rid of Lieut. Harris, this time before a run had been scored: very well caught in the slips. Williams again bowled fast and steadily, keeping the batsmen playing all the time, while Lieut. Williams at the other end made an occasional ball get up quickly, and finished with the splendid analysis of six wickets for 50 runs.

We were left with 86 to get to win, which we did for five wickets.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
R. Kellet b Sigmn Williams	13	lbw b P. C. Williams	8	
L. J. Harris c Sigmn Williams b Lewis-Barclay	1	c Lewis-Barclay b Signalman Williams	0	
L. F. Grove b Sigmn Williams	34	b P. C. Williams	36	
Major Shortt c T.-Pelham b Gordon	52	c & b Sigmn Williams	15	
J. P. Thorp b Gordon	3	c Gordon b P. C. Williams	0	
L. F. Hancock b P. C. Williams	12	cSmith bP.C.Williams	31	
Captain Maclachlan not out	25	b Gordon	11	
M.D. Maclagan lbw Sigmn Williams	4	b P. C. Williams	4	
Capt. Anstruther c Mills b Gordon	10	c Rawson b P. C. Williams	16	
S.T.A.Radcliffe cCarpenter bGordon	16	b Sigmn Williams	3	
Major Minnis b Lewis-Barc'ay	0	not out	2	
Extras	18	Extras	25	
Total	188	Total	151	

ROYAL SIGNALS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Colonel G. G. Rawson c & b Shortt	4	c Radcliffe b Thorpe	13	
Sigmn Williams b Minnis	41	c Radcliffe b Minnis	24	
Captain J. A. I. Watts c Harris b Minnis	52	hit wicket b Minnis	32	
Capt. H. Lewis-Barclay lbw b Thorp	1	c Radcliffe b Hancock	0	
Sigmn Smith c Hancock b Minnis	0	c and b Minnis	1	
Captain Thursby-Pelham b Minnis	1	not out	1	
Sergt Carpenter c Maclagan b Harris	24	not out	8	
P. C. Williams c and b Hancock	74			
P. M. Bradley c and b Harris	30			
W. L. M. Gordon c and b Harris	0			
L/Corpl Mills not out	2			
Extras	25	Extras	7	
Total	254	Total (for 5 wickets)	86	

Royal Signals v. R.A.O.C.—Played at Aldershot on the 15th July. Won by seven wickets.

For the fifth time we lost the toss, and the R.A.O.C. went in to bat on a plumb wicket on the Officers' Club ground, their usual opening pair doing duty. Brigadier Hoare, always a quick starter, took liberties with Cole a bit too soon and was caught in the slips with the score at 26. Apart from Partridge and Borwell, the remaining batsmen could do little with Lieut. Cole and Williams. What a joy it is to have two good fast bowlers to open an innings. The former took six wickets for 51 and the latter three for 45.

We had to get 135 and made the runs for the loss of three wickets. One or two catches were put down, but it was good to see Captain Lewis-Barclay at last showing us that he has not forgotten how to make runs. We continued our innings, and the rest of the side enjoyed themselves with the long handle.

R.A.O.C.

Brigadier L. L. Hoare c Rawson b Cole	12
Major G. W. Palmer b Cole	10
Sergeant Partridge b Cole	40
Private Shiel lbw b Cole	11
H. S. Mitchell c Cole b P. C. Williams	0
Lieut.-Colonel G. A. Sheppard b Cole	1
L/Corporal Borwell c Penny b Sigmn Williams	20
Major R. S. Love lbw b Cole	10
Private Lawrence c Rawson b Sigmn Williams	13
S.Q.M.S. Dickson not out	7
Private Clark b Sigmn Williams	0
Extras	10
Total ...	134

ROYAL SIGNALS.

L. C. C. Harrison lbw b Partridge	10
Signalman Williams c Dickson b Lawrence	9
Captain J. A. I. Watts b Shiel	30
Captain H. Lewis-Barclay b Borwell	44
Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham b Hoare	51
E. S. Cole c Lawrence b Love	9
P. C. Williams b Mitchell	28
C. C. Worrall c Shiel b Love	9
G. Thomson c Mitchell b Sheppard	18
Corporal Penny run out	19
Colonel G. G. Rawson not out	5
Extras	13
Total ...	245

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Tennis.—The annual tournament commenced on the 14th July and finished on Saturday 21st. Needless to say, it was only made possible by the Sergeants and Corporals Messes, who were kind enough to loan their courts ; so we extend our thanks to both for their very generous help.

Captain McNair, as tennis officer, did wonders in the racquet line: he raked up half-a-dozen quite good ones to enable the recruits to play.

The events consisted of the open singles, handicap singles and handicap doubles. The entries were better this year, particularly from the Dismounted Wing, who provided three very promising players, apart from the cadre people, in Signalmen Holdsworth, Gordon and Weeks. Holdsworth should go far with coaching. On the other hand, Gordon and Weeks both need more pace in their game to bring them into line with the open finalists. Corpl Myddleton, L/Corpl Vigurs and Sergt Brooke were the best of the cadre people.

Myddleton beat Vigurs for the open event by 6—2, 3—6, 6—2 in a fairly close match, the winner being a shade the better all round, with the exception of short shots ; his service is exceptionally good. On the other hand, Vigurs is full of promise but needs to put a little extra pace into his match games. The semi-final between Myddleton and Weeks was a very dour struggle, with the former just getting out in the final set at 7—5. It was a case of Myddleton's pace versus Weeks' steadiness. Vigurs, in his semi-final, was not so hard pressed. Holdsworth, in pressing for speed, found the net too often.

The handicap singles was won by Sigmn Betley (plus 30) who beat Sigmn Holdsworth (minus 15) after a long fight by 9—7, 6—1. The handicap proved just too much for Holdsworth—but only just, as the score indicates.

The handicap doubles proved a very close affair right from the start, and the final between L/Corpl Cairns and Sigmn Holdsworth versus L/Corpl Bray and Sigmn Gordon was a really good match. Both the corporals were very steady, but Holdsworth's extra pace decided the issue. He and his partner won by 6—3, 7—5.

Before distributing the prizes (tennis racquets, sweaters, socks and shoes) Major Bailey—who had kindly consented to fill this office—complimented the players on their excellent game, and went on to speak of the reason for running the tournament: finding talent and coaching those who show the greatest promise. Major Bailey finished his speech by complimenting Sergt Shardlow on the way in which the tournament had been run, and the amount of work he had put into it.

It might be mentioned here that Sergt Shardlow has not played since his recent eye operation, and will not be able to play tournament tennis again. He was, unfortunately, unable to defend any of his Army titles this year.

Signals Week, Aldershot.

Cricket.—The Royal Signal officers entertained the sergeants at the annual cricket match, which took place on Wednesday 24th July. The sergeants batted first, and with some good hitting on the part of R.S.M. Kneebone, R.Q.M.S. Wensley and Sergt Hay, managed to reach a fairly useful total. The arrangement made before the match was that each officer and each sergeant should bowl two overs. This provided some good fun. Lieut. Williams made three brilliant catches.

The sergeants then took the field, and alas for the officers, good wickets (Lieutenants Thomson, Williams, Tulloch and Maydon) fell very quickly. Captain Steward then caused an amusing diversion by producing a cricket ball made of soap. This was bowled to Captain Knowles, who hit it with great gusto and somewhat altered its shape. Captain Knowles played a very valuable innings for the officers and was heartily cheered on reaching his fifty. However, the last wicket fell, leaving the sergeants winners by the small margin of twelve runs.

A great game, and owing to the presence of a large number of families it turned out to be a splendid social function.

The officers entertained the sergeants in the officers mess after the match. Conversation was varied, but there are yet a number of events in which the officers and sergeants are opponents, and it was quite apparent that the sergeants had not heard the last of the officers.

SERGEANTS.

Sergt Griffith c Smitherman b Maydon	12
C.Q.M.S. Yates b Maydon	9
Sergt Stanley b Tulloch	7
Sergt Kitcher c Steward b Tullock	9
R.S.M. Kneebone c Williams b Tullock	10
Sergt Brunton c Williams b Elsdale	15
R.Q.M.S. Wensley c Smitherman b Ewbank	16
Sergt Stevens c Maydon b Ewbank	0
Sergt Hay run out	21
Sergt Benfield c Williams b Maydon	3
Sergt Bishop not out	4
Extras	10
Total ...	116

OFFICERS.

Lieut. Thomson b Benfield	0
Lieut. Maydon c and b Stanley	4
Lieut. Tu'lock b Benfield	2
Lieut.-Colonel Phayre Mudge c Griffith b Hay	5
Captain Knowles b Griffith	50
Captain Steward c Hay b Kneebone	16
Colonel Elsdale c Bishop b Kneebone	0
Lieut. Ewbank c and b Wensley	1
Captain Morrison c Stevens b Hay	14
Lieut. Smitherman not out	0
Lieut. Williams b Griffith	1
Extras	11
Total ...	104

At the conclusion of the match, Captain R. H. R. Steward presented the " soap " cricket ball to R.S.M. Kneebone.

Royal Signals (Aldershot) Annual Sports.

Ideal weather favoured the annual inter-unit athletic sports which, by reason of the length of programme, had to be spread over three days. It is unfortunate that long drawn out events like the high jump and pole vault had to be decided before the gala day, for they were well worth watching and would no doubt have reminded many of the large number of Old Comrades who attended of their younger days. We were disappointed that the Old Comrades failed to turn out in force for their own race. The

reason you have already adduced for this is probably correct. They enjoyed themselves!

POINTS TOWARDS THE PRICKETT CUP.

	A Corps	1st Div.	2nd Div.	*Time or Distance.*
Two miles relay	2	6	4	8 min. 58⅕ sec.
High jump	1	2	3	10 ft. 11 in.
Shot	2	3	1	66 ft. 4 in.
Javelin	2	1	3	282 ft. 1½ in.
Hammer	1	3	2	190 ft. 1½ in.
Pole vault	3	1	2	18 ft.
Three miles team	5	2	5	Not recorded.
Long jump	1	2	3	38 ft. 2 in.
Discus	3	1	2	191 ft. 4 in.
440 yards relay	4	6	2	45⅘ sec.
480 yards hurdles	2	4	6	1 min. 16⅕ sec.
880 yards relay	4	6	2	1 min. 38⅘ sec.
Mile relay	2	6	4	3 min. 49 sec.
Mile team	6	4	2	4 min. 48⅗ sec.
Total points	38	47	41	

Owing to an epidemic of flu amongst the horses, the A.D.V.S. ruled that the mounted events could not be held. When, therefore, the inter-communication relay race, the team jumping, and Section tent pegging have been decided, the venue of the Prickett cup will be disclosed. Last year's effort resulted in a tie between the 1st and 2nd Div. with 72 points each; but this year's total must of necessity be less, as 18 points for cross-country will not be included. To save you any mental labour, here's the situation at a glance.

A Corps Signals,	maximum possible	56	minimum possible 44
1st Divl. Signals	,,	65	,, 53
2nd Divl. Signals	,,	59	,, 47

The situation is not without its possibilities, and (neutral for the nonce) we look forward with keenness to the equestrian events

Non-trophy events did not languish from lack of lustreful pots (phew! that sounds like Jeffery Farnol). Some keen competition resulted as follows.

The young soldiers' mile team race was won by Signalmen Passey, Dickens, Wells and Barlow of the 2nd Divl. Signals. Time 4 min. 58⅕ sec.

The young soldiers' mile relay was won by Signalmen Passey, Painter, O'Rourke and Beaumont of the 2nd Divl Signals. Time 4 min. 9⅕ sec.

Sigmn O'Brien (1st Div. Signals) Sigmn Matthews (2nd Div.) and Sigmn Petrie (1st Div.) finished the sack race in the order shown.

A Corps Signals produced the winning team in the bicycle relay (not forgetting the hair pin bend) in Captain Morrison, C.Q.M.S. Shilton, Corpl Green and Sigmn Bowen.

The 2nd Battn Wiltshire Regiment had a comparatively easy victory in the open relay in 2 min. 23⅘ sec.

Lieut.-Q.M. Clarke won the officers' race (but only just) from Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge and Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale, second and third respectively.

And now for the ladies and children. Ladies' race—1st Mrs. Farlow, 2nd Mrs. Benfield, 3rd Mrs. McGregor. Children under 8 years—1st Eric Rivers, 2nd Ronald Johnson, 3rd Herbert Johnson. Children over 8 years—1st Raymond Larcombe, 2nd Joan Dimmer, 3rd Fred Peacock.

Had there been a welkin there, it would certainly have rung whilst these races were in progress. The lady who lost her cosmetics in this race must have gone home, as two S.O.S.s failed to find the owner. It's not too late yet, madam—or mademoiselle, as the case may be.

The Mudge cup relay race, counting for 1935/36, was won by the officers. The first three "old soldiers" home were C.Q.M.S. New, Major Spencer and Sergt Pye.

Direction finding, as practised in the Band race, proved highly diverting to the crowd. The big drum was spirited about the field, and ever and anon boomed to the discomfiture and confusion of blindfolded bandsmen barging about with blaring brass in the wake of the boom. Eventually L/Corpl Skinner and Bandsman Smith were adjudged the winners. And the drummer, who did not run competitively, got second prize in the old soldiers' race. Work that out!

The motor cycle team event was at once an innovation, a novelty, a success, and an item worth its place in future meetings. Teams of four "exhausted" down the 220 yards track, tent-pegged looped pegs with crook sticks, picked up rings, and burst balloons with .455 blank—or endeavoured to, as the case may be. L/Corporals Edwards and Linnington and Signalmen Lunt and Hornett annexed the prize for the 1st Divl Signals, A Corps Signals and 2nd Divl Signals being second and third respectively.

The cable wagons were man-handled to compensate for the unavoidably postponed inter-communication relay race, and the spectators appeared to appreciate the compromise. The 2nd Divl Signals were adjudged winners, and A Corps Signals and 1st Divl Signals second and third respectively.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. G. E. Sampson, wife of the Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command, and at the same time the opportunity was taken to present the following trophies won but not presented during preceding months:—

Mudge Cup—All Games: Officers.
Rawson Shield—Cricket (1934): 2nd Divisional Signals.
Willan Trophy—Boxing: 1st Divisional Signals.
Hitchens Cup—Rugby: A Corps Signals.
Powell Cup—Miniature Range: Air Defence Brigade Signals.
Cross-Country Shield (five runs): 1st Divisional Signals.

And so, as we go to press, the Prickett cup and the Worlledge horse wait for the vet. to say "M and D." Both from a social and athletic point of view, a high standard was aimed at. And achieved!

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Signals Week.—This commenced on the 22nd July and came to a conclusion on Sunday the 28th. The weather was kind, and everyone had an enjoyable time.

The main competition associated with Signals Week is the inter-unit competition for the Prickett cup, which unfortunately is still undecided. Everything considered, however, it looks as though the 1st Divl Signals will walk away with the trophy; but as we have said before, we shall have to "wait and see." That is a wonderful saying, and no doubt, in years to come, it will be one of the main reasons why we remember a certain eminent statesman who has passed from us.

Congratulations are extended to all who took part in the sports, and especially the following who won events for A Corps.

Pole jump—Signalmen Greenwood and Davis. Total 18 ft. Sigmn Greenwood won this event.

Three miles team race—A Corps Signals and 2nd Divl Signals tied for first place in this event, having equal points. A Corps team was L/Corpl Grigg and Signalmen Porter, Relph and Jennings.

Throwing the discus—Corpl Jerram and L/Corpl McKeer, who threw 191 ft. 4 in.

Mile team race—Winning team, L/Corpl Grigg and Signalmen Jennings, Kendall and Porter. Time 4 min. 48⅗ sec.

Although as a team A Corps Signals occupied third place, we were not disgraced, as a survey of the results in another column will show. All who competed must be congratulated on the marked improvement upon last year, when we managed to scrape together only half the points that our rivals scored. Next year we hope to go one better and finish on top.

Swimming.—The unit swimming sports take place on the 28th August at the Command swimming baths, so (all being well) I shall have plenty to write about next month.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Athletics.—The 2nd Divl Signals' annual athletic championships, held at the Royal Signal sports ground, Mons Barracks, on Thursday 25th July, resulted in a good victory for No. 2 Company, who secured the inter-Company challenge trophy with a total of 63 points, a margin of 8½ points separating them from the runners-up, No. 1 Company. A feature of the meeting was provided by the winners' javelin team, who threw a distance of 305 ft. 8 in., an improvement of 11 ft. 2½ in. on the total returned by the 2nd Battalion Camerons in the recent Command team championships.

The Royal Signal Band, paying its annual visit to Aldershot for the Old Comrades' reunion, played during the afternoon. Prior to presenting the prizes, Mrs. Phayre Mudge, wife of the com-

manding officer, was presented with a beautiful bouquet by Mrs. Kneebone, wife of R.S.M. Kneebone.

The following were the officials. President and Chief Judge: Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge, O.B.E. Hon. Secretary: Captain W. C. V. Galwey, M.C. Assistant Judges: Major J. C. McDonald, M.C., Captain H. Bartlett, Captain G. W. Odell, Captain C. Knowles, Lieut. W. M. Ponsonby, Lieutenant H. V. Ewbank, Lieutenant L. D. M. Patterson, 2/Lieut. G. A. Dutton, R.S.M. Kneebone. Time-keeper: Lieut. A. Thomson. Starters: Lieut.-Q.M. W. Clark, Sergeant Leath G. Marshals: R.Q.M.S. Wensley, C.S.M. Robertson and C.S.M. Purseglove. Recorders: Sergt Kitchen, L/Corpl Hart.

INTER-COMPANY TROPHY EVENTS.

440 yards relay—1, No. 2 Company ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, No. 3 ; 4, D Troop. Time, 48 sec.
880 yards relay—1, No. 2 Company ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, No. 3 ; 4, D Troop. Time, 1 min. 39⅘ sec.
One mile relay—1, No. 2 Company ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, D Troop ; 4, No. 3 Company. Time, 3 min. 50 sec.
Three miles relay—1, No. 1 Company ; 2, No. 3 ; 3, No. 2 ; 4, D Troop. Time, 9 min. 9/10 sec.
480 yards hurdles relay—1, No. 2 Company ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, No. 3. Time, 1 min. 22⅘ sec.
One mile team race—1, No. 1 Company ; 2, No. 3 ; 3, No. 2. Time, 5 min. 50 sec.
High jump—1, No. 2 Company, 10 ft. 4 in. ; 2, No. 1 Company and D Troop tied ; 3, No. 3 Company.
Long jump—1, No. 2 Company, 38 ft. ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, No. 3 ; 4, D Troop.
Throwing the javelin—1, No. 2 Company, 305 ft. 8 in. ; 2, No. 3 ; 3, No. 1 ; 4, D Troop.
Throwing the hammer—1, No. 2 Company, 169 ft. 8 in. ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, D Troop ; 4, No. 3 Company.
Putting the weight—1, No. 2 Company, 63 ft. 6 in. ; 2, No. 1 ; 3, No. 3 ; 4, D Troop.
Throwing the discus—1, No. 3 Company, 168 ft. 10 in. ; 2, No. 2 ; 3, D Troop ; 4, No. 1 Company.
Final points—1, No. 2 Company, 63 ; 2, No. 1 Company, 54 ; 3, No. 3 Company, 49 ; 4, D Troop, 19.

NON-CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

Dismounted V.C. race—1, K Section.
Veterans' race—1, Lieut.-Q.M. W. Clark ; 2, Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Phayre Mudge ; 3, Sergt Hay.
Band race (blindfold, " follow the drum ")—1, Bdsmn Gibbons ; 2, Bdsmn Mason.
Ladies' race—1, Miss Hobbs ; 2, Mrs. Savage ; 3, Mrs. Lavender.
Sack race—1, Sigmn Barker ; 2, Driver Kinson ; 3, Sigmn Sellars.
Thread the needle race—1, Miss Eaton and Lieut. Williams ; 2, Miss Hobbs and Sergt Manning.
Potato race—1, Sigmn Barker, No. 1 Company ; 2, Signalman Greaves, D Troop ; 3, Sigmn Rigby, No. 1 Company.
Boat race—1, A Section.
Boys' race (under 14)—1, David Hughes ; 2, James Frarey.
Girls' race (under 14)—1, May Chandler ; 2, Dorothy Udale.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Cricket.—We have played only four matches since our last notes appeared, with results as follows:—

v. H.Q. Wing, Worcester Regiment, away, lost by 40—64 (C.Q.M.S. Yates four for 7)
v. H.Q. Wing, Worcester Regiment, home, won by 78—15 (L/Corpl Mohrstadt 34 and five for 1 ; Williams five for 8)
v. No. 1 Company, 1st Divl Signals (Cobb trophy) won by 68 for four—35 (Williams 23 retired, Hampson 18 ; Mohrstadt five for 17, L/Sergt Stanley five for 16)
v. Command Pay Office, home, won by 98 for five—83 (Williams 50 not out)

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—It was not possible to give any account of the Salisbury Plain Area or the Southern Command championships in last month's issue, owing to camp.

The S.P.A. championship was held at the Oval, Tidworth, on the 18th and 19th June. On the first day the finals of the discus, hammer, pole vault, three miles team, and eliminating heats of the 440 yards, 880 yards, one mile and two miles relay races were run. We were placed last in the hammer (Bain, three " no throws "), sixth in the pole vault, second in the discus, and last in the three miles team race. By the end of the day's running we were placed fourth out of the nine teams competing, and everyone imagined that either the 5th Tank Brigade or the Royal Army Ordnance Corps would win the cup.

The final day brought a complete reversal of the order of the teams: we sprang into the lead after winning the shot putt, hurdles and high jump, and finishing well up in the other events. Thus we won the S.P.A. cup once more, and had earned our right to compete in the Southern Command championship in the following week.

In this, the first day was allotted to a few finals: discus, hammer and pole vault. At the end of the day we were lying last of the four teams competing—the others being the York and Lancaster Regiment, the Royal Sussex Regiment and the Ordnance Corps.

The second day brought several disasters. We were disqualified in the hurdles, in which we had a very good chance of coming first, and this upset the team, who never really recovered confidence until the final race, the one mile relay. In this, our team (Signalmen West, Lawson, Griffiths, Hastings, in that order) ran a wonderful race and we finished easy winners. A very fine effort, especially as all our quarter-milers had just previously run half miles in the two miles relay. Winning this race in some way compensated for the fact that we finished last of the four teams in the Southern Command championship.

Our defeat was due chiefly to the fact that our long distance teams were not up to the standard of previous years, and also to competitors having to run in three or even more events—thus preventing them from giving their best in any one event. The team for the S.P.A. was as follows:—

440 yards relay—2/Lieut. Read, L/Corporals McLaughlan and Black, L/Sergt Murphy.
880 yards relay—2/Lieut. Read, L/Corpls McLaughlan and Black, Sigmn Harris.
One mile and two miles relays—Signalmen West, Lawson, Griffiths, Hastings.
One mile team—Signalmen Smither, Cook, Brooks, Morris.
Three miles team—Signalmen Smither, Cook, Hudson, Strickland.
Pole vault—Sigmn Kings, L/Corpl Black.
High jump—L/Corporals Moore (Tank Brigade Signals) and Abrahams.
Long jump—L/Corporals Abrahams and Jerram.
120 yards hurdles—2/Lieut. Read, L/Sergt Murphy, L/Corporal Abrahams, Corpl McKenzie.
Shot putt—2/Lieut. Read, Sigmn Lane.
Discus—Corpl McKenzie, Sigmn Bain.
Javelin—2/Lieut. Read, L/Corpl Abrahams.
Hammer—L/Sergt Murphy, Sigmn Bain.

The same team, except for a few alterations, ran in the Southern Command. In the 440 yards relay 2/Lieut. Western (who is now a fit man) ran in L/Corpl Black's place. In the 880 yards relay Sigmn Callan took 2/Lt. Read's place. In the 120 yards hurdles Sigmn Hall took Corpl McKenzie's place. In the discus 2/Lieut. Read replaced Corpl McKenzie.

On the 20th July we ran the last race of the season at the R.A.S.C. sports, and were second in the invitation open relay race. The team included: 220 yards, 2/Lieut. Read and L/Sgt Murphy ; 440 yards, Sigmn Griffiths ; 880 yards, Sigmn West.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Cricket.—The following matches have been played since our last notes. These conclude our 1935 season, as the unit will be on manœuvres until the end of September. Next month, I hope to publish a full table of batting and bowling averages.

13th July v. Canterbury Juniors, at home. Won by 72—37. Sigmn Cox four for 10, L/Corpl Lundie six for 27.
17th July v. St. Augustine's College, away. Lost by 108—115. Sigmn Cox 51 ; L/Corpl Lundie five for 29.
18th July v. Margate C.C. at home. Won by 166 for eight—101. L/Corpl Lundie 54, R.S.M. McGregor 39 not out.
20th July v. Ramsgate St. Georges, away. Lost by 88—109 for four. L/Corpl Lundie 45.

21st July v. National Liberal Club, London, away. Won by 212—142 and 61. Sigmn Cox 85, Lieut. Lewis 46, L/Corpl Lundie 37 ; R.S.M. McGregor five for 34, Corpl Wellock four for 12, Sigmn Willis three for 16.
25th July v. The Royal Scots, at home. Won by 128 for six—59. Lieut. Lewis 60 not out and five for 10.
26th July v. Hastings Police, away. Won by 229 for three—69. L/Cpl Lundie retired 102, Corpl Wellock 63, R.S.M. McGregor 32 not out ; Corpl Coton five for 12.
27th July v. Chartham C.C. at home. Lost by 102—126 for six. L/Corpl Lundie 28, R.S.M. McGregor 23 ; Corpl Wellock five for 31.
3rd August v. Whitstable and Tankerton C.C. at home. Won by 206 for three—97. Corpl Wellock 87 not out, L/Corporal Lundie 40.
8th August v. Herne Bay C.C. away. Drew at 208—170 for eight.
13th August v. Old Heronians, at home. Drew at 153—111 for nine. Corpl Coton 34, Corpl Wellock 29, R.S.M. McGregor 23 ; Sigmn Cox five for 44.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Swimming.—On Monday 8th July a team from the Company swam against U Field Battery R.A. and emerged the victors by 13—11 points. The results were as follows.

One length free style—Won by the R.A. after a very close race in which we were disqualified for crossing.
Plunging—Won by the R.A. by 5 in. after very keen competition.
One length back stroke—This was an easy victory for us. Signal team: L/Sergt Matthew and Sigmn Jackson.
One length breast stroke—Won by us by nearly half a length. Signal team: Sergt Mackie and Sigmn Davidson.
Diving—Won by Signals (Lieut. Thompson and L/Sgt Matthew).
Medley race, one length—Won by us by a length. Signal team: Signalmen Jackson, Nelson and Davidson, Lieut. Thompson.
Two lengths free style—Won by Signals by a length. Team: Lt. Thompson, L/Sgt Matthew, Signalmen Smith and Nelson.
Water polo—This game was very keenly contested, and despite lack of practice our team put up a creditable performance and only lost to a more experienced side by 2—3 goals. With a little more practice, our team should do well.

Rugby.—After a series of instructive lectures by Major C. A. Murray and a few hours hard practice each week, we at last made our belated appearance in public when we played H.Q. Wing of the 1st Battn The King's Regiment on Friday 12th July. The game, although very one sided and greatly in our favour, revealed the fact that we are likely to go far in the Harwood Little cup this year. Our three-quarters were in great scoring form, and much credit is due to Lieut. Stoddart and Signalmen Keen'eyside and Nelson for their brilliant tries. At half time we were leading by 16 points to nil, and when the whistle blew for time our lead was advanced to 27 points to nil.

The following represented the S.T.C. (I.): Corporal Wright ; Sigmn Keenleyside, Lieut. Stoddart, Sigmn Burns and Lieutenant Eraut ; Signalmen Nelson and Sanders ; Sergt Bramwe'l, L/Cpl Wallis, Signalmen Knox and Cockcroft, Corpl Gourlay, Lieut. Hoysted, Sigmn Bourner, Sergt Wagg.

On Tuesday 16th July we played C Company 1st Battn The King's Regiment, and again emerged from the game as worthy winners.

In the opening stages the King's had the better of the game, confining us to our own half of the field for ten minutes. Following this, during a forward rush we were awarded a penalty on our opponents' 25 line from which Sigmn Nelson annexed the points. This score did much to inspire our side, and the game developed more swing, each team in turn pressing hard. Following a fine run by our three's Sigmn Hampton got over for a try well out, but Sigmn Nelson failed to add the extra points. At this stage the backs of both teams were fielding and kicking well.

During the early stages of the second half Corpl Wright sent L/Corpl Wallace away from a cross kick to score near the posts, and Sigmn Nelson converted. Shortly after this Sigmn Cockcroft scored under the posts, and again Sigmn Nelson brought out the full points. Although we were scoring fairly freely, our opponents did not slacken, and only some strong tackling by our side prevented them from scoring. In the closing stages we were awarded a penalty between midfield and our opponents' 25 line, but Lieut. Eraut was unsuccessful with his kick. Final score—Signals, one penalty goal, one try, two goals (16 points) ; King's Regiment, nil.

Team—Corpl Wright ; Sigmn Hampton, Lieutenant Stoddart, Signalmen Burns and Keenleyside; Signalmen Sanders and Nelson; Sergt Wagg, Signalmen Bourner and Cockcroft, Lieut. McMunn, L/Corpl Talbot, Lieut. Eraut, L/Corpl Wallis, Sergt Bramwell.

Corporals Room.

Hockey.—On Sunday 7th July a hockey match was played against the warrant officers and sergeants (a friendly). It was a good clean game, and although the corporals won, the score flattered them. The sergeants had real hard luck at times. We want to do this in the Younger cup competition.

Liquid refreshments were provided, and they were greatly needed. One or two promising players were discovered during this game. L/Corpl Roberts played like a veteran, whilst Willie Payne was a tower of strength at back, even though he weighs only 6 st. 4 lb. with all his clothes wet.

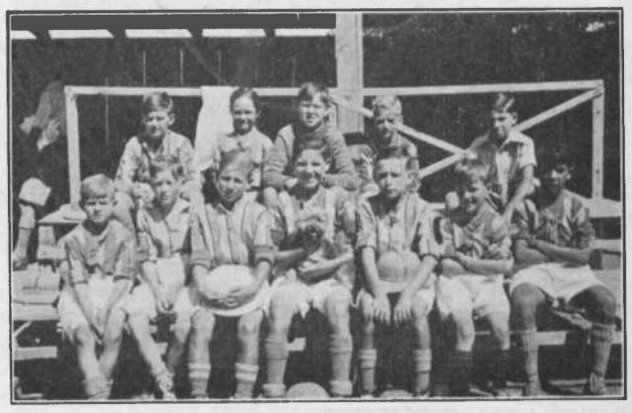
Now that the monsoon has broken, we cannot get another hockey match for some weeks.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Upper Topa.

Rugby.—Owing to the monsoons, games have been few and far between during the past month. However, this is good weather for rugby, and a team which is being built up shows great promise. We have had one match up to date, v. the 2nd Battalion South Wales Borderers, on Thursday 1st August. Considering we had only been in training for a week, the result was quite gratifying, and although we lost by 4 points (a beautiful drop goal by Sigmn McConnell) to 14, we were by no means disgraced. With more practice and with a full team, we shall be able to give our opponents something to think about before the end of the season.

Football.—Two games of football have been played, the first against the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who had just returned from competing against the best clubs in India in the I.F.A. shield competition at Calcutta. After a very good game, in parts of which the Div. played brilliant football, we were victorious by 2—1 goals. L/Corpl Bundy scored from a penalty, and Sigmn Cox J. came along with a beauty. The other game was against the S.W.B.s. After being two goals down at half time, our team crowded on full sail and the final result was a draw of two goals each.

Schoolboys' Football.—A pleasant innovation of this present hill season has been the raising of a successful football team among the boys by Sergt Richards (A.E.C.). In former years, paucity of talent did not allow the running of an eleven. This year, however, sufficient talent was available to raise a good team, and results have justified the experiment. The boys, all from families of Signal units in the Northern Command, have responded in splendid fashion and have displayed football far



School Boys Football Team, Royal Signals, Upper Topa, 1935

above the average found in Army schools in India. Up to the present, three games have been played with the following results:

24/5/35 v. Royal Air Force School, Lower Topa, won by 12—0
15/6/35 v. Cliffden and Murree Schools, at Gharial, drew at 4—4
29/6/35 v. Cliffden and Murree Schools, on the Army ground, Murree, won by 2—1

Outstanding among the players were the brothers Cozens (Roy and Maurice), Jack Saul and Jimmy Bew. These boys formed the backbone of the team. The remainder were young and inexperienced, but nevertheless played their part in the excellent team work which has been noticeable in every game. Further games are being arranged. A photo of the team is shown.

Hockey.—Owing to the state of the ground, no hockey has been played during the month.

Tennis.—In the recent all ranks tennis tournament, the doubles winners were Captain Morgan and Mr. Steward, with Sergeants Ellerton-Long and Wyeth as runners-up. The singles final between Sigmn Mobberley and L/Corpl Cuthbertson has not been played owing to the indisposition of Mobberley.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket.—One match has been played this month in the hot weather tournament, and this we lost by the narrow margin of two runs. R.A.F. " B," 81 ; Kohat District Signals, 79.

Tennis.—Two matches in the hot weather tournament have been played, both our "A" and " B " teams losing to the R.A.F. " B." R.A.F. " B " 8 sets ; 50 games. Signals "A" 1 set ; 24 games. R.A.F. " B " 8 sets ; 57 games. Signals " B " 1 set ; 32 games. Both these matches were played on our opponents' courts, and we hope to have our revenge when the return fixtures are played.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Tennis.—On the 14th July the unit tennis competitions were brought to a close before an enthusiastic audience, among whom were the C.S.O. and his wife, the C.O. and all officers of the unit. Mrs. Bald kindly presented the cups to the winners. Open singles, Sigmn Dransfield ; Sigmn Mitcheson runner-up. Open doubles, Signalmen Clayton and Walker ; Signalmen Healy and Smith A. runners-up. Handicap singles, Sigmn Mason ; Sigmn Dransfield runner-up. Handicap doubles, Signalmen Dransfield and Stevens ; Signalmen Barrow and Anderson runners-up.

There were approximately fifty entrants from the unit who played in one or more of the events. Not a bad figure, really. No wonder the committee " stepped up " as they did.

The C. of E. Junior Ranks League is still in progress, with No. 1 Company team doing exceptionally well. The R.A.F. "A" team has beaten us on both occasions by a small margin, otherwise the remaining opposing teams have been severely dealt with. No. 3 Company team has not done so well—a lesson to be remembered next year, when I think "A" and " B " teams should replace separate Company teams.

The Command competition, in which we have drawn a bye up to date, is eagerly anticipated.

J Section.

Swimming and Water Polo.—Results: v. M Section won relay, and polo by 3—2 ; v. Troop and Unit H.Q. lost relay, and polo by 0—2 ; v. K Section lost relay, and won polo by 3—0 ; v. Command Signal Section won relay, and drew polo at 2—2 ; v. A Section lost relay, and drew polo at 1—1 ; v. B Cable lost relay, and won polo by 3—1. The greatest surprise in the swimming was the defeat of B Cable at our hands at water polo, much to the delight of our trainer Terence.

Cricket.—Results: v. A Section lost by 14 runs ; v. Troop and Unit H.Q. won by 33 runs ; v. M Section lost by one wicket ; v. B Cable won by three wickets ; v. K Section won by 167 runs ; v. Command Signal Section lost by six wickets.

Billiards.—So far, we have played all Sections (except B Cable) twice, our only losses being to Command Signal Section twice and K Section and Signal Troop once, which places us third,

Shanghai Signal Section.

Cricket.—The team is still going strong, and following are the results to date:—

11/6/35 v. Shanghai Municipal Police, lost
13/6/35 v. H.Q. Royal Irish Fusiliers, lost
25/6/35 v. R.A.M.C. won
3/7/35 v. H.M.S. *Tern*, won
6/7/35 v. B Company Royal Irish Fusiliers, won
8/7/35 v. P.O. *Carthage*, lost

Tientsin Signal Section.

Sports.—A very interesting tennis match was held against the seniors, i.e. the Garrison Staff Sergeants Mess. Once again we were wiped off the face of the court, but the aftermath went definitely to the juniors.

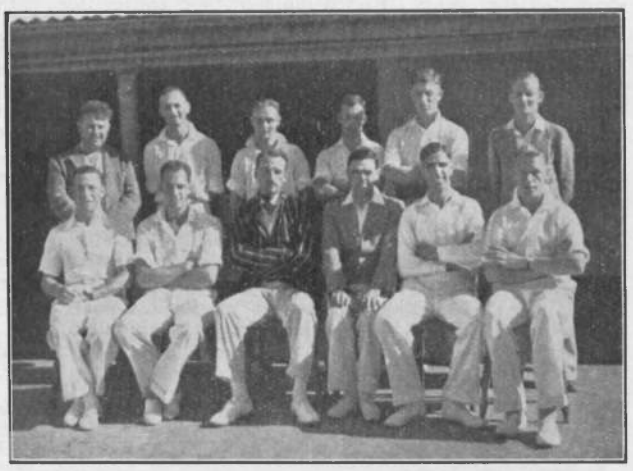
As the aftermath consisted of poki di, including a novel kind of " silence poki di," the result can be better imagined than described, especially when Freddie said in a very injured tone " I don't know " on being asked the number of aces. Still, he paid.

As everyone enjoyed themselves tremendously, there has been a general demand for another series of games. This will probably come off after Shanhaikuan, when we shall be able to field our strongest team. We feel certain that we can lick 'em.

The following are the cricket scores up to date of the Staff and Departmentals Cricket Club. Against the Tientsin Grammar School, T.G.S. 94, S. and D. 160. Against the Garrison Sergeants Mess, G.S.M. 113, and the Junior Staff Mess only got 32 in reply. Well! well! Against the Tientsin Cricket Club, T.C.C. 238, S. and D. 172. Against the Machine Gun Company of the 2nd Worcester Regiment, M.G. Company 80, S. and D. 66.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Aquatic sports would appear, this year, to have taken second place in our activities, while cricket has received a much needed fillip. The only rowing event in which we competed was the May Day race, when the 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders defeated us in the first round.



Gibraltar Section Cricket Team, 1935.

Apart from the assistance which several of our players have rendered to the Staff and Departments teams (senior and junior) we have played twenty cricket matches to date, of which we have won eleven. The enclosed photo of the team was taken during the tea interval of one of our matches.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

The unit sports were carried out during annual training at Long Bredy, Dorset, with the following results.

100 yards—1st, No. 2 Company ; 2nd, No. 1 ; 3rd, No. 3
220 yards—1st, No. 1 Company ; 2nd, No. 2 ; 3rd, No. 3

440 yards—1st, No. 2 Company ; 2nd, No. 1 ; 3rd, No. 3
880 yards—1st, No. 2 Company ; 2nd, No. 1 ; 3rd, No. 3
Obstacle race—1st, No. 1 Company ; 2nd, No. 3 ; 3rd, No. 2
Mixed mile relay—1st, No. 2 Company ; 2nd, No. 3 ; 3rd, No. 1
All ranks relay—1st, No. 3 Company ; 2nd, No. 2 ; 3rd, No. 1
Tug of war—1st, No. 3 Company ; 2nd, No. 1 ; 3rd, No. 2
Open mile—1st, 2/Lieut. L. H. Clemas (No. 1 Company) ; 2nd, Sigmn Baker (No. 224 F.A. Signal Section) ; 3rd, Corpl Collett (No. 2 Company)

The presentation of trophies was made while the unit was in camp, the honours being won as shown.

Gould cup (open range practices, Company teams of three)—No. 3 Company, 178 points. Best shot, Corpl Judge A. J. (No. 1 Company) 68 points.
Michelmore trophy (best Section on miniature range, averaged)—J Section, average 58.76
Football shield—No. 3 Company ; runners-up, No. 1
Moore efficiency trophy—No. 2 Company
Murray cup (athletics, based on unit sports results)—1st, No. 2 Company, 15 points ; 2nd, No. 1, 12 ; 3rd, No. 3, 8.
Odell cup (recruits .303 practice)—No. 1 Company, average 34.57. Best shot, Sigmn Gilchrist (No. 1 Company)
Varwell cup (boxing in camp)—No. 1 Company. Five bouts were arranged, and the following received medals:—Signalmen Miles, Petherick R. A. L., Phillips, Pike (all of No. 1 Company) and L/Corpl Challice (No. 3)
Roberts cup (cross-country run, open to all ranks under 30 years of age)—1st, No. 3 Company, 80 points ; 2nd, No. 2, 81 ; 3rd, No. 1, 195. First man in, Sergeant Colwell (No. 3 Company). Time 17 min. Distance approximately 2½ miles over broken hill country.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals

Combined Sports.—The inter-unit sports of the 46th (North Midland) Divl Signals and the 49th (West Riding) Divl Signals, held at the combined camp of the two units at Redcar on the 9th August, resulted in a well-deserved victory for the 46th, who won by 36—25 points. There was plenty of good and entertaining sport, and the events attracted representative entries from both units.

The inter-unit communication race—in which a pole with flag and tents, shelter, had to be erected, a line laid and message passed over and finally delivered to an officer by orderly and D.R.—resulted in an easy win for the 46th, whose two teams both completed the course while the 49th did not finish. The West Riding unit, however, put up a very much stronger resistance in the tug-of-war, and there was a really fine show before the 46th gained the verdict. Captain R. J. de C. Barber (46th) and Captain W. L. S. Moxon (49th) were the chief whips, but their duties did not prevent them from putting up a good fight in the tilting the bucket event, which was eventually won after much amusement by Signalmen Corfield and Collar of the 46th.

The prizes were jointly presented by Lieut.-Colonel G. J. Underwood (46th) and Lieut.-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (49th) who were each heartily cheered. There was a good attendance of visitors, and the detailed results were as follow.

100 yards, boys—1, Boy McNish, 46th ; 2, Boy Wood, 49th ; 3, Boy Collar, 46th.
100 yards, open—1, Sigmn Olver, 46th ; 2, Sigmn Wynne, 49th ; 3, Sigmn Clarke, 49th.
Half mile, open—1, Lieut. Woodland, 49th ; 2, Sigmn Christie, 49th.
Old soldiers' race—1, Sergt Coupland, 46th ; 2, Sergt Emmens, 49th ; C.S.M. Cooke, M.B.E., 46th.
Obstacle race—1, Sigmn Wynne, 49th ; 2, Sigmn Howe, 49th ; 3, Sigmn France, 49th.
Inter-unit race—1, 46th Divl Signals. Team, Signalmen Hall C., Taylor W., Clarke and Reynolds.
Tug-of-war—46th Divl Signals.
Sack race—1, Sigmn Casey, 49th ; 2, Sigmn Dudley, 46th ; 3, Sigmn Reynolds, 46th.
Inter-unit communication race—1, 46th Divisional Signal B Cable Detachment ; 2, 46th Divl Signal Telephone Section. The 49th Div. team did not finish.
440 yards, open—1, Sigmn Olver, 46th ; 2, Sigmn Wynne, 49th ; 3, Sigmn Hall, 46th.
Tilting the bucket—Signalmen Corfield and Collar, 46th.
One mile race, open—1, Sigmn Christie, 49th ; 2, Lieutenant Woodland, 49th ; 3, Sergt Speight, 49th.
The medley race, officers race and sergeants mess tug-of-war were cancelled.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals

The following are the results of the sports held at annual camp, and referred to in the Unit Notes on another page.

Sports cup—Won by No. 3 Company (Kirkcaldy)
Tabloid sports—1st, K Section (Kirkcaldy) ; 2nd, D Section (Aberdeen) ; 3rd, J Section (Kirkcaldy)
Football cup—Won by No. 2 Company (Stirling)
Football 2nd Eleven—Won by No. 3 Company
Tug-of-war cup—Won by No. 2 Company
Basket ball—Won by No. 2 Company
Boxing cup—Won by No. 2 Company
Boxing—Bantam weight, Sigmn Brown (No. 2 Company). Light weight, Sigmn Murray (No. 2) ; Sigmn Burns (No. 2). Welter weight, Sigmn Riddle (No. 3). Fly weight, Sigmn Lumslie (No. 1).
Swimming—Won by No. 1 Company (Aberdeen)
Visual signalling cup—Won by No. 3 Company
Company lines cup—Won by No. 1 Company
Drill cup—Won by No. 1 Company
Old soldiers' race—1st, Sergeant Rollo (No. 1 Company) ; 2nd, Sergt Law (No. 2) ; 3rd, Corpl Wilkie (No. 2)
Ladies' race—1st, Mrs. Hadley ; 2nd, Mrs. McKinnon ; 3rd, Miss Montgomery
Boys' race—1st, Alex Williamson (Aberdeen) ; 2nd, Norman Niven (St. Andrews) ; 3rd, William Wilson (Dunfermline)
Girls' race—1st, Sheila Niven (St. Andrews) ; 2nd, Lily Malley (Stirling) ; 3rd, Jose Lamont (St. Andrews)

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VOL. XVI.—No. 188 OCTOBER, 1935 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

The Corps in India.—We are indebted to Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., for permission to publish the following tribute to the work of Royal Signals employed with the Burma Military Police:—

[*Copy of letter dated 17th July* 1935]

From The Commandant, Reserve Battalion, Burma Military Police, Pyawbwe.
To The Commandant, Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

In my forwarding endorsement No. 1864-12 W/T of the 11th February 1934, to Captain Bowen's Report (page 2 of the "Reports on the Work of the Wireless Group in connection with the Operations in the Wa States—February to May 1934) I wrote:—

> "No praise can be too great for Captain Bowen and his two British N.C.O. Assistants—all lent by the Royal Corps of Signals—for what they have achieved, and Burma owes to their Corps an expression of thanks and appreciation which I trust will not be forgotten."

Possibly "Burma . . . . have forgotten ?" but I should now —in 1935—like to add to the above the names of Captain Higgs and Sergt Kirby, and tell you how extremely grateful we are to you for what you have done to help us.

I can assure you that the reputation and opinion of your Corps are considered very highly by all here.

Both Officers and N.C.O.s have set a splendid example, and I could not hope for better fellows, in every sense of the word.

So I hope you will do what you can to help us over their reliefs. It is most unfortunate that all are going at the same time, but it cannot be helped, and if we get again men similar to those we have had, I have no fear of any difficulties.

Thank you very much indeed for what you have done for us.

Corps Rugby Matches, 1935.—It is notified for general information that there has been an alteration in the fixture dates of the 1935 Corps Rugby matches as published in our September issue. They have now been amended to read as follows:—

The Corps v. Royal Engineers (Command Ground, Aldershot) Monday 11th November.
The Corps v. The R.M.A. (at Woolwich) Wednesday 13th November.
The Corps v. The Royal Artillery (Command Ground, Aldershot) Friday 29th November.

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Correspondence.—Will those who have occasion to communicate with the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, kindly note that the correct address for such correspondence is

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE,
CATTERICK CAMP, YORKSHIRE.

Richmond should *not* be included in the address.

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Unit Notes.—Owing to the heavy demands on space and the accumulation of copy on hand awaiting publication, it has been found necessary to curtail a number of contributions recently submitted.

The Publications Committee would be grateful if those responsible for compiling Unit Notes will, in future, effect as much economy of space as possible in the composition of their monthly articles, thus obviating the necessity of what may appear to be severe editorial modifications during the process of preparing the Magazine for publication.

The continued co-operation of all concerned in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

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Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Displays, 1935.—The concluding notes for the season are published on page 458 in this issue, and are aptly illustrated by our esteemed cartoonist Mr. B. P. McCann.

We are asked to announce that whilst the Display party were at the Nottingham Tattoo, the Columbia Gramophone Company recorded our signature tune "The Musical Horse" (composed specially for the Displays by Bandmaster R. R. Ricketts), together with the Corps March. This record (Columbia No. D.B. 1577) is now on sale to the public, and can be obtained from any gramophone record dealer. THE EDITOR.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Late Editorial.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Indian Signal Corps is holding a Reunion and Silver Jubilee celebration at the Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore, from the 10th to the 15th February 1936—the first Indian Signal unit having been raised on the 11th February 1911. The Commandant, Signal Training Centre (India), will be pleased to hear from any old member of the original five units—the 31st, 32nd, 33rd and 34th Signal Companies, and No. 41 Wireless Signal Squadron, Sappers and Miners—and hopes that any old comrades who are still in India will be able to attend the celebration.

Signals Association Notes

Exeter Branch.

Our membership now totals seventy-two, and if all those promises mature we should get our hundred before the year ends. The General Secretary's congratulations in acknowledging the receipt of our list of members are much appreciated.

Our Committee met early in September to consider the winter programme, etc., and it was decided to concentrate on making the Reunion, which is to be held at Exeter either on the 16th or 23rd November, a thumping big success. If any members of other Branches are likely to be in the locality at that time, their presence would be welcome.

The memory of the exceedingly pleasant trip to Bulford in July for the O.C.A. Reunion will long be kept fresh. Our party numbered fifteen, which was not a bad effort for our first attendance as a Branch. Everyone is deeply appreciative of the splendid manner in which our good friends the 3rd Divl Signals organised the affair, and of the good feeling and wonderful hospitality they extended to their visitors. I can assure them that our Exeter party are extremely grateful; and, dear Barleux, Joe Sweeting wasn't the only one who experienced difficulty in saying goodbye!

OLD SPARK.

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, London	Porter
2	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Miner
3	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Hotel work
5	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Assembler
6	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Grinder
7	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Transport Driver
8	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Telephone Operator
9	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Labourer
10	Ex-N.C.O. London	Hotel work
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Labourer
14	Ex-N.C.O. Essex	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Groom
16	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Messenger
21	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesbrough	Sorter, G.P.O.
22	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Electric Welder
23	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	P.O. employment
25	Ex-N.C.O. London	Messenger
26	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. employment
27	Ex-N.C.O. London	Garage Attendant
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Attendant
29	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
30	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
31	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Barman
32	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Porter
33	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Porter
34	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Labourer
35	Ex-N.C.O. Durham	Clerk
36	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Watchman
37	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	G.P.O. Engineering Dept.
39	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Domestic Service
40	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Mr. J. Winkle.
Peshawar District Signals.
C.S.M. Campbell W. P., R.Signals.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—
Colonel G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Driver Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Driver London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	5	0
3	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
5	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	4	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Isle of Wight.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
7	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	2	6
8	Ex-Sigmn London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
9	Ex-Sigmn Sheffield.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn Dundee.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Ex-Sigmn Glasgow.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
12	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
13	Wife of N.C.O. India.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting Lists for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
18th September 1935.

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.

*2312911	Sergeant Packman W. J.	26/3/31
2311362	Sergeant Udell L. C.	11/4/31
5487819	Sergeant Pinkstone E. W. H.	18/5/31
*1859026	Sergeant Simmonds F. T.	20/6/31
1857249	Sergeant Maynard A. R.	29/6/31
2309787	Sergeant Leckyer F. E.	29/6/31

* To be absorbed into 50% establishment from 5% on promotion.

Home and Abroad 5%. India 4%. Rank and File. Class 15.

2309768	Corporal Williams A. M.	11/1/30
2315413	Corporal Lewis T.	13/1/30
2310732	L/Sergeant Kilford L.	23/1/30
2309494	L/Corporal Muir W.	25/1/30
1857681	Corporal Ray J. C.	25/1/30
2311707	L/Corporal Mayer T.	27/1/30

Yours faithfully, I. C. ANGUS, Lieutenant.
for Colonel i/c R.Signal Records.

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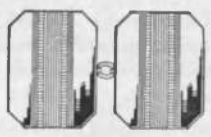

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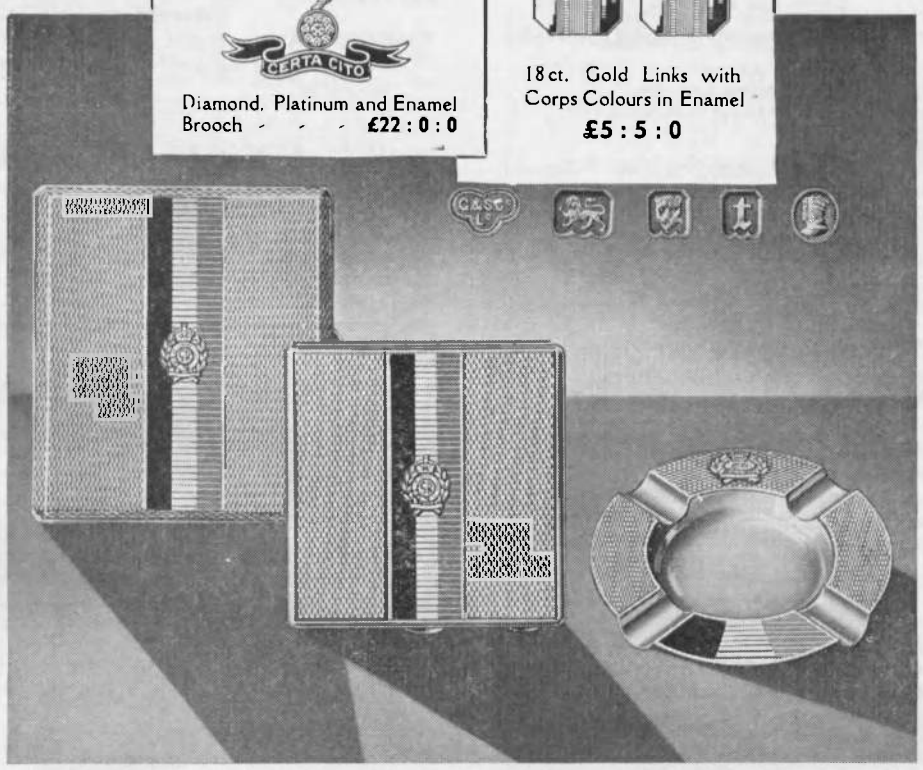

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Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lt.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss from Scarborough to War Office
Lt.-Colonel H. G. Henderson from India to Scarborough
Captain W. S. Wasey from London to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Captain W. H. G. Rogers from Woolwich to India (A.H.Q.)
Captain W. D. J. Harries from Bulford to S.E.E.
Lt. R. G. Yolland from Scarborough to Cambridge University
Lieut. F. P. Rickard from Catterick to Cambridge University
Lt. G. H. K. Hewlett from Tidworth to Cambridge University
Lieut. F. W. P. Bradford from Catterick to London (A.D.F. Signals, T.A.)
Lieut. J. F. Longfield from Catterick to Scarborough
2/Lt. T. de B. Miller from Aldershot to Cambridge University

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 13/8/35]

REGULAR ARMY—MEMORANDA

Lieut.-Colonel A. G. J. Copeland, h.p. list (late R.Signals) retires on Indian pension, 14/8/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. T. C. R. Walker to be Lieutenant, 10/8/35

55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—Lieut. C. H. Young, from T.A. Reserve of Officers, to be Lieutenant 14/8/35 with seniority 12/6/35

[War Office 16/8/35]

REGULAR ARMY—MEMORANDA

Lieutenant-Colonel R. V. Montgomery, M.C., half-pay list (late R.Signals) retires on retired pay, 15/8/35

[War Office 20/8/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

H. A. Metcalf to be 2/Lieutenant, 21/8/35

[War Office 23/8/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

53rd (W.) Divl Signals—Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., R.Signals, to be Honorary Colonel, 24/8/35

R. C. Angell to be 2/Lieutenant, 24/8/35

[War Office 27/8/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains:—

A. J. Keddie and remains seconded, 26/8/35
T. W. Boileau and remains seconded, 27/8/35
F. R. Booth and remains seconded, 27/8/35
W. D. Horniman and remains seconded, 27/8/35

[War Office 30/8/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains, 30/8/35:—

K. H. Treseder, H. C. B. Rogers

The undermentioned University candidates to be 2/Lieutenants, 31/8/35:—

P. W. Lonnon, with seniority 1/2/34 next below 2/Lieut. Walton G.
E. W. Townsend

The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets, from the R.M.A., to be 2/Lieutenants, 29/8/35:—

H. K. Milward, J. F. MacSwiney, M. H. N. Travers, A. J. M. Atthill

The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets, from the R.M.C., to be 2/Lieutenants, 29/8/35:—

A. G. Paris, B. A. H. Bogle

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. A. G. Coates to be Lieutenant, 18/6/35

[War Office 3/9/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants;—

E. C. R. Blaker, 1/9/35
G. S. K. Maydon, 1/9/35
A. C. R. Stead, 1/9/35
P. A. Duke, 1/9/35
T. G. V. Stephenson, 1/9/35
A. L. Atkinson, 1/9/35
F. P. Rickard, 2/9/35, with antedate for seniority only to 1/9/35, next below Lieut. A. C. R. Stead

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

53rd (W.) Divl Signals—2/Lieutenant H. E. Elliott resigns his commission, 10/7/35

[War Office 6/9/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. J. T. Addenbrooke resigns his commission, 6/9/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. J. Reid to be Lieutenant, 29/6/35

[War Office 10/9/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Captain W. Gilbert to have seniority 31/10/35

A Notable Indian Officer.

Subedar-Major Saminathan retired on the 1st June 1935 after twenty-nine years service with the Indian Signal Corps.

He enlisted on the 1st June 1906, reaching commissioned rank (Jemadar) in 1916, Subedar in 1918, and being promoted Subedar-Major in 1931.

He saw service in Mesopotamia in 1915-16, on the North-West Frontier in 1918, 1922-23 and again in 1930, and also in Burma in 1931-32; and in addition to receiving the medals for those campaigns, he was presented with H.M. the King's Silver Jubilee medal by the commanding officer of the 4th Indian Divl Signals at a unit review order parade in July.

He has, in his retirement, acquired a house in Secunderabad, and we venture to hope that his long association with his old unit will be preserved for many years to come. E.L.L.V.

Plain Tales.

The Inspector Stops One.—Ukann Larfe sat at the wheel of his powerful Headstrong Tiddley. The engine ticked over like a Staffordshire foundry. Inspector Faceache sat in the passenger's seat and was talking earnestly to our hero, though neither Ukann nor anyone else could hear a word. This is deuced unfortunate, for the whole story may be ruined unless we know what the Inspector is saying.

The mighty engine misses a beat, falters, spits and finally stops. The silence is actually painful to the ears. The petrol tap is turned off, but keep it dark. Listen!

"Look, Ukann. The short dark man just outside the cafe. That's Petrified Pedro, the agent of the Compagnie Formellement Interdite."

"Why, Facey, what can he do?"

"Gosh ding! what can he do? You cake! If he knows that you have the plans, he'll kill you all over."

"Well, let's not tell him. Eh?"

"He's watching us. Start the car up, Ukann." The Inspector turned on the petrol, and a shattering roar burst forth on the peaceful town of Chota Hazri. Anyone gifted with singularly acute hearing might have detected a few staccato cracks intermingling with the frightful noise of the Headstrong Tiddley.

A short dark man outside a cafe slumped a little further in his chair, and a dark red stain spread slowly across his white shirt front. At least, he thought it was white until he used Squirpo (advt.).

Chapter 92 (not stopping at Goodge Street)

Ukann Larfe pulled the huge car up beneath a tree at the side of the road. "Not bad, Facey. Twenty miles in fifteen minutes."

"What about that bloke, Ukann? You haven't answered my question."

"No. I've been thinking. Have a look at our machine gun." Ukann Larfe was very pale as he handed over the vicious looking weapon.

The Inspector examined it closely. His breath came in plus fours. He flicked a couple of finger-prints off with the tip of his nail. "This is serious, Ukann. The gun hasn't been used since last Wednesday."

"You said it, chum. That means someone else on the game. Come on, we gotta find my client."

Once again the engine gave out its ear-splitting roar. Ukann Larfe let in the clutch and the mighty car shot backwards with terrific force, burying its back axle in the trunk of an oak tree. Inspector Faceache sat up and rubbed his neck. "That was reverse gear, Ukann, old chap."

Ukann Larfe, ever a hasty man, hit the Inspector on the head with a fifteen inch spanner. "That'll learn 'im," he said. "Who's driving, anyway?"

Hours passed. Overhead the sun might have shone with cheerful brilliance, but it was just after midnight, so it was pitch dark. See!

Reflections of Minnie.—What a peaceful life this is. Nearly everyone away on Army manœuvres, chasing each other over southern England, upsetting the private arrangements of troops.

Of course, everything is very secret and nobody knows anything. You'd never believe. A party of men arrived here the other day under the greatest secrecy. They didn't even know where they had come from, and were dumbfounded to learn that they had arrived in Bulford. They couldn't give us their names owing to the provisions contained in some sealed orders that no one knew anything about, so we wrote them out a terribly secret set of instructions and sent them to an unknown destination.

Uncle Alf: "Who? what? the blokes or the instructions?"

Me: "Sh-s-s-s-s-h."

At least one man is highly satisfied with himself. He is a lineman, and yelled down a telephone at a General to "get off the something something line." It is quite likely that he was unaware that the General was on the line. On the other hand—well, never mind.

By the way, I am far too busy to tell you about my new husband. Most of my time is taken up in knitting another set of little fur coats. I wish people wouldn't stare so.

They tell me that dancing is about to start again. I suppose that means another car for that man with the saxophone who teaches my children to swim.

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Sensational Revelation.—For no reason at all, I am reminded of some things that I discovered when I was a youngster. Being interested in all sorts of machinery, I was often to be seen hanging around a place called the S.M.E. The huge traction engines fascinated me, but I could never understand why they allowed so much steam to waste. After a talk with Colonel ——, a very progressive man, it was decided to have a pioneer seated on the boiler with a small pump. This man, after a short course at Woolwich, was able to draw in a lot of steam and return it to the boiler through a patent valve. I got the N.B.G. for this, and the first half of my "third."

Once started, nothing could stop me. I made engines smaller, yet more powerful. Pontoons became bigger than ever, and "crown and anchor" flourished. The "Broderick" disappeared and gave way to a peaked cap, so that oncoming traffic could be certain which way the engines were travelling. These caps could also be worn with the peak at the back, the wearers on these occasions usually being a trifle over-lubricated.

About this time it was decided that signalling was absolutely necessary to the Army. Previously, communication had been by post, and this was found to have certain drawbacks, particularly in the desert where stamps were not readily available. At once I abandoned steam engines and turned my attention to electricity. A large building was erected and many strange instruments installed. It was here that I enjoyed the assistance of a youngster whom we called Bill. He afterwards became a great runner, though in his last race, quite recently, he fell down and was trampled on by a lot of elderly gentlemen. To continue.

A year or two later appeared the wireless set with its innumerable wires. We used to say "Let's take this wire off there and put it on here. I wonder what will happen?"

Sometimes nothing happened, and sometimes we clubbed up and bought a new set. Then General —— said "Why not send it away and let someone else see what happens?"

This was received with a full-throated roar of approval, and in that moment was born an idea for a thriving branch of the Service.

Next month: The S.E.E. (if I have not been incarcerated).

BARLEUX.

The Royal Signal Displays.

Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp.

The last WIRE notes left us having a short respite after the Catterick Garrison Horse Show, which took place on the 31st July and was a huge success.

Our next trip was to Shrewsbury Floral Fete. We left here by train with horses and motor cycles aboard on the 20th August, and were very kindly accommodated by the K.S.L.I. at their depot in Shrewsbury. We performed two different displays on each day of the show, 21st and 22nd August, and returned to Catterick on the 23rd.

Anyone who has never seen the Shrewsbury Show should certainly make an effort to get there in the future, should he happen to be in the neighbourhood during Show Week. The flowers alone are well worth seeing, whilst three Guards Bands, a firework display, and the special engagement of all the finest acrobatic " turns " in the world make two wonderful gala days.

The arena is a natural amphitheatre right on the banks of the river Severn. The gentle slope down to it on three sides makes a first-class grand stand for 50,000 people, whilst the grand old trees along the river bank make a wonderful setting. The arena itself is one of the largest and smoothest we have ever seen. It is, therefore, not remarkable that we broke the motor cycle jumping record at this show. We added several new items to our display, one of the most popular being that of jumping motor cycles over the horse water jump. Shrewsbury Show is noted for having the largest one in England. It therefore caused some excitement when we announced that we were going to jump motor cycles over it. The width of the water jump is 16 feet, the take-off bush fence 2 feet, and the front of our jumping ramp was 4 feet behind this—making a total of 22 feet to be cleared. The first machine to make the jump brought a gasp from the audience —it landed 32 feet on the far side of the water: a total jump of 54 feet.

We were all quite sorry to leave Shrewsbury, as the wonderful organisation of such a huge show had impressed us and we had met many old friends from Weedon and elsewhere.

Our next performance, on our return home, was to be at our own Mounted Sports. The weather, however, must have thought otherwise, for a downpour peremptorily stopped proceedings at about 3 p.m., and the despatch rider side of the party just had time to dry their clothes ready for a ride to South Shields the following morning for the Tattoo organised by the Cadet Battalion Durham Light Infantry.

Here, we were accommodated under canvas in an " unemployed " holiday camp. We took Sigmn Diball with us as cook, and I think the large number of unemployed who watched us were very impressed by Army life. A substantial meal of bacon, eggs and sausages on our arrival, followed by pay, was too much for them ; at any rate, we had many applications to join up before we left.

The lighting at the Tattoo was bad on the first night, and as we had had no rehearsal on the ground, we worked under great difficulties ; but the display received a tremendous reception, and when the lighting was put right on the second night, the motor cyclists put on one of the best " motor cycle only " shows we have ever done. Our hosts were kindness itself to us, and if only the weather had been better, so that we could have enjoyed the amenities of the beach to the full, it would have been the best trip of the year.

Our next outing was our annual one to Reeth Agricultural Show. Reeth has the distinction of having been the first show to have ever seen the combined horse and motor cycle display, for it was there, in 1932, that we first put on the present display in an experimental form. At the public luncheon before the show, the health of the Royal Corps of Signals was proposed by one of the committee and very ably responded to by Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E.

The display was received with the usual enthusiasm by the spectators, and we went home with all the jumping prizes (Sergt Hill on Tired was first), the second prize in the riding horse class (Gay Lady), and a " highly commended " in the draught horse section.

Now we have only one more show in front of us this season—Altrincham (Manchester) on Wednesday 18th September. After this, we close down for a month for leave, etc., and then start training again for next year's Royal Tournament.

We must say that we have had a very happy and successful season. H.N.C.

Cause and Effect.

I.

Mrs. Postlesnip fluttered nervously along Barley Street, carefully reading the brass plates until she came to one bearing the words:

IKANS MILE,
Psychiatrist.

Here she turned in, pulled the ornate bell handle apprehensively, and was admitted. After trying for ten minutes to read an antiquated copy of "The Field," and mentally comparing it (much to its detriment) with "The News of the World," she was ushered into the presence of the great psychologist.

He motioned her to a chair and consulted the case card which an efficient secretary had already produced. "Let me see," he mused. "Mrs. Postlesnip. Ah, yes! You wanted to see me concerning Mr. Postlesnip. I understood from Dr. Brown that your husband was to be with you ?"

"That's right, sir; but when 'e saw that there 'pizziatrist' on your card, 'e said as 'ow 'e didn't 'old with this 'ere spiritualism."

"Rather unfortunate," said Ikans Mile gravely. "However, I have a full report on his case from Dr. Brown, and if you will answer a few questions we'll see what can be done. The facts are that up to two years ago your husband was a healthy man and a good father and husband. Apart from being very emotional, he was a normal type in every way."

"Yessir."

"Then he gradually became dull and apathetic, and seems oblivious to all that goes on around him. Is that right ?"

"Yessir. Why, only last week when 'e 'eard of Emily's adying—she's 'is sister, 'er wot was so good to me when young Willie came along—'e didn't seem a bit put out, sir. Just said as 'ow 'is steak was burned, callus like."

"Do you ever notice any change in his condition ?"

"Well, it do seem as though 'e gets a bit chirpy near the monthend, but 'e goes off again. And 'is eyes, sir. You should see 'is eyes. Get all kind of dazed. Mrs. Gasser—'er as keeps the newspaper shop—says it may be the full moon as does it. She once knew . . . . . ."

"You mentioned his eyes," interposed Ikans Mile. "Have they a 'hurt' expression ?"

"Yessir, just like a dog when you beats it."

"Ah! hypalgia."

"Beg your pardon," said Mrs. Postlesnip indignantly.

"Hypalgia," repeated the psychiatrist. "When a person suffers pain repeatedly he becomes, as it were, numb to it. From the symptoms, I think your husband is suffering from what I might term mental hypalgia."

"If you say so, sir."

"You say it started two years ago ?"

"Just after young Willie joined the Signal Corpse, sir."

"And that it appears to be worse at the beginning of each month, which seems to indicate that this mental pain which he suffers is a monthly occurrence ?"

"Yessir."

"Has your husband any hobbies ?"

"No, sir. 'E used to be a lad for crosswords, but since 'e took bad all 'e does is read THE WIRE every month."

"THE WIRE ?"

"Yessir. One o' them papers what tells you all about promotion, and weddin's at Scarborough, and them there Tidworth tattooists."

"I see. A Regimental Journal. Have you any copies of it you can let me have ?"

"Yessir. My 'usband 'e's been saving 'em. I'll send our young Alf round with 'em in the morning."

"Good! That will be all for the moment. Come and see me again in a month. In the meantime don't worry Mr. Postlesnip unduly, and do not let him read this WIRE."

"Very good, sir."

II.

A month later, a grateful Mrs. Postlesnip was sitting in the consulting room. "'E's ever so much better, sir. Why, on Sunday 'e even did the crossword. And when this came" (she groped in her handbag and produced THE WIRE) "I 'id it."

The great professor looked up dazedly, and with a hunted expression in his eyes took the proffered book. At that moment, the door burst open and an excited maid rushed in. "Sorry, sir! but it's the missus. She's in hospital; been knocked down by a tramcar."

"Very well, Jane. You need only lay dinner for one to-night. Show this lady out, please."

In the hall Mrs. Postlesnip turned to the agitated maid. "Took that very cool like, didn't 'e ?"

"It's dreadful," cried Jane. "He's been queer all the month, and now the missus is dying maybe and he doesn't seem to care. He was always such a good husband, too."

"If yer asks me," said Mrs. Postlesnip sagaciously, "'e's got that there moral neuralgy 'imself."

Back in the consulting room Ikans Mile, a wreck of his former self, cowered in an armchair and winced as he opened the newly acquired WIRE at "Plain Tales." NON-NUNQUAM.

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Gems of Correspondence.

To the Officer Commanding,
Signal Training Battalion, S.T.C. (India)

Honoured Sir.—As I by name Prakas Chandro Das am desirous of leading a military career, I wish to undergo training for the required period in the famous military college, Jubbulpore. I therefore solicit the favour of the commander to furnish me ere long with the prospectus pertaining to its many sided activities and its iron discipline.

As regards my qualifications I am studing school final this year and I possess a proficient knowledge in English. In view of my physical state I am quite confident to say that I am an athletic man possesing a well built body and a strong phisique. More to say, I belong to a noble family of high birth, and as I am in the blush of my youth, which is full of enthusiasm, a self-sacrificing spirit pervades through my ideals which are grand and possible of realisation.

In time I fervently hope that the commander will be kind enough to grant me a seat, craved for and thus bring my life to lime light.

20/11/1934 (*Signed*) ? ? ? ? ? ?

Training a Boxing Team.

To be a champion, or to be even moderately successful as a boxer, you must be fit. You may have all the natural ability in the world, but if you enter the ring out of condition, even against an inferior opponent, you are bound to be beaten. To cite two recent instances.

When Walter Neusel, the German, fought Len Harvey, it was obvious to everybody present that he could have been much fitter ; he was carrying at least two stones of superfluous weight—and his display that night was on a par with his condition: he was lucky to split the verdict. He apparently realised this, for his next appearance in the ring, against Britain's heavy-weight champion Jack Petersen, saw a different Walter Neusel, both in appearance and fighting ability. His superfluous flesh had gone, and such was his ability that Petersen retired in the tenth round.

The Baer v. Braddock fight is another instance. It was obvious that Baer held Braddock too cheaply and didn't bother to train, and therefore brought himself down to Braddock's level. The result you all know.

There are cleverer boxers than the present world champions now walking the streets, down and out, simply because they did not like the training grind (who does ?) Believe me, the only difference between a champion and a third-rater is in training. Make it a rule never to enter the ring unfit ; if you cannot prepare yourself in time for a contest, then cancel it.

Training one individual for a boxing contest is a man-size job in itself, so you can imagine what it feels like to be called upon to train a team consisting of about twenty members of all sizes, both physically and mentally.

Getting fit in a hot climate is a vastly different proposition to training in a cold one. Believe me or not, it is easier! The most important thing to watch against, when training a boxing team out here in India, is staleness. Unless one is very careful, it is an easy matter to have several of your team go stale. It is extremely difficult to lay down any hard and fast rule regarding training. Each individual member of the team has to be studied separately. Some may need to be worked hard to get them fit ; others have to be taken along easily. Some need coaxing ; others need to be bullied. Some you have to call " Darling," with an occasional kiss (?) ; others you have to punch full of holes and call them (?)

If you have entered your team for a tournament where they will fight more than once, if possible try to have the fighters slightly under par for the first round ; if they reach the final, they should by then be right up on their toes. Should they be right up on their toes for the first round, they are liable to go stale by the time they reach the final. Another thing to consider, however, is that if they fight the first round a little under par, they might be " licked " because of that fact. Who wouldn't be a trainer ?

The trainer should also be responsible for the team spirit. From the very beginning, concentrate on moulding your men into a team. If you have an outstanding boxer in the team, do not allow him to overawe the rest ; instil into them the thought that they are just as important to the success of the team as he is.

Diet plays an important part in achieving physical fitness. Most of us eat far too much ; we really eat ourselves into the grave. Cut out tiffin ; have a little fruit instead, and notice how much more fit you feel. Smoking should be eschewed. To smoke is unnatural, but you will find that most of your team are such habitual smokers that it would upset them to suddenly cut it out. It has become a dope to them. The best thing you can hope for is that they will at least cut it down to a minimum.

It depends upon the time you have at disposal as to what kind of training you will give your team ; also the condition they are in when you begin. The ideal is to start off with long easy walks, with some light work in the gymnasium in the evening. That will suffice for the first week. Gymnasium work should consist of skipping, shadow boxing, punching the bag, and floor exercises. Gradually quicken the pace of the gym work and lengthen the distance of the road work. The maximum distance should be five miles.

Don't start boxing until the second week. They should then be working at top speed at everything they do. In all, gym work should not be more than eight rounds, the duration of which depends upon that of the rounds in the actual contest. If you are to box three-minute rounds in the actual contest, then in your training work to rounds of that length ; and so on. A good tip is to have only half a minute rest in between the rounds when training—you will find this of great benefit in the actual contest.

The third week should find your men on their toes ; and as the day of the tournament approaches, a gradual easing off in length and intensity of training should see them enter the ring in first class condition.

P. MILLS.

" Cods ! "

Perhaps it was " glass arm " (telegraphist's cramp) which resulted in a receiving telegraphist dictating from the sounder: " The Almighty has ordered two new bruisers." Not a bad definition for cruisers, but wouldn't the Admiralty have been flattered had it been allowed to pass! In the majority of cases, however, an experienced telegraphist will prevent these " cods " (as we call them) from reaching the public.

A telegram reading " Order cats meet train " once came into an old timer's hands. Making his way to the circuit on which a young lady had received the message, he asked if there was not something wrong. Immediately recognising her mistake, she admitted that the word " meet " should be " meat "—which only made the old fellow laugh louder and longer. The letter " b " in Morse can easily be split up into " t s " by an indifferent sender. So you see what amusement was caused by an innocent request for a cab to meet a train.

Visions of rioting and disorderly conduct came into an operator's mind when he wrote " Father thrown out of saloon bar come at once." We do not know why saloon should have been quoted, but it's a good job we knew that the next word should have read " car."

But telegraphists are not always responsible for mistakes. Before the telephone became so prominent in the affairs of tradesmen, a lady whose writing was not of the best happened to be away from home. That night she was giving a party, though, and wished to order some groceries which included two tins of sardines. A telegraphist somewhere along the line thought there was going to be a perfect orgy when he transcribed " Send two tons of sardines." But the grocer never knew anything about that!

Then there was the provision merchant who didn't want any rabbits. To emphasise his requirements he wired " Send no rabbits to-day." He wrote the word " NO " in large characters. And the following day he received 720 rabbits!

On another occasion we thought Methuselah had returned to earth. Old George —— chuckled as he showed us the message. It read " Will be 300 to-morrow at 12.30 p.m." Of course the sending operator was persuaded that something was wrong, and it eventually transpired that the message should have been "Will be 200 tomorrow 12.30 p.m."

The absence of punctuation marks often gives a peculiar twist to the purport of a telegram. A tourist in Somerset wired to his wife that he was " remaining in bath all night." He should have been clean by the morning! Our suspicions were once aroused when somebody transcribed " Send big box tie up man calling for it." Then, on top of that, we read a wire obviously relating to cannibalism. The message ran " Servant ill can you cook me few days." When going off duty at midnight during one November, you can imagine our consternation on seeing " Fog coming by later train "!

Lack of experience has mostly been responsible for the choicest " cods." Newspaper reporters use many abbreviations. They might write " stmr " for steamer or " funl " for funnel, and one of them actually did so a few years ago. But a young telegraphist thought to show the editor man that he knew what it was all about. A few moments later, however, an indignant old stager called in to ask what on earth this meant: " During a fog this morning two station masters collided in the Channel one had a red funeral."

Reporters are, of course, always in a hurry. Sometimes they haven't even time to cross their t's. This fact once threatened to have a slippery result. Had the " cod " not been detected, an inexperienced telegraphist would have signalled a report of the late King Edward's arrival by steamer on a visit to France thus: " The band played the National Anthem as the King stepped on to the jelly and the crowd rent the air with their snouts."

W.T.L.

I'll Tell The World.

BY A JUNIOR N.C.O.

[*All characters and names mentioned in these notes are purely imaginary*]

As the R.S.M. sailed in like an harassed stockbroker with only a few minutes of his very valuable time to spare, the Mess members respectfully rose as one man.

"Right! sit down, gentlemen, please," murmured the august presence, taking the chair reverently proffered by the president. Several of the uncomfortable juniors were noticed blushing violently at this uncommon allusion to their social status.

"And now, gentlemen, let's get right down to business. I've only about fifteen minutes to spare for you. Minutes?" The secretary rose with a deep sense of added importance, cleared his throat pompously, and proceeded to tell us what we had done last time.

Lance-Corporal Jones nudged me unceremoniously—unaware, apparently, of the customary solemnity demanded by the occasion. "'Ear that?" he demanded in a whisper. "Wouldn't 'ave agreed to that if I had been 'ere last time. I'd 'ave seen to that." His brave speech concluded, he folded his arms contemptuously and sat back with the air of a man who has said his say, come what may.

"That concludes the minutes of the last meeting," announced the secretary—reminiscent of the padre drawing our wandering attention to the fact that "Here endeth the first lesson." The minutes were duly passed and signed by the R.S.M. with the president's pen; and after the latter had been retrieved from the Great Man's pocket, whence it had miraculously strayed, every man jack present was on his mark ready to get set.

We weren't going to be sat on. The sergeants might stand it, but not us—at least, not without a good fight. What! pay an extra five shillings per head for something with which we didn't agree in the first place? "Didn't I tell Smudger Smith it wasn't right, and that I was dead against it?" "No, you —— well didn't," declared Smudger warmly. "Well, I told somebody," came the rather weak reply.

Glancing at the paper before him, the R.S.M. adopted the air of a man who knew what he wanted and was going to get it. "You all know why I've called this meeting," he started off determinedly. "Nobody is more unhappy about it that I am, but the whole matter boils down to this. The unit decided to have this function, and you all had a hand in the decision, but now we find we're on the wrong side. I think we all had an—er—enjoyable, perhaps fuzzy time; but as always, after the feast comes the—er—well, you can't have your duff and eat it. And personally I think we should play the game and stump up." He halted for breath and glared round the mess, while Jones crept a couple of inches lower in his chair.

"After all," continued the R.S.M., "an Englishman always pays for what he has, and you must admit that we've had it"—"our share of the enjoyment," he added hastily. "So there seems only one right thing to do. However, don't let me persuade you; it's up to the members. What do you think?"

An ominous silence ensued after the R.S.M. had resumed his seat. Everybody looked at everybody else—especially at Jones, whose opinion had perhaps been more radical than anyone else's; but Jones averted his eyes and sank yet a few more inches in his seat.

A timid querulous voice emanated from one of a group of senior members. "I propose (it quavered) that we pay the five shillings," and then sank to nothing like a punctured balloon at a children's party.

Someone else meekly seconded the proposal, and it was put to the meeting. "All in favour, show hands." A shower of hands disturbed the air and wavered there for some seconds. "Those against." By the complete lack of hands, nobody appeared to be against. "Then the motion's carried, gentlemen," announced the R.S.M. in stentorian tones. "You pay the five shillings. There's nothing else to raise at the moment, and so the meeting is declared closed. Thank you!" And the members rose to their feet as he went out.

Some minutes later a group was gathered in the far corner, engaged apparently in serious discussion, but one voice could be heard above all others. "It's not right," Jones was vociferating. "I don't agree with forking up another five bob, and I've a good mind to put in an application to see the Old Man. And I don't mind telling you this ——"

His voice died away as I closed the door of the mess behind me.

A Valued Contributor.

Mr. W. T. Lowe, who since 1926 has frequently contributed to "The Post" (sometimes under the nom-de-plume of "Struggler"), began life in 1904 as a messenger and telegraph learner with the Commercial Cable Company. He stayed with the Company until 1910, when he became a season assistant at the C.T.O. From 1910 to 1914 he was employed as a private wire telegraphist at the Stock Exchange. On the outbreak of war he resigned from his employment to serve at the C.T.O. as a temporary assistant. He enlisted in the R.F.C. as a wireless operator in June 1915, and served in France and Belgium until March 1919. He then re-entered the C.T.O. as a temporary assistant, and received his appointment at that office in 1922.

Mr. W. T. Lowe.

In addition to his articles in "The Post," Mr. Lowe has contributed to "The Post Annual," "The Telegraph and Telephone Journal," "St. Martins-le-Grand Wireless," and other periodicals published outside the Service.

[Our readers will readily connect Mr. Lowe with the interesting technical articles which have been appearing for some time in our Corps Magazine. We have several more in hand to publish as occasion offers.—ED.]

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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed to a Commission.

2320265	Corporal Atthill J.	29/8/35	54

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

1850302	C.Q.M.S. Pearson C.	13/6/35	15

To be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals)

2310994	Sergeant Stather R. W.	21/2/35	22
2314903	Sergeant Butler W. E.	1/4/35	28
6335276	Corporal Greenfield J.	21/5/35	38
2315418	Corporal Phillpott H.	22/5/35	38
2313955	Corporal Brown J.	7/6/35	39

To be Sergeant.

2312400	L/Sergeant Grose C. W.	26/4/35	28
2306783	L/Sergeant Murphy C.	18/5/35	29
2310982	L/Sergeant Davis H.	21/5/35	29
2310858	L/Sergeant Crummey B.	23/5/35	29
2309047	L/Sergeant Warren W.	4/7/35	29

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2309046	Corporal Eisele S.	18/5/35	36
2313013	Corporal Tompkins A.	23/5/35	36
6393956	Corporal Cooley T.	25/5/35	36
2313855	Corporal Tant H.	25/5/35	37
1037909	Corporal Neal G.	13/6/35	37
2308535	Corporal Couperthwaite W.	26/6/35	37
2313610	Corporal Mayson B.	2/7/35	37
2316573	Corporal Daw R.	3/7/35	37

To be Corporal.

2309267	L/Corporal Small A.	6/5/35	55
2317320	L/Corporal Burke W.	18/5/35	55
5098850	L/Corporal Pullen H.	21/5/35	55
2312496	L/Corporal Rhodes B.	23/5/35	55
2310447	L/Corporal Goldberg I.	23/5/35	55
5492742	L/Corporal Macey R.	23/5/35	55
2315305	L/Corporal Carruthers F.	24/5/35	55
2306421	L/Corporal Bray L.	25/5/35	55
2310667	L/Corporal Marsh R.	7/6/35	55
2316475	L/Corporal Melmore L.	13/6/35	55
4338034	L/Corporal Adlington W.	26/6/35	55
2318108	L/Corporal Taylor E.	2/7/35	55
2320579	L/Corporal Cairns L.	5/7/35	55
2319978	L/Corporal Wagner F.	13/7/35	52
2318589	L/Corporal Evans W.	1/8/35	56

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2318001	Signalman Gunn P.	2/4/35
2319589	Signalman Johns H.	2/4/35
2319590	Signalman Barker R.	3/4/35
2027244	Signalman Parks W.	7/4/35
2314510	Signalman Hubbard F.	7/4/35
2315585	Signalman Harris T.	9/4/35
2307098	Signalman Emblen C.	13/4/35
2322068	Signalman Maughan T.	16/4/35
2320092	Signalman Hartley F.	17/4/35

Deceased.

2308555	Corporal Waghorn C.	2/8/35	39

Discharges.

2306309	R.Q.M.S. McGrath P.	4/9/35	5
2307061	C.S.M. Waller J.	17/8/35	6
2306440	C.Q.M.S. Dixon A.	11/8/35	15
2306548	C.Q.M.S. Winkle J.	12/8/35	15
2307174	C.Q.M.S. Coffin E.	31/8/35	14
2311815	C.Q.M.S. Smith J.	2/9/35	14
2311622	Sergeant Mason A.	27/8/35	17
2308157	Sergeant Chenery A.	27/8/35	17
2307607	Sergeant Green G.	29/8/35	19
2306977	L/Sergeant Russell S.	26/8/35	32
2306561	L/Sergeant Thomas C.	30/8/35	33
6390674	L/Sergeant C'evett A.	3/9/35	33
6584197	Corporal Kneller W.	16/8/35	42
1055284	Corporal Appleton C.	31/8/35	44
2315760	Corporal Webb A.	2/9/35	40
2311665	L/Corporal Worrall A.	5/8/35	57

Notes for "Wire" Correspondents.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—It is now a long time since any "Notes for Correspondents" were published in our Magazine. If one may judge from the character of the "copy" received nowadays, the majority of the old-time Unit Correspondents must have given place to others who are not *au fait* with those requirements which tend to promote smooth working for the Printer. May I, therefore, be allowed to repeat a few suggestions for the guidance of present day contributors ?

1. Show name of unit, full address, and date of writing, at the head of notes.
2. Write Sports Notes on *separate* sheets, and not interspersed among other items.
3. Type all notes with an *open* space between the lines. This allows room for editing the copy, and facilitates the Printer's work.
4. When notes are duplicated, *the top (and most legible) set* should be forwarded for use. Faint and blurred sheets often have to be re-typed, in fairness to the compositor.
5. Use simple language and write concisely. Involved and incomprehensible sentences frequently vanish under the Editor's blue pencil.
6. Be careful in the spelling of names, whether of persons or places—particularly if they be of foreign origin.
7. Avoid all *unnecessary* use of quotation signs (" ") and other punctuation marks.
8. Set out Sporting details in a methodical manner. Watch THE WIRE for the style adopted by the Printer.
9. Avoid all *unnecessary* contractions of wording in notes. These have to be completed by the Editor, as compositors are prone to "follow copy"—leading to extra work in making corrections on proofs.
10. Photographs and drawings should be packed *quite flat*, and no pins or paper clips should be used—otherwise there is trouble in reproducing the blocks.
11. Title lines and other details to appear under illustrations should be written on separate sheets, and *not* on the photographs, etc. It will suffice if these are numbered on the back for reference.
12. Pen and ink drawings, in particular, should be *quite square*, as the Blockmaker cannot rectify any faults in that respect.
13. It would be much appreciated if notes could be provided on quarto sheets (8 in. by 10 in.)—that size fitting most conveniently on the table of a linotype machine.

If our Correspondents will carefully study and follow out the foregoing suggestions, they will greatly assist my staff in their duties and add to my personal indebtedness to them as a fellow worker in producing our Corps Magazine.

Further, I would be pleased to reprint these Notes, mount them on card, and forward one or two copies to any Correspondent who might wish to keep them permanently before him ; and also to supply paper of the suggested size where so required.

I remain, sir, yours in active co-operation,

P. FISHER, The Printer,

112 Gloucester Road, Brighton 1.

HOME STATIONS

5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

The Reception Room.....Depot Battalion.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Past and Present.—Excitement in the Depot of late has been divided between those two rival factions of the old firm: the married folk, who enjoyed an outing on the 4th September, and the corporals, who anticipate painting the town red and doing their utmost to brighten up the illuminations at Blackpool on the 14th September.

The married families' outing was a phenomenal success. Thanks to the generosity of the P.R.I., who footed the bill, a very pleasant day was spent at Redcar. A large party travelled by motor coaches and arrived at the seaside shortly before noon. The party then dispersed and went to seek their own particular pleasures in the short interval before luncheon. Most folk, however, made a bee line for the seashore, as Redcar possesses an ideal stretch of sand for the delight of the children. Everywhere could be seen shoals of kiddies practising buried crossings, or their mothers explaining the dangers of donkey rides. Small wonder that rough riders are scarce!

The scattered legion assembled at Coatham Hotel for luncheon, and everyone was delighted that Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. F. O. St. John, Major and Mrs. G. Tayleur, and Captain M. Duke had honoured the occasion with their presence.

During the afternoon many varieties of entertainment were sought by the different contingents: from fishing (this, by the way, for once did not call for pushing out the boat) to palmistry. The fishing expedition was obviously a triumph, for Dixie hung up garlands of mackerel and tiddlers all over the bus. As for palmistry and fortune telling, one wife I know had another fortune told after keeping her husband waiting forty-five minutes while she enjoyed a bob's worth of fairy tales.

However, all good things must come to an end, so that at 6.30 the party assembled again and were taken back to their homes. The day had been a very happy and enjoyable one for every one concerned.

In the offing we still have the illuminations, of which more anon.

Many unit members were pleased, during the last month, to renew acquaintance with the following senior n.c.o.s of the Corps: C.S.M. Brooks A. and Sergt Ellis J. of Jubbulpore fame, and Sgt Strawbaum L. late orderly room sergeant. These n.c.o.s were in camp at Redcar with their respective T.A. units, and had taken advantage of the occasion to get in touch with old associates. It was good to see them all looking so well, and it goes without saying that our best wishes go with them for the future.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant Winterborn arrived from the School of Oriental Studies in prosaic London, and has taken over the duties of weapon training officer without introducing hara-kiri. We hope his stay will be long and happy.

Departures.—Lieut. Bradford has left us for a brief attachment to the T.A. at Shorncliffe. If it is true that he is not returning, we wish him success in his new sphere.

R.Q.M.S. McGrath has left us for civilian life. We are sure that many members of the Corps, particularly those whom he had under his charge while a drill instructor on the square, will wish him the best of luck and a happy future.

Promotions.—Great guns this month. Congratulations to L/Sgt Tom Cooley, Corporals Dicky Bray, Larry Cairns and Tich Evans, and L/Corporals Lofty Boyland and Tancy Lee on attaining their several ranks. Been kissing the blarney stone, Tom ?

Congratulations are also due to L/Corpl Puleston on his care of the reception hut garden, which again won the competition for the best garden in the lines. This makes the third year in succession that this garden has taken the first prize.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—I suppose the readers of THE WIRE expect an apology for the absence of my article in the last two issues of our Journal ; but as no bouquets are forthcoming when the result of my handiwork *is* put into print, I don't see why I should apologise for any absence. So 'nuff said.

Now the leave period is almost at an end, maybe we can once more settle down to work ; but talking of furlough, well! I'm rather anxious to see what will happen during the year 1936—that being leap year. The toll this year has been pretty terrible, and it's *not* the woman's prerogative to propose: hence my interest in 1936. I know there is "something fine about a soldier," but take (for instance) one Luce. He returns from furlough, buys three writing pads, mumbles something about something being lovely, and then wanders off with that far-away look in his eyes. The burning question is: is it a novel or a series of letters ? Kindly elucidate, Luce.

S.O.S.—I have just been asked to publish the following S.O.S. Will the fellow who is expecting a letter commencing with "My darling Clitsy-Witsy" and signed "From your ever loving Toddles," report to the orderly room when he can take delivery of same. No questions will be asked.

Gymkhana.—Our annual gymkhana was held on Wednesday 28th August, but unfortunately this attractive event was marred by severe thunderstorms which necessitated its cancellation, thus

spoiling a good day's enjoyment. However, prior to the time of cancellation we were fortunate enough to see three events. The open jumping was won by L/Corpl Gosnold on Hot Pot, second and third to him being C.S.M. Young and Sgt Searle respectively. The drivers' jumping was won by Driver Yeo. Next came the best trained Troop horse event, which was won by Driver Nobby Hall. By this time it was raining very heavily, and it was considered that we were all wet enough for one day.

The pitman's Derby, which is usually *the* event of the day, had to be run off on the following Saturday, and Nobby Hall took another prize, coming in a good first and beating Driver Raine by half a neck, with Driver Woods coming in about a neck and a tail behind. This was an exciting race and we saw a good display of jockeyship, but I don't altogether agree with the handicapper in his distribution of weights.

We took the tug of war from the Dismounted Wing; and taking things on the whole, I think we can congratulate ourselves on a really good display.

Aquatics.—On the 12th September a successful swimming gala was held in Sandes Home swimming bath, and this should be the forerunner of many more such functions. Several interesting events took place, much to the delight of the spectators.

Driver Lowe won the 100 yards open race, with Driver Moir a good second. Our team, composed of L/Sergt Carnegie, Sigmn Walsh, and Drivers Lowe and Moir, won the inter-Wing relay race with comparative ease, the last man being something like two lengths in front of his nearest rival. Ginger Houghton shone in the egg and spoon race, but apparently his light wasn't quite bright enough: he only got a second place. Still, congratulations all the same.

As an interlude, a diving display was given by the baths superintendent and Corporals Middleton and Wilkins. This display was one of the best witnessed for some time, and the spectators showed their appreciation by loud and long applause.

I have also to congratulate the Training Battalion on licking our team in a water polo match by three goals to one.

Epilogue.—As I have now to prepare a leading article for a popular daily newspaper, I am sure all my readers will appreciate that my time is valuable. Not only that; the Editor of THE WIRE is clamouring for this article. WALT.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Nights closing in. A nip in the air in the early mornings. Half the office staff on furlough. A steady flow of recruits. Preparations for the trooper. In other words, autumn.

Courses.—C.S.M. Leckie and L/Sgt Jones have just completed a drill course at the Guards Depot, Caterham.

Departures.—Our usual number of squads, well up to standard, to the Mounted Wing and Training Battalion.

Congratulations.—A letter was received from Lord Faversham, thanking those who helped in fighting moor fires on his estate. Among these were a number of n.c.o.s and recruits of this Wing.

Marriage.—This seems to be a fashion just lately. L/Corpl Partridge to Edith B. Pickering at Richmond, Yorks, on 27/7/35.

Boxing.—An inter-Squad boxing contest took place this month, and many spirited fights were witnessed. Sigmn McGee won a medal for the best loser. The inter-Squad shield presented by the Depot Battalion Sergeants Mess was won by No. 1 Squad under L/Corpl Daly. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

The Company has been increased these last two months by a steady flow of emigrants from the Depot Battalion; also by the arrival of Sergeants Limb and Offord from India, from whom we have received first-hand news of the Quetta earthquake. We also welcome 2/Lieut. A. J. Paris. We sincerely hope that they all may find the atmosphere to their liking.

Departures.—Two notable departures have taken place during the last two months: C.Q.M.S.s Dixon A. C. and Smith J. J.

The former relinquished his post in Catterick for civilian life and has taken up a position with the Barrack Police. Well, good luck to you, P.C. (?). We wish you the very best of success in your new uniform.

It is essential that we should say something about our ex-Company quartermaster. He also has packed up his belongings and left us to commence a new sphere of life as a caretaker in London. His successor has given us a rather vivid description of the job, so it has been decided to subscribe for a decent Christmas present for him—a feather duster, or perhaps he would like a cobbler's apron. However, we sincerely hope that he will enjoy life in the Metropolis as he has done in Catterick.

We all send our good wishes, and trust that they will remember their old friends.

Sigmn Gwillim H. has gone to 2nd Div. So now we have bid goodbye to our recruit clerk and also our semi-assistant pay clerk, one Sigmn Forbes, who leaves us for the Depot Battalion. Don't forget, Jock, to keep up your old spirit and do not argue about barrack damages, as they will only get you down.

