THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAE CORPS OE SIGNAIS

THE OEEICIAE ORGAN OF THE SIGNAES ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVII.—No. 191 JANUARY, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

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

- Editorial Notes -

We are authorised to state that Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., has agreed to act in the capacity of Representative Colonel-Commandant of the Corps for the ensuing year.

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The Late Ex-Signalman Cyril V. R. Mott, R.Signals (Palestine Police).—It is with great regret that we announce the tragic death of an old comrade and reader of the Corps Magazine. The manner of his passing, however, was in the best traditions of his calling, and our "regrets" under such circumstances are overshadowed by a feeling of the deepest respect for one who died in the performance of his duty.

The following extract is culled from the Daily Press of Friday 22nd November 1935:—

"Haifa, Palestine, Thursday 21/11/35.

"Eye-witnesses to-day have given dramatic accounts of the heroism of Constable C. V. R. Mott, of the Palestine Police, who, as reported yesterday, was killed while trying to arrest Arab brigands at Jenna, forty-five miles north of Jerusalem. Mott was taking cover behind a boulder when he saw several armed men emerge from the forest. He advanced towards them, calling on them to surrender. The brigands, however, immediately fired on him, injuring him in the lung. He died an hour later. The brigands were wanted for the murder of a Jewish police sergeant two weeks ago . . . . . "

Signalman Mott first enlisted in the 5th Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment on the 17th March 1924. He was discharged therefrom and re-enlisted into Royal Signals as a "fitter, signals" on the 17th December 1925. He served in India from the 5th January 1929 until the 22nd November 1932, and was awarded the Indian General Service medal with clasp "N.W. Frontier 1930—1931."

Transferring to the Army Reserve on the 7th December 1932, he was granted permission to reside in Palestine, where he joined the Police Force of that country and was awarded the M.B.E. for distinguished conduct whilst dispersing rioters during the disturbances at Jaffa in October 1933.

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Wanted: Bound Volumes of "The Wire" for 1930 and 1931.—Will any reader wishing to dispose of the above publications kindly communicate with the Editor, stating price required.

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Post Office Employment.—The following extract from War Office letter No. 19/Employments/513 (A.G.4 d) regarding qualifications for the employment of ex-Regular Service men under the Post Office, is published for the information of all concerned.

"This matter has been the subject of discussion between the three Service Departments, the Ministry of Labour and the General Post Office, and it has been agreed that as from the 1st January 1937, only those Regular Service men and ex-Regulars who are in possession of Army second class certificates of education (or the equivalent in the other Services)—subject to the fulfilment of the other qualifications as to age, sobriety, etc., for Post Office employment—shall be eligible for registration for the appointment of Postmen.

"Up to and including the 31st December 1936, the present regulations as to educational qualifications will apply.

"Regulars and ex-Regulars who are not in possession of the Army second class certificate of education will be registered for employment as Cleaners, Liftmen and Doorkeepers (if they fulfil the other qualifications necessary for Post Office employment) after the 1st January 1937."

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Corps Boxing Notices.

Result.—Royal Signals, Aldershot Command v. The London Fire Brigade, at the Command Boxing Centre, 3rd December 1935. R.Signals A.C. 21 points ; London Fire Brigade, 15 points.

Fixtures.—

Royal Signals, Aldershot Command v. London Fire Brigade, Holborn Stadium, London, 14th January 1936, at 8 p.m.

Royal Signal Championships, Aldershot, Command Boxing Centre, 6th and 7th February 1936.

Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C. Aldershot, Command Boxing Centre, 14th February 1936.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Salisbury and District Branch.

Greetings.—To Headquarters, all Branches of the O.C.A. and serving members of the Royal Corps of Signals, the compliments of the season!

Dinner.—Eighty members and guests were present at the fourth annual dinner. Among the guests were Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., Brigadier R. A. Boger (Royal Engineers), Major G. R. Halliday, R.Signals, Lieutenant G. H. S. Balmain, the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A. (Assistant Chaplain-General, Southern Command) and Mr. W. Butler (General Secretary of the Association).

The attendance on this occasion was double that of last year, and should similar success attend us next year, larger premises will be required in which to hold our dinner.

The catering service was splendidly carried out by the proprietors of the Cafe Rendezvous (Mr. and Mrs. Mason) and their efficient staff. The table decorations included miniature telephone routes, P.O. 110's, and a ten-line cordless exchange, which enabled members to communicate from one end of the table to another ; also miniature motor cars of the R/T type, sending out Morse messages.

Major G. R. Halliday proposed "THE KING," and Lieut. G. H. S. Balmain proposed the toast of "HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, G.B.E."

Lieut.-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., proposed "Our Guests" and was greeted with applause. Extracts from his speech follow.