We wish the above and all others the very best of luck in their new positions in life.

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Speck and Aylett on their marriage. C.R.A. is still being issued every month.

Queries.—Who was the person who left his false teeth in a restaurant at Richmond to argue against the price of the bill? No names, but he sleeps in S.18 barrack room.

Entertainments. Orderly corporal (rushing into guard room): "Where's Whipp? quick!" Guard commander: "Here you are: a colonel's whip." Orderly corporal: "What's this for? I want Sigmn Whipp." (Bashful submission of G.C.) M.C.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Friday 13th September.

General.—At the present time the Company is in a rather jubilant mood, after winning the Mackworth cricket competition and the Garrison enlisted boys cricket knock-out (for complete details see our Sports Notes). I should imagine that the jubilant mood will soon wear off, seeing that cross-country running needs so much practice. Rugby enthusiasts have started their training, too, and are showing us their bruised and scarred knees. They probably expect sympathy. There is a chance that we may be able to produce some good results from this intensive training.

Musketry.—The boys of the Company were astounded at seeing a crowd of weather-beaten and frost-bitten warriors outside their huts at an early hour on the 5th and 6th September. They were afterwards identified as the Company cadre, off to fire their annual musketry course.

Congratulations.—We offer our congratulations to Captain T. W. Boileau on attaining that rank, and to L/Sergt Tant H. E., who has also gone "one up."

S.T.C. Mounted Sports.—Owing to the bad weather the S.T.C. mounted sports were not a brilliant success, and only a few events were completed. We must, however, congratulate Corpl Turrell of this Company on obtaining second place in the Heymann cup competition. Well done, Bert!

Football.—We have not yet done much in this line, except for a Company trial which took the form of a match between the cadre and the boys, the latter winning by 3—1. Not a lot of hidden talent was revealed.

Departures.—We have said good-bye to two of our comrades during this month, and our best wishes go with them. C.Q.M.S. Morley G. to civvy street; may he continue to wear his number one's for an indefinite period. Sigmn Judd W. E. to the Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown. EFF.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Australia Trophy.—The competition for the cup presented by the 1st Australian Divl Signals for the best all-round officer or other rank provided even more interest this year than it did last time. The training accorded an officer makes him more fitted for

the contest than the average other rank, so that in the nature of things it would be surprising if an other rank won. It *was* surprising! L/Corpl Chapman W. D., who put up a remarkably good show last year, did infinitely better on this occasion and annexed the cup. The whole unit congratulates him on his efforts.

To recapitulate. Each Section produces one entry for the competition, which entails rifle and revolver shooting, M.T. and H.T. driving, cross-country running, despatch riding, swimming and riding—not all on the same day, of course! Only one competitor got a first in more than one event: Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon. He had two, and then finished fifth, so it's not a walk over in any department. Here are the scores of the eight who finished the course (elimination by injuries, etc., excluded).

L/Corpl Chapman W. D. (D.R.s)	56
Lieut. J. M. S. Tulloch (K Section)	54
Lieut. C. H. Stoneley (J Section)	53½
Lieut. G. D. B. McKean (A Section)	52½
2/Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon (F Section)	49½
2/Lieut. G. D. T. Harris (E Section)	49
2/Lieut. P. O. J. Nicholson (B Section)	47
Sigmn Chapman H. M. (M Section)	33

We are indebted to our Australian brothers for providing us with this interesting competition ; and in the hope that they may be able to exercise themselves in some similar manner, we are sending them a 30 inch bronze figure of Mercury (the shapeliest "Jimmy" I've seen) mounted on a plinth, with the best wishes of the complete unit.

Swimming.—A Corps Signals held their annual swimming gala at the Aldershot Command swimming bath on the 29th August. Amongst the numerous prizes was a challenge cup put up by the C.S.O. Aldershot Command for annual competition. This cup is for a team of four, each of whom has to swim one length free style. We managed to become the first holders by winning from A Corps by a fair margin, but the A Corps No. 4 made us hold our breath while he was endeavouring to overtake our corresponding number. A good show, A Corps! and here's to the next time. Our team included L/Corporal Chapman and Signalmen Wilson, Baxter and Clark.

Neglect of Duty.—For the humorist who is credited with cleaning one revolver twice instead of two revolvers once, we suggest a fortnight's leave and "seven days" to do it in. This is nearly as bright as the guy who in mid-Mediterranean, when charged with being unshaven, suggested that he had shaved the wrong face that morning.

Apropos.—Mention of the Mediterranean reminds us that twenty-eight other ranks of this unit are warned for embarkation for India on the 17th December.

Promotion.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Greenfield J. R. on his promotion to that rank, admission to the married quarters roll, and becoming a father—quite an eventful period!

Manœuvres.—We are just off to "somewhere in England" for manœuvres. Hence our notes are brief—*and early*!

After manœuvres, Sergt Howler (not in the blue book) and I gird our loins and prepare to thrust ourselves on some new and unsuspecting community.

To all Firstdivites, past and present, happy days!

JESSAMINE.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

It is with very mixed feelings that I act as temporary scribe whilst our renowned Austin goes on a well earned (?) month's leave. However, "to our muttons," as said somebody said somewhere.

Annual Outing.—This was again accomplished without any loss of the staff. But stay! we nearly had one torn to pieces. Our Bill Williams, apparently, has a resemblance to a newspaper representative touring the seaside resorts and giving away money to the first person to recognise him. Bill was so harassed, pulled about, and generally hampered that he is taking out an insurance before next year's outing. It nearly—very nearly—put him off the hops for the day. Austin spent an enjoyable time on the pier underneath a loud speaker, listening to the news. I wonder what he did with the penny he would have spent in getting a paper. Six out of six dozen bottles were not consumed. A court of enquiry is being held shortly to ascertain if the Company is getting "soft" or whether the members are gradually being weaned from the stuff that cheers.

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Cricket.—By winning all three games at cricket, we retain the cricket shield for another twelve months. The only person who was sorry we retained it was the draughtsman Abdul Hamp Ka Butch. You see, he cleans it daily!

Congratulations.—To Corpl and Mrs. Austin Chamberlain a son, Roger David, on Tuesday 10th September. Another supporter for Pompey, eh ?

War!—The C.O. has gone on manœuvres, taking with him the lad with the large appetite as batman. Judging by the number of supply convoys going out, the Command is finding it hard to keep the laddie going. However, those in barracks are fast putting on weight.

Problem.—Is it possible for a cigarette-end thrown into a tin half full of water and tea leaves to set fire to the top of the surrounding screen ?

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 15th September.

General.—I am afraid my notes this month will be short, as I am rather pressed for time. Everyone in the unit has been shaken up during the last few weeks with sudden orders to move. Apparently, those in authority decided to carry out the increases in stations abroad as recommended last year, with the result that we had to find a detachment for service in Malta. The notice received was rather short, but we managed to have all the stores and vehicles sent off in a few days. The personnel sailed from Southampton in the *Neuralia* on the 3rd September.

The following comprise the detachment from this unit now serving in Malta. O.C. Section, Lieut. A. J. Hamilton. Section sergeant, Sergt Hawley A. Corpl Ient A., L/Corporals Rossiter

The Air Defence Brigade Signal Rifle Team, winners of the Powell Cup, 1935, with an average score of 83.18.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—L/Corpl Connolly L., Signalmen Coombe L. and Crockett F., L/Corpl Joyce R.

Seated—Corpl Powell F., C.S.M. Bale H., Captain C. F. Newsom (O.C.), Sergt Hawley A., Corpl Webb A.

P. and Wake A., Signalmen Buxton J., Coombe L., Jones F., Newman C., Rawlinson T., Fisk A., Thompson W., Tyler G., Ward B. and Hodgson C. We hope their stay will be a short and happy one, and trust we shall hear of their work through the medium of THE WIRE. Come along, Corpl Ient ; do your stuff.

There are rumours of further moves. Of these I shall be able to give you news in the next unit notes.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the fold from the units shown, and hope their stay will be a pleasant one. Sigmn Hodge W. from 5th Divl Signals. Sigmn Gale L. from D Company, Training Battalion.

Marriages.—We congratulate Corporal Field L. on taking the bold step of leading Miss Clara Standing to the altar at the Church of St. Anthony, Beeston, Leeds, on the 24th August. (Sarafand Gazette, please copy.) We also congratulate Sigmn Merchant W. on taking the same bold step in marrying Miss Mary Eastwood at York on the 23rd July. We wish them every happiness in the future, though of course there is bound to be trouble.

Jew's Post.—To Enoch, Egypt, from Roger: Yes, I am still waiting.

JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Assaye Barracks, 16th September.

General.—I am afraid our notes this month won't amount to much (sighs of relief!) Being on manœuvres, etc., even Part II order book has let me down—nothing but attachments. Anyway, our lads are doing their stuff right merrily (?) and we hope they get a good chit when the war is over, mother dear.

Apropos to last month's notes, we seem to have heard that phrase " Trials and tribulations of Section life " so many times during this last month. When will the Sections live it down? We can guess what those trials and tribulations are like—believe it or not—but we have also been on manœuvres and we're still alive and—yes! I can even say kicking.

Congratulations.—To Sergt (Bill) Warren on being promoted to that rank as from the 4th July. The blue book has now been passed on to Peggy ; not that he wants it, mind you—look ye below! Our condolences must go to William, however, for he's off with the old love and on with the new : to wit, off the Egypt draft and on the Indian. I guess he'll be able to sit for his interpreter's examination as soon as he arrives.

To C.Q.M.S. (F.-of-S.) Brown J. A. on his appointment to that rank. Just in time for our little wars, too.

To C.Q.M.S. Tebby on attaining that rank after a very long wait. Still, the roll is moving ; we have proof, look you.

To Sergt (Peggy) Neal on dispensing with the blue book as from 12/8/35. Attaboy! let's hope we can still call you Peggy, and that the same misfortune as regards big boats does not fall on you as it has on William.

The Office Boy Learns.—" Talking about saving, I was going to open an account with the Dogger Bank I've heard about, but now I can't: I have been told that it's in liquidation."

Fatted Calves: Wanderers, for the use of.—There is one waiting here for a gink called Maccan. We'd be very hilarious if he'd come and collect it. Congratulations, Mac, on your enlistment in the army of the benedicts—rather late, I admit, but the fault does not lie with us. Kid and Spike chorused " Oh, Mac! how could you ?" And you say your part of the world is tough.

The A.D.B. Signals passing H.M. the King in the Royal Review at Rushmoor on the 13th July.

No wonder you let your beard grow. Leggy, when told of your venture, said " Phat, am I? at least, I'm not phat in the bean."

Buckshec Mail.—Perce: Any news yet of t'big boat ? Let's know, and we can air the beds. RUSTY.

C Section, Tank Brigade Signals

[Attached to 3rd Battalion, R.T.C. on manœuvres.]

Around and About.—As you will see from the address, we are out in the blue. Having left Hedge End Camp (where we enjoyed a pleasant stay of three weeks) on the 1st September, we proceeded to Stockbridge for the Army manœuvres.

The first stunt was an Eastern Command exercise which commenced on the 8th and terminated on the 11th September. As these notes are due in before the final exercise, I can't tell you anything of it yet.

That reminds me. The Section rejoins the Tank Brigade Signals on the 1st October, so this is the last of this Section's notes for this year. We sincerely hope that we will be able to continue the good work (?) next year. We return with the Batttalion to Lydd, Kent, on the 21st September, our stay there lasting only for one week.

Our stay with the 3rd Battalion has been a very happy one, so most of us will be loth to leave them when the time comes. Anyway, let us hope that we resume with them next year.

Amendments.—For information to all concerned. Sam's two-stroke is now a four-stroke. Bruce D. has resigned from his stroke commission. Gobbler Ritchie is still unchallenged. Never mind, Ritchie ; you also remain unchanged.

For Sale.—One three-speed bike. Speeds, slow, stopping and stopped. No bell, no lamp and no handle bars, but good frame ; only needs two new wheels, tyres and a saddle. Prospective buyers apply to Sam (yes, Musket) c/o this Section. He told me confidentially that he'd let it go for a paltry fiver—apparently he is hard pushed for cash. It is requested that customers apply early to avoid the rush: between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Thursdays only.

Post Bag.—John Malay: Sam still anxiously waiting. Anything doing?

In Conclusion.—I offer my apologies for the brevity of our notes this month. We tender our good wishes, however, to all readers. I hope you see us back in THE WIRE columns next year. Till then, au revoir. C.SEC.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—I am afraid these notes will be very brief, as we are preparing for the final battle of the season.

We have had a series of exercises, commencing with a Div. R.A. on the 26th/27th August and ending with a Southern Command exercise from the 11th to 13th September. The latter was very interesting, as it was an unusual type and all movements took place at night. A modern Division with the present standard of mechanisation is certainly difficult to handle on the march, not the least difficult problem being the moving of horsed Cable Sections. We found this out on our last exercise, which took place over some very narrow roads. There was also a Tank Battalion to add to the general congestion.

I hope, next time, we shall be able to give you more news.

Arrivals.—From the Training Battalion: on 12/8/35 Sigmn Whittenham K., and on 20/8/35 Signalmen Davison E., Hodgson W., Jones W. and Newsham H. From the Depot Battalion, on 20/8/35, Drivers Holman C., McSweeney J. and Nicholson G.

Departures.—On transfer to the Army Reserve from Vocational Centres, Sigmn Thomas J. E. and L/Corpl Goodman C.

Marriage.—Corpl Chappell R. to Miss R. A. Pryor at Hackney on 17/8/35.

Births.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Luck a son, Victor James, on 21/8/35. To Sergt and Mrs. Ivison a daughter, Josephine, on 4/9/35.

Sergeants Mess.

The writer—being the envy, despair and object of scorn of every right thinking soldier—stayed behind while the Army went forth to do battle against a Blue or maybe a Pink Force. Of actual happenings in the field, he can say little beyond recording

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that all appeared to be highly satisfied with the feeding and (of course) the drinking arrangements. This reflects great credit on somebody.

It is safe to say that no schemes have been held in this part of the world in recent years that failed to bring the most embarrassing showers of praise for the catering of our Mess (loud and prolonged applause). While we think of it, we may mention that this goes for the Officers Mess, too—only a size larger.

Many would think it a strain to live up to such a standard, but the whole thing "comes natural" to our people. You wring the admission from us, but we confess that we are pretty good.

Sergeant Lee J. will be leaving us for Malta on the 18th Sept. We wish him the best of luck. We are trying to assure Mrs. Lee that this posting is so much better than a trip to India.

Will the ladies please note that we are looking to them to support the Mess functions which we hope to run during the fast approaching winter season ? Plenty people, plenty shows.

Corporals Room.

There has been a long lapse in news from this quarter, but I fear it would only bore you to listen to my tale of explanation.

This year, more than ever, we have been decreased in numbers through many Sections being on detachment with their respective units. The whole of No. 3 Company and all of No. 2 (less F Section) are still away. I therefore plead with you not to blame me for the sad lack of news, but that your righteous indignation should be poured upon the head of Olympus.

There is, however, one incident that helps to brighten an otherwise gloomy outlook. During the Southern Command shooting competitions, we did " mine host " to the Rifle Brigade team ; and towards the close of their stay, thanks to the energy of our entertainments committee and the generous sanction of funds by our commanding officer, we were able to offer an " at home." I have always understood that to be a marksman one must be a total abstainer and non-smoker, but there is no need for these restrictions, judging by the elbow bending of these fellows and the results they secured on the ranges. Out of fourteen trophies competed for, I understand they walked away with eleven. Well done, the R.B.s! and many thanks for a most lively and entertaining evening.

B Corps Signals, Karachi.—To A.D. 2 Company: I'm almost tempted to test your hospitality. Don't go to too much bother, though. I'd hate to see you disappointed. Am still waiting for that pair of pyjamas in place of those so irreparably lost in No. 4 bungalow. Cyril. C.E.B.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General Notes.—On manœuvres. That, I think, is quite a valid and reasonable excuse for the lack of news this month.

We offer a welcome to Captain F. S. Thompson, who joined the unit in camp on the 5th September. He is at present acting adjutant vice Captain R. R. A. Darling, who is still in hospital. The latter officer, we are pleased to say, is making favourable progress towards recovery.

Owing to the rush on cable during the recent Eastern Command exercise, the services of the R.S.M., a C.S.M. and the Foreman of Signals were requisitioned to reel in. What a gallant band!

Bezler damaged his breeches beyond repair—and he did feel embarrassed!

No. 1 Company.

General.—At the last moment, and under extremely difficult circumstances, I have had it pointed out to me that the WIRE notes have not yet been written.

To begin with, we are on manœuvres, and after nearly five weeks of living in a field it is difficult to shake off the bovine expression and state of mind which such conditions bring on.

Also, a greater problem is exercising our collective minds, i.e. how many times can one fold a blanket to act as mattress, sheets and bed quilt, and provide the heat of a central heating system? The War Office has issued pamphlets on nearly everything under the sun, but seems to have missed this important point. One man in the Company is reputed to be capable of making a hammock from his cap comforter; but although many claim to have seen it, the only one who can do it cannot be found—which leaves us staring into the future with hopeless eyes.

To-morrow, the 17th September, we go out for the final War Office exercise, and return to the big city of Canterbury a few days later.

Unfortunately, the return is unlikely to be marked by any scenes of wild enthusiasm, as the pay bloke cunningly paid out two weeks pay and deserted the Army in the field in exchange for a soft town life for a week, which means that the majority of us will return to night life not overburdened with annas.

The manœuvres have not been particularly hard on us, although the R.S.M., the C.S.M., and (let it be whispered) even the F-of-S were seen out late at night with B Cable Section.

C Cable Section from Scarborough have been with us during these strenuous times, and we trust they enjoyed their stay.

Arrivals.—We extend the welcoming hand to Sigmn Thorpe and trust he will enjoy his stay with the 4th Division.

Departures.—None at present, but the draft list for India goes up steadily.

MASKEE.

5th Divisional Signals.

4th Tank Signal Section.

Catherington, near Petersfield.

"WIRE" received strength R.9 and clear. How are we to you? This is the first time that notes from No. 4 T.S.S. have appeared, but now that the ice is broken we will try to keep up the good work.

Out of a Section of nine, the kind Fairy who sees that we don't stay too long in one place has selected three—L/Sergt Bye and Signalmen Fox W. and Ross D.—to go to that delightful country of tigers for five years, more or less. Still, the same old cry goes up, "Roll on, the boat!" Which one: going out or coming in?

Despite being handicapped by an antediluvian Guy lorry, and a Douglas charging engine which also entered the vale of tears about the same time, the Section is getting along very well indeed. The Guy is fitted with a No. 1 set and an M.B./M.C. set, and is used as a link; and at the time of writing, the Douglas, with its super-tuned engine, is doing its best to put some life into a bank of 100—125 Ah Batteries.

What a life! On one side of me the Douglas is singing its sweet song, and on the other Lem (the Section sheik) is asking me whether his hair is parted straight.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Victoria Barracks, 16th September.

The furlough season has commenced once more, and many are looking forward to leave.

Although we do not have large scale manœuvres, we do take part in various Battalion exercises. The last of these is now completed, and we are prepared to slip back into the old stationary groove.

We congratulate Captain H. C. B. Rogers on his recent gazetting to that rank.

As most of the exciting news is in the press, it behoves me to look into Part II. Orders.

Inter-Section Moves.—Sigmn Swetnam from Belfast to Lenan. Sigmn Smyth from Armagh to Dunree. Signalmen Whitters and Leith from Dunree to Belfast. Sigmn Gray from Lenan to Dunree. Sigmn Costello from Dunree to Armagh. Sigmn Blount from Belfast to Ballykinler (temporary). Sigmn Maddox from Ballykinler to Dunree. We hope they all enjoy their new stations.

Draft.—L/Corpl Dickenson and Sigmn Hooper have received their final warning to embark on the 17th December for India. Sigmn Cade has been provisionally warned for the same place.

In Lighter Vein.—Most of the wit in the Company is supplied by the road section (our gallant D.R.s). Events have happened so regularly that "Who Cares?" is going to publish a book of memoirs that promises to rival Lawrence.

Our neighbours are beginning to look white about the gills, for two despatch riders are undergoing an M.T. course. Will the next check be correct?

The Honourable Sidney, having broken many fair hearts, has resigned his appointment—left us with indigestion and gone exploring on the out-stations. A likely lad. We hope the new surroundings are proving attractive and that there is a fruit shop in the vicinity.

I have to thank Sigmn Costello for the accompanying cartoon.

"X300"

Out-Stations.—Everyone appears to be frightfully busy, as news is scarce this month. Lenan have sent some notes and wish to remind everyone that they are still on the map, admiring those famous hills. The detachment n.c.o. (L/Corporal D.) is checking up the remnants of his old k.d. and developing his voice for the usual aboardship games. There is little change in the personnel. Sigmn Gray has taken his writing pad and gone to Dunree, and Sigmn Swetnam has arrived from Belfast to take his place.

The i/c would have us believe that he is a stonyhearted caveman, but we know otherwise. The only married operator (Sigmn Dove) has our congratulations on the birth of a son and heir at Londonderry.

Apart from the fact that these Lenan bachelors grumble about their only mail arriving on the daily courier, and the bumpy, rotten taxi service to Derry, there is little further to add, except to wish old Lenanites good luck and to say the ould place is as ever.

Tailpiece.—Queue till October.

HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Monday 19th August.

General.—At the latter end of July the Signal Training Centre had a farewell inspection by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India. Unfortunately, owing to the very bad weather, we were unable to show His Excellency what we could do in the way of drill, but on the whole the inspection was very satisfactory.

At the moment one can see very busy hands in the Signal Training School. There must be an " S " course in the offing—and what a course!

Entertainments.—On Wednesday the 7th inst., the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess produced a concert party and entertained the British ranks and their families in the all ranks theatre. This was voted a huge success. A word of thanks to Wally for his gallant efforts. What a band! No wonder the C.O. and the officers of the unit had a hearty laugh. The married families are to be thanked for their splendid supply of wonderful cakes.

Births.—To Sergt and Mrs. Greed a daughter, Gloria Phyllis, at the British Families Hospital, Jubbulpore, on 2/8/35.

Sport.—Congratulations to our rugby team on reaching the final of the Harwood-Little trophy. The game was a splendid one, although we lost by 0—3 points. The newspapers stated that we were very unlucky to lose. The team gave a wonderful account of themselves.

Hearty congratulations to Sergeants Paskins and Palmer on winning the golf foursomes handicap cup after playing splendidly through every round. In the final they defeated R.Q.M.S. Smith (R.A.M.C.) and Sigmn Strutt by 7 and 5.

Repatriations.—By the time these notes are in print, we will have said farewell to C.Q.M.S. (Sam) Weller, L/Sergt Cooke, and Signalmen Strutt and Hughes. All will be missed by the Company, and the Mess members will miss our Sam, who is being discharged on pension. Good luck to you, Sam. Sigmn Strutt's departure will be a blow to the athletic team. We sincerely hope he will be looked after at home, where he will be a great athletic asset to some unit.

Dance Band.—All old members of the Company will be pleased to hear that we have started a new dance band. They rendered some really good music at our last Company dance. With a little more practice, they are going to beat all recent dance bands in the Centre. Good luck to them!

S.O.S.—To L/Corpl Plummer, A Corps, Rawalpindi: We have a fine swimming pool here, but one needs a swimming costume. Jock S.

MUTTMATT.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

Can an answer be supplied to the question, " How are glasses broken in a mess ?"

An innovation this month has been the impromptu whist drives held weekly, followed by a social evening.

The Mess handicap golf competition is nearing the semi-final stages. Apparently, the handicappers haven't been too generous with the strokes given away, as it is the old stagers who are still staggering towards the goal—I mean the hole. As a direct result of running the competition, the S.T.C. (I.) Golf Club has increased its membership.

Our monthly guest night was held on the 14th August, and yet another member qualified—and quite easily, it was stated—for the wooden spoon. I hear on good authority that certain members are becoming quite peeved at not having received this trophy, and intend starting an intensive campaign with a view to being selected.

Stop Press.—Re our first query. A satisfactory demonstration has been given. Other answers are not now required.

PEEMSEE.

Corporals Room.

Wednesday 14th August.

General.—A few changes have occurred this month. Firstly, we have said " Cheerio!" to L/Corpl Jennings (Emile-Freddie) on his posting to B Corps at Karachi. With him went one *Daily Mirror*, to the consternation of the property member. He found out, Emile! (Corporals Room, B Corps, please note: you have a good man for committees, also a handy back at soccer, in him.) All the best, Emile!

Two new arrivals are Corpl Collett from Meerut (he knocks out noises on a sax) and L/Corpl Lennon from B Corps (a nifty rugger forward, complete with a dog ?) We welcome them both and hope they have settled down.

Congratulations are tendered to L/Corporals Knox, Pratt and Chambers on the first step up a very long ladder.

Social.—We were entertained at a social evening by the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess last month. It was a great success. Sergt Wagg and his Nigger Minstrels brought the house down. One lady was heard to ask " Which of those is my husband ?" They were well disguised, but we recognised Sergeant Fishwick. An unrehearsed item was Sergt Mathews losing his mouth organ and bursting his braces in trying to retrieve it. Mr. C. B. Cochrane could gather copy from that show. All the junior n.c.o.s had a really enjoyable evening, and hope to arrange a similar one in the corporals room before long. But, oh, those 20 oz. glasses!

Sport.—We congratulate the rugby team on the fine games they have played. Hard luck for them in the final, only losing the cup by three points. No doubt, the game will be fully described in the Sports pages. Our special interest was in those members of our Mess who were playing. Although we lost the cup, it did not deter us from celebrating—did it, Tubby ?

The w.o.s and sergeants gave a show to all ranks and their families—this time, on a more ambitious scale. They played to a full house and, judging by the talent revealed and the way the show was put over, we are sure that everyone who saw it would willingly pay to see it again. Let us hope it's not too long before they put on another one.

T.G.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Upper Topa.

Tuesday 27th August.

General.—Since our last notes, the principal thing that has been occupying our attention is the bad weather. The monsoon has certainly paid Upper Topa a visit with a vengeance this year. We had rain every day from the 1st to the 23rd August, and during the periods when it was not raining we were completely enveloped in mist owing to the clouds descending on the hillsides and remaining there. We have often heard the expression " Up in the clouds " and imagined it to indicate a joyful experience, but from what we have seen of it at Upper Topa it is far from such. However, the last two days have been sunny and warm, so let us hope the monsoon is over for this year.

In spite of the weather, the upgrading courses have been progressing satisfactorily, and though the period of instruction for the second half-season has been somewhat curtailed, we hope that many will have the opportunity of passing the Trade Board and increasing their rates of pay.

Sport.—This has been somewhat of a problem this month owing to the weather, although we have managed to get in several games of rugger. We have also entered a team for the Murree Brewery football tournament, meeting our old opponents the 2nd Battalion The Highland Light Infantry, and although we forced a draw of 1—1 we were unfortunate to lose in the replay by 1—3. A full report will be found in the Sports Notes.

Photography.—At last the 1st Indian Divl Signals have formed a Camera Club, and the first meeting was held on the 7th August.

Lieut. E. J. F. Heap has been elected president and Sergt Coles G. secretary. We wish the Club every success, and hope they will provide THE WIRE with some fine examples of their work in the near future.

Entertainments.—There has been no lack of entertainment in Upper Topa during the last month, thanks to the strenuous efforts of our energetic dance committee, and several very enjoyable functions have been held.

On the 6th August the P.R.I. provided us with an evening's enjoyment by engaging Billy Wheeler, M.C.L. (who also refers to himself as Loe Agra Bill) to give a display of conjuring, illusions, crystal gazing and thought reading. He certainly succeeded in keeping a critical audience entertained for two and a half hours.

On the 16th August an all ranks whist drive and dance was held, fifty persons sitting down for whist and many more attending for the dance which followed. The whist prize winners on this occasion were: Ladies: 1st Mrs. Stevens, 2nd Mrs. Bradbury. Gentlemen: 1st Sigmn Hall, 2nd Sigmn King. Booby prizes, Sigmn Simcox and Sgt Ellerton-Long. Sigmn Hall was fortunate in winning the snowball for the highest score.

On the 23rd August an all ranks dance was held. This was quite a success, novelty dances being a great attraction on this occasion. The lucky winners were: Spot waltz, Mrs. Warner and Sigmn Gentle. Statue dance, Mrs. Cozens and Sigmn Hopwood. Swindle prizes, Mrs. Warner and Sigmn Garven.

Musical Note.—Our newly formed dance band, which we mentioned last month, continues to flourish in spite of misfortunes. In the first place Sgt Bloodworth, our pianist, became indisposed, but fortunately Sergt Prees was on leave here from Waziristan District Signals and was able to fill the breach. Then L/Corpl Shepherd, our ukelele banjoist and crooner, was hurriedly sent on detachment and in stepped Sigmn Vincent. We hope that now we have started, we shall be able to keep a band in the unit.

Whilst we are on the subject, we must thank Sigmn McCann (saxophonist) and Sigmn Turvey (banjo), both of Kohat District Signals, for the hard work they have put in to make the band the success it is. Without a doubt, these two lads are the mainstay of the band; and as they will both be returning to their unit shortly, we must send out an S.O.S. for another saxophonist and also other instrumentalists. Any offers? Come along, you musicians, and help to start the "Brighter 1st Div." movement.

Sergeants Mess.—No mention having been previously made this season of the Sergeants Mess, Upper Topa, we will endeavour to secure for ourselves a little space, even though by the time these notes appear we shall all be back in Rawalpindi.

For the information of ex-members, the mess is situated in the same building—No. 12—above the main parade ground. We now boast a lawn in front of the mess, and quite a presentable garden, whilst the M.E.S. have provided us with a door between the ante-room and the mess room, saving a walk round the verandah when going from one room to the other.

A number of functions have been held during the season, and we have had a small whist drive every Sunday evening which has provided us with a certain amount of entertainment. We held a dance on the 21st August which was very enjoyable, and our old favourite the "Palais glide" was much in evidence. For the benefit of those members who are beyond dancing, we held the "Chelsea pensioners," and it was very interesting to watch the veterans proceeding to their bath chairs with the aid of khud sticks. When the "Fall in" sounded, some striking advertisements for Doan's backache pills were seen.

R.S.M. Wills having proceeded to Japan on leave, C.S.M. Eastes is now our president. Our average strength is thirty, which includes twelve dining members.

The tennis court was greatly patronised during the fine weather, but since the wet weather has been on, table tennis and darts have been our chief diversions. We did endeavour to start a crooners' class, but this did not meet with much success owing to lack of appreciative audiences.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Sergt Beckley A. E. and family from Waziristan District Signals, and L/Sergt Brown from Peshawar District Signals, and hope they will soon settle down in their new surroundings.

Obituary.—All ranks of the 1st Indian Divl Signals offer their sympathy to F/S/Sergeant and Mrs. Agar, of Peshawar District Signals, in their recent sad bereavement in losing their youngest baby at Upper Topa on the 9th August.

Enquiries.—To L/Cpl Johnson (Farmer) 5th Div. Scarborough: Why you never write this long time? Are you coming out this fishing season? From yours in anticipation, G. H. Bancroft.

To Sergt Hay, Aldershot: What about a line to your old sub-Section commanders?

To Sigmn Beazley J. (believed to be with the Depot Battalion, Catterick): What about that line? There is still time. From 2320230 Sigmn Simcox A. J.

Finale.—As the manœuvre season approaches, we hope in our next notes to give an account of our coming activities in the field. The hill season now being practically at an end, our next notes will be from Rawalpindi. So till next month we bid you all adieu.

FIRSTDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Unfortunately, our regular scribe is indulging and recuperating in the famous and much-abused Murree hills, and the result is that a mere novice has been delegated to put before the world in general, and the Royal Corps of Signals in particular, the news of this little Troop located in the most northerly signal station in India. There is little scope for the writer to work on, as apart from the monsoon and passing trains, there is nothing interesting to report to the outside world.

Speaking of the monsoon, a newcomer to this station is usually told that one is lucky to see any rain at all, but this year has been an exception in that respect, for which we are all thankful. This rain has a nasty habit of falling at night, which is most inconvenient to our he-men who will persist in sleeping outside; and the following morning, the air is full of wails on being awakened about 2 a.m. and having to hurriedly roll everything up in the bedding (including alarm clocks, glasses of water, etc.) and dash inside.

Several of the Troop have taken advantage of a few days leave to various stations, of which Murree is the most popular, although probably the most expensive, particularly when whole sets of false teeth are lost during a little convivial gathering of acquaintances.

The Troop is doing its best to keep up its smiling and happy disposition during the hot weather (118 degrees in the shade) by indulging in swimming trips to Jalala, whist drives, games tournaments and shoots, all very well organised by our popular entertainments committee. A recent billiard tournament (doubles) was won by Signalmen Clark and Snowball, and the subsidiary by Signalmen Evans and Bryan, who each received a handsome trophy.

In connection with the swimming trips there is a certain amount of nervousness displayed when riding in those fast-moving Frontier buses. One excursionist remarked that "If anything happened, we should all be caught like rats in a trap," while another chewed off a finger nail for every bullock cart that was met on the road.

Now that a benevolent Government has restored the remaining 5 per cent., the Troop may be represented at Bisley next year, for in a Corporals Mess shoot the other evening some excellent scores were recorded. L/Corpl Sutherland proved the champion, with L/Corpl Strong as runner-up, although both these were pipped by the T.S.M. to take the sweepstakes.

Our hockey team, after heading the Hot Weather League, dropped both points to I Battery R.H.A., losing by the only goal scored. This is surely our bogey team, because we have not

beaten them in a tournament since I forget when (but the Chief will tell you, as he has watched the team grow) although we are usually the runners-up. That reminds one of that old song, "Why am I always the bridesmaid and never the blushing bride?"

The Troop congratulates Signalmen Snowball, Evans, Clark and Howard, who have returned from Topa with o.s. class i., and Sigmn Leith from Jubbulpore with his i.m. A.i.

Our popular T.Q.M.S. has qualified as chief of housey-housey by virtue of his size and weight, but at a recent function he tried to rob no less a person than the T.S.M. of a "jaldi five" by throwing No. 75 back in the bag.

Sigmn Cox for once failed to win a whist drive, and the latest champion to win a fortune is Sergt Lambert.

Our best wishes to Sigmn Clark on his posting to the 2nd Indian Divl Signals at Quetta.

ONE BAR C.

Why go to Switzerland ?.....Come to Razmak!

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters and Razmak Signal Sections.

Thursday 5th September.

It is some four years since I attempted to write notes for this now famous Journal, but I will try to give a short account of what happens here during the summer—or, rather, what has happened.

Since our last notes appeared in print, we have not had any really notable event to report ; but thanks to a few smoking concerts and the like, life up here is still bearable.

We have received visits from the Air Force at Miranshah and the Tanks in Razmak for two smoking concerts and games tournaments, while the junior n.c.o.s have been favoured with invitations from the Sergeants Mess to games tournaments. We sent a party to Miranshah to pay a return visit to the Air Force, and they all vouched for a good time, especially some of our members who finally left the scene of the smoker at 6 a.m. the next day.

The annual leave season is in full swing. Our numbers here are therefore somewhat depleted. However, with the annual operators course we manage to keep up to strength.

The trooper draws near, and with it is heard " ? ? days to go," etc. This is evidently meant to imply that the individual concerned is glad to be homeward bound. We lose a good'y number of the old 'uns this trooping season, but we are sincerely hoping the new drafts will come up to scratch.

During the summer the junior n.c.o.s have been undergoing drill and P.T. courses. Loud have been the cries of "Oh, my back!" etc. Still, they have all come through fairly well and are much better for the instruction given.

Until next month.

WAZIR.

Agony.—To Oxo, the scribe of the 5th Div.: The old scribe of Wazirdist has returned ; in fact, never been away. Should like to join you in March next ?

To whom it may concern at Catterick: S.W.L. has written three letters, but still waits for reply to the first one. The W/T station still works, despite leave and postings,

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Wana Signal Section.

Thursday 29th August.

General.—Old Wana-ites will be thinking that Wana has closed down again, but although notes are very few and far between, we are still carrying on.

As is usual during the hot season, there is nothing much doing here. We sent two parties of men to Razmak on courses, and one to Upper Topa. Two of the three men on the first course at Razmak passed, and now we are awaiting the results of the second courses at Razmak and at Upper Topa.

Those left behind have been undergoing training in readiness for a Trade Board which is to be held in September.

On the 6th August we fired our annual musketry course, the results of the first party being as follows: B.O.R.s 42.5 per cent. (a first class average), I.O.R.s 36.63 per cent.

We have had a few movement orders lately, to wit: Corporal Lloyd to A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi ; Sigmn Hamblett to Bannu Signal Section ; Corpl O'Brien from H.Q. Section, Razmak ; Sigmn Todd from Bannu Signal Section ; Signalman McKay from H.Q. Section (detachment) D.I.K. on a recuperating course after spending three months on the Plains.

Entertainments.—We celebrated the return of Captain F. K. Wilson to the Section with a smoking concert in the boxing ring, to which all British officers and other ranks of the station were invited. Signal smoking concerts are well known in Wana, and it did not need any persuasion to bring all our guests along. Hardly an officer was absent, and the B.O.R.s were there in full strength. A most enjoyable evening was spent, and everyone voted for another in the very near future.

We had community singing (from the Section song book) with Lieut.-Colonel Ffrench at the piano. An Apache dance was given by Major Langridge and Lieut. Cantrill (R.T.C.). This was the *piece de resistance* of the evening. Lieut. Cantrill is of medium height and slim-built, whilst Major Langridge is well over 6 ft. in height and a trifle plump. We leave the rest to your imagination. The dance of the seven veils (commonly known as the hip-swing) was ably performed by Sigmn Everad. (We heard

quite a few remarks passed about this act, but enough said.) Boxing match: Lieut. Cantrill v. Private Reid. The fight finished up with the " dying swan " act, but the swan soon recovered after a few 14 ozs. of light refreshment. Privates Reid and Nash (R.A.M.C.) gave excellent songs with banjo accompaniment. Tap dancing by Lieut. Cantrill was very much appreciated by all.

Horse Show.—We did fairly well in this annual event, winning a number of prizes, to wit:—

Lieut. P. G. Goodeve-Docker, second prize in the handy hunter competition.
Sgt Smith C. V., first prize in the B.O.R.s jumping competition.
Signalman Allan F., second prize in the A.T. cart driving competition.
Signalmen Said Amir, Maddeson and S. A. Wadud were third in the best turned out pack mules, carrying No. 1 set, batteries and visual equipment.
Sigmn Satchwell, first prize in the musical ride on mules.
Sigmn Hoyle (Johnnie), second prize in the dog race.
Corpl Lloyd (Sam), third prize in the dog race.

Old hands will, no doubt, be surprised to learn that the " Wilson Inn " is now waterproof. The inn has been rebuilt and made slightly smaller, thus allowing the tent roof to hang over the walls instead of on top. The part where the tent tops join has been so fixed that the water runs off the sides instead of straight through, and one is now able to stay in the inn even when it *is* raining.

Tailpiece.—It is quite possible that we will have some very *interesting* notes in the near future. We hope so, anyway, for most of you must be bored stiff by now.

Hasta la vista. SWAGINAS.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Wednesday 4th September.

General.—This month, I must commence with an apology for the brevity of these notes, the main reason being that our official scribe has gone to the Murree hills to recuperate ; and I (a lesser scribe) must plead lack of experience in the world of journalism.

We have spent a fairly quiet month. The usual leave parties have been coming and going. " One more month nearer the boat " is heard fairly frequently these days, and those who are sweating are still waiting for the boat list to go up. They are bursting to count up the days.

We have had a fairly heavy rainfall this month, and it has been really cool. Some humorists have been asking whether there was any chance of drawing an E.I. blanket.

One can daily see signs of the approaching training season: groups outside the Section stores putting on yet another coat of paint, and others running through the cable (the organ grinders of the future). All these signs of activity one notices and at last, with a sigh, drags out one's hiking boots and prepares once more for the open road.

The latter end of this month will find us getting really busy, with the musketry to finish off, route marches and Section schemes, etc.

Arrivals.—We welcome back from Kasauli Signalmen Jones, Scott and Johnson. All are now recovered from their illness. Jones in particular is looking his old robust self.

Congratulations.—To the following on obtaining the extra pice. L/Corpl Johnson and Signalmen Hayes, Richmcnd, James, Faulder, Hoare and Kelly from B.ii. to B.i. Signalmen Leach, Bruce, McIntyre, Barrett, Hyett, Hunt and Howard from B.iii. to B.ii. Sigmn Pickering from D.R. class iii. to class ii.

Sport.—We have had very few games of any importance during the last month or so. We have just started seven-a-side football between the Sections, and we shall be able to report more fully on that next month. The hockey selectors are now busy sorting out representative British and Indian teams for the forthcoming Radhu hockey tournament. In playing off for the leadership in the Hot Weather Cricket League against Kohat Games Club, we lost a very keen and exciting game by one run, scored from the last ball of the match. This was the only game of any importance during the month. Owing to so many of the best players being away, we have not been very successful in the Hot Weather Tennis League, but nevertheless our teams have put up some very good performances. ANGII.

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

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

[Held over from the September issue]

Friday 9th August.

Headquarters.

General.—Any of our friends from home or in India who pass through Karachi during the trooping season will find a hearty welcome from this unit if they can find the time to pay us a visit.

The new dining hall is completed, and we are now installed. This building is a particularly worthy effort on the part of the M.E.S. I should imagine it is one of the finest dining halls in India—I certainly have not seen a better. The new offices are nearing completion and they, too, look very nice.

Arrivals.—Lieut. K. H. Treseder returned to the fold from leave, and L/Corpl Jennings and Sigmn Bull from S.T.C. (I.) and Corpl Breeze from Sialkot joined us on posting. All are heartily welcomed.

Departures.—Sigmn Yakker Young on repatriation to Australia, Sigmn Nichols on posting to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Corpl Page for duty at Quetta, and Sigmn Hamilton on a course at the S.T.C. (I.) We wish them all luck in their new stations.

No. 1 Company.

General.—I ought to begin with the ancient and barnacled apology for the absence of notes last month ; but as the absence was due to an appalling lack of material, I do not propose to make an apology.

N.C.O.s Ride.—For the past four weeks several of our junior n.c.o.s, together with some from our sister Company, have been learning the mysteries (and believe me, they were pukka Sherlock Holmes type) of sitting in the saddle, applying the aids, and sundry other convolutions consistent with the management of our long-faced friends. Judging from their bright faces and happy talk, they are enjoying it, although they say the instructor (Sergt Sneddon) is on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Still, let them beware (in Macbeth's words) of vaulting ambition, which o'erleaps itself and falls on the other side. They start jumping next week.

Technical Training.—The second operators upgrading course is now progressing favourably (?) along the well worn lines, amidst choruses of " Binder!" " Gripper!" and " Who bisected the baseboard ?"

Whilst I am on this subject, I must congratulate those who were successful on the first course. To those who failed, " Never mind! you'll have another chance next year."

Sports.—These are looking up somewhat, nearly every evening seeing a buckshee game of hockey or football ; and, of course, the unit is making itself felt as a team to be considered seriously in the cricket sphere of Karachi.

Departures.—L/Corpl Lennon (Pumpkin) has left us for the S.T.C. (I.) Jubbulpore. Good luck, Badgy! I'll see you on the boat in '38—or is it '37 ?

Corpl Page departed a couple of weeks ago to assist in the earthquake area at Quetta. Look after yourself, Badgy. It's only six months to the boat.

Arrivals.—To C.S.M. Fleming, a car. Did you manage to save as much as all that during your pontoon, sir ? Somehow, I cannot save enough to keep myself in cigarettes for a week.

Ham Urdu Sikh Rahe Hain.—To the uninitiated, this means we are learning Urdu. And so we are. Most of the n.c.o.s of both Companies are attending an Urdu class every evening for an hour, so that we can curse the tonga wallah and bearers more fluently than we do now. For those who are interested, however, there is always the British Services examination, then lower and higher standard, all of which carry with them a certain amount of pice which is worth going for.

Tailpiece.—Before I finish, I should like to know who put the following answer on his test paper: " One of the likely faults on a C set transmitter is that the brushes in the generator can be in

the wrong way, making the generator turn in the wrong direction and cutting off the H.T. supply." No wonder we instructors are told that we are haggard and thin.

A rivederci. EKNO.

No. 2 (Wireless) Company.

General.—The first operators I.T. course has finished, and the second is well under way. Our Pack Section has started training with a zest that has taken the smiles off the mules' faces.

Congratulations.—To the operators of the first I.T. course who were clever enough to " make the grade."

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Dines from Lahore, having finished his vocational course. Sigmn Hamilton to Jubbulpore on a class ii. E.F. course.

By the time these notes are in print we shall have lost Sigmn Young M., who is leaving us for civvy life and sails for Australia on the 25th July. All ranks of the Company will join me in wishing you all the best, Yakker, and hope you will drop us a line while you are out in the blue.

Physical Training Queries.—If you happened to be an odd number suffering from prickly heat, would you be enthusiastic about an even number jumping on your back ?

A Countryman's Diary.—The socks, hose tops and odd white shoes planted by Jeannie last month are beginning to sprout. Now is the time to water them, Bill, because Claude is keeping his other white shoe in anticipation.

Bahkshee Line.—To Tommy Cook, 2nd Cav.: Kitna din (see Haidari's Urdu vocab). To Cyril, Bulford: Surely, you must be sweating now. Have you thought out a new one to get off draft this year ? A. and D.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

General and Social.—Nothing much to report, as the Mess has been very quiet of late. Everyone must be saving up to go home, although they can't all be going at once.

We did try a small whist drive amongst ourselves ; but the local power plant being what it is, the electric light failed us for several hours, and even the people who think they can play cards with their eyes shut found it more than they could manage, so the show was hardly a success.

Of course, there is always a good tale to listen to should you pop in any evening, rather on the lines of " When I was in . . . . . " (usually the same place) or " In all my service."

Recently there has been a considerable demand for the billiard table, and we who " nearly live on it " have been pushed on one side to allow room for the champion. C.Q.M.S. Moore (Poney) is the present champion and challenges all comers, provided, of course, that the handicap is the right size. I hope someone beats him soon, or else I shall never get another game. Still, with the aid of a few pithy remarks from Widge, those games are a good cure for the hump.

Sports.—Two cricket matches this month, one against the Corporals Mess (a decisive victory for us) and one against the Sergeants Mess R.A.F. (a win, but not so decisive). Poney, having been placed higher up in the batting list, failed to produce the required result, unless a considerable number of appearances on the " duck " can be considered. Still, he can always be relied on to win the match for us the same evening. BEKORE.

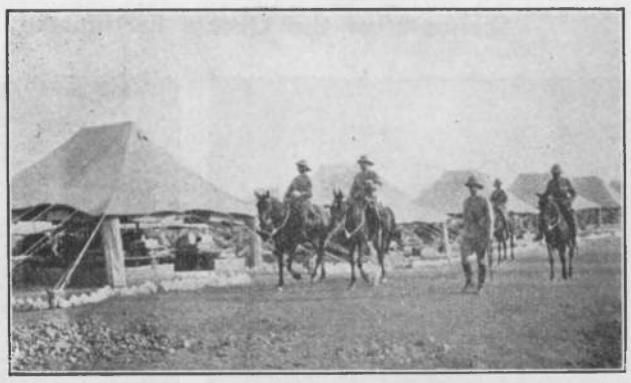
2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

[Held over from the September issue]

Headquarters.

The unit, together with the detachment of B Corps Signals and the W.E.S., paraded in review order at 07.30 hrs. on the 26th July to be addressed by the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India (Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.). The whole parade was under the command of our commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.). The Signal Officer-in-Chief made the following speech : —

" Colonel Howe and all ranks of the 2nd Indian Divl Signals, detachment of B Corps Signals, and Wireless Experimental Section. I have come to talk to you, as the senior officer of the Corps in India, regarding the work you all have done in the recent earthquake.



Inspection of Camp Site by the Signal Officer-in-Chief, Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.

" You have had many complimentary things said to you by your commanders on your work ; but I, as a Corps officer and one of the Corps family, am perhaps in a better position than anyone to realise and appreciate the efforts which you have made. The name of the Corps has always stood high in the Army. You have raised it even higher, if that were possible.

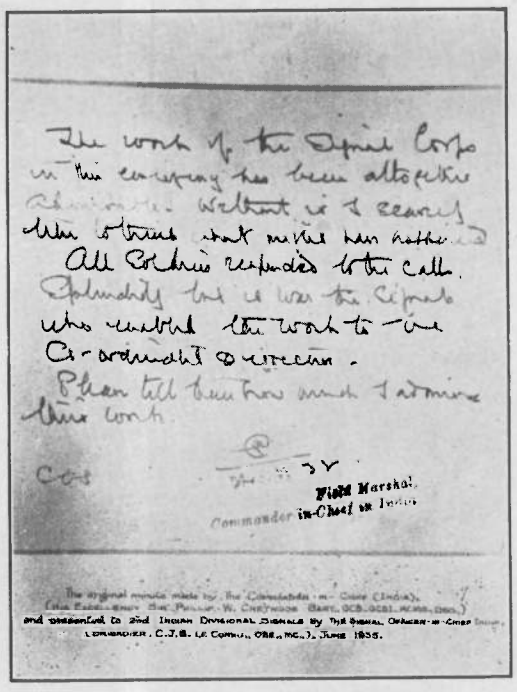
" I have handed to your colonel the original order commending the work of the Corps, written and signed by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief. I hope that your colonel will let you display this in your messes and barrack rooms.

" Shortly after the earthquake I was rung up on behalf of H.E. the Viceroy, and later on behalf of H.E. the Governor of the Punjab. In both cases I was directed to convey the personal congratulations of Their Excellencies to the officers and all ranks of the Corps.

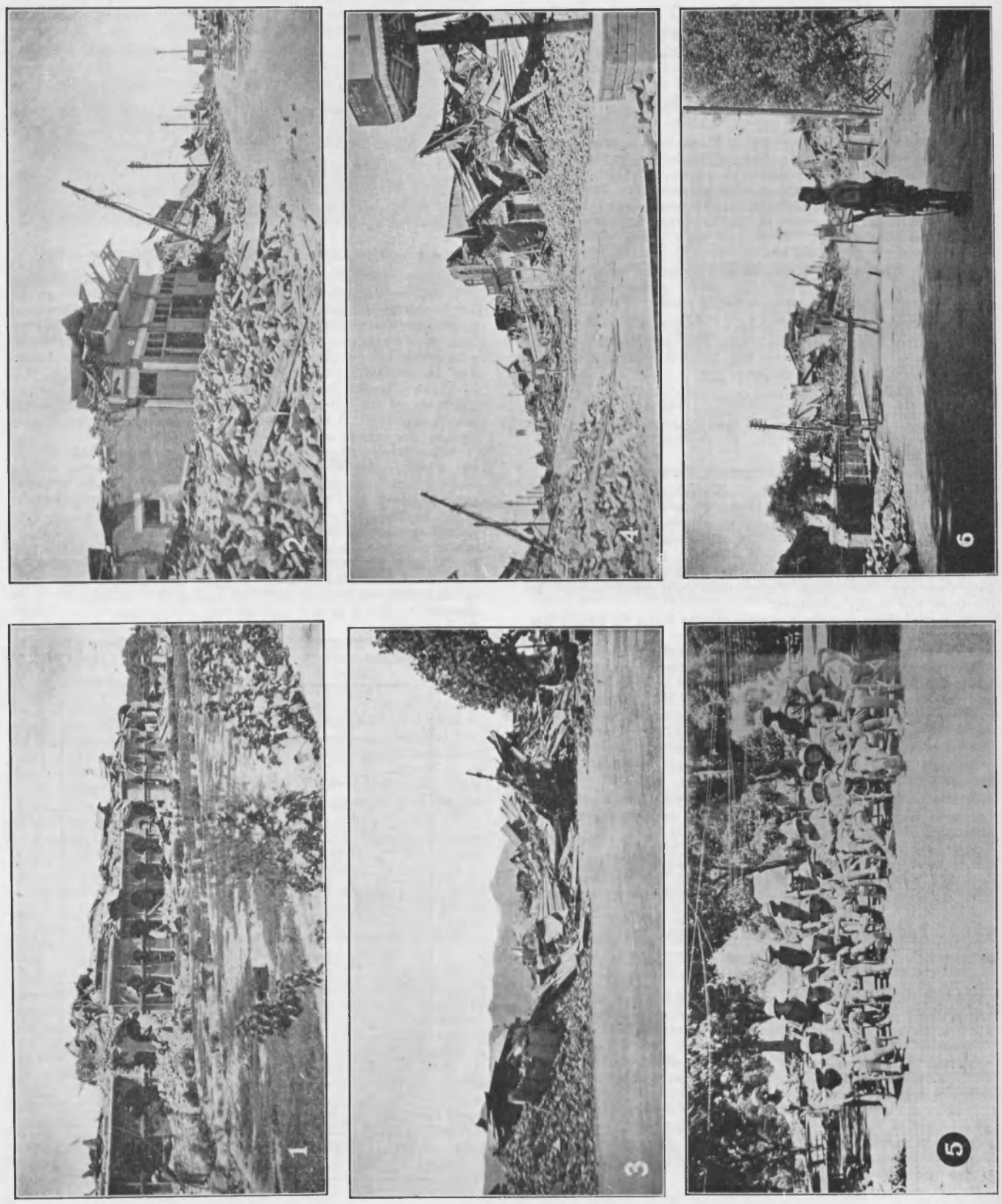
" In addition to his written order, H.E. the C.-in-Chief at an official function in Simla called me up and congratulated me publicly on your work, directing me to pass on his congratulations to you, which I now do.

" I cannot say more except that I am a very proud man to be able to say that I have worn the same cap badge as you fellows do."

Below is a photographed copy of the original minute made by the Commander-in-Chief in India, and now in the possession of the unit.



Scenes after the Quetta Earthquake, 31st May, 1935 (see Notes at foot of page 477)



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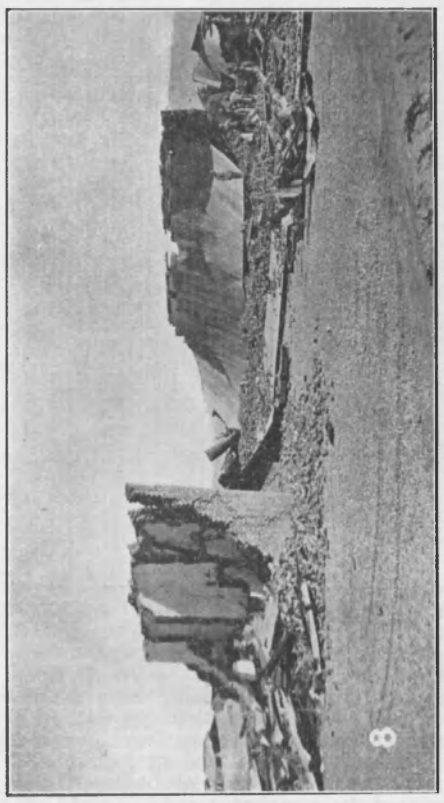
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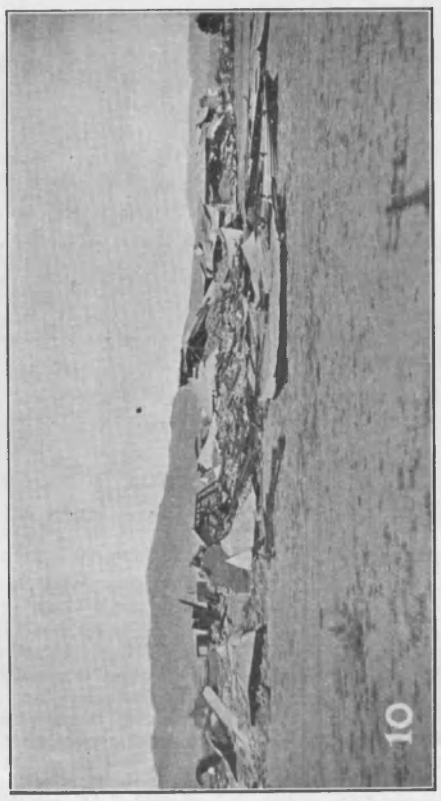
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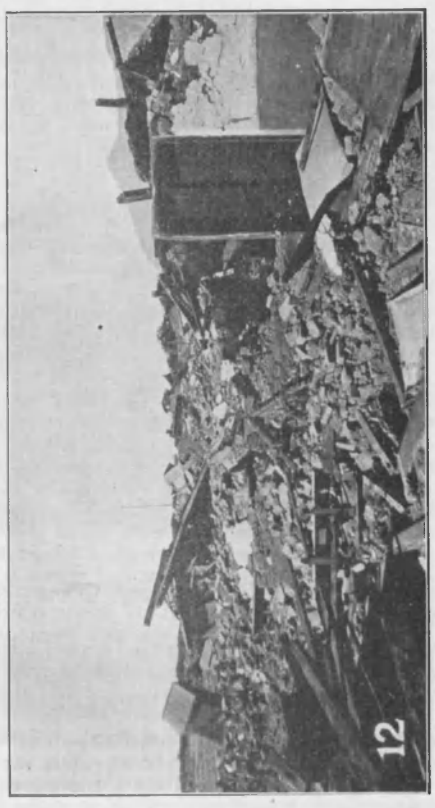
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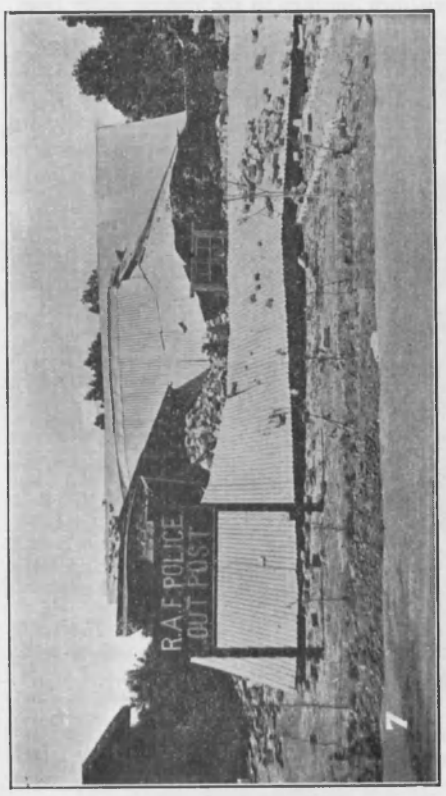

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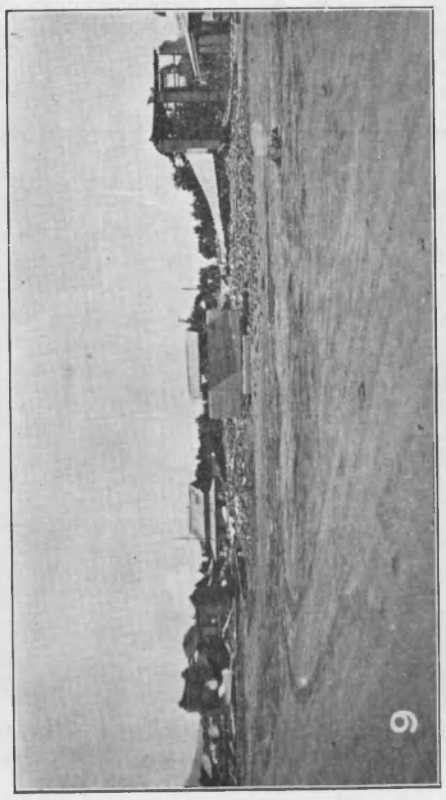
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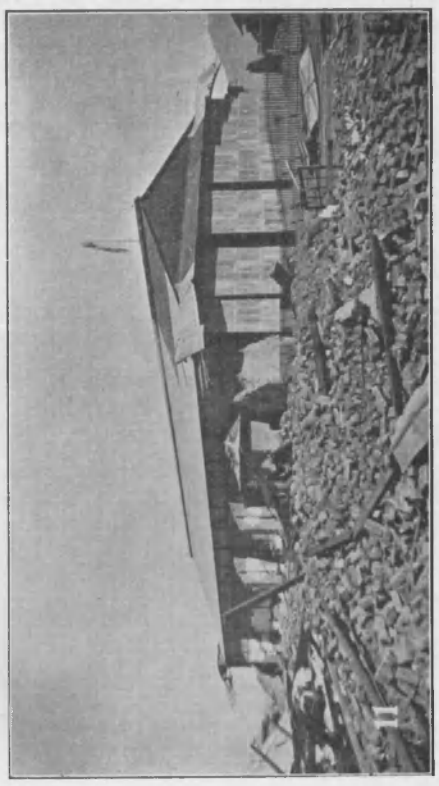
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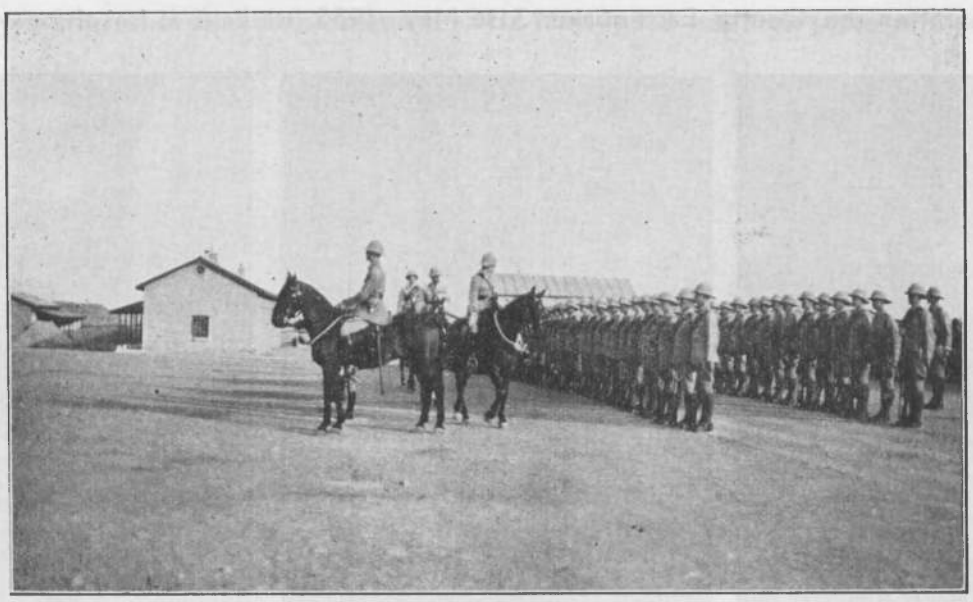


Inspection of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.

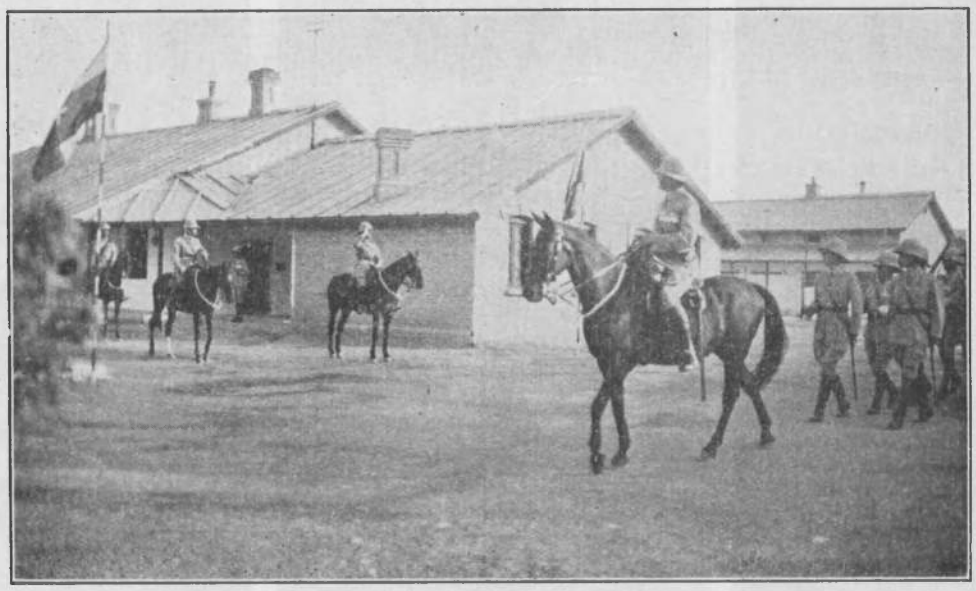
After his speech, the Signal Officer-in-Chief inspected the parade and then took the salute at the march past in column of route. He later inspected the unit lines, camp and stores, and finally all the animals, after which he visited the Western Command Wireless Group and the lines of the W.E.S. He expressed himself as very pleased with everything he saw.

The Unit Concert Party; or Captain Dimoline's "Follies."—Since Quetta city ceased to be an object of interest on the Ordnance survey map, and all the fair sex packed up their parrots and monkeys, etc., it may well be imagined that social life in the unit—and outside, for that matter—ceased to exist. So forthwith, Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., and Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., put their heads together and said "Let there be a concert given by the members of the unit for the members of the unit," and lo and behold! it was so. And the "Quetta Quakes" came into being.

The first concert took place on the 19th June, the programme reading: "The 'Quetta Quakes' present 'First Tremors.'" Needless to say, it was a howling success. The whole unit and some of the R.A.F. turned up, and applauded vigorously.

A stage was erected outside the guard room, Messrs. Brunton and Foreman (not forgetting Sergt Chas. Beard) doing all the work in that direction. The lighting was arranged by the F-of-S and his henchmen, the whole being supervised by Capt. Dimoline. The unit dance band was in attendance, and special mention must be made of the pianist Corpl Scarisbrick (of the Royal Tank Corps), L/Corpl Whitewood the saxophonist and L/Corpl Cage the cornet player (both of the Queen's Royal Regiment), who have unstintingly given their services to the concert party from the beginning.

The artists were Sergeant Baker, Corporals Harries and Lay, Signalmen Gallaher and Walsh, Corpl Staerck, Sergeant Fields, L/Corpl Holland, Sigmn Leigh, Corpl Scarisbrick, R.T.C. (who



March Past of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., and Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., at the saluting base

impersonates a lady so well that . . . . . Oh! never mind) and Sigmn Swainson. The producer-manager was Captain W. A. Dimoline, and I'm perfectly certain that he is the man Elstree are looking for.

The "Quetta Quakes" Concert Party.

The "Second Tremor" took place on the 28th June, and the cast was expanded to the extent of two artistes: Sigmn Hale (late Shanghai Signal Section) and S/Sergt Matthews, R.A.O.C., who has an unorthodox use for a saw. This, again, was an amazing success—so much so that the concert party has now become a permanent asset to the unit.

On the 6th July the "Third Tremor" took place, and this time we had a distinguished visitor in the Baluchistan District commander, Major-General H. Karslake, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who thoroughly enjoyed himself. At the end of the performance R.S.M. Shenton led three hearty cheers for the General, and I've never heard anything so wholehearted before.

Scene from the Sketch "Sing Sing."

"The Fourth Devastation" on the 27th July was a farewell concert to our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E. (who is proceeding to Karachi to officiate as C.S.O. Western Command) and it was undoubtedly the best show we had given. The P.R.I. bought new pierrot costumes for the party (and didn't we look swell!) and we did the thing in the true Brighton Pier style. The only thing that spoiled it was the fact that no one went round with the hat! The artistes in the troupe were Tubby (C.Q.M.S. Minns, recently arrived in the unit from Risalpur), George (Sergt Baker of Jubbulpore fame), Binnie (Sigmn Hale, Shanghai S.S.) Busty (Corpl Lay of Catterick Camp ration stand), Algy (Sergt Fields—no relation to Gracie of that ilk), Sadie (Corpl Scarisbrook, R.T.C.: and I've told you about her—him—her—dash it! you know what I mean, anyway), and Eric (or Little by Little Sigmn Swainson).

There's to be another concert on the 17th August, and we hope it's going to be a winner. If I know anything about Captain Dimoline, it will be, for without his able guidance we shouldn't be where we are now. The wet canteen usually has an extension on concert nights, so we are always sure of full support (aren't we, Alec ?) F.J.S.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Signal Officer-in-Chief in India (Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C.) paid us a visit on the 26th July, and the unit with detachments from B Corps and the W.E.S. paraded at 07.30 hrs. on No. 1 Company parade ground. At 11.00 hrs. an M.T. and pack office of D Section was inspected by the Signal Officer-in-Chief. He expressed himself very pleased with everything he saw.

The Company has returned to normal as far as possible, and except for the fact that we live in tents and have a long hike for meals, things in general are as they were before the quake. Individual training is going strong, and that perplexed look is very predominant at the moment.

This morning (Friday 2nd August) vaguely familiar shouts of "Reload! reload!" were heard where the future unit instructors were undergoing preliminary training under the infantry weapon training instructors—a strong indication, I think, that somewhen in the very near future the cavalry will again ride in rapid succession across the range.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Thomas P. from the W.E.S. We extend the mutti and whitewash buckets in welcome. Also Corpl Page from B Corps, Karachi, to assist the detachment already here. The usual welcome is extended to him.

Entertainments.—The unit's new concert party (the "Quetta Quakes") gave a very enjoyable and clever show on Saturday night 27th July. A programme ranging from a mouth organ band to an expert cornet soloist (2/6 down and six weeks real 'ard work) was really worth seeing.

Cricket.—No. 1 Company whipped H.Q., although we never fielded our full strength second team. We hope to do the same at football in the very near future.

Notices.—Anybody posted or provisionally warned for Quetta is advised to take up bricklaying in preparation. Our courses are of the highest standard and cover a wide range. KATIE.

Sergeants Mess.

They are gradually preparing to embalm us during the winter. The sleeping tents now have brick floors and low walls. These walls, I understand, will eventually be raised to a height of 5½ ft., and finally the roof of the tent will be thatched—a pleasant prospect for the coming Quetta winter.

Tennis is in full swing, and a number of friendlies (as follow) have taken place, with a win on every occasion for the Mess:—v. officers, home and away; v. B.O.R.s, home and away; v. R.A.M.C. home and away; v. corporals, away.

A very pleasant social evening was enjoyed on the 26th July, the Mess being at home to the officers of the unit. The occasion was really a farewell to the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.) who is leaving the unit for several months (officiating as C.S.O. at Karachi, and then on leave to the U.K.)
D.W.

Earthquake Photographs.

The photos on pages 474—475, taken after the great earthquake at Quetta, show (1) the Treasury buildings; (2) Bruce Road; (3) damage behind the Quetta Club; (4) the corner of Bruce Road, with the sign post at which the 2nd Indian Divl Signals were the first to arrive (03.40 hrs.) and take over rescue work; (5) a gathering at the Quetta Club; (6) a sentry posted after the city had been sealed; (7) the R.A.F. Police outpost; (8) one of the R.A.F. hangars; (9, 10 and 11) views of the R.A.F. quarters; (12) Quetta Jail.

The War Memorial.....Fort Sandeman.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Saturday 7th September.

General.—Everything is running along smoothly, although the pleasures of this salubrious place have of late been somewhat marred by the activities of the "skeeters," which have been more intense than usual, resulting in a general run in and out of hospital by many of the Section. Despite this, however, education and schooling still go on apace, classes being run in the mornings and evenings. Practically the whole Section are having a shot at either first or special, and from the keenness displayed and the invaluable tuition of our commanding officer, and W.O. Carroll, A.E.C. (who came from Quetta specially for the job) we are hoping to achieve greatness.

The builders have arrived to start operations on the 'Stute and that eyesore of a bungalow. But so far they are still making girders, etc., and the tearing down process has not yet started.

Entertainments.—Thanks to the unflagging efforts of the entertainments department, two fine chota whist drives and dance affairs have been greatly welcomed and enjoyed by all. Of course, the ladies were in the minority, which is only to be expected with Ziarat being open. Nevertheless, they were good shows. The ladies in the station were responsible for the "eats" side of them, and I hand it to them because the sandwiches can be aptly described as "teek." The first drive was a proper beanfeast for some people—particularly one of the office staff, who the next day revealed to us the result of playing with a spirit in which ardour had not been sufficiently damped.

Another item of interest was the station dog meeting. This caused a good deal of amusement and speculation as to the respective merits of true breeds and pies. The results were somewhat conflicting, and many annas were lost when someone shouted "Decko!" when Spot was well under way. But for all this, the old firm running the tote again appeared to be on a good thing.

Arrivals.—Corporal Cooper W. (complete with roti gong and a few others besides) came from Quetta and stayed here on leave for one month. His sojourn was a pleasure to us all. It was noticeable that his ability to throw a nifty dart and shift a quick 'un has not been impaired to any great extent since he left the Zhob.

Sigmn Bonds (Slasher of Fort Sandeman fame) has also graced Loralai with his presence, and quickly jumped into the limelight by licking the shove-ha'penny champion. Moreover, he continues to go from success to success. There are no flies on that kid, I can assure you. There is nothing he cannot do—sing with the best of them, if you like; and what couldn't he do if you'd only give him "anail an' anammer."

Last, but not least, Sigmn Dart from Quetta on permanent posting. A hearty welcome is extended to him, and we hope that he will like his tour in the Zhob.

Sympathetic.—Our sympathies are extended to the Section at Fort Sandeman on their high malarial figures. Their mozzies appear to be without fear or favour—so much so, that even the great Buck Taylor has been laid low and sorely stricken. It was a great gamble, Buck, but you failed to complete the five years in the country and never, etc., etc.

It is also hoped that Sergt Cosens and Sigmn Goodhand will soon be on their toes again. Another few months, Goody, and you will be telling 'em in Scarborough how you got your first duffy.

Sports.—In this direction, we have been taking things fairly easy. Several games of hockey have been played with the average run of successes and reverses. At football and cricket no games have been played, but when the educational business is over we intend to get down to serious business again.

Reflections.—We wonder what it feels like to be nearing the end of six months Blighty leave.

Tailpiece.—The ambition of Dungey now that he has a gun.

PHILUP.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Sunday 1st September.

Now that we have turned over a new sheet of the calendar, we think that perhaps, after all, this year will not last for ever. Maybe you did not know it, but 1935 is a very important year, and the coming trooper will mark the close of certain dazzling careers in the East. I will not mention the names of the people concerned: modesty forbids. The Detachment is having a hard struggle with the winged menace (mosquitianofeverosa) but with the advent of September we look for nicer weather and better luck. Although a number of enthusiasts still attend the swimming baths, their spirits are obviously damped by the absence of certain regular habitues.

Education.—All those who have brains are using them; even those who have not are trying. There is a general feeling in the Detachment that the examination is drawing nearer. Donnelly says he can prove this, only he has mislaid his unknown quantity. We feel that the standard of intelligence in the Detachment has risen considerably with the return of L/Corporal Jamieson from Loralai. He is bristling with brackets and indices, and speaks to us chiefly in metaphors.

Sport.—We still play our weekly game of hockey with the officers of the station, although the last game was cancelled on account of the defence being in hospital. I cannot tell you of any startling results. We have pretty well shared the honours of the season up to now. Refreshments after the matches are much appreciated by all, and the evenings are considered most enjoyable.

Improvements.—Our new institute will soon be finished, and by all appearances it is going to be a posh affair. There is twice as much room as there was before, and I think those who use the place in future may consider themselves very comfortably off. I don't think I shall be here long enough to see much of it, and I regret to think that the new zinc roof may never rattle to the strains of "Annie Laurie." However, there is every possibility that the Slasher might come back to give us "Buttercup Joe," and I suppose the 'ome will go up the chimney just the same, especially when the barrel gets well settled and the line party comes up from Quetta.

SCHNEIDER.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Sunday 1st September.

General.—With the return of the Phillips receiver, the order of the day is "Late to bed and late to rise." Much scholastic work is being turned out to the lilt of the latest tunes. Worried frowns and loss of appetite indicate that something of importance is toward. The type of literature to be seen lying about everywhere leads one to believe a "first" examination is in the offing. Good luck to the candidates! they'll need it (the luck, I mean). The one and only op. in the Detachment wishes me to inform the world that it is hopeless for any calls for him to be replied to under ten minutes when he is attempting to "Correct the following and give your reasons," or to hold a protractor in a true N and S line with his left hand and send with his right. Still, they are progressing favourably since they learned that answers to the problems are in the back of the book. Of course, the book is wrong in a lot of instances; at least, that is how we find it.

Dumb.—The man who was punching up map reading for his first, and applied for a passage to England on the ground that the book stated "Work out the answers, then walk round the course to check them"—the course being East Kent.

Local.—More excavations and activities are in progress nowadays, and though exceptionally slow, the new hot and cold water

tanks are taking their respective places in Hindubagh. Surrounded by rolls of wire netting, huge stacks of timbers, sacks of nails and tools galore, our inventive n.c.o. i/c successfully emulates Crystal Palace.

Judging from the horrible shrieks and howls rising from our poultry pen, we are assuming that Corpl Malvern's cockerel (age great, but unknown) is annihilating Sigmn Eley's fighting cocks (a special consignment from the hills). Signalman Eley's hair is rapidly falling away. His beloved fighting cocks necessitate his walking about 77 miles 2¼ furlongs roze-roze. One cock is already in the box for fattening purposes. We never knew the said signalman had such a choice vocabulary.

For Sale.—Two civvy collars. One shirt and a tie to match. Size 16 inch neck. Now, you prospective Blighty wallahs.

Condolence.—We of Hindubagh who knew Signalman Skinner W. R. of Rawalpindi express our sincere regrets at his untimely death.

Agonies.—What about a line, Biffs of A Corps ? Stamps are only eck anna do pie. Eley. HAM.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Arnold Bennett used to say that he could always write better after he had lain in bed for hours and allowed his ideas to simmer before introducing them to paper. This policy, wise though it undoubtedly is, has not yet been approved in military circles, and so it comes about that WIRE correspondents cannot submit such a plethora of notes as they would desire. Meanwhile, we pass on such little gleanings as may be of interest.

Repatriation.—" Home thoughts from abroad " is the poem of the month. After months of anxious waiting, the oldest inhabitants have had the satisfaction of seeing the boat roll in indisputable black and white. As *The Times* and *The Statesman* have proved somewhat conservative in the past, we intend publishing our own list of notable passengers.

Mr. (Sigmn) Leonard is now giving up his extensive horse training concern and, after an extended business engagement in the East, returns to England in October.

Free-Wheeler Brown '301, who has represented some obscure cycling agency during the past two years, also returns home per the Bibby line. He is at present enjoying a six months vacation at Ranikhet, which place (he reminds us) is in the Himalayas.

Doctor Gridley, after an eighteen months study of tropical scrounges, has decided for the black coat and striped trousers. He is the author of that well-known treatise, " Boils and their worth with regard to guard mountings."

Sergt Molly Morgan (of " all my own work " fame) has clicked for a voc. as draughtsman. We expect he will be duly hung in the Academy.

Signalmen Whayman and Spence—two well known soldiers of fortune—intend visiting other Signal units in England.

Sergeant Crummey (recently elevated) severs a long connection with the Company and the Div. when he leaves us in March. It is anticipated that a lack of big fish in Blighty will soon lure the sergeant back among the mahseer.

Corpl Lofty Heasman, the longest thing we have in jack boots, also gives up the ghost as far as India is concerned, and he will be despatched among the more fragile cargo in March.

Sports.—An all sports tournament which was recently organised has so far made little headway owing to the inclement weather. The Company has been divided into two half-Companies: (a) E, F, G and J Sections, and (b) K, L and C.H.Q. Other opposition is furnished by No. 1 Company details and Unit Headquarters. No. 2 Company (b) display great capabilities in the field, and in addition to being firm favourites they have secured the services of cheer leader Betts and his megaphone voice boys, who have proved no mean asset.

Before we leave the field of sport, we congratulate L/Cpl Ross (late of the Channel Isles, Leeds and Scarborough) on qualifying as a class iii. hockey umpire.

Huntin' an' all that.—Quite a large number of snakes made their appearance during the early days of the rains, and our barrack room shikaris, armed with khud sticks, disposed of many of them. Apart from the possibility of getting a good skin, snake hunting (like fishing) lends itself amazingly well to " grips " regarding the length and girth of captures.

Tattersall's.—Only two remounts have been added to the Company strength during the season. These have been taken in hand by Mr. (Sigmn) Leonard and Sigmn Barlow. The former, with a leaning towards the classical, has christened his animal Pegasus, but Cephalization, while less picturesque, is perhaps more appropriate.

Training.—It is rather early to speak of manœuvres at this stage, and in any case not much is known about them so far. But we reiterate the words of Burns:—

" Forward tho' we canna see,
We guess an' fear."

BILL WUM.

Chakrata Detachment.

Apologies.—We offer our sincere apologies for the absence of notes last month. Our excuse, however, is a good one, for our preparations for the annual hill move almost exclusively occupied our attention over the period when the notes were due.

Awards—other than C.B., etc. (although the recipients undoubtedly deserved some!)—C.S.M. Gradden, M.M., and Sergeant Pack awarded the Jubilee medal. L/Sergt Fee, M.M., awarded the Jubilee and the L.S. and G.C. medals.

Sergt Pack and L/Sergt Fee received their Jubilee medals whilst rendering valuable aid (for which they were duly commended) to the Simla Silver Jubilee Tattoo proceedings. L/Sergt Fee—being so small and subject to chest trouble—has now so many medal ribbons that his left lung is assured of adequate protection from chills for the remainder of his service.

Hill Moves.—We left Meerut on the 10th July for our annual three months holiday in Chakrata. With a minimum of ostentation, we left our lines and were quickly seated in the train. It was with a feeling of relief that we saw Meerut glide past and out of sight, for we had endured the first half of the hot weather season's stifling heat with hardly a drop of monsoon rain, and were consequently thoroughly tired of the weakening and seemingly endless humidity which precedes the arrival of the monsoon.

The rail journey was uneventful, there being only three short halts ; and as we left Meerut rather late in the day, it was just a matter of settling down to sleep and awaking at Dehra Dun early the following morning. Our baggage and stores were quickly transferred to the waiting Government M.T. convoy, and we then snatched a hasty breakfast before climbing into the lorries for the journey to Kalsi.

Kalsi is the farthest point to which Government M.T. proceeds, and the dangerous hill road from thence to Chakrata is usually traversed on foot ; but we had elected to travel by a quicker if more hazardous method, and had hired private M.T. for the journey onward—thus saving two and a half days on the journey and many feet from weariness.

On arrival at Kalsi, we had but half an hour in which to transfer the stores and baggage from the Government to the private M.T. in order that we should be in time for the opening of the hill road gate. Many doubting heads were shaken—the identical heads, in fact, that should not have been shaken ; but by dint of example and persuasion, C.S.M. Gradden instilled enthusiasm into the proceedings and the men, and we demonstrated to the Indian coolies how to transfer baggage and stores at the double without rough handling.

The loading left us only a very small margin of time, so we scrambled quickly to our seats and glided through the gates, which (like time and tide) wait for no man or bus. Our buses purred up the steep precipice-lined road in a most satisfactory manner, but many hearts felt qualms of apprehension as the owners thereof regarded the nothingness that lay at the side of the road. As the miles slid past and no calamity occurred, hearts became more gay and eyes viewed the rugged grandeur of the surrounding hills with a more disinterested gaze, and we began really to appreciate the wild beauty of our surroundings.

Suddenly we began to glide down hill and, splashing through a miniature torrent that raged across the road, we came to a halt at

the half-way rest camp of Saiah. The halt was to be of short duration, and on receipt of this information there ensued a scramble for a share of the meagre stock of refreshments in the local canteen.

After viewing the landscape in safety for half an hour, we started once more upon our way along the tortuous road. Thrills galore, but thank goodness, no spills. Every mile provided a never-to-be-forgotten memory. The air became gradually coo'er as we ascended, and we began to anticipate with pleasure the period of cool weather that lay before us and also to ponder on our chances of qualifying for that extra sixpence per diem.

Meanwhile, the mighty slopes roll'ed past monotonously now, as our thoughts went forward to our destination and an eagerness not unconnected with the inner man caused us to wish for the journey's end.

Finally, glimpses of Chakrata were obtained, and after a few more agonising bends and slopes we found ourselves on top of the mist-shrouded hill that was to be our future home. The bursting monsoon, three weeks delayed, greeted our arrival.

Like all good soldiers should, we arrived just in time for dinner and did full justice to it after a speedy unloading, our appetites being sharpened by the cool mountain air. We quickly accustomed ourselves to our new surroundings, and at the end of four days found ourselves deeply immersed in the technicalities of our trade.

And so for the next three months we will carry on—learning in the daytime ; discussing in the evening ; dreaming at night of the inexhaustible intricacies of operating. All sincerely hope to learn, discuss and dream to good effect against the arrival of the Trade Board.

Departures: Temporary.—Captain C. A. Oliver, M.C., has left us for a time, having gone to England on leave. We all sincerely trust that the change will be beneficial to his health after his recent illness. W.H.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Saturday 24th August.

General.—Whilst regretting the absence of notes from this unit during the past few months, we hasten to assure our public that they have missed nothing. We must admit that our lapse has in no way detracted from the high standard of this Journal.

The monsoon has come and almost (but not quite) gone. So has Sigmn Frettingham from U.K. leave, but he waits until next year for the " going " part of the programme.

With the advance of mechanisation, a new addition has been unofficially introduced to the Troop, viz. a tandem cycle. It appears to be the first of its kind in this district, and at first it caused great consternation among the natives, who did not know whether to throw stones at it or salaam to it. Now, however, with their usual Oriental stoicism they have relegated it to the category of Occidental oddities—classifying it with rugby balls and yo-yos.

Shipping.—The first batch of U.K. passages has been allotted, and the following select few pick up their beds on the 23rd October ex Bombay: Corporal (U/L/Sergt) Boyle and Signalmen Leonard (Jim), Spencer W. and Pauline F. Needless to say, they are all anxiously studying the Ethiopian imbroglio.

Departures and Arrivals.—Sigmn Fish has left for Poona on a course of rissole shaping. Next month Mr. McVittie goes to Saugor to learn the thousand different ways of falling from a horse, while L/Sergt Thomson H. goes to the S.T.C. (I.) on an " S " course.

Valedictory.—And now, dear readers, I bid you a long adieu, as I have an appointment with a boat and hope to enjoy reading these notes in print under the Blighty sky. NON-NUNQUAM.

DO YOU BELONG TO THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION ?

If not, JOIN NOW.

See on page 454 how it is helping your time-expired comrades —and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY

TRIMULGHERRY NOTES.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Tuesday 20th August.

General.—This month has seen the issue of the first passages home to Blighty. The lucky ones are naturally full of joie de vivre and bonhommie, whilst the less fortunate eagerly await their turn. Others, who still have to see either one or more tomato seasons, can be heard mumbling " Roll on!"

The monsoon season is now drawing to a close, and we are hoping that we have seen the last of the swimming galas which started as sports meetings.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain S. J. Fielder, who has returned to Trimulgherry from F Signal Section, Jubbulpore, as our new Company commander.

Our old friend Sergt-Instructor Dakin, A.E.C., who is at present enjoying a holiday in Blighty, has been posted to Kirkee ; and Sergt-Instructor Thomas has been posted here in his place. May his stay be happy and his school full to overflowing.

Departures.—As reported last month, Major D. A. Brown, M.C., has left us for England's shores. He sailed from Bombay on the 10th inst. for two months leave prior to taking up the reins in Blighty.

Our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.) has gone on a tour of the out-sections with the C.S.O. Southern Command. His absence, however, will be brief, as he is due back at Trim on the 28th inst.

Attachments.—During the past month S.S.I. Stevens, of No. 1 Madras Signal Company A.F.I., was attached to this unit for annual training. We hope that he enjoyed his stay here as much as we did his company.

Indianisation.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Parker on passing the lower standard Urdu at Mhow on 1/7/35.

Local Lad Makes Good.—A certain Yorkshire newspaper included the following in one of its daily issues.

" Sheffield Man Decorated.
" Echo of the Burma Rebellion, 1930—32.

" It is announced that Mr. ----, only son of Mr. ---- of the ---- Hotel, —— Street, has been recently decorated in connection with the very serious rebellion which occurred in Burma during 1930—32.

" Many readers will, no doubt, remember Mr. —— as an ex-resident of the Crookes district of the city. He was educated at —— School and subsequently entered the Royal Corps of Signals early in 1929, and he has since been serving as a despatch rider, seeing service on two continents.

" During the rebellion in Burma he rendered invaluable service with the Indian Expeditionary Force (4th Indian Division), eventually being appointed special despatch rider to His Excellency Sir Charles Innes, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Governor of Burma.

" In recognition of his arduous services and devotion to duty, the Indian Government were pleased to confer on him the Indian General Service medal with clasp.

" He is at present serving with the Indian Army Signal Corps on the North-West Frontier, and will be returning to his native Sheffield after a period of five years absence on service abroad during the forthcoming season. P.J.P."

Having checked up in the Q.M.'s ledger, I can verify that this hero *did* get the medal, but I had a hard job to distinguish his signature from the other four hundred.

F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

General.—It is some time since we appeared in print, but now that I have returned from three months rest among the hills, I will endeavour to make up for lost time and give the compositors a little more to do.

There have been many changes in this Section during the last three months. Captain Fielder, who came to relieve Captain Morgan whilst he was on leave, has unfortunately returned to Trimulgherry, leaving Lieut. Irvine, R.A., as officiating O.C.

Sergt Penfold has left the Section for "Q" Branch in Trim, and Sergt Cooper, who came to relieve him, has also returned to Trim; and we now have as Section sergeant Sergt Palmer, who was long overdue.

Signalmen Hughes and Hulme have gone to Trim with the idea of increasing their grey matter and the weight of their pockets on pay days. We wish them luck.

Four remounts have arrived to replace the time-ex inhabitants of our stable, but I cannot introduce them as they have not yet been christened.

That, I think, completes the list of changes which have taken place up to the present.

The monsoons have been very severe and unkind this year. Once upon a time we had a very artistic wall around our stable, but now it looks rather like Quetta on a small scale.

Ye olde paddock, which will be remembered by former F-ites, has yielded a very good crop of green grass and has more than repaid the work and time spent on it. So we have something for which to thank the monsoons.

Handy Hunter Competition.—The reputation of the Section is still being upheld in this popular event. In the competition held by the Brigade on 27/7/35, Corpl Peake riding Fanny (16) was first, and Sigmn Wright on Razor Blade (30) filled second place—a very good performance, considering that the event was open to all members of the Brigade below the rank of sergeant.

Things We Hear.—"Kay Rrrrrrrs." "The Crooning Tiffy." "The hounds at leash." And last, but by no means least, "The whispering barrow-tone."

This Modern H'education.—The meaning of "principle"? Certainly! If you park your body outside the stable at 09.00 hours, that's principle. If you can't deduce a meaning out of that, you're thick.

Conclusion.—That's all. N.H.

Sergeants Mess.

Tennis v. The Rest.—Continuing the "Brighter Trimulgherry" movement, we have held a few more bright events. On the 3rd August, the first of a series of games in a tourney between the officers and seniors v. the rest was held.

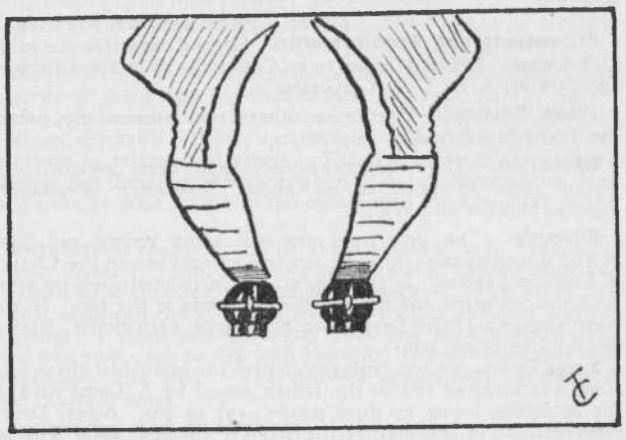
We decided on a tennis match, and at the same time to bid farewell to Major D. A. Brown, M.C., who was to leave us on the 10th for home, sweet home. The weather, however, let us down, and it was not possible to start tennis. Tea was pushed forward, and afterwards the challenge was fought out at table and deck tennis, and concluded by some very fine exhibition tennis (on a very heavy court) by Lieut. and Mrs. Vulliamy against Signalmen McQuire and Heatherington.

Cricket v. Sergeants Mess, R.W.K. Regiment.—Something like the flea challenging the elephant, we (who number exactly eleven members) challenged the Sergeants Mess of the West Kent Regiment. Dropping our three lamp post experts, we were ably assisted by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock, Lieut. E. L. L. Vulliamy and Lieut. R. C. Yule, but our only consolation was that we did not lose so badly as we might have done. What we lacked in cricket ability we endeavoured to make up in hospitality, and we spent a cheery hour afterwards in the mess over the proverbial top and straight.

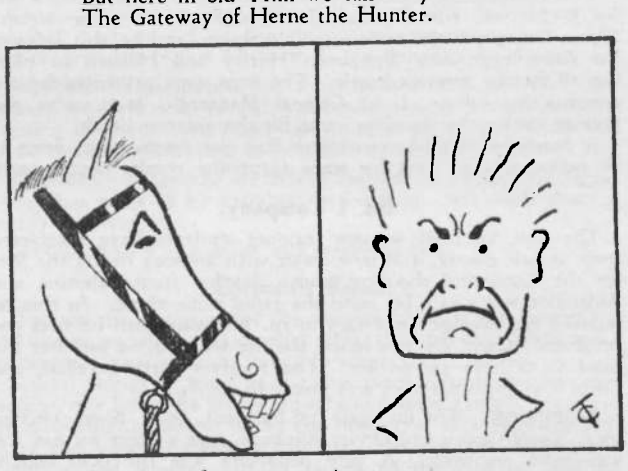
The return match was played on the West Kents' ground. Our numbers had then been reduced to ten, and with the commanding officer unable to play, we were hard set to find an eleven; but we were aided by our new A.E.C. instructor, Sergt Thomas (don't forget his wonderful belt). We made a disastrous start—four for 19—and then went on to make 68. After tea, the home team also opened badly and then went on to score 92. Again we adjourned to the mess to fight it all over again. We especially wish to thank the Mess for their very generous hospitality and their successful efforts to make us at home. Roll on the next!

On the 4th September the Mess—for the first time for years—is holding an "open to the station" function: tennis, whist and dance. Of this, more anon. PIP.

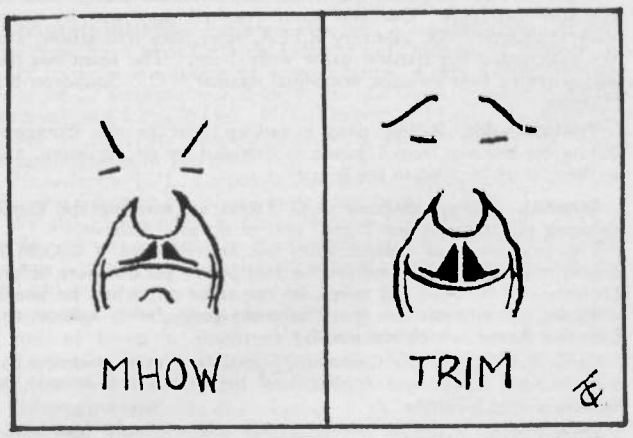
Potted Personalities: No. 2.



The Gateway of India is swell, so I'm told,
But here in old Trim we can daily behold
The Gateway of Herne the Hunter.



Amusing to horses, annoying to us,
And, taken all round, a provoking old cuss—
The humour of Herne the Hunter.



His reign here is short—thank the powers that be!—
For soon, we are hoping, he'll go back to G,
The stronghold of Herne the Hunter,

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo

Signal Barracks, Abbassia.

Promotions and Appointments.—Corpl Couperthwaite to be L/Sergeant. L/Cpl Wagner to be Corporal. Signalmen Bennett and Stringer to be U/L/Corporals.

Trade Testing.—Thirty-nine other ranks successfully passed the Trade Board held in August.

Education.—The undermentioned have been awarded the second class certificate of education: Signalmen Weatherall, Ingram, Hobson and Watt.

Billiards.—The unit team are still going strong and have played fifteen games—winning ten and losing five—in the Church of England League. In this league, at the moment, we are level with the Seaforths and the Northumberlands at the top. In the King George's Home League we have done even better, having lost but one of six games.