Fellow Comrades. It is a great pleasure for me to be with you all again and to see "Old Jimmy" (replica of the Signal badge) at the other end of the table. I myself—like many of you here to-night—am a "has been," but recalling the words of W. G. Grace the cricketer, it is better to have been a "has been" than a "never wasser." I feel like that. This Salisbury Branch of the Association is going strong. Last year, as you know, it was decided to increase the number of Provincial Branches, and those that have been inaugurated during the year are also going strong. They have been well received everywhere, and I am sure we all wish them the best of luck and hope they will prosper.

Recently (he added) the Corps has been distinguishing itself at the Army manœuvres, and had also recorded some exceedingly good work during the Quetta earthquake which had merited the Commander-in-Chief's strong commendation.

We have with us this evening, he said, several distinguished guests. One you all know is Brigadier Boger, Chief Engineer, Southern Command. He belongs to my old Corps, the Royal Engineers, and I am sure that Signals realise how much they owe to the Sappers, who have been both father and mother to a number of good Corps—by no means the least important of which is Royal Signals. Sir John expressed his pleasure at seeing the Assistant Chaplain-General, the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, and many other fellow guests at the dinner, and wished them all a pleasant evening.

Brigadier R. A. Boger responded on behalf of the guests. We in the Corps of Royal Engineers, he said, feel very closely akin in the relationship which exists between us and the Royal Corps of Signals. Referring to early official discussions which took place regarding the desirability of making Signals a separate arm of the Service, it was only recently that he had read a complete history of that Corps from its inception in 1920 and realised how necessary it had been for it to have a separate entity.

He was there that evening, however, not only as an R.E. representative officer but also as one of a number of other privileged guests. There were present, he said, two gentlemen from the Post Office, two members of the National Association, and also a representative of the R.A.S.C. Association. He also found himself responding for one of their own family in the person of the General Secretary of the Signals Association from London, and on behalf of the Church as represented by the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley. On their behalf, as well as his own, he thanked the Chairman and Branch members for their very kind hospitality and for the manner in which the visitors' health had been toasted.

Mr. Ison, as Chairman of the Salisbury Branch, rose to propose the toast of "The Signals Association." "Guests, comrades and old sweats," he commenced. "If you will listen to me for a few hours, I will not detain you many minutes. Sixteen of the umpteen sheets of foolscap on which I had prepared my notes for this occasion have been accidentally mislaid, and I find I have only three and a bit left (loud and prolonged applause).

"To relieve the tension," he continued, "suppose we commence with a few anecdotes. Most of us have, at some time or another, had experiences (cheers)—funny experiences (loud cheers)—and it might create a diversion if I relate several incidents which happened to me during the early days of the war." Mr. Ison then proceeded to entertain the assembly accordingly.

Continuing with the subject of his toast, it was (he said) incumbent upon him, as Chairman, to distribute bouquets to all those who had been most helpful to the Association generally, and the Salisbury Branch in particular, during the year ; a task which was often embarrassing to him, as he was scared stiff for fear he should inadvertently omit someone. He assured his listeners, however, that he thoroughly appreciated all that had been done in that area since their last annual dinner, and added that it pleased him immensely to see such a record number in attendance. Referring to employments, he said that fifty-four vacancies had been filled by the Branch since last January, and twenty-nine of that number had been "placed" during the last quarter. He spoke with great appreciation of those who had given so much time and thought in catering for their entertainment that evening, and made special mention of Mr. and Mrs. Mason, and also Mr. Cross, for their valuable assistance in preparing the dinner and dressing the tables. No tribute, he added, was too great for his Committee, who had achieved such splendid results, and he thanked them one and all for their whole-hearted support and co-operation.

It was, he said, a matter of deep regret to them all that Colonel Bradley had been prevented from attending their annual dinner through illness. He knew that he was voicing the sentiments of all his listeners in expressing the hope that Colonel Bradley would make a speedy recovery, and intimated his intention of writing to convey their best wishes at the close of the evening's festivities.

Mr. Ison then gave the toast of "The Signals Association," which was accompanied by the Royal Signals "March Past" played on Mr. Read's radiogram.

Responding to the toast, Mr. W. Butler, the General Secretary, gave a resume of the work and progress of the Association during the year. With the employment question uppermost in the minds of most of us, he said, it would interest his listeners to know that 370 members had been accommodated with suitable employment since January, and there was every possibility that the 500 mark would be passed before the end of the year. So much success had been achieved in recent months that it was becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable candidates for vacancies offered. Several firms, he added, had even invited him to forward particulars of any good men as and when they registered.

He congratulated the Branch on the marked progress made during the year, and intimated that every effort was being made

to increase Branch representation throughout the country. Those Branches which had been inaugurated during the year were all on a fair way to becoming well established, and the Southern Command Branch members were to be commended on the part they had played in sponsoring the movement throughout the Southern Command area.

Mr. Butler spoke with appreciation of the valuable help and co-operation which had always been extended by the National Association, both by the London Head Office officials of that organisation and also by their Provincial Branch representatives. On no single occasion, he added, had he appealed to them in vain when difficulties had arisen, and he conveyed his thanks to Captain Phillips (the Salisbury Branch N.A. representative) for his much valued assistance in that area.