Sigmn Drury, our last representative in the individual championship, was knocked out in the fourth round by L/Corpl Reid of the Seaforths, losing by three points—197 to 200. Sigmn Drury represents us in the final of the snooker championship, and we are hoping to add another cup to our collection.

The annual inter-Section billiard tournament resulted in a win for K Section, with Command Signal Section a close second. Sigmn Drury was the undefeated champion, and he also defeated his tieing opponents Signalmen Hurley and Hilliard in playing off for the greatest break. The cups were presented by our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Mansergh, M.C., who was present during the deciding game for the greatest break.

A handicap billiard tournament has just commenced, open to all ranks, and we look for some surprising results next month.

No. 1 Company.

The first batch of weapon training students have completed their annual course, and now await with anxious hearts the lists for the Command shooting team. Stanley from Palestine and Aldershot was a safe bet until the rapid came along. In this he reduced his average from 14.5 to 10, but wait until he fires the revolver! Corpl Dargan heads the list with 78, so far, but the good shots have yet to fire. The revolver party excelled, and Corpl Twigger's natty 45 was pretty to watch.

Swimming.—The unit gala run by Lieut. de M. Blum, assisted by L/Corpl Ogden and Driver Roebuck, was a great success and was most enjoyable. A new departure was the polo match, Officers Mess v. Sergeants Mess, which the sergeants won by the only goal scored.

Cricket.—Our hopes of the cricket cup mentioned some months ago still run high. Our last game resulted in a win by seven wickets against " O " Battery R.H.A. after they had scored 219. We anticipated our hardest game with them. The team has just left to try to pass into the semi-final against " C " Squadron 8th Hussars.

Visitors.—Mr. Pellew paid a sudden visit to the Company during his journey from Uganda to England by air, on leave, and we were very pleased to see him.

General.—Congratulations to G Troop on winning the Corps shooting match: the first Signal unit to do so, I believe.

The first news of replacements has arrived, and if C.Q.M.S. Tracey wants to get a good job, he had better get out here before Christmas (if he's not my relief, he can come out when he likes).

Soccer has started, the first Company game being against the Egyptian Army, which we won by 5—3.

Congratulations to the Command Signal Section on winning the inter-Section tennis and cricket and being equal first with K Section in the billiards.

Stop Press.—Cricket: C Squadron won by fifty odd runs. Our team had a good try, but the first four wickets fell for 24 runs. Dickerson carried his bat for 55, and with Searle added 61 for the fifth wicket.

No. 3 Company.

Again, nothing much this month. We are at present under training as combined Sections instead of having refresher courses, and each Section sergt has a tour of duty as scheme commander.

Several of those who sat for their class ii.s have managed to collect the funds, including Signalmen Capp, King C. and Dransfield, so we are all ready to welcome the Battalion signallers to the Signal Concentration.

Scribes.—Our new scribe has taken over, and he gives his first impressions of the Section.

Agony.—Brow: Alright. I have not forgotten. I need another millieme for a stamp, but will answer. Ben. SCHOOLIE.

B Cable Section.

General.—At ease! Cable calling. "You're through." Now that musketry is done with for another year, the Section is settling down to the usual stable routine, and things are running very smoothly with the exception of a few " ticks about feeds, escorts and evening stables.

Local line leave has commenced. Each Wednesday morning sees one or two of our boys carting their bedding into No. 3 barrack room for a seven days rest cure. Some of them are a bit highbrow and are spending a fortnight beside the sea at Alexandria. This leave business is o.k. It gives the new folks (and some of the old ones) a chance to see the sights of Cairo or the Pyramids and other places too numerous to mention—that is, if they can borrow the ackers.

Friday 16th August took us to Heliopolis—at least, the Leyland did—for the unit swimming gala. We saw some very good swimming, and the jolly old Cable Section was well to the fore. Here is a list of our Section prize winners and prizes. Driver Roebuck, two cups and two medals. Sigmn Ingram, two cups. Corporal McCreeth, one cup. L/Corpl Watson, one cup. Driver Hendry, one cup. Corpl Mayer, one medal. Sigmn Allen, one medal.

The novelty race was funny to watch. The competitors had to swim one length, then dress in a boiler suit, tin hat and gym shoes, and swim back again. This was won by Sigmn Taylor of B Section, and he received fifty fags for his effort. I reckon he should have had a gold medal as big as a frying pan. Signalmen Hammond and Ingram took second and third places respectively in the most humorous dive or jump. Ex-Cableites will agree that we have a wonderful excuse to have our photograph taken, using our own garden as a background.

Oh! here's another one. Our Section sergeant took part in a water polo match in which the sergeants beat the officers by one goal to nil. We congratulate our C.O., Colonel Mansergh, on his fine display in goal.

We were having our usual quiet chat in No. 7 room when, somehow, the conversation switched round to mirages seen in

B Cable Section Swimming Team.

the desert. One of our drivers was greatly interested, and now he has taken to evening strolls looking for *mimmiges*, whatever they may be. We also believe that this same driver is friendly with a well dressed man who wears glasses and drives about in a maroon coloured car (o.k., Jarvis boy ; I won't tell anybody your name).

Here is a bit of cross-talk that took place between our terrible twins (both their names begin with " B "). Little B: " Lend me that book you were reading, B." Big B: "Sorry! we tore it up." Little B: " Liar!" Big B: " Who's a liar? Some of you people can't believe a liar when he's telling the truth."

Did you know that the Great War started over the "asination" of a Crown Prince ?

Food must be getting scarce around this place, according to the story told by a certain lance-corporal. He displayed a mark behind one of his ears, saying that one of the canaries which fly around the slop bucket swooped down on him.

Congratulations are handed to the following members of the Section. To Signalmen Allen, Burr, Brown H., Gray and Ingram on qualifying as lineman C.ii., and to Driver Seymour on obtaining a C.iii. We also congratulate Sigmn Ingram on passing his second class education examination, and Sigmn Sammy Hammond on being awarded the bronze medallion and certificate of the Royal Life Saving Society.

Sport.—I have already commented on the swimming, and have very little more to say about sport. We finished third in the cricket and water polo for the Section League. We have tried some new players in a friendly football match against A Section, which resulted in a win for us by 2—0. There seem to be some promising lads amongst us, and we hope to hold our own in Section football this season. Dear Dolly played at right back, only she wasn't far enough back.

Heard on the ranges as the targets appear before firing commences at 300 yards. First driver: " By jingo, it must be dull this morning. I can hardly see the target." Second driver: " Course yer can't, because they're not up yet." Driver No. 2 has to fire again. I wonder why ?

Jew Boy's Mail.—Driver Merrick would like to know if Driver Charlie Ketteridge, 4th Div., still sings " Over my shoulder."

Driver Hendry (Jack) would like a word from Driver Plumb, A Corps Signals.

To Sergt McLoughlin, Tidworth: Spider went square pushing down at the Garrison on the 9th August and has not been seen or heard of since. Am I suffering ? Charlie.

And that dear readers, brings us to the end of the news this month. We hope to be in communication again in a few weeks time. There only remains for us to say au revoir. SPIDER.

Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

General.—Contrary to expectations, we again succeed in getting into print. Unfortunately, there is little to report, activities being practically at a standstill owing to leave ; but, next month, we hope our notes will be longer and more interesting owing to football and hockey being in full swing.

Individual Training.—The operators course has ended and the results are very creditable. Sixty operators underwent instruction, and out of this number twenty-six upgraded, the remainder being confirmed in their ratings. Congratulations to the fortunate ones. Let them remember to exercise their abilities in the field as they have in the school.

Leave.—This pleasant season is now in full swing. The majority of the Troop have taken local leave and have, I understand, quite enjoyed it. Some of us went to Alexandria and had quite an enjoyable holiday, and at least one of our number was fortunate in taking U.K. leave. The last party of the military families left here for Alexandria on the 3rd September. May they have as good a time as the others who are now back in the fold.

Musketry.—The majority of the Company have fired their annual musketry, and according to results it appears that the abridged form of pokey drill has been beneficial. The Troop had a total of fifteen firing, eleven first class shots and four seconds resulting. I think you will agree that that is very good. We have still two more to fire with the rifle, and we hope they will prove first class shots. The revolver results will be given in next month's notes.

Swimming and Water Polo.—I am pleased to say that the Troop swept the board in the Inter-Section Swimming and Water Polo League, gaining maximum points.

Congratulations to Sigmn Kendall K. of this Section on his excellent performance at the recent unit swimming gala. We also congratulate Sigmn Hicks R. E. on winning the diving.

Football.—This sport is just about to start here, and up to the present we have only played one friendly game with K Section, winning by 1—0. We hope, however, to do as well at football as we have at swimming, so look out, other Sections!

Sickness.—I regret to say that at the time of writing the Signal Troop has eight of its members in hospital. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Conclusion.—Close down and return to bed. A.T.C.M.

Corporals Room.

First, let me apologise for the absence of notes last month. I will excuse myself by saying that when they fell due, I was away training my muscles to do things to which they objected.

Several things of note have taken place during the last two months, one being the laying out of a new mess garden. Members are now able to drowse under the protection of a sunshade and enjoy the view of—well, something. On the 4th August the members and families had an outing to the Barrage, and an enjoyable day was spent by all. Everyone is looking forward to the next trip. The majority of the junior members are continuing the drill course after a break of a few weeks for musketry.

Congratulations.—Battered and well thumbed copies of the blue book have been furtively brought out from secret recesses in order to make the following amendments. Corpl Couperthwaite T. to be L/Sergeant w.e.f. 26/6/35. L/Corpl Wagner F. to be Corporal w.e.f. 13/7/35. U/L/Corporals Harris T. 9/4/35, Ogden J. 14/5/35, Ashworth J. 18/5/35, Webb H. 23/5/35. Congratulations to you all.

We welcome U/L/Corporals Stringer A. and Bennett W. May you soon figure in the above-mentioned book.

We also congratulate L/Corpl Ransom C. on obtaining a " Q " in the gas course held in Alexandria, and L/Corpl Back J. on passing a course of animal management, hygiene and veterinary first aid.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following, who have returned from a spot of leave in Blighty: Corporals Betty J. and Lea E., L/Corporals Barron A. and Webb H. We sincerely hope you had a good time and didn't fall for too many girls.

Entertainment.—In the evening of the 27th August we were entertained by the w.o.s and sergeants to a games tournament. It was arranged by Sergt Stibbs, and the duties of recorders were ably carried out by Sergt Barnham and L/Corpl Bennett. The games played consisted of billiards, snooker, cribbage, phat,

dominoes, darts and table tennis. After a terrific struggle, during which the lead alternated several times, it was left to the final game to decide the issue. This was won by the seniors, so we had to retire beaten by one point.

The plum of the evening was the billiards match between Sergeants Lawrie and Gover and Corporals Wheeler and Mayer. The corporals soon established a lead of 50, which the sergeants reduced until the culminating point was reached with the juniors requiring two for victory and the seniors five. After several shots had been missed on both sides, Corpl Wheeler obtained the all important two. Meant for a cannon, his shot came off the white, missed the red, and trickled slowly into the middle pocket at a terrific angle. A running fire of wisecracks between Sergt Lawrie and some of the spectators kept everyone in hysterics, which reached a grand finale after the above shot.

L/Sergeant Smith is to be congratulated on his feat of putting three darts into the " treble twenty " space. Despite this, he and Sergt Stibbs lost the match owing to the juniors' good play (ahem!).

Our hosts' radiogram was greatly admired, and all of us were intrigued with the patent record changer. Towards the close L/Cpl Ransom thumped the ivories to good purpose, and budding Carusos made the welkin (and glasses) ring. I am sure everyone had a good time, and we thank the seniors for their wonderful hospitality. We hope to return it in the near future and, incidentally, get our own back at the games.

Finis.—No " Agonies " this month. The Scotsmen are saving words and my ink. Cheerio until next time! ONE-SIX-SEVEN.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

[Attached to the 11th (P.A.O.) Hussars]

Friday 6th September.

We are still busily occupied in overhauling our sets and engines in preparation for the next training season. We have found out by former experience that time and trouble taken now is amply repaid later on.

We have just concluded the 11th Hussars regimental rifle meeting, and results were fairly satisfactory without being good enough to give us swollen heads. The meeting was very enjoyable and was an object lesson in organisation. Mr. Payne Galway must already have had many congratulations on his running of this meeting, but we must add ours, and also tender our thanks for being allowed to take such a large part in the meeting. We were very generously treated regarding entries.

Sergeant Holmes, Tpr Chiswick, Sergeant MacMahon and Mr. Payne Galway were respectively first, second, third and fourth individuals. We managed a fifth place with Sigmn Leonard.

To us, one of the most refreshing incidents of the competition was the notice taken of our team by the commanding officer of the 11th Hussars, Major Galbraith. There was only one thing prevented us from winning the plate shoot, sir, and that was A Squadron.

We must once again remember the man who is so often forgotten: the armourer. Our Troop owe him recognition for the excellent condition of our rifles. I expect this sounds like " all musketry," but we are not finished yet.

The Command rifle meeting is the next object in view, and thanks to the work of Major Murphy and Mr. Nanney-Wynn of Egypt Signals, the Royal Signals in Egypt should definitely be on the map this year. We had better not say any more at present, but—well, wait and see.

We have had two small reconnaissances this month. The big ones start in October.

In conclusion, the majority of this Troop are wondering if it is going to be the trooper for them or . . . . . but this is secret.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Friday 23rd August.

Owing to the Section scribe having been away to the seaside for the major portion of the month, these notes will deal mainly with the joys of the beach.

Shanhaikuan by the sea is strongly recommended to bring roses on otherwise pale cheeks. It also brings roses on other portions of the anatomy after sun bathing, as the touchiness and rude remarks made by the said sunbathers afterwards testified,

The telephone line from the Fort to the railway station has been the subject of many harsh remarks, especially when L/Corpl Blanchard and Sigmn Lewin got to the river part one very wet day and—owing to the Japs having the right of way over the only bridge within reasonable distance, and enforcing it by means of .303 or its equivalent—had to take to the river. Normally, this river is very low, but owing to the recent heavy rains it was naturally pretty high. Lewin, being tall, got wet to the waist in the rushing water, while Blanchard got very wet indeed, being extremely short. The remainder of the morning was spent in repairing shorts and breaks, and the afternoon in drying shorts and breeks. One bright 'Erb said afterwards, " Did you get wet ?" Gertcha!

Sport is varied in Shankhaikuan. I hope, by now, you have realised that this is not Blackpool or Margate, and one has to make one's own amusements.

Lewin says he can recommend a trip up the hills, providing the picnic basket contains the requisite number of bottles of food. This trip consists of a long ride on donkeys to the foothills and then a hike for the rest of the way, and considering the sunburned appearance of the lads when they come back, it must be pretty hot up there.

The bathing is excellent. One need only go about ten yards to be well out of depth. Rocks are in abundance, however, and much iodine is required by the unlucky ones.

Fishing is also an excellent pastime if done from a sampan. One lady who went on a trip, however, came back suffering from mal-de-mer.

At night on the Great Wall of China, one end of which is at Shanhaikuan, one gets a great study of nationalities. There one can see Japanese, Chinese, Italian, French and British soldiers all rubbing shoulders as they walk about in groups, sometimes intermingling according to the ability of the foreign troops to speak God's own language.

Other sports have been tennis and cricket. At cricket we have had no representatives, but L/Corpl Blanchard won the other ranks tennis singles by 6--0, 6—0, and with Private Foden (2nd Worcester Regiment) won the doubles by 11—9, 6—1. Later, in a triangular match of officers, sergeants and other ranks, L/Cpl Blanchard and L/Corporal Shangster (2nd Worcester Regiment) playing as No. 1 pair, beat the R.S.M. and the Bandmaster of the Worcesters by 5—6, 6—3, 6—4, but lost to Lieut.-Colonel Pelly and Lieut.-Colonel Stokes-Roberts by 6—1, 5—6, 4—6.

At Tientsin the Junior Staff Mess tennis team played the Detachment of the Worcesters and beat them by 54—48 games. The result of the return match, which is to be played this week-end, will be given in next month's news.

Only two agonies this month, and here they are. To Newman (988) Tank Brigade Signals from Frank (985): If you haven't any ink, what about some R ? To Hoyle, 1st Div.: Congratulations. You're still the last of the locals. Dodger.

Cheerio! TICH

Peking Detachment.

British Embassy Guard, 17th August.

Calling the World.—The Section is broke to the wide. A fund should be started by somebody to send us out some cash. Several jew's courses are in progress, but that only means that some people are less in debt than others. Personally, I have ten cents, and I'm thinking of holding a private view: entrance fee two coppers, payable next week. I ought to rake in some bees that way, if they cough up!

C.S.M. Wattley.—Please note. Received from the Archives Department, Chancery, British Embassy: " Sergt Wattley, will you please call over some time this morning to settle a point on w/t ?" Reply despatched: " Regret Sergt Wattley left two and a half years ago." That just shows how news gets around, does it not ?

Incidentally, one of this Section was identified by some American marines (American Legation Guard) as an ex-San Diego policeman. And we all thought his accent was Scotch!

Scotch Mail.—Sergt Jeffries, India (?): Where are you now, and why don't you write ? I'm only here till January, so hurry. Ted Newmarsh.

Peking Calling Derry.—For Dick Salmon: Do you want us to count the ones on the train as well as those we took with us and those we had on our return ?

Plagiarism.—Why should the daily papers have all the best ideas to themselves ? Here is one idea I've decided to copy: the series of introductions to famous people. Follow this paper very closely, and you will meet the personnel of this Section—two each month. Folks, I want you to meet

Corporal Maclaren and Sergeant Newmarsh.

Sergt Newmarsh is i/c His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador's wireless station—a job he has successfully held down for the last two and a half years. Held down is right! He is going home this trooper, but so far we have not heard him express any sorrow. Perhaps the fact that he has only eighteen months to do when he gets home explains that.

Corpl MacLaren has been here for the same length of time. He was on Sergt Newmarsh's staff for the first year, and then left H.B.M.A. wireless station to take charge of the military signal office, where he still is. He also hopes to proceed to Blighty this trooping season, so the Home Divs. have something to look forward to.

As you can see, both are cheery well-built lads and an asset to any unit. Any offers ?

That's all. Take it easy. SPUD-CAN.

Malta Signal Section.

Part I.—The whole Section is at present busily engaged in establishing and re-establishing communications in view of the recent edict " Be prepared." Extra long hours are being cheerfully worked, even Sunday being no day of rest.

The new fortress exchange has become an established fact since our last notes, and it is pleasing to report that the change over took place without the slightest hitch.

Part II.—Captain D. R. Paterson, our C.S.O., has recently returned from a motor tour through Europe, including a short sojourn at home ; and when work becomes less urgent, we hope to be favoured with a more detailed account of his experiences.

Lieut. J. H. E. Panton, our O.C. Section, is at home for a short course in cable jointing, and the knowledge acquired will prove extremely useful in our future work of cabling.

Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R., M.B.E., is anxiously awaiting the boat, and should events occur " according to plan " he should be in Bulford by the time these notes appear.

We are anticipating a 50 per cent. increase in establishment early in the trooping season, and expect to see one or two old faces as well as new ones. Those earmarked for service in Malta may be deemed fortunate. There is plenty of work—and plenty of play. For married personnel this is an ideal station, and the cost of living is comparable with that at home. Should anyone require specific information, Sergt Williams will be only to pleased to reply.

Canteen Hours.—The w.o.s and sergeants (all four of 'em) held a challenge snooker match on the 21st August, and the following is the report of an independent witness.

" It is difficult to discover who challenged whom, neither were cups or stakes handed over on conclusion. During the first half an hour play was very quiet, both sides waiting patiently for an opening. Very occasionally a red would fall down. Eventually the first game resulted in an easy win for the sergeants by 37—7 points, probably due to the fact that one w.o. was practising rolling a hammock in between breaks.

" But the second game! This time the aforementioned w.o. showed great skill, potted two colours in correct sequence, and (ably assisted by his confrere, who managed a delightful "in off") equalised the score, winning a good game by 36—31 points.

" After a ten minutes break between sets, everything was prepared for the final. The w.o.s commenced in fine style and were soon twelve in front, but the occasion was too great (or the Ovaltine of the wrong brand) for soon the sergeants showed courage and, deliberately potting and going " in off," ran out rubber winners by 78—42 points.

" The games were admirably controlled by the spectators, for the referee had great difficulty in differentiating between a ball moved because it was in the way and one merely pushed aside ; in fact, one w.o. nearly potted a red direct with his cue, being prevented just in time by his partner.

" A Friary versus Younger match."

Night Lights.—(1) Russ would like to know how L/Corporal Morton is enjoying life in Singapore, and when is he due home. (2) Sorry to disappoint L/Corpl Shorrocks, but the C.S.O. has a very able clerk who will not be leaving the Island until 19?? (3) How's Hong Kong, Dangler ?

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 454. The subscriptions only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE "TERRIERS"

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency St., Westminster, S.W.1, 16th Sept.

Camp, 1935.—Following a custom of long standing, we again held our annual training camp this year at Manston Aerodrome, where we were very well looked after by the Royal Air Force. Reports from all ranks indicate that the camp was a great success, and the only regret is that the fortnight passed far too quickly. The weather, on the whole, was very good and the occasional rain did not interfere in any way with our work, although it might have been kinder after parade hours.

The signal scheme which occupied most of our attention was on similar lines to that of last year, but the country over which it operated was mainly new. It was rather difficult to persuade our older members that the rendezvous at Acol was no longer available ; but the counter-attractions of Minster were, however.

The personnel at our Divisional office were rather severely tested by the provision of a teleprinter circuit back to Corps—a circuit which consumed messages as fast as they could be prepared. Some very good work was performed at the Divisional, Brigade and Battalion offices, and it is encouraging to see that the standard improves year by year. This improvement in the office work would be less remarkable if it were the most popular job, but at camp the more strenuous work with the construction parties appeals strongly.

We are always pleased to receive visitors at camp, and this year we were particularly grateful to Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander Air Defence Formations (T.A.), who inspected the unit and presented medals. General Tompson's address to the unit was most encouraging and was very much appreciated by all ranks. Other visitors included Colonel C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O., commanding the 26th Air Defence Brigade (T.A.), Colonel H. Carter, T.D., Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., Major H. C. Carey-Thomas, and Mr. J. D. Grover. Colonel O. W. Nicholson, our honorary colonel, was able this year to spend the whole fortnight with us at Manston, and we owe him our special thanks, not only for joining in the work but also for his assistance in our sports events.

A demonstration of teleprinter working and automatic telephone apparatus from the Post Office was arranged in one of the huts. A display panel used on the last air exercises was also shown. This demonstration had a bearing on the question of Air Defence Signal communications, and a large gathering of senior ranks from the two fighting Services concerned and the Post Office took part in the discussion which followed.

The inter-Company cricket match provided plenty of excitement, the result being very uncertain until the last moment. The 26th Company batted first and in the time allotted made a useful total of 89 runs. The 27th Company commenced rather badly, but after five wickets had fallen Colonel Nicholson came out and very successfully stopped the rot, scoring 24 runs. His example inspired the remaining batsmen and shortly before the time limit expired the 27th Company reached the century.

The 27th Company won the inter-Company sports cup on the straight events at the annual sports. In the tabloid sports No. 5 Section gained top place without the loss of a single mark—a fine performance of which the team should be justly proud. The other Sections, however, put up very good performances and the final results were very close.

One of the closest events at camp was the inter-Company airline competition. For some time the two Companies were practically level on time, but the 26th Company managed to finish first. Their gain on time was, however, offset by a loss of marks on the actual construction, which allowed the 27th Company to win the competition by a very small margin. In each case the work was of a very high standard, and it was quite impossible to forecast the winning Company.

It was not until the final competition at camp that the 26th Company had their revenge in no uncertain style. In the inter-Section drill competition, the Sections of the 26th Company gained the first three places. The standard of drill was very high, and only two points separated the first and third Sections.

Before we close this account, we have been asked to deny a rumour which started on sports day. Our bachelor officers were seen on that occasion wearing hats hitherto regarded as exclusive to the photographic profession, but the officers concerned wish to make it quite clear that they have no intention of changing their present employment. H.S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals

The Priory, Exeter, September.

Headquarters.

Editorial.—The month following camp is generally lacking in news, and is occupied mainly in checking over stores, etc.—the usual aftermath of annual training.

A hearty welcome is extended to Mr. L. H. Clemas, recently gazetted to this unit.

We heartily congratulate Captain S. E. Bridgwater on deciding that married life is to be preferred to bachelordom. Details of the ceremony appear in Company notes.

It was with deep regret that we learnt of the untimely death of ex-C.S.M. Hoare H., late of No. 2 Company. He was known to quite a number of us who were his contemporaries, and our sympathy goes out to his family. MERCURY.

Presentation of Sports Prizes at Camp.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Little news of interest is available this month. Several of us are taking periods of leave, and the remainder are busy setting the house in order in readiness for a new training year.

We extend a warm welcome to Mr. L. H. Clemas, who was gazetted in time to avail himself of the full period of annual training.

To Captain and Mrs. Bridgwater we offer our hearty congratulations and best wishes. We regret that the distance between us prevented our attendance at the wedding.

A keen liking for the Services has been very evident recently, in that we have lost several of our number to the R.A.F. and R.N. since our return from camp.

Obituary.—It was indeed a shock to us to learn of the sudden death of ex-C.S.M. Hoare H., late of No. 2 Company. He was known to several of us, and we offer our deep sympathy to his family and relatives. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Cupid's Bulletin.—All ranks of the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals who know Captain S. E. Bridgwater will join in our congratulations on his marriage to Miss Alice Mary Steel at St. James's Church, West End, Hants, on Saturday 17th August. The Company offer their best wishes to Capt and Mrs. Bridgwater and hope they will enjoy long life and happiness.

Captain and Mrs. Bridgwater.

The officers, w.o.s and senior n.c.o.s of the Company provided a very unique spectacle for the inhabitants when they invaded the peaceful and pretty little village of West End, Hants, in their khaki and blue patrols, to form a guard of honour by an archway of swords and flags. The blue patrols aroused considerable interest and gave an exceptionally pleasing effect to the ceremony.

Captain G. McFarlane of the 5th (Rifle) Battalion The King's Regiment (Liverpool), with whom Captain Bridgwater formerly served, acted as best man. A reception was held at Botleigh Grange Hotel, and the honeymoon is being spent in Scotland (somebody has whispered via Bridport). A photograph of the happy pair leaving West End Church is included with these notes.

General.—Well done, No. 2! We congratulate all concerned on winning the Moore efficiency and athletics cups; and thank those responsible for their encouragement and "hawk eye" scrutiny, especially our Jim and Jack during their first year of office. Excellent! We thank you. The thrill was splendid when we learnt that the coveted efficiency trophy was awarded to No. 2 Company. It is many years since the Company had the pleasure of holding it.

We thank the members of No. 1 Company for their congratulations and kind remarks, and compliment them on retaining the boxing trophy.

Judging from the attendance at Hamilton House on the drill night following our departure from the shadows of Kingston Russell in that quiet valley below the Dorchester-Bridport road, there has been no hiatus consequent upon the completion of the annual training.

The powers that be have transformed our recreation room, which has evidently been mistaken by the lads for their favourite resort. Someone has whispered that our friend Joe has been seeking lessons in cocktail shaking. The re-decorations are very much appreciated. The new atmosphere has re-kindled the interest of our darts experts, who are organising a team of champions. All are eagerly looking forward to the winter programme. We hear that tentative arrangements for an attractive programme of social events have been made by our friends, and we wish them every success in their efforts in making our evenings better and brighter than ever.

All concerned are more than pleased to learn that our new and popular R.S.M. has been granted an extension, and hope that his stay will be a long and happy one.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we have to record the death of ex-C.S.M. Hoare H. G. (Harry) of this Company. He passed away in the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital on Sunday 25th August.

Harry was what we termed a founder member of the Company, having joined up on its inauguration in 1922 under the command of Captain Grist. He had a happy and sunny disposition, and was very popular with all ranks of the unit, being a general favourite with the younger members of the Company. The kiddies will sadly miss him as Father Christmas at the next Christmas party.

Our former Company Sergt-Major.

Only a few months ago we announced his retirement, and were looking forward to sharing his hard-earned rest with more happy times at Hamilton House. Harry Hoare will long be remembered with respect and affection by all ranks of the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals who served with him, and those who served with him during the Great War. He was awarded the meritorious service medal. A photograph accompanies this brief intimation of his passing.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Drill Hall, 16th Sept.

This month, we have little to relate concerning our activities. Since returning from camp, we have been resting. On the 2nd September we again opened our gates to commence business, but our strength so far has not reached normal, and consequently little serious training has been done. During the next fortnight we shall, it is hoped, return to our usual parade strength and become seriously engaged with the winter programme.

Recruits, though scarce, are not infrequent, and recently new blood of the right standard has engaged in the Service.

This month we publish the details of the award of unit trophies and the winners of events in the annual sports (see the Sports Notes at the end of the Journal). 0020.

Sergeants Mess.

Concert.—By the way, the chota spasm of social uplift apparent in the mess during the last month or so was fanned into a mighty flame during camp, and in lieu of the usual tense and emphatic "hatchet face," one heard duologues such as the following. "Hello, Rampling, old fruit." "Good morning, Dryden, old damson. Are you aware that you have been designated for guard to-morrow—an honour for the school, what!" "Really, Rampling! How deuced unkind, after being excused from Gowan's lecture to meet a fellow from the old school—recognised the tie, dontcherknow. I must interrogate Applegate and try to defer the honour."

Lionel, Harold, Gowan, Edwin, Hurved, Dryden, Applegate, Ferdinand and Vincent are all bona-fide members of the Mess, and the whole array of hitherto unused middle names unearthed by certain indefatigable excavators as being actually owned by the sergeants is truly amazing.

Sartorial Note.—Our new ties—white, red and blue (4×2)—are now ready.

The middle Sunday at camp was marked by a visit to Mons Barracks during the course of a stroll, followed by the successful effort in obtaining an hour's extension by telephone for our benefit, to conclude an impromptu but happy evening.

Sports.—Bus service to and from camp was a great idea and very useful—reminds one of the Wembley switchback and Dunlopilis. Undoubtedly, mechanisation can do this job better than limbers.

Sidelight on the Drill Squad.—After prolonged experiment, it is found that an officer's handkerchief is no better than a signalman's shirt for polishing boots.

Well Met!—C.O. and R.S.M. Ray. J.C.Y. and several ex-Boadicea's Signals. Must have been very trying to send an O.P. message with a couple of wet stones and find, at reveille, that the wheel knives had gone rusty.

To "L," with Gratitude.—L Section marked their first camp with us by nobbling the Hosbach Wireless Section trophy. Victory made possible by instruction from rival section n.c.o.s in spare time.

Vive La Section.—The dust around the camp, in places a foot deep, brings to my mind the old days in the Foreign Leg-iron.

Two Birds.—L Section to be equipped with L car plates.

POLYH.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 13/9/35.

General.—We regret our absence from THE WIRE last month, but there was not sufficient time to compile our notes after our return from annual training.

Camp is the only topic about which to write, as our headquarters are closed until the 30th September. This year we did our stuff just on the fringe of Falmer, a pretty little old village located half way between Brighton and Lewes. For general picturesqueness, the countryside around that district surely wants some beating. Our camp was perched on the side of a rather steep hill overlooking a wide valley, and the view from our lines was certainly good to look upon. Fortunately, we had glorious weather the whole fortnight. Had it rained, goodness only knows how we should have fared—especially the officers, whose tents were at the bottom of the hill. As usual, the advance party did wondrous work in erecting the canvas in time for the main body, who commenced to arrive about mid-day on Sunday 28th August. We were again very pleased to have attached to us from the 1st Divl Signals a large number of n.c.o.s, including our old friend Sergt Jessop. We believe they enjoyed themselves among their Terrier comrades, and we take this opportunity of thanking them for all they did for us.

The first week was spent chiefly in Section training under Company arrangements. As our camp was just on the edge of the Downs, we had not far to go for some ideal training ground. The only snag was the chalk dust of the tracks, which soon made our very posh wagons look more like millers' carts, necessitating an "Amami night" for them each afternoon.

Lorry loads of bathers went off to Rottingdean each day after tea. Unfortunately, there were no dressing facilities there, but that difficulty was, of course, soon overcome.

On the 2nd August we performed a C.S.O.'s exercise. Major R. H. R. Neale (C.S.O. London District) and Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O.) were present and visited the various stations during the day. Our C.S.M.s and C.Q.M.S.s received rapid promotion to G.O.C., C.R.A., Brigadier, etc. ("kings for a day" sort of thing!) to act in those capacities for the purpose of originating messages. Everything appeared to go off satisfactorily, as the following extract from the C.S.O.'s report clearly shows: "I was impressed by the keenness shown by all ranks, and I consider that a unit which can maintain communication of a Division in attack after only four days camp training must be in a high state of efficiency." When the applause has entirely subsided (as a musical hall fellow said) we will proceed.

The next event of importance was a visit by a very large number of our lads to Portsmouth Dockyard on the 3rd August, in connection with the Navy Week celebrations. They moved off at 11.30 hours and returned to camp about 21.00 hours, having spent a very enjoyable and interesting day among the members of the Silent Service.

On Sunday the 4th we had our church parade. We don't know whether the C.E. parade time got mixed up with that for early R.C. mass, but we had to be there by 08.00 hours. We missed our usual half hour lay-in, as "show-a-leg" time was the same as for week-days, and we paraded forty-five minutes earlier. However, after little or no breakfast and a close shave, we were there on time. So were some of the Gunners! According to the padre's sermon, we should imagine he had been making some keen observations on the quiet. He referred to "the drunken sergeant staggering through camp." We didn't notice any blushes or guilty looks on the faces of our three-stripers. Anyhow, the padre didn't live in our camp, so perhaps he was referring to someone amongst those with whom he was in training.

On the 5th August we had a cricket match between the unit and Messrs. Moss Bros. The game was played on the Moulsecoomb Park sports ground—a kind of miniature arena just off the main Lewes road. Moss Bros. batted first and knocked up a score of 125. We started off very strongly, but a collapse (or a relapse, or summat) set in towards the end and we were all out for 78. Everyone then returned to camp, where our visitors, who numbered fifty-four, were entertained to a high tea in the sergeants mess. They were afterwards very interested—and amused—with the No. 1 sets, with which a little demonstration was staged. One remained stationary while the operator gave movement directions to the fellow in the other. It certainly must have appeared rather funny for the ladies and uninitiated gentlemen to watch the car doing immediately just what was ordered.

A little war broke out on the morning of the 7th August and lasted through the night until the following morning. This was the occasion of the 47th Division artillery exercise. By way of a change, we formed part of an invading army from the mystic land of Franconia (don't look at your maps—it's not there). Anyway, we certainly had it in for the . . . . . English.

A Company Commanders' Conference.

We landed at Pevensey Bay on the 6th and advanced to Lewes with a view to cutting off the Blighty garrison at Brighton. At 09.00 hours on the 7th we were holding positions in the vicinity of Mount Harry and Swanborough Farm (now you can study your maps). The general activity of laying lines and moving artillery eased up about 15.00 hours, but traffic at Div. H.Q. was pretty brisk—especially for the No. 1 sets—right through the night. We were thankful it was a nice warm night with very little wind. Our youngsters soon discovered that a lighted candle doesn't last long out in the open, and that a hurricane lamp won't burn without oil and/or wick. (Oh, "Q"!) The C.R.A. and his staff appeared to be exceptionally busy, and apparently had a very hot time of it. A visit to his headquarters revealed many anxious faces, with caps (brass) pushed back from puckered brows,

The M.A.B. Section.

poring over maps in the feeble light of hurricane lamps. It was, however, subsequently learned from a most unimpeachable source that they had a tank full of ice in which were buried umpteen bottles of English beer. We small fry wondered how they kept themselves so cool and collected. You can trust these Franconian officers to do things as they should be done! Nothing much happened during the night to disturb the sleeping troops except an occasional howl emanating from the Div. signal office for a "Don A-a-ah." It's a wonder the enemy didn't hear it and run. Eventually, dawn broke and weary troops awoke (don't bother about the rhyme, Mr. Printer). They rolled their beds and made a bee line to the dixies for a hot drink. We mustn't forget to congratulate our M Section sergeant on fixing up his travelling canteen so nicely under a tree out of sight of the prowling planes. Zero was at 05.15 hours, and the troops waited expectantly for the balloon to go up. Sure enough, it did, too! At the appointed minute over sixty guns blazed off, shattering the early morning stillness and filling the air with the smoke of battle. As is usual on these occasions, we won, but England is still where she was and Franconia isn't anywhere. We were congratulated on our good work, which was very favourably commented upon by the C.R.A. and the commanders of other units.

We held our annual cable competition on the 9th August, but owing to the small size of the most suitable stretch of ground, it had to be run off in two halves of three teams each. M.A.B. Section won both the turn out and the competition. E Section was second, and B.1 Cable Section secured third place. It was clearly demonstrated that speed in laying cable, if not properly controlled, can easily defeat its own ends. The turn out of the wagons and equipment was exceptionally good, and one of the attached Regulars stated that it would do credit to any 1st Div. show. Thanks, pal!

A collection was made on the second pay parade in aid of the Corps gift to our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. the Princess Royal, on the occasion of her next birthday.

Sergeants Mess.—Sunday 4th August saw our mess again filled to overflowing with visitors. Some eighty odd were entertained to lunch and tea, and in the evening they strolled on the Downs, sat about in the sun, or pushed off to Brighton. This year we chartered reserved train compartments, which enabled our friends to get down earlier and quicker and remain later. We were very pleased to have our old pals Jimmy Gander and Bill Dorman with us again for a while, and several visits from Joe Stockwell and Bricky Bolton.

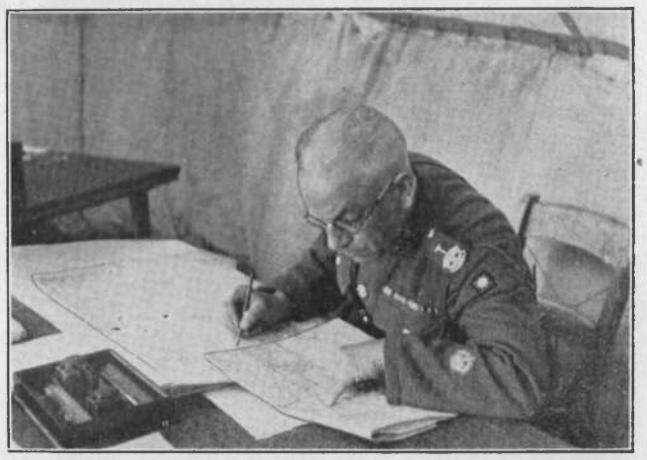
On Friday 9th August we held our usual officers' night. We were especially pleased to have Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O.) with us, together with every officer of the unit present in camp. Our president said a few words bearing on the fact that this was Lieut.-Colonel Howard's last year as C.O. of our unit. He referred to our regret as a Mess at Colonel Howard's leaving us, but assured him that he would always be certain of a very warm welcome whenever he came to see us—and he hoped that that would not be infrequently. In replying, Colonel Howard thanked the members of the Mess for their loyalty and for the backing he had always received from them during his period as C.O. He concluded his remarks by saying that he was sure we would give our new C.O. the same service as we had given him (loud applause).

We were entertained by a very good concert party from Brighton and by some of our officers. We missed our old friends of the Sergeants Mess of the 47th (2nd London) Div. R.E. who were in a nearby camp. Owing to the tragic death of one of their attached Regular sergeants, all their social events were cancelled. We did, however, spend a most delightful evening in their mess on the previous Friday.

We are holding our first dance on the 5th October, and hope to see many Mess friends there, whether invited or not.

Greetings.—We wish to say "Cheerio!" to Lieutenant R. J. Bridgland and the Australian Signals, 4th Military District, Adelaide. We hope you see THE WIRE sometimes.

Social.—We are holding dances on the 12th and 26th October. Come along and enjoy yourselves.



Your humble EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Bimingham 11.

Annual Camp.—This year's camp will surely go down in the history of the unit as one of the most successful and the most enjoyable ever held. The weather gave of its best apart from a few short hours of light rain one afternoon. The camp site was pleasantly and conveniently situated off Littlemoor Lane between Preston and Upwey. In company with other units of the 145th Brigade we had a most wonderful time. The grass in the camping field was very long, making marching difficult until it was trodden down. The first stunt of the camp was an innovation in the shape of movement by night across country on foot, with connecting files. Everyone entered into the spirit of the game and it was a complete success. During the movement a strict and uncanny silence was preserved, and when the negative

Despatch Riders, 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals (T.A.) at Summer Training Camp, 1935.
[Photo by " The Birmingham Mail "]

" silence signal " was broadcast, it was obvious to everybody that the order to " keep the peace " was a severe trial to all, so great was the din which followed.

During the first week training was carried out on Bincombe Down. It was there, also, in the presence of the C.S.O. (Colonel Trench) and the D.C.S.O. (Colonel Martineau, T.D.) that the first big scheme was carried out. This involved several hours work by night, and the result left very promising prospects for the twenty-four hour night scheme which was due to take place later in the week. The big scheme is always looked forward to by everyone in camp, and there is no greater punishment than to be left behind while it is in progress. The scheme took place in the vicinity of Petersham and Winterborne Abbas, which made it all the more interesting, as it was entirely new ground. The most sanguine expectations were justified. All offices worked smoothly and efficiently under a very heavy burden of traffic, and this despite some sudden and unexpected moves. The work of the mechanised office detachments was facilitated by the specially designed tables, fitted with test panels, switch units, etc., with which they have been equipped this year.

On the second Friday in camp G Section took part in a tactical scheme with the 67th Field Brigade R.A. and brought back with them flattering comments on their efficiency.

The unit attended church parade on the Sunday and earned official recognition as being the smartest unit on parade.

Whilst in camp we were visited in turn and inspected by the C.S.O. (Colonel Trench) accompanied by the D.C.S.O. (Colonel Martineau), by the Brigade commander, and later by the G.O.C.-in-Chief. All of them were tremendously impressed by the unit's efficiency and turn out.

Camp was struck on Saturday, and the unit marched to Weymouth station for the return journey by train. After travelling throughout the night, we arrived in Birmingham early on Sunday morning and had breakfast in barracks ; after which the unit was assembled on the parade ground for dismissal.

Sergeants Mess.—In response to a challenge, a team was raised to play the officers at football. For some unexpected reason, the officers won by two clear goals. Who said Harry Hibbs was Birmingham's best goalkeeper ? The C.O. captained the officers and kept goal in style worthy of the great Hibbs himself. The R.S.M. kept goal for the sergeants. Corpl James S. H. was referee. All that the sergeants collected from this match were one broken rib, one bruised knee, twenty-two barked shins, and an insatiable thirst. Later that evening the sergeants entertained the officers in the mess. The officers took first innings lead at whist and were suitably rewarded with prizes befitting the occasion. These were presented by the R.S.M. amidst wild enthusiasm. We gratefully acknowledge Colonel Ford's generous gift. He never forgets us. May his shadow never grow less!

Tense Moments in Military History.—When the signalman, having hauled in about 200 yards of his earth lead into a glorious tangle, discovered that it was really part of his line.

When Getcher mislaid the key of the charging room and someone quietly pointed to it hanging on his belt.

When two Cable Section sergeants woke up one morning with very heavy heads.

When the R.Q.M.S. could not find his watch because he had absent-mindedly put it in someone else's pocket.

When a smart (?) machine gun detachment of a local infantry unit arrived at Kingsbury Ranges complete with S.A.A. and tripods, but *without guns*.

When the C.O. said " The silence is off. You may chatter."

GETCHER.

R.A.F. Signals (S.R.), Leeds.

The first annual training of this, the "baby" unit of the Army, was held at Rolston Camp, Hornsea, Yorks, under the command of Colonel Campbell, M.B.E., T.D., to whom we extend our heartiest congratulations on his appointment as C.O. of the unit.

The unit consists of H.Q. and Nos. 1 and 3 Companies at Leeds, No. 2 Headquarters at London (with two attached Con-

struction Sections at Glasgow), and No. 4 Company at Birmingham. As none of these Companies had met or worked together before, this makes the success of the training more outstanding.

The 27th Construction Company (Glasgow) at Camp.

The first two days were spent in settling down and erecting and manning one Air Headquarters, one Fighter Group, one Bomber Group, and two Fighter and two Bomber Wing offices. On Wednesday (the third day) a twenty-four hour scheme held in the camp was an example of unparalleled efficiency.

The first unit concert was held in the men's canteen on Friday 8th August. This revea'ed an amazing amount of varied talent, and was not the least event in a week full of successes.

Sunday 11th August was sports and visitors' day. After church parade seventy visitors were entertained to lunch. Amongst those present were Colonel Fladgate (C.S.O. Northern Command), Mrs. Fladgate and Mrs. Campbell. Officers and men combined in a magnificent effort, in which tossing the caber and other athletic feats made the afternoon reminiscent of a mixture of the Spartan and Highland games. A unit cup, given by the second-in-command (Major Morgan) for inter-Company competition, was then presented by Mrs. Campbell to the successful No. 1 Company. Points were awarded for Company drill, sports, tent pitching, etc.

During the second week another twenty-four hour scheme was held outside the camp. East Yorkshire farmers have much cause to bless the troops, for various sheds, barns, etc., which were utilised as signal offices could not have been so tidy for years!

Some fifty of the troops were entertained at the Wrygarth Inn (1st Group signal office—lucky dogs!) by the arrival of a certain officer on a racing cycle. On applying his brakes too suddenly, he performed a swallow dive over the handle-bars into the inn, where he alighted upon a very tender portion of his anatomy. This is only indicative of the great thirsts which arise on a country exercise!

An officer of No. 3 Company, who was introduced to the noble drink of vodka at the Royal Station Hotel, Hull, was heard somewhat noisily appreciating the more serious parts of a variety show which followed.

A second concert was held in the sergeants mess on the 16th August, and this was much appreciated by all concerned.

The unit was inspected in various phases of its work by Major-General G. H. N. Jackson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (accompanied by Major R. Staveley, D.S.O., R.A.), Colonel Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., and Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Fladgate (C.S.O. Northern Command).

The unit had the opportunity of functioning in a live capacity, and took advantage of it. A letter was delivered at Rolston Camp in mistake for the R.A.F. at Catfoss. A despatch rider was sent off with it, and returned with his formal receipt duly completed.

Seven efficiency medals were presented after church parade, and we congratulate the recipients. M.S.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

General.—I am afraid I have only news which pressure on space did not permit of reporting last month.

Week-End Camp.—The week-end camp was held at Hilldowntree on the 29th/30th June, when traffic schemes based on the annual camp training programme were tried out. This proved most successful, I am told, but I understand the W/T would have welcomed pigeons to help them out. Cheer up, Nobby! remember, pigeons have brains, whereas wireless needs brains to work it. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, especially the wempo and fish and chip circle. I have enclosed some interesting photographs which I hope the Editor will be able to reproduce. In one of them, Sergt Grant's patent crook stick attachment will be seen fixed on the back of the cable wagon. This arrangement worked very satisfactorily. [The photos are reproduced by the courtesy of "Aberdeen Bon Accord and Northern Pictorial."]

Gallantry.—We are immensely proud of L/Corpl Small C., who at Aberdeen on the 7th April last, at great personal risk, succeeded in rescuing a ten-year-old boy from drowning in the river Dee. The Royal Humane Society's vellum has been presented to him in recognition of this brave act.

Lord Provost Henry Alexander handing the Royal Humane Society's vellum to L/Corpl Charles Small.

Training.—Except for those attending to complete their drills, training at present is at a standstill. Before long, unit winter courses and the other courses that take place at Fonthill during the winter will be in full swing.

Ex-ite.—Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Shreeves, now with D Troop, on the birth of a daughter. We Scots folks never forget friends.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual Sergeants Mess outing took place on Sunday 18th August, when a very enjoyable day was spent. The party, about sixty strong, with Rollo leading all the

Captain Williamson, Sergt McKinnon and Lieut. Donald at the Highland Signal Week-end Camp.

way, spent a very enjoyable day at Edzell, travelling via Stonehaven, Montrose and Brechin. The old castle at Edzell was a great centre of interest until, on the homeward journey, a halt was made at Laurencekirk. My! how Pegler smacked his lips! The committee are to be heartily congratulated on the organisation of the whole show.

Manœuvres.—Major T. P. E. Murray, Captains J. W. Levack and J. Cochran, and Lieut. J. Gray have just gone to Aldershot to be attached to the 1st Divl Signals for the period of manœuvres. We look forward with great interest to their return, when we hope to receive tips on all the latest developments in signal training. It is interesting to note that our former adjutant, Captain B. H. House, is now serving with the 1st Divl Signals.

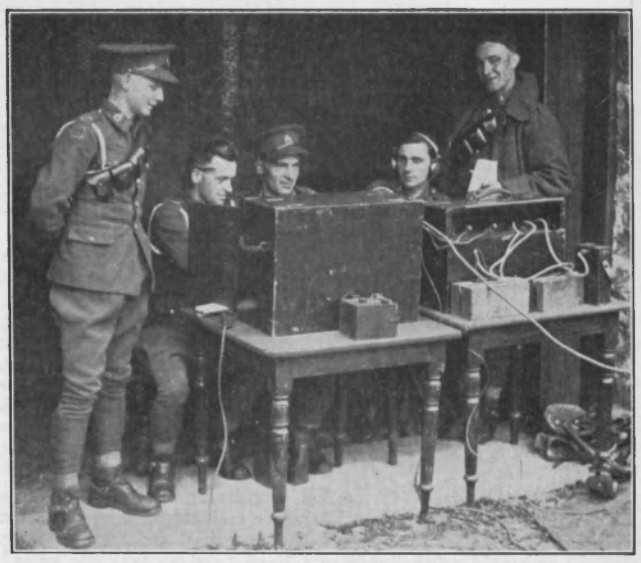
ONECOY.

Mechanised Cable Wagon in action at the Week-end Camp.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—The after-effects of annual camp having more or less worn off, we are now back to normal and making extensive arrangements for our winter training. Courses are due to commence on the 17th September, when we hope to see the great majority of the Company turn up and commence the chase after the elusive pennies.

The courses this year are slightly different from former ones. One is open to non-rated operators, another to operators who are going for higher rates, and a third to linemen of all classes and grades. It is also our intention to commence an n.c.o. course, at which we hope to delve into the intricate questions of organisation in general and settle once and for all our differences on that disputed subject of registration. It is hoped that we shall be able to obtain the services of some persons experienced in these subjects, to the great benefit of all. The first course is due to terminate just before Christmas, and it is hoped that a second will commence almost immediately afterwards.



Highland Divisional Signal Wireless Set at the Week-end Camp.

Recreation.—On the 16th September a long felt want will have been supplied, as on that night we are opening a recreation room in our hall for the use of all Company members and their friends. A great deal of time and money has been spent over this room, and the Company are asked to show their appreciation of this fact by coming along and making use of it. They are also asked to bring their friends.

The sergeants have also got together in this "Brighter Stirling" movement, and with the sanction of the Company commander it has been decided to start the Sergeants Mess. It is hoped that this will become an accomplished fact by about the same time. Therefore we are hoping to see plenty of each other during this winter, and it is hoped that items of news from this Mess will form part of our notes each month.

We received a visit from our popular R.S.M. who is spending a part of his leave in Stirling. I am asked by one or two of the sergeants to say that his shadow does not seem to be getting any less. We also hope that he will be able to be with us on the night that the mess is opened and give us his support and advice. Some of our friends from Kirkcaldy, who fly around this part of the town in their cars, are asked to note the fact that they can always be sure of a welcome here now.

Further news is scarce and time is short, so apologies are offered for the brevity of notes this month. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Now that the 1935 camp is over and done with and the P.S.I. has had his annual scrounge, we are once again settling down to winter routine. Courses are being discussed, and tips on running entertainments are beginning to come in. After bounties have been paid, I suppose we will have to roll up our sleeves and do something about it. A Rifle Club is also being formed, and we hope enough of the Company will join to keep it running and to provide a team capable of wresting the inter-Company shooting cup from No. 2 Company.

Camp 1936.—The burning topic since camp is the probable place of the next one. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Happy Hornsea.—The Supplementary Reserve camp on the cliffs at Rolston has ceased to be. The August sun which wrapped us in all its glory has long since set. To the Glasgow Construction Sections are left only the memories of one of the most successful Supplementary Reserve camps ever held.

It is difficult to imagine a more congenial setting than that of Rolston camp, perched high on its sandy eminence, looking out to the open sea—towards the Flamborough Light to the north and Hull to the south. Behind lay the fertile lands and rusticity of the East Riding.

It was amidst such environment that Nos. 26 and 27 (Glasgow) Construction Sections worked and played. Work there was, and plenty of it—but work made easy and pleasurable for us by the courtesy and consideration of our superiors. The praise of Colonel Campbell was in itself a reward. We venture to say that our work was well done. There were brawn and brains behind the construction of the air line route from Rolston Seats to Wrygarth Inn. There was the hall mark of the Clydesiders on the steadfast routes from wing to wing, and from squadron to squadron. We revelled in the work of the camp, although most of our time was spent on the open road or in the country lanes and the green fields. Yet we made a great effort in the unit cup competition. Handicapped as we were by lack of numbers, we had every reason to feel satisfied with the number of points allocated to us. We gave of our best at the camp sports, and we finished with several good wins to our credit.

It is only fitting that we should gratefully acknowledge the kindness bestowed upon us by Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, of Leeds, who proved a generous host and a great friend. We would also express our thanks to the adjutant (Lt. Tinney), R.S.M. Pillinger and R.Q.M.S. Wood, all of Leeds. They contributed much to our comfort and welfare. Our own officers, Lieutenants Craik and McGaw, were splendid. Sergt Schofield was the essence of all that a permanent staff instructor should be. No effort was too great for him, and no day was too long. The old sage Jock McQuarrie was the strong man of the movement. His sound reasoning and common sense stood us all in good stead.

So has passed Hornsea camp of 1935. We believe there are prospects of Hornsea again at some other time. If all is well, we will meet many of the same old comrades. We may once again look seaward to the Flamborough Light. Once again we may see the dawn at Franks' Farm. From the green sward in front of the old church, we may see the break of day as the mist lifts over the pastures and the woodlands. How beautiful was the world! How gladdened were our hearts! Happy Hornsea!

Sergeants Mess.—The holding of training camps at Dunfermline, Hornsea, Aldershot and Salisbury Plain has somewhat upset the equilibrium of things, but the prospect of a good year's working are encouraging. Arrangements are well in hand for the social season, and pleasure in plenty has been planned for the winter months.

Good-bye, Grigg!—We noted in the August WIRE the discharge of R.S.M. Grigg W. H. of A Corps Signals. R.S.M. Grigg was a firm friend of our S.R. units. During our sojourns at Salisbury Plain and Ewshott we found in him a staunch ally. We wish him a long, happy and well-earned retirement.

All Quiet.—By the time these notes are published, the last of our S.R. units will have completed annual training and will have returned from Aldershot and the Plain. All is quiet at Jardine Street. News is at a premium. However, with the advent of the social season and the winter's serious work, we hope to produce more voluminous notes for later issues.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 10th Sept.

The usual backwash of camp is with us, but in time we shall settle down to real work once more. Clothing and equipment have been handed in to the Q.M. stores. This is the first time since its formation that the unit has had to come into line with the new idea, and it caused some comment and ruffled feelings amongst the other ranks when the new order was issued in camp. However, orders *are* orders, and all ranks may rest assured that the idea is for the good of everyone concerned.

No. 2 Company were not content with a fortnight of camp, so they sent a couple of Sections to Malvern to show the Gunners how the Signals worked. They had a very instructive and enlightening time.

L Section left for Basingstoke on the 8th September for their annual training with the 160th (South Wales) Infantry Brigade, who are going on manœuvres with the Regular Army.

A big honour this, and the first time a complete T.A. Infantry Brigade has attended manœuvres. We feel proud that the 53rd (Welsh) Div. has been selected for the purpose.

It is with much regret that we have to record the discharge of Sergt Merchant on medical grounds. He had the misfortune to lose his right arm as the result of a fall from a ladder whilst following his civil occupation. We feel that his efforts as a drill instructor with the recruits had much to do with the good state of drill in the unit, and know that many who wore out their boots on the parade ground under him will be most sorry to hear of his premature discharge. We trust he will soon be restored to health, and there is a welcome for him at any time when he visits Park Street.

Congratulations.—To Brevet-Major L. C. Bell, M.C., on attaining that rank. (He was our adjutant from 1924 to 1928.)

Congratulations, also, to Sgt Humphries H. R. on his promotion to 2/Lieutenant, R.A. (T.A.) and his subsequent posting to the 82nd Field Brigade. We, however, will need a new drum-major.

Welcome.—To Major R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., on leave from India. (He was our adjutant from 1921 to 1924.) Also to Bert Pease, D.C.M., M.S.M., from Brazil (where all the nuts come from)—our R.S.M. from 1920 to 1929.

Awards.—To the Gunner officer at Malvern who cut a length of cable out of a working line for the purpose of holding up his breeches, we hand the biscuit. We suggest that if the need again arises, he should use barbed wire ; it might prick his conscience.

To the M.O. (attached to the Gunners) who cut a working line just to see how long Signals would take to repair it, we hand the raspberry. We appreciate, however, that he has an enquiring mind ; but we assure him that he is wasting his time in such research. Signals had that stunt " beat to a frazzle " before he knew pliers from forceps. If he is still interested in speed trials, we could arrange some medical ones for him.

Camp Echoes.—Who was it who, hearing screams in the night, turned out and rescued a distressed maiden from some amorous Fusiliers ? What did he say when he found that the maiden was the shepherdess ? What is a shepherdess, and who penned the sheep in our clink ?

Golf.—The officers' golf trophy was played for at the Glamorganshire Golf Club on the 4th September, and was won by the commanding officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C..

The unit entered a team for the Western Command inter-unit golf championship. Their opponents having scratched in the first round, they went up to Chester to play the remaining rounds at Delamere Forest Golf Club on the 7th and 8th September. Their opponents in the first game were the 61st Medium Brigade R.A. (T.A.) with whom they drew. In order to save time the Commander-in-Chief, the donor of the cup, instructed them to replay one hole, which was won by the Gunners. The team of the 61st Medium Brigade beat all their later opponents with ease until they reached the final, the result of which is not yet known. We

now feel that there is every likelihood of the cup coming to Cardiff next year.

Query.—Is sherry a good cure for " golfer's elbow " ?

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Training.—The drill ground appears to be very quiet now that the annual training camp period is over, but this is only on the surface, for classes are still continuing on progressive lines. In addition, the boxing and physical training have commenced—rather early this year—and the attendance and the enthusiasm displayed augur well for a good season.

We have now in the Company two qualified drill and weapon training instructors, as well as a qualified operator signal instructor ; and congratulations go to C.Q.M.S. Warner E. and Sergeants Long E. H. C. and McCall W., who qualified as these respective instructors during the camp period. They put in some good hard work, which will reap its own reward and will be very beneficial to the unit.

Congratulations also to Sergeants Thurley and Clarke, Corporals Brewster and Bright, L/Corpl Archer and Sigmn Robinson, who also qualified as instructors in their respective trades.

Sport.—No. 3 Company took away our sports trophy at camp, and also won the V/T cup. The heartiest of congratulations to you, No. 3 Company ; but we warn you that we regard the loss of the sports trophy as only temporary.

We can congratulate ourselves as winners of the wireless competition cup. This year there seemed to be a little more opposition than usual, which is perhaps all to the good.

Arrivals and Departures.—We have with us Sergt Hitchins E. H. as P.S.I. to No. 2 Company. We offer the glad mit and hope his stay will be long and joyful. Make yourself at home, Ernie, and mind the mat.

We have said au revoir to Sergt Bill Simons, who has taken his ticket into civvy street. We have lost one of our biggest-hearted n.c.o.s. He was always present when wanted, always reliable, and willing to give the helping hand. Here's hoping you still continue to grace the canteen with your presence, Bill.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Having got over the camp period, we are just settling down again at Stratford. Beginners' classes are in progress, as well as for P.T. and boxing. We hope to do great things in the boxing world this year.

Courses.—We congratulate the undermentioned n.c.o.s on passing out as instructors in their respective trades. Operator signals, Sergt McCall and Corpl Cook. Linemen, Sergt Clarke. Drill and weapon training, C.Q.M.S. Warner and Sergt Long.

Sport.—Congratulations to No. 3 Company on their fine performance in winning the sports shield (what about the photo, Vic ?) and to our own tug of war team on their splendid pulls. Our turn next year.

Heard in the Class Room.—A certain signalman was asked the meaning of the letters "D.R.L.S." The reply was "Despatch Riders Lifesaving Society."

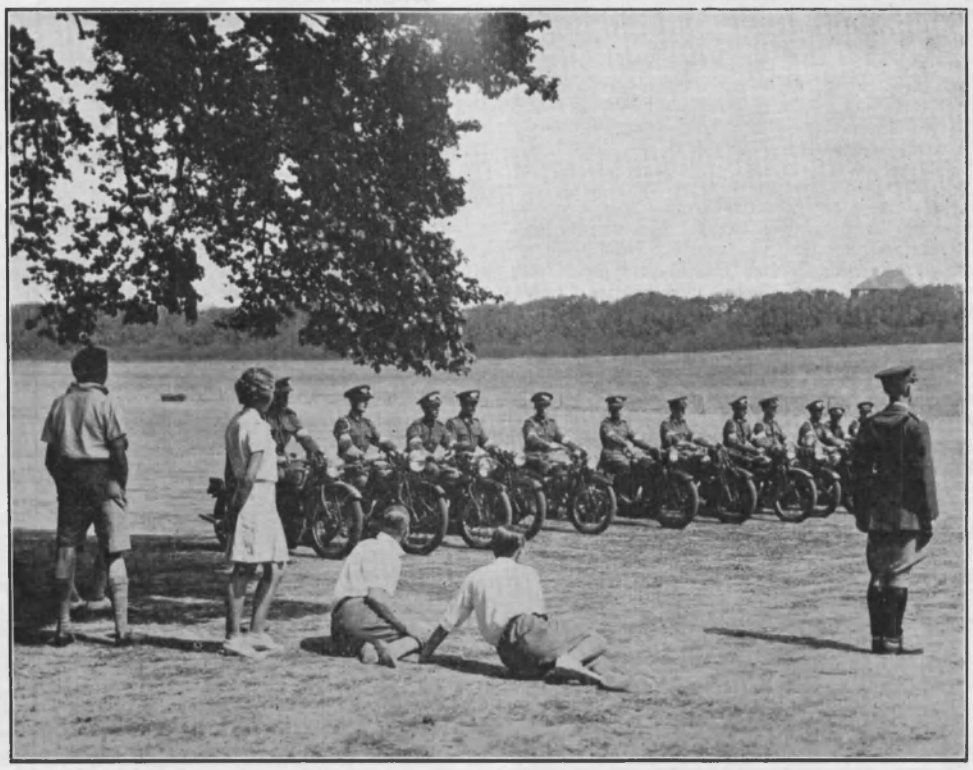
THE BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Annual Camp.—Our fortnight's sojourn at Dibgate may well be termed one of the best we've had. The weather was exceptionally fine, and all ranks looked (and we are sure, felt) better for those early morning liveners.

We were very lucky in having with us a complete mechanised Regular Infantry Brigade Signal Section from the 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, who made themselves very popular. Always ready to help and advise, they did a great deal in cementing the bond between the Regular and the Territorial soldier, and we hope that our little send-off showed them something of what we think of them. We look forward to seeing them again in 1936.

V/T Team.—We managed to retain our hold on the V/T trophy, and we express our thanks to Lieut. Pascoe and his team



Motor Cyclist Display Party, 56th London Divisional Signals (T.A.)
[*Photo by The London News Agency Photos Ltd.*]

for the extra work they put in to make this possible. Well done, sir! you certainly showed 'em.

Annual Sports.—These were held during annual camp. We heartily congratulate those members of this Company who took part in the really wonderful show which was put up by all.

We must first of all thank Corpl Wilbraham, of the 4th Divl Signals, for his great help in preparing the team and assisting us. This was greatly appreciated by the runners and the tug of war team, who secured some valuable training hints under his expert tutelage. It is due in no small measure to his efforts that we are now the proud holders of the coveted sports shield.

Outstanding performances were put up by L/Corpl Smith E. in winning the 100 yards race ; by Sigmn Willsher, who caused a mild sensation by romping home in the 440 yards relay ; and by Sigmn Stalley V., who showed a clean pair of heels (and wheels) in the obstacle race.

We must also congratulate Sigmn Robinson L. on giving a really excellent display of how a motor cycle can be ridden.

Wireless Trophy.—Congratulations to No. 1 Company on retaining their firm grip on this. We managed to get second place (yes, there were only two teams in the competition), but we hope for better luck next time. THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

General.—Since this unit returned to Bedford from training at annual camp, we have once more settled down to routine life. A winter programme of work has been drawn up which includes everything a signalman should know. A volunteer class is now being held on Monday and Friday evenings for operators who are determined to get their Group " E " before the training season finishes. There are five attending this class, and they feel sure they will succeed.

Congratulations are offered to Sergt Thurley, Corpl Bright and L/Corporal Archer on passing the instructors course held during annual camp. We shall soon know how to work a wireless set (Sergt Thurley), decoke a motor bike (L/Corpl Archer), and last, but not least, take a Lewis gun to pieces (Corpl Bright). Signals, do your stuff!

The Divisional and Area commander is inspecting the unit on the 1st October, and we hope he will be quite pleased with what he sees. Watch next month's notes.

Social.—Nothing doing this month, but we are starting our usual monthly whist drive and dance in October, when Tom Sayers and his band (himself) will oblige. He has added crooning to his many assets now, and has had a " mike " made for his special benefit. He learnt to croon on the pier at Folkestone.

TOMASS.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

Camp.—The last issue of THE WIRE contained reports of the doings of the City of London Signals in camp at Roedean. The illustration printed opposite shows the despatch riders who gave a display in the grounds of the ladies' college there. [Several other photographs were forwarded, but overwhelming pressure on space has compelled us to withhold them for the time being.—ED.]

The display received very favourable Press notices, particularly in the Brighton and Sussex papers, which made particular mention of the fact that it was the first time that anything of this nature had been attempted by Territorials.

Inspection by the Commander, 56th (1st London) Division.—In addition to his frequent and informal visits to the unit in camp, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., inspected the unit at work. Nos. 1 and 3 Companies had prepared a small set piece demonstrating the communication of an attack by the Division on a front of one Infantry Brigade. After expressing his complete satisfaction with what he had seen, the Divisional commander (on his way to inspect another unit) happened on a completely unrehearsed effort by No. 2 Company, who were practising river crossings. This was undoubtedly the success of the day. A couple of men who had obvious associations with one of our older universities were endeavouring to row a small boat against the strong current while paying out cable ; others more efficiently swam the river with cable end between their teeth. One small gang was happily engaged in floating a D.iii. telephone across the river on a raft which was mainly composed of a blackboard. It was an extremely good show and was much appreciated by the G.O.C.

Return to Signal House.—The unit returned to Signal House on the 18th August and, except for the indefatigable despatch riders, have been resting on their laurels until work recommences on the 24th September.

Despatch Rider Display.—The despatch riders will be giving a show at the Banks and Insurance Motor Cycle Club gymkhana at Hendon on the 15th September, and on the 29th another display at the Barnet Grass Track Stadium. Reports on these fixtures will be included in WIRE notes for the November issue.

H.Q. and No. 1 Company L. of C. Signals (S.R.)—The above unit proceeded to Larkhill on the 8th September, and together with No. 3 (West Lancashire) Company L. of C. Signals, No. 1 (East Lancashire) Corps Medium Artillery Signal Section and No. 23 (Glasgow) Cable Section are forming a Corps Signals for Regular Army manoeuvres. So far, no report has been received as to their doings, but the manœuvres do not start until the 17th September.

Social Events at Signal House.—The organisers of various winter activities are hard at work arranging dates and details. The Badminton Club starts in October, as does the usual round of dances. We are to try the experiment of having two bands at our dances in future. Our old friend Mr. Shrimpton will provide one, and the City of London Signals Band will be the other.

C.O.L.S.

SPORTS NOTES.

[*Conclusion—brought forward from col. 2 page 500*]

Mrs. Pocock, our commanding officer's wife, has been kind enough to score for us on several occasions, and we appreciate her keenness.

44th (H C.) Divisional Signals, Stamford Brook, W.6.

Unit Trophies.—These were awarded for the year 1934/35 as under.

Dell cup—No. 1 Company.
Sports cup—No. 2 Company.
Section efficiency trophy—No. 203 M.A.B. Section.
Hosbach cup—L Section.
Cable cup—Sergt Haley's detachment.
Sergeants Mess cup—No. 3 Company.
Best recruit trophy—Boy Kallimer.

Unit Sports.—Results of the sports held at Aldershot on the 5th August.

Quarter mile—1, Sergt Howell, No. 3 Company ; 2, Signalman Mullett, No. 203 M.A.B. Section.
Boat race—L Section, No. 3 Company.
Veterans' race—1, Lieut.-Colonel Reid, M.C., T.D. ; 2, L/Sergt Sando.
100 yards—1, Corpl Butler, No. 203 M.A.B. Section ; 2, Sigmn Constant, No. 1 Company ; 3, Sigmn Penton, No. 3 Company.
High jump—1, Corpl Butler ; 2, Sigmn Mullett ; 3, Sigmn Constant.
Long jump—1, Corpl Butler ; 2, Sigmn Constant ; 3, Corporal Thompson, No. 2 Company.
Ex-members' race—Mr. W. Dimmock.
Children's race—1, Master Langley ; 2, Master Bowry.
220 yards—1, Corpl Butler ; 2, Sigmn Hicks, No. 2 Company ; 3, Sergt Howell.
Officers' 100 yards—1, Lieut. Freer-Ash ; 2, Lieut.-Colonel Reid, M.C., T.D.
Tug of war—No. 2 Company team.
One mile—1, Sigmn Edgar ; 2, Sigmn Harding A. ; 3, Sergeant Sealey—all of No. 3 Company.
Relay race—No. 3 Company team.

SPORTS NOTES

D Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Our first match in the Mackworth trophy cricket shield contest was played against the School of Signals and resulted in a handsome win for us. The School batted first and the first three wickets produced 67 runs, but some good bowling skittled out the remaining seven wickets for 20 runs. We started our innings in a solid fashion and passed the School's total with two wickets in hand, Sergt Curtis carrying his bat for 52. There was no other outstanding feature in the match, and we congratulate D Company on their unexpected win.

In the final tie we met F Company. There was something to look forward to in this match, as neither team had won the shield for a number of years. F Company won the toss and elected to bat first. Sergt Napper and Corpl Holden opened the innings and soon settled down. However, the first wicket fell at 31, and things began to look quite bright when the score was 85 for seven wickets. For some unknown reason the fielding of D Company then took a severe turn for the worse and became very costly—eight catches being dropped. It was mainly on account of this that our opponents reached the total of 122. However, we will not take the cream from F Company's performance, as they took full advantage of our mistakes.

Our innings opened in a very weak manner, three wickets falling for only 10 runs. However, the fourth and fifth wickets put on 44 runs and somewhat stopped the rot; and with five wickets down for 71 runs, the game was stopped on account of the light. Rain and a sodden ground delayed the game for two days, and eventually it was ended on a Sunday afternoon. With a favourable wicket our opponents dismissed the remaining men in forty minutes for 23 runs. Hard luck, Don! but there is some consolation in having reached the final round for the first time in many years. Well played, F!

We have had quite a number of friendly games, and the last one of the season was against Richmondshire C.C. on Scotton ground. Having been beaten on their own ground by three wickets, they opened the game in a manner which certainly looked like revenge. When tea time came they stood at 96 for five, and with that score they declared. Sergt Wheeler and Corpl Atkinson opened our innings and, by scoring two runs a minute during a sterling display of batting, took our score to 92, when Corporal Atkinson was out for 47. However, we soon passed their total, and the final score was 97 for two—Sergt Wheeler carrying his bat for 44. Thus ended an enjoyable season. We are now looking forward to the next.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Mackworth Trophy Cricket.—For the first time this Company has managed to win the Mackworth trophy cricket, for which many thanks are due to our two stars Lieut. E. S. Cole and Corpl Holden T. J. These two fine players distinguished themselves throughout the trophy games, both in attack and defence, and were ably supported by the finest Company fielding side in the Signal Training Centre. Now we have finished throwing our weight about, all we can do is to give details of the scores.

SEMI-FINAL: F COMPANY v. E COMPANY.—F Company batted first and a fine century by Lieut. Cole placed us in a very secure position.

F COMPANY.

Sergt Napper c Collins b Buchanan	0
Corpl Holden run out	33
Lieut. Cole b Whiteway-Wilkinson	114
2/Lieut. McGill b Buchanan	9
Boy Harding lbw b Buchanan	11
Boy Hawley b Whiteway-Wilkinson	1
Boy Deane lbw b Whiteway-Wilkinson	0
Boy Murray lbw b Buchanan	2
Boy Barker b Whiteway-Wilkinson	0
Corpl Holloway c Grimston b Whiteway-Wilkinson	4
L/Sergt Tant not out	1
Extras	13
Total	188

Bowling—Lieut. Whiteway-Wilkinson took five wickets for 60, and Sigmn Buchanan four for 61.

E COMPANY.

Sigmn Evans lbw b Holden	0
Sigmn Oliver c Holden b Cole	0
2/Lieut. Bradley b Holden	27
Corpl Saunders run out	1
Corpl Collins c Murray b Cole	19
Lieut. Whiteway-Wilkinson b Holden	3
Sigmn Buchanan b Cole	29
Sigmn Thorpe b Cole	0
Corpl Smith not out	2
Sigmn Poole b Cole	0
Sigm Grimston b Cole	0
Extras	13
Total	94

Bowling—Lieut. Cole took six wickets for 45, and Corpl Holden three for 36.

FINAL: F COMPANY v. D COMPANY.—There are only two remarks we have to make on this exciting match. Corpl Holden had a day out, and Sigmn Parker of D Company is to be complimented on his fine batting display. F Company again batted first.

F COMPANY.

Sergt Napper b Walton	16
Corpl Holden b Wheeler	35
Lieut. Cole c Parker b Parsons	3
2/Lieut. McGill b Wheeler	6
Boy Harding c Clarke b Wheeler	1
Boy Deane b Wheeler	6
Boy Hawley b Alderidge	31
Boy Barker b Wheeler	0
Corpl Holloway c Hughes b Walton	6
Boy Ainsworth b Wheeler	7
L/Sergt Tant not out	1
Extras	10
Total	122

Bowling—Sergt Wheeler took six wickets for 18, L/Corpl Walton two for 40, Sigmn Parsons one for 13, and Sigmn Alderidge one for 22.

D COMPANY.

L/Corpl Walton b Holden	0
Sigmn Clarke c Tant b Holden	5
Corpl Atkinson b Holden	2
Sigmn Parker b Holden	39
Sergt Curtis run out	9
Sigmn Parsons c McGill b Cole	17
Sigmn Keighley b Holden	8
Sergt Wheeler b Holden	5
Sigmn Hughes run out	0
Sigmn Rylatt not out	0
Sigmn Alderidge b Cole	1
Extras	8
Total	94

Bowling—Corpl Holden took six wickets for 32, and Lieut. Cole two for 35.

The Colquhoun Cup: Garrison Enlisted Boys Cricket.—The final of this competition was played on the Catterick Garrison central ground between the 2nd Battalion Gloucesters and F

Company (R.Signals) Boys "A" team. The latter won by an innings and 27 runs.

2ND BATTALION GLOUCESTERS.

	First innings.		*Second innings.*	
Boy Gray c Hicks b Barker	2	c Barker b Harding	11
Boy Thorne b Campion	2	not out	0
Boy Buss b Barker	0	b Deane	3
Boy Thorn b Barker	6	c Ainsworth b Barker	7
Boy Edmunds c and b Harding	17	c and b Barker	6
Boy Boulton c Barker b Ainsworth	5	b Deane	10
Boy Norman not out	8	b Barker	2
Boy James b Deane	1	b Barker	0
Boy Skinner c Creed b Harding	1	b Barker	0
Boy Kithen c Creed b Harding	0	absent (injured)	0
Boy White b Harding	2	b Deane	0
Extras	6	Extras	3
Total	50	Total	42

Bowling—Boy Barker took three wickets for 15 and five for 18, Boy Campion one for 3, Boy Ainsworth one for 11, Boy Harding four for 7 and one for 10, and Boy Deane one for 8 and three for 2.

F COMPANY (R.SIGNALS) BOYS "A" TEAM.

Boy Barker b Boulton	8
Boy Harding b Thorn	5
Boy Deane c Norman b James	8
Boy Ainsworth c and b Thorn	36
Boy Creed c Norman b Thorn	30
Boy Alcock b Thorn	2
Boy D'Hooghe b Edmunds	12
Boy Hicks b Thorn	0
Boy Campion not out	6
Boy Hockings b Edmunds	0
Boy Elston c and b Edmunds	0
Extras	12
Total	119

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Swimming.—A Corps Signals held their swimming gala on the night of Thursday 29th August. To my knowledge that was the first occasion on which such an event had been held, though to anyone who saw it this fact was not apparent. A very enjoyable evening's sport was witnessed, and I am sure that this event will become an annual one.

Eight events were keenly contested, and some good and useful prizes were carried away by the winners. Our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., kindly presented a prize for the best all-round performance by any one person in five events (breast stroke, back stroke, free style, diving and plunging). The officers of the unit presented a cup for the inter-Company medley relay race, to be competed for annually. The P.R.I. Mons Barracks also kindly presented a challenge cup for the inter-unit free style relay.

The evening's sport commenced with the back stroke competition, in which there were six competitors entered. In this event C.Q.M.S. New F. led all the way and won by a couple of lengths, with Sigmn McQuade second and Sigmn Crowe third. Inches separated the second and third.

Next came the heats of the free style (two lengths). The heat winners and qualifiers for the final were: Heat one: 1st L/Corpl Glover, 2nd L/Corpl Kenneally. Heat two: 1st Sigmn Huggett, 2nd Driver Tomlinson. Fastest third, Corpl Green. The final, which was the best race of the evening, produced a great duel between Kenneally, Glover and Green, but Kenneally won well in $45^{4}/_{5}$ seconds, with Glover second and Green third.

Twelve competitors took part in the diving event, and some very pretty and neat diving was witnessed. Each competitor had two springboard dives and two from the 10 ft. board. Sigmn Kelly and L/Corpl Kenneally tied for first place with 13 points each, and Sigmn Downing was third with 12. Kelly and Kenneally each had to take two more dives from each board. Kelly started off in fine style, getting four points and a lead of one point in the first dive; in the next dive they each got three points. Then off the 10 ft. board Kelly got three and Kenneally four points, leaving them all square with another dive to go. Kenneally went first, and it was a really beautiful dive (the sort that Pete Desjardins demonstrates) for which he got five points—the only occasion of the evening when five were awarded. Excitement was tense as Kelly got ready. He dived well, but only earned three points, leaving Kenneally the winner by 15—13 points in the dive-off. Both must be congratulated on a really good show.

The breast stroke was a splendidly contested race, won by Cpl Green, who led all the way. A keen tussle for second place was witnessed between Lieut. Cooke and 2/Lt. Corbett. Mr. Corbett eventually won by the narrowest of margins.

In the inter-unit relay race (four lengths free style) there were three competitors: A Corps Signals, 1st Divl Signals and Aldershot Command Signal Company. Another excellent race was the result. The 1st Divl Signals looked like winners from the start and finished first with a lead of several lengths from A Corps Signals, who were second. A Corps team: Lieut. Nicholls, Sergt Bridge, and L/Corporals Kenneally and Glover. The Aldershot Command Signal Company did very well indeed when it is remembered that they have only a small number of men from whom they can pick a team. Bravo, A.C.S.C.! The 1st Divl Signals thus become the first unit to hold the inter-unit relay race challenge cup.

There were six entries for the plunging event. The commanding officer plunged over 40 ft. each time and was a worthy winner, Sigmn Millett and Corpl Green filling second and third positions. 1st, Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., 40 ft. 9 in.; 2nd Signalman Millett H. 39 ft. 9 in.; 3rd, Corporal Green A. H. 37 ft. 2 in.

Inter-Company relay (four lengths medley)—No. 1 Company won the challenge cup presented by the officers of the unit with several lengths lead, No. 2 Company being second, after No. 3 had been disqualified for an infringement.

Officers v. Sergeants (four lengths free style)—The officers forged ahead in the first two lengths, but at the second take-over C.S.M. Strange apparently thought he ought to start at the same time as his opponent and dived in without waiting. Then he turned over on his back and signalled his relief to start whilst he was still in the centre of the bath. The race was awarded to the officers, as the sergeants were disqualified for not swimming straight. Ha! ha!

L/Corpl Kenneally won the cup presented by the commanding officer for the best all-round swimmer, having scored six points in the five events open for competition. Corpl Green scored three points and was runner-up. A fairly large crowd watched the evening's sport, and were enthusiastic in their applause of the events. So ended an excellent evening. Thanks are due to Mr. Crockett for his able judging and starting.

Hockey.—The 1935-36 hockey season will soon be starting. We have about fifty fixtures already arranged, and all preparations are in full swing for another good season. Captain Cameron-Webb (late of the Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat) is in charge of unit hockey this season. The majority of last year's first eleven are available, and several dark horses have been unearthed, so our team should be up to its usual high standard.

Cricket.—Another cricket season is over, and the least said about it, the better. In the inter-unit knock-out event we were drawn to meet the 1st Divl Signals, which coincided with A Corps Signals being at camp at Worthy Down. A weakened team was turned out, and they fared miserably, although if we had turned out the strongest possible eleven I do not think we should have stood much more chance of winning. Such well known players as Williams, Sweet and Mohrstadt make a good nucleus of any team, and to back these up were several others equally good, so the 1st Divl Signals had an excellent team.

Soccer.—(Calling all ex-Signalites.) Just a few words about our famous "has beens." A match was played between the ex-Signals of the London Fire Brigade (Waterloo Road) and the Rest in the yard of the station and resulted in a great victory for our old comrades by 9—2. The scorers were Tony Stuart (3), Dolly Gray (2) and Mutt Shepherd (5). Tony scored one for the Rest. After the match, it is believed that they used the ball to carry on their work of cleaning brasses.

Boxing.—It is a few months since our boxers put away their gloves and forgot all about training, etc.; but on the 13th Sept. five of our unit boxers are taking part in a charity boxing tournament at Romsey, where we hope they will give a good account of

themselves. We are looking forward to a very busy season for our boxers, and prospects of welding together a really good team are bright.

Taking part in the tournament are L/Corpl Spriggs v. Corpl Buckley, six two-minute rounds ; and Sigmn Goodwin v. Private Nutt, Sigmn Hughes v. Rifleman Radwell, Sigmn Mitchell v. Driver Mackey, and Sigmn Ducker v. Fusilier McCall—all four two-minute rounds.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Cricket.—The following are the final averages for the 1935 season.

BATTING.

	Innings	Runs	Average
L/Corpl Lundie	26	764	29.3
Lt.-Colonel R. A. C. Henderson, M.C.	6	175	29.1
Corpl Wellock	18	430	23.8
R.S.M. McGregor	23	517	22.4
2/Lieut. W. H. L. Gordon	3	66	22.0
Lieut. H. L. Lewis	13	270	20.7
Sigmn Cox J. F.	21	291	13.8
Corpl Coton	16	161	10.0
Corpl Hall	15	135	8.8
L/Corpl Walton	15	122	8.1
Sigmn Carey	7	49	7.0
L/Corpl Adcock	18	114	6.3
Sigmn Willis	17	95	5.6
Sigmn Sedgewick	13	55	4.0

The following also batted: Lieut. P. A. Duke, L/Cpl Barwick, Signalmen Foster, Strong, Bentley, Harwood and Dalton.

BOWLING.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Average
Corpl Wellock	200	53	337	63	5.3
Sigmn Cox J. F.	204	51	537	59	9.1
Lieut. H. L. Lewis	91	10	277	27	10 2
R.S.M. McGregor	102	10	300	25	12.0
Corpl Coton	58	5	190	14	13.5
L/Corpl Lundie	93	13	400	23	17.4
2/Lt. W. H. L. Gordon	19	3	96	5	19.2

The following also bowled: L/Corpl Walton and Signalmen Carey and Willis, four wickets each ; L/Corpl Barwick, three ; L/Corporal Adcock, two ; Lieut. P. A. Duke and Sigmn Strong, one each.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Upper Topa.

Football.—Several friendly matches have been played since the last notes were published, and the unit team have he'd their own, as the following results will show:—

v. S.W.B.s won by 3—0 (Cox J. 3)
v. A. and S.H. won by 2—0 (Cox J. and L/Corpl Bundy P.)
v. S.W.B.s lost by 1—2 (Mobberley)
v. Hampshires won by 2—1 (Cleveland and Donaghy)
v. Leicesters lost by 0—2
v. Hampshires drew at 0—0

In the first round of the Murree Brewery tournament we were drawn against our old rivals the H.L.I. After drawing with them at 1—1, we lost in the replay by 1—3.

In the first game the Highlanders were early in touch with Cox F., but he was in excellent form and all their efforts failed. Taking some time to settle down, the Signals attacked in turn and Hopwood, taking the ball well down the field, passed to Mobberley, who evaded the defence and scored with a smashing drive. After this reverse the H.L.I. set up a determined attack, but Cox in the Signal goal saved magnificently. Not to be denied, however, the Highlanders still continued to press, and smart passing enabled McCue to equalise from close in. The half time whistle went shortly afterwards. The second half opened with a determined attack by the Signals, and Mobberley had hard lines in seeing a fine shot charged down by one of the defenders with the goalkeeper unsighted. Each team attacked in turn, but no further scoring resulted. Owing to the failing light, extra time could not be played.

In the replay, owing to injuries, our forward line had to be reorganised. This game started off at a very fast pace, which was kept up during the whole seventy minutes play. The opening stages were equal, each side attacking in turn. A fine clearance by Thornton saw the H.L.I. defence in a quandary ; one of their defenders handled in the " box," and from the resultant penalty Bundy gave Signals the lead. Thereafter the H.L.I. put up a very determined attack, and their outside right scored with an unstoppable shot. Continuing to press, the H.L.I. increased their score through their centre forward, and when the half-time whistle went they were leading by 2—1. The second half saw some very fine passing movements by the Highlanders which enabled them to increase their lead with a further goal scored by their inside left. During this period Donaghy, the Signal inside left, played heroically and Mobberley was a continual source of danger to the opposing defence. But the end came with the score 3—1 in favour of the Highlanders. Considering the condition of the ground, the standard of play was very high.

Signals were represented by Sigmn Cox F. ; Sigmn Cowan and L/Corpl Thornton ; Sigmn Sanderson, L/Corpl Bundy and Sigmn McDougall ; Sigmn Mobberley, L/Cpl Cleveland, Corpl Hopwood, Signalmen Donaghy and Horsfield. Sigmn McGrattan wrenched a muscle and was unable to appear in the replay.

Rugby.—Several matches have been played since our last notes appeared, but owing to injuries and the fact that several of our best rugby players are also in the football team, we have not been able to field a fully representative side and we have only won one match. This was against a very strong R.A.F. side from Lower Topa, and luckily we had our best team out. Some very good rugby was seen—the best of the season on Gharial Flats.

Our forwards were in excellent form, heeling the ball well, and with McDougall at scrum half and Sergt Richards at stand off playing a very good game, we were well on top of the opposition. Thornton got over from a loose scrum to score near the corner flag, and Cox J. kicked a wonderful goal to make us five points up. There was no further scoring until midway through the second half, when Sergt Richards dropped a good goal. The end saw us the winners by 9—0 points.

Three games with a strong South Wales Borderers team saw us the losers each time, but we had weak teams out, being without Captain Morgan, Sergt Richards, McDougall and Thornton.

We still hope to get a few more games before returning to Rawalpindi, our ambition being to beat the S.W.B.s, who are quite a strong team.

The following have represented us in most games this season: Cox J. or L/Corporal Stringer, back ; Captain Morgan, Pittman, Chaloner, McConnell and L/Corpl Millett, threes ; Sergt Richards, McDougall and Rigby, halves ; and L/Corpl Thornton, Warhurst, Murphy, Corpl Simpson, Combe, L/Corpl Honeyborne and Sergt Silk, forwards, with L/Corpl Lilley (Borderers) and Private Handy (Dorsets) who are attached to us. Sergt Sunderland says he is too old now. Do you believe him ?

Hockey.—Not a single game has been played owing to the prolonged monsoon, but the ground is now in good condition and we are hoping for a few games before our departure.

Tennis.—The tennis courts have been much affected by the rain, but the members have managed a few games between the showers. (Who said " When is it going to rain ? this is only a Scotch mist "?) Sigmn Mobberley beat L/Corpl Cuthbertson in the final of the all ranks tournament which had been postponed from the first half season.

Waziristan District Signals.

Headquarters and Razmak Signal Sections.

General.—Before trying to give any details of various sports played in this district during the past few months, I would like to say a few words about the only two tournaments that we ever enter: Northern Command Signal Week and Waziristan District sports tournament.

About Signal Week. All ex-members of Wazirdist Signals will, no doubt, be sorry to learn that never again shall we be able to proceed to Pindi in an endeavour to obtain any of the pots. In short, this week, which was so popular with the troops, is no more. This decision has only been arrived at after very careful consideration by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, in consultation with all commanding officers within the Command. However, what is to be will be ; but there are still members who will look back with happy memories on the annual trip to Pindi.

We are to have one of the cups for permanent retention, but which one we cannot yet say. But whichever it is, we are truly thankful.

Now about the District tournament. Again, we shall never proceed to Bannu for these sports, for they are now split up thus. British hockey and football is held in Razmak during the summer months (see notes on hockey) under the Razmak Brigade Sports Committee. Only athletics are held in Bannu. Indian hockey and football are held under local Brigade arrangements, the semi-finals and finals to be played in D.I.Khan (note: we have hopes of seeing Dhyan Chand in action again).

Hockey.—Since our last notes on sport in this district—which, by the way, included hockey played against the 1/9th Gurkha Rifles, "who never play the game" (not your mistake, Mr. Editor, but our scribe's)—we have been having a very hectic time playing in the Razmak Brigade and the Waziristan District hockey tournaments. However, we have at least one success to record in the District tournament.

BRIGADE TOURNAMENT.—Owing to a misunderstanding, only personnel of Razmak Signals were allowed to play in this tournament. We fielded quite a strong team for a Section with only thirty-three men. Fortune favoured us in the draw, having a bye in the first round. However, we met our old friends the Light Battery R.A. in the semi-final, and after a game in which we had all the play we lost by 1—2 goals. Hard luck, Razcol! Next year, try the shock tactics of the R.A.

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT.—Here we have a different tale to tell. We called on the out-Sections for one or two men to strengthen our team, and with considerable success. In the first round—which, by the way, was the semi-final—we played the Razmak Brigade tournament winners, the 2nd Light Battery R.A. We ran them off their feet, but only got three goals into the net against one in reply. From a spectator's point of view, the Signals played that kind of hockey one reads about in books. Again the R.A. tried shock tactics, but this time without avail against our superior defence and forwards. In the final we met a very good sporting team in the 11th Armoured Car Company R.T.C., and again we registered a win by 3—1 goals. Although our team did not play the inspired game of the semi-final, they played hockey which was good to watch. It is remarkable that few fouls are committed by Signals, which clearly indicates the high standard of play. It would be hopeless to try to mention outstanding players, for the *team* was outstanding; but we should like to record the very fine games played for our team by L/Sergt Ferdinando at left full back. This is the third time in four years that we have won this cup, there being no tournament one year owing to operations.

Football.—We have not played a great deal of football during the last three months, but what we have played has been good. A match worthy of note was the Razmak Garrison v. the 1st Battalion D.C.L.I. In the Garrison team we had no less than six members. Well played, Signals! The D.C.L.I. eventually ran out winners, by the only goal scored, after a very hard fought game in which our men were outstanding in merit.

After this fine performance we decided to take on the Battalion team of the D.C.L.I. ourselves, and we went one better than the Garrison team, forcing them to a draw after a good game.

The Razmak Brigade and the Waziristan District tournaments are to be held in Razmak during September, so that we have great hopes. Enough said for the present.

Basket Ball.—Once again the old firm, H.Q. Section, and Razmak Signal Section fought out the final of this tournament. This time it was the Signal Section's turn to win—and fairly easily, too, compared with last year's final. I would like to say that this game is not as played by the A.S.P.T. at home, but under all-in Razmak rules. All old members of Wazirdist will vouch for this, especially one member (now in Aldershot) who sustained a broken nose, etc., from one of our adjutants. This is no girl's game, as supposed by people who have not been in Wazirdist.

Tennis.—Owing to the unfavourable weather conditions in this part of the world, not a great deal of this sport has been played this summer. We have played three matches—two against the Tanks and one against the D.C.L.I.—winning all of them. Against the Tanks we won by seven games the first time and by one game on the second occasion. Against the D.C.L.I. we registered a very easy win, the D.C.L.I. securing only three sets out of twenty played.

Athletics.—On the 4th August we held a unit athletic meeting in Razmak. This, by the way, was the first on record in the unit, and very favourable results were obtained. The object of this

Waziristan District Signal Hockey Team, winners of the Waziristan District Hockey Cup, 1935.

Back row (l. to r.)—L/Cpl Pyne, Signalmen Dewhurst and Carter, L/Corpl Durnan, Sigmn Palling.

Sitting—L/Corpl Bell, Sergt Woolhouse, Lieut. P. G. Goodeve-Docker, Sergt Ferdinando, L/Corpl Thompson.

In front—Sigmn Carpenter, L/Corpl Edwards.

meeting was to find talent for the forthcoming Brigade and District athletic meetings. Here are a few of the results worthy of note.

100 yards—Winner, L/Corpl Mattock ; 11 sec.
880 yards—Winner, Sergt Woolhouse ; 2 min. 27⅗ sec.
One mile—Winner, Sigmn Campion ; 5 min.
Long jump—Winner, L/Corpl Pyne ; 19 ft. 5½ in.
Javelin—Winner, L/Corpl O'Donnell ; 113 ft.

L/Sergeant Bigg (our local trainer) qualified as the best all round athlete, and L/Corpl Bell W. was the runner-up.

A very successful and enjoyable day for all ranks, and considering the thinness of the air in Razmak the times, etc., were quite good.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Sports.—Water meadow and green expanses of long luscious grass, with deeper coloured rushes here and there, now tempt lowing herds of muddy cattle to our maidan. A few months ago there was nothing but a close-cropped stretch of Epsom Downs, but the rains began in mid-July and changed all that. Last year a herd of local buffalo found the rugger ground an ideal place for mud-wallow holes, but this year their ravages have been prevented by the fencing-in of an area large enough for a running track and cricket ground. The soccer and hockey grounds have been unusable for most of the last four weeks, but thanks to the Cavalry Signal Troop we have found a new rugger ground. Between the floods of rain we have had a lot of good games, matches, and an eight-a-side half-Company tournament—the last mentioned being unusually warm with the thermometer at 85 degrees (Centigrade) in the shade.

The results of the unit rugger so far are two matches won, one drawn, and four lost. Good games for the unit have been played by Sergt Childs, Corporals Heasman and Teal, and Signalmen Bott, Robinson and Hodgson. We are glad to have Messrs. Boon, Rouse and Knight from other units to raise our standard again this year.

An all-sports tournament has started with two teams from No. 2 Company and one each from Unit Headquarters and No. 1 Company, competing in rugger, soccer, hockey, riding, tennis and swimming, but its progress is erratic, being dependent on the weather. At present we are hoping for a little more rain, so that the rugger ground may be quite fit for the swimming ; but it has been fine for several days now, and by the time this is printed we may be using the water meadow as a cricket ground.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Football.—In this sport the Troop did very well in the Brigade hot weather tournament which concluded recently. Out of fifteen entries the Troop finished ninth, while the third Indian Divl Signals, not being quite so successful, were thirteenth.

Only one match has been played since the conclusion of the tournament, and that was a " local Derby " (v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals). The result was a win for the Troop by 3—0.

Hockey.—In this branch of sport we were more successful than in football. At the close of the hot weather tournament we finished fourth out of fifteen entries.

Tennis.—A doubles tournament, in which practically the whole Troop participated, has just been concluded. Partners were drawn for, so there could be no cribbing. Corpl Mundy (Jack) and Sigmn Meese were the eventual winners, carrying off the prizes which were kindly presented by our officiating C.O., Lieut. A. B. McVittie.