Referring to Benevolent Fund activities, Mr. Butler stated that approximately £435 had been disbursed to necessitous applicants in small grants and loans during the year—a statement, he added, which spoke volumes for the good work done by an Association which was still in its infancy.

In conclusion, he conveyed a message of greeting to all Salisbury Branch members from Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, Colonel-Commandant of the Corps, who had been prevented from attending the dinner at the last moment.

Mr. E. Hand then proposed the toast of " Absent Friends."

During the amusement hour, Mr. Ison called upon "the Padre" to speak.

The Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A. (Assistant Chaplain-General, Southern Command) thanked the Association and its members for inviting him to their annual dinner. Referring to the Royal Signals as a Corps, he said that although they undoubtedly owed their origin to the Sappers, they also owed something to the Royal Army Chaplains' Department. It was on record, he added, that Chaplain-General Blake was also one of the pioneers of Army signalling, and for that reason it gave him added pleasure to be among them. Having been attached to the Corps at Aldershot for five years, he had formed a very high opinion of its personnel and had much for which to thank them in their contributions to the Church. He thought it necessary, perhaps, to remind his listeners that he hailed from Ireland, and he proceeded forthwith to entertain them with some anecdotes in " true local colour." He concluded by remarking that the Signals Association, like the old gentleman in a well known poster advertisement, was *" still going strong,"* and expressed the hope that it would continue to flourish to the good and lasting benefit of the Corps as a whole.

The assembly finally broke up at 11 p.m. with mutual good wishes for their next gathering.

Exeter Branch.

Inaugural Dinner.—To have got together a gathering of ninety was a good bit of work, and the Queen's Hotel, Exeter, looked gay on the evening of Saturday 23rd November last—thanks to the excellent assistance given by the little band of experienced " decorators " who got busy during the afternoon. The blue and white colour scheme was effective, and together with the large illuminated Corps crest and the bronze statue of " Jimmy " the dining room had just the right setting.

The real Signal spirit prevailed throughout the evening, and everyone said it was a jolly good show. The gathering in the ante-room before the dinner was an extremely happy one, when fellows were meeting old friends after anything up to a fifteen years gap, and tales of Ypres, Salonika, Constantinople, the Black Sea, etc., were soon circulating. What a piece of work is war! To one who had something to do with the Wessex Signals before, during and after the war, it was an experience almost impossible to describe. One saw faces which brought back all sorts of memories and, well—'twas just a wonderful evening.

The meal was a most satisfactory one and well served, the speeches not too long and soon over, the community singing of old choruses a real bit of rousing delight, and the final half an hour of " hobnobbing " rounded it all off splendidly.

The chairman (Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.) was a proud and a happy man, and although there was such a vast assembly in such a comparatively small space, he had no difficulty in keeping control. He gave the toast of " Absent Friends," and Colonel J. A. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D. (of the Birmingham Branch) in proposing " The Royal Signals Association " paid a tribute to the work the Association was doing and what it stood for. Mr. W. Butler (General Secretary) whose presence was particularly welcome, in response, said he was very pleased to be among such a fine gathering, and his clear account of the Association's activities, particularly in the Benevolent and Employment branches, was listened to with great interest.

Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D. (Hon. Secretary, Exeter Branch) in giving the toast of " The Visitors " welcomed representatives from the 3rd Divl Signals and the Salisbury and District Branch. He referred to the splendid hospitality which the 3rd Divl Signals extended to the members of the Exeter Branch on the occasion of the O.C.A. Reunion at Bulford last July—adding that the 3rd Divl Signals had, right from the time when the Wessex Signals came into existence in 1908, helped them in many ways.

During the evening a particularly interesting letter which Major Western had that day received from an old " Wessex signaller " —Charlie Rew, of Craigmyle, Alta, Canada—was read. Charlie was well known to many present, and his references to the old Company and old pals were delightful to hear. He served with the 27th (Wessex) and the 58th (Wessex) Divl Signals during the war and was wounded at Potyze in April 1915. He came along again after and was C.S.M. until he " packed his kit " for Canada about ten years ago. Farming out there has not been too prosperous, but he and his family have never lost heart, and his letters have always ended with a cheery note such as " Tell my old pals I am keeping my line ' through,' " etc. He would have been very " bucked " had he been able to listen in whilst his letter was being read.

Another great feature of the evening's fun was the rendering of that old time favourite "He shall die," which ex-C.Q.M.S. Charlie Smith sang as he had not done since that memorable 1915 Christmas in Marseilles when about two hundred and fifty of the 27th (Wessex) Signals joined in the chorus and startled all the natives round about.

We were sorry not to have Colonel Bradley (our President) with us, but we greatly appreciated his kind thought in sending us a telegram.

It is not possible to give an account of everyone who came, but it was pleasing to greet Major E. Heron Varwell, D.S.O. He is regarded as the founder of the Wessex Signals, since in 1908 he got together the Wessex Divl Telegraph Company R.E. (T.F.) We were also glad to see amongst the party the O.C. (Captain L. E. O. Evans) of the present Exeter Company together with officers, n.c.o.s and men at present serving with him. George Cousins, too, the oldest representative of the Wessex Signals, was also there, looking as young as ever. He had a great ovation. People came from all parts—Southampton, Taunton, Dorchester, Cornwall, and from many places in Devon, far and near—which is an indication of the fine spirit which Signals seem to impart to men of good will.

The foregoing gives just a crude idea of the way in which the event was looked upon by one of the " very old crowd."

The Branch flourishes and will, I hope, go on from success to success.

OLD TIMER.

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	Labourer
2	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Porter
3	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Poll Clerk
5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Poll Clerk
6	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
7	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Postman
8	Ex-W.O. Salisbury	Factory Supervisor
9	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
12	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	P.O. Lineman
13	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	P.O. Lineman
14	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Factory Worker
15	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
16	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
17	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Semi-skilled Wireman
18	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Semi-skilled Wireman

19 Ex-Signalman, Brighton.....Semi-skilled Wireman
20 Ex-Signalman, London .....Labourer
21 Ex-Signalman, London .....Labourer
22 Ex-Signalman, London .....Labourer
23 Ex-Signalman, London .....Clerk
24 Ex-Signalman, London .....Lorry Driver
25 Ex-Signalman, London .....Semi-skilled Wireman
26 Ex-Signalman, Nottingham .....Labourer
27 Ex-Signalman, Hull .....Clerk
28 Ex-Signalman, Aldershot.....P.O. Lineman
29 Ex-Signalman, Glasgow .....Stoker
30 Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury .....Labourer
31 Ex-Signalman, Bristol .....Postman
32 Ex-Signalman, London .....P.O. Engineering Dept.
33 Ex-Signalman, London .....Prison Warder
34 Ex-Signalman, London .....P.O. Engineering Dept.
35 Ex-Signalman, Chatham.....P.O. Engineering Dept.
36 Ex-Signalman, Chatham .....Postman
37 Ex-N.C.O. London .....Postman
38 Ex-Signalman, Dundee .....Motor Driver
39 Ex-Signalman, London .....Postman
40 Ex-Signalman, Preston .....Clerk

[*Per the Salisbury Branch*]

41 Ex-Signalman, Salisbury .....P.O. Lineman

[*Per the Aldershot Branch*]

42 Ex-N.C.O. Aldershot.....Mess Steward

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTION from:—
2/Lieutenant E. W. Townsend, R.Signals

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
Royal Tournament Profits Fund
D Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals
Peshawar District Signals
Sergeant Murphy J. K., R.Signals
Scottish Command Signal Company

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—
Captain F. H. Bury, R.Signals

APPEALS dealt with:—

				£	s	d
1	Ex-Sigmn Lancs.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Stoke.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	1	0
3	Ex-N.C.O. Surrey.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0
4	Ex-Sigmn Essex.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0
5	Ex-Driver Durham.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1	5	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Liverpool.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Wrexham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	5	0	0
			Loan	2	0	0
9	Ex-Sigmn Birmingham.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2	10	0
10	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
11	Ex-Sigmn Dublin.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
12	N.C.O. Herts.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	5	0	0
13	Ex-Driver Newcastle.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	10	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
18th November 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the January 1936 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.

23 Forin Street, Belleville, Ontario, Canada,
4th December, 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I enclose three dollars (Canadian) to renew my subscription to THE WIRE for 1936. The small balance you will please apply to the Benevolent Fund.

May I congratulate you on the ever-increasing excellence of our Corps Journal, and also add my appreciation of your indefatigable labours on behalf of the Signals Association.

I take this opportunity to wish you the compliments of the season and success in the New Year. If my letter reaches you in time I would like, through the medium of THE WIRE, to wish all past and present members of the Corps, and particularly my former friends and colleagues of the Rhine Signals, every success in the coming year.

Yours very truly, A. C. LENNOX.

B Corps Signals, Karachi, 18th November 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Sir.—With reference to my previous letter, in which I sought information regarding A.T. valves, I desire to express my gratitude both to you and the R.E. Board for the trouble taken in supplying me with the required data.

I am, yours sincerely, ENQUIRER.

City of London Signals,
Signal House, 20 Atkins Road, S.W.12,
9th December 1935.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I have had a letter from Gordon Kennard, M.C., T.D., who served during the war with the 56th Divisional Signal Company R.E. (T.F.) He reports that, after six spinal operations, he has now recovered from his wounds and is anxious to hear of any old friends. His address is "The Victoria," Davos, Switzerland; and he promises that if any members of the Corps visit that centre, he will put them in the way of joining Ski Clubs and advise them as to the best hotels, etc.

Yours faithfully, H. R. FIRTH, Captain, R.Signals.

[*Extract from a letter written by ex-R.S.M. Pease B., R.Signals, now with the Great Western Brazil Railways*]

17th November 1935.