I hope to be able to report more matches in the near future. Now, lads, remember the Davis cup and Wimbledon 194—?

4th Indian Divisional Signals, Trimulgherry.

Hockey. In the Garrison inter-Company hockey tournament (British) 1935, we were drawn against B Company, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, in the first round. The match took place on the 26th August on our opponents' ground, and we were very thankful to the weather clerk for providing an unsullied sky and shutting off the wind.

C.S.M. Westwood won the toss and decided to play with the sun at our backs. Play was brisk from the start, but although we managed to keep the ball in the other half for the majority of the time, the West Kents were the first to score, their centre forward taking advantage of a rebound from Sigmn Heatherington, our goalkeeper. The score still stood at 1—0 against us at half time.

In the second half we had to play with the sun shining in our faces. Fortunately, the weather clerk again came to the fore and provided a sun-curtain in the shape of a cloud after about ten minutes play. Our team kept on pressing, and during a bout in their circle one of the opposing defenders gave cause for a penalty bully. This was taken by Sigmn McQuire and we drew level. There were but twenty minutes left during which the issue had to be decided, and both teams went all out for that extra goal. From a short corner in our circle, Sigmn McQuire secured the ball and took it past the half-way line to slip it by the left back to Sergt Gibbard, who evaded the remaining back and secured that necessary goal. There were still ten minutes to go and the West Kents pressed hard, but although they kept the play in our half (I might almost say our circle) for most of the time, they did not manage to score, and our team ran out winners by 2—1 and so passed into round two.

Cricket.—We have had some very keen and interesting games this season with military and Indian civil teams, and considering that we have only about thirty-five British ranks from whom to pick our team, we have done quite well. Our best performances have been as follows:—

v. 18th Field Battery R.A. Won by 98 runs with only six wickets down. McQuire 52 not out, Lieut. Vulliamy 32, Lieut. Yule 28. Lt.-Colonel J. A. Pocock three for 13, Watterton seven for 39.
v. 18th Field Battery R.A. Drawn game. 18th Battery 193 (Penfold four for 32, Heatherington three for 19) ; 4th I.D.S. 160 for seven (McQuire 68, Hawkes 23, Watterton 23).
v. B Squadron 17/21st Lancers. Won by 157 runs. 4th I.D.S. 218 for five (Heatherington 105 not out, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Pocock 57 not out) ; Lancers 61 (McQuire six for 29, Lieut.-Col. Pocock four for 21).
v. 65th Battery R.A. Lost by 39 runs. 4th I.D.S. 108 (Lieut. Yule 28, McQuire 33) ; 65th Battery 147 (Watterton four for 50).
v. British Military Hospital. Won by 13 runs. 4th I.D.S. 61 (Watterton 24) and 110 (Hulme 33, Tucker 21, Watterton 21) ; B.M.H. 82 (Hawkes five for 45, Heatherington four for 27) and 76 (Hawkes four for 30, Tucker two for 0, Heatherington four for 38).

Playing against C Squadron 17/21st Lancers in the Station inter-Company tournament, we were very unlucky to lose by only seven runs. The scores are appended.

4TH INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS.

Corpl Watterton b Wingfield	5
Lieut. Yule c Senior b Wingfield	15
Sigmn Heatherington b Pickles	13
Lieut. Vulliamy b Pickles	2
F/Corpl Welch c and b Wingfield	29
Lieut.-Colonel Pocock b Pickles	0
Sergt Penfold b Pickles	7
Sigmn Hughes E. c Pickles b Pullen	0
Sergt Gibbard not out	9
Sergt Tucker c Morris b Pullen	2
Sigmn Hulme lbw b Pullen	5
Extras	11
Total	98

C SQUADRON, 17/21ST LANCERS.

Corpl Conning b Watterton	13
L/Corpl Pullen b Pocock	0
Tpr Wingfield lbw b Pocock	12
Tpr Bugg b Watterton	15
S.S.M. Morris b Watterton	1
L/Corpl Trenfield b Welch	17
Tpr Pickles c Vulliamy b Welch	29
Tpr Stevens c Watterton b Heatherington	7
Tpr Senior c and b Heatherington	0
Sergt Venal c and b Heatherington	0
Tpr Wright not out	1
Extras	10
Total	105

[*For conclusion, see col. 2 page 495*]

THE WIRE

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- Editorial Notes -

Tho Following Is Published By Special Request.—In common with all arms of the Service, our Corps is suffering from a shortage of recruits this year, and special efforts are being made to encourage the right type of young men to enlist in the Royal Signals. The normal Army Recruiting Organisation is doing its best, but it is up to the Corps and Regiments themselves to do all they can in their own interests.

The wide circulation of THE WIRE offers a medium for drawing attention to the needs of the Corps, and I am appealing to *you* to do all in your power to introduce new recruits whenever possible.

There are many young men who are keenly interested in wireless, signalling generally, motor cycling, fitting, etc., who are not aware of the opportunities which the Corps provides for developing their knowledge and experience. Those are the men we want, and a leaflet has been printed, setting out some useful facts regarding trade training, service, education, etc., in the Royal Signals, with the object of presenting concise information to potential recruits.

Our difficulty is to get these leaflets into the hands of the right men. Can you, and *will* you, help in this matter? If so, you can, if serving, obtain the leaflets from your Commanding Officer. If not serving, I will be pleased to send you a supply if you will write to me.

It should be noted that anyone—whether soldier or civilian—who brings a recruit to a recruiting office is entitled to a cash recruiting award, payable by the Recruiting Officer, if the candidate is accepted.

Men of the best type only are required for the Royal Signals—men of your own class, in fact.

(*Signed*) C. K. THURSBY-PELHAM, Captain,
D.A.A.G., A.G.7 Signals,
War Office, London, S.W.1.

17th October 1935.

Golf.—It is notified for general information that the tie for the Royal Signal Golf Foursomes for 1935—Major J. C. McDonald and Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay versus Captains C. K. Thursby-Pelham and J. E. S. Walford—was played off at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on the 13th October, resulting in a win for Major McDonald and Captain Lewis-Barclay.

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Reunion Dinner.—THE CAVALRY CORPS OLD COMRADES are holding their Annual Dinner at "Stewart's," 50 Old Bond Street, London (corner of Piccadilly and Old Bond Street) on the 9th November 1935. A General Meeting at 6 p.m. will precede the Dinner, which is scheduled to take place at 7 p.m.

Will all those wishing to attend please apply to Mr. L. Rooney, Currock Villa, Carlisle, or to Mr. F. Pannel, 44 Elm Grove, Orpington, Kent?

A very cordial welcome will be extended to all old friends, and the promoters express the hope that those who have not previously attended their annual function will endeavour to do so on this occasion.

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Indian Reunion.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Indian Signal Corps is holding a Reunion and Silver Jubilee celebration at the Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore, from the 10th to the 15th February 1936—the first Indian Signal unit having been raised on the 11th February 1911. The Commandant, Signal Training Centre (India), will be pleased to hear from any old member of the original five units—the 31st, 32nd, 33rd and 34th Signal Companies, and No. 41 Wireless Signal Squadron, Sappers and Miners—and hopes that any old comrades who are still in India will be able to attend the celebration.

:: :: ::

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Corps Rugby Matches, 1935.—

The Corps v. Royal Engineers (Command Ground, A'dershot) Monday 11th November.
The Corps v. The R.M.A. (at Woolwich) Wednesday 13th November.
The Corps v. The Royal Artillery (Command Ground, Aldershot) Friday 29th November.

Bound Volumes of "The Wire" for 1935.—All Readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring Bound Volumes of THE WIRE for 1935 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. NO ROYAL SIGNAL MESS LIBRARY IS COMPLETE WITHOUT THESE VOLUMES. 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 the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen:—

1	Ex-W.O. Catterick	Petrol Pump Attendant
2	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Cook
3	Ex-W.O. Scotland	P.O. Lineman
4	Ex-Signalman, London	Radio Assembler
5	Ex-Signalman, London	Radio Assembler
6	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
7	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
9	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Lineman
10	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Telephonist
11	Ex-N.C.O. Aldershot	Police Constable
12	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
14	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	Conductor
15	Ex-N.C.O. Essex	Wireless Electrician
16	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Messenger
21	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Wireless Operator
24	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Sorting Clerk & Telegraphist
25	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Ministry of Labour
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
32	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Joiner
33	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Clerk
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Checker
35	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Attendant
36	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Traffic Censor
37	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Painter
38	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
39	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
41	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Lineman
42	Ex-Driver, London	Porter
43	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
44	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
45	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
46	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
47	Ex-W.O. Salisbury	Clerk

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

2/Lieutenant B. A. H. Bogle
2/Lieutenant A. Atthill
2/Lieutenant P. W. Lunnon

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar
School of Signals, Catterick
Royal Signal Officers Mess, S.T.C., Catterick
2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta
Also a handsome contribution from the Northern Command Tattoo

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£2 0 0
2	Ex-Sigmn Ireland.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	4 10 0
3	Ex-Sigmn Darlington.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1 10 0
4	Ex-N.C.O. Yorks.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	5 0 0
5	Ex-Sigmn Staffs.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1 0 0
6	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesex.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3 0 0
7	Ex-Sigmn Sunderland.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
8	Ex-Sigmn Essex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1 10 0
9	Ex-Sigmn London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
10	Ex-Driver Darlington.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3 0 0
11	Ex-N.C.O. Hants.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1 10 0
12	Sigmn Catterick.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2 10 0
13	Ex-Sigmn Middlesex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
14	Signalman, Wilts.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3 10 0
15	Special Education Grant			3 0 5
16	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees			10 0 0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major D. A. Brown from India to Aldershot (A Corps Signals)
Captain R. J. N. Solly from Bulford to Tidworth (E Troop)
Captain H. J. Wiseman from Aldershot to Egypt
Captain J. R. Patten from Exeter to Bulford (3rd Divl Signals)
Captain C. W. Knight from Tidworth to 43rd Divl Signals (T.A.)
Captain C. Childs from R.W.A.F.F. to Bulford (3rd Divisional Signals)
Captain H. M. Sylvester from Aldershot to Blackdown (A.D.B. Signals)
Lieut. R. G. Muir from Catterick to Egypt
Lieut. P. R. Wainman from Catterick to 2nd Cavalry Divl Signals (T.A.)
Lieut. H. R. V. Cooke from London to Catterick (S.T.C.)
Lieut. J. B. Adams from S.T.C. to School of Signals
Lieut. G. E. Aldridge from Belfast to India (Waziristan)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 17/9/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—Lieut. H. Richardson resigns his commission 18/7/35

[War Office 20/9/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. P. F. L. Williams to be Lieutenant 18/5/35

[War Office 24/9/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

S.E.E.—Captain W. H. G. Rogers, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Assistant Superintendent (Cl. CC.) 17/9/35

Captain W. D. J. Harries, R.Signals, to be Assistant Superintendent (Cl. CC.) 17/9/35

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. J. C. Rixon, from Supplementary Reserve of Officers, to be Lieutenant 24/8/35, retaining his present seniority

[War Office 27/9/35]

REGULAR ARMY—

Captain W. D. J. Harries is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Assistant Superintendent, S.E.E., 17/9/35

Captain W. H. G. Rogers is restored to the establishment 17/9/35

[War Office 1/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., half-pay, to be C.S.O. Egypt 11/9/35

R.E. TEMPORARY COMMISSIONS—The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 2/10/35: B Coombs, O.B.E., and F. A. S. Atterton, M.B.E.

R.A.P.C.—Lieut. H. Gough, from R.Signals, to be Lieutenant-Paymaster 2/10/33 and to be Temporary Captain 2/10/34

MEMORANDA—Lieut.-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., half-pay list (late R.Signals) retires on retired pay 1/10/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. A. T. J. Beard, A.M.I.E.E., to be Captain 15/7/35
2/Lieut. L. W. Wright to be Lieutenant 16/7/35

[War Office 4/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—

Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., from R.Signals, to be Colonel 1/10/35, with seniority 24/12/30

COMMANDS AND STAFF—

Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., to be A.A.G. War Office 1/10/35

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ROYAL SIGNALS—

Major St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler to be Lieut-Colonel 1/10/35
Captain C. Childs is restored to the establishment 4/10/35

MEMORANDA—

Lieut.-Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., half-pay list (late R.Signals) retires on retired pay 5/10/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

A.D.F. Signals—Captain W. S. Wasey, R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant 14/9/35

Lieut. F. W. P. Bradford, R.Signals, to be Adjutant, and is granted the temporary rank of Captain in the T.A. with pay and allowances of Lieutenant whilst holding the appointment, 14/9/35

[War Office 8/10/35]

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. W. O. P. Pritchard, from Supplementary Reserve of Officers, to be Lieutenant 19/9/35, retaining his present seniority

[War Office 11/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—

Colonel P. R. Bald, D.S.O., retires on retired pay 4/10/35

COMMANDS AND STAFFS—

Colonel P. R. Bald, D.S.O., relinquishes the appointment of C.S.O. Egypt 4/10/35

[War Office 15/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. J. W. Gordon to be Adjutant vice Captain R. I. N. Solly, 8/10/35

Corps Golf Meeting.

The annual Corps Golf Meeting for 1935 was held at the Berkshire Club, Ascot, on Thursday and Friday, 3rd and 4th October 1935. There was a very good attendance of officers, and two most enjoyable days were spent.

The second day was marred somewhat by frequent showers of heavy rain, but this was not sufficient to dampen the spirits of enthusiastic golfers. The heavy rain at times caused even these perfect greens to become waterlogged, but there is as yet no official confirmation of the report that one officer, playing with a "floater," was only able to hole out after the green-keeper had drained the hole of water.

Both the "red" and "blue" courses were used, and all the players were enthusiastic over their quality. The situation and general attractiveness, in more ways than one, of the Club house clearly met with general appreciation.

It was particularly gratifying to see such a large contingent make the long journey from Catterick to attend the Meeting. This in itself was more than sufficient reward to the organiser.

Considering the lack of local knowledge and the weather conditions, some really good golf was produced. The promising form of some of the younger officers was noteworthy and augurs well for future Corps teams.

The thanks of all competitors are due to the Committee of the Berkshire Club for their kindness in making the Club available for the Meeting.

The Corps championship, 36 holes scratch, open to Regular officers only, was won by Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay for the fifth time.

The handicap cup, 18 holes medal play, open to Regular, retired, T.A. and S.R. officers, was won by Lieut. G. Thomson.

The foursomes cup, 18 holes bogey, open to Regular, retired, T.A. and S.R. officers, resulted in a tie between Major J. C. McDonald and Capt. Lewis-Barclay and their opponents, Captains C. K. Thursby-Pelham and J. E. S. Walford. It is proposed to play off this tie at the Berkshire Club on Sunday 13th October. [Later.—The two first-named officers proved the winners.]

The following are the leading scores returned in the three competitions:—

ROYAL SIGNALS CHAMPIONSHIP.

	1st Round	2nd Round	Total
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay	78	81	159
Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham	83	88	171
Captain J. E. S. Walford	84	88	172
Captain M. Duke	92	84	176
Lieut. R. G. Muir	86	90	176
Lieut. E. S. Cole	88	89	177
Captain A. E. Morrison	85	93	178
Major J. C. McDonald	95	87	182
Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young	85	97	182
Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon	94	91	185

ROYAL SIGNALS HANDICAP.

Lieut. G. Thomson	85—14	= 71
Captain W. C. V. Galwey	91—18	= 73
Lieut. E. S. Cole	87—14	= 73
Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young	89—16	= 73
Captain M. Duke	80— 6	= 74
Captain P. Jennings	92—18	= 74
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay	78— 3	= 75
Captain J. E. S. Walford	78— 3	= 75
Major G. Tayleur	90—15	= 75
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick	88—12	= 76
Lieut. P. C. Williams	94—18	= 76
Major G. C. Winckley	95—16	= 79
Lieut. G. S. K. Maydon	91—11	= 80
Captain R. C. Woodbridge	91—10	= 81
Lieut. T. H. W. Winterborn	91— 9	= 82
Captain A. E. Morrison	93—11	= 82
Captain C. K. Thursby-Pelham	89— 6	= 83
Major J. R. Pinsent	88— 4	= 84

ROYAL SIGNALS FOURSOMES.

Major McDonald and Captain Lewis-Barclay	all square
Captains Thursby-Pelham and Walford	all square
Lieutenants Williams and Linton	1 down
Captain Woodbridge and Lieut. Cole	2 down
Major Winckley and Captain Jennings	3 down
Captain Morrison and Lieut. Stephenson	4 down
Colonels Vigers and Ozanne	5 down
Major Tayleur and Captain Duke	5 down
Lieutenants Harris and Maydon	7 down
Captain Galwey and Lieut. Thomson	7 down
Captain McNair and Lieut. Winterborn	7 down
Captain Chadwick and Lieut. Denholm-Young	10 down

Notes on Gas.

By L/CORPL CLAYTON, 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.

It is a fact little known that gas was known before America was discovered. The special gas indigenous to the United States is called nose gas, and it is a sensory irritant. The only effective protection against this gas is a nose gas bag, or, more simply, a nose bag. This means that feeding time in the United States is the only time when this gas is not being generated.

It is a mistake to suppose that Germany was the first country to use gas in international warfare. The first recorded use of this insidious weapon was on the 4th July, 1774, when General Washington (third class Army certificate—failed) launched what is now known as the Declaration of Independence. So great was its effect that Henry I. never smiled again, and Cromwell asked "Who burst that bubble?" (archaic: "bauble"). This is known as a retro-active effect. Other historical instances of the large scale use of this American gas are Lincoln's speeches before, after, during and between Gettysburg.

On the 18th June 1815 Napoleon was defeated by Wellington on the playing fields of Eton in the first recorded inter-Public School match. On this occasion Wellesley made the remark "Up, Guards, an atom." The molecular theory is built on this. (Table: 3 atoms=1 molecule; 6 molecules=1 reticule; 5 reticules =1 suitcase; 2 suitcases=1 week-end.) From this there are variants of the table, but it must be borne in mind that *well trained troops make week-ends effective.*

The advent of the talking picture was only possible because America was not a signatory to the Geneva Gas Protocol, 1925. The talkie is the most important weapon for the dissemination of gas. This made possible the flooding of the English-speaking world (Russia and America being, of course, immune) by many new gases. Nose gases enjoyed a new lease of life, but other insidious gases were used with telling effect.

New Gases Released by Talkies.

1. Tear Gases. These temporarily render the victims totally blind, but the effects are lasting. Women are particularly susceptible to this gas, and even strong men squirm. The chief tear gases are:—
   (*a*) Gaynor.
   (*b*) Valentino—fortunately now obsolete.
   (*c*) Garbo—a Swedish form of.
   (*d*) Dietrich—a German form of.
   (*e*) Sten—a Czecho-Slovakian form of.
   (*f*) Hepburn.

2. Until recently the worst form of gas was mustard. It has been called the king of gases, and has an insidious action. It blisters male tongues and has a delayed action on women, chiefly producing insomnia and a discontent with their own husbands. The only form of this gas is Colman. By itself, Colman has a devastating effect on women, but, mixed with Banky (a Mexican sensory irritant), it has a deadly effect on men.

3. Breathing paralysants cause constriction of the breathing apparatus. America is quite open in her research, and actually advertises the presence of "the breath-taking M.G.M. girls." Men are particularly susceptible.

4. Mustard has been ousted to a large extent by throat contractors. This form, known as the Queen of War gases, affects the sexes differently. In women it produces a stupid somno'ence and a maternal feeling. Its deadliness lies in the fact that its effect is most pronounced in the strongest men—troops being particularly susceptible. In them it produces a species of asphyxia and inspires a murderous feeling which is often incapable of being controlled. These gases are commonly known as crooners, and the most lethal is Crosbie.

The Great Earthquake at Quetta, May, 1935.

Introductory.

In forwarding this account in detail of the work of the Indian Signal Corps during the Quetta Earthquake emergency, I have decided to reproduce the story in the form of an official diary of events rather than as a narrative.

My object in doing this is that, in my opinion, the story thus reproduced conveys a more clear-cut and instructive idea of the work which our Corps was called upon to do than can ever be offered in the language of journalese.

Ours is a Corps which may be called upon at any moment, both in war *and* in peace (as this story will show), to face and cope with emergencies which will stretch our organisation to the utmost, sometimes even exceeding those bounds which reason can visualise.

That the Corps possesses the right type of officer and man to meet such emergencies has never been better proved than in the story of the Quetta Earthquake of 1935.

(*signed*) R. E. VYVYAN, Colonel,
Chief Signal Officer, Western Command.

[With the exception of the three small column-width illustrations, the photos reproduced with this Diary were taken by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. H. B. Somerville, D.S.O., R.A.—EDITOR.]

Dispositions of Royal Signal Units, Detachments, etc., and those of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department in the Quetta Area.

On the 30th May, the day before the earthquake took place, the dispositions of Royal Signal units, detachments, etc., and those of the P. and T. Department, in the Quetta area were as follows:—

Royal Signal Units, etc.

In Signal Lines, Quetta—2nd Indian Divisional Signals, one Mechanised Cable Section and B Corps Signals, under Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

In Signal Lines, Quetta—Detachment B Corps Signals, manning the Army Group W/T Station, and the Western Command Group W/T Station, under Lieutenant H. Prince.

In Maude Lines, Quetta—Wireless Experimental Section, under Captain A. E. Barton.

Civil P. and T. Organisation.

Near Signal Lines—Civil W/T Station.

Queen's Road (close to Bruce Road)—Main Telegraph Office and Automatic Telephone Exchange.

Lytton Road (close to Bruce Road)—Main Post Office.

Of the above, the main telegraph office, the automatic telephone exchange and the main post office were immediately put out of action by the first earthquake shock, Bruce Road being practically levelled to the ground. The main telegraph/telephone route Quetta—India was seriously affected at the same time. The P. and T. staff suffered many casualties. Martial law was declared very shortly after the catastrophe occurred.

Subsequent Division of Work during the re-establishment of Communications.

This work fell naturally and easily into the following divisions:—

(*a*) C.S.O. (ex Quetta)—Army Group W/T Station, Western Command Group W/T Station and Civil W/T Station.
P. and T. (re-establishment of communications and general administrative assistance)—Working parties and office reinforcements from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals and subsequently P. and T. reinforcements.
Co-ordination between Military and Civil Systems—Tents and blankets, etc., from Ordnance. Lorries, etc., from S. and T.

(*b*) O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals within the Quetta area (including stations in vicinity such as Mastung)—2nd Indian Divl Signals, one Mechanised Cable Section, and B Corps Signals.

Diary of Events.

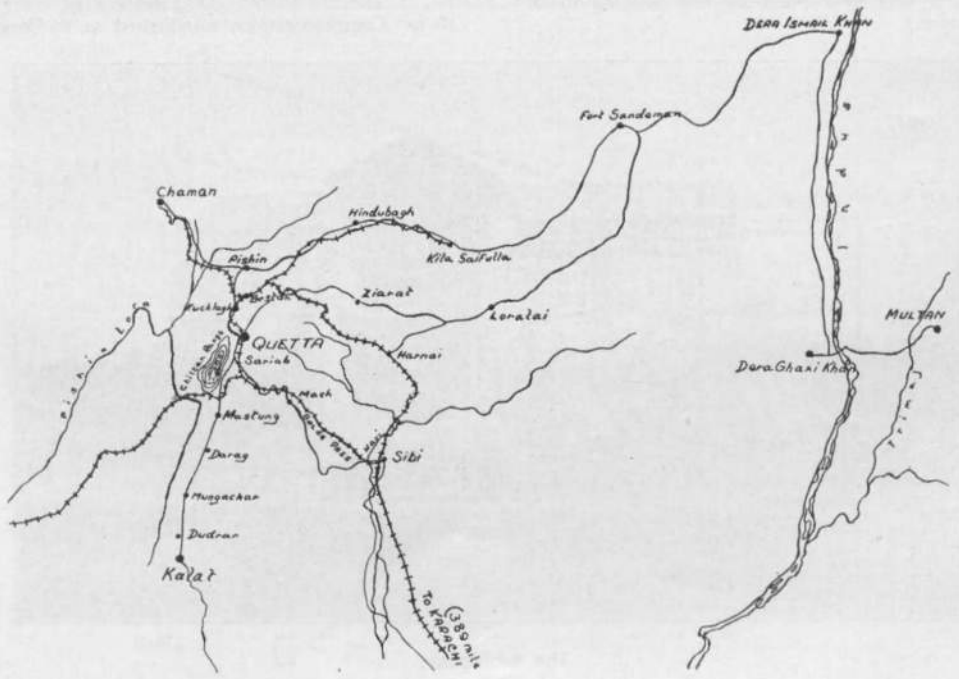
Compiled by the C.S.O. Western Command from his own Diary and from Notes submitted by the O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals.
Together with Diagrams as issued by the O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals.

31/5/35.

03.03 Heavy earthquake occurred.

The barracks of 2nd Indian Divl Signals were not much affected, but Lieut.-Colonel Howe, seeing that fires had broken out in the bazaar, immediately turned out a lorry convoy of men and led same to the site.

This convoy was the first to arrive (about 3.40 a.m.) off Bruce Road, where, having turned all lights on to



[31/5/35] Signal Office on the Quetta Club Lawn.

(03.03) the ruins, officers, n.c.o.s and men commenced rescue work under Lieut.-Colonel Howe's direction. Many individuals were dug out and rushed off to hospital in unit lorries.

The rescue work continued until 6 a.m. approximately, when Lieut.-Colonel Howe (who meanwhile had assumed command of the Bruce Road area) hearing that all lines in the Quetta area had broken down, withdrew his unit in order to establish emergency communications.

The officiating G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command (Major-General H. Karslake, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) described the rescue work carried out by 2nd Indian Divl Signals as "beyond praise."

05.45 Ordered Command S/W W/T to be manned.

—— Instructed O. i/c W/T to wireless Pindi as soon as they

07.30 came in, asking them to instruct Simla by phone to man A.H.Q. Wireless at once. (Actually this message was not sent, as it was overlapped by the handing in of official messages.)

(05.35 Ordered breakdown party to go to Civil Telegraph

—— Office and assist with office and disconnections. This

07.30) party from 2nd Indian Divl Signals, under Lieutenant Crichton, was under way in M.T. by 7.30 a.m.

07.40 2nd Indian Divl Signals opened signal office on Quetta Club lawn and within a very short time had established communications as in Diagram No. 1, and very soon afterwards added those in Diagram No. 2.

09.30 Civil W/T Station brought into number of W/T terminals (operator detailed to assist and D.R. attached)—very helpful.

10.00 S/W W/T Transmission Room shored up as precaution.

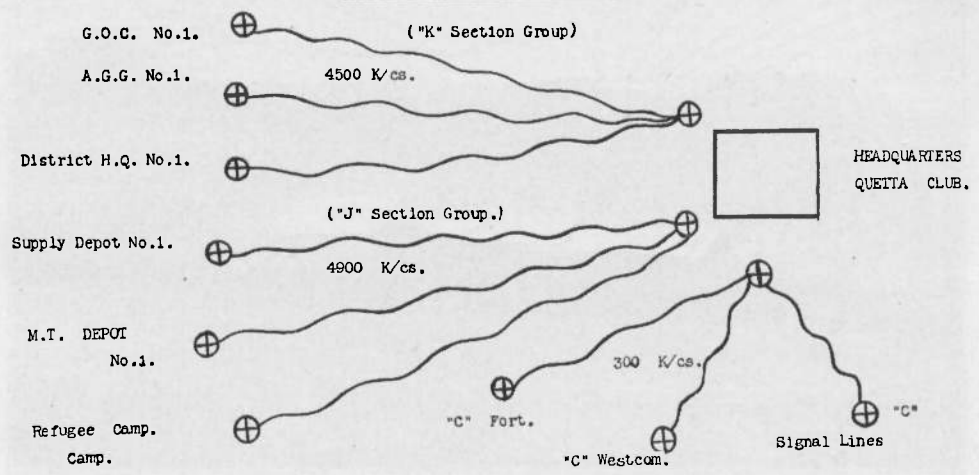
11.12 Continuous watch ordered (all W/T Stations).

13.30 Gave permission for private messages to be accepted. Refused permission to Zhob to clear private messages to us by W/T. Will inform them when possible.

16.30 Communications established as in Diagram No. 3.

The Residency.

EMERGENCY W/T COMMUNICATIONS. 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
QUETTA AREA.
DIAGRAM No. 1.



[31/5/35]

20.30 Private messages accepted, 446. Stopped acceptance until further orders.

21.00 Breakdown party reported line through from Station to Karachi. This party under Lieut. Crichton had a very hard time. They had to proceed eight miles out of Quetta before they could commence patching up the route The ruined buildings and continuance of earth-quake shocks made this work very difficult and by no means pleasant.

Informed G.T.D., who will take no action to-night — arranged to cable from Station to Tele. Office dawn to-morrow.

23.00 Peshawar came through on S/W—very useful.

General: (*a*) W.E.S. moved under canvas during day and are working o.k.

(*b*) Receiving room, Command W/T, moved into tent.

1/6/35.

01.00 All official outgoing W/T cleared. Civil W/T getting on with reception and sending private messages.

05.30 Breakdown party left under Lieut. Crichton to cable in P. and T. line ex Station to Tele. Office.

08.00 Communications established as in Diagram No. 4.

09.00 Trunk line brought into Civil Office by breakdown party, and taken over by P. & T. as trunk telephone connection.

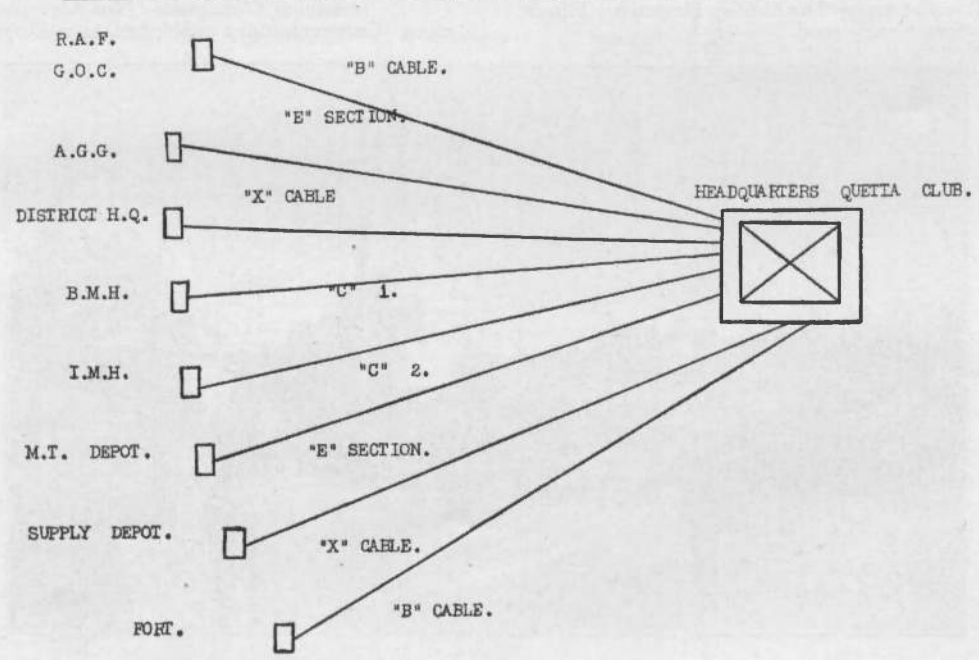
11.45 Three more telegraph lines brought into Civil Tele. Office —duplex being installed—operators being supplied on loan.

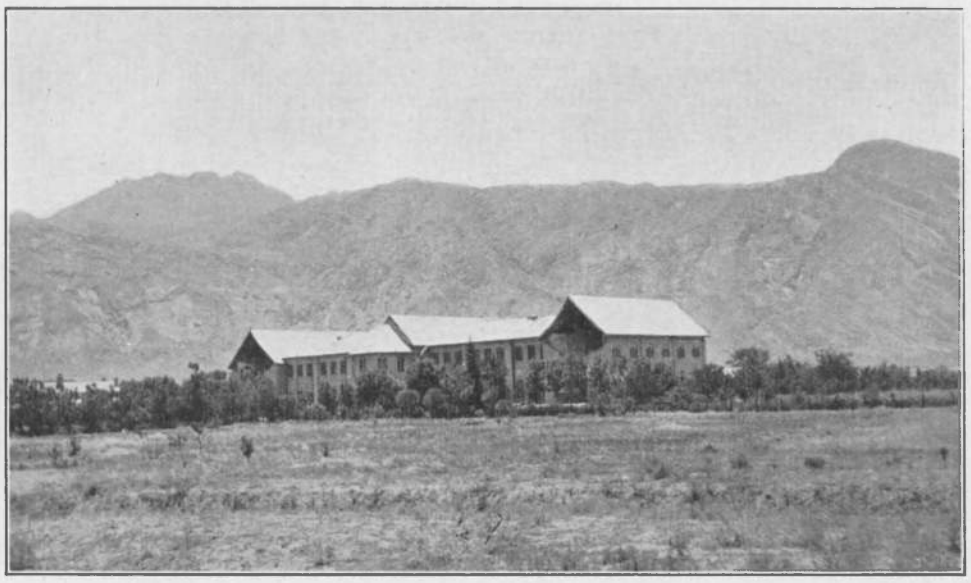
11.15—12.15 Accepting private messages from Loralai.

12.30—13.00 Accepting private messages from Chaman.

14.30—17.30 Accepting private messages at D.H.Q.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
EMERGENCY LINE COMMUNICATIONS - QUETTA AREA (ALL TELEPHONE) - DIAGRAM No. 2.





The Presentation Convent.

[1/6/35]

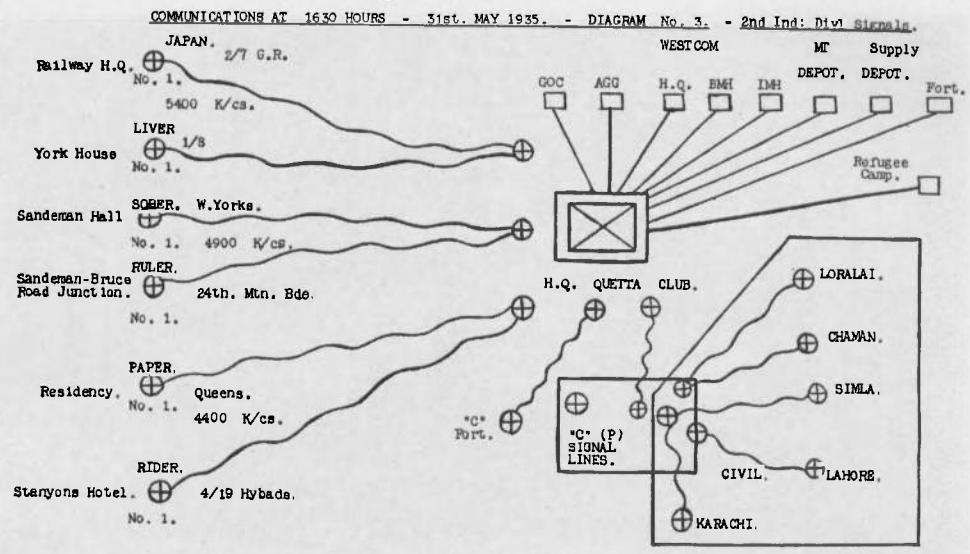
14.00 Breakdown party 2nd Indian Divl Signals went out on Pishin—Chaman trunk line.
15.30 Breakdown party reported above through to Beleli point.
15.40 Mr. Wrinch, Director P. and T. Karachi, arrived by air —explained situation—very pleased. Private messages will be cleared, and future circulation depends on Tele. Office Station to-morrow.
16.00 Took him round to temporary P. and T. office.
16.15 G.O.C.-in-C. called up by *The Evening News*, London. Twenty-five minutes. G.O.C.-in-C. spoke on field telephone from Club lawn.
16.30 P. and T. reinforcements arrived station. Brought up by our own transport.
16.50 Arranged rations and tentage for P. and T. staff, and loaned transport.
19.00 Breakdown party got as far as Bostan and came in.
19.15 G.O.C.-in-C. called up by *The Sunday Despatch*. Fifteen minutes. Speech very good.
21.30 2nd Indian Divl Signals opened a second Signal Office in Signal Lines next to W/T Station. This was necessary owing to the increasing number of subscribers in that area. Fullerphones were superimposed on the trunks connecting the two signal offices.
21.40 After consultation with Director P. and T., arranged all private messages in future to be handed in at temporary Civil Tele. Office. Informed Director that I considered that (although every precaution possible taken to trace senders subsequently) all private messages sent on 31st and 1st should be written off as regards charges. He will go into this. [Afterwards, 31st May to 08.00 3rd June, see 10.45 under 5/6/35 notes.]

2/6/35.

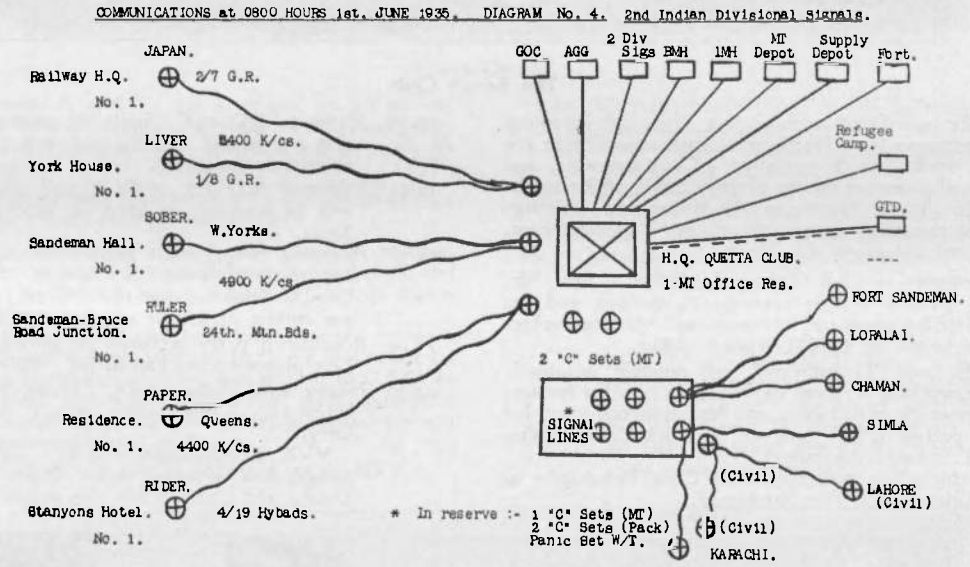
Dawn Breakdown party 2nd Indian Divl Signals recommenced work on Chaman-Pishin trunk line. Headquarters Western Command moved back to old headquarters. D.H.Q. remaining Club lawn. Necessary phones arranged.
07.00 Communications established as in Diagram No. 5.

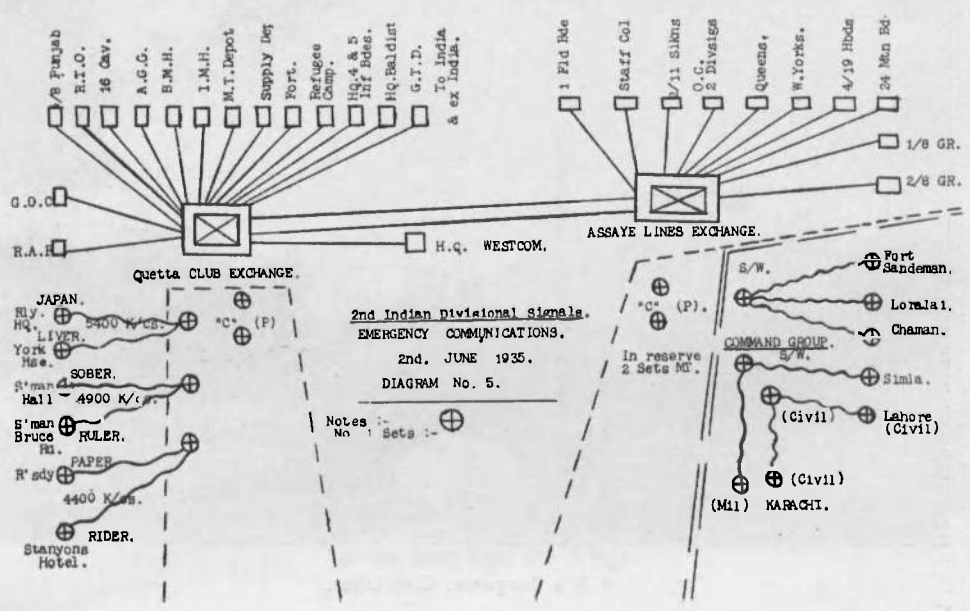
Corner of Bruce and Sandeman Roads.

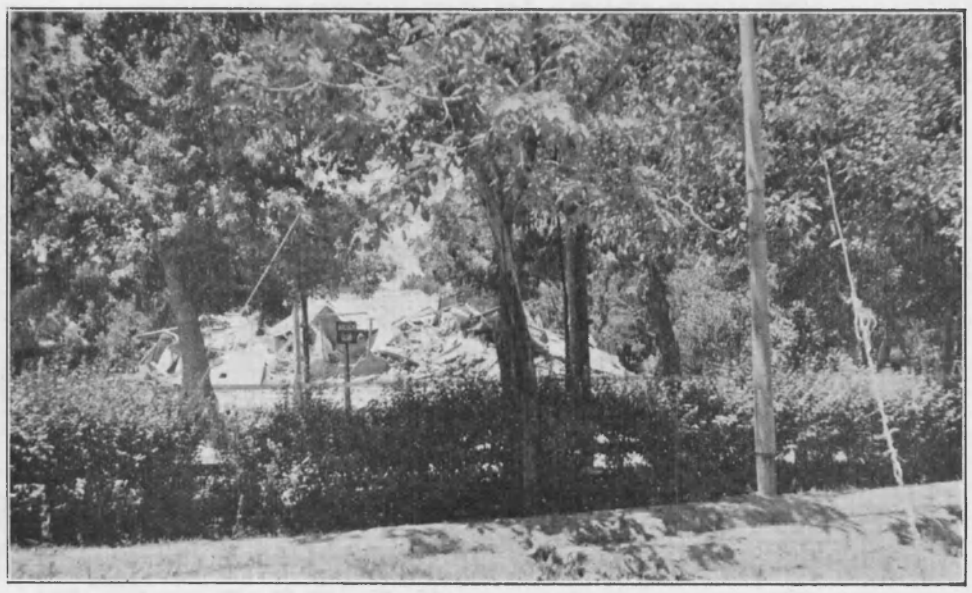
COMMUNICATIONS AT 1630 HOURS - 31st. MAY 1935. - DIAGRAM No. 3. - 2nd Ind: Divl Signals.



COMMUNICATIONS at 0800 HOURS 1st. JUNE 1935. DIAGRAM No. 4. 2nd Indian Divisional Signals.







[2/6/35] **The Baluch Club.**

08.10 W/T traffic interfered with during night by incoming private messages from Northcom. Instructed Officer i/c W/T to work " batch working " of ten messages, and to refuse all incoming except priority Simla whilst working batch. Wired Northcom, Wazirdist and Chiefsigs requesting non-acceptance of private W/T in Northcom. Added Civil Telegraph o.k. Quetta.

08.30 Visited temporary Civil Telegraph Office. Saw Mr. Wrinch. Balance private messages from 31st and 1st were cleared by aeroplane this morning. Arranged extra tents and lamps for Civil Telegraph Office.

09.00 Director P. and T. informed me possible automatic exchange working in three days. Gave him list (yesterday) of possible subscribers and lent him transport for working parties which commenced work this morning (P. and T. construction party).

11.00 Accepted thirty-four messages from Civil Telegraphs to send to Chaman and Fort Sandeman.

11.30 Spoke to S.O.-in-C. Simla on phone and informed him that everything working out well, and that we require no outside assistance.

12.01 Informed A.D.O.S. of W/T and telephone stores which will be required to keep up stocks. A.D.O.S. wiring Simla.

12.30 Accepted twenty-eight private messages from P. and T. for re-transmission to Chaman, Fort Sandeman and Loralai. Handed over to W/T 18.44. [For reason delay see entries 14.50 and 15.30 of this date.]

13.20 Breakdown party reported on phone through to Pishin. Left phone end of line in Jail. Police there.

14.50 Heavy earthquake shock. Trunk line to Karachi disconnected. Construction party P. and T. sent out (our lorry).

VVZ set damaged slightly. Repairs effected with components of other sets. Ordnance informed. Both Loralai and Chaman felt this shock.

P.A.'s Bungalow, Civil Lines.

[2/6/35] **Bliss's Corner.**

15.00 Visited Director P. and T. He arranged, on my advice, to instal a manual magneto exchange in tent well away from the Telegraph building. Hopes it will be ready by Tuesday 4th.

Also arranged with Director that he will accept private messages as follows until further notice.

(*a*) From officers on officer's signature and address.
(*b*) Other private messages if from British people and if franked by Signal Officer at D.H.Q. Signal Office.

It was clearly understood and arranged between us that as from 2nd June inc'usive lists of above, on conclusion of crisis, will be sent to C.S.O. to obtain payment, provided that such payment is considered reasonable by the authorities for any particular period or date.

[See entry 10.45 under 5/6/35 notes]

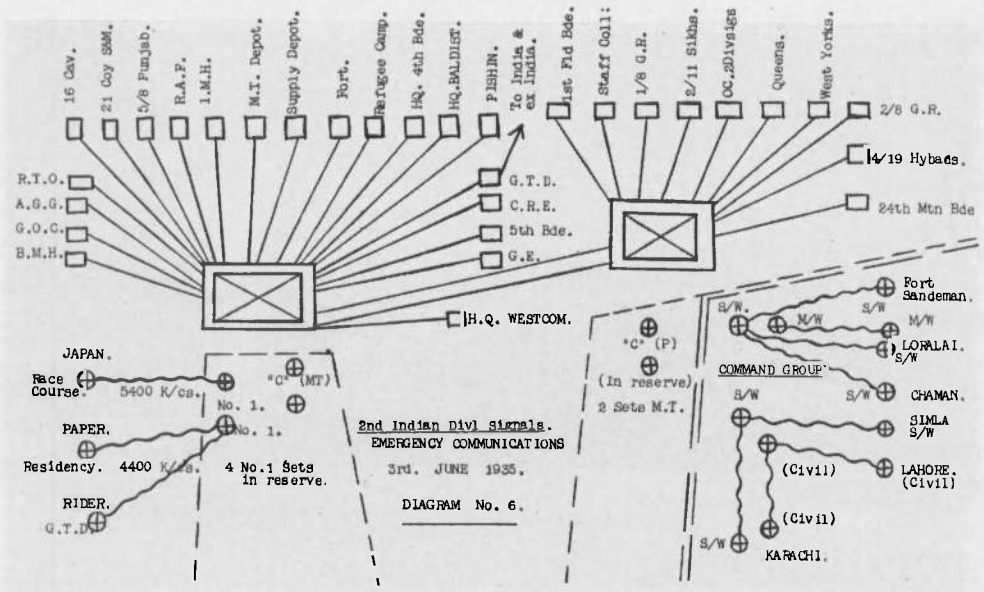
15.30 Stopped private W/T traffic between Quetta and Zhob until further orders, in order that reports re last shock may receive immediate attention. [Re-opened 18.44. See note at 12.30 of this date.]

16.30 Lieut. Crichton and breakdown party returned to rest. Reports Pishin and Chaman lines both o.k. as far as Yaru. Continuing work to-morrow.

16.35 Transfer of instruments from W/T transmitting room, Signal Lines, to tent outside arranged. Charging room opened up to permit free passage.

17.30 Visited Signal Lines W/T Station. QrMr 2nd Divl Signals at Arsenal with Foreman of Signals. Endeavouring to draw up as many W/T spares as possible, i.e. valves, coils, generators, etc. Instructed Officer i/c W/T to bring "C" set into action with Loralai as soon as possible, thereby giving two circuits. At present "C" set lacks generator and valves, which have been used to replace breakages on other sets.

Bruce Road from the Bridge.



[2/6/35]

18.15 Visited Civil W/T Station. Civil operator working very hard and assisted (key) by operators from 2nd Indian Divl Signals (256 messages disposed of to-day). Arranged with Director P. and T. to supply one more civil operator at 08.00 hours to-morrow. Arranged for tentage for civil operator's family.

19.45 Arranged for issue, collection and delivery from Arsenal of three hundred blankets for temporary Civil Post Office and forty-five for temporary Civil Telegraph Office.

20.30 QrMr 2nd Indian Divl Signals obtained ample W/T spares from Arsenal, including six generators, fifteen 6 V 100/125 a.h. batteries, and valves, but no cable. [See entry at 17.30 of this date.]

21.00 Telegraph lines to India, Karachi, etc., repaired by P. and T. and o.k. Speech will be attended to to-morrow. [See entry at 14.50 of this date]

22.30 Visited Director P. and T. (Wrinch) and D.H.Q. Office at Club. Former requires three more I.P. tents.

3/6/35.

07.00 Three men detailed for G.T.D. Tele. Office.

08.00 Visited W/T Station, Signal Lines. Anticipated difficulty battery charging. Arranged for this to be done at Civil W/T Station and at W.E.S. [See C.S.O/19]

08.15 Visited W.E.S. Arranged for six operators to report O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals for duty, to ease strain caused by detachments with Civil W/T and Civil Tele. Office. Three of these operators were sent to Civil W/T Station. [See C.S.O/20]

08.30 Arranged for the evacuation by train of certain families G.T.D. personnel. [See C.S.O/18.] H.Q. Western Command returned to Club lawn.

09.00 No more tents available for G.T.D., who require three I.P.s. G.T.D. having difficulty over cooking owing to shortage of cooks.

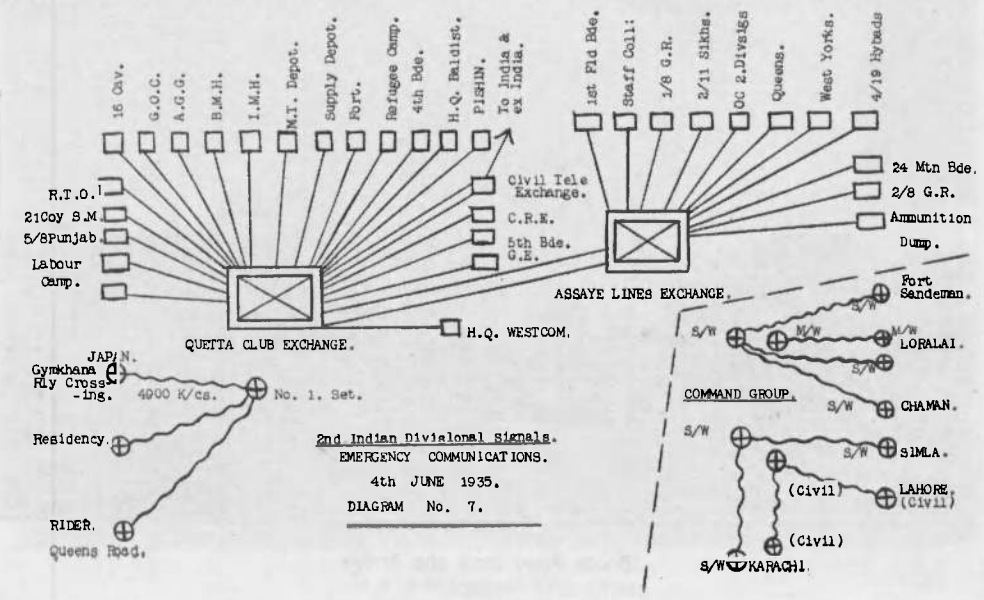
09.30 Communications established as in Diagram No. 6.

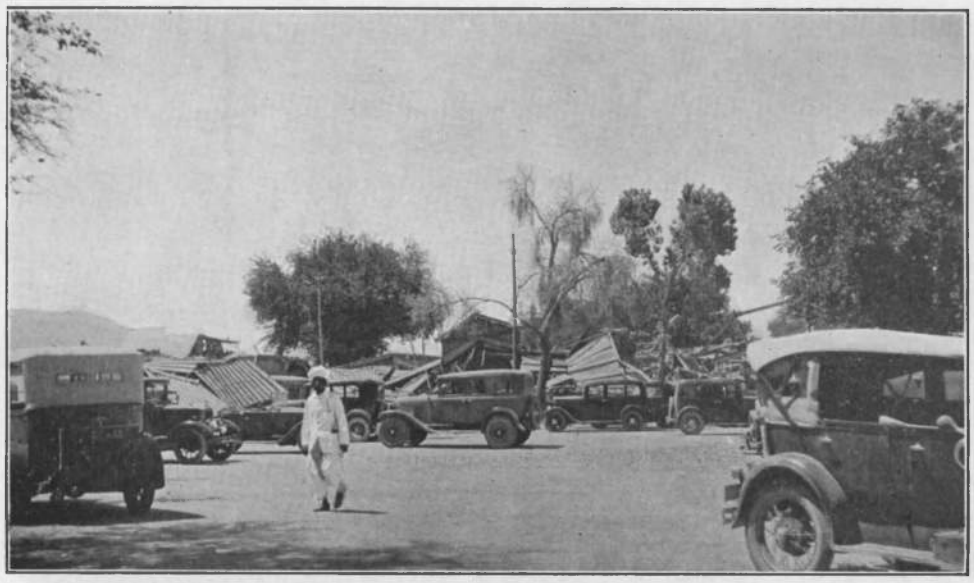
10.00 A man was called for to go and fix up an X-ray apparatus and was provided for by 2nd Indian Divl Signals, who had an expert.

10.30 Application made by Staff for Signals to produce an engine driver. A qualified locomotive driver was immediately available, with two volunteers as firemen. Fortunately, they were not required in the end.

12.00 Arranged for supply of half-ton of firewood and 20 gallons kerosine to Civil W/T Station, to keep engine running.

12.45 Chaman through to temporary Civil Tele. Office by telegraph. Arranged for balance of messages from W/T to be transferred. Line Yaru—Chaman put through this





[3/6/35] **The Quetta Club.**

(12.45) morning by our lineman ex Chaman and P. and T. lineman ex Pishin. [See note at 16.30 under 2/6/35]

13.25 At request of Director G.T.D., arranged a Ladies' Bureau to deal with sorting undelivered telegrams left over from previous day's working. This Bureau will be situated close to Tele. Office and will have enquiries passed on to them. Two thousand (approx.) undelivered telegrams of 31st May and 1st and 2nd June handed over to Ladies' Bureau to arrange in alphabetical order this afternoon. Ladies commence work 7 a.m. to-morrow, 4th (7 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily).

15.30 Obtained three chairs, table, etc., for Ladies' Bureau.

18.00 Obtained I.P. tent for Ladies' Bureau from Arsenal.

23.40 Obtained telephone call for General Staff to B.B.C. London, to contradict false reports previously broadcast.

4/6/35.

07.30 Ladies' Bureau at Civil Telegraph Office open and working.

07.45 Spoke to B.G.S. with regard to censorship of Press telegrams. Suggested reporters produce telegrams to "G" Office for franking before proceeding to Tele. Office. In anticipation, instructed Director G.T.D. to issue orders that Press telegrams not to be accepted unless signed by military officer (every page).

08.00 In order to further relieve pressure at Civil Tele. Office, arranged to accept all military private messages in addition to official for delivery. (2nd Indian Divl Signals instructed to ring up units concerned to come and collect.)

09.30 Arranged for two I.P. tents to be sent to Civil W/T Station for operators.

09.35 Arranged for 60 gallons kerosine and half-ton firewood to be supplied to Civil W/T Station.

10.00 Arranged lorry to collect P. and T. stores from Station.

11.10 Communications as in Diagram No. 7.

12.00 Martial Law Order No. 2 confirms entry of 07.45.

A.P.A.'s Bungalow, Civil Lines.

[4/6/35] **Looking from Sandeman Road towards the Opera Talkies. (Fire in background)**

12.30 Arranged with R.T.O. for evacuation of seventy-four women and children, families G.T.D. officials, by evening train. Arranged lorries for same.

General: Chaman line reported " dis." during morning, but own lineman put through within three hours. P. and T. Exchange connected to Military Exchange, Club lawn (two junctions) about noon.

12.45 Issued circular to all H.Q.s, units, etc., to effect that civil phones probably re-installed by 14.00 hours on 5th.

14.30 Phone call from S.O.-in-C., who through some misunderstanding had been told that P. and T. expect more assistance Quetta. Phone very bad, but explained exact situation, refuting report. Director (Wrinch) informed of this, and immediately despatched wire to Simla stating that he had received all possible assistance.

15.30 Took Assistant Director Telegraphs round H.Q. Western Command (Camp H.Q.). Arranged for phones to be installed before 14.00 hours to-morrow. (O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals did same re District Headquarters.)

16.05 Loralai and Fort Sandeman reported through by telegraph (Civil).

16.10 Arranged with 2nd Indian Divl Signals for four operators (extra) to report for duty at Civil Tele. Office, 19.00 to 23.59 to-night, to assist with extra circuits.

16.45 Confirmed with 2nd Indian Divl Signals that normal party for duty at Tele. Office to-morrow.

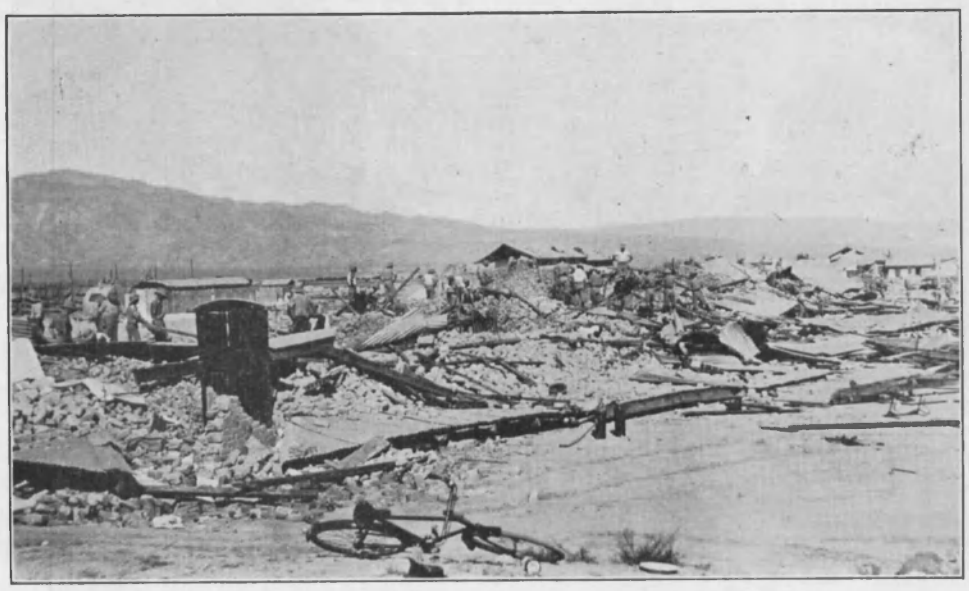
17.10 Two I.P. tents available and obtained for Civil Tele. Office.

17.15 Corpsigs Karachi wireless will kindly put up any married officers' families. Replied thanking (19.00) and informed all officers.

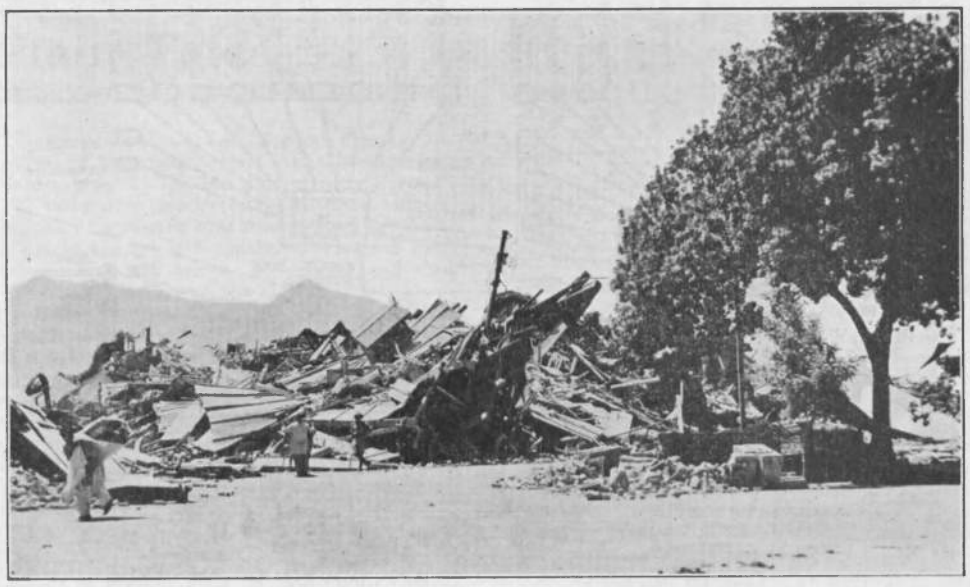
17.40 Two lorries obtained from S. and T. for P. and T. working parties to-morrow.

18.00 Wireless sent to S.O.-in-C. confirming assistance to P. and T. [See 14.30 of this date]

General: (*a*) Ladies' Bureau for undelivered telegrams failure due to smells and inability to understand local language.



R.A.F. Lines.



In Quetta City.

[4/6/35]

(General: (*a*)) Director now arranging to hand over all such messages to P.A.'s Assistant, who is arranging to write short replies for those in Hospital, Rest Camp, etc. [See entry at 07.30 of this date]

(*b*) H.Q. Western Command moving to Camp Office, near old H.Q., 14.00 hours to-morrow.
H.Q. Baluchistan District ditto. This will entail 2nd Indian Divl Signals opening a third Signal Office at District H.Q. (This eventually did not occur until 6th.)

(*c*) Expect to be able to close Signal Office on Club lawn early a.m. 6th at latest.

5/6/35.

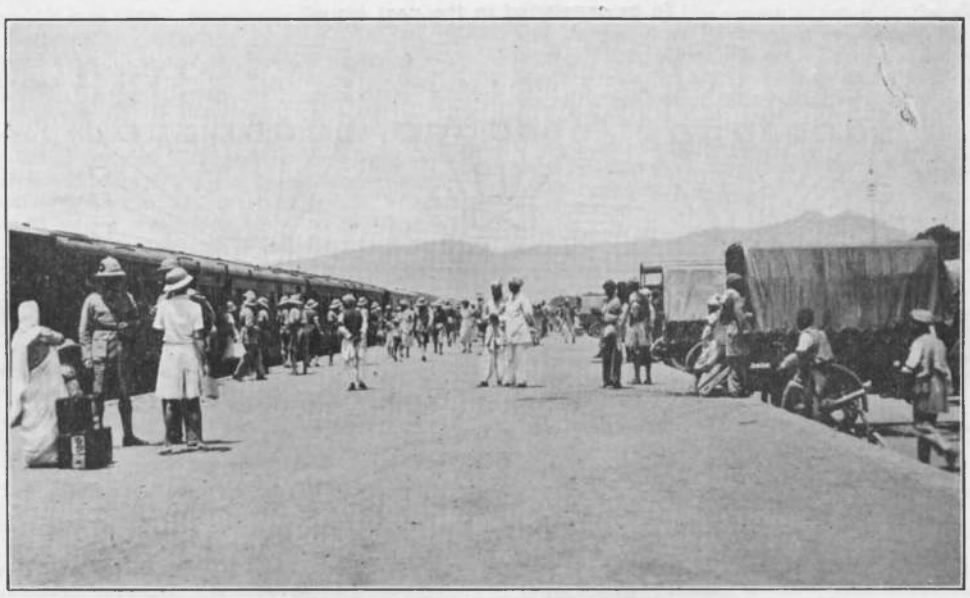
08.00 Visited Signal Office, Signal Lines. Saw Lieut. Prince. Working o.k.

08.10 Visited Civil W/T Station. Working o.k. Averaging 250/300 messages a day.

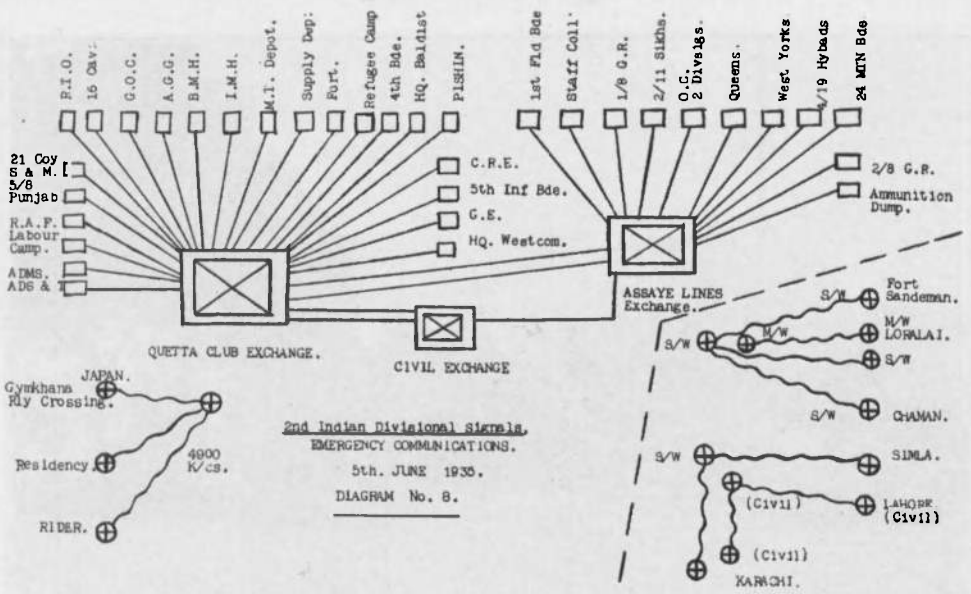
08.30 Visited Civil Tele. Office. Saw Director. Arranged car to take him round station during morning, and arranged lorry for working party to proceed to Mastung to repair telephone line, etc.

10.45 Director-General P. and T. (Mr. Bewoor) arrived from Simla. He, Mr. Wrinch, Colonel Evans and myself had short conference with Army Commander at 11.20 hours.

Provisionally arranged that D.G. will take steps to cancel payment for all telegrams, including private telegrams, between time of earthquake (03.03 hours 31st) and 07.59 on 3rd June. With regard to trunk calls, it was definitely arranged that no payment will be asked for between 03.03 hours 31st and 13.59 hours on 5th June.



Families for U.K. leaving Quetta, 12/6/35.



[5/6/35]

11.30 Communications established as in Diagram No. 8.

12.45 Fairly heavy shock felt at Club lawn.

14.30 Phones as per list C.S.O/45 working from Civil Exchange.

15.50 Two military operators loaned to Civil Exchange pending issue list subscribers. (Civil operators can only work with numbers.)

17.30 Issued first list of subscribers on Civil Telephone Exchange.

18.00 Arranged to leave two Military Exchange operators on Civil Exchange 07.00—20.00 hours daily.

19.00 Telegraph line through to Mastung—P. and T. construction party.

General: P. and T. Exchange connected to Military Exchange, Signals Lines, by one junction during day.

6/6/35.

Dawn 2nd Indian Divl Signals sent W/T set to Mastung.

07.50 Mastung line " dis." during night. P. and T. going out. Usual details of lorries, etc., for P. and T. working parties.

08.00 Made temporary office for self at District Headquarters.

(08.00) (Impossible to work quickly at Command H.Q., due to constant liaison with District Headquarters.)

08.30 Issued second list of subscribers on Civil Telephone Exchange. (Several more connections made since last list.)

08.45 Through to Mastung by W/T.

11.00 Owing to certain important connections still being on Signals' Exchanges, not possible to close them as was anticipated. P. and T. putting these connections on their exchange as soon as possible.

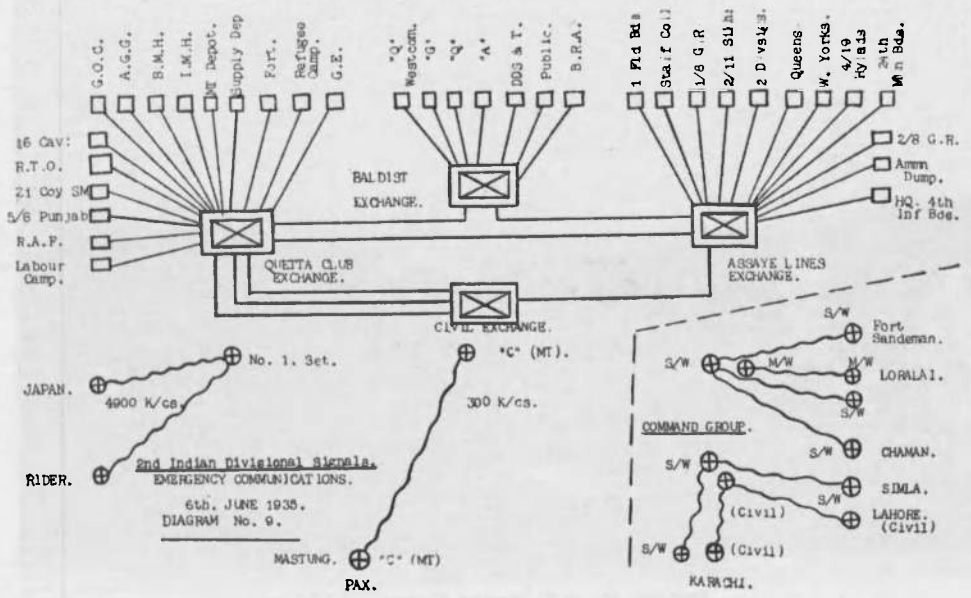
13.00 Communications as in Diagram No. 9.
2nd Indian Divl Signals found it essential to open an exchange at District H.Q. owing to Civil Exchange not being connected to all, and to certain technical difficulties connected therewith.

15.30 Arranged that all private telegrams must be paid for in cash as from 10th June inclusive.

16.00 Arranged move of tent from Telegraph Office to Post Office.

19.15 Issued third list of subscribers on Civil Telephone Exchange.

[To be concluded in the next issue]



Plain Tales

Windy ?—Dame Nature must have had a good chuckle in September when she showed Man what a little insignificant thing he is. "Conquer Nature, eh ?" The old dear gathered herself together. "Woof!" Away went another huge marquee, ripped to shreds, while Man the Magnificent ran around swearing and trying to recover his precious maps and papers. "Harness this lot and make it work." The rain arrived in torrents and the flower of the British Army was soaked to the skin.

And so, all over the country and particularly round the coasts, lives were lost and enormous damage done as the elements once more proved that we are, after all, very small fry.

For really good hurricanes, Salisbury Plain takes a lot of beating. I remember one year, when a lorry set out from Tidworth to Bulford against a terrific wind. The driver had to go all out in bottom gear, but in spite of this he was blown steadily backwards until he arrived at Ludgershall with all his tyres worn down to the inner tubes. On another occasion—but there, you wouldn't believe me, would you ?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Amesbury to Bulford.—I met Mrs. Scatterbrain on the bus the other evening. You will remember that her mother was one of the Perfect-Screemes of Walthamstow. Poor Mrs. Scatterbrain was in the midst of a heated exchange of words with a military policeman when I arrived. It seems that these hefty young n.c.o.s insist on riding on the platforms of motor buses and consider it beneath their dignity to move themselves for the convenience of fare-paying passengers. At least, so says Mrs. Scatterbrain.

Myself, I have seen them doing their clumsy best to make room for people boarding the bus, though to be sure they usually bump into the conductor or tread on someone's toes in the process.

"Come, come, Mrs. Scatterbrain," I said ; "these young men are doing a noble work. You would be the first to shout for them if a drunken soldier annoyed you on this bus."

"There ain't no drunken soldiers nowadays. They only thinks they're drunk. Besides, who ever saw a drunk and a policeman on the same bus ?"

"Mrs. Scatterbrain," I said ; "you don't like Redcaps."

"Do you ?" she asked, glaring. "Bah! don't bother to tell me. What's the time ?"

"Wednesday."

"Curse it! I'll get off here then. Mind your big feet, young man. Goodnight. Gertcher."

The bus rolled on into the night and the Redcap smiled with wonderful good humour.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Lying Load.—I don't know if you happen to know a chap named Smith. Stop me if you do. The one we have here was telling me an awfully funny story about a sergeant who entered the men's dining room with the orderly officer and yelled "Watch your front!" Well, he said it was funny, anyway, so I had a go at laughing. Not a very successful effort until he added that the orderly officer slipped on a patch of greasy floor and adopted the prone position. I simply screamed.

Our Smith is an awful liar, though.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—Well, folks, I've got one of the sweetest children. I'm sure there were more, but things happened so quickly and I *may* have been mistaken. Anyway, if anyone wants these spare fur coats, they can have them cheap.

The topic in the Mess these days is the war. Quite a number of the members are wondering if they will be specially recommended for desert warfare. Sheiks would be very suitable for the present war area, don't you think ?

Sigmn Bullimore, who used to put our food in the oven and take it out again at one o'clock, is going East with our good wishes and thanks for his valuable services. He has promised to send me some Abyssinian stamps.

Barleux and his Band have commenced the season. They are already well booked up in Andover, Salisbury, Porton and the Garrison. Robert says he wouldn't mind doing another tour in Jubbulpore, because he feels so sorry for the people who are struggling to form a band there. George Mitchell says he would like to go back just for a good laugh, but he's a nasty sarcastic man and can't play golf, anyway, so why should he go to Jubbulpore ?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Let's Read This.—It was pointed out to me the other day that I had not written a provocative article for some time. This set me thinking that I ought to do something about it.

What *is* a provocative article ? Silence. I'll tell you. Any criticism of an august personage, a powerful organisation or a well established system is, beyond doubt, provocative.

Let us, then, think of something that escapes coming under these headings. Say for instance, a system that is as yet not well established.

Promotion! That, you say, is very well established and cannot be altered. The good and the bad dawdle along together, some falling by the wayside, until the summit or the limit is reached. That is so, but one has to make a start somewhere. You all remember the unkind words of a colonel: "I can understand your being a sergeant, but who the devil made you a lance-corporal ?" Let us get our ears down to this.

A rapidly growing preference for very young junior n.c.o.s is noticeable. It has even been said that a man has been passed over for no other reason than that he had five years service! I find this very difficult to believe, since I get only one side of the story.

Remembering what the colonel said, you will realise that the O.C. has a very responsible duty to perform when he makes his selections for the "tape," and it is reasonable to suppose that he takes the greatest care over it.

Perhaps there are youngsters with fifteen months service who are capable of holding down the job of lance-corporal after a fashion. What do they know of the unit, the Corps and the Army ? Have they the personality and courage to give orders to older men ? Have they, in their little time, absorbed the discipline, traditions, unwritten laws and the general atmosphere of the Army ?

If we can find satisfactory answers to these questions, then the fortunate recipients of the stripes may well go right ahead. It may be as well to mention here that they really do "get away with it" nine times out of ten.

There is nothing provocative about this, after all. I set out to disagree with the system of ignoring the claims of men with four or five years service, but to impress the reader, one must be very firmly of one opinion. There may be quite a lot to be said for this craze for youth, though people like you and me, with the wide open door of civvy street staring us in the face, may be a trifle hidebound.

We might easily develop this subject to the extent of a dozen pages, but no good purpose will be served by depriving me of my tea this evening.

BARLEUX.

Souvenirs of the Corps.

With the gift season so near, it is interesting to note that The Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company Ltd. now have a very extensive range of flapjack vanity cases, cigarette cases, cigarette boxes, etc., beautifully enamelled with the Colours and mounted with the Corps Crest.

Badge brooches, which are now so popular, were in earlier days heavy and clumsy adornments. Now, the skill and care bestowed upon the fashioning of a badge brooch by this Company ensure an artistic and faithful reproduction, whether in gold and enamel or as a more costly fully jewelled ornament.

A Christmas gift chosen from this collection will be a tribute to the good taste of the giver and a compliment to the recipient.

If readers will write to 112 Regent Street, London, W.1, for a copy of "Ideas for Gifts," it will be sent by return post.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 19th October 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the November 1935 WIRE.

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

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 26/3/31.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 11/1/30.

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

Support for the King's Jubilee Trust Fund.

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6, 26th September 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Sir.—It is noticed that units' donations to King George's Jubilee Trust Fund are being published in THE WIRE. I should be glad if you would kindly note that the 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals, T.A., have given a donation of £11/9/1 to this Fund.

H. S. LEWIS-BARCLAY, Captain,
for Lieut.-Colonel, R.Signals (T.A.)
Commanding 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Praise for the Royal Signal Display Party.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—On the 18th September I visited the Altrincham Show and witnessed the exhibition of riding given by the Royal Signal Display Team. The evolutions performed were remarkable, and judging by the observations I overheard from adjacent spectators, they were undoubtedly thrilled by the performance. Quite a number commented upon the splendid manner in which horses and machines were handled; and as an ex-member of the Corps I should like to convey my congratulations to those who took part in it. Keep it up! J.B.

Seeking Old Comrades.

Palestine Police, Nathania, c/o Tul-kan, Palestine, 28/9/35.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I am extremely anxious to get into touch with Corporals Howard W. and Ross W. S., both late of B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. Corpl Howard was attending a Foreman-of-Signals course in 1932, and Corpl Ross is, I believe, in the Sudan. If you would be so kind as to publish this note in THE WIRE, and it should happen to catch the eyes of these n.c.o.s, I should be very grateful for a letter from them.

Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

R. C. V. MOTT, Mounted Constable.

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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2306488	C.S.M. Herbert A.	5/9/35	6

To be W.O. II. (Q.M.S., F-of-S)

1314016	C.Q.M.S. Montgomery K.	7/6/35	9

To be C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals)

2317007	Corporal Catt C. W.	18/9/35	41

To be C.S.M.

2306807	C.Q.M.S. Field C.	18/8/35	15
2308519	C.Q.M.S. Newman R.	5/9/35	15
1857356	C.Q.M.S. Brandon J.	5/9/35	15
2310320	C.Q.M.S. New F.	5/9/35	16

To be C.Q.M.S.

1850175	Sergeant Tebbey C.	18/8/35	16
2311805	Sergeant Rankin J.	3/9/35	16

To be Sergeant.

2311334	L/Sergeant Clarke C.	4/7/35	29
2310845	L/Sergeant Neal H.	12/8/35	29
2315099	L/Sergeant McLoughlin F.	28/8/35	29
2314223	L/Sergeant Parker W.	28/8/35	29
2306830	L/Sergeant Hunt J.	30/8/35	29
2314250	L/Sergeant McLachlan P.	30/8/35	29
2308761	L/Sergeant Newton W.	3/9/35	29

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2308384	Corporal Badley D.	3/4/35	36
2310652	Corporal Hickmott A.	6/7/35	37
2314644	Corporal Prickett W.	13/8/35	37
1853335	Corporal Simpson W.	30/8/35	37
2316882	Corporal Homan F.	3/9/35	37

To be Corporal.

6392819	L/Corporal McDonald T.	1/8/35	56
2315488	L/Corporal Parsons R.	1/8/35	56
2306879	L/Corporal Hunter W.	1/8/35	56
2317592	L/Corporal Holsey J.	1/8/35	56
2312636	L/Corporal Brooks R.	3/8/35	56
2317281	L/Corporal Gillings G.	12/8/35	56
2317935	L/Corporal Macdonald P.	17/8/35	56
2318087	L/Corporal Bunce C.	18/8/35	56
2316472	L/Corporal White E.	28/8/35	56
2315885	L/Corporal Reed G.	28/8/35	56
2317081	L/Corporal Whitwell R.	30/8/35	56
2318208	L/Corporal Frarey E.	1/9/35	56
5880397	L/Corporal Tucker C.	1/9/35	56
2319032	L/Corporal Burrell H.	4/9/35	57
2316772	L/Corporal Wright F.	5/9/35	57

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2314931	Signalman Barwick A.	6/5/35
2319945	Signalman Dickinson A.	6/5/35
2317169	Signalman Ogden J.	14/5/35
2321055	Signalman Baker R.	16/5/35
2318780	Signalman Harvey S.	17/5/35
2318837	Signalman Ashworth J.	18/5/35
2320636	Signalman Williams B.	18/5/35
6449496	Signalman Bridgeman A.	20/5/35
2315751	Signalman Nicklen A.	20/5/35
2321395	Signalman Grey G.	21/5/35

Discharges.

1402768	R.Q.M.S. Lane H.	8/9/35	6
2306579	C.S.M. Griffin A.	11/9/35	7
2306584	C.S.M. Richardson H.	14/9/35	7
2308160	C.Q.M.S. Morley G.	7/9/35	14
5562278	Sergeant Honnor C.	8/9/35	18
2314379	Sergeant Hayden G.	17/9/35	22
2306476	Sergeant Fawl F.	25/9/35	21
2312522	Sergeant Buhlmann F.	27/9/35	19
2316490	L/Corporal Horne H.	7/9/35	

To Army Reserve.

2316222	Corporal Smith F.	25/8/35	53
2318707	Corporal Green G.	25/8/35	53
2560346	L/Corporal Goodman C.	18/8/35	56
2318551	L/Corporal Sweet L.	26/9/35	

Deceased.

2308534	Corporal Blakeman L.	11/9/35	33

The "Youth of Tyneside" Exhibition,

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 5th to 12th October, 1935.

Owing to the enormous success of the recent Naval display at the Schoolboys Exhibition in London, the organisers of the "Youth of Tyneside" Exhibition in Newcastle requested the Northern Command to have something similar on view. Accordingly, the Signal Training Centre detailed F Company to give the show, as there would be mostly school children visiting it. So on Thursday 3rd October a party, consisting of Sergt Napper, Corpl Rickard and twelve selected boys under the command of Captain V. C. Holland, R.Signals, left for Newcastle.

Our display consisted of a miniature permanent route, on each end of which were wired a Sx and Dx and a S.C. baseboard, and a ten-line cordless exchange with a telephone 110 and 100. The Workshops supplied from their show case various tools and instruments that had been made in the shops, and there were in addition a C set with charging engine, a 120-watt set, a long range lamp, a heliograph and a telescope. But the greatest attractions were the two No. 1 sets—one in a light car—which worked to one another across the hall. There was also a B.S.A. motor cycle which came in for its share of praise.

The Sappers had a stall showing a miniature pontoon bridge and a real searchlight, and the Tank Corps were represented with a Carden Lloyd, two or three machine-guns and a light gun. The various other stalls included the Newcastle Schools display of handiwork, and Vickers-Armstrong showed mode's of destroyers and submarines, etc.

There was also an amusement park, complete with rifle range, pin tables, etc.

We arrived at Newcastle about 11 a.m. and unloaded the stores at Barras Bridge drill hall, the scene of the Exhibition, and then proceeded direct to Fenham Barracks, where we were quartered. We were given a barrack room to ourselves and were quite comfortable, the only snag being that we were on the top floor of a three-storey building.

On Friday the stores were set up and everything prepared for the next day's opening. A football match against the recruits of the Northumberland Fusiliers was arranged for the evening, but this had to be abandoned just before half time owing to unusually heavy rain; at this point we were leading by one goal to nil. Good old F!

Royal Signal Boys' Stand at the Newcastle Exhibition.

The show opened quietly at 11 a.m. next day, but we were soon very busy answering questions and keeping people interested. The gentlemen of the Press came along and took photographs, which were eagerly sought by the troops appearing thereon. The commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., visited us in the afternoon and was very pleased with the show that we were giving.

Sunday was a day of rest, as we were given to understand that 6000 children were due to visit the Exhibition during the week—and that meant an average of 1000 a day!

It was quite right, too, for on Monday morning we were literally snowed under. The telephones and the No. 1 sets were in great demand, and the long range lamp worked overtime. We distributed recruiting pamphlets and books on "Careers for Boys," but strange to relate, the girls were our biggest customers for these. It was much the same on Tuesday and Wednesday, but the evenings were fairly quiet. The show was open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and the party on the morning—evening shift were fairly tired out at the end of the day.

Royal Signal Boys' Stand at the Newcastle Exhibition.

On Monday morning, and again on Tuesday, parties went to the central station and saw the Silver Jubilee train. The second party were rather lucky, as the All Blacks rugger team were there also. On Thursday, a visit was paid to Swan and Hunter's shipbuilding yards, and among the other interesting things seen was a large model of the *Mauretania* and also the berth where she was built. Another trip was arranged for Friday.

The boys enjoyed themselves, despite the atrocious weather, and especially as the stands next to ours included a toffee shop and a mineral water factory. Ice cream, Smith's Crisps, and Ritz Rolls toffee were to be had *ad. lib.* just for the asking, and some of us might have been ill from the amount we ate. The time off duty was passed mostly indoors owing to cold winds and rain, but a mah-jong set and a quiet (?) game of pit sped the time away.

Altogether it has been a good experience for the boys, and the Exhibition has shown the public that there is something else in the Army besides foot slogging and fighting. The thing that struck me most whilst I was there was the number of ex-Service men who visited it. Almost every man I have spoken to served in the war, and was very interested in what the Army is doing now. In conclusion, I should like to thank the powers that be for giving us such an opportunity of showing something of what we do in the Signals, as I know from the questions that I was asked that very little is known by the public of this side of Army life.

NAP.

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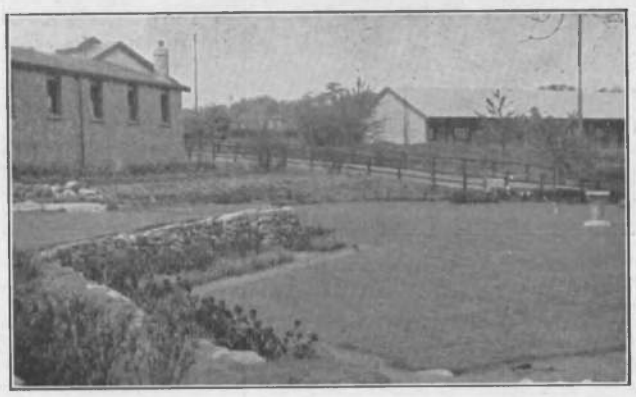

A View in the Lines.....*Depot Battalion*

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Friday 4th October.

The news we have to offer this month seems insignificant in the face of the many problems which occupy the interest of all at the moment. Even the youngest recruit, whilst polishing up his bed space, seems to be imagining what a fine chest he has for a row of medals.

Whilst on the subject of medals, we must send our sincere congratulations to Signalman Smith of Peshawar District Signals, who has been awarded the Military medal for conspicuous gallantry under fire during the present Mohmand rising on the North-West Frontier. We feel sure the whole Corps will join with us in our expression of pride in his achievement.

The glowing account we had hoped to give you of the Corporals Mess outing to Blackpool has faded into oblivion. A considerable number of the dashing thirsty ones became alarmed at the prospect of becoming nursemaids on the journey and backed out. At the final census of those intending to risk Blackpool and its allurements, there were just about enough to fill a motor cycle and sidecar. Needless to add, the project was abandoned and the corporals played darts in their own backyard.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Captain W. S. Wasey from Air Defence Formations Signals, London ; Lieut. G. H. Heal (N.Z.S.C.) from New Zealand ; Lieut. L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson from Cambridge University ; and Corpl McKinnon C. from L Company, Jubbulpore.

Departures.—Lieutenant F. W. P. Bradford to Air Defence Formations Signals. London. Corpl Cairns L. proceeding to No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand. L/Corporal Thomas has left us to undergo a course of electric welding at the A.V.T.C. Aldershot (we are sorry to lose you, Tommy). Sigmn Stevens warned for India on 17/12/35. We wish them all the best of luck.

Marriages.—A distinct boom: all the Wing eligibles are getting a shake on. Sigmn Stamford to Miss Doris Gillyon of Beverley, Yorks, at Beverley on 14/9/35 (photograph attached). Sigmn Pritchard to Miss Gladys Scorer at Richmond on 18/9/35. The usual rush for the office of best man took place, Signalman McClarron being an easy winner in the first instance and Steamboat Norton (a dark horse) completing the surprise in the other. Good wishes to all concerned.

Signalman Stamford and his Bride.

Promotions.—We are pleased to record the appointment of U/L/Corpl Sanderson to that rank.

Courses.—Corpl Gay and L/Corpl Lee have been selected to undergo courses of instruction as regimental provost sergeants at the college for same at Aldershot. We hope to publish a list of their respective triumphs later.

Amendments.—The six aids to snapshooting and rapid fire revised: Tin hat, gas mask, mess tin, water bottle, a good hike, and a liberal dose of marking.

Agony.—Who is the recruit who stated that his father was a " commical " traveller ?

Trials of a D.I.—Sloping arms by numbers. One: Recruit endeavours to lassoo himself in six movements and lands up with rifle on wrong shoulder. D.I. unquietly asks him what the so-and-so he is doing. Recruit plaintively replies: " Oh, sergeant! I'm left-handed." We leave the rest of the unfinished symphony to your imagination. It wasn't dark, and the D.I. was not left-footed.

Mora Agony.—I think a reply is needed to Walt's notes about a certain Luce in last month's issue. Jealousy was the main reason for writing those notes, but it was only a case of the pan calling the kettle black. Ask him who was the lovesick swain who went and saw the same picture three times and then didn't even know the name of it. The same person (no name mentioned, but he is a pay-clerk) has started keeping rabbits ; at least, he bought a certain young female, but sad to say, the question now is whether it is a he or a she ? He also broke all records whilst on leave by actually returning home before 3 a.m. one morning. Nuff said.

By the way, the three writing pads were bought to practise writing applications for big pay when a certain fellow goes on leave.

But less of this tender stuff. Ask the weapon training staff what is the difference between small arms and big ones. Then circulate the news.

Two-Bob extends his sympathy to Clitsy-Witsy of the Rough Riding Wing.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

In case my fellow correspondents of Catterick fail to mention it, I would just remind our readers that Catterick is living up to its reputation so far as weather goes. It is raining now, it has been raining for days, and it is likely to rain for days to come.

Lieut. Crawford, the Officer i/c Displays, kindly arranged a trip to Blackpool for the benefit of the Display party and a certain number of the cadre drivers. The writer, although neither a member of the circus nor a cadre driver, was asked (?) to go—I think for publicity purposes. Everybody had a good time, but it would not be prudent to publish in detail just what happened and how each one spent his day. I know one little party of five saw millions more lights than were really there. The weather was unkind: it rained from leaving here to getting back again, but unfavourable as the weather was, it didn't damp the spirits of any of us. We had arranged to leave the Blackpool bus station at midnight. Well, if there is anyone who has not tried to find a bus in that car park (containing about fifteen hundred buses) on a dark night, with the rain coming down like the very deuce, he should try it and see how he likes it.

Beating the Pistol.—In anticipation of Longing Luce's imagination predominating over his veracity this month—well, self defence is justified under any circumstances. Not only are the three writing pads being quickly disposed of, but there is a considerable increase in ink consumption.

A report was circulated that a man had been seen heading in a N.N.E. direction one night, with apparently no idea of his surroundings. A glassy stare and a slight crink'e of the lips betrayed the workings of that wistful amorous mind. Drink has its complications, but, my friends, only those who have suffered know the tortures and agonies borne by those who love truly. Ahem! Never mind, Luce ; you will rank with Romeo and Adonis one of these days. What a pity old Bill Shakespeare is defunct. There is material indeed to work on.

Oh, yes! Anybody who knows Walt will testify to his pure and virtuous life, unsullied by contact with unworthy things.

WALT.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Friday 4th October.

General.—Amidst rumours and jokes of service overseas in the future, the Wing pursues the even tenor of its way.

Recruits are still arriving in steady numbers and are proving themselves not only educationally and technically, but also as good sportsmen. It is true that one bright young man, on arrival, asked if he might be allowed to retain his long hair.

Our garden enthusiasts are still going strong under the able leadership of our C.S.M. Administration, and are hoping next season to improve on the splendid show that was put up this year. Everyone visiting the lines remarks on the beautiful lay outs of the flower beds.

Arrivals.—Lieut. G. H. Heal on attachment from the New Zealand Signal Corps. Sigmn Forbes from the Training Battalion for duty in the Company office.

Departures.—Too numerous to mention. Our usual crop of recruits who have finished their training on the square have gone to the Training Battalion and the Mounted Wing.

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Whist Drive.—A whist drive was held in the Baghdad Lines Regimental Institute on 3/10/35. Thanks to the untiring efforts of C.S.M. Ingles and his assistant n.c.o.s, this was a huge success and everyone had an enjoyable evening.

Drill Course.—The 1935 n.c.o.s drill and musketry course assembles on 5/10/35. Among the members is our orderly corpl (L/Corpl McIndo). It is heard that the drill instructors of the Wing gave huge cheers when this item of news became known.

Refresher Course.—L/Corporal Allen A. is due to attend a refresher course in the Training Battalion this month, prior to embarkation for sunny climes.

Athletic Course.—L/Sergt Chadney V. attended an athletic course at Loughborough College during August, and we are told that he picked up a lot of hints that should be useful to him when coaching recruits.

Marriage.—This is becoming a popular item in our notes. L/Corpl Stirk to Lilian Carter at Hipswell on 24/8/35.

Agony.—T. E. Smith, A Corps Signals: What about a line ? Northampton. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

The Company has been sadly depleted by numerous postings during the month. First of all came the call for volunteers for Malta, and we thereby lost one of the leading lights of our brotherhood in Corpl Huggins J., who gave up his furlough to lead our detachment. With him went Corpl Freeman C. and eight linemen to do their bit. We have also lost two squads of linemen and some I.M.s and clerks, so now we have a little more breathing space. Another notable departure was that of our M.T. clerk, who decided that civilian life will be better than the Army and purchased his discharge. Good luck to you, Parker R. R. Do not forget to keep up the chain. Ginger wants you back: he is heartbroken and cannot manage his bearks without you.

To Whom It May Concern.—L/Corpl Walton is rather upset with your remarks about his batting. He says that owing to the non-publication of the averages, it is not generally known that he has already made too many runs this season. (I don't know if this will be believed, but we have to believe some things.)

Query.—R.W.A.: Ben wishes to know if you were embarrassed when the dance fiends caught you doing things. His sides are still aching.

Agony.—Tom and Nobby —— (in Bedale): Now, don't you miss that 9.30 bus, as I shall not wait. However, who turned up at 10.40 for the 9.30 bus, *and* who borrowed a push bike, *and* who returned to the field of action the following day ? Who ? No one but you!

Finn, Malta: Brother, can you spare a dime (3d.) ? Young Sid (another Finn).

News is very scarce this month, so these notes will be continued in the next issue (I hope). M.C.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Wednesday 16th October.

General.—The month, so far as we in Catterick are concerned, has been uneventful. We think it only right, however, that we should record the adventures of the Newcastle detachment (see notes in the Preliminary Section). Much to their regret, they have now returned to the Company. Many fans are eagerly awaiting the forthcoming dance to be held in the Church of England Institute.

We have had the pleasure of meeting two old comrades in ex-Boys Chapman and Soppet, who are at present enjoying a drill course in the Depot. They have already visited us and criticised the new conditions.

Arrivals.—Signalman Milroy arrived from Aldershot. Having been away from the Company for just under a year, we are of the opinion that he likes Catterick. In any case, we hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—The following have left us for pastures new. Signalmen Ambury, Bates and Johnson to 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. Signalmen Smith E. and Smith J. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. Sigmn Alcock J. to 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. Sigmn Stewart to Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth. We wish them all the very best of luck.

Swimming Gala.—On the night of the 27th August the Training Battalion held their annual swimming gala in the Sandes' Soldiers Home swimming baths. A very enjoyable evening's sport was witnessed. Boys Brewster, Barr and Billett, of this Company, carried off prizes. Congratulations, boys!

Northern Command Swimming.—We congratulate Boy Brewster on winning the Northern Command enlisted boys 100 yards free style, and Boys Moore and Barr, who tied for third place. With this, we will close. LUKE.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Mons Barracks, 16th October.

Derechef.—Encore une fois. Owing, presumably, to sanctions and the ban on the export of war materiel (watch that spelling), here we are again in the old home town, and not far far away as we so unskilfully predicted last month.

Obituary.—It is with profound regret that we have to record the death of Corpl Blakeman L. on 11/9/35. That he was esteemed by all his comrades has been amply proved by the practical manner in which they showed their respect and sympathy with his sorrowing wife and family. Corpl Blakeman had been ailing for some time, and it was doubly unfortunate that the unit was on manœuvres at the time of his death and funeral. We have, however, to thank and commend A Corps Signals for the way in which they functioned in our absence. I was privileged to see the firing party and mourners move off, and three words flashed across my mind: "*esprit de corps.*"

Annual Inspection.—Clearing away the aftermath of the manœuvres, innoculation, weapon training, draft leave and dental inspections did nothing to facilitate the preparation for our annual inspection. With everybody buckling to, however, much was done in the short time at our disposal, and, quite frankly, a few of the onlookers (nice, ambiguous word that) were surprised at the spick and span appearance everywhere on the great day. Anyway, there were no repercussions, and I heard the words "Very good" uttered by an eminent authority. All of which is good enough for us—next para!

No. 2 Stable.—"Look here, you three," said Sergt Howler; "one of you fellers has to do stable picquet to-night. Toss up. Two heads and two tails. The one that wins loses." Think what a man like that could do at Geneva.

Cobb Trophy.—After many unavoidable postponements, we managed to fit in the swimming competition towards the Cobb trophy, and the talent unearthed (or should we say submerged ?) showed an improvement on last year's effort. The issue was in doubt until the last race. The outstanding effort (I thought) was a plunge of 48 ft. 10 in. by Sigmn Mountifield of No. 1 Company.

The final results were: 1st, No. 1 Company, 22 points; 2nd, No. 3 Company, 18; 3rd, No. 2 Company, 12; 4th, Command Signals, 6. Strangely enough, No. 3 Company came second in everything—a consistency equalled only by the Command Signal Company, who, however, are to be congratulated on consistently battling against the bigger odds.

General.—Draft rolls have gone beyond the limit where we can reasonably nominate individuals. Friends abroad will see them when they arrive, but it looks as if there will be a deficiency in mem-sahibs in the Near East next year. Mussolini's stock will go down amongst the married pads.

Promotions and pay for unpaid stripes seem to be rolling along at a reasonable pace again, all of which will help to boost the subscribers list for blue books.

Individual training is proceeding apace with all those who can be made available and, according to C.S.M.s, with some who can't! So devastatingly paradoxical, don't you think ?

Football is on its first legs, and while none of the old 'uns think we'll ever get so good a team again, I don't believe it. "It'll never be the same again" is a fallacy that can be left to the Western Brothers. (Who are these Western Brothers?—R.S.M.)

Boxing, rugger and cross-country enthusiasts are all becoming perky again. It makes me go all botanical or horticultural or something, and I think of spring. Apparently, "there's life in the young dogs yet." Which is just as it should be.

JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Apology.—I have been asked to include several funny stories in this month's issue, but as most of the incidents occurred during manœuvres I am of opinion that their value would be somewhat depreciated by the time they appeared in print. They all came to me in the usual manner, with a preliminary prod in the ribs and an impolite demand for attention. Most of these alleged jokes were unprintable, nearly all were libellous, and the only things which I thought funny were the persons who related them.

C.S.M. Purseglove gave me the only thing that might have raised a laugh: a photograph of the Sergeants Mess at Lovedean Camp. This would have reproduced very well with these notes if the foreground had not included R.Q.M.S. Wensley refusing a glass of beer!

Plain Sailing.—First to embark for abroad this year will be Lady Fayerman per s.s. *Ionic* on the 7th October. It is her intention to travel incognito, and her kit bag will be marked "Glass—not to be folded." If time permits, she will fly over to Addis Ababa and supervise a few whist drives.

Chinese Puzzle.—Slim Somerville and Peanut Passey, who were to have embarked for China on the 20th September, are now to set sail on the 23rd November. The postponement of the trip was due to the fact that Slim wished to obtain further

information on the density of the Oriental heavyside layer, whilst Passey enquired further into the prospects of marriage under the Ming dynasty.

Hot Water.—Corpl Gavins was appointed to the charge of the bath house on the 23rd September and has fulfilled his duties in a manner satisfactory to both parties. That is—to himself and the community in Mons Barracks.

An interesting experiment was conducted on the first evening of his tour. A tap was turned on in a common or garden slipper bath, and hot water was observed to flow into it. Other taps were then turned on, and the phenomenon was repeated. When n.c.o.s and men were invited to enter the baths, a musical note was heard. Corporal Gavins now insists that the principle of Archimedes is wrong. His experience is that when a body is immersed in water, it is most difficult to remove it.

Lost.—A black and white dog, coloured in places with red ochre. The dog is of undetermined or inconsiderate breed, and will answer to the name of Soldier or any other. It was last seen chasing a stoat over Catherington Down. MOLLY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Once again we are able to set sail for the close season with a full Company, all the Signal Sections having returned from their scenes of triumph and annual hunting grounds to the steady and stolid life of barracks. Kits—minus breeches, tunics, trousers, shirts, etc.—are being laid, and one is inclined to wonder why the H.T. drivers do not find some other method of cleaning their harness, as trousers and shirts (according to Army Book ——) are considered very expensive.

"Roll on, the boat!" This by the selected few is getting to be hearsay, but everything comes to those who wait.

Everywhere people can be seen with pots, paint, soldiers, for the use of, mk.iv., preparing for the big inspection ; but I suppose we shall shine as usual.

Accident reports are still at a premium ; aren't they, Croucher and Waly ?

Marriages.—Nowt ; but Weary and the Queen are still together, and the Blond Crooner is hovering on the brink. So, nil desperandum!

Promotions.—Congratulations to U/L/Corporal Grace F. on attaining that rank.

Jew Boys' Column.—Hank, India: Waiting for the boat. Be with you soon. Franky.

Here's to the next time! THE ROUGH.

No. 3 Company.

General.—"Stand fast." Seldom have words contained so much significance. To the spectator, it meant the end of the manœuvres ; to the "Tommy," it meant barrack rooms, baths, and numerous other comforts allied to the cessation of hostilities.

The result of the conflict will be issued in an official statement, but so far three Sections have assured me that they held 'em back—and "did I tell you how we kept communication ?" etc. Having sorted it out, we can safely say that all personnel worked in harmony.

The clerk of the weather has denied the report that the weather was indented for with a view to test mechanisation, but this statement is still viewed with suspicion in some quarters. Camps suffered somewhat—the N.A.A.F.I. marquee and officers mess noticeably. The rank and file seemed to derive some satisfaction in having the camp wrecked, judging by sundry chuckles and broad grins as they repaired the damage.

Now it has passed into history. Everyone is busy getting ready for the G.O.C.'s inspection, notebooks and pencils are making a re-appearance, and we are thus settling down to normal routine.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Signalman Moore and Driver (I.C.) Taylor from S.T.C. Catterick, and hope their stay will be a happy one.

Departures.—Nil at present, but the undermentioned have been finally warned for embarkation to India in the near future: L/Corpl Grieve, Signalmen Garner, Pratt, Bradley C., Walton and Rose, and L/Corpl Steward (waiting man). Here's hoping the reception committee have retired, Jock.

Appointments and Promotions.—We congratulate the undermentioned on attaining the first giddy height: U/L/Corporals Spencer, Steward, Potts, France and Shinn.

Marriage.—Sigmn Erridge R. to Miss Bertha Edwards at Eastbourne on the 4th August.

Courses.—Two prizes fall to our Company (L Section) from the stamp licking department. To Liverpool, L/Cpl Donovan S. to undergo a six months G.P.O. course (operating). To Oxford, L/Cpl Revill T. to undergo a six months G.P.O. course (lineman). Numerous comments have been made as to the cost of living, etc.—especially the etceteras—and we extend our sympathies to the landladies.

We Want to Know.—To whom are we indebted for the following extract from *The Aldershot News*:—

Section Sergeant: "Could you direct me to —— ?"
Old Inhabitant: "I doan't know 'ee, sir."
Sec. Sergt: "Can you tell me where —— is ?"
O.I.: "Naw, I doan't know 'ee either."
Sec. Sergt: "You don't know much, do you ?"
O.I. (after a pause): "No, but I bean't be lost, anyway."

Who tried to stamp out tear gas under the impression that it was a heath fire, and would it have improved matters to wear a mask ?

Heard in the Signal Office.—"Have you heard from the lineman yet ?" "No, sir." "But surely you can hear the drum turning on the spindle ?" A reply to the above was later made by one of our budding sidelights: "You are quite right, sir."

Jews' Post.—Will L/Corpl Phillips L. of Karachi please write to Bob (L/Corpl Roberts A. of this Company and unit) and let him know whether it is a boy or girl.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 15th October.

General.—I haven't very much news to give you this month, as this unit has again been depleted by further despatches of drafts overseas. Still, never say die. The remainder of the unit, such as it is, is gallantly carrying on with the good work.

Arrivals.—Captain H. M. Sylvester, M.C., joined this unit on the 11th September from A Corps Signals. Signalmen Fisher R. and Duckworth W. arrived from the Training Battalion on the 24th September. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Captain C. F. Newsom to service overseas on the 11th September. Lieut. P. H. Smitherman and twenty-seven other ranks to service overseas on the 17th September. 2/Lieut. T. de B. Miller to Cambridge University on the 3rd October. We wish them all the best of luck in their new stations, and hope that some of them will be back again with us before the year is out.

Musketry.—The unit fired its annual weapon training course (rifle) at Ash Ranges on the 2nd and 3rd October. Owing to our small numbers, A Corps Signals very kindly allowed us to fire with their details. One officer and nine other ranks fired, the average score being 62.5. The revolver course was fired on the 8th October at Ash Ranges, the average score being 25. The highest score in the rifle was 76 (Signalman Hughes) and in the revolver 36 (Sigmn Pescod).

Courses.—2/Lieutenant E. F. Mervyn-Smith proceeded to the R.A.C.S. Training College, Aldershot, on the 7th October for an M.T. course until the 14th December.

Here's to the next time. JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Assaye Barracks.

General.—All the Sections have now returned to their mother unit, and the process of cleaning up the mess is now well under way. Individual training has not yet commenced, but will do so within a very few days.

Instead of holding R/T courses for R.T.C. officers and personnel within the unit, as in previous years, we have sent instructors to the R.T.C. Centre, Bovington Camp, to hold the courses there.

An officer and five n.c.o.s left us on the 27th September for Bovington, and we hope they will carry on the good work.

Preparation for the annual inspections is in full swing. This year will be slightly different from former occasions. The Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, will inspect the technical side of the unit, and the Commander, 3rd Division and Salisbury Plain Area, will inspect the administrative side. The dates of the inspections will be the 24th, 26th and 29th October, so of these more anon. We are all striving to get good chits, you may be sure.

The Abyssinian Situation.—This match was advertised so well and widely that we all looked forward to a real scrap. So far, the Italo team is leading by one goal—scored whilst the Abyssinian goalie had gone to Lyonch. Play has been very fast, but one cannot honestly say that it has been very furious—at least, only the spectators have been in that state so far.

Musso, the Italo team manager, has been reported as saying that he is well satisfied with his team's progress, but our scout tells us that Vinci, the Italo trainer, won't go anywhere near the director's office ; in fact, he won't even go home. Something must have gone wrong with the plans for Vinci to brave his wife's mounting wrath like that.

Menelik, the Abyssinian manager, says his team is playing a waiting game, and though his forwards are now only contenting themselves with isolated raids on the Italo goal, a surprise move will take place shortly which will end in the complete rout of the Italo team.

Well, may the best team win! But I wonder whom the winners will draw in the next round ?

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We welcome the following to the fold, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Signalmen Erskine, Byron and Stewart from the Training Battalion. Corpl Pawsey H. from F Troop. Corpl Matthews C. from A Corps Signals. L/Corpl Laurenson J. from the 1st Divl Signals. Corpl Clarke from the 3rd Divl Signals (hello, Swaffer!) Corpl Birkett from the 4th Divl Signals.

Departures.—Corpl (Frank) Etwell to civvy street on 4/10/35. Exit the oldest inhabitant. It is with great regret that we have to erase his name from the inventory. He joined this unit in 1928, when it was first formed as the Mechanised Force. He has seen the unit change its name four times, and what memories he must have! Well, we must all go that way sooner or later ; so the best of luck and success in your venture, Frank, from all ranks of Tank Brigade Signals.

Lieut. R. N. Seddon, L/Sergt Coy B., Corporals Pawsey H. and Mulholland F., and L/Corporals Adkins and Laurenson have left us for attachment to the Royal Tank Corps Centre, Bovington Camp.

Signalmen Alltoft, Reeves and Scriven have succeeded in their attempt to secure a six months vacation with the G.P.O. at Liverpool. They have a good standard to keep up, and we expect good reports of all of them.

Congratulations.—To Corporals Birkett, Matthews and Steele on having the pluck to sign on the dotted line for another nine years of—well, I'll leave that to your personal tastes.

Advance Warning.—C.Q.M.S. Tebby C. has been posted to the 3rd Divl Signals w.e.f. 1st November. They cannot say they haven't been warned—can they, Q ? RUSTY.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—We must apologise for failing to send our contribution last month, but we plead manœuvres as an excuse.

There has been great military activity in this part of the world, and we have taken part in some very interesting exercises. During the last ten days of August the Infantry Brigade Sections joined their Brigades, and likewise the R.A. Sections. There were several small exercises at the beginning of September, but the whole unit did not take part until the Southern Command exercise, held from the 11th to 13th September.

The War Office exercise was very interesting and the largest one that had been held for many years. We were very pleased to have two S.R. Cable Detachments attached to us from Corps, and right well they worked. On the last day five armoured cars played havoc with the Corps lines and went about wrecking everything they saw. This, however, did not deter the construction parties, who soon had the route up again.

We are now hard at work on I.T. and preparing for the G.O.C.'s inspection on the 26th October. Weapon training has just finished with very satisfactory results, and we are looking forward, as we always do, to a little peace and quietness, knowing quite well that we shall not get any.

There will be many changes this winter, and a number of n.c.o.s are going elsewhere.

Arrivals.—Lieut. J. W. Gordon on 8/10/35 to take over the duties of adjutant.

From the Training Battalion, Catterick—on 25/9/35, Signalmen Truscott M., Verschelde, Fulcher W., Clarke R., Egerton T., Gibson J. and Gorfin J. ; on 28/9/35, Signalmen Smith E. and Smith J. ; on 1/10/35, Signalmen Arnold W. and Davies B.

Departures.—Proceeded to Southampton on 18/9/35 for embarkation to Malta, L/Sergt Lee J., Corpl Rowe A., Signalmen Burgess F., Callan W. and Brooks S. To A.V.T.C. Chisledon on 1/10/35 to undergo a course, Sigmn Roake A. To Army Reserve on 4/10/35, Sigmn Butler J.

Appointments and Promotions.—Appointed U/L/Corporals on 28/9/35: Signalmen Turnham H., Hastings J., King A., Crouch C., Ketley G. and Pearse W. C.Q.M.S. Field C. to be W.O. class ii. (Company Sergeant-Major) 18/8/35. L/Corporal McDonald to be Corporal 1/8/35. L/Cpl Burrell to be Corporal 4/9/35.

Marriages.—Sigmn Bennett T. to Jessie Ada Hearl at Aldershot on 22/5/35. U/L/Corpl Middleton to Elsie Annie Orchard at Crofton Park, London, on 18/8/35.

Births.—To Sigmn and Mrs. W. Omond a son (Ronald) on 1/9/35. To Sigmn and Mrs. H. Bairstow a son (Ian Gerald) on 26/9/35.

Sergeants Mess.

The social season opened very pleasantly with a whist drive and dance on Saturday 5th October. This will be repeated on the 19th. As usual, everybody had a good time and even a certain C.S.M., who professes to hate dance music, was seen to be shaking a very frivolous leg. Is there a Palais de Dance at Hillingdon, I wonder ?

There being a dearth of news, we may perhaps be forgiven for recording that one of our sergeants, whose name begins with Pickering, is firmly convinced that he can play billiards. What bad luck that man has! He played me last week. Then he lost a " tanner " bet over Chelsea. Can you imagine anyone putting their money on that team ?

The growing number of private cars in the unit seems to indicate that people are becoming more thrifty, or maybe it is just recklessness. Anyway, the only car that wouldn't go belonged to a chap named Cyril, and I think it was taken away by the swill contractor.

Old members will be interested to learn that we have a complete new staff in the kitchen, headed by Sigmn Wilkins. Up to date they have done remarkably well. The messing member takes a lively interest in the proceedings and thus encourages the staff. I always knew I'd have to do this in the end.

The list for the Christmas draw is up and already bears a large number of names. This list is always the first sign and reminder of the approaching whoopee season. Roll on! There are too few holidays in this world.

It is not anticipated that the 5th November will be declared a Bank Holiday this year—nor even a half-holiday, as I have arranged for it to fall on a Tuesday. I don't care what I do these days.

If any senior n.c.o.s anticipate coming to this unit, will they note that I am in a position to supply them with the name of a billiard player whom they may challenge with a feeling of the utmost security.

Corporals Room.

I have just been browsing in the Mess proposition book, and I am firmly convinced that if we do not have an immediate Mess meeting, we shall have to call a Committee of Thirteen to cope with the situation, and possibly this time next year our Council of Three will be prepared to table their plans.

The host of suggestions is positively staggering, and not least among them is a request for a radio-gramophone. (Those of my

readers who are ex-Bulfordites cannot possibly let this pass without a horrible nausea gripping the base of their tummies.)

I am informed from a most reliable source that, by the time the cosmic rays are fully investigated and television becomes a barrack fixture, we *shall* have a wireless set of our own!

Everyone has now returned to the fold. Some have been with us for barely a breathing space before packing off on P.O. courses, drill and musketry recreation, and other such pastimes. Technical books have been hastily re-awakened from summer hibernation; brother Ohm is roundly abused; cable men discuss cable; horsey men boast—they always did and always will—of their prowess; while the M.T. folk walk about with the burden of a C.I.A.'s inspection almost upon them.

A whiff of unsavoury happenings has drifted my way. The cads of the Old School Tie Brigade have been seen to move off frequently and furtively of late, and the tales of their escapades rather rankle. Charlie, the man of distinctly southern accent, was heard to remark on returning from one of these jaunts, "Take me to the Shee-Oi." Under the guiding influence of Dick, whom we understand was less in his cups, Charlie was safely guided to his bed! Another disreputable young whelp has so disgraced himself that he dare not leave camp unless disguised. No names, no hat drills.

To A. and D. Karachi.—There's a Blighty advert which reads "Have you Mac Leaned your teeth to-day?" The answer is a broad grin showing a flashing row of teeth. That's the nearest I can get to being rude without being blatant. Cyril.

Tailpiece.—On going to press, news has just reached me that we have been granted permission to purchase our radiogram, and immediate steps have been taken to ensure its early installation.

C.E.B.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Having returned from arduous work on manœuvres, the Company has started furlough, the first party having left on the 4th October—so we are back at the old game of "a few men and plenty of work."

Our stay in camp was, on the whole, very enjoyable except for the last few days, when we experienced a mixture of tropical rains and typhoons. To view the officers and sergeants mess marquees being flattened out rather reminded one of a Zepp being downed.

Trooping.—The Company is supplying a good many for the sunny East, and several have already left.

Congratulations.—Hearty congratulations are extended to those named. L/Sergt Newton to be Sergeant. L/Corpl Holsey to be Corporal. U/L/Corpl Cavill to be L/Corporal.

Departures.—Signalmen Beckett, Crocker and Howe have left us for vocational training and discharge. The best of luck to them, and may they get good jobs.

MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—There is not much to write about this month except the weather, but as I am sure nobody wishes to hear about the climatic conditions of Canterbury, I will have to think of something else.

About half of the Company are at present on their annual furlough (quite a few on their last furlough in the U.K. for the next five years).

Postings.—At the beginning of next month we bid farewell to Sergeants Male and Worth, who are leaving us for the Terriers. Sigmn (Topsy) Thorne has left us for Unit H.Q. to look after the dandelions in the unit gardens (if talking can do the trick, we shall all be able to wear a buttonhole when we go to visit our lady friends). Our Company storeman, Mickey Walker, sails for Egypt on the 1st November, but Sigmn Chambers, who relieves him, has an engaging personality and will give you anything you ask for on a B.108.

Kennel Club.—A Kennel Club has now started in the unit, and our posh kennels, complete with two would-be fox catchers, are situated behind the Company office. I have only seen one brush so far, but the kennelman is using that to sweep the area.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Being unable to submit notes under this heading last month, owing to manœuvres, I will endeavour to give you the happenings in the Company since my last notes were published.

The manœuvre period is now a thing of the past except for those on leave, who are no doubt telling the tale to the locals. Generally speaking, the five weeks at camp were quite enjoyable except, of course, on those wet days. I expect, when these notes are published, I shall have the Company enquiring on what day was it fine? In that case I shall have to refer them to the Army manœuvres of '25, when it did rain. I am pleased to say that all Sections received good reports from their respective Brigades. These are only obtained by hard work during the whole period of camp, and by keeping cheerful when things do not go right on exercises and extra work is entailed by casualties.

Prior to proceeding to camp on 18/8/35 we said good-bye to our O.C., Captain T. C. Thompson, M.C., who is going to join the Canadian Signals on 19/10/35 and is at present on embarkation leave. We hope that you soon settle down in your new sphere, sir, and that you do not find a western winter too cold.

The Company is now commanded by Lieutenant H. L. Lewis, assisted by Sergt Lewis C. as A/C.S.M. We lost our popular C.S.M. as soon as we returned from camp. In C.S.M. Terrell W. H. we are losing a first class organiser and a w.o. who will be missed very much in the unit. Apart from his fine organising capabilities, he is a first class trainer in all forms of sport—running, football, swimming, water polo and boxing. During the past four years, as trainer of various sports teams, he has seen his charges reach the following heights in sport.

Football—1930/31, Army cup finalists, winners of the Essex Border League, winners of the Colchester Garrison Football League. 1931/32, winners of the Colchester Garrison Football League.

Swimming—1932/3/4, winners of the Colchester Garrison swimming championship.

Running—1931/2/3/4, although never winning either the Garrison or the Eastern Command championships, our team always gave a good account of themselves by being in the pink of condition.

C.S.M. Terrell is an excellent swimmer and water polo player, and would be a great asset to any large firm that runs sports teams, for apart from his sporting and organising capabilities he is an excellent book-keeper, having been in charge of various accounts in the unit for some considerable time. The unit wishes C.S.M. Terrell all the best on the completion of his vocational course, and hopes to see him from time to time.

Departures.—The following have left us for courses as shown. To the voc wallahs we wish the best of luck, and to the others would say "Do not burn the midnight oil." C.S.M. Terrell, vocational course at Hounslow. L/Corpl Main W. to No. 14 n.c.o.s W/T course. Signalmen Barringer J., Johnson W., Packham R. and Syers J. to vocational courses. Sigmn Semmence W. to a G.P.O. course at Birmingham.

The following have left us for stations as shown. Signalman Bellis R. to 2nd Divl Signals. Sigmn Stratford to School of Signals.

Trooping.—Records have been digging fairly deep into the personnel of No. 3 Company this season, and the following have been warned for overseas this trooper. Boat lists will be published monthly.

India—Corporals Moody R. and Patching F. (save a corner bed for him, Wazirdist), L/Corpl Parsons K., Signalmen Foster R., Redhouse A., Cooke G., Steel J., Weygang W., Dunnachie J., Long A., Rushen L. and Crofton. China—Sergeants Connelly J. and Hunt, Sigmn Little R. Egypt—L/Cpl Marshall A., Signalmen Dixon M., Barker A. and Callan J. Malaya—Sigmn Hudson C. Gibraltar—Sigmn Barrett R. Palestine—Signalmen Walters K. and Williams H.

Congratulations.—To the following on their promotion as shown. 2/Lieutenants A. C. R. Stead and P. A. Duke to be Lieutenants. L/Sergt Hunt N. to be Sergeant (it's a racket). Signalmen Jacob W., Pipe W. and Wilson A. F. to be unpaid Lance-Corporals.

L/Corpl Pipe is also to be congratulated on signing the dotted line to complete twelve years: another one for the big boat next year.

Marriages.—I am afraid that I have neglected this subject for a long time, as I have three to report this month. They are to be congratulated on joining the ration bag and accumulator brigade. Sigmn Merritt S. to Miss Mary Cross on 8/6/35. L/Corporal Wilson A. G. to Miss Irene Norwood on 20/7/35. Sigmn Redhouse A. to Miss Beryl Ada Richardson on 7/9/35.

Arrivals.—The following are welcomed to the Company from the S.T.C.: Signalmen Poole H., Williams A., Laidlaw J. and Ray W. JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, 14th October.

General.—Apologies are tendered for the absence of notes last month, and for an excuse we delve into the past and resurrect the old favourite "C'est la guerre."

Since we returned from camp we have spent a very hectic time. Army manœuvres claimed a large percentage of the unit for a time. Personnel, animals and vehicles were despatched to various units in the south direct from summer camp. Unfortunately, matters were not allowed to rest there. Demands from more important sources were put upon us, with the result that manœuvres were soon over for some of the unit. Many have wandered into distant lands and have, no doubt, ceased to worry about C.R.A., late passes, etc.

We suppose that the old cry of "Roll on, that boat!" can still be heard in many places—and often. It is regretted that the *Queen Mary* will not be completed in time to be of use this trooper, and the Scarborough fishing fleet is out after herrings.

Training.—Technical training is held in abeyance at the moment, but the educational instructor is pretty well occupied.

Departures.—It is with deep regret that we have to report the departure of our O.C. with his wife and family. Lieut.-Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., has left us to take up an appointment at the War Office, and he will be succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel H. G. Henderson. All ranks of the unit feel the loss of such a commanding officer, and there is no doubt that the wives will greatly miss the untiring efforts of Mrs. Wemyss to form a prosperous Women's Social Welfare Centre in the unit. It is realised, however, that such an appointment has been merited, and therefore all ranks offer their congratulations and wish both Colonel and Mrs. Wemyss the best of health and prosperity in their new sphere of life.

Congratulations.—We offer our congratulations to L/Corporal Deakin on passing his entrance examination for the R.M.A. We hope he will enjoy his stay there and emerge fully fitted for anything that may come along.

To the following, on their recent promotion, we also offer congratulations: R.Q.M.S. Herbert, Sgt Clarke, Corpl Carruthers, and L/Corporals Boniface and Godly.

Arrivals.—The 4th Tank Brigade Signal Section has been posted to this unit, but will remain with the R.T.C. until the end of the training season. This appears to be a Section in name only. Of the nine members one is on a vocational training course, two proceed on draft on the 1st November, L/Corpl Marshall is on a G.P.O. course, and three of the other five are provisionally warned for draft. So, in due course, we shall get two men!

Signalmen Amberry, Johnson and Bates joined from the Training Battalion, and Drivers Hunter and Ward from A Corps Signals. To all we offer a hearty welcome. We trust that they will enjoy their stay in this salubrious area.

Sympathies.—We deeply regret to have to announce the death of Trevor Mannion Smith, son of L/Corpl Smith C. M., and of Sylvia May Northall, daughter of Signalman Northall J. Our sympathies are extended to all the parents in their sad loss.

Marriages.—The following have prevented a nil report for the month: Sigmn Keene J. to Miss Agnes Darby, and Sigmn Wilson A. G. to Miss Ivy Maude Goldsborough. This source of news will soon cease owing to the lack of single men, but while the Sergeants Mess continues to boast of one single member there is hope.

Special Mention.—To Subedar-Major Saminathan, Indian Signal Corps: The ex-Wazirites of this unit send hearty greetings and best wishes for the future.

Agony.—Kaun bolta hai. OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

The movement of Mess members has kept things very much alive during the last month. Before long the mess will resemble a home for swallows. Of outgoings there have been many, but of incomings only one, and he married—of course.

We welcome C.S.M. Archbold and family from L Company, Jubbulpore, and regret that they find us so unsettled. We may be worse before we are better, but not much, I imagine.

C.Q.M.S. Millross and Sergeants Nicholson, Pinkstone, O'Flannagan, Powell and Rigden have left us, and Sergeants Rose and Mansfield are going to a place that offers more excitement. Sergt Clark H. has left for the Malta Signal Section, whilst C.Q.M.S. Taylor and Sergt Tosdevin prefer civvy life.

The best of luck, everybody. Like bad pennies, you will be turning up again some day. Don't forget that you still belong to us; and who knows, we may join you shortly.

Agony.—To Sergeants Bodys and McKay of the 52nd (Lowland) Divl Signals, T.A.: Have you recovered from the short cut to the gymkhana? and do you still need gloves? OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Thursday 10th October.

September has been a month of surprising climatic and other "-ic" conditions. Regarding ourselves, very little of interest has happened. Draft lists have arrived with a shocking suddenness. The last details have completed the annual musketry, Signalman Whitters receiving the silver spoon for the highest score.

Lieut. G. E. Aldridge, who has been with us some time, is leaving very shortly for a tour of duty in India. We wish him good luck. We are going to miss him.

Football and hockey are now in full swing, and with a bit of luck we shall field two respectable teams. Judging from the consumption of milk, we should have some strong sportsmen.

Once again we were able to take advantage of a G.P.O. course, and the lucky one this time is Sigmn Jackson, who has gone to Lincoln.

Our G.O.C. having been relieved, we found our annual inspection arrived somewhat earlier that anticipated. However, everything went off splendidly.

Appointment.—We congratulate C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Catt on being confirmed in his appointment, and wish him continued success.

Arrivals.—Signalman Davidson from Canterbury to join his brother. We have not seen much of him yet, as he arrived to go on leave, but we hope he will enjoy his stay.

Departures.—Sigmn Jackson to Lincoln for a G.P.O. course. Sigmn Whitters to Londonderry. Sigmn McCormack to Fort Dunree.

Topics.—Who called the painters and decorators a chain gang? This particular gang caused great mirth but produced quite good results, considering the mixed nationalities and resultant temperaments to be found among them.

The mess room having undergone much alteration, the members are considering whether potato cake is a food fit for civilised laddies. The messing n.c.o., who possesses a Tipperary name, an uncertain temper and a Newcastle brogue, is greatly disturbed by such indigestible comments, but he continues to serve his breakfast menu with many vitamins.

Having reached a grand old age, I was somewhat shocked to receive a letter in which the correspondent asked if he had been despatched to Lenan for reformation purposes and to give the lads a chance with the fair sex. I regret that I cannot find a suitable answer to that enquiry.

Our transport expert is very much perturbed by the war news in the Press, but somehow we cannot place the scene of activities.

Before passing to the notes from the out-stations, there are three questions to be answered. (a) To Ballykinler: Hec Me acknowledges interest shown, but would reply "Semper fidelis" and allude to a canoe. (b) Derry: By all means bring your top hat and other articles of mufti. The year is 1935 and not way back. (c) Derry: Reference your sketch, it does not comply with publishing regulations, and I am sorry that it cannot be forwarded.

Londonderry Notes.

Once again we contribute our mite towards the N.I.S.C. corner. For the information of ex-Derryites, I would like to point out that we now have a nice big neon sign at the city end of Derry's one and only bridge, informing us that " Players please." I am glad that Messrs. John Players have done this, because it has given me something sensational to impart. Boy, what a scoop!

Reference our last attempt to amuse you, it is now my painful duty to announce that our William has at last been compelled to depart.

We are honoured by the presence of a dynamic personality: one who is full of dreams and ambitions, etc. Between ourselves, I am sure he is the only person qualified to handle the war we hear so much discussed.

To Corpl (Jack) Bartlett, somewhere near Loralai: Oh, roll on, Minnie (secret special).

To Charlie Watson, same place: The pike are still in the lake, and Jennie is still somewhere in the vicinity.

To Corpl and Mrs. P. R. Hampton at Canterbury: Heard that one about the confetti from a young Derry lady last week, but kept mum. You know, Uncle J. ?

Heard on the range at Magilligan recently. Mac (Count): " Do you know, lads, when I was in the Depot way back, I was put back so many squads that I expected to find myself right back in the recruiting office." J.R.

The Battle of AZK.—09.00 hrs. Enemy reported holding right bank of river Foyle, vicinity of Magilligan. Detachment R.Signals, fully armed, rushed by lorry to scene of battle, thirty miles from Derry. Meantime, reinforcements had arrived from Belfast, Dunree and Baronscourt. Weather fine.

10.30 hrs. Arrived at scene of battle. Heavy firing heard. Informed Signals would be held in reserve and probably needed for attack at dusk. Meanwhile, inspect arms, ammunition, etc., and be prepared.

All day long, conflicting rumours of when we shall be required put us off—making our wills. We manage to scrounge some rations. Weather wet and cold.

17.00 hrs. Arrived at front after skilful approach by making use of afforded cover, i.e. sand dunes and old trenches. We are in position only 100 yards from the enemy. Morale of Signals splendid, although wet through, frozen, and probably hungry. Heard one humming softly " Just before the battle, mother."

Well behind cover now, straining our eyes for a glimpse of the enemy, and excitably nervous. Our fingers caress the triggers. Bang!—first shot fired by a white-faced individual. The recoil having knocked him back a few feet, he proceeds with a sickly grin to put up his sights and wonders whether he has shot his first man. The remainder of us now keep up a slow deliberate fire to keep the enemy heads down. So far, no casualties on our side.

Information regarding the enemy is received by our commander, and acting on this we withdraw slightly. This is carried out as skilfully as our advance. However, this is to our disadvantage, as the enemy—not knowing we have withdrawn—are further away from us. Feeling a bit safer, we observe great clouds of sand being thrown up and realise that we haven't put our sights up ; but what with the failing light and heavy rain, it is difficult for us to see the enemy position. The officers and n.c.o.s directing fire display remarkable gallantry, exposing themselves fully to the enemy's aim time after time, and giving orders as coolly and calmly as on a ceremonial parade.

By this time, approximately 18.00 hrs., our shoulders are black and blue—rifles kicking like mules. We manage to keep up rapid fire and cover the enemy position with a barrage of lead. It is obvious that we are up against a civilised enemy, because he tries to apply the coup de grace by blinding us. We don our gas masks and for a moment observe some " gasly " sights.

Suddenly we receive the order to withdraw according to plan. Our morale goes even higher then. After a quick roll call, we find everybody has come through without a scratch. Wonderful organisation and discipline. So, war worn and weary, we managed to get back to where we belonged. The time now being 21.00 hrs., we gave our best friends a liberal supply of oil, no boiling water being available on the battlefield. And so, with the noise of battle still in our ears, we sleep the sleep of exhaustion.

Imagine our surprise the next morning when we were told that we had only escaped, by the skin of our teeth, that dreaded and terrible wooden spoon, and that we were all unfortunate after so valiant an effort in not being presented with the coveted honour of the silver spoon.

Fort Dunree.

We regret the absence of notes from this Section last month, but owing to our scribe and artist leaving us we failed rather miserably to subscribe to the Journal.

Many old hands of the Fort will regret to hear that the C.O. has left us to take up staff employment.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Smyth has been struck off the R.E. inventory at Armagh. Sigmn Maddox from Ballykinler, and Sigmn Gray from over the way (Lenan). Although the first two mentioned are only here for a short spell (the boat is nearly here) we hope they will enjoy their stay amidst the delightful scenery of Donegal.

Departures.—Three of the old timers have left us. Whatever will Dunree district do without their sunny smiles ? Signalman Costello (Sailor) to Armagh. Sigmn Whitters (Joe) to Belfast. Sigmn Leith to Belfast.

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Catt on his recent promotion.

Mail.—To Housie, W.E.S. Quetta, from Toot: Have you still got Egbert ?

To Bud, Shanghai: How is it done? How's the mah jong, Bill ? Jonah. F.T.

Ballykinler.

QRZ . . . . Just a few lines to let you know. For want of a better way to commence this (our first) contribution, we have fallen back on the usual opening sentence for letters to frosty-faced relatives who have no money to enclose with their reply.

Departures.—Signalman Maddox to Dunree. We hear that he likes his new abode. Sigmn Weir proceeded to Aldershot to commence his journey on the downward path which ends in M.R.

Arrivals.—We were glad to extend an open mitt to Sigmn B'ount, who, by the way, has been here before in the dim, dark, far-off days before the calls were changed, when men were . . . ?

More Mail.—Cpl Deegan: Am stationed at Ballykinler. Please write before going overseas. Paddy.

Tail-end.—QRX next month. H.S.

. . . . . .

Conclusion.—"And all for a shilling a day." Till 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 502. The subscription is only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

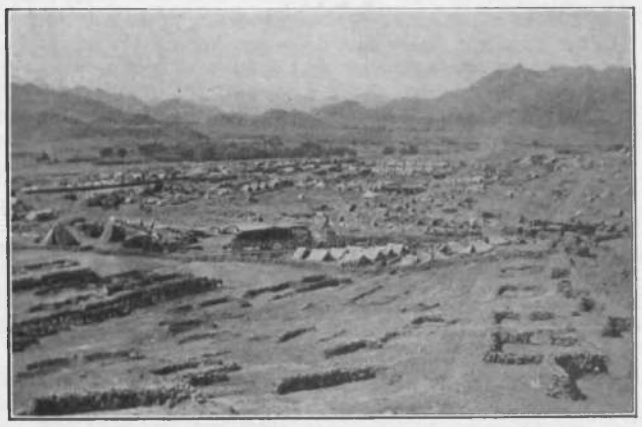
INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Monday 7th October.

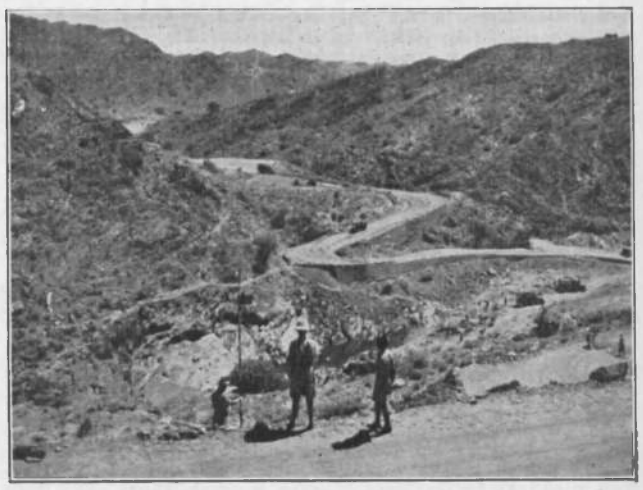
General.—The 8th September was a notable day in the history of the unit. I started it by mislaying the October WIRE notes —rather brief affairs owing to the considerable amount of work knocking about. Then, having already despatched sundry Sections to help cope with the present Mohmand situation, orders were received for the move of the unit to Peshawar and places unknown. By 09.00 hrs. the next morning the rail party were on their way to entrain, and the road party left the lines at 09.30. We may be stepped right up to and called speedy. Since then, we understand, they have dealt successfully with some stupendous tasks, particularly in the matter of route building. R.S.M. Bayliss remembered, and he has seen that the following account of the unit's activities and the accompanying snaps were forwarded. S.W.B.



Ghalanai Camp.

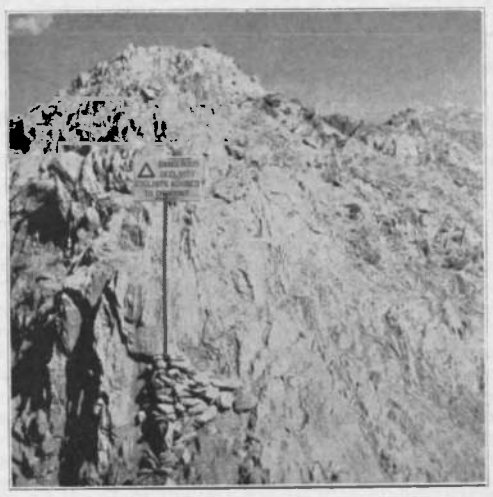
Ghalanai Camp.—The old order changeth. Here we are, far away from oft-sighed-for Karachi, earning our medals. In Sept. all leave personnel were recalled and the unit proceeded by road and rail to Peshawar, which remains as the base for lines of communication. A detachment under the command of Major P. A. Chubb, consisting of 120-watt set and C set detachments for W/T communication and a sub-section of the O. and M. Section for line communication, proceeded to Ghalanai Camp. The Pack Section arrived a day later to join this Detachment, having marched out from Peshawar. Digging ourselves in was a novelty, and we consider our efforts with pick and shovel creditable.

The Construction Section had left Rawalpindi some days before to push the permanent line from Shabkadar Fort to Ghalanai. Under the able guidance of Major A. J. A. Schofield excellent progress had been made, a total of 200 wire miles being erected in eleven and a half days—each day consisting of only six working hours owing to the road being closed early. The outstanding feat was the building of the route forward of Ghalanai and Wucha Jawar to the forward Brigade beyond Nahakki village. Despite the difficult nature of the ground, the advance line was established in one and a half days (approximately ten working hours). When one realises that the stores had to be manhandled over the Nahakki Pass, which is nearly 4000 feet high, the magnitude of the task can be visualised and one has nothing but unstinted praise for the builders. We take off our topees to Major Schofield, Lieutenant Hay, and the Indian ranks under their command. [*Note*: This is approximately eight times the rate at which the G.T.D. build their routes.]



Detail Survey: a Long Bay over a Nullah.

Back in Peshawar, we had taken over the signal office from Peshawar District Signals, who moved into the forward area. They took with them seven of our operators for maintaining communication to the rear (Ghalanai and Peshawar). The signal office personnel quickly settled down and enabled first Sergeant Wedgbury and then the R.S.M. (who hopes to be starting his second row shortly) to join Major Chubb at Ghalanai, with the result that the O.C. could devote more of his time to administration duties. This office is now running like a bird.



The R.E.s' Humorous Notice Board at the top of the Nahakki Pass.

We Would Like to Know.—Who answered "VA" when offered "VEiiZ"? Is "NO" the correct answer to "VA"? Is it really necessary to balance when working simplex? What "Q" would do if Stubbs were absent from his post during the night?

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. Pout A. on joining the Forty Thieves. Now's your chance to remember.

To Sigmn Smith P. C., of Peshawar District Signals, on being awarded the Military medal for keeping his set working under heavy fire from the enemy during the present operations.

To 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot, from the last draft, on lifting the Prickett cup. It took me a long time to convince the R.S.M. that it was true!

From the Front Line.—Charlie and Fred (Aldershot): Oh, that you were with us! W.L.S. W.L.S.

Detachment, Rawalpindi.

Well, we are keeping 'em going. It will be nice for them to mark the progress of the orderly room lawn and the chubbery when they return. The latter has begun to bloom. Its creator could not have registered more joy than did the provost fellow on making the discovery. S.W.B.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Thursday 3rd October.

General.—We are now settled in Rawalpindi after our stay in the hills from April last. Apart from a period of exceptionally bad weather at the beginning, and when towards the end numerous ranks were despatched to the spot of bother on the Frontier, the season was quite a successful one from the upgrading course point of view. As a break from the warm weather on the Plains, it was quite a welcome change. Talking of the upgrading courses held, a few statistics may be of interest. Trade Test Boards results were as follows for the whole season:—

	Total	Class iii.—ii. Passes		Class ii.—i. Passes
Linemen	17	8 —	9	—
Despatch Riders	10	10 8	—	—
Operator Signals	182	87 71	95	71
I.M.s	6	6 5	—	—
E.F.s	6	6 5	—	—

We also had twenty-one Infantry signallers attached for the whole period, to teach them to twiddle knobs on wireless sets and to know the ins and outs of the twiddling. They departed at the end of September—some to their regiments, and others to real live operating jobs on wireless stations within the Command.

Apropos the trouble on the Frontier. It has left us sadly depleted in numbers. J, K, L, and about 95 per cent. of A Section are away winning medals, and that leaves both of us to carry on.

Mixed in with the above is a regular scribe of the unit. This information is given for three reasons: (a) in fairness to him, (b) to remind him that he *is* the scribe, and (c) to hurry up and take over this unenviable job.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to the following, who have joined the unit since our last publication of notes. L/Sergt Brown F., our new orderly room sergeant, from Peshawar District Signals. Sergt Beckley A. E. and family from Waziristan District Signals. (He just had time for tiffin before he departed for the war!) L/Sergt Ellison D. from S.T.C. India. Sigmn Stolliday F. from Quetta, less earthquake-proof shelter.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to the following, who have departed from the unit. Lieut. L. J. Bruton, Australian Staff Corps, who has gone back to "down under"—a very likeable officer, and one whom we sincerely wish could have stayed longer. (Will you get that medal, sir?)

Lieut. C. D. Gardiner and Corpl Hopwood for a long equitation course at Saugor.

R.S.M. Wills returned from a two months vacation in Japan and, on being interviewed by our special correspondent, stated that he had had a wonderful time. This bald statement means quite a lot to us! He immediately went away for a vocational course with the Customs and Excise people at Bombay. In this connection we would warn members of the Corps to be very careful what they bring from home on boats due in at Bombay.

Sergt Mills W. moved off on the 1st October to Jubbulpore. Before he left, a board of English-speaking members sat to test him in English, and after a struggle he managed to qualify. You will watch your English, won't you?

C.Q.M.S. Saul I. went across the road to 'A Corps Signals, where he now mingles with quartermasters and other rich men.

Sigmn Draper left us for Quetta, taking on charge before he left shelter, earthquake-proof, one.

Congratulations.—To Signalman Smith P. S., of Peshawar District Signals, on being awarded the Military medal for gallant conduct. He worked his No. 1 set from a forward unit to headquarters, whilst under fire, with a perfectly nonchalant air. A truly splendid effort. We are proud of you.

To Sergeant and Mrs. Richards (A.E.C.) on the posting of a daughter (Valerie Ann) to them. Any truth in the rumour that this young lady was seen in Lintott's?

To Corpl and Mrs. Bishop, of Kohat District Signals, who also had a daughter arrive by the same stork. This stork has very definitely promised a boy next time.

To Lieut. E. K. Steward, who nipped home and nipped back after becoming engaged. The nipping home was awfully quick! Mr. Steward has now qualified as a border line case.

To Signalmen Baker, Carn, Dew, Lavelle and Warhurst on their award of a dog's leg apiece. These budding sergeant-majors are now undergoing a thoroughly good drill course under the watchful eye and able baton of C.S.M. Eastes.

To Signalmen Porter and McSweeney on being awarded their second class certificates of education.

Departed: Almost.—Captain J. Wynn is under orders for the home establishment early this trooper. Some people have all the luck, but it's bitterly cold in Catterick. L/Sergt Slater F. and family are also going home in November, under the same wangle, on the s.s. *Tuscania*. It is hard lines enough to have to go home, but fancy going on a packet like that!

Functions.—Until the troops began to dribble away, dances and whist drives were held for all ranks in the men's mess room every Friday. C.S.M. Eastes and his hard-working committee made these functions a thorough treat to attend. An evening "do" was also held in the sergeants mess every Sunday, and these, too, were well attended and enjoyed.

A tea and chota pagal gymkhana for the ladies and children of the station were held in the sergeants mess on the 27th September. Everybody "complained" afterwards of having had a wonderful day. This function was a wind-up to the season. Sigmn Daffern was armed with a top hat for this occasion, "tipping the topper" being one of the games played. He was safe and sound at the termination, too.

On the 13th September a pedlar's fair was held at the Sandes Soldiers Home, Upper Topa, from which a profit of 800 odd rupees was reaped for a most worthy cause. Our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., said a few appropriate words to open the show. Practically all the n.c.o.s of this unit and some of the local R.A.F. ran the show on behalf of Miss Hibberd, who is the hard-working lady in charge of the home. These helpers enjoyed themselves just as much as their customers. In spite of the fact that there is a war on and the weather not being exactly clement, the function was very well patronised. It seems to us a great pity that L/Sergeant Scrase received a black eye for merely saying "Have a go, Annie Laurie" whilst running the cocoanut shy.

Throughout the season Mrs. Penney has run the Ladies' Welfare meetings, which have proved very interesting from a medical point of view. Thanks in this connection to Major T. Parr, R.A.M.C., and to our own doctor A/Surgeon Worsley, these meetings were thoroughly enjoyed and well patronised by the families of the station. What we want to know is: where can these families now congregate for a "tora" gossip?

Agony.—Bob Napier, Aldershot: How's Pat? Ron Sprunt, Kohat: Two more entries here for the Gummy Club. 2319949 Sigmn Davis, Singapore: What about a line? D.iii.

Overheard in the Dental Centre.—"How many have you got left?"—or words to that effect.

Sports.—Practically at a discount since the last notes, owing to the units round about going off to the Frontier. We, however, managed to play those who were left, and a few matches with the R.A.F. and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders kept our sportsmen from becoming stale. It is worthy of note that the schoolboy team at Upper Topa had a football match with the Clifton and Willowbank schoolboys and won by an only goal, Roy Cozens scoring this.

Our twenty-one attached Infantry personnel were, at hockey, a tough nut to crack. We just managed to crack them twice. Towards the end of the season a scrambled team of ours beat by

5—0 a similar type of team produced by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. At hockey we played the R.A.F. and managed to hold them to a draw of one goal each.

The officers mess was the scene of a tennis match on the 1st October—the last function of the hill season. Results were:—The officers beat the other ranks by 49—45 points. For the spectators and players, a handsome tea was provided.

ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Risalpur hasn't much excitement to offer a Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop during the month of September, and in turn the weather has robbed us of the necessary energy to offer any excitement to this little cantonment. Anyway, the feeling is gradually growing on us that there are better days in store as far as the weather is concerned, and there is a certain amount of enthusiasm being displayed among the gardeners. There is also a good deal of optimism in the various syndicates recently formed, and they are already enquiring about the first troopers sailing after the Cambridgeshire has been run.

The little war going on " up top " has not disturbed us a great deal, but of course everyone knows that we have a front of our own to take care of, although we are quite capable of expanding it. The Tank Corps very kindly loaned us four No. 1 sets for experimental purposes, and after we had made various improvements and suggested others, they kindly took them back for use at the front ; so, although we are more or less intact as far as personnel is concerned, we are slowly being denuded of stores. Only the other day we were relieved of our S/W set by a neighbouring Signal unit, and we afterward heard that this was the only set giving satisfactory results " up there."

Sports and entertainments are still going strong. The most notable item has been the formation of a boxing team who, although not champs at present, are all very promising. We'll let you know when they win their first competition. The small fortunes to be made at our all ranks whist drives and tombolas are being fairly distributed owing to Sigmn Cox's temporary loss of form, and just at present everyone is looking for the necessary goals to complete the pontoon, as the committee inform us that the fortune to be won in this particular line is considerable.

A miniature range shoot was held the other evening, with teams from the Sergeants Mess, Corporals Mess, signalmen, and Indian n.c.o.s. The last-named won by a short head from the Sergeants Mess.

Sergeants Mess.—Strenuous competitions are shelved for the time being owing to various causes, e.g. weather, overfeeding casualties and low pensions. Our mess time is usually devoted to nice entertaining and quiet discussions or debates, with Tricky Lewis and Johnnie Way as opponents and Bunny Shaw as chairman. Johnnie is not afraid of Tricky's weight. Oh, no! and he can more than hold his own in a discussion on modern wireless or motor cyles.

Little Shoey tried to initiate a discussion the other evening as to why the unit office clerks should require custard tatties in the summer and not the farriers. The chairman ruled it out of order. Yesterday being the chairman's birthday, the debate was not controlled so efficiently as usual ; and as the Marines are much in the news at present by virtue of taking over the guard at Buckingham Palace, the subject was " Why do the Marines wear white hats ?" The only authority on naval technique in the Mess at present being Polly Hopkins, the remaining members deemed his explanation satisfactory.

Corporals Mess.—We haven't much to report at present, as everything is very quiet, particularly the wireless set, but we have been steadily beautifying our room and its surroundings. Dart practice is occupying most of our spare time (when we get any) in preparation for a revenge for the crushing defeat inflicted on our team by the sergeants.

In the old days, after a convivial evening, we used to go home singing that old-time and appropriate ballad " Keep quite close to the railings," but now the railings have been slightly barbed it's not advisable to seek their support.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

General.—" In the spring a young man's fancy," etc. This being October, however, and a long way off spring, I must turn my thoughts to other things. Obviously, this is no time to be thinking of gents' natty spring suitings, nice moonlight strolls, etc., with the WIRE notes not yet started and mail-day to-morrow.

With the exception of the lucky few who are still on leave, the unit is once again at full strength and up to its eyes in route marches, Section training and musketry. The second party have just commenced firing their annual course, and from all accounts they are well on the mark. (Look to it. Peshdistsigs ; we are well after that Scissors cup this year.)

The second Topa party rejoined on the 17th September, and although the official results have not yet been published, we hope to be able to congratulate all on having successfully passed the Trade Board and so being able to swell the income tax returns.

Heard on preliminary weapon training. (The following is a true story.) The instructor had been discoursing on the rules of aiming, and from that passed on to the types of fouling. Noticing one of the squad with that Monday morning look in his eye, the instructor shot the following question at him: " Sigmn Blank! what is one of the types of fouling ?" He who shall be nameless shook his head, assumed a thoughtful expression, and after due thought and deliberation replied " Close the disengaged eye."

Schemes are now again in full swing, and old familiar places are becoming the objects of attack and, of course, capture. One of the old hands was heard to exclaim " What! that place again! why, we have captured it so often that I thought it was our own property by now."

Of course, dubbin is now at a premium and in great demand for the hiking boots which have of necessity been brought to light once more. " How's you poor old feet ?" is once again the greeting for the hikers from their more fortunate brethren who go hence " tyred by Dunlops."

Entertainments.—On Saturday evening 28th September a games tournament was held in the senior n.c.o.s mess between the officers, senior n.c.o.s and the juniors, the occasion being a farewell " do " to C.S.M. Spracklen, who has left us for Blighty and civvy street after having busted a pontoon. We are told that the tournament was a great success, but the results seem to have been mislaid during the excitement. All who were there took the opportunity to wish C.S.M. Spracklen the best of health and prosperity in his new sphere of life ; and for those who were not able to be present, I take this opportunity on their behalf to wish him bon voyage and the best of luck in the future.

On Wednesday 2nd October we had an all ranks smoker in the Institute, and judging by the amount of noise everyone was trying to live up to the slogan of the committee (jollity, frivolity, conviviality). Anyway, all voted it a " goodishow." Thanks, committee! May we have many more like it during the cold weather season.

Arrivals.—We welcome back to our midst Captain J. H. Brown, M.M., who, after a very serious illness and a long convalescence, has rejoined for a short spell prior to proceeding to U.K. on a long sick leave. All ranks join in wishing him a complete recovery, and hope to see him once again wielding the willow and knocking the covers off the balls.

Sport.—Only one football match of importance has been played this month, in the Kohat Shining Eleven tournament, in which we were defeated in the first round by the 6/13th F.F. Rifles by 3—2 goals after being three down with only a few minutes to go. In the last few seconds we nearly saved the game, pressing and

shooting at our opponents' goal continuously, but their defence just managed to hold out to the final whistle.

Only the usual friendly and unit games have been played in other branches of sport, so there is nothing more of importance to record.

ROBO.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

[*Received too late for the October issue.*]

Headquarters.

Monday 2nd September.

A Chi Vuole Non Mancano Modi.—(You'll probably find it in Pear's. I'm sorry, but it's this Abyssinian business—and incidentally, " traduttori traditori.") I am afraid there is very little material of general interest, but I will endeavour to fill a couple of paragraphs, just to be present.

All ranks who have met Corpl (Darkie) Broadhead F. will be sorry to learn of a mishap, resulting in the loss of his right leg. He had a knock in a rugby match at Calcutta last year, as the result of which he developed a diseased bone and had to have his leg amputated on the 17th August. He is now progressing very favourably and will be proceeding to England during the early part of the ensuing trooper.

The new offices are completed and Companies and Accounts Branch installed. A new M.I. room is now in course of construction. Old Karachites will not know the place if this reconstruction ramp continues. Incidentally, my scouts tell me there is probably going to be a baptism of the new dining hall in the near future, in the form of a Unit Club dinner, but more of that anon.

Arrivals.—Sergt Jarvis from Quetta, and Sigmn Fairhead from A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, to whom we extend the usual hearty welcome.

Departures.—Sigmn Townsend to A Corps Signals, and L/Cpl Cole to A.H.Q., Simla, together with our best wishes.

Repatriations.—The allotments for the first boat are up, and the lucky ones are as follows: C.Q.M.S. Moore W. (and family), Corporal Hudson H. (and family) and Corporal Wallis F.—all to discharge ; Cpl Taylor W. (home establishment) ; and Signalmen Dines A., Emery W., Lough S. and Soloman (to Army Reserve), per H.T. *Somersetshire* ex Bombay on the 23rd October. And we still sweat on. (Copy to Scotland Yard.)

Books Received during the Month.—" Signal Training," vol. ii. part 1. A truly worthy effort. The compilers are to be congratulated on a very handy text book, of which it is hoped that all ranks will take advantage.

No. 2 W/T Company.

Friday 30th August.

General.—Now that the unit has settled down in Karachi, things are very quiet.

The second I.T. course is due to terminate very shortly—in about another two weeks, I think—and we hope all the aspirants will manage to obtain higher ratings (not to forget the extra pice). When the course does finish, we expect to be paying visits to Mangho Pier during the coming training schemes.

The results of the first course have not yet been published, but we think the C.M.A. will be calling for more cash in his next budget estimates.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Woodward G. and L/Cpl Cole L. have left us for employment on the A.H.Q. W/T Station, Simla. We hope they enjoy their stay at H.Q. L/Cpl Jennings and Sigmn Bull F. arrived to swell our numbers—the former from S.T.C. (I.) Jubbulpore, and the latter from A.H.Q. W/T Station, Simla. We also welcome L/Corpl Chrystie, who joins the fold once more from A.H.Q. W/T Station on the 5th Sept.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.—None of the latter two, but we offer rather belated congratulations to L/Sgt and Mrs. Brown on the birth of a daughter (Mary Elaine) at Karachi in March. We also congratulate Corpl and Mrs. Brett on the birth of a daughter a few days ago.

Heard on Training.—"A *barrettor* is a lightening arrestor " (go h'on!) " The grid tuning condenser controls the flow of filament voltage to the plate of the valve." (Does it, now ?)

The following conversation over the "key" took place recently. ABA v ABB: " X ooo." ABB v ABA: "Sri no X book." ABA v ABB: " Ere log." ABB v ABA: " Sri no logs either." (Mim.)

Local News.—The rumour that the *Queen Mary* has been commissioned for trooping this year must have some foundation, because half the unit have only " 43 days to go." (Some have more than that number of months.)

Well, it won't be long before some of the lads are packing their kit bags for U.K. ; but some others are apparently afraid to go, for they have signed on for another buckshee year in this country.

TWOCO.

Corporals Mess.

General.—Salutations! Now we are nicely settled down and fairly well established, we think it would be nice to let you know that we are still in the land of the living—or are we ?

Things have brightened up somewhat during the last month: we had a complete set of new lights (electric) fitted.

With the collaboration of our R.S.M., we have got the mess looking really nice and comfortable, with big easy chairs and settees and other amenities likely to make the quarter of an hour " break " in the morning seem short. Anyhow, we are ready to welcome all the new lads, and hope they will settle down comfortably and not want to go out at night like those awful Walsh and Hudson men.

For the benefit of the lads likely to join us during the forthcoming trooper: We want a couple of mah jong players who can remember the pukka scoring, somebody to play chess with Basil Breeze when Bill Bailey goes home, and two or three more who were *not* on the Frontier in '31 (? '33).

Congratulations to Corporal Tommy Brett on the birth of a daughter.

We have held two or three functions since arriving here, the main ones being a cricket match and " at home," and a billiards " at home " (both separate headaches) to the Royal Sussex Corporals Mess—very good shows (even the excuses: cricket and billiards). Jock Weir, Geordie Walsh and President Bill Muir are the shining lights behind these affairs—and well " lit," too, says Geordie.

A riverderci! Al' b' sin yer.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters.

Tuesday 3rd September.

General.—We have had quite a busy time this month. Our camp site has undergone a complete change from a tented camp to a colony of Wana huts. During the conversion the ex-Wana folk were seen looking on with a critical eye, whilst the remainder of the unit shed tears at the destruction of the lovely brick floors and foot-high walls in building which they had taken such pride.

A Field Company of Sappers and Miners obliged us by erecting the huts—after all, B.O.R.s only do that sort of thing on the Frontier. We had a few nights under the stars whilst the work was going on, and revelled in the idea of having no bed spaces to sweep in the mornings.

Short pays are the order of the moment. We must jew up for the free trip to the seaside during the winter. We have all been promised a month's rest cure at Karachi ; and *are* we looking forward to it ?

Meetings.—Every night round Gibbon's tent. Especially the tour-ex people. The attraction is a wireless set which, at 22.00 hrs each day, is tuned in to the *Empire News* bulletin and gives the expectant listeners the latest reports on the Abyssinian question. Blighty leave optimists are no longer optimists: they *would* fear the worst. Of course, the tour-exites are just as pessimistic. One old timer was heard to remark that he expected he would have to fight his way home. We sincerely hope it won't be as bad as that, Slim. I am sure the chaps who are keen on having a bit of excitement in British Somaliland, or thereabouts, wouldn't mind sending home the fellows who have done their bit in Baluchistan and lived through three earthquakes,

Another Shock in Quetta.—Not an earthquake this time: just the radio announcer breaking the news that detachments of troops were to leave India for Addis Ababa. The sweat lasted five minutes until, in an interruption in the dance programme, listeners were informed that this Div. was not implicated. That brought smiles to many, but I am sure I saw one or two very disappointed faces.

Musketry.—We have been busy this month, firing the annual musketry course. It is a good thing that it only comes round once a year. I think everyone breathes a sigh of relief when it is all over.

Swimming.—The Baluchistan District competitions were held at the Matheson swimming bath in August, and the amount of practice that our fellows have had was reflected in the results, which showed our unit to be at the top of the list.

The inter-Company aquatic sports were held on Saturday 31st August. U.H.Q. combined with No. 2 Company, much to the consternation of No. 1 Company. The latter, however, won by 12—9 points. It was a keenly contested event and provided plenty of excitement for the spectators.

"Quetta Quakes."—Our concert party, which is directed by the adjutant, Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., still continues to provide us with plenty of entertainment. They get bigger and better with every performance, and the numerous troops who took advantage of the open invitation to the Garrison at the last show went away very pleased, having been provided with (to use their own words) first class entertainment.

We had a wonderful thrill when the compere came on the stage "on his knees" at a concert the other night.

Arrivals and Departures.—We have had a few inter-Company postings during the past few weeks. Corpl Creegan left us for No. 1 Company, and Corpl Staerck, of concert party fame, took his place on the ration stand. The Great Homer (Trunky) decided he had had enough of the officers mess and joined the gang in the unit office, whilst we also had the pleasure of extending the glad mitt to Sigmn Cathmoir from No. 1 Company.

Howlers.—Talking of the unit office, it was very amusing to see one youth searching round the other day. On being asked what he had lost, he tearfully replied that someone had pinched his Appendix!

Also heard in the daftar: "The *next* veterinary inspection will *not* take place."

Upgrading.—On completion of the individual training course the pay bloke is keeping a look out, as it is rumoured that more than a few higher ratings have been obtained. The final results have not yet been published, so it is impossible to give the numbers.

Queries.—Who invented five pay day months? Why the duty clerks are objecting to a certain notice on the office door? How long will it be before one of last year's draft remembers to take off his topee before diving in the swimming bath? (Did he fall in, or was he pushed?) EFJEE.

No. 1 Company.

General.—News from the Brickfields. At least, that is what it looks like at the moment, as the Sappers and Miners gaily slap brick on brick, walling us in for the winter. If we could only get some thatch for the roofs, I could imagine myself back in the little country cottage where I was born. The only snags as far as I can see are:—

(1) Will the tent tops ignite when we light a fire?
(2) Will the snow make the tent tops fall in?

Perhaps the authorities are relying upon the snow to put the fires out, or upon the fires to melt the snow as it falls.

Still, these minor difficulties should not trouble us who contend with and get the better of earthquakes. We are settling down gradually, anyway, and so is the ground beneath us, judging by the occasional tremors which still make strong men turn pale.

We get all the hot news from the outside world per Sergeant Goodyear, complete with wireless set, and also much good advice when we visit him in his store, where he officiates for C.Q.M.S. Keepen, who is basking on the sands at Karachi.

Sergt Handby--our acting C.S.M.—who had to take up some sort of a hobby after he got rid of his car, has now taken up push cycle racing and a keen interest in shipping.

The senior n.c.o.s hope to pass a little time this month upon their annual drill course, but I do not know who is to do the shouting, as our respected R.S.M. (whom we will be sorry to lose) goes on six months well earned leave this month.

Reverting to hobbies. I must mention the firm of Dutchy and Crookes, photographers, who have sixteen cameras each (in exchange for their car) and have taken snaps of everyone in the Company. No one has paid them yet, however.

The married men are the only spot of gloom in the Company at present. They feel so lonely, and the gloom noticeably deepens as they attack the ever-recurring rissole which Charlie serves with a beaming smile. Happy, the champion table scrubber, tells us how lucky we are.

The Company has just completed its annual musketry course with good results, proving that we are not nervous wrecks. Training in other respects is very much in abeyance owing to the large amount of additional work which has been and is still being done since the quake.

The unit concert party has worked very hard and has put on some very fine shows, much appreciated by all. We are looking forward to more of their efforts before long.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Clark E. J. from Risalpur. He has already made himself at home in the stables.

Departures.—Corpl Burke to Karachi on leave, and thence to Jubbulpore for the "S" course. Signalman (Ginger) Bennett to Risalpur—our animals were not fierce enough for him.

Birth.—A new Quetta is slowly arising in the blue.

Urgently Required by this Company.—Four pairs of shears, as a remark was recently heard on the "poetic" appearance of our horses. Also two 3 ft. harmoniccas, complete with bellows, as Albert and George are willing but their wind is weak.

Agony.—When is Bing Bang going to write to Blue Moments? Undoubtedly, the battle of Trafalgar and the onslaughts at Guildford are past memories.

How does Stagger like 2 Div.? Write and tell Jim about it, dearie.

To Burgess, Bulford: What about a letter? 777 Hambly.
G.G.

No. 2 Company.

Saturday 7th September.

Shocks and Shakes.—We understand that the C.S.O. has contributed to THE WIRE an account of the unit's work during the earthquake. Although it has not yet appeared in print, we assume that nothing we can add will improve it, so we will leave the subject alone. The C.S.O.'s contribution will probably tell, also, of all the nice things that were said about us by H.E. the Viceroy, the C.-in-C., General Karslake and Brigadier Le Cornu. There is a certain tendency among us to throw out the chest and adopt the air of men who have done things. If some of the Generals who addressed us on the several parades mean a quarter of what they said, they must be very glad to know us.

Sport.—In addition to the usual cricket, hockey, tennis and so on, there have been swimming sports in the Matheson bath. As these were run under unit arrangements, the results will probably appear in H.Q. notes. In the Quetta Horse Show the unit was unlucky for once. We make no comment . . . . . There has already been enough flowery language in English and Urdu. The N.C.O. Messes have held games tournaments . . . . (Sorry! we encroach on someone else's notes.)

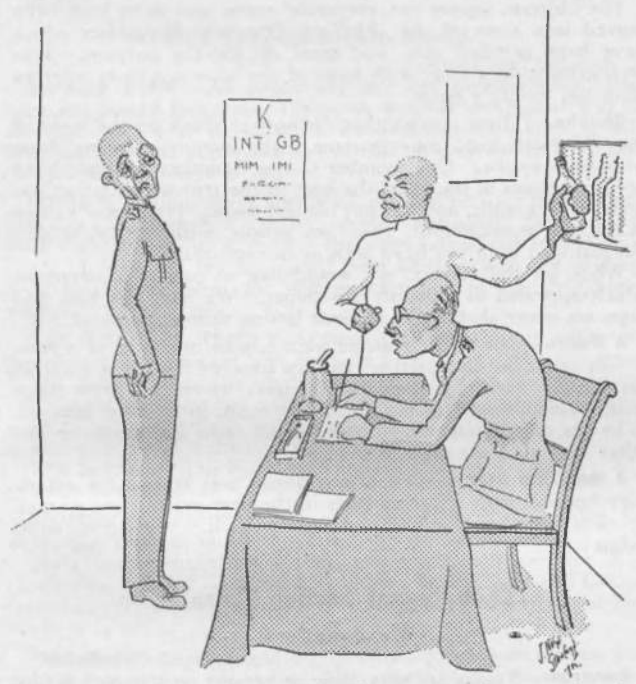
Drama.—The "Quetta Quakes" concert party has been working hard for the Brighter Baluchistan movement ever since the dust settled after the first shock. (Your pardon! once again we poach on the notes of another formation.)

Cuisine.—In the good old days before the earthquake, there were two mess rooms: No. 1 Company in their own lines, and No. 2 Company and U.H.Q. in No. 2 Company lines. After the quake we all fed, for a time, in God's sweet open air plus dust storms, and afterwards in a temporary mess room in No. 1 Company's lines. As the tents were on the far side of the bungalows, we had a route march at meal times. On rising at the first note of reveille, we used to grasp our eating irons firmly in the right hand, tuck our toilet kit under our arm, and then (marching on a magnetic bearing) make our way to the mess room, the more fastidious among us stopping in No. 2 Company's old

lines for a wash en route. It couldn't be helped, of course, and we just put it down to the Earthquake Fund.

We now have a beautifully appointed salle-a-manger nearer to the camp, and in spite of occasional allusions to the Borgias when the cook corporal is about, we manage to cut out the cha wallah and keep our schoolboy complexions.

Tableau.—Scene, Company office. C.S.M. seated at table. Enter the Company WIRE notes wallah, who says "You want me, sir?" "Want *you*? No, I want the WIRE notes." "It's no use writing any, sir. Last time, all my funny remarks about sergeants and married men were cut out by the censor. All that was left was Part II. Orders." "Well, you must think something up . . . . If you could be half as funny with a pen as you are with a rifle on ceremonial parades, P. G. Wodehouse wouldn't be in it." (Well, that's the position.)



M.O.: "How did you get your head permanently turned to the right?"
Signalman: "I was on all the ceremonial parades after the earthquake, sir."

Schemes.—E Section (1st Field Brigade R.A.) has come back to normal after a very successful scheme. In case it should be thought that we are handing bouquets to them, let us hasten to add that, as the personnel of E Section were firing their course, their vehicles and equipment were manned by members of other Sections, who bore the titles of Gudgeon's Own or the Baluchistan Foreign Legion.

Musketry.—We have observed the time-honoured custom of firing our course. Scores are not yet available (and we are not sure that we would publish them if they were).

Tentage.—Since the quake we have moved our kits and bedding so often that the concert party once gave us a song:—

"Good night, heroes! dreams will banish sorrow;
Good night, heroes! shift the camp to-morrow."

We are, however, now settling down in Wana huts (roofs of tents, I.P., privates, with brick walls, a door and windows). We have electric light and beds—in fact, a camp de luxe.

Moves.—The following statements are compiled largely from hearsay and are subject to a great deal of alteration. G and E Sections are moving with their Brigades to Sibi and Hyderabad, Sind, respectively; while the Infantry Brigade Sections are to stay in Quetta for the winter. Our other Artillery Section has been at Lucknow almost as long as the oldest inhabitant can remember, so they hardly come into the discussion.

Leave.—A good many people could go on Blighty leave next year if they had the money. Some have the money and can't get leave. The vast majority cannot get leave and haven't the money, anyway. The remainder are looking forward to six months in a land where earthquakes are not, and you have to be careful how you swear at policemen because they all understand English.

Corporals Mess.

This is L. A. O'Hooligan (that horrible WIRE correspondent) speaking. World copyright reserved to himself—a waste of time, money and space.

Dinkey-Doo (alias Corpl Trew) and Badgey Manton (no alias) have gone to places where people live in houses and women are a reality. There are exactly forty-one budding Field-Marshals left here, all trying to work out an air and water-tight, dust and fool-proof, yarn for a six months Blighty leave or posting to a place that doesn't quake.

By parcel post, with nothing to pay, L/Corpl Chinky Thomas has arrived from the civilised outer world. Why we were sent this punishment, right on top of the recent disaster, is still a puzzle. In the good old days we used to play shove-ha'penny, but now the board belongs to the said Chinky Thomas and one Fred of Jennings fame. Which of the two is champ, no one knows; in fact, no one cares.

An indoor games tournament was played during July and was afterwards named a swindle tournament by virtue of the P.M.C. reaching five finals out of seven. Now, Frosty, old bean, that is not done in the best of clubs, so don't let it happen again.

To ensure a fair, just and above-board tournament, another was started as soon as the above P.M.C. went to the Zhob on leave. The N.W.R. report a big increase in goods traffic, largely due to the quantity of beverage being despatched to Loralai. What do you know about this, Frosty?

Courses are the order of the day: some for an "S" course, others trying for the muscle factory. Others try their daily dozen at home, and are taking a Sandow's course of chest expansion or perhaps Broom's P.C. course. One bright 'Erb had his photo taken, and on seeing the result he immediately sent away for a life saving certificate. Another has sent his "snap" to H. and S. for publication. It all goes to prove that in Quetta men are men and . . . . . Nuff sed.

For What It's Worth.—New name for vol. ii. part 1, 1935: "Archie's Fairy Tale Picture Book."

F-of-S: "Army W/T sets are antiquated. Even the 120-watt set is on show in the Kensington Museum." Bright Spark: "Yeah, and by the time I get home the No. 1 set will be there, too."

Impossible People.—The P.M.C. on leave. Thomas. The i/c messing who doesn't know what a rissole is. The man who wrote and told her he was an R.S.M. and (being only a lance-corporal) had to sign on for a further five in India. The O.O. who thought fishcakes were rissoles (still, we who eat them don't blame him: shape, smell and taste are the same—the name only is different). The man who left a round up the spout after all his twenty-four years service. The grass widower Mess members.

O'HOOLIGAN.

[*Received later*]

Headquarters Company.

Tuesday 1st October.

General.—"A life on the ocean waves." You'd think so if you could see the double-decker bunks that have been added to our tents. Chippy Brunton and his little chips have had a busy time fitting out every Quetta castle with this system of kipping, and although he has had a large amount of opposition, he has bravely carried on with the good work.

Our only consolation lies in contemplating what the new draft will think of the 2nd Div. Sigs. To them we extend our deepest sympathy in their approaching bereavement, and earnestly advise that they forthwith commence a course of Iron Jelloids or Phospherine—in fact, anything for their nerves. However, when we know the date of their arrival, we will arrange to give them a rattling reception and keep them enthralled (we hope) with stirring tales of the earthquake. Perhaps we will mention a few

gruesome stories, too, just to let them see that life in Quetta isn't always quiet.

Many a bright lad must have thought he was at sea the other night when, five minutes after " Lights out," his bunk started rocking—but it was only another tremor. However, the bunks emptied quickly and the rest of the night was spent in prayer and repentance. Even our educational staff felt that one. We thought we had experienced the last of the tremors for a time, but with their return and the Abyssinian pantomime, together with the stories of the Peshawar trouble—well, I ask you, isn't it enough to turn any man into a confirmed pessimist ?

Arrivals.—Serge clothing for evening wear is the only arrival this month, and it was given a good reception. Gone are the days of centrally heated picture houses, and in their places stand what appear more like paddocks than cinemas. With futuristic ceilings, to wit, the stars and sometimes the moon (without romance), with the wind to assist the sound effects, and the murmuring of the trees as a little diversion from the murmuring of the screen stars, a talkie show in Quetta is an experience. Cardigans, serge tunics and great coats, warm, British, add to the amenities, giving a little protection from Quetta's " thanda " breezes. It is rumoured that we are having canvas roofs added to the two cinemas we have left. That is all well and good, but our fears are for their probable collapse when loaded with the quantities of snow which the winter brings. That will (or will not) add to the effects.

Departures.—We all regret the departure of Sigmn Greetham from our Company to the land of the Zhob. We wish him the best of luck and—well, we cannot tell him anything else: he should have learned all about the promised land from Nobby. We can only hope, Hughie, that you will find as many amusements to suit your taste as Nobby apparently did to suit his. Still, one man's meat is another's poison.

Future Departures.—Extremely problematical. At least, the " home for Christmas " wallahs are beginning to wonder which Christmas. Now that the first boat has been cancelled, nobody seems to know very much about the others—not even the D.R.s.

Wow!—I have just heard of a man belonging to the B Corps Detachment who is said to prefer staying in Quetta to going back to his own unit and having to do spring camps and live in tents. I wonder how he enjoyed the fortnight in the open which he has just experienced while the huts were being prepared for the cold season.

For our Lady Readers.—It had been suggested that we should start a ladies' column in our WIRE notes, but as all the female personnel of the unit were sent home, we are thankfully spared that agony. There are some ladies left in Quetta, however. It is rumoured that they were seen at the same cinema a few nights ago (both of them).

Congratulations.—These are extended to the unit dhurzi for charging me five chips for a silk shirt and getting away with it.

Aberdeen Free Press.—To Horsman, holding them back somewhere in Peshdist, from Katie (No. 2 Squad): " Fit aboot a wee bit line frae ye, laddie ?"

Acknowledgment.—To "a Dorothy " who, if not the one we mentioned a month or so back, at least filled the latter's place and answered our query.

Conclusion.—An invitation to stand up and sing is extended to anyone who can make sense out of the thousand and one rumours now flying round regarding our future. The question of the moment is: When and where do we (or don't we) move ?

EFJEE.

No. 2 Company.

Monday 30th September.

General.—We are now beginning to get a grip on this place, and the rubbish and ruins are being cleared away. A great deal of the material is being used again for the construction of winter quarters for those who are staying in Quetta. One hears a good deal about the Chain Gang, but we suspect this is only an exercise of the soldier's privilege: to grumble and soldier on.

Sport.—At some time round about four or five o'clock in the afternoon, certain of the more energetic youths of our community throw down picks and shovels, abandon their wheelbarrows, and take a little gentle relaxation with discus or hammer, or run round and round the sports field until the red glow of the setting sun warns them that it is time for young people to be in bed. This is in preparation for the inter-Company sports. We have tried to pump the trainers and other experts as to our chances, but everything is being kept very hush-hush.

Accommodation.—The Garden City becomes more beautiful day by day. Most of the walls are finished, even to the white-wash, and each tent has a chimney—a trifle Limehouse in style, perhaps, but a chimney none the less—giving a " walk right in and make yourself at home" atmosphere to the camp. We notice that a number of wooden railings have been collected and laid out in front of the camp, so we assume that we are to have a front garden. An awful thought rises unbidden to the mind: will we have to whitewash the railings ?

The canteen, supper bar, corporals' room, and so on have been moved into some of the old Two Company bungalows which have been certified safe, and done up for the purpose. This arrangement does away with some of the route marching referred to in last month's notes.

Shocks.—There was another earthquake shock on the night of the 28th/29th inst., causing some slight twittering among those who were awake. One member of the Company has calculated (to three places of decimals) the spot in the tent which is farthest from all four walls, and has put his bed there. He is now known as the unit seismograph. (Yes, you people in Blighty can laugh ; but just wait until you have been in an earthquake.)

While on the subject, we would like to correct a statement which appeared in a British newspaper. We have not had, and hope we never shall have, a shock lasting thirteen minutes.

A Moan.—One of the married n.c.o.s, now in charge of a tent, is very upset because another tent has acquired the fire grate from his old quarters. The legal point arises: whose is a grate taken from a demolished building ? As the n.c.o. in question happens to be the pay official, we suppose he will make a stoppage on the other tent until the grate is paid for.

A Bedtime Story.—One of our horses was sent to the veterinary hospital with a foreign body in the near eye. They painted its near hock with iodine and sent it back. Wonderful stuff, iodine!

JANGLI.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Monday 30th September.

General.—Things are very quiet at present on this part of the Frontier, with not a solitary inspection this month to help in brightening up life in Loralai. This in itself is a very unusual experience.

Part of the Section are enjoying an open air life and living in tents whilst the barrack room is being rebuilt. The M.E.S. promised us this new bungalow, I believe, away back in the 'eighties, and at last have decided to put the plan into operation. I doubt if the old timers of the Zhob would recognise their old home. When the bungalow is completed, the powers that be have promised to rebuild the 'Stute, and everyone is living in anticipation of this being habitable before Christmas. Shades of Taff Knight and Beaz! they have had to leave the cubby hole at last.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Pearce stayed with us for a few days en route for Fort Sandeman. We sincerely hope that he can dodge that Sandeman mozzy and enjoy life in the Zhob. Corpl Bartlett and L/Corpl Jamieson to sit for special and first class education respectively, and also to help swell the canteen profits. One battalion of Gurkhas, who celebrated their arrival by giving us a " bending " at football to the tune of 3—0.

Departures.—Sigmn Parker to Quetta. We trust he will not try to teach the Div. anything about horses and vitamins A, B and C.

Births.—To Prudence, six—three black and three piebald.

Marriages.—This is Loralai: not Scarborough.

Amusements.—We get very little in this line, but the Sergts Mess treated us to a very good show given by the Loraliers. This was a very excellent effort, and all credit is due to the

participants for a first class entertainment, more especially as this was their first effort in amateur dramatics. After the show an impromptu dance was organised, and the B.O.R.s seemed to have but one ambition in life, namely, the call of the east, Abdar.

Overheard at breakfast after one hour of school. One first class candidate to one special ditto: "It surprises me just how much I do know." This man is evidently anticipating four "D's," but that does not always stand for "distinguished."

Boxing.—"Watch yerself; it travels three inches and cracks like a whip." B Corps, please note: Franky on his toes.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Pout on attaining that rank, and also the long awaited roti gong.

We hear that Corpl (Paddy) Burke has gone to Jubb. to try to cheat the "S" course instructors. All the best, Churbi boy.

FORTY.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Tuesday 2nd October.

Opening Piece.—As Schneider, our late correspondent, has been transferred to Loralai, I have to deputise this month; so if this effort is not up to our usual standard, we shall have to ask Mr. Records to let Schneider stay in this pleasant land of the sun (shades of thirty days to go).

Arrivals.—The gates of Fort Sandeman opened during the past few days, and we had the pleasure of welcoming Sigmn Dart from Loralai. A few days later the band turned out to welcome Corpl Harries and his line party from Quetta, who are staying with this Detachment for the maintenance of our telephone system.

Can You Beat These?—Jammy getting 100 per cent. on preliminary test; maths first class—at least, that's what he says.

The lineman (and his supporter) who said that his pagri and topi caught fire from the telephone wires whilst sleeping—sorry! working up a ladder.

The tack wallah's dream: Loralai.

The Scotsman (the Marmite King) who left his vitamin "A" to grace our table.

Departures.—Sigmn Parker via Loralai to Quetta. May he enjoy that place as much as we did.

For a furtherance of knowledge, two special and one first class candidates, namely, Corpl Bartlett, Sigmn Buck Taylor and L/Cpl Jamieson. The bungalow is now much quieter as formula at the moment is nil.

Inspections.—Officially, nil. Unofficially, innumerable on our enlarged Institute, which has been closed for six months for renovations, etc.

Boats.—Boats do sometimes take us home. I wonder how long I have to put up with "—— days to go." I am glad it is getting less each day, and when it is only one day—well, I'll be the half that's left. Still, it is only thirty-three days now. Where's that other half?

Marriages.—We have one of our Section, at present on leave in England, who is seriously considering going into twin harness. As a single chap, I hope he remains single. If he does the trick, it will probably mean we shall have to follow suit. I hope Don sees this and is next on the list. He will save a lot of stamp money in writing to his fans.

Sports.—Only one game of hockey has been played this month. The teams were made up from officers and B.O.R.s from the station, as a few of us were on the sick list (malaria does get one). In spite of our mixed team, it was a very successful game and our side won.

WAT/GOOD.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Thursday 3rd October.

General.—The holiday season is still in full swing, and among the latest notable arrivals I have seen Corpl Harries, with his train, on a brief visit from Quetta. To say that he is a nervous wreck would be to put it mildly. When a man wants to dive out of the window or the nearest opening when a slight breeze blows, it is time he had a course of soothing syrup. Noticing his train doing plenty of arm waving early one morning, I enquired whether he had brought the ten loonies with him, but found it was nothing more serious than an attack of wasps. If one will disturb these poor harmless creatures, what can one expect? The aforesaid party appeared more like plumbers than a line party, considering the number of visits they paid to their lorry to get forgotten tools.

The valley here was visited by a sand storm that blotted out the landscape and raged for over an hour. It is pleasant to be able to stand on our own private hill and watch it float past. I have just been informed that the above-mentioned sand storm was quite a local affair, caused by eighteen soldiers trying to play hockey on our ground!

Hindubagh hockey and hockey grounds are a local "invention." Providing one is prepared with dust-proof glasses and infra-red eyesight, much enjoyment can be obtained, but without these one is apt to lose sight of the game completely. It has even been known that players have wandered downwards with the dust, and only the frantic yells of the spectators have shown them that they were a mile off their course. Certainly, we could put water down and use a roller, but that would take all the fun out of the game, besides allowing the ball to roll, which is an unheard-of proceeding on the present ground. As none of us here is built for speed or likes chasing the ball, I think we will let the ground remain as per the Sahara.

It is hoped that Corporal Harries and his retinue carry away pleasant memories of their brief visit to the Hindugarden (mim).

Another flying visitor during the month was W.O. Carroll (A.E.C.), who for two days did his best to instil into the minds of Moad and Eley the fact that, providing the examination paper was far below the usual standard, that the papers were marked by an exceptionally benevolent and generous gentleman, and with the luck of a thousand shared between the two of 'em, they need not have any qualms about the results. Whilst on the subject, we wish all in the forthcoming examination the very best of luck. They'll need it.

On Sunday 29th September the whole of the Detachment turned out with ropes, alpenstocks and nailed shoes to do a little underground work. As in most places along the Frontier, our water supply from the hills comes under the ground to us. It was our intention to follow one of these underground waterways, looking for items of interest, until the way got too small to traverse or else our nerves gave way. Needless to say, it was the latter reason that decided our return. The only interesting objects found were large frogs, small fish and a pigeon's nest with two dud eggs, while the losses sustained were one topee, and one shoe sole complete with spikes. We returned to daylight, happy but tired.

We are closing down for this month. Goodnight everybody! Goodnight!

SAM.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Thursday 12th September.

General.—This job is rather like trying to meet a pretty girl: the introduction is generally troublesome.

A discourse on the weather—the vagaries of which have been the subject of some pungent criticism lately—might, however, prove of interest to those of our readers who are still in the land of ice and snow. The beginning of the month with a few mild showers seemed to indicate the end of the monsoons with their trail of mildew and rust, but after some days of rising temperatures and humidities, with a corresponding decrease in the price of "liver," some heavy rainfalls marred the various sports engagements, of which more anon.

With the opening of the football season at home, county cricket and nostalgia have been relegated to their proper places, and no one can hope to hold an audience during these languorous nights without an encyclopediac knowledge of at least three divisions, of which no mention will be found in either peace or war establishments.

Only thirty-four days remain before the first trooper goes (the figures have been verified from various "sweat charts") and the works of Masefield (principally the poem beginning "All I ask is a tall ship") find much favour among those with homing instincts.

Social.—With a view to improving the social atmosphere in the unit, a series of weekly whist drives has been initiated. Despite the fact that almost half the unit is in the hills or on detached duty, these have met with instant success ; and although the evenings are still too warm to be really comfortable, an increasing number sit down to play each Monday evening in the Institute. Much of the success of this enterprise is due to the efforts of C.Q.M.S. Gould of U.H.Q. and Sergeant Morgan and Sigmn Brown '688 of this Company.

In addition to the whist drives, the first of a series of fortnightly dances was held in the mess room on Saturday 7th September, the music being supplied by the unit dance band under the leadership of Corpl Swann. The dance was a great success, and when the remainder of the unit return to Meerut a very pleasant winter season is anticipated.

Elevation.—We offer our congratulations to Corpl Ross R. J. on his elevation to that rank. A perusal of back numbers of THE WIRE will, no doubt, give you all the information you require regarding this product of the Channel Islands, who was at one time employed at a post office in Leeds.

Bob Stays.—He said " WIRE notes. Why, of course, sir! I'll have them to-morrow." But he thought—" ? "

BILLWUM.

Chakrata Detachment, No. 2 Company.

Monday 16th September.

After many weeks of practically continuous rain, the monsoon seems to have broken at last and now occasional rays of sunshine pierce the thinning clouds, reminding us that it is still summer in spite of all the evidence to the contrary.

Until recently, heavy clouds rolling across our sports ground made games very difficult. Players seemed to float about in the mist like ghosts, and rarely could a goalkeeper see the half-way line. The location of the ball was always a matter for conjecture to three-quarters of the players, and the spectators could only enjoy the game of the big ball, for the hockey ball was usually quite invisible from the touchline during the misty periods. Until it has been experienced, it is hard to imagine games played in fog other than in a wintry England, and almost impossible in India during the months of July, August and September.

As the hill depot at Chakrata is composed of only small detachments of units, some good competitive sport is available. Residing here, beside our detachment of eighty, are detachments of the 2nd East Yorks, the K.O.Y.L.I. and the K.S.L.I., with a small section of the R.A.M.C. The infantry detachments are about two hundred and fifty strong, so that we have to extend ourselves to successfully compete with them. Nevertheless, we won the inter-Platoon knock-out competition, which was run so that the strength of detachments did not assist or penalise a unit, and also finished the Inter-Detachment Hockey League series at the top of the table. The position was reversed in the Football League, in which we secured only the booby prize.

We are competing in the inter-Detachment athletic sports, and so far hold third place on the termination of the second day. The first two days were devoted to field events and the three miles track race. We are now relying on the track events on the final day to improve our position. Up to the time of going to press, the final day has twice been postponed owing to heavy continuous rain. The outstanding event of the sports to date was Sigmn Styan's splendid effort in the high jump. He was heartily applauded by all present.

Before the next issue of notes L/Sergt Fee and Signalmen Rice, Roberts and Ryan will have left us en route for England. In them, we are losing some very old friends who seem to have become part of the landscape wherever we go. Our barracks and camps will seem much more quiet when they are gone, but the younger soldiers of the drafts which arrived during the early part of the year are now beginning to find their feet and to get their names to the fore in work and sport ; so it is expected that the landscape will soon be just as familiar—only the names will have changed—and the noise from work and sport will be just as loud. Individuals change, but the unit goes on.

Lieut. Beeton has left us for a unit nearer home: B Corps Signals, Karachi. We all wish you the best of luck and happiness in your new post, sir, and sincerely regret your departure.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Wednesday 18th September.

Introductory.—" Once more unto the breach, dear friends." In other words, the notice " Under new management " is hereby displayed—our regular contributor having retired on his laurels, or I should say is being repatriated in the near future. I can assure everyone that I did not succeed by way of election, but happened to glance on my memo pad to see what was doing to-day and found " WIRE notes." Well, having failed to discover an Edgar Wallace or G.B.S. in the Troop, it behoves me to take up the reporting of affairs. Anyway, here goes!

General.—Apart from sport, which is reported elsewhere, I am afraid life in Meerut has not been very exciting, and up to the time of writing only one interesting event has taken place.

On the 10th September our officiating commanding officer, Lieut A. B. McVittie, very kindly promoted a jumping competition open to all ranks of the Troop, with an invitation to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals to enter a team of eight. Cups for the best and second best British and Indian ranks were kindly presented to the winners by Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., commanding officer of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals. The eventual winners were: British ranks: 1st Sigmn Forrest G. on " Emma," 2nd Sigmn Jacobs T. on " Jenny." Indian ranks: 1st Sigmn Fateh Haider on " Auntie," 2nd Sigmn Ali Mardan on " Silvo."

Sailing to Civilisation.—On the s.s. *California*, which sails on the 31st October, we lose F/S/Sergt Hamper J. and family. Shoey, who is proceeding home on three months privilege leave pending discharge, has decided to settle at the well-known seaside resort of Eastbourne. Good luck, Shoey!

Social Life.—We have to thank the 3rd Indian Divl Signals for their very delightful dances and whist drives. The Troop are looking forward to more of them.

From the Hills.—We welcome Sergt Percy A. back to the fold.

Training.—This branch of sport is flourishing considerably. Pack rides, remount training, backward horses being pushed forward, and oh! every other sort of training. You know all about them.

Marriages.—See Scarborough news (ex-Divite).

Finis.—Good!

PIP.

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 1 Company.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia.

General.—Our best wishes go with Col. Bald on his departure from Egypt, and we welcome Colonel FitzA. Drayson, the new Chief Signal Officer. Major H. V. V. S. Thorne is welcomed back as O.C. No. 1 Company.

The grouse season having opened, the chief topic of conversation among those who know (?) and those who think they do is soccer. The prospects are very rosy.

The casuals (really the main party) are now doing their daily dozen and should fire on or about the 15th October. "Should" is a very important word these days.

Several n.c.o.s are now looking for bargains in light or heavy cars, the demand being due to the recent n.c.o.s driving course.

Will the jovial people who insist on telling me of cancelled boats, etc., please come up with their money ?

Our late orderly-cum-clerk-cum-typist has joined the C.I.D. staff. One of the tips given him was "Stop everyone in mufti and see their pass." "What! L/Cpl —— as well ?" "Yes!" Ha, ha, ha, ha!

A Section.

Promotions.—Dear old John Son to Chief of C.I.D. He is the typical detective of fiction, with one of the keenest brains ever pitted against those cynical tight-lipped folk who tell you that you are wanted by the C.S.M. and then snatch up your latest copy of "Orbits, fossils and neutrons." No criminal can gaze into that vacant face with its magnetic eyes and not confess to stealing the cat's milk. To the instrument mechanics and other criminals, I quote the old saying "Duggie never owes ; John Son always knows."

Arrivals.—Many from outstations, most notable of whom are Issy Fox (complete with blue book and one pair of socks) and Squareface Walker.

General.—This has nothing to do with A Section in a way, but I noticed in last month's WIRE that somewhere a 120-watt set worked about seventy miles. We have one here continually working Cairo—Cyprus, almost four hundred miles. Who can beat it ? (India must forward proofs.)

Now that the Beauty Queen of Egypt has visited Europe (England included) we daily expect large numbers of Signals to visit our shores.

Tank Signal Section.

Congratulations to L/Corpl Stringer on his recent rise. The dinner and things that go with it would have been enjoyed by the Section if they had been provided.

Signalman Buckman, the flighty fitter, wishes to hear from his brother in India. He still uses his bed night *and day*.

The Section still manages to scrounge away from fatigues, range duties, etc. It's marvellous how our few boxes of wires help us to do it ; and the number of times sets have been fitted to 30 cwts. and tanks makes me blush.

M Section.

To start with, I must tell you about the 3-k.w. Lister that didn't act. Why someone should try pussyfoot drinks on a harmless piece of machinery, I don't know!

I.R.s, fitters, carpenters and n.c.o.s can now be seen working till late at night. Sammy Johnson insists on telling everyone that they only work overtime because he left the shops, and that it proves his former statement "I do all the work."

The kit inspection went down alright. "One on, one at the wash" and "Being repaired, sir" were remarks seldom heard. But I'm not sure if the Section sergeant was pleased or not. He failed to buy me tea and cake as he usually does.

No. 3 Company.

Billiards.—In the Church of England Institute Billiards League the unit team did exceptionally well, as right up to the last two games we were in a position to win. In those two games we played the ultimate winners, who beat us on both occasions. The first three teams were :—

	Played	Won	Lost		Points
1st Seaforth Highlanders	18	13	5	...	26
11th Hussars	18	12	6	...	24
Egypt Signals	18	11	7	...	22

The highest break in this competition (67) went to L/Bdr Young of the R.H.A. Our highest break (51 by Sigmn Drury) came second.

In the King George's Soldiers Home League we did better still, finishing with a tie with the 2nd Light Brigade R.A. We played nine games, winning eight. To decide the issue we played off against our opponents, but though we had beaten them earlier in the tournament, we were out-pointed and naturally disappointed in having to be content with the runner-up medals.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

[Attached to the 11th (P.A.O.) Hussars]

Thursday 10th October.

Chief Signal Officer.—We were very sorry to lose Colonel P. R. Bald, D.S.O., and our best wishes go with him on his departure to England. Our new C.S.O. is Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C., and we hope that he will enjoy his tour in Egypt.

Command Small Arms Meeting.—Two teams from combined Royal Signals, Egypt, were entered in the Command small arms meeting. The results were very satisfactory, for in the five matches in which Signals competed they secured two firsts, two seconds and two thirds, and were successful in winning the Roberts cup. They were very unfortunate in the Small Units cup, being beaten by a very narrow margin in two matches by the R.E.s. In the run down match, which appeared a certainty for Signals, the R.E.s pipped us by one point.

Appointment.—Congratulations to U/L/Corpl Butler C. A. on getting his foot on the ladder. Only seventeen more rungs to climb.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 5/9/35.