The job is very interesting. We have roughly 2000 kms. of single track with 180 stations. My job is telegraphs, telephones, electric lights and a few motors (*i.e.* workshops, printing machines, pumps, etc.). I have a mechanic's shop and staff, eight inspectors, also about sixty-five linemen and two to four gangs. The telegraphists come under another department, as also do the train control staff. During the past five years I have been putting in a telephone control system (chiefly 150 and 100 lb. copper wire) and have lately had a lot of neophones from Siemens and the G.P.O., so matters are improving.

My largest route has fifty wires; my smallest, two. I have 98% old rails for posts, as the ants destroy wood; also quite a lot of tubular posts, but as these are cast iron I prefer the rails.

We suffer a lot of trouble with spiders, which spin their webs between the wires, and at certain times of the day this causes bad overhearing.

Ants frequently destroy the woodwork of telephones, and one is constantly in receipt of S.O.S.s from inspectors owing to magnetos not functioning because ants and other insects have built nests in them. Then, too, an insect something like a large wasp builds its nest between the arms and the post, causing frequent earths. As these fellows sting, and sometimes cause death, the linemen are not so keen to clear the faults. An oily rag on a pole is perhaps the most effective method of dealing with this pest.

There is a good deal of travelling to do, and I have a coach with bedroom, workshop, shower, lavatory and kitchen, and also a rail car at my disposal.

I thoroughly enjoy life in Brazil, and so does my wife. The climate is o.k.: hot as blazes all the year round, four months rain and eight months dry. Sea bathing is available all the year round.

So far as telegraphs are concerned, I have only Morse inkers, S. and D.C. sets, and a couple of duplex. We may have telewriters later if traffic warrants.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Captain A. J. G. McNair from Catterick to 42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals
Captain R. Sutton-Pratt from School of Signals to S.T.C.
Captain E. H. C. Harris from Portsmouth to Tidworth (Tank Brigade Signals)
Captain C. T. Hughes from Tidworth to Salisbury
Captain C. A. H. Chadwick from Catterick to Staff College, Camberley
Captain J. Wynn from India to S.T.C. Catterick
Captain T. C. Thompson from Canterbury to Canada
Captain C. Childs from Bulford to India
Lieut. H. V. Ewbank from Aldershot to School of Signals
Lieut. W. B. Rowett from India to Bulford
Lieut. L. de M. Thuillier from Bulford to Canterbury
Lieut. G. H. S. Balmain from Salisbury to Tidworth (F Troop)
Lieut. W. R. Smijth-Windham from India to Mount Everest Expedition
Lieut. C. G. Moore from Tidworth to Staff College, Camberley
Lieut. N. I. Bower from India to Scarborough
Lieut. H. Winterbotham from Catterick to Egypt
Lieut. G. Thomson from Aldershot to China
Lieut. L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson from Catterick to Malaya
2/Lieut. F. P. Johnson from Bulford to India
2/Lieut. D. E. L. Gardiner from Canterbury to India

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 19/11/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. E. P. Stanton to be Lieutenant 4/10/35

[War Office 22/11/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. F. H. Pellew, from A.D.C. to Governor of Uganda, to be A.D.C. to Governor and C.-in-C. Nigeria, 17/10/35
Captain W. H. G. Rogers is seconded for service on the Staff in India 16/10/35
Lieut. E. V. McCormack to be Captain 30/8/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

A. H. Woodland (late Lieutenant, Royal Signals, T.A.) to be Lieutenant 23/11/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals—E. S. D. Morgan to be 2/Lieutenant 23/11/35
42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lt. J. L. Harrison to be Lieutenant 16/11/35
48th (S.M.) Divl Signals—Lieut. E. N. R. Soutter to be Captain 4/8/35
49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—Lieut. A. H. Woodland resigns his commission on appointment to Supplementary Reserve of Officers 23/11/35

[War Office 26/11/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain E. L. Farnall is restored to the establishment 17/9/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. W. T. Palmer to be Lieutenant 22/10/35
2/Lieut. W. D. Kirkham resigns his commission 30/11/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel G. J. Underwood to be Brevet-Colonel 14/11/35
Air Defence Formations Signals—2/Lieut. H. Scarborough to be Lieutenant 26/11/35
43rd (W.) Divl Signals—Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant 14/11/35
Captain C. W. Knight, R.Signals, to be Adjutant 14/11/35
54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—Captain J. L. Lilley to be Major 11/10/35
Lieut. T. M. Wilks to be Captain 11/10/35

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56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Major A. V. D. Hort, from T.A. Reserve, to be Captain 1/11/35, with seniority 22/3/35, and relinquishes the rank of Major

[War Office 3/12/35]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

49th (W.R.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. A. B. Boyle to be Lieutenant 19/11/35

[War Office 6/12/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. I. St. Q. Severin is placed on the half-pay list on account of ill health 18/11/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. S. J. Dougal resigns his commission 7/12/35
C. Ferguson to be 2/Lieutenant 7/12/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—Lieutenant W. J. Smith resigns his commission 31/10/35

[War Office 10/12/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major B. G. Rowley is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Commandant, Army Signal School, India, 18/11/35
2/Lieut. E. W. Townsend is granted seniority 1/2/34 next below 2/Lieutenant G. Walton

[War Office 13/12/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young is seconded for service under the Colonial Office 27/11/35

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

It is regretted that pressure on space necessitates the holding over of this information until the next issue.—EDITOR.

"Sigs Mohforce."

The author's intention in writing this article is to present to readers of THE WIRE an unvarnished and (it is hoped) accurate account of the work of Signals in the operations carried out in the Gandab-Mohmand territory between the 22nd August and the 4th November 1935.

Peshawar District Signals were well fitted in many ways to carry out their task. No organisation is perfect, but that of this unit proved adequate. Luckily, a lot of preliminary work had been done in preparation for the Northern Command manœvures which were to take place in November. These preparations were invaluable. The system of communications had been decided on, personnel detailed, and signal offices organised. Owing to the fact that many officers and men were on leave or courses, a mere skeleton of the unit marched out at first, but this only meant longer hours for those who were present and did not prevent the machine from working.

My readers do not need reminding that however good the organisation of a unit may be, and however carefully preparations may have been made, the factor that decides whether traffic passes smoothly, and whether the Staff can speak to each other, is the human one. The reputation of a Signal unit when on service or manœuvres is in the hands of its operators and signal clerks. Here again Peshawar District Signals were in an enviable position. The unit maintains a signal office year in and year out, which is always dealing with "live" traffic, and so there is never any dearth of first class signal clerks and exchange operators. Added to this, the frequent alarms and excursions of Brigade Columns had given the Infantry Brigade Sections and the "C" set detachments that accompanied them great opportunities to improve their technical abilities. The personnel of these Sections, and particularly of the wireless detachments, had reached a high standard of operating efficiency. It was a comforting feeling to know that, if the atmospheric conditions were not impossible, accurate and fast traffic would pass between wireless stations.

At the end of July and the beginning of August, troops from Peshawar were sent out in M.T. to Pir Kala to give support to the Frontier Constabulary, who were guarding M.E.S. road maintenance parties on the Gandab road. At first this was more or less a daily excursion, but after a week or so the trouble—which originated amongst the Isa Khels and Burhan Khels as the result of discontent over the allotment of labour for the road—appeared to die down. But soon it was learnt that the Haji of Turangzai and the Badshah Guls one, two and three, who are the root of all trouble amongst the Mohmands, had raised lashkars and that the Gandab road, built during the 1933 operations, had been damaged. Thereupon it was decided to send an expedition into Mohmand country to repair the road and punish the offenders.

Mohforce came into existence on the 22nd August and consisted, to begin with, of the Peshawar and Nowshera Infantry Brigades, supported by the 22nd Mountain Brigade R.A., the 4th Field Brigade R.A. and the 15th Medium Battery of 6-inch howitzers.

To supply the communications to this Force, Peshawar District Signals marched out with three mobile "C" sets (one in a lorry and two on pack mule transport), one draught cable detachment, two pack cable detachments, one signal office detachment, and two D.R.s. In addition, the signal office in Peshawar and the normal wireless commitments were maintained.

During the night of the 22nd/23rd August orders were received to improvise a Signal detachment for H.Q. 4th Field Brigade. This—consisting of two visual terminals, some cable on hand drums, an exchange and some telephones—was loaded into a lorry in Nowshera and reported for duty at Shabkadar by 5.30 next morning, when the advance began.

The operations of the 23rd August, which culminated after heavy fighting in the occupation of Dand, present no matter of particular interest so far as Signals were concerned. Force H.Q. halted at Kilagai, some four miles short of Dand, and there "Sigs Mohforce" erected their first office. The signal office detachment consisted of about half a dozen B.O.R.s, and we began to realise some of the personnel and equipment we had forgotten to bring out with us. There were no I.M.T.s, no draftsmen, no British linemen, and only an exiguous Unit H.Q. staff. The system of communications relied on was S.C. sets with relays superimposed on the through telephone pair. Perhaps some of my readers have had experience of S.C. relays when they have been well shaken up in transport. The average time required to adjust this fickle apparatus was about one and a half hours. Nevertheless, on one wireless group and one telegraph circuit 243 messages were passed during the twenty-four hours of the 24th August.

On the next day the Force reached Ghalanai—an advance of about twelve miles--practically without opposition. The congestion on the one road was very serious, and the Signal cable laying detachments and wireless and office lorries were definitely very unpopular. But the Force commander was in the forefront of this battle, and we were determined to keep up with him. Actually the draught cable detachment (still faithfully reeling out its twentieth mile of twin D.8) and the office detachment arrived in Ghalanai in front of the leading infantry.

The next week was spent in poling the three conductors from Pir Kala to Ghalanai, and a very good job of it the Indian Cable Sections made. These eight or ten days became known as the great line maintenance period.