General.—I hope all ex-LOA-ites will not collapse or run round yelling "Turn out the guard!" or ow't like that, when this effort strikes their eye. The reason for the absence of our notes for so many months is that I thought somebody else was the scribe, and he in his turn thought somebody else was writing the notes. (Hope my excuse will pass!) Anyhow, the job has been pushed on to me, and this being my first literary effort, my plea is "Ixnay onway the ackscray." Those who think my effort feeble may console themselves that I may get better in time.

The maskee draft, including myself, are not feeling so maskee since the cancellation of serial 3 troopship, but we still live in hope of some good news. The general idea is that, if war breaks out in Europe, Hong Kong is a good place to be in even if the dollar rises to three shillings or more. A few who are staying behind seem very highly amused.

Our O.C., Captain G. S. O'N. Power, is at present on leave in the land of the rising sun, and Lieut. K. E. Holmes is in command of the Section.

Congratulations.—To our C.S.O., Major M. F. M. Parkes, M.C., and C.Q.M.S. Paul W. on being awarded the King's Jubilee medal ; and "88's" to our hard-working (he says so himself) I.M. Joe Funnell on obtaining his second tape. "Dang 'ee, boiy!" Congratulations, also, to U/L/Corporal Paddy Nash on gripping a dog's leg. We hope Mr. Records will not be not long in coming across with the "chinnah."

We now have the local closing stock quotations, by courtesy of Messrs. Swan, Culbertson and Fritz. The jolly old local dollar is slowly but surely dropping and is now at 1/11½. The maskee folks still sit in the canteen at night and tell of the days when it was at 1/3, tops were 45 cents, and H.B. was not brewed. "Them was the days."

Social.—The Section had the Cheung Chau bungalow for the summer months again this year, and all who went on leave seem to have had an enjoyable time, although the weather was not as nice as it might have been during June and July. Old hands will be pleased to hear that Mr. Smythe, old Rex, and Wendy the canoe are still going strong and added somewhat to our enjoyment. Some of the fellows went astray and returned talking like " big butter and egg men " from Cincinnatti and calling everybody " junior." Does anyone know of a game called " Keep away " ? If not, ask George. The bungalow was closed on the 31st Aug., but I know of several who are looking forward to next year.

The Lido and Majestic are still centres of entertainment, and several of the boys cross the harbour on certain nights to shake a leg. Being no gigolo (remember my exhibition at Macau) I only go to watch our Sparrer do his stuff and annoy our great friend Mr. Strambitski. When I do go, Stella always worries me with " What for my Johnny he no write. Maybe he has forgotten his Stella. No ?" What about it, John ? or has the Belle of Ludgerville or Shipton Wallop captured your heart ? If something is not done soon, Soapy will be singing " All that glitters is not gold-a " to her, and then she will be lost to you for ever.

Jew's Mail.—Convey: Ixnay onway the etterlay. I'll ixfay ouyay. Impchay.

Burch, Potesta and Mick: Do you know the Legionnaires' song yet ? No carioca, no fur hats, and the blondes simply ain't. Push.

Curtis: Congratulations. Next step, Brigadier. Chimp.

Empire Builder Hubbard, Singapore: What Empire ? How much are stamps ? Cock and Pye.

Tailpiece.—I cannot write more, or I shall never finish typing —being a real one-finger expert. "Chin-chin!" or as our Chubby would say, " 73's, 88's, or wot ave u ?" PUSH.

Shanghai Signal Section.

Tifeng Road Camp, 26th August.

General.—Once again our Section clerk is waiting to tap out a few words on his Oliver (1927 pattern, rustworn) typewriter. Remembering that hope is the essence of life, and that without hope life is empty, I will be human and live in hope that these few notes will be in time to catch the Siberian mail.

Enjoying a " Health Cruise " at Wei-Hai-Wei.

It will interest old Shanghailanders to know that life in Shanghai has been marred by the employees of the United Brewery (U.B.) amusing themselves by going on strike and bottling up the supply of that famous beverage so dearly be'oved by members of the S.S.S. It is rumoured that, owing to this catastrophe, Professor 'Unger went on a diet of Lotus ice cream, thereby causing a good deal of consternation among all ranks by losing a few pounds in weight. Whether this is true or not, I cannot say, but the Professor is now the proud owner of another mufti outfit per C.O.D.

Several members are now beginning to remember that acquaintances at home should be written to, so that they are not given

A Chinese Funeral Procession.

a shock on seeing old faces coming home from " furrin " parts. Naturally, the main topic is the trooper and who will be lucky enough to be coming to China. But as a famous statesman once said, we must wait and see.

Signalmen Armstrong, Powell, Bainbridge, Oates and Pitt in the Willow Pattern Tea Gardens, Shanghai.

The Section pets are once more in the limelight. Peter and Peggy are at present on twenty-four hours E.D. after being inoculated with anti-rabies serum. The monkey has been awarded fourteen days C.B. (by his O.C., L/Corpl Hesford) for forty-eight hours absence without leave, and the parrot is on the hooks for the same offence.

Apart from normal routine duties, the Section personnel are taking part in a Section tennis tournament, and also in life-saving classes with a view to obtaining life-saving certificates. Our O.C. is carrying out the duties of Area paymaster concurrently with his normal activities, and it certainly seems to be a man's job, judging by the number of hours he is putting in.

Sigmn Whiting looked in the other day, and he wishes to be remembered to old Sectionites. The scribbler of these notes (Ticky) would like to hear from Sergt Griffiths. He need not worry about stamps, because Tiny is still the postmaster until January 1936.

Having said all for this time, I will light my pipe, raise a smoke screen, and stay behind it. SHANGHAILANDER.

[*Received later*] Monday 23rd September.

General.—Once again I must seek inspiration (two tops, please) and try to compose a few notes so that Shanghai shall not be forgotten.

For the last fortnight we have been busy getting ready for the annual inspection. We have done nothing but polish up, and some kind person even presented us with a parcel of bones.

On Friday 20th September we breathed a sigh of relief. The inspection is all over and we are resting on our laurels, waiting for the next spasm. The inspection was up to the usual standard of the Signals, and the Section was congratulated on a very good turn-out both of personnel and transport. The Section clerk has run out of millboards. These were very much in demand to keep the haversacks (and batons) straight. With the inspection over, we can turn our minds to more serious things.

One of the brainy lads of the Section bought a gramophone for a pet. We have now a nice bill of Chinese writing, and we *had* two dollars (big money) and sixty cents (small money) for refreshment. Such is life.

Badgy has gone back to the Depot. Jim Trent is in charge of Badgy's squad, and it is anticipated that Badgy will get the C.O.'s whip.

Cricket.—To wind up the cricket season, we had an all day match with H.Q. Wing Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Naturally, we commenced the game with tiffin at the U.J.C., but that was as far as we got. True to form, Shanghai did its stuff and we had to swim off the field.

Whilst on the subject of cricket, it is interesting to note that L/Corpl Cavill and Sigmn Lowe have played regularly for the Shaforce team throughout the season. L/Corpl Cavill came out very well in the batting averages, and Sigmn Lowe made the highest number of catches for the team.

Tennis.—The tennis season is almost over, and to finish up we held a Section tournament. Sigmn Lowe came out on top and L/Corpl Hesford was runner-up. L/Corporal Cavill won the B.F.R.C. singles tournament, and was presented with a cup which he now lays out on kit inspection.

Football.—The football season has now started, and everyone is looking forward to a successful campaign. The last arrivals in the Section provided a number of new players, and the Signals will again be well represented in the Departmental team.

In conclusion, I might say that with the coming of winter we shall have to get our Tientsin vests out of cold storage (if the dollar goes down, we may be able to manage it).

Mail.—To L/Sergt Carnegie: Congratulations. Ginger. To Rut: Save me a bed. Ginger. To Sigmn Hodge, ex-5th Div.: Do they have fiddling boards at Aldershot ?

Stop Press.—Unger Page has just commenced on the production of a concert. We have several budding actors, and from reports received it looks like being a good show.

SHANGHAILANDER.

L/Corporals Cavill and Hesford and Signalmen Carter, Copinger and Taylor at the Great Pagoda, Soochow.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Signal Office, Valletta, 10th October.

Introduction.—Owing to the overtime put in by the powers that control our movements, the strength of R.Signals at Malta has been greatly increased since the last notes were written. A hearty welcome is extended to all the newcomers.

General.—September proved an exciting month for most of us. Hardly had the "Cease fire" blown for the Northern and Southern Command manœuvres than we received that wonderful order, "Get your kits packed and stand by ready to proceed to an unknown destination." What a thrill! Before we had time to realise what was happening, the M.O. was chasing us with a T.A.B. needle and the quartermaster was trying to get rid of a cheap line in sun helmets.

All ranks are still working at high pressure, the newly arrived linemen are being made acquainted with the various routes, and twenty-four hours a day is the order for the signal office.

Truth.—It was jam for tea. A fancies something different and proceeds to the grocery bar. B is there already, having purchased a tin of Heinz beans. Says A: "How do you heat them ?" B: "Same way as I eats anything else." A (with a bit more pressure on the "h"): "I mean, who heats them for you ?" B: "I bought 'em, so I'll eat 'em. Who do you think is going to do it ?" A (to attendant): "Give me sardines, please."

Native of Malta to Signalman: "Has guerilla warfare anything to do with monkeys ?"

Cupid's Corner.—This is what the correspondent gets when he enquires if there is any news for THE WIRE.

Tell Sergt Freeman of J Section, Aldershot, that Corporal B—Douglas sends barra salaams to him and others of J Section.

L/Corpl Macey, G.P.O. Leeds: Why not all three come here next March ?

Sport.—New sports committees have been formed and challenges sent out, but more about this next month. POLL.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

At this time of year an unavoidable gap occurs between camp and the commencement of the training programme. In recent years we have successfully filled this gap with a series of lectures on topical subjects, and through their popularity the lectures have carried a regular place in our activities.

The first of this year's lectures was held on Wednesday 9th October, when Mr. H. J. Barton Chapple, B.SC., A.M.I.E.E., gave a very interesting address on "Television." To most of us television has been little more than a name, and although we have frequently discussed the subject we have not realised to what extent it has been developed. Mr. Chapple has supplied us with a fund of information, and although we cannot claim to have mastered the subject in one night, we do feel capable of talking intelligently about it in future.

On Wednesday 23rd October Major-General Tompson, C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding Air Defence Formations (T.A.) will give a lecture at these headquarters, at 7.30 p.m., on "Air Defence Training, 1936." Invitations have been given to the officers and n.c.o.s of other London Air Defence units, and we hope to have a record gathering.

Other lectures have been arranged: "How London Grew," by Mr. O. Sallmann, on Wednesday 16th October, and "Wireless Interference," by Major F. W. B. Nicholls, O.B.E., R.Signals, on Wednesday 30th October. Both will be at 7.30 p.m.

On the 6th November will be held what is regarded as our annual general meeting. Officially, this is the occasion on which the commanding officer reviews the year's training and tells us of the hard work he has in store for us during the coming year. Unofficially, it is also the occasion for a general discussion on the unit's activities. The evening will conclude with a smoking concert in accordance with standard practice, and the payment of the proficiency grant will be made—a very good excuse for a large attendance. Should any member of the unit feel capable of entertaining the company by rendering a song or by any other means, we should be very pleased to grant an audition with a view to regular engagements! H.S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter, 17/10/35.

Editorial.—Another fairly quiet month has passed. Normal training continues, and a certain new activity is noticed in various places in connection with the recreational side of our life. A new football team has been formed, and we wish it all luck.

Everybody seems anxious to receive the forthcoming training programme and to get on with the job—a good sign.

The n.c.o. instructors course has been postponed for a month. Those selected are keen to visit Bulford for the fortnight, and in addition to entering wholeheartedly into the course, they are looking forward to renewing acquaintance with those n.c.o.s who have been attached to us at annual training in the past few years.

We are delighted with the good report from the Higher Command received by those volunteers who attended manœuvres and acted as M.T. drivers. Well done! MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Saturday 12th October.

Training has been somewhat disorganised during the changeover of our store room and Section offices. Nevertheless, the enthusiasts have been getting in some operating practice in anticipation of the commencement of the individual training programme in November.

We have been very pleased to welcome at our drill hall Marine Curtis, formerly of this Company and now of the Royal Marines. We were interested to learn that he was one of the men chosen for the Marine Battalion performing duties at the Royal Palaces in London, and that, incidentally, he was the only Marine picked with less than three years service,

An enthusiastic soccer team has been formed in the Company, and they played their first game on Wednesday 9th October against the King's Regiment third eleven. Unfortunately, the King's proved rather too strong for us, winning by 8—0. However, if the Signals had shown as good form in the first half as they did in the second, the result would have been a draw. Better luck next time, Signals! The team was as follows: Sigmn Close; Sigmn Cundy and L/Corporal Hancock; Sigmn Petherick (vice-captain), Mr. Rattray and Sigmn Murch; Corpl Prout, Corpl Ford, Sergt Northam (captain), Sergt Hutchinson and Corpl Granville. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

General.—During the stand-easy period we have had time to ponder and discuss some of our favourite topics of Longbredy, etc. Those who have had their ear close to our Mayfair lounge at Hamilton House could hear many whys and wherefores, etc., amid the boisterous laughing and the lads' repartee. "My bus would not break down at night," said one gentleman to our friend Joe; while another was apparently making anxious enquiries as to why a certain n.c.o. woke up with a grunt. Many seemed intensely interested in the intrigue of three n.c.o.s and a moonlight dip. Some are inclined to the view of a shrewd observer who remarked, "Why bother about moonlight bathing when reveille is so near? and what matters it whether The Bridport Arms is in West Bay or Bridport?"

Training.—Shush! Someone has just mentioned the training programme, which has certainly brought the writer back to earth again. All concerned are eagerly looking forward to the ensuing training season which is due to commence in November.

Despite the quiet spell, our drill hall shows activity, a considerable amount of keenness being displayed by all ranks, especially the new members, prior to the commencement of the respective courses of instruction which are to be undertaken by the senior n.c.o.s under the supervision of the P.S.I. Therefore, until the early part of next year, we shall be extremely busy with classes, lectures, demonstrations, etc., and all matters relative to the transformation of recruits into trained men and trained men into efficient ones.

So au revoir until next issue, when we shall report some progress and tell how the members shape. But, before concluding, during the past two or three weeks the writer was agreeably surprised by the keen desire to make full use of the recreational facilities. We appreciate very much the energy and initiative of our P.S.I., who possesses that happy blending of an artistic temperament and discipline, and our esteemed friends Sergeant Dickinson G. and his brother, who are endeavouring to complete an attractive programme for the winter months. BEGBIE.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6, 16/10/35.

Contrary to expectation, work has not progressed too fast at the drill hall. Some say the fine weather and moonlight nights are against concentrated training. On the other hand, owing to extensive building alterations being in full swing, the organisation and atmosphere for training are not exactly perfect. After all, our quartermaster and his staff must have some consideration. If there is not to be a nice comfortable store erected, to allow their leisure moments to be enjoyed in comfort—well, where else can we have the dart board?

During November we are going all out for big things. Elaborate programmes have been compiled. The instructors obtained are straining at the leash. Now, if the pupils are willing and attend regularly, we are going to *do big things*.

With winter approaching, our entertainments committees are wondering if they really can warrant their existence. Well, dances are the more simple to promote and, given a sound backing by all ranks, it is intended to run fortnightly "hops." Remember, we must take money at the gates to make a success,

The dance season will open at 8 p.m. on Saturday 9th Nov., when the annual dance to commemorate the Armistice will be held. For this event the Harlem dance band has been engaged.

Congratulations to our adjutant, Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay, on his fine performance in the Royal Signal golf tournament. If one speaks or thinks of golf in the Corps, one must surely link the subject with the name of our adjutant. This is the fifth occasion on which the trophy has been won by Captain Lewis-Barclay. It is indeed a splendid record. Captain Lewis-Barclay, with Major J. C. McDonald as partner, was successful also in the Royal Signal foursomes. Congratulations to both.

Overheard at Football Match.—Disgruntled spectator (whose team appeared to be receiving no benefit from the referee's decision): " Hi, ref! where's your ' L' plate ?" 0020.

25th Construction Section, S.R.

We are glad to report that we are numerically stronger than at the time of last writing, our lads having persuaded seven of the right type to take the shilling. (Incidentally, the amateur recruiting officers have taken the dollars.)

New store rooms are in course of erection, and when completed these will enable us to take stock much more comfortably.

Foot drill, etc., has been the subject at the last four parades, and the results are very satisfying—not quite like the P.B.I., but " scotching 'em up."

Two of our number have made a bid to increase our pay roll at future camps by becoming fathers, namely Signalmen Harwood (a daughter) and Winter-Goodwin (a daughter). We take this opportunity of wishing them " many happy returns," etc.

Should any reader who has served with any of the following ex-Regular Signals feel inclined to drop them a line, they can be assured of its being appreciated. 2306520 Adams G. W., 2306415 Foster W. H., 2306712 Henson W. A. and 2312198 Cooper A. C., ex-rats ; 2310128 James E., 1415224 Saxton H., 2309838 Everett E. V., 2307003 Bray A. J., 1850205 Boulding W. H., 727578 Hawes W. D.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 15/10/35.

General.—Our headquarters re-opened for general training on Monday 30th September. Individual and recruit training is now in full swing on our drill nights (Mondays). The popular paid courses in operating and procedure are again being held on Thursdays and Sundays, and we are pleased to report that both evenings are drawing a good attendance. Recruits are steadily, if slowly, coming along—and a very good type of fellow, too.

On Saturday 28th September a concert was presented at our headquarters by the Dug-Ups concert party. There was a very large attendance, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all ranks and their friends.

No. 3 Company held their annual inter-Section competition on Wimbledon Common on Sunday 6th October. For once in a while, the weather was kind ; otherwise, those taking part would have had a very thin time of it. The competition is very comprehensive, as it takes in line laying, A set station and V/T station work. The Sections took their jobs very seriously, and the staff at each individual station showed great keenness in doing their little bit as it should be done. K Section obtained first place, with J and L second and third respectively.

Officers.—We were very sorry not to have seen Captain C. A. Oliver (late adjutant of this unit) when he was home on leave from India. We hope he has now fully recovered from his illness.

Sergeants Mess.—We held our first dance of the season on Saturday 5th October. A record number of dancers and others attended, and among the visitors from other Messes we were particularly pleased to see such a large representation from the 56th (City of London) Divl Signals.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we have to record the death, on the 21st September, of L/Sergt Richardson G. of No. 2 Company. George " Rich " enlisted in this unit in November 1929 and was appointed lance-sergeant in 1932. He was a very popular fellow both in the sergeants mess and among the members of his Company. The unit has lost a very sociable and promising n.c.o. Wreaths were sent by the unit and the Sergeants Mess.

Social.—The first unit dance of the 1935—36 season was held on Saturday 12th October. There was a fairly good attendance. We hope the Officers Mess has been supplied with a good number of dance fixture cards. Our next dance will be on the 26th October, and the Armistice Ball on Monday 11th November.

Football.—We are running a football team again this year, and we started off by drawing with our friends the R.E.s. Our next game was a flop as far as we were concerned. We lost by—sorry! I can't remember by how many, as we've lost the slips of paper with all the ticks on. We remember the score sounded rather like an Italian report of Abyssinian casualties.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11, 14/10/35.

Birth.—It gives us the greatest pleasure to tender our respectful congratulations to Lieut.-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth (our popular C.O.) and his wife on the arrival of a son (Roger).

Unit Concert, Presentation of Trophies and Dance.—This event took place on Saturday 12th October. The evening opened with an entertainment under the direction of our old friend Mr. Maliband, without whose versatile and energetic presence at the piano none of our concerts would seem complete. This consisted of humorous items and solos, plus a magician. The latter called upon Sigmn Hadnett for assistance, and nearly succeeded in tying him into knots after deftly picking his pockets. All the items were enthusiastically received.

During an interval the C.O., who honoured us with his presence throughout the evening, addressed a few words to the residents of Hall Green, appealing to them to encourage their sons to join the unit. He then presented the cups won during the past training season. The winners were as follows. Officers' technical cup, 2/Lieut. Bowen. Best Section officer, Lieutenant Waters. Cleanest tents in camp, J Section (Captain Bolton). Attendance cup, K Section (Lieutenant G. St. L. King). Football cup, Don Section ; Corpl Stevens, captain (Captain Simpson). Officers' shooting, Lieut.-Q.M. B. J. T. Rowe, M.M. Sergeants' shooting, C.S.M. Ryder.

After the interval, dancing commenced and continued until past midnight. Signalman Bill blossomed forth in the role of M.C. and kept the party going with a swing, as well as giving an

exhibition tango with his partner Miss Norton. (It should be mentioned that Mr. Bill is a certified teacher of dancing and the winner of several dancing championships.)

Winter Training.—An instructors course in operating is now in session, as well as a subalterns course and one for boy wireless operators.

D.R. Run.—The despatch riders, under Lieut. Soutter, held a practice trek by devious routes, covering a hundred odd miles on Sunday 29th September. Arising out of these runs there seems to be a popular criticism that the word " Inn " is never boldly enough marked on O.S. maps—this fact causing undue hardships as lunch time approaches.

We have opened a fund to provide Sigmn B . . l with a new chain for his bike (or a new bike for his chain—I forget which).

A D.R.s Motor Cycle Club is in course of formation. The commanding officer has kindly placed a room at the disposal of the members for meeting purposes, and also made the use of the workshop available. It is proposed to organise a series of Sunday runs and scrambles during the winter months, and possibly smoking concerts.

Random Reflections.—Do these notes ever come to the notice of any of our past members, especially those who have left us to join the Regular Army but have not forgotten the old unit ? A line from any such would be greatly welcomed.

Appreciation.—We have read with great interest articles appertaining to D.R.s in recent issues of motor cycling magazines, especially one by Captain Firth of the 56th Divl Signals.

Correction.—In last month's notes the Gunner Signal Section taking part in the 67th Field Brigade exercise at Weymouth was referred to as G Section. This should have been No. 229 Section.

Sergeants Mess.—The first dance of the season took place on the 21st September and was, as usual, well patronised. The policy followed by our energetic committee is to provide our circle of regular patrons with a fixture card of events for the season, which has to be produced to gain admission to the grounds. This arrangement has lent a touch of exclusiveness to our dances which is found to be greatly conducive to their enjoyment. The annual Mess dinner is due to take place on the 19th inst.

Gleanings from an Instructors Course.—How to pick up plated *brass* pins with a horseshoe magnet. We suggest smearing the ends with treacle.

Cuckoo in the Nest.—Sergeant Brhl. " assisting " the band drummer. We noticed that the latter was eventually allowed to play the triangle. GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—The absence of our notes last month, we are told, caused so much consternation, disappointment and dismay among our regular readers—both of them—that should such a thing occur again in the future, that support might even wilt.

The after-camp month was, in fact, very quiet from the point of view of training, although there have been several changes in our permanent staff. Apart from a bit of shooting on the miniature range, there was little to disturb the slumbers of those gallant souls who earned their rest after a rather strenuous camp ; but now that October has raised its sobering head (no offence) the wheels of industry are once again beginning to turn.

Last season's successful innovation for the training of junior operators—the father and son system—is again being used in a more intensive manner, and a course for a selected group of recruits, who have each been " fathered " with an experienced operator, will run until Christmas. Another close season course is in progress for the W/T Sections.

P.S. Changes.—The end of camp saw the departure, after completing his " twenty-one," of our genial R.S.M. During his tour of duty with this unit Sergeant-Major Coffin has made a wide circle of friends, and his departure is a great loss to the Service. A warm welcome will always await him, and we trust he will continue to grace the mess with his presence.

Sergt Keane A. J., who has held a local appointment as C.S.M. during his tour of duty with the unit, has taken over the duties of R.S.M. ; for although he completed his twenty-one years last month, he has been permitted to remain in the Service until 15/11/36.

A new arrival to whom we extend a hearty welcome, with happy hopes of a long and pleasant stay, is L/Sergt Brewster P., who comes from the Training Battalion, Catterick. The commanding officer has been pleased to approve Sergt Brewster's appointment as C.S.M. (local) w.e.f. 20/8/35. His attachment to the unit is marked by a happy event which surely points to August as being his lucky month : congratulations to him and Mrs. Brewster on the birth of a son (David) in Catterick Camp Military Families Hospital on the 11th August. Boy, 1949, eh, Pip ?

C.S.M. Hobby, another of our worthy P.S., became the proud father of a daughter (Pamela Margaret) born at Leeds on the 20th August.

Social.—Saturday whist drives in the sergeants mess and Sunday evening concerts in the men's canteen have commenced again, and herald the opening of what it is hoped will be a really successful social season.

The annual unit ball has been fixed for the 3rd January, so if any old friends of the unit are in this district then, they will be assured of a good time if they like to look in.

Proverb.—" Many a match is struck in the dark." (Think it over.)

Let Me Be Your Father.—Everyone knows this advert. from its appearance in the daily Press. We've been doing a bit of the same sort of thing here, and it makes one think of camps gone by when, suddenly, you are told (on going on parade like a good soldier) that your son is waiting for you. There are also problems that would set Somerset House thinking hard, such as son aged 21, father aged 18 ; how come ? Still, it's all for the good of the cause, and no one will trouble, except perhaps the fathers, even if it goes so far as sons asking for their Sunday pennies.

Conclusion.—This close season business might be a bed of roses for most people, but every scribe will agree that it's just too awful when material is about as scarce as good pliers in the technical stores. Here's to the next time! and may such gems of the English language as " What's yours ?" be well and truly used. TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

General.—Except for the annual inspections, things have been very quiet during the last month. We were visited by the Divisional commander on the 10th October. He was interested in the unit, and from what we could gather everything was satisfactory.

Courses.—Winter training commenced with the assembly, on the 10th October, of a sixty hour course for operators. This is the first of a series to be held during the winter season. It was well attended and everyone was keen and interested. A few new faces were noticed, and we hope that all who attend will derive much benefit. It is a short time in which to glean much, but the new members should not be discouraged on that account : the spade work is always the most difficult. It is a pity that funds do not allow for a large number of paid candidates for these courses, but voluntary students are encouraged to come along.

Recreation.—All members of the Badminton Club are training hard for the forthcoming matches which have been arranged between the officers and sergeants, and the sergeants and men. A physical culture class has also been formed, and it is hoped that this will prove an added attraction this winter. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Winter Training.—The winter courses commenced on the 17th September and are fairly well attended, though there are some faces missing. Courses for operators and linemen are well under way now, and it is hoped that an n.c.o.s course will commence early next month.

We owe many thanks to the Scottish Command Signal Company for their kindness in sending us instructors, who have undertaken the training of all ranks going for a rating as operator signals. To travel all the way from Edinburgh and to take such interest in our training is a very nice action, and one that is much appreciated by all here.

Linemen's training is going on under the P.S.I., and great keenness is shown both by the old timers and those who are just getting initiated into the mysteries. The standard for trade ratings is now such that we all have to get right down to it, and good results are expected on the arrival of the first Trade Board.

The recreation room continues to be a centre of attraction on non-training nights ; but, there again, we have to report that there is plenty of room for more members of the Company.

A very interesting challenge was received from the officers for a match at badminton: officers and sergeants v. the remainder. This match was held on Wednesday last and resulted in a win for the remainder by 6—3 games. (I am authorised by the officers and sergeants to say that, for any return game, they intend to turn out their strongest team and not give the remainder any more practice.) This game was very enjoyable socially, and there is plenty of room for repetition. Thanks are due to the officers who kindly supplied refreshments both to players and spectators, which was very much appreciated by all. I wonder if the remainder intend to give them their revenge ? I hear so—and pretty soon at that.

Other news is scarce this month, but it is hoped that more items of interest will be available before I write again. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Now that the dark nights are upon us, we are pleased to see such a good number of the Company coming along to take an active interest in all that is going on. When the winter programme is in full swing, it is hoped that all members of the Company living in the district will find time to visit the drill hall frequently.

Entertainments.—A Company general meeting, with Captain A. T. Wood in the chair, was held in the lecture room on the 30th September. A committee was elected, and after a general discussion it has been decided to hold Company dances, on the same lines as last year, on the 1st November and the 13th December. If these are a success, another meeting will be called to arrange the dates and details for running the annual whist drive and dance and the annual smoking concert.

Rifle Club.—The Company Rifle Club opened on Thursday evening with a membership of twenty-six. This is very encouraging for the opening night, and no doubt the number will grow during the course of the next few weeks. Our O.C. has kindly offered to provide a medal each month, to be competed for on the handicap basis, so that every member will have a chance of winning. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Mostly Manœuvres.—The Supplementary Reservist has been described as a soldier civilian. The perplexities of the humdrum existence of civil life claim him except for one brief period of the year. There comes the time of annual training, when the Supplementary Reservist becomes a soldier in the full meaning of the word. The factories, the offices, towns and villages yield up their quota of craftsmen of many vocations. Men forsake hearth and home for the drill square and active service conditions. Bowler hats and umbrellas give place to rifles and gas masks. The tent, the bivouac and the ground sheet become the substitutes for modern housing conditions. Yet the days of annual training rank among the bright spots of the Supplementary Reservist's life. These are the days of discipline and the open air, when the shadows of monotony and the struggle for existence recede. It is a welcome change-over to the sound of the bugle, the parade, the mess room and the canteen.

It was in gladsome mind that our No. 3 G.H.Q. Signal Company and No. 24 Cable Section S.R. detrained at Aldershot on the 8th September to join A Corps Signals for the manœuvres. Mons Barracks made a good home for the first week of the venture. For several days we prepared, drilled and schemed.

We were happy amongst our old friends of A Corps Signals. There was an all ranks smoker. Our senior n.c.o.s joined the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess in a grand dance. We made a very creditable show against the Mons Barracks football team, although A Corps Signals proved the victors.

The second week was given over to the work of the manœuvres. We acted as a G.H.Q. signal unit in collaboration with A Corps Signals. There was much to do for telegraphist, telephonist, lineman and D.R. Sergeant Sam Strain did great things. We revelled in the work at Alton and Rushmoor. The heavy telephone and telegraph traffic had no terrors for us. Taffy Williams and the D.R.s put up a grand show. The work of Yeoman-of-Signals Maclellan was excellent. No. 24 Cable Section proved indefatigable.

No. 23 Cable Section fared equally well at Larkhill. This Section was fortunate in once again coming under the command of Colonel Allan of L. and C. Signals (S.R.) London. It must be no small reward for the Section to hear of the official appreciation of its work on the Plain.

Gales and terrific rains did not deter our lads. The men of muscle and brawn who maintain communication in the Hebrides, Argyll and the Scottish Lowlands proved invaluable. The greatest credit also reflects on Lieut. Mitchell, Sergt Dan Mackenzie, and Sergt McAdie (the permanent staff instructor).

R.S.M. Sewell of L. of C. Signals did much for the Glasgow Section. There was complete understanding and harmony between the Londoners and our Cable Section. Truly, the Scotsman and the cockney make a formidable combination.

So has passed Aldershot and Salisbury Plain of 1935. Silenced is the telephone bell, and mute is the Morse sounder. The tanks which smashed and strewed our wires have long since gone. Ended are the torrential downpours and harassing winds. No more we man the test point or scour the darkened roads. The fast speeding troop train has done its work. The Supplementary Reservist is home!

Jimmy Hadfield.—We had an interesting visitor recently in the person of ex-Sergt Jimmy Hadfield, who was at one time well known throughout the Corps. Jimmy was a bit of a worthy, but he was especially noted for his prowess as a rough rider. There were few to equal him in the saddle. It may interest Jimmy's many friends to learn that his present location is Inchgarvie Island on the Forth, Scotland.

Promotions.—We congratulate L/Corporals McEwan R. and Henderson R. of No. 3 Company S.R. on their promotion to the rank of corporal.

Mess Merriment.—The inaugural whist drive and dance of the season in connection with the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess took place on the 27th September. This attracted a large and merry company. The entertainments committee would welcome the full support of serving Mess members at these functions. Future events have been arranged on an ambitious scale, and these should be well worth patronising by members and their friends.

5th Div. Courses.—We have to thank our good friends of the 5th Divl Signals for their kindness to Sergeants Bodys and McKay, of our T.A. units, during the course of attachment of those two n.c.o.s. Things were made very pleasant for our Territorial comrades. R.S.M. Bevan deserves a special word of thanks.

Winter's Ways.—The breathing space following the last of the camps is broken. Football, badminton, billiards and dancing are given an added impetus with the advent of the winter season. Soon there will be classes and courses. There can be no gainsaying the value of the winter curriculum.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 16/10/35.

L Section has returned from manœuvres flushed with success. They are full of wonderful tales of real soldiering and their battles with the elements. The veterans of the Great War have to take a back seat now, and no wonder, when we read the following extract from a speech by the G.O.C. 1st Div.: " I hope all ranks enjoyed the experience of hard campaigning, and that

this will not be the only occasion on which the 160th Brigade will be associated with the First Division. I really did treat you as Regular soldiers. I should like you to know that we all agree that you acted as such."

The following letter from the Brigadier, 160th Brigade, to the Brigade Signal Officer is also of great interest.

Headquarters, 160th (S.W.) Infantry Brigade,
The Camp, Basingstoke,
20th September 1935.

My Dear Bale.—Please allow me to thank you for the enormous help you gave this Brigade throughout its participation in Army manœuvres. It would be difficult to find a more exacting task than that of maintaining communication with a Territorial Brigade when opposed to Regular Army Forces ; and that you succeeded in maintaining communications through every fight in which we were engaged is a tribute to the efficiency of the Divisional Signals and your own Brigade Section in particular.

If you will allow me, I should like to extend to Lieutenant Cawthorn, your n.c.o.s and men, my entire approval of all they did to help us in this connection, and my deep sense of satisfaction with the efficient and pleasant manner in which they carried through a difficult task under such adverse circumstances.

It was a wonderful example of efficiency and organisation, and I shall remember that on no single occasion did any of you fail me.

With every wish for your future success, and with again my best thanks.

Yours very sincerely (*signed*) J. L. SLEEMAN.

Lieut. Bale, Royal Corps of Signals,
Brigade Signal Section.

One incident, however, marred the concluding period of the exercise. One of our D.R.s (Sigmn Sexton T.) had the misfortune to come into collision with a tank and sustained a smashed knee. He was taken to hospital at Aldershot, where it was found necessary to amputate his leg. The accident happened within the last half hour of the exercise. Sigmn Sexton is one of our keenest members. He had already done his annual training with the unit at Penally in August, and had volunteered for duty with L Section. In addition to being a good D.R., he was also a member of the unit band, in which he played the cornet. We are happy to report that he is now off the " dangerously ill " list, and we hope he will continue to improve.

The O.C. "M" Section on Leave.

Obituary.—It is with much regret that we report the death of Major T. Austin Isaac, O.B.E., T.D., on the 22nd September, aged 59. Major Isaac had a long military career. He joined the 3rd V.B. Welch Regiment in 1896, later transferring to the Severn Div. Submarine Miners, R.E. (Volunteers). From this latter unit sprang the Welsh Div. Telegraph Company, R.E. (T.) in 1908, and Major Isaac became its first C.O. He continued with it as the 53rd (Welsh) Div. Signal Company, R.E. (T.) until March 1918, when he was appointed to command the 24th Corps Signal Company then being formed in Egypt. This latter unit had a short existence, and Major Isaac assumed command of Sinai L. of C. Signal Company R.E. until his demobilisation. In 1920 he re-raised the 53rd (Welsh) Div. Signals and retired in the same year. The unit was represented at his funeral by Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., and the W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess sent a floral tribute.

Welcome.—A hearty welcome to our new honorary colonel, Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., R.Signals, and to Mr. R. C. Angel, our newest subaltern.

We hear that, following the custom of naming one's place of residence after a great event in one's life, a certain member of the unit has decided to discard the borrowed glory of a former owner. In future, therefore, for "Darjeeling" please read " Basingstoke."

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Training.—Although the evenings are now much darker and wet weather seems to penetrate the atmosphere, particularly over Stratford way, we still have men who are keen to delve into the mysteries (or otherwise) of the various subjects and demonstrations appertaining to electricity, and the class rooms are all alive on drill evenings.

The lecturers and demonstrators (is that correct ?) warm up to their subjects, especially when a big spark is made to jump across an immense spark gap! It's a good job that the batteries are in a good condition. A certain corporal—no name yet—has got the " disease " so badly that he says he will not be satisfied until he is entitled to write certain letters after his name, but I hope he doesn't bring up too many problems! However, that is the spirit which is prevailing just now.

Then, walking by the gymnasium, one can hear the thud—thud of gloves either on a punch ball or on some poor unfortunate's body, or the panting of breath which on investigation we find comes from individuals of the physical training class, perhaps trying the back lift lengthways on or feet between. Anyway, it's a hard job to get these classes to dismiss now!

Then again, later in the evening, one walks into the canteen and training still seems to be continuing—this time either " arms lift " or dart throwing being practised. The mention of dart throwing reminds me that, from what can be seen, a very good team could be formed here. What about it, somebody ?

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—It is looking more like the real dark Stratford since the clock has been put back, so now Southend knows where the dark horses come from (boxing team).

Training.—The advanced operators class has been given some very interesting lectures by Captain Beck and C.Q.M.S. Fleming. We can already see that Marconi look in their eyes, but it does not really matter how they look so long as they are cramming what they learn into their grey matter.

P.T. and Boxing.—We hope to have a really good physical training display team this year. Up to the present there is nothing too hard for them. To tell the truth, the instructor has all his work cut out to get them away from the gym by 10.30 p.m. Still, that's a good fault.

The boxers are doing all that is expected of them—and can they hit ? We have had three new punch bags up to now! The same trainer used to take an interest in the Canterbury football team. Never mind, I will come and see you some time, Wellock.

4th Divl Signals.—Would the 4th Div. please furnish the working numbers of the following on the cable wagon: R.S.M., C.S.M. and F-of-S. I suppose it can be done, Bush.

Jewish Mail.—Hello, Norman!

Tail End.—We all wish to be remembered to Snowy Newton.

THE BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—During the past month we have turned our thoughts to that elusive boxing cup, and now our drill hall closely resembles a miniature muscle factory. You see, we are going to get a little nearer than "two or three points" this time. The team is putting in some very good training under the able supervision of our friend Bombardier Holland from the Royal Artillery, but if we are not careful we shall be producing a team of acrobats as well as a boxing team.

Awkward Arthur—the man with two left feet—who was such a star turn at annual camp and caused so many grey hairs, is a very enthusiastic member of the vest and shorts brigade, and as usual always manages to do his stuff in a highly original manner. However, up to the present we have always succeeded in disentangling him from himself in time for "Dismiss." We hope to take him to Stratford on a long chain in December. Nuff sed.

Congratulations.—To Corpl Brewster H. and Sigmn Robinson F. J. on successfully passing the courses held at annual camp, 1935. Well done! THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Drill Hall, Ashburnham Road, 1/10/35.

General.—Ever heard a real good moan? If not, come to Bedford. The scene is the lecture room on a drill evening. Time 19.55 hrs. Half a dozen of the lads are wandering round the room when the door opens and in walks the P.S.I. Silence for one second; then it starts . . . . . "We want bounty!" "We want bounty!" The P.S.I. hides his head with shame in the 120-watt set and mumbles something about "'Tis a far far better thing," etc.

We have become the proud possessors of two A sets. During the next two months we are going to fiddle about with these, and then send them back to Southend in time for them to be repaired for work in the next training season.

Question by a likely lad on the A set: "How can the thing work when the current keeps being interrupted?" Instructor: "The answer will be given next week. Fall out."

Social.—A grand whist drive, supper and dance will be held in the drill hall on Saturday 19th October. Tom Sayers and his band (himself) will be in attendance. Guests are required to bring their own sausages, so that everyone will have something to his own taste. More about this next month.

Agony.—To Ivor: Write, you scamp. Write! TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7, 14/10/35.

During the past month we have frequently been to Altcar rifle range to enable the recruits to fire off their course. Most of them have now done so and are qualified for their bounty. The weather, on all but one occasion, has been exemplary and rendered this seaside spot very pleasant.

The one bad week-end we had witnessed a scheme in addition to the shooting. There were no lines to speak of as space, except perhaps for shooting, is somewhat restricted in Altcar. The offices were situated in various huts in "A" camp and the two Divisional mobile offices nearby. The affair was very successful, and we had the pleasure of having the directing staff in the vicinity all the time. This was most encouraging, as we were enabled to take any litt'e difficulties to them for instant elucidation. The C.S.O. paid us a visit on the Sunday. We wished he could have been there on the previous evening, when we had a first-rate meal and not a little boyish fun afterwards.

On Sunday 28th September the inter-Company shooting competition was held at Altcar. The cup was presented some years ago by General Rollo, C.M.G., D.S.O., who came along to hand it to Mr. Lees on behalf of No. 2 Company. Congratulations to the latter, and also to Corpl Watts, who mustered the highest individual aggregate. Next year, I confidently predict that No. 2 Company's supremacy in this field will be overcome. The others, at any rate, mean to make great efforts to ensure this.

In the mess conversation turns inevitably to the Abyssinian dispute. This is not a tirade but a record of what I thought was a good remark—or rather two good ones. In discussing the uses of the smaller European countries in the League, mention was made of Poland and Czecho-Slovakia, and weighty arguments followed. Finally, one man remarked "Anyhow, we could use the Poles for crossings." This was capped by someone else saying "And the Czechs for runners."

At a Mess meeting, recently held, it was decided to hold our annual ball before Christmas this year, and the 20th December (a Friday) has been fixed as the best date. The dance will be held as usual at the Adelphi Hotel, and this early notice is being given so that readers of THE WIRE who were too late last year in applying for tickets can get in an early application, and so not be disappointed a second time.

Our winter social season opened with a billiard match between the sergeants and the men. Some good play was seen on both sides, and eventually the men won by 62 points.

Next month we intend to start a new feature, recording such social or anti-social events as marriages and births, etc. Then, annually, we can perhaps offer through these columns our congratulations on the various anniversaries. This is as far as we will go, as we have no intention of later beginning a free medical advice service. FIVE-FIVE.

56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12, 7/10/35.

Since our last notes were published, everyone has returned to work after his brief holiday in camp. Drills have recommenced, and all are preparing for a hard winter's work.

L. of C. Signals on Manœuvres.—As already reported, Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan assumed command of "No. 2 Western Corps Signals," composed of Supplementary Reserve units from Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow, the Construction Company and Headquarters being provided from here. From all accounts, Western Corps Signals achieved a very great success, which will do much to enhance the reputation of Signals with the Higher Command.

The activities of the Signal units were too numerous to mention individually. Suffice it to say that the first week of camp was

One of our D.R. Display Events.
[Photo by London News Agency Photos Ltd.]

occupied in providing enemy signals for the Eastern Command exercise, while in the second week the Army manœuvres were heralded by the big storm which did so much damage all over the country.

Photographs of the Western Corps Signal camp at Larkhill, taken on the morning of the first day of manœuvres, are reminiscent of any point in France after a heavy bombardment or the scenes of the Quetta earthquake. All large tents were blown down, and a large number of bell tents suffered a like fate.

Despite the conditions, the Supplementary Reserve went to work with a will, and (in the words of an official appreciation) maintained adequate communications throughout the operations.

Despatch Rider Display.—Weather conditions were also against the performances at the Banks and Insurance Motor Association gymkhana and the Barnet grass track meeting. In both cases the ground was completely waterlogged. Despite the conditions, the display was carried through in its entirety and the skill of the performers evoked much praise from the spectators.

N.C.O.s Class.—During October classes are being held to qualify n.c.o. instructors, both operators and linemen, to receive an increment of pay while acting as instructors. The classes are run by the permanent staff, and it says much for individual keenness that the courses demand and secure attendance on six nights a week.

Recruiting.—This unit migrated from the City to its present headquarters in September 1933, and for the last two years the greatest efforts have been made to increase its strength. This has advanced during those two years from 156 to 249—an increase of 93. Against this must be taken the fact that the move from the City unsettled a very large number, who have found the journey to Clapham increasingly difficult. If to those who (having completed their four years service) could not continue are added transfers to units nearer their home and to the Regular Army, it is found that no less than 82 men have left the unit during the period. We wonder if any other T.A. unit can show that it has enlisted 175 men in two years.

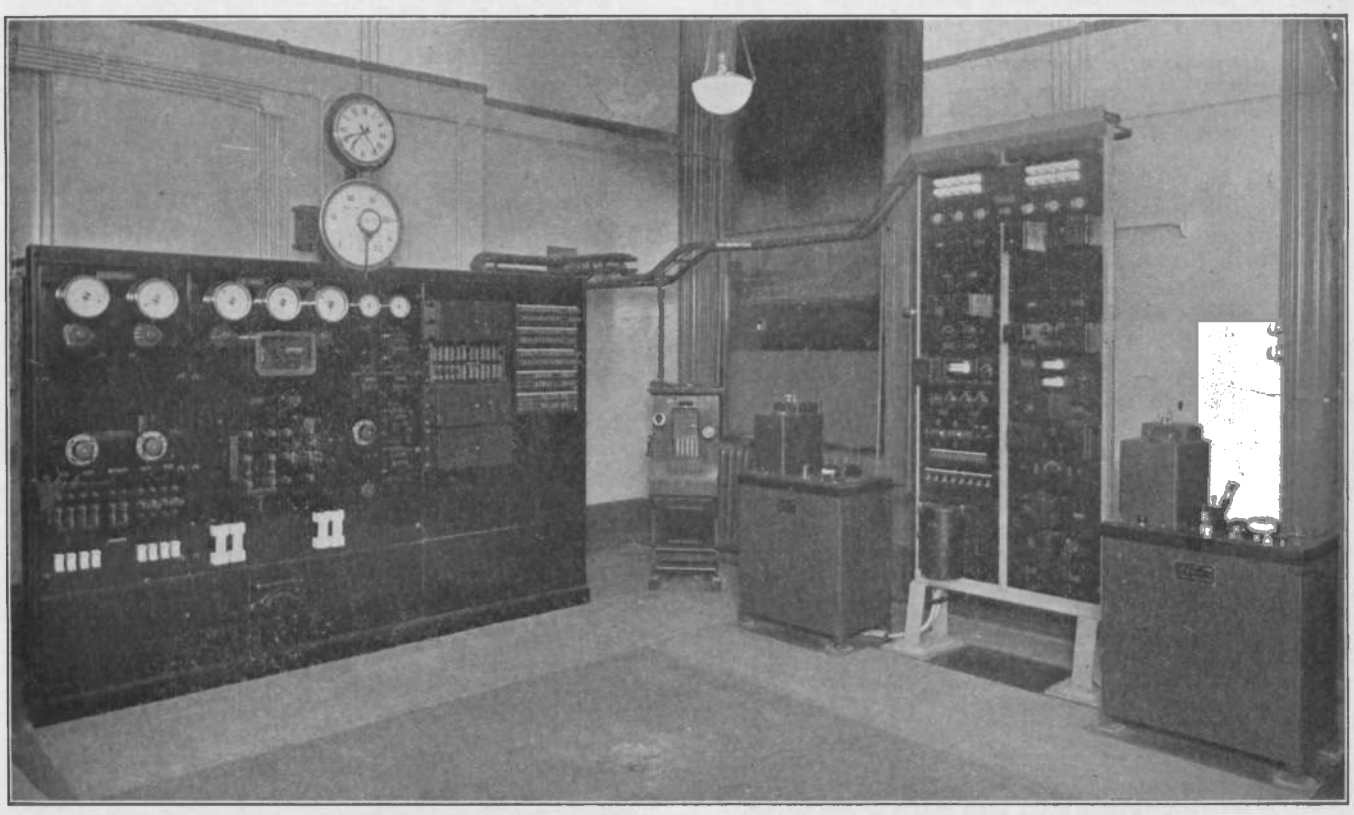
There is much agitation in the Press as to the strength of the Territorial Army and the difficulties of inducing the right type of men to join. We feel that if the drill hall of the unit is made sufficiently attractive, and good hard progressive work is provided for the men when they attend for drills, the Royal Corps of Signals, at any rate, need never be so badly below strength as to give cause for anxiety.

Decrease in Strength.—This month we have to chronicle the loss of C.S.M. Tyrell F. A. of No. 1 Company L. of C. Signals S.R. His business commitments have at last made it impossible for him to continue serving.

C.S.M. Tyrell first enlisted in the 12th London Regiment, Territorial Army, in 1909 and transferred to the Royal Engineers, serving with the R.E. Signals throughout the war and being demobilised in August 1920. By February 1921 he was back again in the T.A., being one of the oldest members of the 56th (1st London) Divisional Signals which was reconstituted in 1920. In 1925 he transferred to the Lines of Communication Signals S.R. He has been C.S.M. of No. 1 Company of that unit since 1926. He wears the Military medal, 1914—15 star, General Service medal, Victory medal, Territorial efficiency medal, and the King's Jubilee medal 1935. Twenty-six years practically unbroken service is a very fine record. He may rest assured that all ranks of the City of London Signals will deeply regret the necessity which compels his resignation.

We all hope that, though not still serving, we shall see just as much of Mr. and Mrs. Tyrell in the future as in the past.

C.O.L.S.



The Picture Telegraph Room at the Central Telegraph Office.
(Left to right)—Power Board, Telephone Board, Sender Machine, Control Panel and Receiver Machine.
By courtesy of the Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O.

SPORTS NOTES

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

General.—With the beginning of the winter season our teams, both rugger and soccer, are taking shape, and we hope to have more news in this column next month.

Shooting.—No. 4 Squad, under Corporal Nicholls, won the shooting shield for September.

Cross-Country.—No. 4 Squad, again under Corpl Nicholls, won the cross-country shield for September. A run was held on 25/9/35, and Sigmn Armstrong (of the Squad) was the first man home. L/Sergt Spearpoint is showing promising form in this direction, and we are hoping for great things from him this season.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Bolam on playing rugger for the Garrison versus Middlesbrough. We are hoping that he is heading for an Army trial.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Hockey.—In our progress towards winning the Mackworth trophy, we are pleased to record an increase in the number of points obtained this year at hockey in comparison with last season's aggregate of three points for playing E Company five times.

So far, we have obtained six points for hockey, having beaten the Dismounted Wing by 3—0 goals in the first round. This game was fast and interesting to watch. The early play favoured the Dismounted Wing, but they could not pierce our stalwart defence. In the second half F came into their own and the superior stamina of our team told, and we scored three times without reply. Our team was: Goal, Corpl Holloway; backs, Sergeant Solly and Boy Murray; halves, 2/Lieut. A. F. McGill, Corpl Shipton and Boy Mayhew; forwards, Boy Hawley, Sigmn Handley, Sigmn Diball, Corpl Turner and Boy McDermott.

In the next round we play the Mounted Wing, and although they have already beaten us in a friendly match, we are very hopeful.

We played a friendly match with Headquarter Wing of the Cheshire Regiment, who included two Garrison players and several Battalion men. We succumbed by three goals to nil, but had a thoroughly enjoyable game.

The boys hockey eleven played E Company second eleven and were successful by three goals to nil.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

General.—Winter sports are once again in full swing. The various teams are up to standard, although we have lost several of our last season's stars. Such celebrities as Dodger Green and Kipper Hickmott have left us for civvy life during the last few weeks. We should like to know whether Dodger can swing a pick as well as he used to swing a hockey stick.

Hockey.—Five games have been played so far this season, of which we have won three and lost the other two.

Our first match was against our old rivals the 1st Divl Signals. The game was evenly contested and was very clean and well fought. Our forwards did not always accept the chances offered them; otherwise the team played well. The 1st Div. were worthy winners by three clear goals; they snapped up what chances they had.

A very enjoyable and keen game against the M.E.E. Farnborough provided us with our first taste of victory this season. L/Corpl Cokayne had the privilege of scoring the first goal of the season.

Another very keen and enjoyable game was played against the Wiltshire Regiment, last season's Army cup runners-up. The pace was very fast and both sides had plenty of scoring chances, with (if anything) A Corps having most. For several lengthy periods the Wiltshires were hemmed within their own twenty-five line, but all our efforts at getting goals proved abortive until just before half-time, when we took the lead. This proved a very short lived one, though. The Wilts equalised, and as a result of three breakaways in the second half they got two more goals. These three occasions were practically the only ones when the ball was in our half of the field in the second half. We are looking forward to the return match, when we hope to reverse the result.

The 2nd Divl Signals were rather easy victims on the 14th October—our forwards scoring six goals, three of which were disallowed for infringements, the result being 3—1 in our favour.

Rugger.—The team have had a couple of trial games and one first team game. There seems to be plenty of talent in the unit, and we hope to retain the Hitchens cup which we won last year.

On the 11th October our team played the D.C.L.I. and won a good game by 13—0 points. Well played, A Corps!

Soccer.—The team have not yet properly settled down. They have been rather badly hit by men leaving the Service and by drafts abroad. They did manage to win one game by 13—1, but we will not say too much about that, as our opponents were not really first class.

Boxing.—The unit boxers are getting in plenty of training these days, and we hope to be able to say quite a lot about them later on in the season. L/Corporal Spriggs (welter weight) and Sigmn Goodwin (light weight) have been selected to compete in the Aldershot Command boxing trials on the 14th and 15th October. We shall be able to say how they got on in next month's notes.

It is to be hoped that Driver Lloyd soon gets over the effects of his operation for appendicitis, as he is considered a very good feather weight by the people who know.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

General.—This year, we have definitely combined with E and F Troops, Cavalry Divl Signals, for all sports within the Garrison and for local games. We also hope to combine with the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford, for Army cup competitions. Another innovation is that we are going to run second teams as well—a thing that, hitherto, we have been too weak to do.

Football.—We have again entered for the Tidworth Garrison Football League and challenge cup competitions. So far, we have played only two matches and the results are as follows: v. 3rd Hussars won by 1—0, and v. the 2nd Loyals lost by 1—3. It is the general opinion, I think, that we are rather better off this year for talent, and in spite of a crop of early injuries we expect great things of our team. Now then, you fellows, don't let me down.

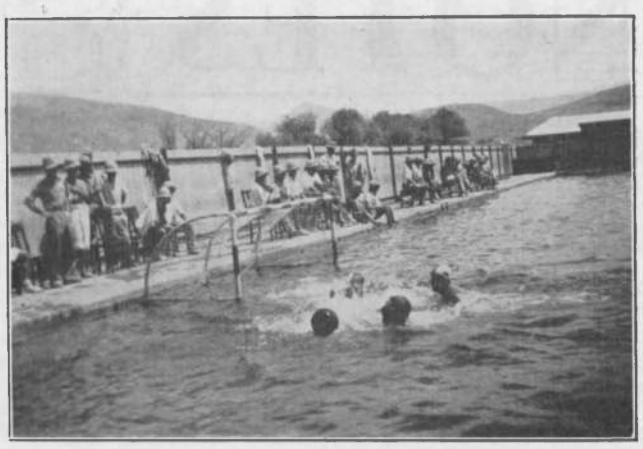
Rugby.—Keener interest in this branch of sport is being awakened in the unit. Hitherto, lack of suitable grounds for practice, etc., within the Garrison has rather held us back. This year we have a ground allotment, and although it is generally less far to walk when we play away than when we are at home, our lads are really getting very interested. Of course, we are still pretty weak, but slowly and surely we are getting the makings of a team. Results so far: v. R.A.O.C. lost by 4—6 and v. R.W.F. lost by 0—9.

Hockey.—In this branch of sport I see a good season ahead of us. We have recently acquired several good players—not transfers—and the selection committee find themselves hard put to it to choose from so many likely players. Results so far: Tank Brigade Signals v. L (Nery) Battery R.H.A. lost by 0—1; and "A" team v. 3rd Hussars drew at 3—3.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

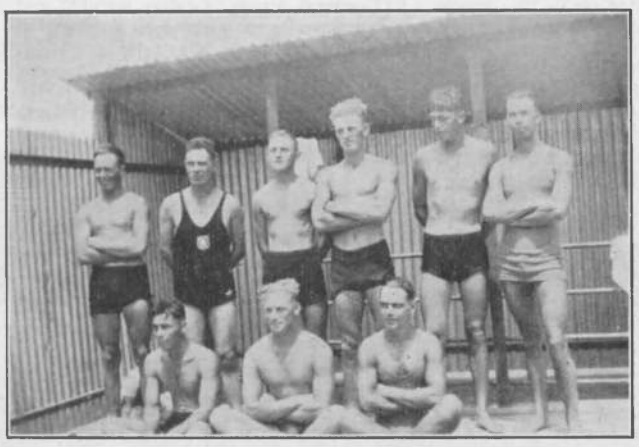
No. 1 Company.

Sports.—We congratulate the unit swimming team on their fine performance in winning the Baluchistan District swimming cup, and note with pride the preponderance of One Company men in the team.



A Race for the Ball near the Goal.

This brings us to No. 1 Company's team, whom we pat on the back for the way they won the cup in the unit aquatic sports. We did not have to borrow any swimmers from U.H.Q. to do this, either.



No. 1 Company Swimming Team.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Sporting Chronicle.—The All Sports tournament mentioned in our last notes is now in the final stages, and would in fact have been over but for a break in the weather and one or two cancellations which were unfortunately unavoidable.

At present No. 1 Company details and No. 2 Company (b) are level, pegging 14 points each, and there only remains the final of the football between those teams to decide the question of engraving the sports shield.

Perhaps the most keenly contested item of the tournament was the tennis match between U.H.Q. and No. 2 (b). U.H.Q. were represented by C.Q.M.S.s Pagett and Lemon and Sergeants Foley and Shepherd, while Lieut. R. Webb, Sergt Morgan, Corpl Ross and Sigmn Betts represented No. 2 (b). Play was of a very high standard, and the end of the match found each side with one set of doubles and one set of singles to its credit, but U.H.Q. gained the decision by the narrow margin of three games.

No. 1 Company details won the swimming events by beating No. 2 (b) in the final by three items to two. Sigmn Ellis of the latter team enhanced his reputation with a very fine plunge of 46½ feet.

The hockey and rugger were won by No. 1 Company and No. 2 (b) respectively, with play of a pretty even standard in the former but with something in the nature of a walk over for No. 2 (b) in the latter, which was due to the efforts of such stalwarts as Corpl King and Signalmen Bott and Spence.

A show jumping competition was organised by the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, but as they will, no doubt, have something to say about it themselves, a word in passing will suffice. Signalmen Davis, Atkins and Randall, with two faults each—a very fine performance in view of the slippery nature of the ground following a heavy downpour—had to ride off for first place among the unit representatives. In the second attempt Davis, with four faults, secured first place. The Drage-like efforts at furniture removing (and I'm sure L/Corpl Collington will agree) were, no doubt, caused through the heavy going, and we sympathise with those competitors who normally manage a round without faults, but found themselves carrying away more wood than is compatible with prize winning.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Cricket.—In our first match of the season we played E Battery R.H.A., the result being a win for the Battery by four wickets.

On the 6th September we played the 3rd Indian Divl Signals and managed to win by the comfortable margin of seven wickets. Sigmn Spencer did very well with bat and ball.

Football.—Matches played since the last notes. 28th August v. E Battery R.H.A. lost by 1—2. 2nd September v. 91st Battery R.A. drew at 1—1. 5th September v. 3rd Divl Signals, won by 1—0. 12th September v. Royal Dragoons, lost by 1—2.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Soccer.—The weather still being warm, we have had only one friendly fixture to date: v. the R.A.F. Kai Tak. Result: a draw at 1—1. Some promising talent was shown, and we hope to do well in the Small Units League.

Hockey.—As usual, keen enthusiasm is shown, and we have again entered the Mamak League which starts next month. We hope to emulate the success of former years, and are looking forward to our annual visit to Macau. Despite the heat, we have already played several friendlies, the results of which are as follows:—

v. 1/8th Punjab Signal Section won by 3—2 (May 2, Farrell)
v. C Company East Lancs Regiment won by 1—0 (Farrell)
v. Hong Kong Mule Corps won by 3—0 (May, Farrell, Dilley)
v. 1/8th Punjab Signal Section won by 3—1 (Fielding 2, Farrell)
v. Kowloon United drew at 3—3 (Farrell 2, Cox)

Aquatics.—The Section managed to regain the Russell relay challenge cup. They were much too good for the other teams, winning by nearly two lengths.

Sigmn Hudson had bad luck in meeting an exceptionally good man, but gave him a good fight in all events in which they met. He was placed second in the 440 yards, the 150 yards free style, and the 150 yards three styles. Well done, Soapy! Sigmn Cox, second in the 25 yards dash, had bad luck also to be beaten by a touch.

The Section ran a polo team for friendly matches and had quite a good season. We were knocked out of the Small Units cup by the 24th Heavy Battery R.A., who managed to reach the final of the competition.

The following have played water polo regularly for the Small Units team this season: L/Corpl Shove, Signalmen Henshaw, Farrell, Dilley and Hudson.

Tennis.—The team has been greatly strengthened by the arrival of Captain G. S. O'N. Power and Lieut. K. E. Holmes, but as all tournament games are played on grass, to which our team is not accustomed, we have not done so well as at first expected.

Billiards.—We have a new sports secretary who believes in "caning" the billiard fund, and consequently a number of matches have been played during the last month, several good evenings resulting. Results: v. R.A.M.C. lost; v. A Company 1st Lincs lost; v. R.A.M.C. won; v. H.M.S. *Capetown* lost; v. R.A.F. Kai Tak won.

HAREWOOD HOUSE,
LEEDS.

I send Christmas Greetings
to my Corps and wish
one and all a very
prosperous New Year.

Mary

Colonel in Chief.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, G.B.E.,
Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals.

A - Jolly - Good Christmas - to - All

— 1935 —

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VOL. XVI.—No. 190 DECEMBER, 1935 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- —— C. Walters, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia
Ex-Corporal E. S. J. Haines, Auckland, New Zealand
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 the inclination to write.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

We have been honoured by H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS, who has very graciously sent to us, for publication in the Corps Magazine, a message of greeting to all ranks of the Corps.

That message is reproduced in facsimile to accompany a photograph of Her Royal Highness, which appears as a loose flyleaf Presentation Supplement with this issue.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Exchange.—Royal Signal officer (subaltern) due for posting abroad 1936—1937 would like an exchange. Will those interested please communicate with "SUBALTERN X," c/o the Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Indian Reunion.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Indian Signal Corps is holding a Reunion and Silver Jubilee celebration at the Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore, from the 10th to the 15th February 1936—the first Indian Signal unit having been raised on the 11th February 1911. The Commandant, Signal Training Centre (India), will be pleased to hear from any old members of the original five units—the 31st, 32nd, 33rd and 34th Signal Companies, and No. 41 Wireless Signal Squadron, Sappers and Miners—and hopes that any old comrades who are still in India will be able to attend the celebration.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Mr. W. Ison, of "Avonview," Harnham, Salisbury, would be pleased to hear from any of his old comrades of the 29th Divl

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Signals, 67th Heavy Artillery Brigade Signals, or 1st Corps Signals —to whom he asks us to convey the season's greetings.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

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 us 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.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Bound Volumes of " The Wire " for 1935.—All Readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of THE WIRE for 1935 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution. *No Royal Signal Mess Library is complete without these Volumes.* Price 8/- per copy, post free (at home or abroad). THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

EMPLOYMENTS—On the 31st December 1934 we experienced a certain amount of elation at having recorded 460 situations found for Association members during the preceding twelve months.

It is with even greater satisfaction, therefore, that we now report **509 Employments during 1935,** and we take this opportunity to convey our grateful thanks to those whose valuable co-operation and assistance in this matter have contributed in no small measure to such a successful year.

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-N.C.O. Salisbury	Wireman
2	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Chauffeur
3	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	Batman
4	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Chauffeur
5	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Coffee Bar Attendant
6	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
7	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Batman
8	N.C.O. Salisbury	Waiter
9	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
10	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Waiter
11	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Clerk-Draughtsman
12	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Motor Driver
13	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Storekeeper and Clerk
14	Ex-W.O. London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
15	Ex-N.C.O. London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
16	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Service Station Attendant
17	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Lorry Driver
18	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Butcher
20	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
22	Ex-W.O. Oxford	Telephone Switchboard Operator
23	Ex-N.C.O. Isle of Wight, Tel.	Switchboard Operator
24	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Salesman
25	Ex-N.C.O. London	Labourer
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
27	Ex-Signalman, London	Shorthand Typist
28	Ex-Signalman, London	Semi-skilled Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter and Turner
30	Ex-N.C.O. London	Semi-skilled Electrician
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Semi-skilled Electrician
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
33	Ex-N.C.O. London	Bath Attendant
34	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Wireless Operator
35	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Batman
36	Ex-Signalman, Southsea	Wireless Operator
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
38	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Clerk
39	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Motor Driver
40	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Post Office
41	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Porter
42	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
43	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
44	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Telephonist
45	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
46	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
47	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Waiter
48	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
49	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Lineman
50	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Miner
51	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Telephonist
52	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
53	Ex-Signalman, London	Post Office
54	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
55	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
56	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
57	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Cook
58	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
59	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Agent
60	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Handyman
61	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Mechanic
62	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Mechanic
63	Ex-N.C.O. Reading	Tele. Switchboard Operator

[*Per the Salisbury and District Branch*]

64	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Clerk
65	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Labourer
66	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lineman, G.P.O.
67	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	T.S.B.O.
68	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	T.S.B.O.
69	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lineman, G.P.O.
70	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lineman, G.P.O.
71	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	T.S.B.O.

[*Per the Portsmouth and District Branch*]

72	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Milk Roundsman
73	Ex-W.O. Gosport	T.S.B.O.
74	Ex-Signalman, Southsea	P.O. Engineering Dept.
75	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	P.O. Engineering Dept.
76	Ex-N.C.O. Gosport	P.O. Engineering Dept.
77	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Milk Roundsman

[*Per the Exeter Branch*]

78	Ex-Signalman, Plymouth	P.O. Engineering Dept.
79	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.

Total Employments found for the year, at the time of going to press, 509.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

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Sterling Silver Cocktail Shaker with Strainer. Height 8⅝ ins. **£3 17 6**

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4¾ x 3¼ „	£3 10 0

Sterling Silver engine-turned tear-off Match case **£1 2 6**

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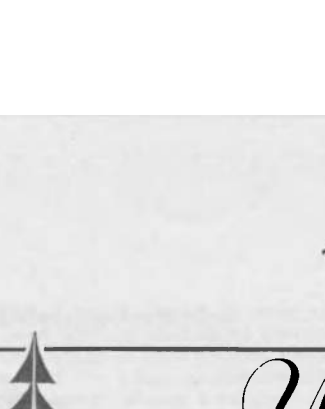
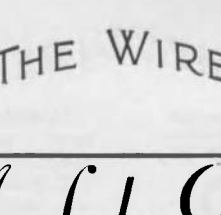
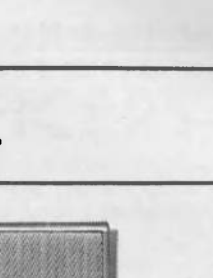


Sealskin Letter Case, with two Chromium-plated Silver corners. Length 6⅝ in. **£1 0 0**

Polished Crocodile Letter Case, lined Crocodile, with two 9-carat Gold corners. Length 6½ ins. **£5 0 0**



Sterling Silver and Enamel Flapjack Vanity Case. Size 2⅝ ins. square. **£2 8 6** Various colours.



Diamond, Platinum and Enamel Brooch **£22 0 0**

In Platinum, 18-ct Gold and Enamel **£6 17 6**

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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

B Corps Signals, India
Sergeants Mess, Aldershot
Peshawar District Signals
Royal Signal Officers Mess, Catterick
Aldershot Command Trust

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Captain C. Childs, R.Signals

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£5	0	0
2	Ex-Driver Leeds.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
3	Ex-N.C.O.Somerset.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	4	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	7	6
5	Ex-Sigmn Suffolk.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Dorset.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Sussex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4	0	0
8	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	0	15	0
9	Widow of ex-Sigmn Essex.	Dom.difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
10	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Ex-Driver Yorks.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	10	0
12	Ex-Sigmn Lancs.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	10	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Army Vocational Training.

The Woodworking Trades:

Wood Machinist, Carpenter and Joiner, Cabinet Maker.

To most individuals the woodworking trades are interesting and attractive. Even in this age of metal they are very important and offer opportunities for congenial employment.

As is generally known, the engineering trades have not yet recovered from the slump, so if you are interested in machines there is no better trade for you than that of wood machinist.

Nowadays most of the woodwork hitherto made patiently by hand is produced by machinery. We have machine-made stairs, doors, windows and furniture of every description. The work is well paid and interesting, and a man may specialise in the use of one machine such as a spindle moulder or learn to use several machines.

In the country districts a craftsman is often able to work either as carpenter or joiner, but in most large towns men generally keep to one section or the other. Although carpentry is akin to joinery, there is a great deal of difference between the two. The carpenter works on the construction of buildings and moves about from building to building as required, while the joiner remains in the workshop at the builder's works or the joinery factory and prepares the various fittings which the carpenter later fixes.

A joiner's work consists mainly of assembling the wooden fittings required in the construction and fitting up of buildings, houses, shops, etc. These consist of such items as doors and door frames, sashes and sash frames, dressers, cupboards, mantelpieces, show cases, staircases, and fixtures of all kinds. The carpenter fixes these in the buildings after he has assisted with his part of the construction—the joists, partitions, roof timbers, etc. His work on the building lasts almost from start to finish.

The work of the joiner calls for greater neatness and skill in finishing than that of the carpenter, but the latter's work requires a sound knowledge of construction. The work entails the skilful use of tools and familiarity with timbers.

A cabinet maker does somewhat similar work to the joiner. Most of his work is in the workshop and consists almost entirely of furniture making, but on occasions he goes into large houses and shops to fix the hard wood panelling and shop fittings made by him. Furniture repairs and adaptations are also carried out by the cabinet maker.

Cabinet making requires the ability to work cleanly and neatly in hard wood. The methods of construction differ from joinery, but the skill required is very much the same.

One who possesses an aptitude for the use of keen-edged tools soon makes progress at the woodworking trades.

At the Vocational Training Centres training and production are combined, modern machinery is in use to save unnecessary labour, and the woodworking students learn their trades under the same conditions as those obtaining in any modern joinery or cabinet making factory or building firm.

Reminiscences.

Telegraph Battalions, Royal Engineers, Aldershot, 1905. Officers versus N.C.O.s

Correspondence.

[S.2/11134] R.Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent, 8th November 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—Numerous applications for enlistment as trumpeters in the Corps are received on behalf of lads between the age of 15 and 16 years. As the limit of age for enlistment is 16 years and the average number of vacancies each year is three, it will be seen that these lads have little or no chance of being accepted.

I should be glad if you would make it known through the columns of THE WIRE that if sons of members or ex-members of the Corps wish to have a chance of being accepted for enlistment as trumpeters, application to this office should be made when such lads are between the ages of 13½ and 14½ years.

Such registration would not debar the lads from competing at subsequent examinations for apprentice tradesmen, and would ensure them consideration for enlistment as trumpeters in the event of failure or non-acceptance at such examinations.

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

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, 16th November 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the December 1935 WIRE.

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

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 29/6/31
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 10/2/30

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

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain R. H. Hooper from York to 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals
Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young from Aldershot to R.W.A.F.F.
Lieut. T. H. Winterborn from S.T.C. to Japan (Language duty)

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 22/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

S.E.E.—Lieut.-Colonel St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler, R.Signals, relinquishes the grading of Class Z (on promotion) 1/10/35

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain L. W. Hayes resigns his commission 23/10/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. W. J. Jones to be Lieutenant 10/9/35
2/Lieut. W. S. Procter resigns his commission 23/10/35

[War Office 25/10/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. S. I. Brett to be Lieutenant 14/9/35

[War Office 29/10/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 27/10/35: J. L. Henderson; C. M. F. White, and remains seconded; C. K. Thursby-Pelham, and remains seconded; Brevet-Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., and remains seconded; E. G. Sinnott; L. W. Schneider, and remains seconded; R. L. M. Rosenberg; C. R. H. Firth; R. H. Wall; W. C. V. Galwey.

Lieut. F. W. P. Bradford is seconded for service with the T.A. 14/9/35

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. H. Baker to be Lieutenant 3/6/35
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. J. W. Grundy ceases to hold a commission 26/10/35
47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals—Major C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., M.INST.C.E., M.I.MECH.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel 30/10/35
Captain W. H. Lloyd to be Major 30/10/35
52nd (L.) Divl Signals—D. C. Lindsay to be 2/Lieut. 30/10/35
28th London Regiment—Lieut.-Colonel H. Ll. Howard, M.C., from 47th (London) Divl Signals, to be Lieut-Colonel with pay and allowances of a Major, 30/10/35

[War Office 1/11/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain C. Knowles to be Adjutant vice Captain H. Bartlett 1/11/35
Lieutenant T. H. Winterborn is seconded whilst undergoing a language course 1/11/35

[War Office 5/11/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., from 54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals, is appointed D.C.S.O. for T.A. duties, Eastern Command, 11/10/35
54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—Major F. A. Manley, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel 11/10/35

[War Office 8/11/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. W. A. Edgson resigns his commission 9/11/35
2/Lieut. F. C. G. Greening to be Lieutenant 8/10/35
K. J. Amos to be 2/Lieutenant 9/11/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

47th (2nd L.) Divl Signals—Lieutenant E. W. G. Knight to be Captain 30/10/35

Superb the fame of the Royal Corps of Signals: Superb the renown of Montague Burton products

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Corner of Tottenham Court Road

[War Office 12/11/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain B. B. Kennett is seconded for service under the Foreign Office 26/9/35

Lieut. J. B. Adams is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Instructor, School of Signals, 1/11/35

Lieut. R. G. Muir is restored to establishment 1/11/35

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. S. A. W. Philcox resigns his commission 13/11/35

- - Plain Tales = =

Same to You.—And so we come to the end of another year. A very happy Christmas to all friends and/or readers everywhere. It is a little difficult to write in a Christmassy spirit at the moment. It is raining with a dull deadly persistence, and a fitful wind moans round the corner of the hut wherein I make my miserable home. Some years after I have left here, new barrack rooms will be built. It always happens like that, does it not ?

At irregular intervals the door leading into the barrack room slams with terrific violence, thus indicating that the occupants know I am at home. Alas, that such unmannerly men should be admitted into the Corps. People who slam doors should be drowned at birth.

In India you have the sun and light loose clothes. Soon you will hang up the brick, and everyone will welcome Christmas week with great joy. Where are those foolish people who do not want to go to India ?

What of us ? We shall be compelled to endure the company of our near relations, eat a thoroughly English Christmas dinner, and become gently inebriated as befits the occasion. Friends abroad, pity us. A merry Christmas!

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Military Note.—" The morale of the troops is good and they sing during meal times, with General Moscani accompanying them on the guitar." B.U.P.

This is absolutely the right spirit and, contrary to popular belief, it is not without precedent. About twelve years ago I was fortunate enough to be attached to an Infantry battalion over at Little Wifter in the Wold. The battalion was a great favourite with the G.O.C. of that time.

You can imagine my surprise when he came round on a friendly visit one dinner-time, playing a piano-accordion. The A.D.C. always held the General's cane for him while he played. The English are so terribly self-conscious that it was not surprising to find that the idea never spread to any great extent. This would account for the lack of interest shown by commanding officers. It is actually on record that when General Sir Flimtootle-Horrock-Sparrowgale, P.D.Q., was asked if he would care to sing the Regimental March through a loud speaker at a review, he punched the C.O. on the nose. " I don't sing, you fool ; I play the flute," he said.

You see how necessary it is for O.C.s to know the little fads of their great ones ?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—Compliments of the season to all cats and those who appreciate us. Little George is making great progress but is inclined to be conceited. He goes about telling people that he is really an Alsatian in disguise. Now he wants to call himself South American Joe and is attempting to grow whiskers down the sides of his face.

We are fortunate in having an expert clockmaker with us now. He repaired the chimes of the Mess clock so that they worked beautifully. Unfortunately, with the chimes working the clock refused to indicate the correct time, so we are back where we were before, look you.

Tessa sends her kind regards to all friends and says " Isn't it a pity! Haven't you heard the news ?"

I don't know what she is talking about, but it sounds as though I shall not be able to scratch her nose any more. We were never quits over that piece of liver last Whitsun.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

The Milkman Never Knocks Twice.—You know me. Ukann Larfe. I've got to write my own stuff this month just because it's getting near Christmas. I'd like to fix that bloke's duff. Barleux, I mean.

Well, I left old Faceache sitting up against the tree where I had piled the car. Facey looked a picture. The blood was trickling from a buster at the side of his head, and he was moaning softly. I bashed him on the head with a piece of concrete before I left, so that he wouldn't moan so much.

Tramping along the road wasn't so good, so I got ready to stop a car. Sure enough, along came a big saloon, so I stood out in the road and waved it to stop. A girl was driving it, and although she slowed down I could see she wasn't going to stop. I grabbed the door handle and swung on to the running board.

She never said anything for a bit, so I bit her on the ear. That shook her, so she said " What do you want ?"

I told her to drive me to the nearest railway station so that I could get to Paris. All the way along I was gazing at her. She was beautiful in a queer way. I thought it was a pity she should have to drive a big car like that, so I grabbed the wheel with one hand and punched her on the jaw. She never made a sound as I pushed her through the door. I think the back wheels went over her.

After that I felt a lot better and sent the car speeding along. By ten that night I was in Paris enjoying a drink or two in the Cafe Chaud Chein. The head waiter brought me a card. I think I went pale, but I don't know. Anyway, I went outside, and there was Mademoiselle Collette. Was my face red ?

I guess I'll have to tell you the rest later. BARLEUX.

The Great Earthquake at Quetta, May, 1935.

[***Concluded from the November Issue***]

[*Continued from page 516, November issue*]

[With the exception of the three small column-width illustrations, the photos reproduced with this Diary were taken by Lieut.-Colonel J. A. H. B. Somerville, D.S.O., R.A.—EDITOR.]

[6/6/35]

20.00 O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals reports that total of messages dealt with at Club Signal Office and Signal Lines Signal Office up to midnight 4th/5th amount to 7700 (approx.)

20.45 Director P. and T. wished to split trunk line to India during night for telegraph purposes.

Ascertained from G.O.C.-in-C. that he did not wish to make trunk call. Then permitted line to be split for this purpose. (Same thing happened yesterday evening.)

7/6/35.

08.15 Visited Civil Telephone Exchange. Informed by Assistant Director Telegraphs that majority of lines on board. He will inform me at noon ref. remainder. I especially mentioned importance connection of Chaman by phone.

08.45 Informed A.D.O.S. that 2nd Indian Divl Signals drawing up cable to replace Mobn. cable used. Requested him to ensure wiring A.D.O.S. (P) to produce further supplies, to keep Arsenal stocks to 100 miles twisted D.8 and 100 miles D.3.

09.50 Conference with Director P. and T. and Assistant Director Telephones (Mr. Agerwala).

Assistant Director Phones (Mr. Agerwala) hopes to ring up at noon, giving remaining subscribers still to be connected to Exchange.

10.45 O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals reports total messages dealt with in all Military Signal Offices (i.e. excluding Civil W/T Station) to midnight 5th/6th was 8604.

11.00 Registered letters will be accepted from to-morrow, 8th. Informed W.E.S. by phone.

11.30 Sent W/T to B Corps Signals, instructing to warn Bombay Telephone Company re number of phones required in Karachi by H.Q. Western Command on 17th (C.S.O/54).

11.35 Ordered two lorries from S and T. to report daily at 07.00 hours to Civil Tele. Office for duty until further notice (C.S.O/55).

14.00 Communications established as in Diagram No. 10.

Duplicating Civil in many places until they are ready to take over.

It will be noted that it was found necessary to connect Civil Exchange with Military Exchange at District H.Q.

16.15 Assistant Director Telephones reports Chaman trunk "dis." from a point three-quarters of a mile outside Quetta. "Dis." portion passes behind cordon round city and therefore cannot be repaired. Gave instructions to leave Chaman telephone trunk for the present, and I will have it cabled into Quetta later on.

18.15 Phoned Director P. and T. regarding existing express charges for telegrams. He will wire D.G. regarding this.

19.30 Issued further list of subscribers on Civil Exchange. Delay in making certain connections will probably hold up handing over by Signals to-morrow.

22.00 Permitted O. i/c S/W W/T to erect an additional S/W W/T set to work Simla. (This proved to be of no extra assistance and was soon abandoned.)

8/6/35.

08.30 Visited Tele. Office and found that telegrams at ordinary rates are being accepted.

Visited Telephone Exchange. A.D.T. reports that remaining subscribers will be on board very soon.

09.00 Director P. and T. reported line through to Mastung for all purposes, and line through to Kalat for telegraph. Expects Kalat will be through for all purposes by to-morrow.

09.10 Received chit from Director P. and T. Sind to say telegrams being taken at ordinary rates from to-day. No mention of retrospective effect.

09.20 Director P. and T. came to see me regarding charges for telegrams. We also discussed the delivery of Air Mail ex Quetta which had been accepted by P.O. unstamped (by arrangement).

10.35 Call by Managing Representative, Burma Shell, to Karachi for twelve minutes.

10.45 Director P. and T. phoned that first unstamped Air Mail was despatched ex Karachi on 2nd June, having been franked by Postal Authorities as taxable at delivery end. (This Air Mail has, of course, reached London to-day.)

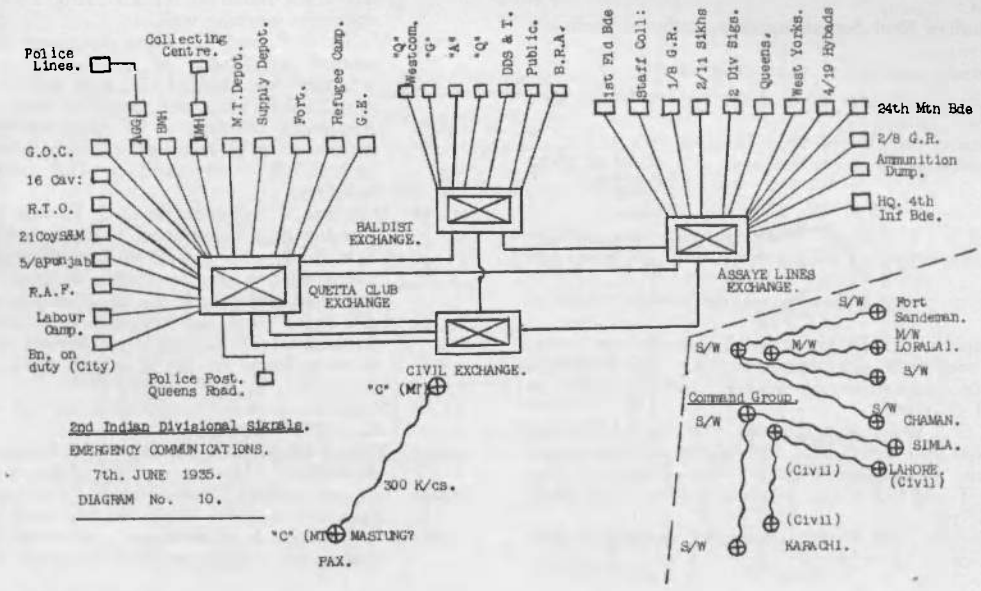
The same procedure was adopted in respect of second Air Mail despatched ex Karachi on Wednesday 5th June.

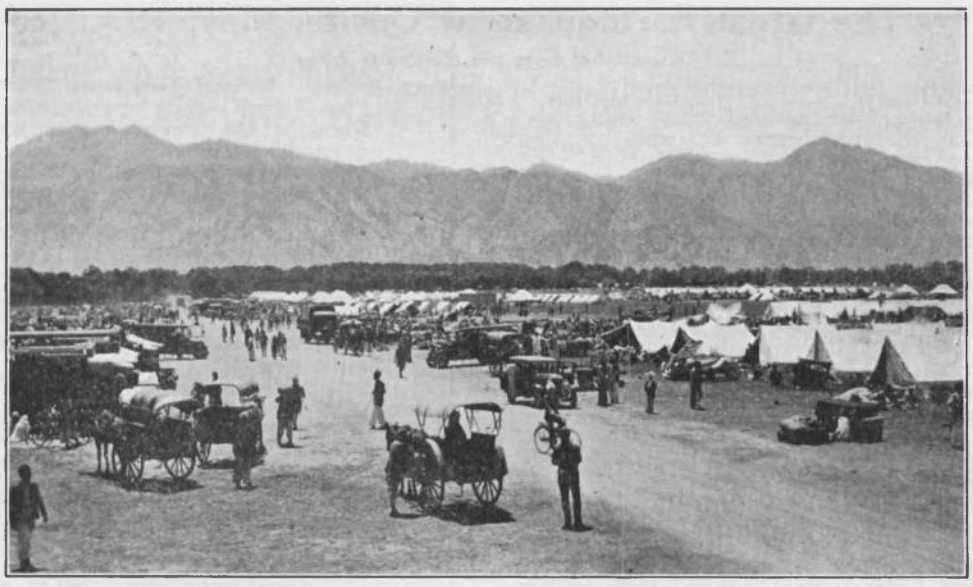
That he was wiring to try and prevent unstamped letters by second Air Mail being marked as taxable delivery end.

Reported matter to Staff ("Q" Baluchistan District) by Office note.

12.00 Communications established as in Diagram No. 11.

13.00 Director P. and T. phoned that G.P.O. have been wired on 5th June, requesting that Air Mail despatched 2nd





[8/6/35] Refugee Camp on the Race Course.

(13.00) June should be delivered free of charge. Also states that all mails unstamped ex Quetta will, from 5th June, be accepted and delivered free of charge until further notice. He is confirming in writing. Amendment sent to Staff.

14.30 Visited Civil W/T Station. They have no requirements. Three W/T operators W.E.S. there reported on as excellent.
Sufficient wood and kerosine to last another week.

16.30 Issued orders that Civil Exchange will take over 15.00 hours to-morrow.

18.05 Informed evening conference re situation regarding telegrams and mails.

19.15 Issued fifth list of subscribers Civil Exchange.

9/6/35.

07.00 To-day a holiday where possible.

08.45 Wire received last night from D.G. P. and T. Simla to the effect that ordinary telegrams may be accepted to-day, Sunday. He adds, the class to be changed by the Quetta Telegraph Office to express before the telegrams are despatched.

11.15 O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals reports traffic to midnight 8th/9th—10,232.

11.30 Communications established as in Diagram No. 12.

11.40 H.Q. Baluchistan District ordered certain residential civil telephones. (Tents.)

15.00 Communications established as in Diagram No. 13.
Civil Exchange having taken over vide entry at 16.30 of 8th.

10/6/35.

09.00 Visited Civil W/T Station. They are quiet—having disposed of 2400 (approx.) telegrams up to 09.00 hours 9th June.
The i/c awaiting orders to resume normal hours of work.

10.20 Visited Telephone Exchange. Signal operators not there. Have not been there since noon yesterday—not required.

10.30 Tele. Master reports normal working and no traffic to Civil W/T Station.

11.00 Informed "G" Baluchistan District that Civil Exchange o.k. and that 2nd Indian Divl Signals can pull out except for Cordon Signal Office, Baluchistan District Signal Office (W/T and D.R.), etc. Agreed. [See 16.30 hours under 8/6/35]

11.05 O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals instructed verbally to pull out as above at 14.00 hours.

11.15 O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals reports traffic to midnight 9th/10th—10,470. It should be noted that traffic includes all D.R. dockets.

11.30 Issued instructions for W.E.S. personnel to return to unit at 14.00 hours to-morrow, 11th.

11.31 Issued certain instructions to Corpsigs re phones for Western Command at Karachi.

11.45 Issued instructions to 2nd Indian Divl Signals re check up of traffic (C.S.O/69).

11.46 Confirmation of verbal instructions at 11.05 hours issued to 2nd Indian Divl Signals (C.S.O/70).

13.50 Chaman pair on Civil Exchange (Signal line party).

15.00 Issued sixth list of connections Civil Exchange.

11/6/35.

09.00 Visited Civil W/T Station. Very quiet. Operator i/c wishes to know whether he can revert to normal working hours 09.30—16.30.

09.45 Visited Civil Telephone Exchange. Understood from A.D.T. (Mr. Agerwala) that all bad telephones in important offices have been changed for better. Exchange operators working well.

10.15 Visited D.P. and T. Long discussion re automatic versus manual exchanges in earthquake areas. Eventually arranged that manual exchange will be left connected in parallel with automatic (modified later vide 15.15 below). Automatic building to be made earthquake proof, and manual to be given a light-proof building. Chief Engineer and C.R.E. interviewed by D.P. and T. and self re buildings.

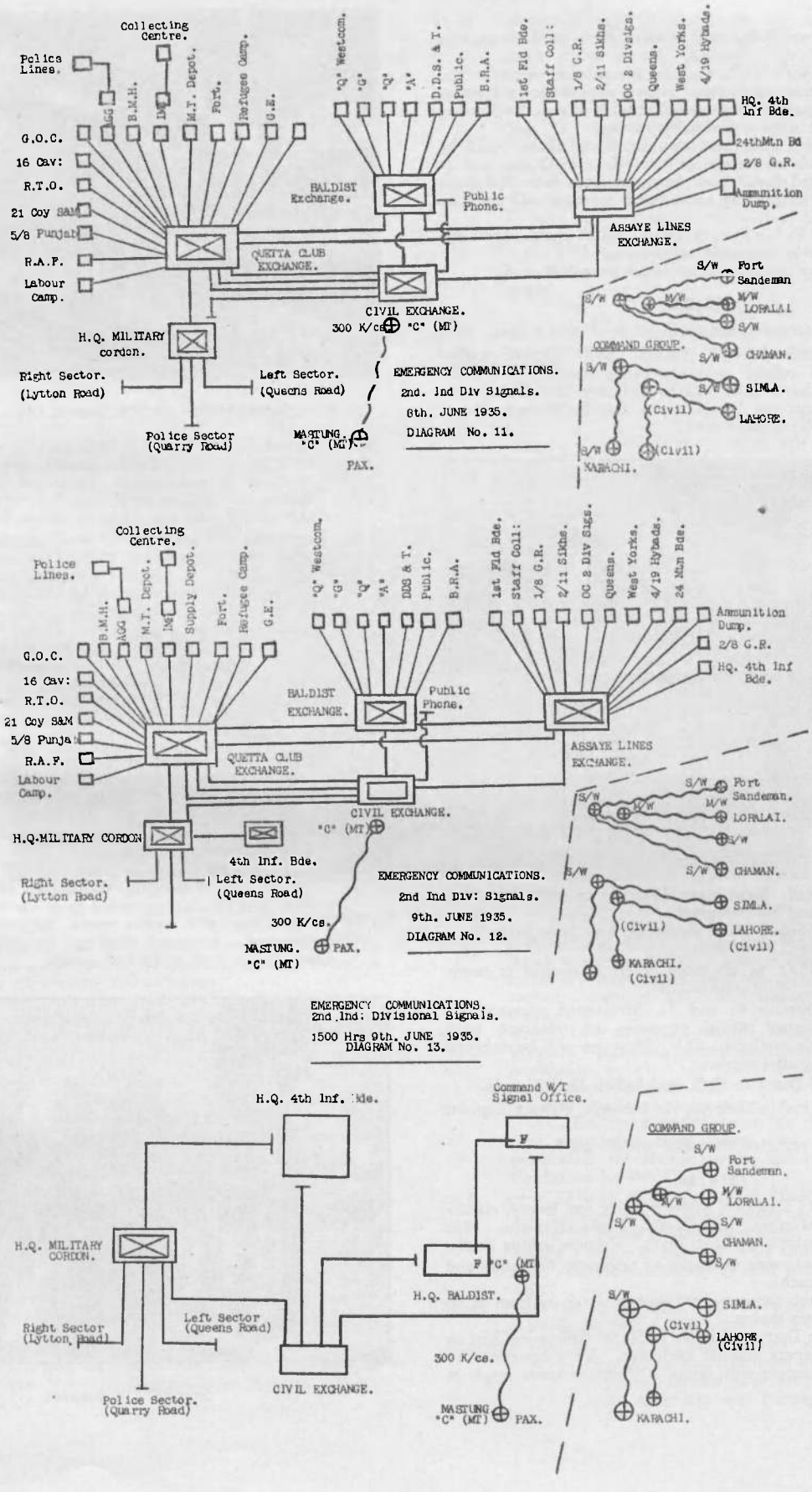
10.30 D.P. and T. reports that D.G. P. and T. wishes to know suitable date resumption stamping of letters ex Quetta. Saw Staff, who agreed to Saturday 15th inclusive, provided that stamps available at Post Offices. Wrinch informed and will let me know re stamp situation.

10.35 D.P. and T. has received wire from Director Civil W/T India, asking that Civil W/T Station may resume normal working hours viz. 09.30—16.30. Rang up Civil Secretary to A.G.G., who will reply.

13.00 Secretary to A.G.G. agrees to normal working hours of Civil W/T Station.

13.15 Visited Civil W/T Station and informed the Superintendent that he can resume normal hours of working.

14.00 2nd Indian Divl Signals informed that no further operators required at Civil W/T Station, and that D.R. can be withdrawn at 16.30 hours. Informed at same time that sorters not required at Civil Telegraph Office after to-day,


Collecting Centre.
Police Lines.
Sigs
B.M.H.
AAG
M.T. Depot.
Supply Depot.
Fort.
Refugee Camp.
G.E.
"Q" Westcom.
"G"
"Q"
"A"
D.D.S. & T.
Public.
B.R.A.
16th Fld Bde.
Staff Coll:
1/8 G.R.
2/11 Sikhs.
OC 2 Divsigs.
Queens.
West Yorks.
4/19 Hydads.
HQ. 4th Inf Bde.
24th Mtn Bd
2/8 G.R.
Ammunition Dump.
G.O.C.
16 Cav:
R.T.O.
21 Coy S&M
5/8 Punjab
R.A.F.
Labour Camp.
BALDIST Exchange.
Public Phone.
QUETTA CLUB EXCHANGE.
ASSAYE LINES EXCHANGE.
CIVIL EXCHANGE.
300 K/cs
"C" (MT)
H.Q. MILITARY cordon.
Right Sector. (Lytton Road)
Left Sector. (Queens Road)
Police Sector (Quarry Road)
MASTUNG. "C" (MT)
PAX.
S/W
Fort Sandeman
M/W
LORALAI
CHAMAN.
COMMAND GROUP.
SIMLA.
(Civil)
LAHORE.
KARACHI.
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.
2nd. Ind Div Signals.
6th. JUNE 1935.
DIAGRAM No. 11.
1st Fld Bde.
Ammunition Dump.
2/8 G.R.
HQ. 4th Inf Bde.
24th Mtn Bd.
Fort Sandeman.
LORALAI.
CHAMAN.
SIMLA.
LAHORE. (Civil)
KARACHI. (Civil)
4th Inf. Bde.
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.
2nd Ind Div: Signals.
9th. JUNE 1935.
DIAGRAM No. 12.
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.
2nd Ind: Divisional Signals.
1500 Hrs 9th. JUNE 1935.
DIAGRAM No. 13.
H.Q. 4th Inf. Bde.
Command W/T Signal Office.
H.Q. MILITARY CORDON.
H.Q. BALDIST.
Right Sector (Lytton Road)
Left Sector (Queens Road)
Police Sector. (Quarry Road)
CIVIL EXCHANGE.
300 K/cs.
MASTUNG "C" (MT)
PAX.

[11/6/35]

(14.00) and that two D.R.s will remain there until to-morrow evening.

15.15 Conference with D.P. and T. on subject of automatic versus manual exchange. Found impossible to connect manual in parallel (mentioned at 10.15 of this date) owing to different sizes and possible moves.

D.P. and T. informed me that Post Offices would be open for sale of stamps at four offices in Quetta and at Mastung and Kalat from Saturday 15th June inclusive. Concession of posting unstamped letters would then be withdrawn.

20.00 Chaman and Pishin lines reported " dis." again. Arranged for party to go out early to-morrow.

20.15 Received very complimentary letter from S.O.-in-C.

12/6/35.

06.30 Line party proceeded out on Chaman—Pishin route.

09.00 Visited Command W/T Station. Still a lot of traffic. Suspect all official messages being sent W/T. Must arrange to have some sent by ordinary Civil Telegraph.

General: Sent Diary and Diagrams to Signal Officer-in-Chief. Confidential and registered.

First Aid.

10.15 Requested Staff, Baluchistan District, to split messages, half W/T and half telegraph.

Informed Signal Office Baldist of same (vide entry 09.00 this morning).