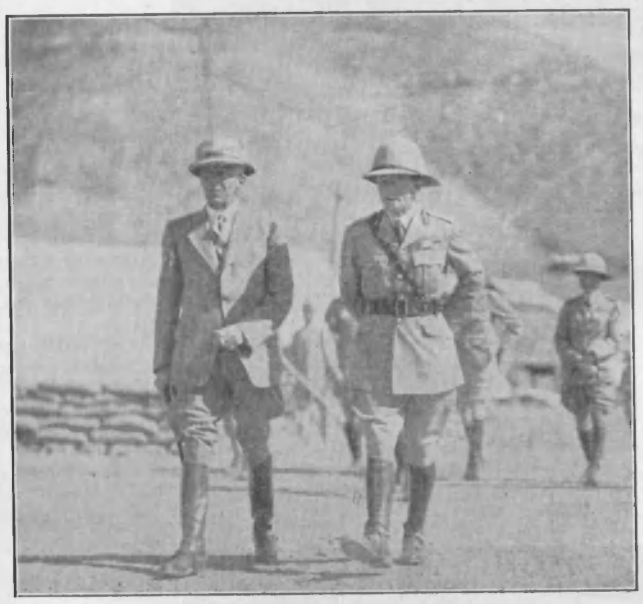
The Peace Jirga at Wucha Jawar.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]



Road Making.



Pipes and "Drums of Asia."



H.E. the Governor N.W.F.P. and the G.O.C. Peshawar District arriving for the Peace Jirga at Wucha Jawar.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]



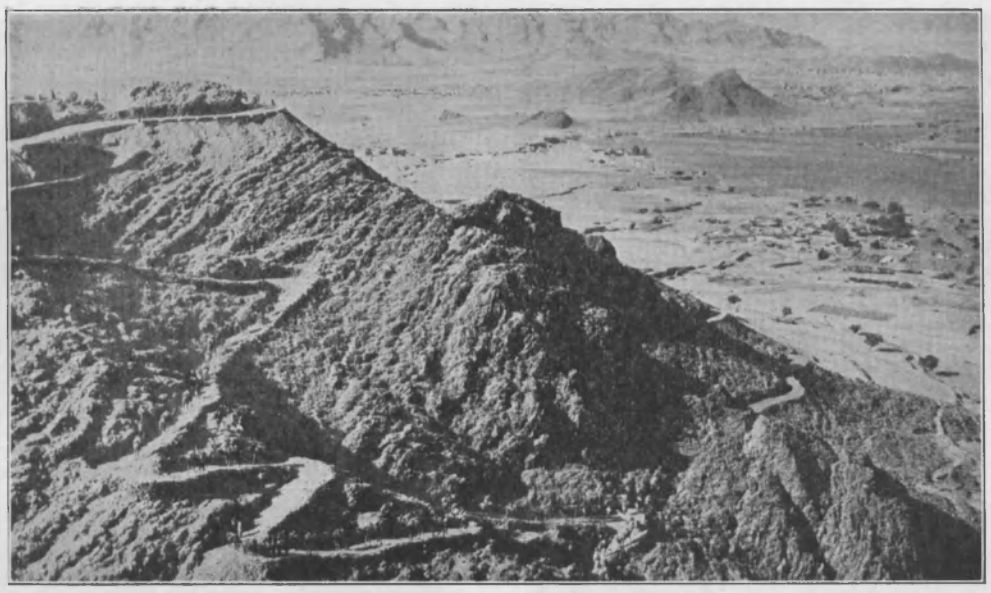
The 2/H.L.I. Memorial at the top of Nahakki Pass.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]



Indian Ranks keeping their end up.



"Through."



Going up Nahakki Pass.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]

Naturally, while the cable was on the ground it was very vulnerable. The linemen had their hands full. Bitter experience has taught the writer never to believe a line is through until a galvo test has shown a " loop." Perfectly good speech can be heard over a long line with a break of ten yards in one leg.

During the next three weeks an operation of some sort or another was practically a daily occurrence. The Force commander, Brigadier Auchinleck, gave the tribesmen no respite. One or both Infantry Brigades, supported by all the Artillery, would move out before dawn and secure commanding positions from which observation could be obtained and artillery fire brought to bear on enemy concentrations. The withdrawal was the ticklish part of these operations, as the enemy followed this up closely—on one occasion to within rifle range of Ghalanai Camp. It was during one of these actions that Sigmn Smith earned his M.M. while operating a No. 1 set with the 1/4th Bombay Grenadiers.

Night sniping was moderately heavy—especially at Katsai, five miles ahead of Ghalanai, which was occupied by Nowshera Brigade. Signals had a few animals killed and wounded but, luckily, sustained no other casualties. " Digger," the Australian officer attached to the unit, had two bullets through his tent one night, and a wounded headquarter clerk spent the next night on his bed, so he had no cause to deplore any lack of incident.