10.55 W/T to A.H.Q. to say hope revert to normal in forty-eight hours. Will inform later.

General: Visited Director P. and T. Mentioned necessity for accepting signed official messages for telegraph until Service labels available. O.k. Messages will be returned for stamping afterwards.

16.00 Sent copy of Diary to O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals.

16.05 Chaman and Pishin lines not yet through. Parties (Signals) still out.

17.00 Chaman line reported through—speech good.

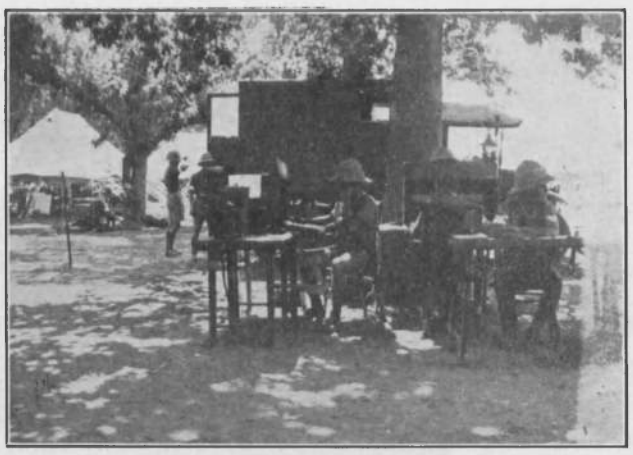
13/6/35.

09.45 Officer i/c W/T reports wireless traffic still heavy, chiefly regarding passages, trains, etc., Simla—Karachi. Also reports very little traffic to Zhob. Propose asking Staff:

(*a*) To put more messages on telegraph for Simla and Karachi.

(b) If Zhob can cease continuous watch as from 16.00 hours to-day.

10.15 B.G.S. shown Diary and letter to Signal Officer-in-Chief re automatic versus manual exchange. Very interested in former and agrees with latter. Wants to know result in due course.



Signal Office on the Quetta Club Lawn.

10.30 Phoned Civil Wireless. Operator i/c informed me that both Police Levies (Night Guard) have been absent since morning of earthquake. Instructed him to report in writing to the Director P. and T. ; copy to self. Phoned D.P. and T. and asked him to inform Secretary to A.G.G.

11.00 Registered and posted letter to Chiefsigs re:

(*a*) Automatic versus manual for earthquake area.

(*b*) Letter re wireless discipline and also registered letter to Colonel Sykes, H.Q. Eastern Command, re wireless policy.

11.15 Saw G.1 Baldist. Agreed that Zhob Wireless can revert to normal working hours as from 18.00 hours to-day.

11.20 Spoke to Signal Master, Baldist. Instructed him to make further reductions in number of telegrams sent to wireless. Suggested " P." messages only.

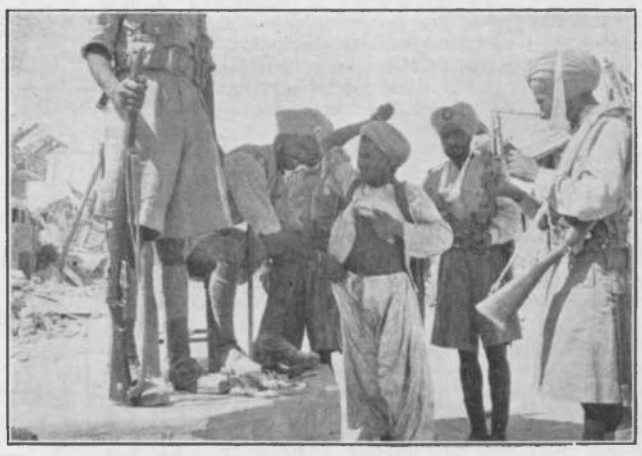
Orders issued to Zhob to revert normal working hours.

13.00 Reminded A.D.T. (Mr. Agerwala) that lightning fuzes should be installed in all telephones, and that ordinary cable should be substituted for lead sheath connections in tents and houses. He promised to attend to this at once.

General: Director P. and T. (Mr. Wrinch) returned to Karachi to-day, but expects to be back in about a fortnight's time.

17.00 Thunder storm. Certain ordinary W/T messages held up due to x's. Eventually transferred to Civil Telegraph. First time this has occurred since earthquake.

21.15 Civil Telegraphs report route between here and Sibi damaged. Arranged Ford car to take party as far as possible in dark to ascertain cause.



Searching a Suspect.

14/6/35.

06.25 Civil Telegraphs report whole route down just this side Sibi. About one mile of route washed away in spate. Arranged lorry for maintenance party for P. and T. ex Quetta. Only one inspector, one lineman and two or three odd men at Sibi, and very few stores there. Telegraphs Quetta report through on one line (presumably via Loralai)—Lahore—Karachi. Reminded them of Civil W/T. Informed Military Wireless.

10.00 Reported breakdown to Chiefsigs and regretted, owing this, not possible to revert to normal W/T hours. Suggested 07.00—23.59 for the present.

11.30 P.A. Quetta reported Quetta—Chaman—Pishin line "dis." and asked if it could be attended to urgently. Line party turned out and P.A.'s Assistant informed. Subsequently found that line was not "dis."

11.45 The i/c Civil W/T Station phoned up that two chowkidars reported for duty at Civil W/T Station from Quetta Police Levies this morning. [See entry 10.30 of 13/6/35]

11.30 Corpsigs Karachi intimate traffic very heavy VVU—VVE (Bombay). Requested be allowed to continue working 07.00—23.59 hours. Agreed. Chiefsigs subsequently wired o.k. from 17th.

13.00 Majority Headquarters, Westcom, proceeded by two trains to Karachi. Chief Engineer, Supplies, Medical, A.J.A.G., one "G," one "Q," and self left here for the present.

Handed over several copies of temporary Exchange list, Quetta, dated 17th, to clerks and officers on Station. Six copies of same sent to B Corps Signals.

General: B Corpsigs wire that six operators and D.R. left Karachi by 12.11 hours train to-day. [See General entry under 15/6/35.]

W/T came in from Mastung. P.A. informed O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals that they had done very good work.

17/6/35.

07.00 2nd Indian Divl Signals reeling up all emergency cables used during earthquake with exception of those shown on Diagram No. 13.

A Street in Quetta City.

15.30 Arranged through 2nd Indian Divl Signals for one 80 lb. tent and one 40 lb. tent to be obtained for Civil Wireless Station for chowkidars and sweepers.

21.45 Breakdown telegraph route near Sibi reported repaired by P. and T. Speech o.k. Party will return about mid-day to-morrow. Staff informed. [See entry 06.25 of this date.]

15/6/35.

12.00 Staff agreed Civil Telegraph Office can charge normal Sunday rates as from to-morrow.

Command W/T Station ordered to remain open and Signal Master, Baldist, informed.

General: Ordered Wireless take over Fullerphone circuit D.H.Q. —W.T. office, 18th.

Orders sent to Karachi for six operators and one D.R. to report forthwith, thus completing peace party for fixed communications, Quetta Area, as arranged before earthquake.

23.20 S.O.-in-C. intimated VVY, VVU and VVZ will work 07.00—23.59 hours till further orders. Remainder of VV Group revert to normal working hours.

16/6/35.

10.00 B Corpsigs intimate only twelve-line P.B.X. available for Headquarters, Western Command, at Karachi. Larger one wired for,

08.50 Spoke to Chief Engineer regarding reconstruction of Command Wireless receiving and transmitting rooms so as to be o.k. for winter, etc. He agreed. Confirmed in writing; copy to O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals and Officer i/c W/T.

11.00 Phoned O.C. B Corps Signals regarding lay-out H.Q. Western Command communications, Karachi. Gave permission for extra set (LCK) to be erected for communications Karachi—Quetta (LCK—LCQ). VVU and VVZ to remain as at present.

O.C. B Corps Signals informs me that he has made up new transmitter from spare parts at no cost. Gave permission for Rs.110 to be spent on new receiver. Confirmed by W/T.

11.15 Arranged with O.C. 2nd Indian Divl Signals to draw up six telephones and seven miles of cable for omnibus circuit for Police cordon round City. D.A.D.O.S. Baldist agrees. Police to sign for cable and telephones. When laid, maintenance to be by 2nd Indian Divl Signals on call.

12.40 Pages 14—16 (to 11.15 hours 17/6/35) and amended page 1 of Diary posted, registered, to S.O.-in-C.

General; (*a*) As result of conversation with O.C. B Corps Signals, do not anticipate that VVZ, VVU and VVE will be able to revert to normal hours until after departure s.s. *Karanja* on 20th. They

[17/6/35]

(General: (*a*)) must remain on 07.00—23.59 hours daily for present.

Informed Chiefsigs that telegraph route Quetta —Sibi repaired 16th, but do not anticipate normal W/T hours VVZ, VVU and VVE until after 20th, vide note above.

(*b*) Issued seventh list of subscribers on Quetta temporary Civil Exchange.

15.00 Visited Civil W/T Station.

Wrote appreciation of Mr. Todd and his Assistant's co-operation in Station log book. Mr. Todd's services during the emergency were of the highest order, and deserve special mention.

16.00 Six operators and one D.R. for fixed communications, ex B Corps Signals, reported as having arrived 13.30 hours.

16.15 Had a party all day on dismantling tents and clearing up at old Western Command Headquarters. Staff-Sergeant Sutherland (I.A.O.C.) assisting. Now have neat group of tents, C.E., A.J.A.G., A.D.V.S., C.S.O. and their clerks. C.E. and A.J.A.G. phones moved to new site, 150 yards.

18/6/35.

08.45 Visited Command Wireless Station.

Reinforcements ex B Corps Signals o.k.

General: 1. Lately there have been complaints from the Staff with regard to their telephones, especially during the period when Civil were taking over on their temporary 50-line magneto switchboards. The complaints were of two kinds:—

(*a*) Operator not answering when rung up; and

(*b*) No reply being received from Subscriber required.

The first was caused by the very ancient type of magneto telephone drawn from P. and T. store; these telephones were nearly all in a demagnetised state.

The second complaint, of course, is due to Subscribers being used to automatics which continue calling for a protracted period.

2. On the other hand, it is of interest to note that not a single complaint has been received regarding delays on wireless messages or telegrams throughout the whole period.

This applies to all messages handled by 2nd Indian Divl Signals within Quetta Area and to all W/T messages handled by the W/T Stations.

This, to my mind, is far more important under the circumstances than the telephone complaints mentioned above.

The various Signal Offices opened by 2nd Indian Divl Signals and the exceptional number of messages handled therein have been mentioned previously.

Quetta has been kept in touch with India the whole time by the Command Wireless Station, manned by personnel of B Corps Signals (assisted by Civil Wireless Station for the first few days); and the temporary Civil Telegraph Office has, due to repairs by military, been in touch with India since 09.00 hours on 1st June, with the exception of two short periods when temporary breakdowns occurred.

The Command Wireless Station dealt with 1964 messages during the first thirteen days, and are still averaging 90 messages a day (approx.).

11.00 Two extra phones (S.T.O. and Information Bureau) and sundry moves of phones required at District H.Q., due to their having time at last to make themselves more comfortable in their tent offices.

19/6/35.

Nothing of importance to enter.

20/6/35.

06.00 Second Karachi W/T set, LCK, came in on Command Group. Signals were:—

Quetta—LCK	R.3
LCK—Quetta	R.9
LCK—Loralai	R.9
Loralai—LCK	R.9

10.30 Asked Corpsigs if they can now reduce W/T hours to normal, or if not, whether 07.00—21.00 will now suffice,

General: (*a*) P. and T. are still getting their lorry allotment of two per day from S. and T. This will continue until all phones, etc., are o.k. [Note: Allotment ceased as from 1st July inclusive.]

(*b*) Will have to issue at least one more Civil Telephone Exchange List.

26/6/35.

Took R.E. Officer (Captain Roberts), with permission of C.E., round Command Wireless Station and arranged as follows:—

RECEPTION ROOM AND OFFICE.

To have an interior frame inserted in each room, as earthquake-proof as possible, inside which all instruments, operators, etc., can be situated.

TRANSMITTING ROOM.

Captain Roberts considered the old room definitely unfit for framing. He is arranging to build a Wana hut building with floor, fireplace, etc., outside and next door to existing temporary transmitting tent and charging room.

On Captain Roberts' advice, I subsequently saw Major Watson (R.E.) and arranged with him that the power plug, at present situated in the old room, be moved firstly to temporary tent, and secondly to Wana hut when built.

CIVIL WIRELESS STATION.

Took Captain Roberts to Civil Wireless Station to get his opinion on buildings there, for my own information.

He considers the instrument room, office, battery room, etc., are o.k., and therefore considers that the accumulators in their present site are alright. They are so heavy that only a severe earthquake, which would bring down the rest of the building, is likely to affect them.

The size of the wireless apparatus within this building prohibits removal to tents outside.

He also saw the Operator Supervisor's house and the subordinates' quarters. They are pretty badly cracked, and he does not consider them safe to live in in the winter or to sleep in.

Mr. Todd told me that he had informed his Department re state of Civil W/T buildings.

Employments.

"A Story Without Too Many Words."

SERIAL NUMBER ONE.

H.R.H. the Princess Royal Hunting in the Midlands.
A Telegraphed Picture.
[Published by courtesy of " The Daily Mirror "]

Mirror Drum Television.

BY W. T. LOWE AND E. PHILLIPS.

We here offer a detailed description of the mirror drum system of television. The apparatus, which was invented by Professor Weiller of Germany, consists of a revolving cylinder. On its rim a number of mirrors, each fixed at a slightly different angle to its predecessor, are mounted.

A beam of light is directed on this drum, and as it revolves the beam is reflected on to a screen in a series of lines, each displaced so that it travels at the side of its neighbour. The drum revolves 750 times per minute.

In this system, the Kerr cell method of light modulation for reception is used. The apparatus consists of two Nicol prisms placed with their optical axes at right angles to each other. In this condition, light which shines through the first Nicol prism will normally be prevented from passing through the second. The Kerr cell, which consists of a small electric condenser immersed in nitro-benzole in a glass cell, is placed between the two prisms. This cell has the property of rotating the plane of rotation of a beam of polarised light under the influence of an electric current. With a varying voltage across the Kerr cell, more or less light is allowed to pass through the second prism. The whole arrangement thus acts as a light valve without inertia. So if a bright spot of light is directed into the system, normally no light emerges; but with a voltage on the Kerr cell, brought there from the receiving amplifier, more or less light is allowed to pass in accordance with the impressed voltage. If, therefore, the varying currents from the transmitter, suitably amplified, are fed into the cell, varying amounts of light in accordance with these currents pass through. This light shines upon the rapidly revolving mirror drum and is reflected on the screen, thus building up a picture in light and shade.

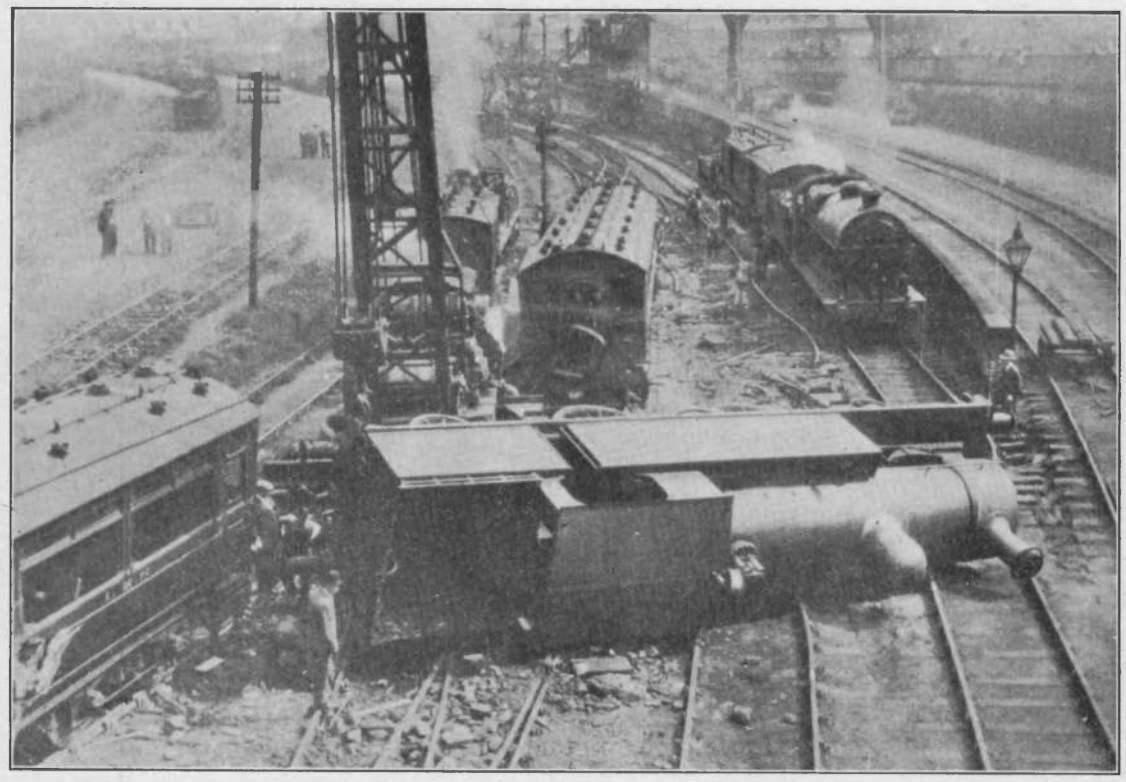
Kits of parts can now be purchased, and the construction of a mirror drum receiver is not a difficult matter. Care must be exercised, however, in the lining up of the optical system. A sharply defined image and the maximum amount of brilliancy depend upon this. Concentrate as much light as possible from the bunched filament of the projection lamp on to the plates of the Kerr cell. The required distance between the filament of the lamp and the lens will be made apparent by a little experiment.

To prevent the rays of light emerging from the Kerr cell from spreading, and to bring that light almost to a point where it falls upon the screen, a double convex lens of rather lengthy focus is also used.

The mirrors are, of course, placed in the path of the rays. The best way to do this is to use a mirror plane. From this arrangement, the light rays are thrown upon the drum and from there directly reflected on to the screen. This reflecting mirror must be placed in such a position that it collects all the light from the Kerr cell. Owing to the spreading light, if you place the mirror too far away, you will get lack of brilliance on the screen. It is also essential to collect the maximum amount of light travelling from the mirror, through the double-convex lens, on to the mirrors of the drum. Do not allow any light to pass outside or beyond.

You will get a badly shaped spot on the screen if the lens is not placed at right angles to the path of the light. And don't place the lens parallel with the reflecting mirror.

You must, moreover, keep the apparatus scrupulously clean and pay great attention to your adjustments. Much more care is necessary than with the scanning disc. A piece of clean soft chamois leather is recommended for cleaning the mirrors. These must always be treated with delicacy; otherwise you might perhaps injure the fine surface. If possible, make a case for the drum and keep it enclosed. The instrument should always be kept away from any source of heat.



A Railway Smash at Wardleworth, Rochdale.
Telegraphed by the Siemens System.
[*Published by courtesy of "The Daily Mirror"*]

Cathode Ray Television.

By W. T. Lowe and E. Phillips.

Unlike other systems of television, which are mechanical, the cathode ray is a purely electrical effect. It is, however, the most efficient but at the same time the most expensive.

The underlying principle is that a stream of electrons, moving at a high speed through an evacuated tube, impinge upon a fluorescent screen at the end of this tube.

When the electrons strike the screen, they cause a bright greenish glow. As electrons are charges of negative electricity without any weight, they may be attracted or repelled by electric currents of opposite or similar nature, or by the poles of electro-magnets.

For television, two pairs of plates are set at right angles to each other. One controls the up and down lines, and the other the number of cross lines forming the picture.

The cathode ray passes from the filament, as a stream of electrons, through a small aperture in the anode and then impinges upon the screen at the end of the tube, where it causes a bright green spot to appear. One pair of plates is fed with alternating current at 12½ times per second, and the other at 375 times per second. By means of these two influences the spot is caused to move at a rapid rate over the screen surface, giving the impression of a square of light. The currents from the receiver amplifier are brought to the anode, causing corresponding alteration in the strength of fluorescence, or brightness, of the green spot.

Flexibility is the greatest advantage claimed for the cathode ray tube in television. It is a simple matter to make anything from ten to 500 lines on the picture. By a slight variation, the size of the picture can be altered on the sweep control.

There would appear to be a difficulty, however, about modulation. For this purpose, we use the shield or Wehnelt cylinder. This surrounds the cathode and functions as a grid. It causes the electrons to concentrate themselves in something like the shape of a narrow pencil. The gun which draws the electrons out of the cathode works in association with this focussing action, and the resultant thin beam traverses the tube and hits the screen in a rather sharply defined spot. This spot can be made still smaller and more sharply defined by adjustment of the shield joined to the H.T. potential on the gun. But this voltage must not be varied too much, for then the focus will be lost.

Like that of the effect on the grid in an ordinary valve, the voltage on the shield does the same to the electron current of the tube. This current is reduced as the voltage is made more negative: fewer electrons pass through the gun to the fluorescent screen, as fewer electrons pass through the grid of the wireless valve to the plate.

The number of electrons in the beam determine the brilliance of the spot. It would, therefore, appear that we can conveniently modulate the light by adjusting the shield voltage. But, unfortunately, this does not work out in practice. Manfred von Ardenne, in Germany, varies the *speed* of the ray, thus controlling its brilliance.

The most recent device for transmission by this tube is that of Zworykin, in America, which he calls an iconoscope. He uses a mica plate over which are scattered spots of photo-sensitive material, the nature of which is not made known. The mica plate is backed by a plate of silver, which is connected to the amplifier.

Mr. Zworykin says that the spots of active material constitute in effect 3,000,000 photo-electric cells. Over these cells the cathode ray beam passes at a high speed. The mica constitutes the dielectric of a condenser of which the photo-sensitive material

and the silver are the plates. The picture is focussed on the sensitive surface by a lens, and the amount of light thus falling on each spot releases electrons and so charges the condenser formed by the plate and silver. This charge is held until the cathode ray, in its methodical travel, rests on that particular spot. When this happens, the condenser discharges, sending a current into the amplifying system which is proportional to the amount of light which fell upon it.

This apparatus is small, swift, without inertia, and possesses a memory. An improved form is known as the Farnworth Multiplier. The rival to these systems on the transmitting side is the high-speed Film Television system, in which the pictures sustain a 30 seconds delay.

Cathode ray tubes for the reception of television will be of the ordinary electron beam type impinging upon the fluorescent screen. Several firms have been conducting research with a view to reducing the cost and simplifying the necessary apparatus, but details were not available when these notes were written.

Mirror Screw Television.

BY W. T. LOWE AND E. PHILLIPS.

The mirror screw television receiver has many advantages. No claim is made for giving better results than other systems, but on this type of receiver it is possible to reach the higher standards which the disc and mirror drum would not be able to accommodate. To attain a standard of 120 lines would be an impossible proposition on the two latter: a special room of enormous dimensions would have to be built to house such a drum or disc.

Drawing Telegraphed from Berlin to London.

[The size of this drawing as received in London was 6×8½ inches=51 square inches, or approximately 336 square centimetres. The cost for telegraphing was £3/5/7½]

The mirror screw consists of a pile of flat mirrors fixed on a spindle and arranged like a spiral staircase, the edges having been silvered. In dimensions, each one of these mirrors equals one picture strip. If it is desired to produce an image measuring three inches by seven inches on a 30-line receiver, thirty mirrors seven inches long and one-tenth of an inch thick would have to be used. Each mirror must be set at a lamination of 12 degrees to its predecessor.

A long thin beam, parallel to the axis of the screw, must be emitted from the light source. In such a receiver of the above dimensions, this beam would measure three inches by one-tenth inch. The thickness of the plates and the number used determine the shape of the picture and the number of scanning lines. This means that the apparatus is suitable for either low or high definition.

Another attractive feature of the mirror screw is that it is possible to use a neon lamp—the simplest source of light. In this respect it therefore compares favourably with the disc, because, although a smaller instrument, the picture produced is much larger. A flat plate neon lamp can be controlled from a good three-valve receiver.

Owing to the fact that the image is viewed subjectively, scanning lines are absent.

You need have only a small motor to drive the screw, too. As it is small and light, the amount of power required for this purpose is not by any means great.

Unlike the mirror drum, there is not much difficulty in assembling the mirror screw, but you ought to be careful about the angular displacement of each successive mirror. For retaining them in correct position as the assembly is made, liquid cement is recommended. You then lock the whole by means of the clamping nut and end plate of the carrier. So that it can be mounted together with the pulley for driving on the spindle, the carrier is made hollow.

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Picture Telegraphy.

BY W. T. LOWE AND E. PHILLIPS.

Conclusion: Other Systems.

We have seen how the Siemens-Karolus picture telegraph works. Although other systems employ the photo-electric cell, they have different methods of converting the light into current.

The Belin uses an oscillograph. A mirror vibrates between the poles of an electro-magnet. It reflects a beam of light through a triangular opening on to the photographic film of paper.

A metal ribbon vibrating in front of a slot, through which the beam of light shines, is the basis of the system operated by the Bell. The ribbon vibrates at a rate determined by the strength of received currents. Varying values of light thus fall upon the receiving film or paper.

Picture cabled across the Atlantic by the Bart-Lane System.
[Published by courtesy of "The Daily Mirror"]

Much smaller drums are used in the above systems than on the Siemens-Karolus. The picture is therefore not so large, measuring about six by four inches.

Differing considerably from any other, the Marconi-Wright apparatus transmits two messages, each measuring eight by ten inches, in less than twenty minutes. Messages of ten by four inches have been received in four and a half minutes. Unlike the Siemens-Karolus, it is not necessary to stop the apparatus at the end of every message. The instrument runs continuously, and a lot of time is thereby saved.

Pictures are sent over the Atlantic cable by the Bart-Lane process. The range of tones is good. but the "grain" is rather heavy. In 1920, pictures of the "America's Cup" yacht race were telegraphed by this system from the U.S.A. to England. They were reproduced in *The Daily Mirror*.

With few exceptions, practically all the telegraphed pictures from the Continent which you see in the newspapers come through the picture telegraph room at the Central Telegraph Office. London newspapers also use the system for the transmission of photographs from the Provinces. A Fleet Street telegraphist is nowadays often required to possess practical knowledge of the subject.

Press items, photographs, fashion plates, advertisements, etc., are also flashed across the Atlantic by wireless by Cables and

Admiral Byrd (cabled across the Atlantic by the Bart-Lane System)
[Published by courtesy of "The Daily Mirror"]

Wireless Ltd. They call these "photograms." By writing to the firm, you can get an illustrated brochure about the service. This gives a good idea of the results obtained.

An attempt to telegraph photographs by wireless was made by Knudsen in 1908, but the results were very crude. Mr. Thorne-Baker, however, constructed a simple apparatus by means of which, with a two-valve receiver, it is possible to pick up broadcast pictures.

In conclusion—and to show Signalmen which way the wind is blowing—we would emphasise the fact that it is cheaper to send a typewritten block of say 500 words by picture telegraphy than to transmit them by cable!

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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O. I. (R.S.M.)

2306443	R.Q.M.S. Trapmore A.	4/7/35	5

To be C.Q.M.S.

2308803	Sergeant Pout A.	13/6/35	16
*5096526	Sergeant Moult R. C.	4/7/35	73
1857022	Sergeant Prebble F.	12/8/35	16
2307515	Sergeant Binham C.	13/8/35	16

To be Sergeant.

2313839	L/Sergeant Steele P.	13/6/35	28
2309579	L/Sergeant Jones F.	26/6/35	29
1857322	L/Sergeant McMillan D.	2/7/35	29
2310834	L/Sergeant Reat W.	3/7/35	29
2311580	L/Sergeant Askew W.	13/8/35	29
*5329386	L/Sergeant Mansfield A.	5/9/35	78

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2310920	Corporal Mowatt A.	4/7/35	37
2867012	Corporal McGregor W.	4/7/35	37
2313590	Corporal Tidey E.	12/8/35	37
2316555	Corporal Boyle T.	18/8/35	37
2314729	Corporal Shurer A.	28/8/35	37
2312767	Corporal Lourie A.	28/8/35	37
2316102	Corporal Heasman E.	31/8/35	37
4444924	Corporal Bainbridge S.	1/9/35	37
2316115	Corporal Barlow J.	3/9/35	37
2311051	Corporal Washburn S.	4/9/35	37
2312791	Corporal Wiggins A.	5/9/35	37

To be Corporal.

2317005	L/Corporal Ross R.	20/6/35	55
2318995	L/Corporal Sanderson I.	3/7/35	55
4337900	L/Corporal Mattock H.	6/7/35	55
2317772	L/Corporal Cox G.	10/7/35	56
2317021	L/Corporal Foster H.	13/8/35	56
2317831	L/Corporal Osborne W.	29/8/35	56
5044219	L/Corporal Swan A.	3/9/35	56
2976352	L/Corporal Collington R.	4/9/35	57

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

6396916	Signalman Ready J.	23/5/35
2319824	Signalman Webb N.	23/5/35
2322106	Signalman Spriggs L.	23/5/35
783962	Signalman Robertson J.	23/5/35
2316560	Signalman Boniface P.	24/5/35
4447897	Signalman Taylor E.	25/5/35
2322311	Signalman Hutley D.	28/5/35
2319791	Signalman Strong P.	2/6/35
2321974	Signalman Hood R.	7/6/35
2320521	Signalman Pike G.	13/6/35
2321126	Signalman Pitney P.	20/6/35
2320025	Signalman Wood W.	26/6/35

Special Roster, India.

Discharges.

2306523	Sergeant Squirrell A.	5/10/35	16
2313635	Sergeant Read S.	11/10/35	27
5485253	Sergeant Tosdevin R.	21/10/35	21
2310652	L/Sergeant Hickmott A.	4/10/35	37
2308426	Corporal Monoghan D.	1/10/35	43
314341	Corporal Etwell F.	4/10/35	54
1053735	Corporal Green A.	4/10/35	51
2309520	Corporal Gristwood G.	10/10/35	27
2310468	Corporal Brand H.	11/10/35	44
6768564	L/Corporal Burgess C.	27/9/35	58

To Army Reserve.

2319373	L/Corporal Dangerfield J.	14/10/35
2313847	L/Corporal James W.	28/10/35

Deceased.

*2313901	Sergeant Harper G.	2/10/35

Special Roster, India.

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Men of the Corps have been placed in situations by the Signals Association so far this year. See page 550 of this issue, recording 79 of them.

Picture cabled across the Atlantic by the Bart-Lane System.
[*Published by courtesy of "The Daily Mirror"*]

HOME STATIONS

5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH — *Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester*

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

The Reception Room.....Depot Battalion.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Thursday 7th November.

General.—As usual at this time of the year, we are experiencing our full share of the stormy weather. This, however, does not seem to have dampened the enthusiasm of the n.c.o.s from field units who assembled on the 5th October to undergo a drill course. One or two can throw a cunning dart and some are tricky at playing snooker by numbers, whilst all seem apt at telling a good tale.

The n.c.o.s equitation course dispersed on the 2nd November, taking kit bags brimful of clearance chits, horse shoes and (we hope) happy memories back to their respective units.

Corporals Mess.—The main topic at the moment is the annual ball which is to be held by the S.T.C. combined Messes on Armistice Night. The arrangements for this function are almost complete, and everyone concerned is looking forward to a very enjoyable evening. They, at least, should feel much " Younger " the next day, as the firm will be well represented.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to the following, who joined us from units as shown and have celebrated the occasion by gaining promotion since that date. Corpl McKinnon C., ex S.T.C. (India) Jubbulpore, rejoined from six months U.K. furlough. Signalman Edmunds, complete with provost warrior's moustache, from the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough.

Departures.—The arrival of our most recent posting order has caused a mild sensation. A great number of our barrack fixtures and inventories have suffered drastic alterations as a result. However, we wish those who have already left, and those who leave us in the near future, all the very best of good luck.

Lieut. T. H. Winterborn per s.s. *Katori* to Japan, 1st November (some folk get all the luck, sir!)

L/Sergt Stone J. to 4th Divl Signals, Canterbury. L/Sergt Morgan W. to 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot. L/Corpl Booth A. and Sigmn McClarron R. to 1st Divl Signals, Aldershot. Sigmn Lomas J. to A Corps Signals, Aldershot. Sigmn Grainger E. to 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford.

Promotions.—It never rains but it pours in Catterick. For once, though, it was a welcome deluge. This, maybe, accounts for the unusually cheery outlook of the n.c.o.s. Even *The Sporting Life* and letters from Mr. Littlewood take second place to the Blue Book these days. What a thriller! It has affected all: down and down—down to the senior of the unpaids. Even he seems to have taken a new lease of life and hope. He occasionally gets so festive as to go to work whistling " Things are looking up." Before we ramble any further, hearty congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Carpenter A. J., L/Sergeants Vickers F. J., Stone J., and McKinnon C., Corporals Reynolds B. W. and Jones N., and L/Corpl Edmunds, on attaining their respective ranks.

Courses.—Congratulations! These are due to L/Sgt Small F. who qualified Q.i. at a recent course at the Small Arms School, Hythe. Also to Corporal Gay, who qualified at the Aldershot Preparatory School for same on a regimental provost sergeants course.

Sports Successes.—Corpl Myddleton J. and Sigmn Beswick are to be commended on their successes in the Northern Command aquatic sports—the former winning the diving for the second year in succession, and the latter gaining second place in the plunging event.

Agony.—Where did the Wing mascot borrow his bike ? Does his brother know ?

Black eyes take some explaining. Ask Chippy (Busty).

Who is the drill course n.c.o. who finds that a start of three blacks in a game of snooker is insufficient ? Does he also find the Mess dart board is not quite of the right dimensions? He may console himself. We are getting it made larger for him.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Wednesday 6th November.

General.—The first draft from overseas en route for civvy street arrived yesterday: C.Q.M.S. Weller for discharge, and Sigmn Hughes for the Army Reserve.

Departures.—The usual number of recruits (who have finished their training) to the Training Battalion and Mounted Wing. Too numerous to mention.

Congratulations.—To No. 1 squad under L/Corporal Daly. When they passed off the square, they held the shooting, boxing and soccer shields. They were also runners-up in the inter-squad cross-country runs. Signalman Wright T. was runner-up in the Depot Battalion light weight boxing competition. Sigmn Locke H. scored the highest marks ever recorded in the S.T.C. gymnasium and won the P.T. medal. Sigmn Bishop F. won the Colonel's whip as best man in the squad.

We Want to Know.—Who was the n.c.o. whose squad was fire picquet and, when the fire alarm was sounded, sent a message to say his squad was *on lecture* and could not attend ? Who was the recruit who said he had been to the medical inspection room to be *intoxicated* ?

Marriage.—At this rate we shall not have a single n.c.o. left in the Corporals Mess. L/Cpl Blanshard S. to Margaret Hoggins at Richmond on the 14th October. EL PEE.

F Company, Training Battalion.

The Company has had quite an interesting month, the circus at Darlington to which we went on Friday 18th October proving a great success. At this time of the year, such an event as a circus is appreciable, as it helps to while away the time until Christmas leave is due.

We very much regret the departure of Captain V. C. Holland to a better place than Catterick. During his three years stay in this Company as O.C., he made himself very much liked by all who met him. To show our appreciation we held a farewell concert on Tuesday 5th November, which was preceded by a grand firework display. The concert and display were a great success, thanks to those boys who took part and others who helped to put up the stage. They " swung " works, but we doubt if that pleasure worried them. After the concert we all assembled in the lower room of the Boys' Club for the " gobb'e." The n.c.o. boys kept their eyes on the buckshee ham sandwiches, but that was only to be expected.

The football and rugby teams have been playing up to their usual standard. Two teams have been to Ampleforth during the last month to play the College there at rugby. These outings were very much appreciated by those who took part in them.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Holden on attaining that rank. He will be able to have a car now in lieu of the customary push bike.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Fearnley arrived this month, and we hope that he will enjoy his stay here.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with Dinty Moore, who has left us for the 4th Divl Signals.

News is always scarce at Catterick, so au revoir till next month.

BUBBLES.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Mons Barracks, 14th November.

Thoughtful.—"A merry Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year " from all ranks to all comrades at home, abroad and aboard—particularly to those aboard who may have to contend with six meals on Christmas Day. Three down and . . . . er . . . . well, happy days to everybody!

Sic.—" Peace on earth, goodwill to editors and printers, and all that." That's why I am not taking reprisals for the sanctions that were applied to my last month's output. Only more annoyed than peeved, if there is any difference: perhaps (*sic*) two-thirds (*sic*) of each.

By the way, you should see our Sports Notes this month. If there are not yards of them, there is a vacancy for somebody to re-muster as a clerk. In any case, that " two thirds " up above will look silly if you don't—er—read them.

Soccer.—This should be in the Sports Notes, but we'll squeeze it in here just to make things a little more difficult (like umpires on manœuvres).

We are still in the Army cup! I must get that in first, because we play the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards to-morrow in the second round.

Great difficulty is being experienced in sorting out a team this year ; material is plentiful—mostly mediocre, albeit vastly enthusiastic. Grounds are waterlogged, and groundsmen are unapproachable, irreproachable and implacable—whatever all that means.

Our senior team (we have no junior team in the Command League this year) have so far collected only one point from a possible ten. Their best performance was a 1—0 victory over the R.A.O.C. in the first round of the Army cup.

The junior team, in the Mons Barracks League, have annexed four points so far against A Corps and 2nd Divl Signals, and we may do well to pin our faith to them.

Forecasts.—The National Government will be there again. Few, if any, of us will ever see Abyssinia. The soccer ground will be out of play for the greater part of January. Somebody closely connected with cross-country running will be cribbing. There will be a lot of moves about the 1st April, and they won't be April fools. The Doochay will still be saying the Abyssinians are agressing (*sic*) in one breath and welcoming them with the next. The roll of those for guard will be shorter than it need be if you cads don't rope in some of your " old school ties " whilst you are on leave.

P.S.—Do look at the Sports Notes! They're a labour of . . . anyway, have your sixpen'orth. JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Company embarked on the individual training season some weeks ago, but it would be difficult to issue an accurate summary of its activities during the past month, as they have been of such diverse character. A number have been engaged on technical training with a view to obtaining higher ratings at their trades, but these were in the minority, because the tradesmen in this Company are so good that hardly any require individual training. Several n.c.o.s are undergoing courses of instruction in various parts of the country, but we have no news of them and can only assume that they are completely enmeshed in their several arts.

Furlough.—About half of the Company are having furlough, and for a lot of those members it will be the last in this country for several years. We can well imagine those fortunates devoting their last few days to painting their old home towns a brilliant red. I know of two who are spending much of their time together in Glasgow and reviving the ancient ceremony of bending the haggis. As a contrast to that we have L/Sergeant Forrest quite content with a holiday in Ash and dividing his time between the ration stand and a little angling along the Basingstoke canal.

Marriages.—Congratulations to L/Corpls Simpson and Dicks, who were married at Swindon and Staines respectively.

Departures and Arrivals.—There have been many casualties of late, and we can only offer best wishes to those who have departed and extend a welcome to the new arrivals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The furlough season having commenced, and with one third of the Company away on leave, we can more or less resign ourselves to the usual winter routine.

Captain C. Knowles having taken over as adjutant of the unit, the Company is again commanded by Captain G. W. Odell from No. 1 Company. Apart from the usual individual training classes, most of us amuse ourselves in the stables and garages (mostly stables), while a few find diversion in the ever increasing army of the regimentally employed.

Rumours of the Company being mechanised in the near future have reached us, but that is all. We are no longer interested when a stable is handed over to the Engineers for conversion: it only means moving the occupants elsewhere—never back to remounts. However, we are not without hope. Some day it may come.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome Drivers Revill and McGough from the Depot, and (in anticipation) Sergeant Searle. Sigmn Russell has departed for Egypt, being the first of many who will leave us during the trooping season. Sigmn Amis G. B. has been discharged owing to a fractured thigh.

Marriages.—Congratulations to Lieut. V. N. Drake and Corpl Buckley, both recently married. TWOCOY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Notes for this month are as scarce as men for parade. Half the Company are enjoying annual furlough, others are on draft leave, and more are on individual training.

The G.O.C. visited the unit on the 10th October, and after he had inspected the unit and the unit had marched past, he inspected barrack rooms, stores and garages. I have tried, unsuccessfully, to find out which of the Section stores came out on top. I understand that it is believed that L Section won by one "Jimmy" and one burnished blow lamp. The barrack room contest was won by J Section (so they all told me). As a matter of fact, though, there were no complaints, so I think we share honours.

Rugby, soccer, hockey and cross-country running are in full swing. The results of cup matches will be found elsewhere.

Departures.—Sigmn Potts J. to Egypt for service. Signalman Adamson L. has left us for civvy street, and we wish him the best of luck. The unit has lost a good goalkeeper.

Corpl Healey K. will soon be departing. At present he is on a mysterious vocational course. He is learning the maintenance of "B" vehicles at the R.A.O.C. Workshops. Some people doubt this, because they have never been able to find the workshop where he spends his time.

Arrivals.—Expected. (Catterick, please note.)

Congratulations.—We offer our sincere congratulations to our popular Company commander, Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., on attaining that rank. To Corpl Dale G. on obtaining a vacancy for the F-of-S course (don't forget to take a Barker box, George). To L/Corporals Humby and Donovan on being appointed paid L/Corporals. To Corpl Revill on being promoted to that rank (Jubbulpore, please note). To U/L/Corpl O'Rourke on attaining that rank.

Sport.—L Section beat J in the knock-out competition. K Section have won for the last five years, and expect to win for the sixth time, but we shall have to wait and see.

Courses.—Cpl Smith obtained a Q.i. at Hythe, after exhausting the stock of S.A. School clay pigeons and the patience of the instructors.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Calling All Cads.—Back to the old monthly once again. Do you know, the cads in this Company are queer people. Each month, when they read my notes, they invariably mention that they are rotten; and yet, if I miss writing, as I did last month, they "create" and want to know why. I rather hoped that when I got back from my annual leave someone would have taken the job over from me; but no! it was still open. Anyhow, they will have to be content with a short epistle this month.

All the Best.—To everyone at home and abroad for Christmas and 1936—especially to the gang at VER. Hope to hear you again some day.

Changes.—We have lost our O.C., Captain H. H. Anthony—with regrets on both sides—and have found a new one in Lieut. N. G. Newell, whom we hope will enjoy his stay with us.

Re-Comes.—Another old hand returned to the old fold when L/Cpl Robertson J. was posted to us on the 3rd October. Now, Robbo did us wrong when he was with us before. He led us to believe that his name was Jack. When the election papers came round this year, we found out the wicked truth: it's Cyril—a great pity, for he's such a decent guy. One of these days I'm going to write a poem on Christian names. We have some choice ones in this Company; perhaps the choicest in the whole Army—Guy Rodwell, closely followed by Lionel and Herman. Have you noticed how people try to hide their "sweet" names. I know one chap who would much rather be called Bill than Leslie.

The Doings of Abdul Hamp Ka Butch.—Perhaps you remember the tearful story of the draughtsman who went up to London to see the changing of the guard and had his pocket picked. Well, the same draughtsman was granted a month's furlough to visit a place named Wigan. To get there he had to pass through London again, and the hoodoo was still on, for with only a few days of his month expired he was back in the 'Shot—broker than broke. Funny how some people have bogey towns, isn't it? It's the same with football teams. Now, Pompey never—never mind! let it pass.

Toe Grip Cannot Take It.—Toe Grip Mahatma Macken Ji has been in the wars. For several days past he has been ambling round with a lump of sticking plaster on his nose and several gashes on his legs and arms. Our midnight correspondent reports that these are due to an argument with a bed, iron, Army, etc. When interviewed, Mahatma Ji strongly resented veiled suggestions and stated that nothing stronger than gripe water had passed his lips that night. Notwithstanding Toe Grip's own statement that "good looks counted for nought in the love stakes," it has been noticeable that trips in the direction of Reading have been nil this week instead of three.

Gone Away.—Sigmn Nicholson W. has left the Army and is now working at a "swede" village near Rugby. Good luck to him! We are a great deal worse off in many respects by his leaving. He was a good operator and a good sportsman.

Potential "Q" Bloke.—Our greatly respected Supt., Sergeant Bishop G. R. (alias Gripper No. 1) does not often grace the W/T Station with his presence these days. He is up at A Corps, doing a bit of punching up for C.Q.M.S. I hope I never have to draw kit from him, because by the time he has finished talking I shall most likely have bought two kits.

Courses.—Sigmn Summers G. (Tich) is also scrounging. He is on an upgrading course for class ii. His absence badly affects the duty roster, but we gain one spot from his absence. Pessimism does not hang in such a thick cloud over the place. AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 14th November.

General.—We wish a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all members of the Corps—particularly to our overseas detachments. We hope they enjoy their Christmas pudding.

General.—There isn't much to report this month, except that Blackdown has had a fair share of rain during the past few weeks. There are a few more lakes about other than the permanent one in Lake Road. I must say I envy our Sections overseas: they at least require no overcoats and gloves where they are. I am anxiously looking forward to something from them for insertion in THE WIRE. What about it, you fellows?

Arrivals.—By the time these notes appear, the undermentioned will have settled down in these climes. Lieut. W. J. S. Gray from the 1st Divl Signals. C.S.M. Dowie F. from the 54th Divl Signals (T.A.) Signalmen Gummer and Whipp from the Signal Training Centre.

Departures.—Sergt French H., on discharge, to take up civil employment with the G.P.O. at Chelmsford. Signalmen Bridger E., Younie C. and Alexander P. to the Army Reserve. We wish them all the best of luck.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Hawley A. on his promotion to that rank with effect from the 9th September.

Annual Inspection.—The commander, 1st Air Defence Brigade (Brigadier A. A. S. Younger, D.S.O.) carried out his annual inspection of the unit on the 14th November. There wasn't very much for the Brigadier to see, but what he did see appeared to be very satisfactory. Our small numbers debarred us from having the usual parade.

Agony.—To E.F.M. (Paddy): Am pining for a line. J.M.G.

JAY EM GEE.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE!

General.—At the moment we are in the throes of I.T. and spring cleaning of sets, causing much heartburning, brainracking, and debating the eternal fitter v. operator question: "Who has a cushy time?"

Having passed through the Troop to Egypt scare, we are all restlessly looking forward to the annual furlough and Christmas festivities, with a special eye on the credit stakes.

A Penny for 'Em.—Our late scribe and philosopher has passed on (to another continent, not another world). Like the Arabs, he has picked up his kit (if any) and silently stolen away.

We congratulate Corporal Penny on his appointment with the Nigeria Regiment, Royal West African Frontier Force: a post holding high remuneration and for which there has been keen competition. Nankin Road, please note. All his friends and those connected with him in his weird and various financial jugglings will, I am sure, wish him the best of luck.

Jock: Pink gins taken in moderation keep the fever at bay, but in excess are no protection from pink elephants.

The Troop is Debunked.—Our chief exponent of and expert in the H.P. system has left us! Sergeant Williams sailed for the Palestine cantonment on the 15th November. Game to the last, he scrounged the scribe's char on the pretext of saying farewell. Well, well! who wants an Austin ?

The Yellow Bird Flies.—The Troop has lost a well known Corps figure in Corporal Pawsey, who has left us for Bovington. The frequency of his detachment has now dropped to normal. Best of luck, Harry.

More Farewells.—Three hardened Troopites—Signalmen Hart, Rouse and Cross—left us on the 1st November for Egypt Signals—sorry! Sigmn Hart to G Troop. It's a pity, as their merits as dirt tracker, fitter and crooner were just being recognised.

Impending Farewell.—Sergt Archer, our Troop sergeant, has been definitely warned for Punki, sailing on or about the 15th February next.

Congratulations.—To our O.C., Lieut. C. G. Moore, on passing the examination for Staff College. Good luck, sir! To L/Cpl Lafford on passing the preliminary examination for F-of-S. Our best wishes, Sam. Both leave us in January for Camberley and Catterick respectively.

To U/L/Cpl Mays on attaining that rank. Now then, Dutchey.

Sport.—We have much on which to congratulate ourselves, and especially the continual demand upon us for individuals to strengthen the Tidworth Signals and the regimental team of the 12th Royal Lancers (to whom we are attached).

We congratulate Sigmn Robertson on the good show he put up in the regimental inter-squadron boxing finals—losing on points after a hard fight. Good old Scotland!

Unfortunately, our annual football match with D Troop had to be postponed. We hope to report an outstanding success next month.

We Want to Know.—The name of the fish whose staple diet is transatlantic cable. The name of the operator who suggested to the fitter that the electrolyte was badly mixed, causing " lumpy electricity."

Agony.—Daisy Scarbol: How about my note books ? Drop me a line as soon as possible. Blackie.

The Aldershot Locals: Say now, how's things ? Hoyle.

Wet Bar, Quetta: Night-jars progressing favourably here. Bill.

Olly, G Troop: Sorry to hear about the flies. Would advise small investment in Flit. Mac.

Mac G. of same unit: Expect to receive letters in excellent " ? " Mac.

Jim, Wazirdist Signals: Congratulations on the terpischorean effort, "the dance of the seven veils." Gee! is it the result of Troop drills ? X.

E. ZEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Friday 15th November.

General.—As predicted last month: no peace for the weary. Manœuvres are now things of the past, and we have settled down to our usual winter routine of I.T., P.T. and all the other T's which are good for the individual and prepare him for collective training in due course.

Three inspections have taken place in the last three weeks: the G.O.C.'s, the D.A.A. and Q.M.G.'s, and the C.S.O.'s. Everyone got down to it and the results were very satisfactory, good reports being received from all.

Musketry is now completed. It is a strange thing, but a fact, that the soldier fires his rifle, or maybe his revolver, better every year. Is it skill or cunning, or are we really taking life more seriously ? How are we going to divide the prize for the best shot when we all get possibles ?

Recruits, recruits—where are they ? The quality seems good, but it is the quantity of which we all complain. Now is the opportunity. The furlough season is upon us, and now is the time to bring back from home that friend of yours who is doing nothing, to groom that other pair of horses which you find thrust upon you at this time of the year. You needn't tell him that!

Arrivals.—From the Depot Battalion on 15/10/35, Driver Jones E. From the Training Battalion on 17/10/35, Drivers (I.C.) Fox W. and Brewis T. From the 43rd Divisional Signals (T.A.) on 29/10/35, L/Sergt Watt N. From the Tank Brigade Signals on 1/11/35, C.Q.M.S. Tebbey C. From the Training Battalion on 2/11/35, Signalmen Guidera J. and Lipscomb E., and on 5/11/35 Sigmn Irving W.

Departures.—Captain R. J. N. Solly proceeded to E Troop Cavalry Divl Signals on 28/10/35.

Signalmen Strickland J. and Reedman E. proceeded to Southampton for embarkation to Palestine on 9/10/35. Signalman MacDonald C. proceeded to the A.V.T.C. Chisledon on 1/10/35. L/Corpl Hickmore L. proceeded to Cardiff on a G.P.O. course on 7/10/35, and Corpl Cowe J. and Sigmn Beard R. to Bedford on a like course on 7/10/35. To the Army Reserve on 14/10/35 Sigmn Morris S., on 18/10/35 Signalman MacFarlane, and on 19/10/35 Sigmn Way C. On 21/10/35 L/Sergt Southwell joined the permanent staff of the 43rd Divisional Signals (T.A.). Driver Holman C. proceeded to the Training Battalion on 24/10/35. Signalmen Montgomery D., Redfern C., Bannister J., Briant R. and Langdon C. proceeded to Southampton on 1/11/35 for embarkation to Egypt.

Appointments and Promotions.—Appointed Lance-Corporal on the Corps Roster—on 1/8/35, U/L/Cpl Mills F. ; on 19/8/35, U/L/Corpl Craig J. ; on 29/8/35, U/L/Corporals Kime W., MacKenzie D. and Hickmore L. ; on 4/9/35, U/L/Corpl Boffy J.

C.Q.M.S. Stevenson W., M.C., to be Warrant Officer class ii. (Company Sergeant-Major) on 9/9/35. L/Sergt Brooke J. to be Sergeant on 26/9/35. L/Corporal August R. to be Corporal on 18/9/35.

Marriages.—Sigmn Briant R. to Ivy Gwendoline Washbourne at Bath on 13/6/35. Signalman Knight R. to Marjorie Gray at Paddington on 12/10/35.

Birth.—To L/Corpl and Mrs. J. W. Pape a son (Derek Alan) on 2/10/35.

Sergeants Mess.

It wouldn't surprise me to see some pointed remarks about cars in the Corporals' notes, but we can stand it.

Sergeant Mick Fawl and family have left us at last, and although we did not have the opportunity of seeing them off in the usual manner, they may be sure of our very good wishes for the future. C.S.M. and Mrs. Harrison B. have left us for Catterick ; another couple we were sorry to lose. Waddy's traveller was in tears and has already tightened his surcingle—sorry! belt.

On the other side of the ledger we have to record the arrival of C.Q.M.S. Tebbey, together with Mrs. Tebbey and child. They are very welcome, and we hope they will take a fancy to Bulford. It wants a bit of doing.

L/Sergeant Jock Watt has returned to us from the Terriers, and L/Sergt Greenwood has left for Cardiff. Cheerio, Ginger! Jock is now our respected landlord and makes a good job of it. Harry Ayres has loaned him his little box with which to reach the top shelves.

All members send their heartiest greetings to friends at home and abroad for Christmas and the New Year.

Corporals Room.

The week-end of the 19th October saw the realisation of a much discussed Mess outing. Everyone having plumped for London—that source of universal attraction—to London we went.

Breakfast was served at Basingstoke, and it was pleasing to see dear old Paddy Bush fluttering around like a much harassed hen with a brood of chicks.

It was extremely difficult to keep track of untoward incidents, but it is understood that a party of four left the Union Jack Club close on midnight with the object of seeking colour for an educational work entitled "London after dark." Fears are entertained that the censor may disapprove of the " colour " when written up.

Many old acquaintances were met at the U.J.C., where the more respectable members among us spent the sleeping hours of Saturday night. What a very small world it is, eh, Hiram ?

A very quiet and sleepy bus-load returned to Bulford on the Sunday night after a pleasant and much appreciated diversion from routine.

Further apologies are advanced for last month's caustic remarks on our wireless set. On the 16th November we are to take delivery of a Murphy radiogram. The dealer has kindly loaned us a Murphy " Consol " model to tide over the interval. We are indeed indebted to his kindness and generosity.

Owing to the exigencies of work and his impending departure from this unit, it is regretted that this is the last time the writer will have the pleasure of compiling notes in this unit. Thanks are extended to one and all for their co-operation in providing copy—willingly, or unwittingly—from time to time.

In extending heartiest Christmas greetings to all personnel of units, both at home and abroad, it is felt that the wish of all at Bulford is expressed.

To those "going down." Anyone desirous of securing valuable instruction in a vocational course should write to Corpl Bush, c/o this unit, who will be pleased to supply information regarding " positions of trust," particularly that of night watchman. As a guide to intending enquirers, it is pointed out that one should ensure that adequate conveyance is available if the appointment necessitates a return before midnight. Corporal Bush, of course, during the consumption of a further crate at your expense, will be pleased to tell you how to walk twelve miles in three and a half hours.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—The unit has been very busy with inspections which, including the G.O.C.'s, went off very well, and we were rewarded with a holiday.

The Wives' Social Club, under the guidance of Mrs. Parsons, resumed their meetings in the recreation room on Thursday 7th November.

The Corporals Mess held a very successful smoker on the 1st November. The usual thirsts were much in evidence. The Mess also organised an invitation dance which was very well patronised. Norman Steale and his County band were in attendance.

Armistice Day was celebrated by the usual service in the Cathedral, in which the 4th Divl Signals took part. TOC.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Company has been very busy during the month preparing for annual inspections. These were carried out by the G.O.C. 4th Division and the G.O.C.-in-C. Eastern Command. Our M.T. has also been inspected by the C.I.A. Furlough is still in full swing, and a third of the Company are enjoying their annual " lay in " with no worries of check parade and stables. Several of us are saying " Roll on, my turn."

On the 11th November a detachment, under the command of Lieut. H. G. Daniel, was present at the Armistice Day service at Canterbury Cathedral. The commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Parsons, M.C.) afterwards took the salute at the march past.

Congratulations.—To our O.C., Major J. L. Henderson, on his promotion, and to L/Corpl Evans D. on getting the pay.

Departures.—The following have left the Company for stations as shown. Signalmen Brooke H., Bridgwater and Brown J. K. to Egypt Signals. Corporal Fox S., Sigmn Beever R. and Driver McWilliams to the S.T.C.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to the following, who have joined us from stations as shown. Lieut. D. E. McIntosh, Royal Canadian Signals, from Canada. Signalman Moore M. and Driver Ratcliff from the S.T.C.

Obituary.—It is with profound regret that we have to record the death of our Divisional commander, Major-General J. K. Dick-Cunyngham, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The news of his death came as a great shock to us, as he was present at an inspection of the unit only a week previously. The unit was represented at his funeral by the commanding officer, C.S.M. Pearce and Sergt Conyers.

MASKEE.

No. 2 Company.

Arrivals.—We extend hearty greetings to C.S.M. Leckie and family, who arrived from the Depot Battalion on 1/11/35, and hope their sojourn in Canterbury will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—U/L/Corporal Slaymaker left us on the 14th November for the sunny climate of Egypt. Apparently he cannot stand the hard winters we have in England. Fifteen other ranks, who were due to embark on the 17th December, have now the pleasure of spending another Christmas and New Year at home, as their sailing has been postponed until the 5th February.

Marriages.—Congratulations and good wishes for the future to the following happy couples. L/Corporal Locke to Christabella Williams, at Holy Trinity Church, Ipswich, on 26/10/35. Sigmn Walker to Caroline Ada Smith, at St. Thomas's Church, Canterbury, on 19/10/35.

Kennel Club.—Our Kennel Club is still flourishing, and two more would-be fox catchers are expected shortly to augment the pack. Our O.C.'s dog has great hopes of being able to pad the hoof with the pack in the near future, and can be seen now and again helping himself to the hounds' slimming diet which is stored in the Company office. The head kennelman has borrowed a trumpet from the guard room, and is just waiting for his red coat to arrive from Bond Street so that he can join the Tailwaggers Club.

Weather Forecast.—Rain. Further outlook: more rain.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—During the past month the unit has been inspected by the G.O.C.s 4th Division and Eastern Command—on the 11th and 18th October respectively. As usual, the high standard of the unit was shown, the barrack rooms, section stores, garages, etc., being exceptionally clean.

It was with the deepest regret that we heard of the sudden death of the G.O.C. 4th Division (Major-General J. K. Dick-Cunyngham, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.) whilst hunting a few days after he inspected us.

The last period of furlough commences on the 30th November, and on the return of that party we begin individual training in the form of upgrading and M.T. courses.

Arrivals.—One of the arrivals this month should have been shown under the heading of " Departures," for Sigmn Jones M. was posted to F Company during the latter part of last month and he returned to this Company on Tuesday 12th November. The only other arrival is Corpl Holsey J. from No. 1 Company.

Departures.—L/Corporal Wilson A. G. left us for Catterick on Tuesday 12th November, and we wish him the best of luck.

Discharges.—C.S.M. Terrell and Signalman Robinson V. have been discharged during the past month, and I am pleased to say that both have secured a good job. Sigmn Robinson is employed at the Standard Telephone Company, and—once a soldier, always a soldier—he has joined the 44th Divl Signals (T.A.) and is now a Section sergeant. We'll be seeing you, Robbie, when you come this way for training next year.

Signalmen Rushen L. and Williams A. leave us to-morrow for civvy street, both having bought their discharge. Final draft warnings and boat lists will not affect them now unless, of course, there is a G.M.—when it will be a case of " Face your boat stations."

Congratulations.—These are extended to Corpl Main W. J. on his recent promotion. To Sergt Marchant M. on becoming a proud daddy. The name of his daughter must be a secret, for he would not let me publish it : but I will next month, after it has been published in Part II. Orders. However, he wishes B Corps Signals and the 55th Divl Signals (T.A.) to note the fact. To Corpl Wellock H. on signing the dotted line for pontoons only.

Drafts.—The Egyptian draft left us this morning (14/11/35) and we wish them the best of luck in their new stations. Signalmen Barker A. and Dixon M. to Egypt Signals. Signalmen Williams H. and Walters K. to No. 2 W/T Company, Sarafand.

The first boat list for India has now been put back to the 5th February '36, so those who were sweating on Christmas on the briny can now have one at home. (Applications will be forwarded on publication of these notes.)

Corporals Room.—During the past month the members of the Corporals Room have held a smoker and a dance, both of which received an encore. What we want to know is who were the two lance-corporals who were playing jigsaw puzzles at the smoker, and whether they will play the same game when we have our outing in London.

Sports.—Congratulations are extended to the unit rugby team on winning the Cobb-Nicholls rugby cup, and also to the runners-up, for the good game in the final. I wonder if the blonde pay corporal of A Corps Signals is still telling them how A Corps should have won. Better luck next time, Dodger. JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, 14th November.

General.—Notes under this heading become more and more difficult to collect, chiefly through lack of material upon which to write. Shortage of personnel prevents the usual winter training, and at the moment the difficulty appears to be how to carry out the normal work with less than half the normal personnel. I am sure we could find congenial occupations for those n.c.o.s and men prevented from returning to India on completion of furlough.

Marriages.—This department continues to provide its usual quota for our notes, and this month we offer our congratulations to the following and hope that their troubles are now safely passed. Driver Wilks E. to Miss Winnifred Clark. Sigmn Day W. to Miss Irene Moore. Sigmn Salisbury R. to Miss Kathleen Kennedy.

Signalman Salisbury and his Wife.

Births.—Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. Vize on the birth of a son, Peter William.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the unit and hope their stay will be long and happy. Signalmen Ashmore, Bacon and Moir from the Training Battalion, S.T.C. Sigmn Paine and Driver Whelan from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C. The arrivals being less than the departures, we lose again.

Departures.—The following have left to conquer fresh fields, and in their endeavour we wish them every success. Signalmen McKenzie M. and Borrow H. to the Army Reserve. Driver Smith W. to the Depot Battalion, S.T.C. Sigmn Ford D. to the Army Reserve on compassionate grounds. Driver Swann W. discharged. Sigmn Pillow W. discharged on production of the necessary sixty pounds. Sigmn Midgley I. to the Army Reserve. Signalmen Ford W. H. and Hodgson H. to the Army Reserve from A.V.T.C.

November 11th.—Armistice Day was observed in the usual manner. Detachments took part in the ceremony held at Scalby Parish Church, the Coastguards' service, and at Oliver's Mount. A service was held on the barrack square, at which the remainder of the unit and local residents attended.

Greetings.—All members of the unit send their hearty greetings and wish all readers a very merry Christmas and the best of luck in the coming year.

Sergeants Mess.

Still no marriage to report, but we have not lost hope. Spring is not far off and may tilt the scales, and then the messing account will cease to function as a topic at the monthly Mess meeting.

Arrivals and departures are this month confined to one exchange. Sergt Lindsay (Peter) has exchanged places with L/Sergt Wood E. at the 49th Divl Signals (T.A.), Leeds. We sincerely hope that the change will be of great benefit to both.

Agony.—Aldershot. To Sergt Hodge C. H. (2nd Indian Divl Signals): What about bringing a few of your friends up here? This is a good place from which to jump off for India. Havildar sends his salaams.

Greetings.—The compliments of the coming season are offered to all friends of the Mess, past, present and future. OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

There is exceptionally little news this month. The second Trade Board has commenced, and we hope all the candidates will be successful. The principal topic of the unit appears to be leave, and not a few are looking forward to spending Christmas at home this year.

Courses.—L/Corpl Clarke is attending a local P.T. course, and we hope he is enjoying it.

Appointments.—We congratulate L/Corporal Pilkington on his appointment and wish him luck.

Education.—We congratulate Sergt Washford on obtaining his first class certificate of education at the last examination, and L/Corpl Watson on passing in English and mathematics towards the same certificate.

Draft.—L/Corpl Dickenson and Sigmn Hooper have left us for Catterick prior to embarking for India. We hear they are due at Wazirdist about February. Corporal Dodd has received warning orders to embark for Hong Kong in February, so the I.M.'s shop will lose an old friend.

Voc. News.—Signalman Seymour is now a cabinet maker with Messrs. Lissen and Company. We wonder how he likes civvy life. L/Corpl Castell and Sigmn Weir are enjoying their course, and send their best wishes to the Company. They also recommend sheet metal working as a good course. Sigmn Eccles hopes to join the "vocees" somewhere about the New Year. We are all pleased to hear from these civvies, and wish them good luck and success.

Hot Pot.—According to a very good referee, the expression "Hydrophœbus may be obnoxious" is said to be a polite way of declaring one's hand at solo.

Those small hours of the morning make operators quite romantic. Here is one from our bookie: "0400 valve dis: must be a short somewhere, as I got a shock." Too shocking!

Who were the three men who went out together, dressed in khaki trimmed with brass, and returned one by one?

Harriet's Corner.—Hooper: Thanks for vingt et un Part II. Was it my memory? V.M. Chuck: Letters are scarce. G.W.

Tailpiece.—We wish all units at home and abroad a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Tuesday 15th October.

General.—Hello, everybody! A Company calling. At present things are very quiet in the Company. Still, life is very interesting. There are many sports and games going on in the station, and one's time can be wholly occupied.

The members of the n.c.o.s drill course are about to pass off. May they do well.

The Company is very small these days, but we have the same old " kick," and get plenty of encouragement to carry on the good work.

Entertainments.—On the 9th October the Company held an all ranks dance and whist drive. This was an excellent show ; in fact, one of the best this season. The commanding officer and officers were present, and I am sure they enjoyed themselves very much. The band excelled themselves on this occasion.

Golf.—A competition was played on the S.T.C. (I.) golf links for a ladies' stroke challenge cup. There were only eight entries, and although we have two or three very good lady players, their golf was not up to their usual standard. The two fancied players were Mrs. Nokes and Mrs. Whittington, who were both well ahead of the other players on strokes. The competition was eventually won by Mrs. Whittington with four strokes less than Mrs. Nokes.

Congratulations to Sergt Whittington on winning the Nokes cup by defeating Sigmn Newell by 3—1. It is becoming a family affair, Dick. Did you say " 7 and 6 " to me ?

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new (temporary) Company commander, Captain C. A. Oliver, M.C. May his stay in the S.T.C. (I.) be a pleasant one. Also to Sergeant and Mrs. Shiner on their return from U.K. leave, and to Sergt Mills from the 1st Indian Divl Signals.

Posting.—L/Sergt Ellison D. to the 1st Indian Divl Signals, Rawalpindi, on the 25th September. This was a great loss to the Company, but he will be a great asset to the Div. at practically anything in which he takes part. Good luck, Donald!

Yellow Press.—Inside information has been received that the Lamb which is Bird is again on the prowl. All shooting areas have been warned, and Forest range officers are on the look-out for this rare species. No damage has yet been done, but we are all anticipating sad news in the near future.

Heard in the Company office. One senior n.c.o. to another: " I am a bit worried, Jock." " Why ?" said Jock. " Well, it's like this. I don't know who is going to cook my food for the next fortnight." " Why, what is the matter: wife ill?" " No, but she is playing in the ladies' 18 hole stroke competition."

S.O.S.—Got both yours, Lew. Have you received mine yet ? Body.

Broadcasting.—An innovation in broadcasting was tried out during the final of the Eduljee rugby cup between the 15th Field Brigade R.A. and the 1st Battalion The King's Regiment on the Garrison rugby ground.

A running commentary was given by Lieutenants G. A. MacMunn and D. St. J. Hoysted, transmitted from No. 1 sets on the ground, using a No. 1 set microphone on a 40 yards lead to the announcer who stood on a table in a Ford van, from which position he could see the whole field of play.

The receiving end was in the British Military Hospital, a little over two miles from the rugby ground. Here a No. 1 set receiver was used, with a plug from the headphone jack to an L.F. amplifier and then through a lead to loud speakers—one in each ward of the hospital.

The broadcast took place between the hours of 5.0 and 6.30 p.m., which is a very bad period here for reception, atmospherics being very bad. It was found that the microphone of the No. 1 set is unsuitable, as " crowd " noises (to add interest) could not be given. The best result was obtained when the announcer became excited and shouted into the microphone.

Prior to the game starting the patients were very disinterested, chiefly owing to the atmospherics, but were consoled and thrilled by the end of the game, as they had been able to follow the announcer very clearly by means of squared plans of the field of play.

The result of the game was: 15th Field Brigade R.A. 3 points, 1st Battn The King's Regiment nil. The winning try was scored in the last minute of extra time. MUTT.

Corporals Room.

Tuesday 22nd October.

General.—Last month we were busy preparing for our annual whist drive and dance, which was held on the 2nd inst. I am pleased to say that everything went off according to programme, and everybody had an enjoyable evening. The committee, with a few other willing helpers, did all in their power to make everybody happy and comfortable. L/Corpl Paling carried out the duties of M.C. for the whist, and Corpl Gourlay for the dancing. Of course, the bar (whatever that word means to some) was in the capable hands of Corporal Connolly and L/Corpl Marshall. Were they busy ? I'll say they were. Then the Signal band, under the supervision of L/Sgt Goodison, gave attractive selections for the dancing.

During the dance interval we all gathered round the stage, looking pleasant and intelligent, for a flashlight photograph. Judging by the proofs, Corpl Collett mislaid his best face. Mrs. Beattie, in this break, very kindly presented the whist prizes and lucky number winners.

Plenty of seating accommodation was provided in the open, and one junior n.c.o. made good use of this extra space during the whist and " gripped." What a grip, Tommey!

Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard very kindly allowed the Workshops amplifier and speakers to be fitted up in order that each dance could be announced direct from the band. Several other items were also heard, no doubt--unknown to the announcer.

Lt.-Colonel Pollard and other officers of the S.T.C. (I.) favoured us with their attendance, and I think I may with safety say that they all enjoyed themselves.

Now, getting back to normal again, I'm chancing the raspberries when I say that the junior n.c.o.s drill course is still proceeding as smoothly as possible. We have given up looking forward to the time when we shall *have* to give up this early morning ? ? ? It is strange, but true, that the tenure of this jolly old course is decided by one factor only: the departure of a certain troopship, with accommodation for a certain D.I. Are we looking forward to his boat ? Are we ?

Sport.—The tennis courts are in full swing again, and I must say that their condition and general appearance are very much improved, thanks to the efforts of our secretary, L/Cpl Marshall. Quite a good show, Percy, in spite of the fact that tar decorations on the balls are not an asset to good play.

L/Corporal Knox decided that he would spend some of his accumulated credits on a new tennis racket, so he scattered his old one to the four winds after a smashing drive from the base line. A pity ladies were present, George! otherwise we might have had your candid opinion on the matter. What self control!

Two or three of our stalwart members have taken to the gun. Up with the sun, off they go with that determined look of " bring them back, dead or alive."

Mess Scandal.—I hear that Badgy Lennon is jealous of Bert holding the grippers' shield. Take note, fellow grippers: competition is keen.

Pokey Die: Watch Talbot when he's throwing for queens.

R.P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Thursday 7th November.

Greetings.—As the festive season will be approaching when these notes appear, the 1st Indian Divl Signals take this opportunity of wishing all readers and all members of Royal Signal units, both at home and abroad, a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

General.—Much activity has taken place in the unit since we last appeared in print, and as a brief resume we will mention the following.

As seems to be usual about September every year, a certain amount of trouble breaks out on the North-West Frontier. This year, there were simultaneous disturbances on the Hazara border and in the Mohmand country. Detachments of the 1st Indian Divl Signals were speedily despatched to both areas.

J Section, under the command of Lieut. A. T. Sladen, proceeded to Abbottabad en route for the Hazara border, and attached to this Section were five C mk. ii. sets of A Section, four despatch riders of D Section, and a 120 watt W/T set of A Corps Signals. The whole detachment was known as Abbottabad Signals. Much valuable experience was gained by all ranks who took part in this venture, especially by the B.O.R.s of the W/T Pack sub-Section, who had to march over some particularly mountainous country. One n.c.o., in describing his experiences, was heard to state that when he reached his destination, his feet were radiating so many amp that, with a dummy key, he could have worked the world.

In regard to the Mohmand activities, both K and L Sections, under the command of Lieutenants M. A. Charlton and P. M. P. Hobson respectively, proceeded to Peshawar at the beginning of September en route for Mohforce, with whom they maintained the reputation of the Corps. L Section returned to Rawalpindi on the 23rd October, but K Section are returning by march route. They are accompanying the 2nd (Rawalpindi) Infantry Brigade.

At the moment I cannot give a detailed account of L Section's activities in the field, as they all seem so modest, but probably K Section will oblige us with some thrilling stories when they return. Listening to various conversations, I gather that all ranks of the 1st Div. who served in Mohforce were very grateful for the various good turns done them by Peshawar District Signals, and I take this opportunity of thanking Peshdist Sigs on their behalf.

Regarding the remainder of the unit, the main body of those who remained at Upper Topa returned to Rawalpindi on the 4th October, and the rear party on the 21st. So, together with the return of the W/T Section from Abbottabad and L Section from Mohforce, we have been gradually becoming a complete unit again ; but with military training getting into full swing, we shall soon have empty barrack rooms and stables once more.

As the Northern Command manœuvres and the R.A. Concentration Camp have both been cancelled, we have been able to get down to Section training during the past month, and Section schemes and route marches have been the order of the day.

Now we are turning our thoughts to unit training. On the 1st November a Divisional exercise was held on the Peshawar road in the vicinity of Rawalpindi. This exercise was chiefly for the benefit of Divisional Headquarters, to practise the lay-out of a Div. H.Q. at war strength and moving to a new position. The 1st Indian Divl Signals turned out at full strength (less K and L Sections) and it gave us all a good insight into the extent of a Divisional Headquarters camp and the number of staff officers there actually would be at Div. H.Q. in time of war. It also provided a good opportunity of getting the unit concentrated in the field and to study our problems in camp. It was a pity that the light was too bad to allow a photograph to be taken of two C.Q.M.S.s and a sergeant grappling with a refractory lift and force pump and a muddy pond!

A good innovation during the past month, under the orders of the commanding officer, was to have the technical schools open from 2.0—4.0 and 5.0—7.0 p.m. daily for the purpose of operating practice for both B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s. Every operator has to do two hours operating per week. This, we hope, will have a good effect on the standard of operating in the unit—especially for those people who are employed in stables, offices, etc., and normally do not get facilities for operating practice. We trust this arrangement will also help towards extra pice next year.

Departures.—Sergeant Rand R. and family, posted to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. (Sorry we never saw how you looked after Blighty leave, Bob.)

The following depart from Rawalpindi on 8/11/35 for embarkation on H.T. *Dorsetshire*, sailing ex Karachi on the 11th: Captain J. Wynn and Signalmen Brown W., Boothman R., Blakemore J., Robson W. and Blamey R. We wish them all luck in their new spheres.

L/Sergt Bainbridge S., who is being invalided home, leaves by the same boat. We hope he will make a speedy recovery in the more congenial climate of England.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on going a further step up the ladder. L/Sergt Askew W. to be Sergeant. Corpl Bainbridge S. appointed L/Sergeant. (Sergt Askew is raffling his Blue Book.)

Re-Engagements.—The following have signed the dotted line. L/Sergeant Baxter and Corpl Manning G. to complete twenty-one years. Sergeant Oakes F. W. to continue in the Service beyond twenty-one years to complete twenty-one years pensionable service. (I hope you get your teeth by that time, Freddie.)

Arrivals: Families.—We welcome the families of L/Sergeant Sunderland H. and Corpl Simpson S. to the unit, and hope they will soon settle down.

Joke Corner.—Ferocious military policeman: "Where's yer head dress?" Nervous signalman: "Cambridge Barracks, corpl."

Scene: Unit workshops. "Yes, bring it in ; we'll do it at once." (Collapse of Section sergeant.) ONEDIV.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Tuesday 5th November.

Better late than never. The Troop still functions in Sialkot, although Addis-Ababa has been very near to realisation.

The following become ex-punchers on posting. F/S/Sergeant Bellwood W. to the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut ; U/L/Corpl Eady A. to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut ; and Sigmn Barrett F. to W.E.S. Cherat. Sigmn Simbler A. has gone on temporary posting to Jubbulpore, to gain more knowledge and pice on a class ii. course for I.M.s.

Arrivals since our last notes are L/Corpl Rhodes J. from 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur, and L/Corpl Stonehouse R. from B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Corporal Cook T. and Sigmn Grattan H. are leaving per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on the 12th November, complete with a sweat and anti-aircraft equipment.

C.Q.M.S. Holmes W. and Corpl Vine J. are to be congratulated on being awarded the King's Silver Jubilee medal.

Congratulations, also, to the following on obtaining higher ratings. L/Sergt Scott H. remustered to E.F. class A.ii., Sigmn Roake J. to O.S. class i., Corpl Breeze C. and Sigmn Bass J. to O.S. class ii., Sigmn O'Connell F. to despatch rider D.ii.

More laurels for various schoolies. Corporal Milne J. obtained "British history" as an additional subject to special certificate. L/Sergt Scott H. passed in maths and geography to complete a first class. L/Sgt Birchall J., L/Cpl Wright V., Corpl Breeze C., U/L/Corporal Eady A. and Sigmn Barrett F. passed in various subjects towards the coveted first.

There are no more laurels or congratulations, so we shall have to use tankards with Corpl Rhodes B., L/Corpl Robertson J., and U/L/Corporals Mitchell R. and Marshall T. on their respective promotions.

Another record broken this month. According to Part II.s Sigmn Johnson W. has completed three years service without anyone detecting any criminal activities.

To Snaky, 2nd Divl Signals, Aldershot: O.k., but what about a couple of lines? It only costs 1½d. Another Snake. KHANA.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

The absence of notes from this unit for the past few months is regretted. I am afraid we must plead the recent operations as our excuse. Descriptive accounts of the part we played in those operations, with photographs, will appear in the next issue. Meanwhile we wish all readers of this Journal the happiest of Christmases and the best of New Years.

[The illustrations on the opposite page were crowded out of the August issue, but are included here to get them into the 1935 Volume.—ED.]

The photographs (reading down the columns) show: a view of Bargholai Camp from a neighbouring hill; morning exercise somewhat curtailed; more tribesmen to help in road making; troops in the nude; part of the British ranks quarters, with a piece of new road on the right; other road makers; an old fellow "telling the tale" (note his quakeproof mansion); and the man who lets one taste his fruit free—perhaps!

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Sunday 3rd November.

General.—Since our last notes were written, those few sluggards who were still leading the lives of bloated plutocrats away in the khuds have returned to the fold, and now only the Blighty leave details are keeping us from reporting 100 per cent.

It seems that those who proceeded to Blighty this summer for a spot of leave have found it such a wonderful place that they have decided to remain there. Anyhow, up to date there is no news of their return—or even impending return.

Section training is now in full swing, and everyone gets a turn at the feet hardening process in preparation for unit camp, which takes place early in December. Everybody had such a good time on last year's camp that this one is eagerly awaited by all, with the possible exception of the advance party, who most certainly have a great deal to do in a short time.

Aftermath of the Quetta Disaster.—A circular letter arrives, giving details of surplus stores and asking if units can take any of them. Q.M. to I.O.R. clerk: "There appear to be large surplus stocks of Allenbury's, Cow and Gate, and Glaxo. Do you think that your Welfare Centre could use any of them?" I.O.R. clerk: "Oh, no, sahib; they use Brasso."

Arrivals.—Major J. E. F. Paton has arrived from Jubbulpore to take over command of the unit, but has unfortunately been sent to hospital for an operation. All ranks wish him a complete and speedy recovery, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Entertainments.—Two very successful and enjoyable all ranks dances have been held during the past month—both at the Chota Club—and from remarks one hears, it is evident that two per month is not nearly enough. But there being only one band available in the station, it makes it difficult for the entertainments committee to arrange any more, as there are other people in the station who desire the services of the band.

Departure.—On the 17th October Major B. G. Rowley (our late commanding officer) left us for the Signal School, Poona, for permanent duty. All ranks join in wishing him every success in his new sphere. ROBO.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Headquarters.

Monday 7th October.

Exodus.—The unit has been very sadly depleted during the month. Forty of our number have been drafted to Peshawar in connection with the recent Frontier disturbances. This is a considerable strain on our strength, in view of the large contingents of men that we have away on command. The position will perhaps be realised if I mention the fact that we can only find guards for twelve hours a day now. Of course, we worry about that!

Shortly we are to lose our Pack Section. They are going to Burma. Perhaps you've heard about that. They certainly let *us* know about it. Anyhow, we do know that they will be right up to the very high B Corps standard, and we wish them good shooting (or do we ?)

Jollification.—I mentioned last month that most probably there would be a baptismal service for the new dining hall to report. There is! It took the form of a dinner for the members of the Unit Club—and a jolly good show, too. About a hundred members sat down, and the fare and arrangements were excellent. Corpl Wood and his committee are to be complimented on a very fine show. The dinner was followed by an all ranks dance held on the club tennis courts. The club and its environs lend themselves very well to the running of these open air shows, but there is no doubt that the organisers put in a great deal of hard work in the decoration and setting out of the dancing area. Truly a worthy show.

Congratulations.—To Captain K. H. Treseder. To all those clever enough to bluff the Trade Board. To R.S.M. Trapmore A. and Sergt Steele, who have made the ranks stated, more hearty congratulations.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to Lieut. J. R. Beeton, L/Corpl Chrystie (there is a fellow smaller than himself in Royal Sussex—and he's found him), Sigmn Fairhead, and L/Corporal Moulinie—the last named from leave, and the remainder on posting.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with Lieut. L. T. Shawcross and Corpl Weir, who have left us for Burma in advance of their Section—the Pack. BEKORE.

No. 1 Company.

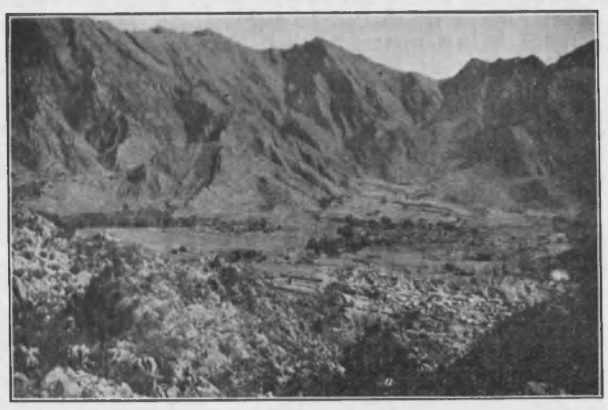
The Beginning.—The placidity of our life was rudely shattered by the sudden call to arms and departure for Peshawar of the majority of the Company. As somebody observed, the Frontier again called its own. The part remaining reminds one of a "nil" return.

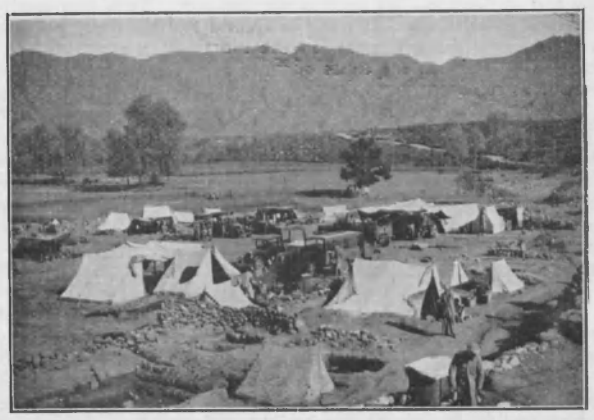
Absences, Births, Deaths and Marriages.—If any of these have occurred, I do not know of them, although I should like to. Knowing little of this reporting business, I can only hope that this sub-heading has been put down correctly.

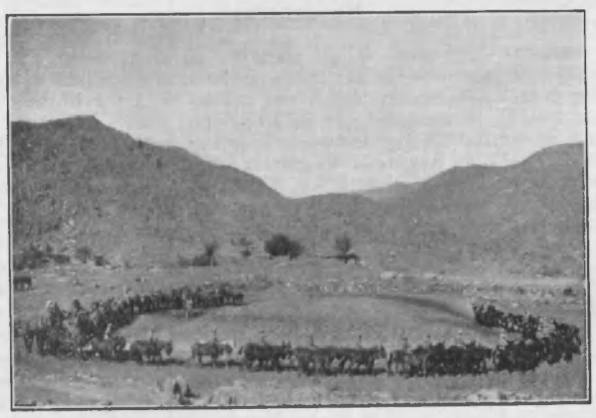
Obituary.—The passing of the twenty-four hour guard is greatly regretted. Always on our minds, we sincerely wish it a lasting rest.

The Ending.—These notes can hardly be termed intimate studies of our Company life, but for this month they must suffice. If they were as long as the wait for the boat, then I should need a WIRE all to myself. C.A.S.

With the Peshawar District Signals on the Loe Agra Operations, 1935.







No. 2 W/T Company.

General.—It was generally believed that we were going to have a nice rest in Karachi, but such is not the case. First, the earthquake took some of the Company to Quetta to help those already there ; and now the tribesmen on the North-Western Frontier—Mohmand—have been the cause of more of the Company going to Peshawar as reinforcements for the Signal units engaged in keeping 'em back. We also have the Pack Section preparing to leave for Burma. The advance party (Lieut. L. T. Shawcross and Cpl Weir) have already left, but the actual date when the main body go is not yet known.

When these have gone, we shall be a mere handful of the Company left to carry on the good work in Karachi. We cannot even afford to let the " Roll on, Oct " wallahs go now.

The Manora leave season has terminated, and those who were hoping for a second holiday were sadly disappointed.

Arrivals.—Not many this month. One or two leave details from Quetta, and L/Corpl Moulinie (Henry) who has returned to the fold after spending six months leave in the Seychelle Islands, somewhere off the coast of Africa. If you are thinking of trying it, Henry says it is worth it. He got married whilst on leave. Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Moulinie!

Sports.—The unit entered two teams in the British Union Jack Club tennis tournament: one from the w.o.s and sergeants mess, and one from the junior n.c.o.s and signalmen. The sergeants have managed to get to the fina's, and we hope they win the trophy.

We have also entered a team in the Garrison Football League which commences this month.

To Zhob Signals, Fort Sandeman.—We have some spare khaki paint to give the War Memorial a touch up. Indent through the usual channels.

Finale.—I must apologise for the very short epistle this month. I have mislaid my diary. X489. TWOCOY.

Western Command W/T Group, Quetta.

Sunday 29th September.

General.—We are glad to report that the jolt predicted in our September notes has not so far materialised. Neither does it appear likely that it ever will.

Two alterations have, however, been made. They are the addition of Karachi as the D.S. of the Zhob Group (bear up, Loralai—et tu, Blank), which involved a change of wave-length, and the transfer of our dictatorial powers to the O.C. No. 2 Company B Corps Signals. Slight as these changes may seem, it is a safe bet that the consumption of liquor and narcotics has increased by 100% at Loralai since the former's inception.

Freehold Lots and Plots.—The Shenton housing estate, entirely freehold, hot and cold (largely the latter) has made a belated appearance. These de'ectable villas are constructed from salvaged material, with delightfully ventilated walls complete with two windows, fireplace and door—the tout ensemble being surrounded by white-washed bricks, charmingly aligned throughout. Accommodation is strictly limited, and all applications for quarters at this delightful winter resort will be dealt with in strict rotation. The canteen, wet and dry, has been transferred to a more accessib'e spot, and all modern conveniences (excluding the cinema) are now within half a mile of the estate. This does not include the wireless station, recently rendered earthquake-proof by the Sappers and Miners, which is still ten minutes walk in the summer—four in the winter—from the estate. The two cinemas, which are served by the unit bus, are still in the open air, but judging from the preparations going forward, it is probable that these will be made safe from the elements during the next month or so.

Arrival.—Sigmn Edwards C. from Karachi for the usual crack. See September notes.

Departures.—Sigmn Jones H. to Kasauli after a bout of enteric. (What is the secret of success, Horace ?) Sigmn Hearn to No. 2 Echelon, Peshawar, and later transferred to the 1st Indian Divl Signals. (Best of luck, Tich!)

Leave.—Our O.C. (Lieutenant H. Prince) leaves us on the 31st October for three months privilege leave at the Olde Manse, Brighton. We hope that he thoroughly enjoys his well earned break.

Acknowledgments.—Though rather belated, we have to acknowledge the receipt of a jewel among technical ditties from a colleague of VVX. Strong as my feelings are on these matters, I forbore nailing them on our station door. They will be circulated by plain van (absolutely plain) to those interested.

Tailpiece.—We have been asked to trace the author of the following:—

" Farewell, fair city!
Bird thou never wert."

A crystal set will be awarded to the sender of the first correct answer received. Q.R.U.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Friday 8th November.

General.—All good things come to an end. Even the old bungalow—formerly the exclusive residence of mice, not to mention B.O.R.s—has come under the influences of the M.E.S. and has now been renovated and fu'ly equipped with a bathroom (h. and c.), central heating and cream coloured walls. Becky of *The Daily Explosion* was heard to remark (on a flying visit which she paid us) " How delightfully chic!" Anyway, it doesn't matter what Becky says. We know that it's the cat's pyjamas, and we are very pleased to move into it after a long sojourn in tents.

Inspections.—We were visited by the G.O.C. Western Command, Lieut.-General Pitt-Taylor. He inspected the unit and was pleased with all he saw.

Arrivals.—Free drinks have been received from the following, who have come to grace Loralai with their presence for an indefinite period. Sergeant Russell from Wazirdist. Signalmen Pearce, Greetham and Keenan from the 2nd Indian Divl Signals. Sigmn Jenkinson from B Corps Signals. Corpl Harries and his merry men also arrived for their annual square meal. Two of these workers (?) are still enjoying plasmoquine treatment after a congenial stay in the Station Hospital. Various other folk have also suffered, but they are totally unable to understand how unlimited supplies of cream biscuits kept malaria at bay.

Departures.—*From the " straight and narrow."* Norman Fisher, who let it be placed on record that in a moment of bravado he ordered four soda waters. Mac, who always was so steady, is reported as being on the verge of bankruptcy owing to his recently acquired uncontrollable liking for the cup that cheers—or should we say glass ? Last, but not least, Sigmn Hope by dak lorry at 4 a.m. for Karachi, and Sigmn Greetham by the same luxurious coach for Fort Sandeman.

Repatriations.—We have constantly been reminded of their long service by the four who have just completed the Five Year Plan. This gang of beauties is a gathering from our two outstations, and we warn all young soldiers in the Blighty cantonment to beware of them, for once they start gripping ('ike Busty, immortalised in Loralai) they never let go. However, now that they have lost their grip on us, we wish them bon voyage and early morning stables.

Best Sellers.—" Passion's Plaything," by Professor Fisher. " Dogs—and how to shoot 'em," by F. Dungey. " Dogs—and how to rear 'em," by Tanglefoot. " Mrs. Hick's Cookery Book, or Food for Thought." " My Five Years in India," by Eric Von Schneider. " I 'ad 'em," by Jammie.

We Want to Know.—How does " B " of Bulford manage it each trooping season? How long will John Ward Snoogleberry languish in Quetta ?

Seasonal Greetings.—Although somewhat premature at the moment of writing, we wish all ranks of the Corps the compliments of the season. May they all be toppers. PHILLUP.

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

Friday 1st November.

General.—With dismal glances at the calender for 1935—40, I act as temporary scribe to THE WIRE, our renowned Schneider having decided to sail for England this month. However, as the B.B.C. says in such cases, " All reports on this rubbish will be appreciated," but unstamped letters will have to wait till pay day, as I am broke.

Since the publication of our last notes, the principal event in this corner of the world has been the Army special and first class education examination. The results have not been published yet, but everyone wears a bright smile when education is mentioned, and the examination papers must have been much too easy for our intellectual detachment. Personally, I spent sleepless nights in swotting up on Mussolini, but he was not even mentioned, so I maintain a reserved silence and look as dumb as possible whenever the favourite controversy arises.

Improvements.—Our new institute was privately opened last week, no beer being available for distribution to outsiders, and Drage's are well and truly in the background. Even our O.C. was bewildered with the colour scheme, and I have heard that his conversation on the return journey to Loralai never strayed from jazz coloured curtains and dhurries, so some startling changes are anticipated in the Loralai Institute shortly.

Arrivals and Departures.—Sigmn Pearce (ex-boys, please note) from Quetta. He has quite a good time to do yet, so his stay will be a long one. Sigmn Lapsley from Loralai. So far, his time has been spent in lamenting the fact that Fort Sandeman has deteriorated since he was here way back.

L/Corpl Jamieson to Hindubagh and Sigmn Parker to Quetta. The former is reputed to be taking a course of Vitapon in an effort to put on weight, while the latter is now answering the Signal battle-cry of " Feed away."

Inspections.—The Detachment was inspected last week by Lieut.-General Pitt-Taylor and, as usual, everything was o.k. I have heard that oil keeps the mosquitoes away, so I am not worrying about malaria for years to come.

Congratulations.—We celebrated our O.C.'s birthday by running up a lovely bill on his account. It is surprising to note the number of wine-bibbers in the Army on such occasions. Now we are praying to Allah that he will decide to get married soon, as a person is supposed to give away lots of beer on such an auspicious occasion ; but grave doubts are he'd in that respect, as he is now wading through a second tour of Indian service—and one never stays in India unless it is to remain single. Congratulations, sir ; and may we drink to your health for many more years to come.

To Coup, Egypt: Congratulations. What about a line? G.A.C.

Agony.—Strictly reserved until the results of the recent examination are published. DON.

Hindubagh Detachment.

General.—Activity has been very noticeable in Hindubagh this month. Signalmen Eley and Moad departed for the city to show how firsts should be passed (?) We assume from numerous exclamations of " Duff!" and " Cake!" that the test was not too arduous. We sincerely hope they succeeded in their efforts.

Sigmn Goodhand was with us for twelve days, but is now in Loralai waiting for the boat.

W.O. Davey arrived here and spent two days with us. He is ever a welcome visitor at H.D.B. He exercised his tuning capacity on the Phillips receiver. His first attempts were highly successful, but on the second day it proved too much for him and defied his touch. We hope he will be with us again in the near future.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to L/Corpl Jamieson, who has taken over command of the Detachment from Corpl Malvern. We know his stay in H.D.B. will not be long, but we hope it will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Corpl Malvern H. to Loralai, prior to his return to Blighty. Good luck, Bert, and a pleasant journey. We hope the boat does not turn left in the Red Sea. F.N.E.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 2 Company.

Wednesday 16th October.

General.—That winter is now upon us is evident from the number of tongas which roll up these days, depositing bulky bedding rolls and bulkier individuals from the hills and outstations. Blue patrol suits, redolent of camphor, are unearthed from the bottom of kit boxes, and blankets no longer serve as additional pillows. In a few days the main party of No. 1 Company details will be down from Chakrata, and the remainder of No. 2 Company with them ; and then for strange tales from the hills.

The all sports tournament was concluded by the football match, No. 2 Company (b) v. No. 1 Company details, the former winning after a very keen game by 3—2 goals. Lieut.-Colonel A. C. Sykes, in handing over the shield to the winning side, congratulated both teams on the fine sportsmanship they displayed. A supper was later provided through the generosity of Lieut. R. Webb (O.C. No. 2 Company) to the winning teams in the various events.

In the monthly tennis tournament Sigmn Buckman beat Sigmn Betts in the final, the latter putting up a very fine show despite a handicap of —30.

The European situation has not been without its repercussions here, the seriousness of which depended largely on how many days one had to do. Mayors and bandmasters in various provincial towns are advised that their conquering heroes will not now arrive as per schedule.

Births.—We have no wish to enter the lists against such an old established firm as the 5th Div. at Scarborough, but here's one to us. To Joan Barbara Sheila, wife of Sigmn Moase, a son (John Richard) at Brighton on the 14th September 1935.

" I sing his name, and nobler fame,
Wha multiplies our number."

If Mendelism counts for anything, the youngster should make a fine hockey goalkeeper.

Promotions.—Deep in the forest something stirred, and Mr. Records, knocking the cobwebs off his long forgotten files, did find the following names: Corporals Heasman, MacGregor and Wiggins to be L/Sergeants, and L/Cpl Collington to be Corporal. Congratulations, all! " Consider the lilies . . . . . ." At the same time, he has exalted them that were of low degree, and Sigmn Fabian now becomes U/L/Corporal.

Creeping Like a Snail.—With the advent of the B.A. first class and special examinations, several furrowed brows are to be seen these days. Knowledge is reputed cheap at any price, and those who complete the course deserve their reward—not only on grounds of knowledge, but by virtue of the distance daily travelled between our lines and the Green Howards, where the classes have been held.

Training.—On passing G and F Section stores these days a hum of unusual activity is to be heard, and daily a quartermaster-sergeant (with Sphinx-like features) listens to the old story of a saddle, yakdan or watch which " may look o.k., quarter, but really it's quite unserviceable."

G Section leave Meerut on the 29th of this month for Ambala, and F Section on the same date for Jhansi, for a three months stay under canvas.

" They shall not do guards,
As we who are left behind do guards."

To Barleux.—Having awarded one of your ever-so-pretty brass neck badges and received no acknowledgment from the recipient, what does one do about it ? BILLWUM.

Note the fine work of the Signals Association in securing Employment for R.Signal personnel, recorded on page 550.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

[Attached to the 11th (P.A.O.) Hussars]

Thursday 7th November.

General.—Unfortunately, our regular scribe is indulging in a little reconnaissance far out in the blue, and the result is that a mere novice has been delegated to " blast forth " the news of this small Troop. Well, here goes!

Departures.—By the time these notes appear in print, three of our old timers will have left for the land of white men. Two, we hope, will be in employment in civvy street (?). Our linguist Joey has intentions of becoming a local interpreter, while Geordie and his coal cart are to decorate the streets of Jarrow to the tune of " Bar-din." Sergt Kelly, M.M., will have arrived in the land of snow and winds. You won't need your groppi suit now, sarge. To all we wish the best of luck, good hunting and bon voyage.

Arrivals.—To our new arrivals we extend the glad hand, and hope their stay will be long and happy.

Snakes.—A recent interview with a famous big game hunter has led me to relate the following, as told by Professor Benn of the " What ho!" boys.

" I was standing in the middle of the desert, not a soul in sight. The birds were singing gently in the trees, and everything bore signs of happiness and contentment. Suddenly a hissing sound caught my ear. Instantly I turned sideways so that the snake should have a much smaller target at which to aim its deadly poison. Imagine my surprise when I espied a *large* python at my side! It was the largest and most deadly of all the species I have ever encountered. At a glance I estimated its length to be one and a half cms. and at least .000025 cms. thick.

" I did not dare shout to any of my two hundred servants, as I knew that they would immediately flee at the sight of the monster. Without hesitation I dived for its throat and at once it lashed its huge tail around my feeble waist. I, knowing that it would most probably squeeze me to death, slashed vigorously at its head with a sword I had found in my pocket wallet, still retaining my hold on its throat with my other hand. Our struggle must have caused a great deal of noise, for suddenly a sharp command rang out: ' I say, you cads! how about putting the lights on ?'

" Then came a pattering of feet, and I found my faithful Joey and Big Chief Sammy were vainly endeavouring to extract me from a hole in my net which I had cut with a nail file—and lo and behold! the fly had gone."

Jew's Mail.—Not much this week. Cicely: What about a drop of pen and ink ? Frankie. TILLICUAGIN.

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

The usual familiar wang-ho, bung-ho, etc., after this great lapse on the part of our journalist (myself, says I, modestly bearing all the responsibility). No! that doesn't read quite right, because the cause of the delay has provided the very material for these notes, and it is definitely no one's fault that our allotted space in THE WIRE has been vacant for some months.

We have been on holiday, and to show our appreciation of the magnificent organisation of our holiday camp I will write a few words. The amenities were almost perfect at this place. The feeling throughout was congenial and the beer was exceptionally cold. The feeling of liberty was adorable and inspired crouchers to more sleep, gobblers to greater efforts, and marksmen to an epidemic of early rising in search of game—not in such abundance —in the hills.

Those desirous of camping were divided into four contingents which, with the inclusion of members from the Royal Air Force General Hospital and the R.A.F. Station at Ramleh, formed quite happy parties. Needless to say, the weather remained hot and the Athlit Bay calm, so that two big battles were averted.

Fortunately there was only one casualty, and this occurred when one Rodwell stumbled over the railway line. When interviewed by our correspondent, he stated " Whilst chasing a fox I fell foul of a railway line, severely injuring my ankle . . . . but you may rest assured it will not interfere with my winter sports programme."

But Athlit is almost forgotten, and we've had entertainments and sleep since then. Our dance must take priority, because that's the reason for such a good unit musketry average. The dance took place on Saturday 5th October, and the aftermath followed quickly on the Sunday following. When I state that the rifle range practice was billed for Monday 7th October, perhaps you may gather why everyone had such vivid pictures of glaring lancers framed in their minds ; but it so happened that everything turned out the reverse. In fact, the average for the unit was only a little below that of 1933, when the Royal Ulster Rifles performed all the butt duties—and we weren't even firing for our pay.

And this leads us to our next point of interest. As a result of the aforesaid shuffle and range practice, scientists have discovered a new sect: not wholly religious, however, but a sister creed of the Western Brothers' Cads. " Scoundrels " they are called, and scoundrels they are. Some have aspired to that right, whilst quite a good minority have surrendered themselves body and soul to their now unlawful masters. I cannot possibly divulge the name of any solitary member, neither can I describe the rituals and secrets so jealously guarded by those in the know.

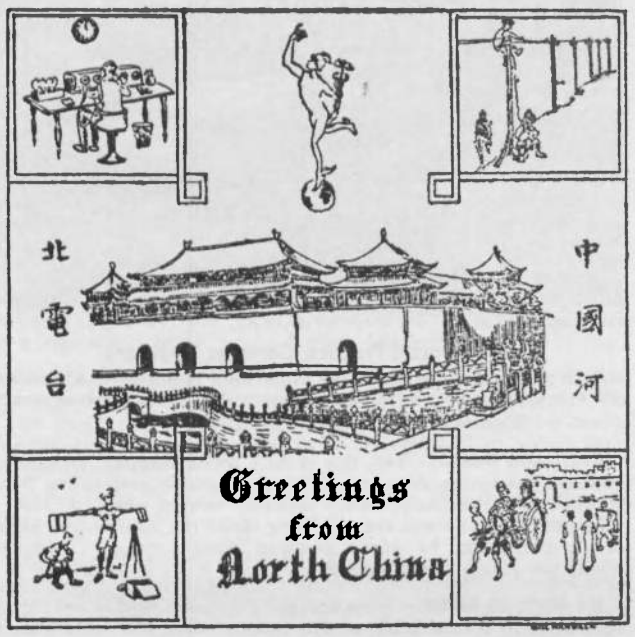
Ah! I almost forgot to mention that our old friend and favourite Professor Max de Paris, the little known illusionist, paid us another visit. Some folks have nerve enough for anything.

When he announced himself as Maxie, one member of the audience was heard to murmur " I'm Joe Louis " (that was perfectly spontaneous). This time he appeared as a formidable Ethiopian Ras and bowed courteously to all. Strangely enough, Mrs. Professor Max gave the Fascist salute. In one trick, among others we have seen before, it was necessary to borrow our native cook's tarbush. You can just imagine his anxiety when he saw Mr. Magician empty the contents of an egg inside. Of course, it was all part of the display.

However, although Professor Max de Paris was to be paid for his efforts, all seemed unanimous in giving 061 Smith the greatest applause for his untimely assistance, uncalled for by the conjuror. Correct me if I'm wrong in saying that first, second *and* third class illusionists spitefully endeavour to resist prying eyes, and that is why they have their own horde of assistants dogging so closely.

The activities of the inimitable head stable lad, Bugs Moran, call for some comment. Some days ago his services were commissioned to bring a pretty two-year-old donkey from Jerusalem.

Witnesses jointly admit that it was a pleasing sight to see Bugs and his charge emerge from the cattle box at Lydda. Unfortunately, the lad lost his hat en route, and there is some confusion as to who was leading who. He confessed that his command of Urdu, Pushtu, Amharic, etc., was sufficient substitute for the use of the whip when the animal proved stubborn. Q.R.U.TUT.



Tientsin Signal Section.

Monday 21st October.

It is very hard to write notes here. Every day seems like its predecessor ; no excitement—nothing.

The only thing to liven us up took place a week ago, when H.M.S. *Falmouth* came up to Tanku and, complying with time-honoured custom, paid us a visit—or I should say visits: they seemed to be here all the time. On the Sunday we played them at football (our first match of the season) and we lost by 0—3 goals. Everybody enjoyed the game, which was very fast and clean. In the evening a smoking concert was given, and thanks are rendered to those individuals who obliged with songs or ditties. When the liquid refreshment gave out, a move was made to paint Tientsin a bright vermilion, which was successfully completed by midnight, and so to bed. The matloes slept on the floor between the beds and said they were comfortable, which I personally doubt very much. When they had finally gone on their way to Wei-Hai-Wei, there were huge sighs of relief in the mess and a general drawing in of horns. Nobody minded the extra expense, but we were glad when it was all over.

Tennis is now a thing of the past, and football and hockey are in vogue. So far we have not played any hockey matches, and only one league game of football. This was against the Grammar School yesterday, Sigmn Green scoring the only goal of the match.

Corpl Neeve is at present in dock, suffering from a football injury. He is progressing favourably and we expect him out very soon.

Only two agonies this month. To Dick Lymn, Jubbulpore: Do you know anybody who wants a couple of gnomes this Christmas? Dodger. To Jack Hunt (29) somewhere in India: My address is Tientsin, North China. Please write with your address. Tubby Harden.

Cheerio, everybody! TICH.

Peking Detachment.

British Embassy Guard, 15th October.

We apologise for the lack of notes last month, which was due to the desire to wait until our tennis tournament finals were played off. They were scheduled for the 12th September, but were postponed till the 17th, as all the Guards were in mourning for Queen Astrid of Belgium until then.

Tennis Tournaments.—The annual mixed doubles and singles handicap tournaments were played during August, and the finals were played on the 17th of last month. The standard of play in the club being fairly level, several good matches were witnessed, but the finals were easily the most spectacular matches.

Sergt Newmarsh and Sigmn Metcalf were paired against Mrs. Banham and Sergt Wilkinson (R.A.) and it was an excellent game all through, neither side letting up for a minute. I can't remember the scores now, but I do know that the second set finished at 10—8 in favour of Mrs. Banham and Sergt Wilkinson and that they eventually won the match. *The Peiping Chronicle* said that the features of the game were Mrs. Banham's backhand and Wilkinson's forehand drive, and that the losers fought gamely every inch of the way.

The Signals were eliminated in the preliminary rounds of the singles handicap.

The finals were made the occasion of another " at home." As usual, the ladies of the club made a good job of the catering and everybody had a good time until 7 p.m., when the party broke up.

C.S.O.'s Visit.—The C.S.O. (Major M. F. M. Parkes, M.C.) visited Peking from the 4th until the 12th of this month—his annual inspection tour. The report isn't through yet, but we have every reason to believe that he was well pleased with all he saw.

Finale.—That is all the news for this month, so we will close down, hoping that the troopships will not forget China this year. The rumours are very conflicting, and in some cases depressing, but we still hope. Cheerio! SPUD-CAN.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Tuesday 10th September.

General.—Greetings, everybody. Tidapaland calling once again. Apologies are tendered for the absence of WIRE notes last month, but as yours truly was attached to the R.A.F. and enjoying a wireless course, the reason is obvious.

Referring to the R.A.F., I am sure the other operators agree with me in saying how grateful we are to the personnel who devoted so much of their time and did their utmost to help and teach us to the very best of their ability. We all came away much wiser than when we arrived, and are never likely to forget the kindness accorded us.

The operators on P.B. are actually justifying their existence. It is their duty now to receive the time signal from Radio Malabar every morning and send it out to other military centres in the Straits. It is amusing to see the serious faces of the W/T operators at 08.20 hrs. each morn when the signal comes through. Sama sama funeral party. Anyhow, bear up.

The short wave set to which L/Corpl Hubbard has devoted so much of his spare time is showing signs of life. Somebody actually got a kick off it a few days ago. We hope shortly to experiment with the local Volunteers, and later with more distant stations.

Agony.—C.Q.M.S. Haggart, 52nd Lowland Divisional Signals, Glasgow: Congratulations on that Jubilee gong. Sigmn Currie (late Ericsons).

Sport.—We congratulate the R.E.s on winning the S.A.F.A. 1st Division. The second team came fourth in the 2nd Division.

We also congratulate Signalman Holmes on a very successful season. He has the distinction of being the leading goal scorer in the Malayan Command. Well done, Joe boy!

We might also add a few words about old Twitch and his cricket. He maintained his usual very high standard right to the close of the season. This is all the more remarkable when one realises that he is ageing fast, and his legs are not quite what they used to be. However, next year he is going to borrow Tando Chatfield's Malayan guitar and use that as a cricket bat—much to the delight of other southern melody haters. No excuse for missing the balls next season, Twitch.

Monthly Dance.—The usual monthly function was held at the Lower Bungalow on the 31st August. I suppose it went down o.k.

Seen and Heard, Rambling Around.—A signalman of P.B. asking a damsel of tender years for the next dance, and then, whilst she is sitting out all alone and waiting for him to keep his promise, going over to her and apologising—informing her that he can't dance. (You little devil, Twitch ; what will you be up to next ?)

We hear Sigmn Mitche'l of Changi has been tiger hunting. Rushing into the barrack room one day, he exclaimed " Boys! I've found the tracks of a tiger. Haste! oh, haste! and follow me." Armed with belts, waist, cells, inert, and a few of Ticky Toogood's Malay books, the lads turned out and followed their sleuth. Discovering the tracks in question, they soon approached the tiger's lair. Suddenly, " Ah! where's that tiger ?"—for out of the supposed lair strutted forth a common fat sow. much to the astonishment of all concerned. Well. Mitch, you know the old saying " Birds of a feather." Ahem! need we say any more ?

We hear C.Q.M.S. Chimes and his cab'e laying boys are furious with P.B. Detachment for daring to mention in THE WIRE that Pulau Brani has been on cable laying lately. Up Changi way it's cable, cable, and lagi cable, with plenty more to be laid. Well, C.Q.M.S. Chimes, we will admit your lads have a lot of work to do, but please let us remind you of one little point worthy of note. When P.B. Detachment have some work to do (don't say " Impossible!") they don't have five hundred odd coolies to do it for them. Oh, no, sir! they have to turn round and do the whole issue themselves. Bear up, Changi ; see you at the end of the month.

Scene: *Sir Hastings Anderson* (at sea in very rough weather). W/T op. receives " Have you passed Mal-de-mer yet ?" Out come charts, compasses, etc., and a frantic search of the map results in the discovery that no such island exists. (It was a rough day, so we'll put it down to sea-sickness.)

Conclusion.—Look out! here comes old Chadwick, the elected Abyssinian war lord. I'm off before he starts talking (" Have you heard my case ?" " Do you follow ?" etc.).

Cheerio, everybody! TANDO (T.B.C.)

Friday 18th October.

General.—Greetings, everybody! This is the hardest worked Signal Section in the Tropics calling (Changi, please note).

After reading the Changi Detachment's notes reference Pulau Brani signal wreckage, we deem it necessary to enlighten their ignorance and just say a few words in return for their compliments.

Signal wreckage be darned! Who sees that you get your pay each week and that you are fed and clothed properly ? (Mr. Twitchen smiles bashfully.) Who purchases the cables, etc., which you are always breaking ? Who do the drill parades, show the flag, and continually journey to your health resort to help with the work ?

Wrecks! Signal wrecks! Why, we don't while away our time in yachting and bathing, and enjoying the cool refreshing breezes of a former health resort. No, sir ; we sweat and slave all day under a broiling tropical sun, earning our meagre curry and rice, and flirting with tropical diseases in the local swamps. We have no time for Singapore city (Queen of the East) or big game hunting on the Johore coast. We're here to work—and don't we know it!

Perhaps one day, if you can possibly spare the time, you might visit the abode of the Signal wrecks and see for yourself what actually goes on behind the scenes. You're welcome. Changi ; you're welcome.

Departures.—The R.E.s left Pulau Brani recently to take up residence in their new abode at Changi. A few details are left behind to perform necessary duties. The island is rather dead these days, all important sports fixtures now being held elsewhere. Still, tiada apa (as they say in Brecon) ; we just manage to survive.

Education.—L/Cpl Pearson (our Reggie) and Signalmen Parkin and Currie are at present undergoing intensive training in preparation for the first class certificate examination. We wish them the best of luck.

We would add that the other two W/T operators, Signalmen Blunt and Chatfield, are doing double the normal amount of work owing to this educational lure, and are thoroughly worn out and overworked, what with cable ships, battle ships, anti-aircraft shoots, etc. A month's holiday at the Changi health resort is prominently indicated (snorts from Changi).

Anti-Aircraft Practice Camp at Singapore.

Captain Moppett is seated at the table beside Sigmn Chatfield, who is operating the W/T remote control in communication with the Fleet Arm target-towing aircraft

[*Copyright Photo of " The Straits Times "*]

Seen and Heard.—Yes, this is rock bottom truth. Signalman Holmes, the young Whoopee King, was actually seen in the New World Cabaret recently. Such expense, indeed, now!

Sigmn Twitchen was seen toddling down the road on the night of the dance—and he wasn't going to Hong's, either. I wonder where the young scamp went ?

We Want to Know.—Who brought the merrie widow over from Jardine Steps on the night of the dance ? She was alone and in distress, and needed someone to escort her over to the dance ; so, phoning to the Lower Bungalow, she explained her difficulties and —well! we just won't mention the name of the dashing young lad from near Gillingham. " Won't you dance the Merrie Widow waltz with me ?"

Conclusion.—We wish all our readers a merry Christmas and all the best for 1936. Special greetings are sent to Sgt Carpenter, L/Corpl Lindsay D., Signalmen Kirk and Chippy Wood, and of course Mr. Peter Weekes (Malaya's recent special gift to England); also to Signalmen Pearce H. T. (N.W. Frontier, India), Dickerson (Egypt) and Hooker Cliff (Palestine).

Stop Press.—George Guy, F Company, Catterick: Greetings, friend George! we are all expecting a little Christmas gift from you. Hope you won't fail us. The Waits.

Cheerio, everybody! Malaya sleeps. BARON (T.B.C.)

Changi Detachment.

Tuesday 15th October.

General.—Well, readers! before I commence, let me inform you that the notes you have been reading in recent issues from Malaya originated in Pulau Brani, a small island in Singapore Harbour which is not considered part of the scheme of things out here. It is where we keep our wireless operators and other spare Signal wreckage. Changi is where all the work is done, with Blakan Mati, Fort Canning, and Alexandra runners-up.

This is the first time we have been in print, so I will proceed to enlighten you as to our whereabouts and particular doings.

First and foremost, we are stationed at a place named Changi, on the north-eastern extremity of Singapore Island. Before the military acquired Changi, it was a recognised health resort for the European population of Singapore—ideal for bathing, yachting, and general recuperation after the swelter and Far Eastern aroma of Singapore city, which (believe me) is pretty high. So you must agree that Changi is ideal for troops after being used to the contrariness of our English climate (give me a nice London fog). It is ideal for acquiring that sun-tanned appearance so essential to all modern Don Juans.

The Changi Signal Section is composed of one F-of-S, three corporals, nine linemen, one Chinese jointer, three Asiatic S.B.O.s

and two native labourers. We have not been here long, but the work we have done is something to shout about and is up to the usual high Signal standard. It has all been construction, for Changi is quite a new station ; aerial routes, cable and submarine cable, and all the work pertaining to Fortress construction, have been our task. Fifty per cent. of the stores and apparatus used are quite original so far as Signals are concerned, but I cannot go into details now, or the Editor will have no space left. Perhaps another time I shall be able to tell you more.

We made history last week by opening up telephonic communication between here and a place on the Johore mainland, ten miles away. The submarine cables were laid recently under the supervision of the Eastern Telegraph and Cable Company, with the aid of many and varied native small craft and one hundred and thirty coolies. Sigmn Mitchell is now supervising sixty coolies in Johore, digging trenches for the land cable. We are told that the going is pretty hard, one trench being up the side of a one-in-three densely wooded 600 ft. hill, and rocky at that. Sigmn Mitchell is applying for a mountaineering course in the Austrian Tyrol after this effort.

Seen on the Johore Shore.—One tiger that left the spoor of a pig's trotter, which on further investigation by our tame sleuth (Sigmn Dolly Grey) was found to be attached to the hind quarters of a large sow. Bring 'em back a'ive, Mitchell!

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Joe Holmes on scoring all five goals for the R.E.s in their first Div. match against the R.A. To Corpl Busty Rogers on going on the tack (1st Div. please note). To the 41st Company on the swell " at home " to which they invited us last month.

Agony.—To Shoey Brandrum, 4th Div.: What's the Kentish brown "A" like ? Froggy. FROGGY.

Malta Signal Section.

Command Headquarters, Valletta, 12th November.

We have been very busy of late. Hence it is hoped our little corner will not attract too much criticism. But we cannot let this month pass without saying au revoir and good luck to our late Foreman-of-Signals, Q.M.S. Flynn G. H. R., M.B.E., who sailed for home on the 29th October. We all trust that Bulford will prove " not too cold," and that P.G.s will be at a premium.

" A happy and enjoyable Christmas " is extended to all ranks at home and abroad.

Agonies.—Geoff, Kohat: Surely a change of address doesn't cost anything. Now at Malta. A.W.

G.H.R.; That wreath cost ten bob, but we're all on the job.
NEMO.

1st Cable Section, Air Defence Brigade Signals.

Base Defences, Mediterranean, 31st October.

Introductory.—This word means such a lot to somebody who has to commence WIRE notes after being a long time "unemployed " in such an occupation. The call was made by Jay Em Gee in the October issue of our Journal. I must, therefore, take up the pen and relate our movement during the last six weeks.

Departure.—We left Blackdown on Tuesday 2nd September. Travelling " Southern," we arrived at Southampton, and after only an hour's preliminary arrangements we were on board H.T. *Neuralia* for dinner. The scenes on and about the trooper were much the same as one usually witnesses in the normal trooping season. Everybody in our detachment (No. 3, mentioned in the October issue) soon settled down, and as we sailed down Southampton Water we all hoped the boat would ? ? ? ? I won't say what the lads sang, but everybody looked forward to our stay in Malta—which, of course, didn't materialise.

At Sea.—This part of our trip was really uneventful. The sea was like a lake all the way, and Jonah was quite disappointed. Many anxious faces looked across the mess deck table, but no extra food was forthcoming. L/Corpl Rossiter was leader of this Gobbling Association, I think, and many were his henchmen. Two of the detachment were rather fortunate in this direction. Signalmen Newman and Rawlinson were attached to a Naval mess deck, and both could hardly move after the end of each meal.

On our arrival at Malta, we were told that we were to remain on board but our destination was unknown. This, I'll admit, was not very encouraging ; but after spending two hours at Malta, watching boatmen, lightermen and hawkers in their boats full of merchandise, we again put to sea.

Another two and a half days saw us at Alexandria. This really brought us to the end of our sea voyage, and on disembarkation we proceeded by tram to our present place of abode. We arrived 100 per cent. strong and feeling quite fit. (Shall I say the Gobblers are still at it ?) L/Corpl Rossiter parted company with us at Malta and came on here on another boat, taking care of our stores, and Frisco took over the presidency of the food question. The aforementioned is still on board, and up to the present we have only seen him once. Still, we know he is alright.

Interlude.—Under this heading I should give the adventures of this detachment here, but these are few. Apart from an occasional trip into Alexandria, we don't go far. Route marches did form part of our " keeping fit " training, but Wilfred's " One, two, three, hop " got us taken out of the lead. Sammy knows Alex very well, I think. I'll get him to perform with a note on his adventures. After we had been here about a fortnight, the remainder of A.D.B. Signals arrived and were put under the 2nd Brigade A.A. Since then Corporal Powell's detachment has been transferred to us, thus forming a Cable Section again. The remainder are still with the 2nd A.A. Brigade.

The Section is now composed of the following (in case anyone should want to drop us a line): Lieut. A. J. Hamilton, officer commanding ; Sergt Hawley A. ; Corporals Ient A. and Powell F.; L/Corporals Harper W., Rossiter, Wake A. and McCarthy ; Signalmen Hodgson, Ward, Fisk, Thompson, Rawlinson, Jones, Newman, Buxton, Tyler, Coombe, Gale, Lewin, Couzens, Blake, Ashton and Dale.

Training has consisted of gas drill, musketry and P.T. Educational training is going to start, and the " first " list is quite a large one. They all aspire to it, so let's hope for a 100 per cent. result. The telephone and switchboard duties have also fallen our way.

Nuts and Wine.—Henry wants his barrow. Fred has found a new signature tune. Stumpy Ward has some pipes coming. Geordie's dreams are gradually fading. Blakey's trip to Gibra'tar has been overdone. Jonah (Dangler) visualises an extra year and no voc. Everyone has a scorpion or a beet!e, and races are held every evening at No. 62 tent race track.

Jew's Press.—To Con, Blackdown, from Ross: A pass for a week-end is indicated.

Tailpiece.—Till next time. I don't like this part.
ACK VIC INK.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

Air Defence Formations Signals.

56 Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

Armistice Sunday, 1935.—A church parade was held this year on the 10th November, when (as last year) we attended the morning service at St. Mark's Church, Kennington. We are indebted to the 27th (London) A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E. for permitting us to join them en route for the church and thus having the benefit of their band. We hope to hold a similar parade next year, when arrangements will be made for our old comrades to join us.

Commanding Officer's Address.—The commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., gave his annual address to the unit on Wednesday 13th November, when he reviewed the work of the past year and outlined the programme for the coming season. The past year has been very successful both in respect of the training and social aspects, and we have set a high standard to maintain for the coming year. It is evident that considerable changes will be necessary in our work in the future, to meet modern conditions, and we shall therefore look forward to our new training season with added interest.

Following the commanding officer's address, reports were received from the social and sports committees on their activities, and new committees were elected for the 1935—36 season.

We draw attention to the social events for this winter, chief of which are the annual dinner on the 7th December, the unit dances held on the last Saturday of each month, and the children's party to be held early in the New Year. We had good attendances at these functions last year, but there is still room for others. We can guarantee a good time on all occasions, and we hope to have record attendances.

The evening concluded with a smoking concert with items provided by members of the unit and outside entertainers. Colonel O. W. Nicholson, our honorary colonel, took the chair—a duty he performs admirably. Our old friends Corporals Blood and Roper were in fine form, and we were also glad to have an item from another friend of the unit, C.Q.M.S. Morse. During the evening Mr. John Groves arrived and convulsed the party with his stories of the Black Country.

Marriages.—Our congratulations to 2/Lieut. E. E. Cassell, officer i/c No. 4 Section, on his marriage to Miss B. D. Batten which took place in August last. Some comment has been made regarding Mr. Cassell's absence from the bachelor's parade at camp, but this announcement will no doubt explain the situation. We may add that he wore the right sort of hat on the wedding day.

L/Corpl Standley, of No. 5 Section, has also recently taken the plunge. In congratulating him, we must confess to a slight disappointment that the event was not a double one. However, we believe that he will not have too great a start over his rival in another Section of the 27th Company.

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of L/Corpl Duffy, who received fatal injuries in a motor accident. He was quiet and unassuming, and very popular with everyone. We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Duffy in her tragic bereavement. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton St., Brook's Bar, Manchester 16, 11/11/35.

This unit is now awakening from the annual close season sleep, and preparations are going on apace for our winter functions.

A very successful thirty-hour course (paid) for n.c.o.s was held from the 6th to the 22nd October, after which an examination took place, 90% obtaining proficiency certificates awarded by the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley).

This year we have got our weapon training over before commencing trade training in the New Year, thus enabling us to carry on Section training without a break and keep the men interested.

Officers Mess.—The annual Mess meeting was held on Monday 30th September, and after our P.M.C. (Major C. B. Delaney) had given a very satisfactory account of the Mess funds, followed by a short speech by the C.O. in which he told us of his experiences when recently visiting many countries in Central Europe, we sat down to enjoy a really good supper and sing-song.

The first Mess dance was held on Friday 1st November, when about fifty officers and guests took part, a very enjoyable evening being spent.

The annual prize distribution is to take place on Saturday next, the 16th instant. This event will be fully described in next month's issue.

A series of lectures for officers is being held at H.Q. every Monday. The first was given by R.S.M. Brooks E. A. on "Signal Communications," and the second by Major Middleton (R.A.S.C.) on "Divisional R.A.S.C." These lectures are proving of great value to us all and are most interesting.

Sergeants Mess.—A very successful hot pot supper and whist drive was held in the mess on the 9th November.

General.—A detachment from the unit, under Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley, attended the annual Armistice parade in Albert Square, Manchester, on the 11th November, and we were very pleased to have with us a good muster of old comrades, who fell in under the command of Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C. (our former commanding officer) and joined us in the march past the Lord Mayor. We were especially pleased to meet again two of our old stalwarts, Captains Halsall and Coombes.

Owt About Owt.—Who pinched the dartboard from "The Dixon's Arms"? Who played puss in the corner at "The Puddle Duck"? Will Shorty and Dismal let us know when they next expect a supply of free samples of liquid refreshment, and we'll come up and see 'em some time.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The individual training period of another training year is with us, and the paid classes for operators have started in each Company. The numbers attending are in keeping with past years, but one looks for more support as, apart from improving operating standards, those attending reap financial gain.

The social side of Company life is also receiving attention in various ways in the unit. The main regret in this direction is that the three Companies are so widely scattered that inter-Company competitions are extremely difficult to arrange.

Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., our adjutant for the past four years, visited each Company drill hall recently and said farewell officially. We are deeply sorry to lose him, as he has been a very good friend to us all. His services have been at our disposal the whole time, and he has not spared himself in his efforts to guide us along the path of progressive efficiency. To him and Mrs. Patten (who has helped us considerably on the social side) we offer our best thanks, and we wish them a happy future wherever they may find themselves. We shall always be glad to see them whenever their travels bring them to the West Country.

We extend a hearty welcome to Captain C. W. Knight, the successor to Captain Patten, and assure him of the same wholehearted support as his predecessor in office received. MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Individual training is now getting under way with the commencement of the operators classes, which we hope will be well and profitably attended.

On the 8th November Captain Patten paid our Company what we were sorry to learn was his last visit. We were very pleased, however, to welcome his successor, Captain C. W. Knight, who made his first visit to the Company at the same time.

The Company football eleven had an enjoyable game on the 30th October against B Company 1st Battalion Prince of Wales Volunteers, losing to them by 1—3. On the 6th November they had an equally good game with A Company 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, this time winning by 4—3. Congratulations to the team on their first victory.

We are sorry to lose L/Corporal Ford B. W. J., who is to be congratulated on passing into the Supply branch of the Royal Navy. Another victim of the " call of the sea "! Stoker Kellaway, whom we see occasionally looking very smart in bluejacket's uniform, has been drafted to H.M.S. *Falmouth*, sloop to the Commander-in-Chief's flagship on the China station. Meanwhile, Marine Sheard is undergoing the rigours of training at the Depot, Royal Marines, at Deal.

Departure.—We said goodbye to A/C.S.M. Watt N., our P.S.I., on the occasion of his return to the parent unit, the 3rd Divl Signals ; and we welcome A/C.S.M. Humphreys J. W. as his successor. We hope he will like life in the extreme west.

ONECOY.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Owing to a misunderstanding, our notes last month miscarried and so were late for insertion. We had not a great deal to report, so we will try to squeeze the two months into this issue.

During October we had two social evenings, which took the form of a games tournament between J and K Sections. The following games were played with much gusto: badminton, ping pong, snooker, billiards, darts and skittles. The evenings were most enjoyable, and it is hoped to run similar ones in due course. The social committee had a request to arrange a " run " one evening, and this took place on Monday 28th October for a distance of about three miles. L/Sergt Colwell again proved to be in a class by himself, winning easily, followed by Signalmen Sharpe and Hobbs. We were very interested in the form of Sigmn Sharpe, as he is a recruit with only a month's service. He should greatly strengthen our athletic team next camp.

Corpl Woodley (hon. secretary) and the social committee have held one very successful dance, and another is arranged for the 22nd November. Corpl Woodley is to be congratulated on his first effort.

Annual Dinner and Armistice Parade.—As usual, we had our annual dinner on the eve of Armistice Sunday, and it was well attended. Unfortunately, we were unable to welcome our commanding officer, who was not able to be with us, but we were very pleased to have the company of Colonel W. G. Michelmore, Major Western, Major Cornelius (O.C. No. 1 Company), together with C.S.M. Gibbings (of the same Company) and C.Q.M.S. Green, L/Sergt Dickinson and L/Cpl Rivers (of No. 2 Company). We were also pleased to have all three P.S.I.s with us. This must surely be a record, to have all three in our hall at a function of this nature. We appreciated the presence of these members of the other Companies, especially when we consider the distance between Exeter and Southampton, and also the fact that Major Cornelius (from Plymouth) came at considerable inconvenience. We hope they all enjoyed their evening with us. Speeches were limited in time, but we took the opportunity of saying goodbye to our adjutant, Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. During his period of office there have been many changes. However, the present state of efficiency in the unit is sufficient proof of very wise guidance. We extend our heartiest wishes to Captain and Mrs. Patten on their return to Bulford. At the same time we extend a warm welcome to Captain C. W. Knight and assure him of our support at all times.

The Armistice parade was, as usual, well attended and the men very well turned out. We were patted on the back with regard to our turn out on this parade. Well done, everyone!

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6, 15/11/35.

Editorial.—Last month we made references to the possibility of *great things* taking place at H.Q. during November. It is usually the case that, when one counts the eggs before they are laid or hatched (or anyway, when one counts the eggs) something goes wrong. True, our extensive building alterations are not yet complete, and in view of this, training carries a heavy handicap ; yet it does seem time that more faces appeared on parade. Thursday evenings seem particularly dull.

It must be admitted that many of No. 3 Company appear at the Monday evening parades and that L Section performs regularly at Southgate, but there is still room for a few more soldiers on Thursday nights. Buck up, 3 Company! The instructors are all ready for you when you arrive. Let us see your smiling faces, and get down to some real hard work.

The first dance of the season was held on Saturday 9th inst. Everyone present seemed thoroughly pleased with the evening's entertainment. Providing the good attendance on this occasion continues to support the committee's efforts, dancing this season will hold its own.

The annual Armistice church parade was carried through on Sunday 10th. A very smart though not very large proportion of the unit was present.

In view of the fact that Christmas will be finished and almost forgotten (at least, I trust the indigestion will be) before our next notes appear, we wish all our many friends and sister units a very merry Christmas.

Officers' Annual Dinner.—The officers of the unit attended this function on the 23rd October. A very large attendance has to be recorded, and a most enjoyable evening was experienced. Major Darby once more mystified his audience with his conjuring ability.

Those present included Col. O. Hibbert, Brigade commander ; Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchins, C.S.O. ; Colonel A. S. Angwin, D.C.S.O. ; Councillor Lane, Mayor of Brentford and Chiswick ; Colonels Anwyl Passingham, Wallis, Coleman and Powell, of the Middlesex Territorial Association ; Colonel F. E. A. Keogh, hon. colonel ; Colonel F. Reid, C.O. ; and twenty-three officers and friends.

The Mess secretary, Captain J. H. V. Charlton, is once more entitled to our heartiest congratulations as being mainly responsible for the success of the function. 0020.

General.—Things seem rather slack at H.Q. The reaction from camp—usually blamed—should have vanished by now. A certain amount of individual training is in progress, and headway is definitely being made. Headaches are issued regularly three nights per week from the D mk iii. speakers in an endeavour to combat our deficiency of trained operators. The men attending this instruction, which always takes place in the close season, are usually the keen men in the unit. If they retain their keenness, they should without great difficulty be drawing another "thousand a year " at the next camp.

Armistice Parade.—On Sunday 10th November we had a good parade. All spick and span, we marched to the Chiswick War Memorial, where Brevet-Major Read placed a wreath before a poor audience of one old lady and three small boys. Following this, we attended a service at Turnham Green Church. On arriving back at H.Q. Sigmn Hurley was adjudged (with some difficulty) the smartest man and subsequently received a suitable reward.

I think Sunday parades should be encouraged, and if made popular they would, I consider, attract a large attendance. Why not start right away next year and aim at a 100 per cent. muster on these occasions.

Armistice Dance.—The verdict on this function, held on Saturday 9th November, was that it was a great success, and thanks are due to the committee who worked hard to ensure it. The band was R.99 and played a full programme of music besides providing, during much-needed breathing intervals, popular interludes with a lady vocalist and a very nimble step dancer. Sundry ear-rings and brooches were found, but all were claimed before we closed down a very good show at 11.59 hrs.

Sergeants Mess.—Sergeants Puttock and Stone have retired gracefully after fifteen and twelve years service respectively. On Saturday 2nd November Sergt Stone was given a presentation at a typical " do " held in his honour. Entertainment was augmented with the aid of a " ripe " but popular concert party. Solid big chunks of bye-bye, Stoney, ole boy, and pleasant memories—also in solid big chunks.

In conclusion, we take this opportunity of wishing all our Regular and T.A. pals a swell Christmas, wherever and however they celebrate it.

POLYH.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.
and No. 2 Company, R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 15/11/35.

Greetings.—All members of this unit and of the affiliated S.R. units extend their best wishes to all ranks of the Corps, past and

present, both at home and abroad, for a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

General.—Training proceeds apace, and we are glad to note that the numbers turning up for individual training are increasing, in spite of the bad weather which seems to happen whenever we gather together. The special courses are doing well, too. Our next Trade Board should show some gratifying results.

The Divisional commander, Major-General C. G. Liddell, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., carried out his annual inspection of the unit on Monday 4th November. He appeared to be very satisfied with us—indeed, the only fault of which we are conscious, from an official point of view, is our lack of numbers.

On Sunday 3rd November we held our annual church parade. The band of the Divisional R.E. attended and led us on our march round the neighbourhood of Putney. The parade was about 160 strong, including some representatives of the 25th Cyclists O.C.A., the local branch of the British Legion, and St. John Ambulance Brigade. After the service, the parade was inspected by Brevet-Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.C.S.O. London District. The large crowd which gathered to see the inspection appeared to prefer that to the orator whom they had deserted.

We are very sorry to have lost Sergeant Crouch R., one of our P.S.I.s, who was posted to the Tank Brigade Signals on the 15th November. During his tour of duty with us, he has proved a very popular instructor and has always been willing to help where necessary. We wish him the very best of luck in the future, and hope he will drop in to see us when he is in London.

Officers.—A farewell dinner was held on the 24th October to " dine out " Lieut.-Colonel H. Ll. Howard, M.C., who terminated his period of command of this unit on the 30th October. Thirty-four officers of this unit and affiliated Supplementary Reserve attended, as also did our hon. colonel (Colonel J. G. Fleming, C.B.E., D.S.O.) and the D.C.S.O. London District (Brevet-Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.) Although officially we said farewell to Colonel Howard, we shall be very disappointed if we do not often see him at our dinners and other functions.

In order that Colonel Howard's service to the Army in general and the Corps in particular may be fully appreciated, his exceptional military record is published.

1912—1914. Oxford University O.T.C. Private, L/Corporal and C.Q.M.S. Attended A.I.s course at Bulford, 1913 (certificate signed by Major Newbigging).
September 1914. 2nd Artists Rifles, T.A. Private.
October 1914. R.E. Signal Service (24th Divl Signals). 2/Lieut. and Lieutenant.
1917—1918. R.E. Signal Service (second-in-command 2nd Divl Signals). A/Captain and Captain.
1918—1919. R.E. Signal Service (O.C. 3rd Corps Signals). A/Major.
1919. R.E. Signal Service (O.C. 36th (U'ster) Divisional Signals). A/Major.
June 1919. Demobilised. A/Major.
1920—1926. R.E. Signal Service and R.Signals, T.A. Major and Lieutenant-Colonel.
1924. Re-formed 56th (1st London) Divl Signals, T.A., and granted two years extension of command. Lieutenant-Colonel.

As no other appointment was offered him on the termination of his command of the 56th Divl Signals, he enlisted in

1926. Artists Rifles, T.A. Private, Corporal and (1927) Battalion Signal Sergeant.
1927. 47th (2nd London) Divl Signals, T.A. Major. (*London Gazette* stated: " Sergeant (late Lieutenant-Colonel) H. Ll. Howard, M.C., to be Major).
1931—1935. 47th (2nd London) Divl Signals, T.A. Lieutenant-Colonel.
1935. Transferred to Artists Rifles. Lieutenant-Colonel (second-in-command).

Lieut.-Colonel Howard was awarded the Military Cross in June 1917, and was mentioned in despatches in 1916 and 1919. Such a record must inspire all ranks with a deep feeling of gratitude to Lieut.-Colonel Howard for all he has done for the Corps, and we wish him the greatest success in his new appointment.

Promotions.—Major C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., M.INST.C.E., M.I.MECH.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel. Captain W. H. Lloyd, M.C., to be Major. Lieut. E. W. G. Knight to be Captain. All w.e.f. 30th October 1935.

Sergeants Mess.—We have pleasure in welcoming L/Sergeants Cheesley, Hobbs, Potter, Romer and Watts, whose appointment to that rank has enabled them to be added to the fold.

On the 30th November we are holding a dinner and dance, which promises to be an even greater success that that of last year. Those improvements which could be made to the arrangements *have* been made, and no doubt a very pleasant evening is going to be had by all.

Social.—Our Armistice ball on the 11th November was a huge success. We imagine the remainder of London seemed a trifle empty that evening. Watch our fixture cards for future events. If you miss any dances, you will have only yourself to blame.

PER PRO EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

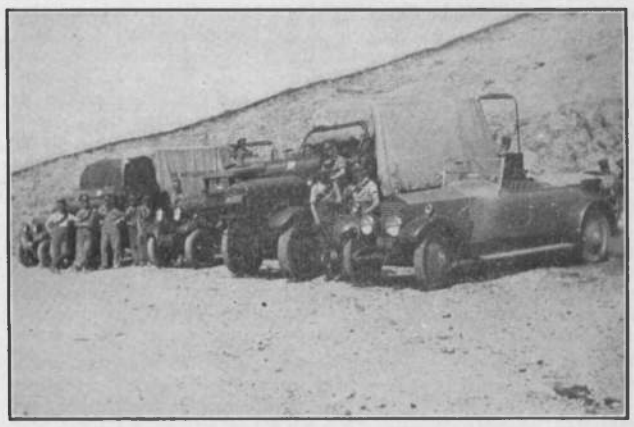
Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Altogether it has been a very quiet month, so there is no need to make an apology for the brevity of these notes.

Abject penury has once again been averted by the disbursement of that timely munificence known as bounty.

Winter courses succeed one another with scarcely an interval. A successful n.c.o. instructors course in operating has just come to a close, whilst a course for W/T and L/T operators has just commenced making very strenuous demands upon the energy and resources of the permanent staff. We are glad to note, however, that they show no signs of nervous breakdown.

The D.R. Club is now in existence, and the commanding officer has honoured it by becoming its first president. A Sunday run was arranged a few weeks back to witness the autumn trials of a local M.C.C., and this proved very enjoyable. All D.R.s heard with great regret of the accident which has befallen their n.c.o. i/c, Corpl Gould, who was recently involved in a collision resulting in serious head injuries. We are glad to learn that he is now making a good recovery.



The Cable Section during Annual Training at Weymouth, August 1935.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual dinner took place on the 19th October. We were pleased to observe with the guests a representative gathering of old comrades, among them ex-C.S.M.s Richardson and Copson, Bernard Parker and ex-Bandmaster Perrin. The presence of two representatives of the 3rd Divl Signals in Sergeants Pickering and Bailey was particularly welcome, and is worthy of special appreciation in view of the long distance they had to travel for the occasion. The dinner was followed, as usual, by a short but snappy entertainment, the remainder of the evening being spent in merry and convivial fashion (it's a way they have in the Army) which continued well into the small hours.

A carnival dance was successfully held on the 9th November.

In conclusion, we join in wishing our comrades in arms, near and far, the compliments of the season. GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and R.A.F. Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2, 14/11/35.

General.—Despite the fact that we have now got into the close season, and that cold foggy nights have taken the place of those palmy days we knew at our last camp, the wheels of industry are still turning here. General training has certainly finished, but industrious fathers and sons are still hard at it, and the continued good attendances at the classes show there has been little falling off in interest. The outstanding item of the month was the Remembrance Day parade on the 10th November, when we had one of the best turn-outs for many years—a total number of 415 from the two units, together with old comrades, taking part.

Remembrance Day Parade.—Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D. (our hon. colonel) commanded the combined parade from Gibraltar Barracks, and after the service in St. George's Church we took our place among the thousand or so other serving members of T.A. units in the city, passing the war memorial in City Square, where Colonel Boyle laid a wreath of poppies. The Lord Mayor of Leeds, accompanied by Major-General G. C. Kelly, D.S.O., G.O.C. 49th Division, took the salute from a base near the Town Hall before we got back to barracks. It was unfortunate that rain of the proper Abyssinian type came on to "queer the do."

Addressing the parade in the drill hall, Colonel Boyle congratulated all ranks on the smartness of the parade, which he described as one of the best he had seen. He was particularly pleased to see the number of old comrades had increased, and it was his hope that the Signals Association would continue to do its good work in bringing together the men who were no longer on the active service list.

The bounties paid out later might or might not have been the subtle influence that operated on most minds to impel them to turn out, but be that as it may, the parade was certainly one of which we were proud.

Departure.—All ranks are losing a real friend in the departure on Friday 15th November of C.S.M. Wood, one of our esteemed P.S.I.s whose tour of duty with us has come to a close. The news that Chippy was to leave us for the bracing sea breezes of Scarborough was received by all with very great regret, and he takes with him everyone's good wishes and the knowledge that he is ever welcome at Gibraltar Barracks. He is no stranger to Scarborough, having been there three times with us for annual camps, and the loss we shall sustain by his leaving us is only lessened by the fact that we know he is somebody else's gain.

Colonel Campbell's Illness.—News of a much more cheerful character is available regarding Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., O.C. R.A.F. Signals, S.R., who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis. He is now recovering and progressing satisfactorily, and it is hoped that he will soon be restored to full health again.

Medal Awards.—Orders announce that Corpl Greenwood F. S. (No. 3 Company) has completed his twelve years and has been awarded the Territorial efficiency medal. Signalman McCraith A. (No. 3 Company R.A.F. Signals) now becomes the proud holder of the Militia efficiency medal.

Wedding Bells.—These are getting quite rare here these days, possibly due to the insight given by the father and son scheme. Sigmn Hibberd F. R. (No. 3 Company R.A.F. Signals) has taken the plunge, however, and was married to Miss Alice Rosamund Greenleaf at Huddersfield on 20/7/35. To the happy couple, all the best!

Our Adjutant.—The promotion of our adjutant to his majority has caused great satisfaction in the unit. The hard work of Major L. W. Schneider during his tour of duty with us for the last three years is well known to everyone, and to him we offer our heartiest congratulations.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we record the loss of Sigmn Dean, one of No. 3 Company's line operators, who died from double pneumonia on the 4th November. Dixie's ruddy complexioned and perpetually smiling face was familiar to all, and his passing is as lamented as it was unexpected. He was buried with semi-military honours on the 9th November.

Sergeants Mess Meeting.—The annual meeting of the Mess was held on the 4th November, when the secretary, C.S.M. Joynes, reported a very satisfactory financial position. Thirty-four members were present. It was decided that the social dinner for Mess members and their wives and friends should become an annual event.

The date of the Sergeants Mess ball was fixed for Friday 24th January. A dance committee was appointed: C.S.M.s Gatford and Brewster, and Sergeants Rochford, Armitage and Bell. C.S.M. Hobby and Sergeants Theobald, Webb, Bedford and Ashe were appointed stewards.

The Mess management committee was re-elected, while Sergts Theobald, Webb and Ashe were placed on the entertainments committee. C.Q.M.S. Dobson is Mess president for the ensuing six months.

It was decided to apply for a grant of half the cost of the redecoration of the mess—the work not to be commenced until after January.

Salaams.—It seems a little early at the moment of writing, but by the time this reaches the far-flung outposts of Empire it will be just about seasonal. Everyone at Gibraltar Barracks extends his best wishes to everyone else for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. As they say here in Yorkshire: "Tak hod an' sup, lad. Here's tiv us, all on us. May we nivver want nowt, nor me nawther." TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

Manœuvres.—Major Murray, Captains Levack and Cochran, and Lt. Gray attended the Army manœuvres in September. Although all the centres of low pressure in the northern hemisphere appeared to be concentrated in the manœuvre area at that particular season, they had an enjoyable time and learned much. They were glad to see Sergt Thomas once more. In charge of an Infantry Brigade Signal Section, he appeared to be enjoying the "war" and was energetically beating up enemy armoured cars at odd intervals. Our old friend Corporal Soles was very much in evidence with his Line Maintenance Detachment, endeavouring to cope with mud and rain, and lines chewed to bits by tanks and what not. (Did we hear someone say "cows"?) They were also interested to meet the 160th (Welsh) Territorial Brigade Signal Section under Lieut. Bale at Basingstoke Camp.

The above officers once more take this opportunity of thanking the 1st Divisional Signals for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to them.

Winter Courses.—The first of the sixty-hour courses is now nearing an end. It has been purely an operators course, and good progress has been made. Keep up the practice now, lads, and show us the results when the Trade Boards come along. Numerous applications to attend these courses have been received, and it is unfortunate that the numbers had to be limited for financial reasons. Let us hope that the new Government will be more generous to the T.A.

The next sixty-hour course is due to commence soon after the New Year comes in, when more specialised training will be afforded to linemen, D.R.s, switchboard operators, etc. It is hoped to have the Signal School equipped with permanent tables and wiring by that time.

Badminton.—The recently formed Signal Badminton Club is now in full swing, thanks to the energy of Sergt Beattie. Our hon. colonel (Colonel Nicol) and Colonel Reid kindly consented to become hon. presidents, and Major Murray and Captain Levack hon. vice-presidents. C.S.M. Bremner captains the Club, while Sergt Beattie is a most energetic secretary.

A good financial start was obtained by generous subscriptions from the hon. office bearers and the Sergeants Mess, which has enabled us to join the Aberdeen and District Badminton League. Two teams have been entered for the mixed doubles and men's doubles, and already they are a power to be reckoned with in local circles.

A few friendly matches have also added to the spirit of competition, one of the most enjoyable being against the officers, who were beaten after a keen fight. A return match is awaited with confidence.

It is noted that No. 2 Company are going strong with their Badminton Club, and we venture to throw out a challenge through these columns. What about it, Twocoy ? We assure you of a hearty welcome if not a good licking.

All Ranks Dance.—The first all ranks dance of the season was held at Fonthill Barracks on the 8th November, and this was voted a great success. It was a happy lively affair, which promises well for future functions this season. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Winter training goes on steadily, and we have now reached the half-way mark on the first course. Great benefit is being felt by all attending these courses, and plans for the spending of the extra pay are already being made.

Recreation.—Evening recreation is more popular than ever. Badminton and table tennis tournaments are to be held for a prize to be given by Captain J. Cochran.

Inspections.—The G.O.C. 51st (H.) Division carried out an inspection of Company H.Q. on the 28th October and expressed himself satisfied with what he saw.

Armistice.—On Sunday 10th November the Provost, Town Councillors, and detachments from the Regular and Territorial Army units stationed at Stirling, attended a church parade and afterwards a short service at the war memorial. The Company was well represented, and a wreath on behalf of all ranks was laid on the memorial.

General.—Recruiting has been fairly brisk for this period of the season, but many more men are required. It is hoped that all ranks will co-operate by bringing their friends along to enlist, so that the Company will be at full strength before the commencement of next training season. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

Entertainments.—This Company opened the Garrison dancing season with a Company dance on the 1st November. All our officers and the usual members of the Company were present. Many of the guests were present for the first time and asked to be entered on the invitation list. Everyone agreed it was an outstanding success. The new decorations were a great credit to the members of the committee, who spent many hours in wiring up fairy lights, etc. We are looking forward to the next dance, which has been arranged for the 13th December.

Rifle Club.—As anticipated in our last issue of notes, the membership of the Club has grown considerably, the number now being thirty-three. Shooting has greatly improved, as some of the handicaps for the Company prize shoot show.

Training.—Winter courses will be in full swing by the time these notes appear in print. It is hoped that a good number of the Company will attend voluntarily, as the training fund is very limited this year. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

George Crawford.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of George Crawford, ex-C.Q.M.S. of our Territorial units. George passed to his rest on the 1st November—rest that was to bring great relief, for he suffered much towards the end—rest that was to be a reward, for he journeyed much and for many a year in the service of his country.

George Crawford's military record was long and honourable. He served as a young soldier in the South African campaign. Later he became an ardent Territorial. He mobilised with the 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signal Company at Rutherglen in 1914 and served throughout the war. He might well have rested on his laurels after being demobilised, but so great was his fervour for the Territorial cause that he rejoined at Jardine Street not long after the Great War had ended. He served until he was almost sixty years of age.

In civil life George Crawford was long known and respected as storekeeper to the Post Office Engineering Department in Glasgow—a post from which he retired two years ago. He was awarded the Imperial Service medal on his retirement.

The gathering at the funeral was large and representative. The rain and blackness of a November day did not prevent a number of his comrades in arms from paying their final homage. The wail of the piper's lament bade a last farewell to George Crawford, an Englishman well beloved by Scotland and the Scots. Farewell, old comrade! No more will we jest and quaff with you. Never again will you cheer us with the melodies of your cockney songs, nor your golden smile will we behold.

The memory of George Crawford will live on. The greatness of his heart and the recollection of his many outstanding qualities will be with us till the reveille sounds. "Deep is the peace of the bivouac. The long march is ended."

Warmly Welcome.—It gives us pleasure to welcome 2/Lieut. D. C. Lindsay to our Territorial units. We wish him a long and prosperous career as an officer.

Bailie Warren.—We congratulate Captain Victor Warren on his elevation to the magistracy of Glasgow, the Empire's second city. We are proud of this honour bestowed on one of our comrades.

Annual Affair.—The annual general meeting of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess was held on the 1st November. There was a splendid turn out of members. Reports of the year's working were submitted and approved. The holding of four different annual training camps was not conducive to the usual profit making. However, all things considered, the financial position of the Mess is regarded as highly satisfactory. Sergt Livingstone vacated the presidential chair. He is succeeded by C.Q.M.S. Marshall. To Sergt Macdonald, on relinquishing the secretary's post, is due a word of praise for his splendid work during the last few years. He has fully earned the gratitude of our members.

Lively Lads.—We were privileged to look in on the Men's Club November dance. It was good to see the lads running their own show—and running it well. Everything was merry and bright, with good dancing, excellent music and tasty refreshments. It was good to see the youngsters in their element. Sigmn Nisbet, the energetic young secretary, is doing well.

Thanks to "The Wire."—It is encouraging to know that our WIRE notes are attracting the notice of old friends in the Corps, situated in different parts of the Empire. The latest welcome letters to reach us are from Aldershot, Scarborough and Rawalpindi. Letters addressed to THE WIRE correspondent are answered personally. We are only too pleased to supply any information regarding old comrades in Glasgow and the Lowland Signal units.

The C.S.O.—Colonel Snatt, C.S.O. Scottish Command, paid us a visit on the 6th November. We are always pleased to see him. He is keenly interested in the work of our units.

The Officers.—The officers inaugurated the social season in October by holding the first of the monthly dinner parties. The function was most successful and a pleasant forerunner of the season's activities.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 15/11/35.

Our apologies are due to the O.C. M Section for the photograph which appeared in last month's issue of THE WIRE entitled "The O.C. M Section on leave." Lest it be thought that this officer was indulging in a frivolous pastime, we hasten to assure our readers that this was not so. It now transpires that the O.C. M Section (who is our expert in cable laying) was experimenting with a new apparatus with which he proposes to equip linemen when engaged in the task of laying cable in built-up areas. The apparatus will obviate the use of ladders, field telegraph, and sticks, crook, long, and will facilitate rapid progress when hanging the cable on buildings.

The statement by a member of the Officers Mess that the O.C. M Section was proceeding either to take the chair at a court of enquiry, or to perform his annual task of reading the Army Act to the troops, is not in keeping with facts, and the suggestion that the apparatus should be fitted with spats has been ignored.

We are glad to record the interesting news that we are to have our C.O. (Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C.) with us for another year.

The officers held a successful T.E.W.T. at Abergavenny during the week-end, 2nd/3rd November, and took the opportunity at dinner on the Saturday of welcoming our new honorary colonel

(Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C.) into the unit. The ceremony was performed with much enthusiasm and speech making.

A party of selected n.c.o.s joined the T.E.W.T. during Sunday, and the whole party enjoyed an interesting and instructive time. We hear that the Basingstoke veterans were of great assistance to the remainder by reason of their experience gained on that memorable occasion.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess held a very successful dance on Armistice Night. It was well attended, and everyone enjoyed a very happy evening.

There has been much speculation as to the real reason for the quartermaster's installation of a thermometer in the clothing store. We are wondering whether it is to assist in the regulation of the new heating apparatus, or to serve as a warning as to the state of the atmosphere when someone tries the old gag of ringing the changes through the new hatchway.

Sergt Brundell A., P.S.I. No. 2 Company, leaves us for Bulford on the 15th November. We are sorry to have to part with him, and we wish him every success in whatever sphere he may find himself.

We offer a hearty welcome to L/Sergt Greenwood E. W., who has joined us to replace Sergt Brundell. We hope he will enjoy a very happy time with us.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—Although yet much in the air, we do hear whisperings of such things as dances, dinners and boxing meetings which are to take place in the near future. This means that somebody is getting very busy. Unfortunately, we cannot this month say anything definite, but hope to be able to do so in our next notes.

Training.—Whichever way one looks at it, it is fortunate that we can add very little that is different from last month's notes concerning our P.T. and boxing classes.

The Stratford boxers (some of them, of course!) have met others from Southend, and the show proved to us all that the prowess expected was forthcoming. Counting up the points, the Stratford team came out as winners; but we congratulate the Southend team on their fitness and keenness, and most of all on their sportsmanship.

Of course, the 3rd December, the date of the inter-Company unit team championships, will definitely see the "Finn"ish of No. 3 Company team as far as the boxing cup is concerned!

The operators classes, both learners and advanced, have for this month fallen away somewhat, but this is only temporary, and we hope, now that the bounty evening is over, to see them return to normal strength.

Departures.—It is difficult to say goodbye to anyone (tears!) so we will only say au revoir to R.S.M. Dowie F. J. and Sergeant Hancock E., and wish them the best of health and luck wherever they go. Don't forget we will be seeing you. Mim.

Arrivals.—Welcome to Male J., our new R.S.M., and Worth F., our new P.S.I. Your arrival is nicely timed for us to get to know you properly. May you be happy in what you find. Mind the mat, Freddy, and step over it—not on it.

Change of Command.—We heartily congratulate Lt.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., on his appointment as Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command, and welcome the news that he will keep contact with this unit whilst carrying out his new duties.

A hearty welcome is extended to Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D., who takes over, and our congratulations are also tendered to him.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Salaams.—The heartiest congratulations of the Company are proffered to Lt.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., on his appointment as Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command, with effect from the 11th October 1935. We are indeed sorry to lose our popular commanding officer, but our regret is tempered by the fact that he will still be in constant touch with the unit by virtue of his appointment.

At the same time we welcome and congratulate Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D., who takes over the command of the unit. Lieut.-Colonel Manley's interest in us as second-in-command was always very evident, and there is not the slightest doubt that the efficiency of the unit will be well maintained during the tenure of his office.

General.—No. 2 Company had a 100 per cent. attendance on bounty night, but there was no cash available and the P.S.I. was missing. Anyway, we managed to pay them the same week, so they went on their way rejoicing.

Training.—There is nothing of note to mention as the attendances are rather few.

Discharges.—Sergt Bassett A. on completing twenty years with the T.A. We wish him the best, and also hope that he will come up and see us some time.

Courses.—Major J. McConville, M.C., Captain J. L. Lilley, ex-R.S.M. Kenyon and Sergt Hitchin attended a course for boxing judges held at the 47th R.E. Chelsea. They all qualified.

Boxing.—The Stratford boxers are in great fettle, and to prove this they showed No. 3 Company at Southend how to use a straight left and to punch with both hands. This was largely attributable to the coaching they had received. Our dark horse of No. 1 Company, Boy Dunkley, did his stuff and stopped his man in the second round. Our champ fractured his thumb in this fight, but we hope he will be able to don the gloves again soon. We must also congratulate Sigmn Hallett, of No. 2 Company, on putting up such a fine show (only wear the Corps tie on drill nights). Sigmn Winterhalder, of No. 1 Company, beat his man on points. Sigmn Griffiths, also of No. 1 Company, beat his man on points after a great fight. Sigmn Reynolds stopped his man in the second round. The meeting on the whole was a great success.

Arrivals.—Sergeants Male and Worth from the 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury. We hope their stay will be long and very pleasant.

Departures.—We must take this opportunity of saying goodbye and good luck to R.S.M. Dowie and Sergt Hancock. We hope they will be welcomed in their new units.

THE BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Company Supper.—This was held in the drill hall on the 14th October and proved a great success, about ninety per cent. of the Company being present. During the evening an enjoyable programme of variety was provided by Jack Hillyard and his concert party. Among the guests were Lieutenant-Colonel Rayner, T.D. (commanding officer), Major J. McConville (adjutant) and Captain J. L. Lilley (commanding No. 1 Company). Our O.C. Company, Captain J. P. Tweedie-Smith, in his speech congratulated the Company on the fine show put up at annual camp this year and on its successes in the field of sport.

Thanks are due to C.S.M. and Mrs. Cooley for their work in preparing the refreshments, and to C.Q.M.S. Smeeton and his active satellites who so ably distributed the liquid food. It is hoped that another convivial evening will be organised in the near future.

Training.—Physical jerks are still the order of the day, and our lads are certainly very fit. We look forward with confidence to the 3rd December, when we meet the "Lions of Stratford" to decide the home of the boxing cup (no, you haven't seen our dark horses yet, Ernie). We don't want to put the wind up them, but we hope to bring with us Basher Robinson, Killer Carty, Tiger Cain, and a few others who are still chained up. Of this forthcoming battle, more anon.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Sergt Male J., who is to occupy that well padded seat in headquarters. Salaams, sahib! Also Sergeant Worth F., who has started valve squeezing in the wireless room. Don't forget your suit of armour when you go recruiting, Freddy.

Departures.—We take this opportunity of saying au revoir to R.S.M. Dowie F. and Sergt Hancock E., who are shortly leaving the unit to try their hand at early morning stables (if any). Cheerio! Save a vacant space on the duty roster.

Congratulations.—To Sergeants Hancock E. and Hitchin E. on their recent promotion. We are 'itchin' for our share of promotion " womp."

Coming Shortly.—To Stratford: Schnozzle, our tame hurricane. Starting at annual camp with two left feet, this pocket gladiator has developed into a real fighting fury. Fights with everything he has (including feet). Shaves with a blow lamp, and has to be muzzled in the ring. Can only be stopped with a steam hammer. Watch for him. Coming shortly. THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

The Drill Hall, Ashburnham Road, 11th November.

General.—How time flies! as the R.S.M. said after completing nine years in the T.A. We learn with deep regret that our R.S.M. is leaving us shortly to proceed to the Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown, on completion of his tour of duty with the T.A. But Blackdown! it's near Timbuctoo, isn't it? We wish him the best with his new job.

Social.—Our whist drive, sausage supper and dance held on the 19th October proved quite a success. Over eighty attended, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Tom Sayers and his band (himself) functioned capably, rendering a sonato on sausages during supper. This was a twiddly bit of stuff, well up on the piano keyboard, arranged, produced and compered by the author. It was heavenly to the sausage eaters!

Another stunt like the above will be coming off on Saturday 30th November. Watch next month's notes.

The 54th Divl Signals annual dance is being held at Stratford on the 6th December. A party has been arranged to proceed from Bedford for this event.

Greetings.—To all and sundry (including P.S.I.s) a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7, 14/11/35.

This is the most active after-camp period I can remember. The usual winter classes have been formed, but on a different basis than hitherto. Officers and instructors have been divided into syndicates, to each of which has been apportioned the training of men for the various groups. In theory the plan is an excellent one, and is proving so in practice. Large numbers are turning up regularly to keep in touch with the programmes which have been mapped out in an attractive and instructive manner. The heads of syndicates have been allowed to use their own intelligence in drawing up their lectures, and consequently there is every indication of considerable success in the eventual tests.

Owing to the numbers attending, it has been decided to give everybody one day's pay for each twelve hours attendance instead of for each six hours which formerly has been awarded to the men selected for the course.

In the Regulars, even, the " E " Group is the goal of several years work, and it will be realised that for a Terrier to get it within a couple of years, even on a reduced standard, is a considerable achievement.

We are hoping that, when the Company and unit training seasons start next spring, we shall have a goodly sprinkling of men throughout the unit who have obtained their respective groups, thus forming a nucleus of efficiency on which to mould the remainder.

In the opinion of the writer (which is usually not considered of extreme importance) if things go as we hope, the summer period of training might well be given over to specialisation. My plan would be this. Training as outlined above for this winter, leading up to the group tests. Then a period of specialisation up to camp, varying the subject for each man, each year. At the end of his first four years, each man would then have acquired considerable knowledge. Anyone who hadn't could easily be dispensed with.

Since camp there has been a goodly number of promotions—too numerous, in fact, to record here individually; but congratulations are offered to all concerned, and the hope is expressed that no one will rest on his oars but put his back into further efforts for advancement.

The congratulations are extended to include those who have obtained groups since camp, and also those drivers who attended the recent manœuvres in the south and obtained good reports.

The number of recruits coming up is most encouraging. The influx is not rapid enough yet, and efforts are being made to speed up things.

The first officers' hot-pot was held on Duck-Apple Night. We were glad to have among the guests Major Mirehouse, of the Gloucester Regiment, who is now attached to the staff at Liverpool. Various subalterns had to undergo the trying operation of ducking for the apple. Nobody enjoyed this part of the proceedings more than those who took no active part in it. One man is still complaining of sore shins, though how he acquired these—unless he was cheating and used legs as well as mouth—I don't know. However, it was all very jolly, and after we had wiped up the water and rendered rough first aid where necessary, things went smoothly ahead.

It was, perhaps, an unfortunate night on which to introduce the new radio-gramophone. It proved hard to judge properly of its merits, but since then we have come to appreciate its sterling qualities. For one thing, it enables nervous people who can't keep their hands still to occupy them in twiddling the knobs. I think each member of the Mess is under the impression that his tuning abilities are just slightly superior to those of the chap who last adjusted the set, and tries to prove his contention. But, towering head and shoulders above the small fry, are one or two radio giants—definitely " the last word "—who sneeringly thrust aside the waiting queue of would-be tuners and proceed to bring forth some of the most astounding effects I have ever had to listen to; such symphonies as never were written; at one breath-taking moment I thought, at last, the lost chord was found! And not only that, but they seem able to produce half a dozen stations at once—maybe thinking that each can hear the other, and using the Mess as a sort of Signal Centre.

The undermentioned officers have passed examination, and to them we extend congratulations: Captains J. B. R. Machan, T. C. Chilton and A. B. Moore, subject (c); 2/Lieutenant F. H. Potter, subject (a).

It is very pleasant to note that so many of the old hands re-engage each year. I wish time would stand still and let us have the benefit of their knowledge and good will for many more years. As it is, even the youngest " old soldier " must some day fade away. In this respect, I would like to place on record the regret with which we view the departure of Sergt Burke. Twenty-four years of excellent service stand to his credit, and the unit is the better for his having been with it. I expect him to be a regular attendant at the sergeants mess.

The latter is becoming very lively once more. Whist drives, held fortnightly, are proving popular, between forty and fifty people turning up. A dance is held after the drive, to the accompaniment of a piano and violin. Eager to make the affair a success, a sergeant at the last show determined to provide a good surface for dancing. He nobly did his best, but the fact that results did not quite come up to expectations was due not in any measure to lack of enthusiasm or elbow, but to the accidental substitution of Rinso for wax as a polishing agent. One lady was heard to remark, " I thought my floors were clean until I saw the sergeants mess washed with Rinso."

The sergeants have also arranged a series of billiard matches for the winter. The first to be held is against a team from the Lord Roberts Memorial (an occupational centre). Good luck to the sergeants! My advice to them is to get their opponents well under the table before the start.

Other affairs which lose none of their popularity are the men's dances held in the sergeants mess. Eighty is the average number to attend. They should prosper. I think the Men's Mess should also arrange some billiard matches. They have the use of two tables.

New Feature.—I had to head this bit to show it wasn't missed. I expected to be able to record many marriages, etc., and all I can get together is two births. As these, however, concern two of our most promising n.c.o.s, I have much satisfaction in recording the great events and extending to the proud parents and the youngsters the unit's best wishes. To Corporal and Mrs. Watt a son, John Ronald (it is too late to suggest Kilo as a suitable Christian name for a prospective recruit). To Corporal and Mrs. Shearon a daughter, Norma Constance (two very delightful names). We hope to have the pleasure of meeting the two infants at one of the Christmas parties. FIVE-FIVE.

[*Continued in column 2, page 592*]

SPORTS NOTES

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion, Catterick.

Boxing.—Congratulations to Signalmen Trower, Tolentino, Stewart and Stembridge on doing so well in the Garrison novices boxing competition.

Cross-Country.—The first run for the Mackworth trophy was run over a three miles course, and we were second to F Company. Sigmn Armstrong of this Wing was the first man home in the Signal Training Centre.

The second run takes place on the 6th November, and as the course is four miles this time, we are hoping to turn the tab'es on our opponents.

Hockey.—We were knocked out by F Company in the first round of the Mackworth trophy after a well contested game. The score was 3—0.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Football.—The Company team has not yet met with very great success, but in each of the fixtures a very hard fought game until the last minute has resulted.

The first match, v. Dismounted Wing, unfortunately found us on our left legs, and a weak team was turned out. Two members only of the first eleven were in the team. At half-time we led by 3—1, but then made the fatal mistake of experimenting, with the result that a team developed into eleven individuals. We lost by 3—4!

The second match was played against the School of Signals in the first round of the Mackworth trophy. We were two goals up in the first three minutes, but the School drew level before another five minutes had passed. After this riot of goals, things calmed down until shortly before half-time, when F Company added another two in as many minutes. Lieut. Cole had played a big part in these goals, but unfortunately he met with an injury and again our team became disorganised. Nevertheless, we went down fighting. The score was 5—4 against us.

The match of the season followed when we met the Mounted Wing. What a game! First they led and then we did, and the game finished at five goals each. This game proved that Lieut. Cole is an asset to any team.

The boys have been having a riot, and it would be monotonous trying to describe them. The results are as follows:—

" E " team v. 1st Battalion East Lancs won by 13—0
2nd Battalion Cheshires v. " C " team won by 7—0
" D " team v. 1st Battalion Essex Regiment won by 3—1

Rugby.—On Wednesday 23rd October the Boys Second XV. played Richmond Grammar School at Richmond and were beaten by 9—3 points. The game was very level, and there was no score at half-time. A good movement originated in a line out when the ball was thrown back to Ainsworth, who sent Deane over to score the first try. Soon afterwards Deane, who had played a very useful game both in attack and defence, injured his ankle and was unable to continue playing. While he was off the fie'd Richmond School scored three tries.

Two matches have been played against Ampleforth and we lost both, but nevertheless good games were the order of the day.

Cross-Country.—The Company team has proved victorious in the first two Mackworth runs. Our leading runners were each time well to the fore, but there are still one or two individual disappointments. Our team running is excellent, and many thanks are due to the old stalwart L/Corporal Blades for the fine way in which he has coached the team.

As these notes are being compiled, another result has come to hand: the annual triangular tournament v. Barnard Castle and Darlington Grammar Schools. F Company had a very handsome win. The conditions were eight to run and six to count. Our team filled the first nine places with the exception of the second one. Boy Butler was the individual winner in the excellent time of 23 min. 10 sec. for a course about two hundred yards short of four miles. The rest of the team were Clover, Campion, Roberts D., Pitney, Scott, Adams and Moore, who filled places three to nine in that order. The team placings were: 1st, F Company Boys, 26 points; 2nd, Barnard Castle School, 62; 3rd, Darlington Grammar School, 117.

Stop Press.—The day for typing these notes falls on one of heavy fixtures. We have already reported the cross-country run. Here are the results of two soccer matches.

F Company v. E Company in the Battalion Inter-Company League. This match was the same as our others—a very hard game, resulting in a draw of three goals each.

Royal Signal Boys " D " team v. 1st Battalion Essex Regiment (Boys). Another success for our boys. " D " team won by three clear goals, scored by Boys Murray, Evans and Mullin J.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—The boxing season has arrived once more, and the unit team have made a good start by winning the inter-unit (Mons Barracks) novices boxing competition by a large margin of points—which is a good augury for a successful season.

A Corps met the 2nd Divl Signals at the Albuhera Gymnasium on 21/10/35, and the 1st Divisional Signals at the same hall on 23/10/35. Against the 2nd Divl Signals we were successful by 22—15 points, having won ten of the thirteen fights. Here are a few details of the fixture. (A Corps names are shown first in each instance.)

A Corps Signals v. 2nd Divl Signals.

Feather weight—Sigmn O'Brien beat Sigmn Lambert, and Sigmn Hughes beat Sigmn McGough.
Light weight—Sigmn Deighton beat Sigmn Waugh, Sigmn Weech beat Driver Revill, and Sigmn Adams lost to Sigmn McCready.
Welter weight—Sigmn Shillitto beat Sigmn Wells, Sigmn Carruthers lost to Sigmn Naunton, Sigmn Gully beat Signalman Scarsbrook, and Sigmn Ball had a walk-over.
Middle weight—Sigmn Still beat Sigmn Norton, Sigmn Sims lost to Sigmn Hurrell, and Sigmn Rixon beat Sigmn Moddrel.
Light heavy weight—Sigmn Finnegan beat Sigmn Holmes.

A Corps Signals v. 1st Divl Signals.

Against the 1st Divl Signals we did even better, winning eleven fights and losing two, the points being 24—14 in our favour. The A Corps novices must be congratulated on two splendid wins.

Feather weight—Sigmn O'Brien beat Sigmn Bailey, and Signalman Goodall lost to Sigmn Young.
Light weight—Sigmn Deighton beat Sigmn Brooks, Sigmn Dean lost to Sigmn Tomlinson, and Sigmn Weech beat Signalman Bergelin.
Welter weight—Sigmn Shillito beat Sigmn Finch, Sigmn Carruthers beat Sigmn Smith. Sigmn Gully beat Sigmn King, and Sigmn Ball beat Sigmn McCormack.
Middle weight—Sigmn Still beat Sigmn Allcock. Sigmn Thompson beat Sigmn Farrance. and Sigmn Sims beat Sigmn Tingle.
Light heavy weight—Driver Finnegan had a walk-over, Sigmn Pattington being unfit.

The 1st Divl Signals beat the 2nd Divl Signals in the other match of the competition by 21—18 points. Therefore the final placings and points in the inter-unit novices boxing competition were: 1st. A Corps Signals. 46 points; 2nd. 1st Divl Signals, 35; 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 33. Well done. A Corps novices!

Command Boxing Trials, 14/10/35.—L/Corpl Spriggs R. and Sigmn Goodwin were selected for the Command boxing trials. Goodwin lost on points in the first series. while L/Corpl Spriggs won on points in his first fight but was beaten in the semi-final.

Basingstoke Boxing Club Tournament, 28/10/35.—In the open 10 st. 7 lb. competition at the above Club, Sigmn Carruthers was knocked out in the first series, and L/Corpl Spriggs lost on points in the semi-final. In the open novices 8 st. 4 lb. competition. Driver Lloyd lost on points in the semi-final, having had a bye in the first series.

Gainsford Boxing Club.—This show was held at the Stadium Club, London, on 5/11/35. In the open 9 st. 2 lb. Sigmn O'Brien lost, being knocked out in the first round. In the novices 10 st. 9 lb. L/Corpl Spriggs lost on points in the semi-final. In the intermediate 11 st. 6 lb. Sigmn Rogers took the place of Sigmn Yates and lost on points in the semi-final.

L/Corporal Spriggs has reached the semi-final in three separate competitions so far this season, so we are expecting him to go one better and lift a trophy before it is over. He is a nice boxer ; he stands up well and should improve greatly.

Hockey.—Although the weather has been very wet, we have managed to play quite a lot of hockey with varying results. We have won four games, drawn one and lost three. In the first round of the Army cup we received a bye, and are due to meet The King's Own Royal Regt. in the second round on 25/11/35.

Rugger.—A Corps have so far been doing very well indeed in this department of sport this season. In the Cobb-Nicholls cup competition we disposed of the 1st, the 2nd and the 3rd Divl Signals, but were beaten in the final by the 4th Divl Signals, who had previously beaten the 5th Divl Signals in the semi-final. The results to date are given.

Friendly—A Corps 16 points, D.L.I. Regiment nil.
Friendly—A Corps nil, R.A.O.C. nil.
Cobb-Nicholls cup—A Corps 3 points, 2nd Divsigs nil.
Army Cup (second round)—A Corps 10 points, Coldstream Gds 5.
Cobb-Nicholls cup—A Corps 6 points, 1st Divsigs 3.
Cobb-Nicholls cup (final)—A Corps 3 points, 4th Divsigs 8.
Army cup (third round)—A Corps nil, R.T.C. 15.

Cross-Country.—The result of the first inter-unit cross-country run was as follows: 1st, 1st Divl Signals, 338 points ; 2nd, A Corps Signals, 810 ; 3rd, 2nd Divl Signals, 857.

L/Corpl Grigg T. and Sigmn Jennings M. have been selected to represent the Aldershot Command Harriers this season.

Football.—We have won two, drawn one and lost four games this season. In the Army cup first round we made a draw with the 32nd Brigade R.A. at 3—3, but in the replay we lost by 2—6.

Billiards.—Against the 2nd Battalion R.T.C. we only managed to win two games, losing by 2—4 ; but against the Command Military Police we levelled matters in winning by 4—2.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Cross-Country.—So far, we have had five cross-country runs and found reason to marvel at the end of each one as the leaders appeared. Our congratulations to Sigmn Hempshall, who has led the field in each run. His continued successes are becoming almost automatic. It is a pity we have no one who could push him and so give him better training for the Command run.

No. 2 Company have won both of the two Cobb trophy runs, and Nos. 1 and 3 Companies have each run into second place once.

In the first Mons Barracks run we had a runaway victory with nearly 500 points lead from the nearest challenger.

The Worcestershire Regiment gave us a good practice run, beating us by 200 points. This was not altogether unexpected, as we had been unable in the time available to gather our material from leave and courses to compete. Sigmn Hempshall had a little more opposition here, but not enough!

Apart from the successes so far, it is comforting to see the enthusiasm of the majority. Training can be arranged, but the enthusiasm is an elusive element.

Rugger.—The rush on rugger is over, and though we have not covered ourselves with glory, we have gone down fighting and some good games have been witnessed.

In the first round of the Army cup we met the R.A.M.C. Crookham, and after being six points down at half-time managed to turn the tables on them and finished up at 8—6. In the second round we met the 2nd Battalion R.T.C.—a very much heavier team. In fact, it was "A" vehicles v. " B " vehicles. Having boosted up the opposition, it is hardly necessary to add that we were beaten by 18—3 or thereabouts.

In the Cobb-Nicholls cup we were drawn against A Corps Signals in the first round, and two-thirds of the game was closely contested. The weight of the A Corps forwards then began to tell, and we were eventually beaten by 6—0.

Congratulations to Lieut. Stephenson and Sigmn Luscombe on being selected for the Corps team.

Cricket: Post-Mortem.—Here is a piece of cricket news. By winning the Rawson cup we have set a satisfactory seal on a very successful season. The standard of play this year has been much better than that of last season. Out of seventeen matches we have lost only four. Everyone was very keen, and the fielding was of the best. The services rendered by our umpire (Sigmn Tomlinson) and scorer (Signalman Gale) were much appreciated. Batting averages and bowling analysis herewith.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	Inn.	Not out	Highest	Total	Aver.
Corpl Prattchett	14	2	71	319 ...	26.7
C.Q.M.S. Yates	10	0	94	212 ...	21.2
L/Corpl Mohrstadt ...	11	0	55	214 ...	19.04
Sigmn Wylde	15	1	36	214 ...	15.3
Sigmn Willoughby ...	10	3	26	105 ...	15
L/Corpl Sweet	9	1	30	110 ...	13.7
Sergt Stanley	12	0	41	143 ...	11.8
Lieut. Tulloch	16	0	35	170 ...	10.5
Lieut. Maydon	11	0	32	99 ...	9
Sigmn Strafford	16	0	29	137 ...	8.05
Sigmn Edwards	11	0	16	52 ...	4.7
Sigmn Stables	8	3	9	19 ...	3.8

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	Overs	Mdns.	Runs	Wkts.	Aver.
Sigmn Stubbs	47	13	100	15 ...	6.7
L/Corpl Mohrstadt ...	127	25	306	38 ...	8.06
Sergt Stanley	65	15	162	18 ...	9
Sigmn Edwards	62	11	209	21 ...	9.9
Sigmn Strafford	55	2	152	15 ...	10.14
L/Corpl Sweet	88	16	270	17 ...	15.9

In the inter-Company cricket for the Cobb trophy, the Command Signal Company again took pride of place. As they have only about twenty-five men to select from, this effort is indeed worthy of congratulation.

Hockey.—We have started the season in great style with the same team that did so well for us last year ; but there is a snag in everything. Mr. Gray is posted to the Air Defence Brigade, Blackdown ; Corpl Brice to a P.O. course ; L/Corpl Fearnley to Catterick ; and Sigmn Reaney to Ireland. We are finding it hard to replace them.

Mr. Gray and Signalmen Williams and Collett are to be congratulated on playing for the Command. Sigmn Dewdney, our goalkeeper, was picked for a Command trial, but was unfortunately injured early in the game. Better luck next time.

Our results up to the time of going to press are: v. 2nd Divl Signals drew at 1—1 ; v. A Corps Signals won by 3—1 ; v. 2nd Divl Signals won by 3—0 ; v. 2nd Battalion R.T.C. won by 3—1 ; v. 2nd Battalion R.T.C. won by 4—1 ; v. 2nd Battn Cameronians lost by 2—4 ; v. 2nd Battalion West Yorks won by 5—2 ; v. 1st Battalion Welch Regiment won by 2—0 ; v. 1st Battalion Wilts Regiment lost by 1—8 ; v. 2nd Battalion The Cameronians lost by 4—8.

Goal scorers—Cpl Tranter 13, Sgt Harvey 7, Sigmn Williams 4, Sigmn Collett 3, L/Corpl Linington 1.

In the first round of the Army hockey cup we had a bye, and have to meet the 3rd Brigade R.H.A. in the second round. As far as we know, we have not met before. They are thus an unknown quantity, but we are hoping for the best.

Boxing.—I apologise to the boxers! Had I known I was to write these notes, I would have collected some data instead of thoroughly enjoying our two fixtures as an interested spectator. The younger generation selected and trained by Mr. Stephenson, C.S.M. Hamlin, L/Corpl Griffin and Jimmy Emblen certainly did them credit. The assertion made last month about " life in the young dogs yet " was more than justified. We finished second to A Corps Signals, the 2nd Divl Signals being third. We look forward to seeing most of the youngsters again if the troop deck does not claim them in the meantime.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Owing to the fact that we are very short-handed just at present, we have had to borrow at least four men to make up our teams except in the first match, when we managed to get out a team of our own.

Soccer.—v. Seale and Sands F.C. drew at 2—2 ; v. F Company South Staffs won by 5—0 ; v. D Troop lost by 0—5.

Hockey.—v. R.A.F. Farnborough lost by 0—5.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Hockey.—So far, we have had a very successful season and have yet to suffer defeat. The full detail of matches is as follows: Played 7, won 7 ; goals—for 26, against 5. v. R.A.F. Old Sarum won by 1—0 ; v. 3rd Division R.E. won by 3—1 ; v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. won by 3—2 ; v. 2nd Battalion The Loyals won by 3—1 ; v. 3rd Division R.A.S.C. won by 5—1 ; v. 33rd Field Brigade R.A. won by 7—0 ; v. 7th Field Brigade R.A. won by 4—0.

The mainstay of the team is Corpl Burrell at centre half ; he is playing very well. We have two steady backs in Sergt Luck and Sigmn Fox. The forwards are beginning to settle down and their combination is improving, as the results of the last three matches show.

The first round of the Army cup will be played next month, and we have high hopes of getting through the early rounds.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Hockey.—Results and scorers:—

19/10/35 v. 43rd D.H.Q. Company Sappers and Miners drew at 2—2 (Sigmn Thompson, Lieut Steward)
21/10/35 v. 43rd D.H.Q. Company Sappers and Miners won by 6—2 (Signalmen Thompson, Fitzpatrick, Howard 4)
21/10/35 v. A Corps Signals Second Eleven won by 9—0 (Signalmen Cosford, Hall 2, Briggs 6)
22/10/35 v. 1st South Wales Borderers lost by 2—4 (Sigmn Fitzpatrick)
24/10/35 v. I.O.R.s drew at 3—3 (Signalmen Charlton 2, Trott)
29/10/35 v. British Military Hospital lost by 2—4 (Signalmen Thompson and Howard)
30/10/35 v. R.I.A.S.C. (H.R.S.) lost by 1—5 (Sigmn Thompson)
3/11/35 v. British Military Hospital won by 5—1 (Signalmen Thompson 4 and Angell)
4/11/35 v. Gordon College won by 2—0 (Signalmen Thompson and Trott)
6/11/35 v. No. 5 (A.C.) Squadron R.A.F. won by 4—2 (Signalmen Thompson 2 and Trott 2)

Football.—

21/10/35 v. 1st South Wales Borderers lost by 1—3 (Signalman Donaghy)
27/10/35 v. A Corps Signals won by 3—0 (Signalman Donaghy, L/Corpl Cleveland 2)
30/10/35 v. 2nd Battalion A. and S. Highlanders won by 2—0 (Sigmn Cox J., L/Corpl Beeby)
4/11/35 v. 73rd Battery R.A. drew at 2—2 (Signalman Cox J., L/Corpl Beeby)

Cricket.—Several matches have been played, of which detailed accounts will be published in next month's WIRE.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football.—

13/10/35 v. Staff and Departments, home, won by 1—0
18/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, home, drew at 1—1
21/10/35 v. N.C.O.s Dorsets, home, lost by 0—1
26/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, home, won by 4—2
31/10/35 v. N.C.O.s Dorsets, away, won by 8—0

Hockey.—

4/10/35 v. A Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, away, lost by 0—2
15/10/35 v. H.Q. Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, away, drew at 2—2
17/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, home, won by 2—0
24/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, away, won by 4—2
29/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, home, won by 8—1
6/10/35—W.O.s and Sergeants Mess v. W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, 13/18th Hussars, drew at 1—1. Team: Corporal Vine ; Corporals Milne and Gratwicke ; C.S.M. Weston, Cpl Connor and Sergt Lawman ; Corporals Rhodes and Cook, Sergeants Standen and Parsons, and L/Sergt Kenny.

Hockey (Second Eleven).—

28/9/35 v. A Squadron, 13th/18th Hussars, away, lost by 3—4
30/9/35 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, drew at 2—2
3/10/35 v. Hodson's Horse (4th D.C.O. Lancers) away, drew at 2—2
7/10/35 v. D.S. Company, Dorsets, away, won by 3—1
9/10/35 v. G Battery R.H.A., home, lost by 0—2
14/10/35 v. Staff 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 2—1
19/10/35 v. Signal Section, Dorsets, home, lost by 0—5
23/10/35 v. N.C.O.s Dorsets, home, drew at 0—0
26/10/35 v. G Battery R.H.A., away, drew at 0—0
30/10/35 v. Corporals Club, Dorsets, away, won by 1—0

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

First and foremost must be recorded the fact that at long last we have managed to annex a trophy. On Saturday 2nd Nov. we met the 2/13th Frontier Force Rifles in the final of the All-India Young Union Football Tournament, and after a very keen and interesting game, played throughout in a really good sporting spirit, we ran out winners by 2—1 goals. Our goals were scored by L/Corpl Shannan and Sigmn Barrett.

This is the first year that this tournament has been recognised as an official one, and therefore open to regimental teams. It attracted an entry of twenty teams from places as far apart as Peshawar and Parachinar, and Hangu and Rawalpindi. A photo of our team is enclosed.

Kohat District Signal Football Team, 1935.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Corpl Allen, Sigmn Hobden, L/Cpl Johnson, Private Newell.
Centre—Signalmen Simpson and Barrett, Major J. E. F. Paton, Sigmn Luckhurst, Lieut. G. U. Finney, Signalmen Robertson and Pittman.
Front—Sigmn McCann, L/Corpl Shannan, Sigmn King.

After the match, the cup (which is won outright) was duly christened in the approved style, and our thanks are due to the commanding officer for providing the champagne for the ceremony.

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tennis.—A club has been formed which promises to be as popular as the one we had at Pindi. Every day one may see newcomers to the game trying most enthusiastically to grasp its principles. The ball boys watch such efforts with painfully intense faces (the court surrounds are only fifteen feet high, and the ground beyond particularly stony).

The Club entered a team for the Union Jack Club Tennis League. In its zone (there were two) it finished second, being led by three points by the Unit Sergeants Mess team. With a little luck, it might easily have finished on top.

Of the members, special mention may be made of Lieut. N. I. Bower, L/Sergt Smith C. A. and L/Corpl Cant R. O. These three entered for various tournaments—competing against both civilian and Army topnotchers—and did reasonably well. Ultimate honours did not come their way except in the case of L/Sergeant Smith, who won the Crauford tournament. In the Birch Club tournament Smith and Cant, playing from minus forty, reached the semi-finals of the doubles event by defeating the holders in straight sets. Unfortunately, they were scratched when their chances of winning the event appeared distinctly bright. In the singles event Lieut. Bower reached the semi-finals, when he lost after leading in each set.

Football.—The season opens this month with a Garrison Inter-Company League. We entered two teams, but had to scratch one of them owing to the Frontier trouble mentioned elsewhere. We expect to do reasonably well, although we shall have only two members of last year's Durand team available.

Hockey.—We have had five friendly matches during the past month, resulting as follows: v. The Burmah Shell S.C. won by 3—1 ; v. Young Friends S.C. won by 5—1 ; v. Karachi S.C. lost by 3—8 and 1—2 ; v. Indian Air Force lost by 1—3.

The last three games were played since the exodus of a large number of the unit to Peshawar, but all games were excellently contested and enjoyed by both sides.

We have a fairly full programme for the remainder of the season, but are greatly handicapped by a very soft sandy ground that cuts up very badly and tends to " freak " the ball, thus necessitating a great deal of rolling—for after one game (if the pitch has not been rolled) one has to be very clever to overcome the hazards set up by the ground.

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

Cricket.—Below are published the averages for the season 1935.

BATTING.

	Innings	Not out	Highest	Runs	Average
L/Corpl Pettit	28	1	101	636	23
Sigmn Mace	6	0	41	117	19.5
L/Corpl Whitaker...	27	0	74	507	15
Sigmn Billingsley ...	24	2	62	277	12.4
L/Corpl Swann	27	2	25	230	12
L/Corpl Honor	8	2	*20	70	11.6
Sigmn Page	27	1	47	272	10
Sigmn Rushton	10	1	30	88	9

* Not out.

BOWLING.

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wickets	Average
L/Corpl Pettit	352	71	1008	105	9.6
Sigmn Billingsley ...	198	32	605	56	10.8
L/Corpl Whitaker...	291	69	728	62	11.7

CATCHES—L/Corpl Whitaker 13, Sigmn Smith J. 12, L/Corporal Swann 11, Sigmn Page 8, Lieut. Haigh 7, L/Corpl Pettit 6, Corpl Furze 5, Sigmn Billingsley 5, Sigmn Smith H. 5.

Games played 29, won 13, drawn 4, lost 12.

Soccer.—To date we have played only four matches, and so far have an unbeaten record. We were extremely fortunate to win our first round match in the inter-Company knock-out cup competition against the Royal Air Force General Hospital on the 28th October ; practically all the team were off colour but rallied magnificently to creep through by the odd goal. We are due to meet the detachment of the Royal Berkshire Regiment on our own ground in the next round, and have a very good chance of going still further. I hope to let you know more about progress or regress in the next publication.

v. R.A.F.G.H., away, 12th October, won by 4—1 (Smith H., L/Corpl Honor, Corpl Winder, L/Corpl Cameron)
v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, 16th October, drew at 2—2 (L/Corpl Honor, Corpl Winder)
v. R.A.F.G.H., home, 19th October, won by 6—0 (L/Corpl Cameron 4, Waterston 2)
v. R.A.F.G.H., home, 28th October (first round cup) won by 3—2 (L/Corpl Cameron 2, L/Corpl Honor)

Hockey.—This year the unit is entering two teams in the inter-Company knock-out competition and also the Area League, but as no details have been published so far, we shall have to wait until next month for more news. Friendlies, as under, have so far been played.

v. R.A.F.G.H., away, won by 2—0 (L/Cpl Cameron, Smith J.)
v. R.A.F. Ramleh, home, lost by 2—3 (L/Corporal Cameron, Lieut. Haigh)
v. Detachment Royal Berks, home, won by 3—2 (Smith J.)
v. R.A.F. Ramleh, away, won by 1—0 (Smith J.)

General.—We are looking forward to a very successful season in the sphere of sport this year, as we have a great deal of talent in the unit at present and are hoping to obtain some more on the arrival of the draft. The following captains have been appointed for the teams: Soccer, L/Corpl Cameron ; hockey, L/Corporal Moran ; rugby, Sigmn Smith H. : ice hockey, Corpl Furze.

TERRITORIAL AND S.R. NOTES.

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56th (1st London) City of London Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12, 15/11/35.

Unveiling of War Memorial.—Signal House has now two war memorials, both to units which are the direct ancestors of the City of London Signals. A word of explanation is necessary.

In 1914 the City of London, like other Territorial Army Associations, possessed a Signal Company Royal Engineers. This, the 1/1st London Divisional Signal Company R.E., was in such an advanced state of preparation that it was ready before the formation of the 56th (1st London) Division of the Territorial Army. The 29th Division, formed in Egypt from the Regular Army garrisons in India, had no Signal Company, and there the original 1st London Signal Company R.E. joined the famous 29th Division and served with them through the war. The City at once began to raise a second line unit, which came into being in 1915. The 2/1st London Divisional Signal Company R.E. (T.F.) served with the 56th (1st London) Division T.A. in France and Belgium.

About one hundred members of the Old Comrades Association of the unit and their wives and children were present at the unveiling of the memorial to the 56th Divl Signal Company R.E. on the 9th November, and the front row of chairs was occupied by the relatives of those who had been killed.

After Colonel G. D. Ozanne had welcomed the guests, Colonel H. F. Fox, T.D. (who served in the unit during the war and commanded the present T.A. unit, City of London Signals, from 1926 to 1931) made an eloquent speech in which he gave the history of the unit. A short service was then conducted by the Rev. R. F. Godwin, who had served in the ranks of the unit during the war. A guard of honour was provided by the present unit.

Armistice Day Service.—This, as usual, took place at Clapham Parish Church on the Sunday nearest the 11th November (i.e. the 10th). Owing to the threatening weather a rather smaller parade started from Signal House under the command of 2/Lieut. J. W. Morgan. After the service Major A. C. C. Willway inspected the troops and also about one hundred and thirty members of the British Legion. Major Willway took the salute at the march past.

Despatch Riders.—We are rather proud to announce that we are now not only up to strength in despatch riders, but are actually three over strength.

Rifle Club.—After one or two abortive attempts to start, this is now going well ahead, and we hear that there is a possibility of the City of London Signals producing a side for some competitions.

School-at-Arms.—Thanks to the very hard work of those officers and n.c.o.s who are experienced and generously give their time, classes in fencing with the foil and bayonet are given every Tuesday and Thursday evening. We hope to have boxing going soon.

Individual Training.—This is now in full swing, and eagerly attended classes are held on Tuesdays.

Divisional T.E.W.T.—The senior officers of the Division will be assembling at these headquarters for a T.E.W.T. on the 18th and 19th November.

Annual Camp, 1936.—Rumour, with some probability of truth, gives Seaford as our camp site in 1936. C.O.L.S.