In the meantime Mohforce was waiting anxiously for orders for a further advance over the Nahakki Kandao (Pass) into the Kamalai Plain. This had been regarded as the " promised land " of the 1933 operations, but the Government of India had decided otherwise. Soon the decision was made, and the 2nd and 3rd Infantry Brigades were ordered to join Mohforce.

The C.S.O. Northern Command early realised that Mohforce Signals would require help in the event of a further advance and had made plans accordingly. On the arrival of the two Infantry



Coming down Nahakki Pass.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]



Just a Spot of Exercise.



A Chota Siesta.



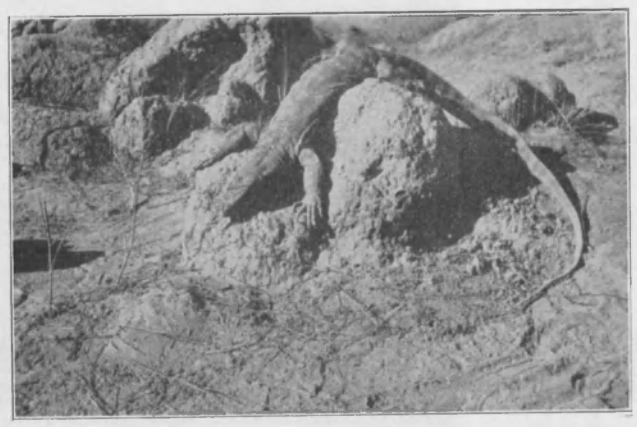
Not exactly an Advertisement for Austin Reed.
[*Photo by Mela Ram and Sons, Peshawar*]



Sigmn Smith being presented with the Military Medal by the Army Commander.



Just another Spot of Exercise.



Only an Iguana on the Prowl.

Brigades, A Corps Signals moved from Rawalpindi to Peshawar and assumed responsibility for all communications in rear of Force Headquarters. Their Construction Section built a five-wire route from Pir Kala to Ghalanai to replace the poled cable. This route reached Ghalanai on the 15th September, three days before the advance over the Nahakki Kandao.

As Mohforce grew and shook into shape, the Artillery communications assumed greater importance. The 4th Field Brigade detachment was strengthened in personnel, material and transport, and the 22nd Mountain Brigade—for whom no Royal Signal Section was available—formed a Section for themselves from personnel withdrawn from Battery signallers and equipment supplied by Peshawar District Signals. But there were still no means by which the C.R.A. could communicate with the three Artillery formations under him. To meet this need, Lieut. Van der Goot was instructed to form a Royal Artillery H.Q. Section. Roughly, this corresponded to the horsed Field Brigade Section. Men, animals and stores were collected from Peshawar and Nowshera in less than a week, and the Section was ready to work on the 14th September. As far as possible the men were chosen from those with experience of Artillery work, their places in the Sections from which they were withdrawn being filled by men who became available as A Corps Signals took over the rearward communications. This Section quickly settled down and, assuming an individuality of its own, did excellent work in the subsequent operations.

All was now ready for the advance over the Nahakki on the 18th September. Briefly, the plan was as follows. The 3rd Infantry Brigade was to guard the Tora Tigga Valley and the left flank. Nowshera Brigade was to advance from Katsai to Wucha Jawar, at the western foot of the Pass, and secure the hills on the north-west of the Kandao. The role of Peshawar Brigade was to capture the Kandao itself via Kazana Sar, which overlooks it from the south-east, and then, passing over the Kandao, to get into a perimeter camp on the plain beyond. Contrary to expectations, the enemy made no resistance. Nowshera Brigade and the 3rd Infantry Brigade had secured their objectives by dawn, and Peshawar Brigade began to move over the Nahakki by 07.00 hrs.

The open wire route reached Katsai on the 17th, and A Corps Signals Cable Section continued the route with two cable pairs to Wucha Jawar, moving behind Nowshera Brigade. A pair was also laid from Katsai to the 3rd Infantry Brigade at the mouth of the Tora Tigga Valley.

Force H.Q. moved to Wucha Jawar and went into camp with Nowshera Brigade. A small advanced office, together with a "C" set detachment, moved over the Nahakki with the Force commander. The advance was much quicker than had been anticipated, owing to the absence of enemy resistance, but despite this the Pack Cable Section laid a pair to the top of the Pass, and the forward office and wireless detachment were in position within half an hour after the Staff arrived there at 06.30.

The following day the forward office returned to Wucha Jawar, and the next week was spent in erecting camp lines and settling into our new quarters. The value of the open wire route now became really apparent. Speech over the cable route had always been indifferent, and the stealing of poles and cable was a nightly occurrence. The open wire route overcame all this. Speech to Peshawar and beyond was excellent—in fact, it was only the difficulty of finding an open-handed sportsman willing to spend Rs.80 that prevented a call being put through to England. The route was not interfered with at all. The only stoppage was due to two wires being cut by bullets on a night of particularly heavy sniping.

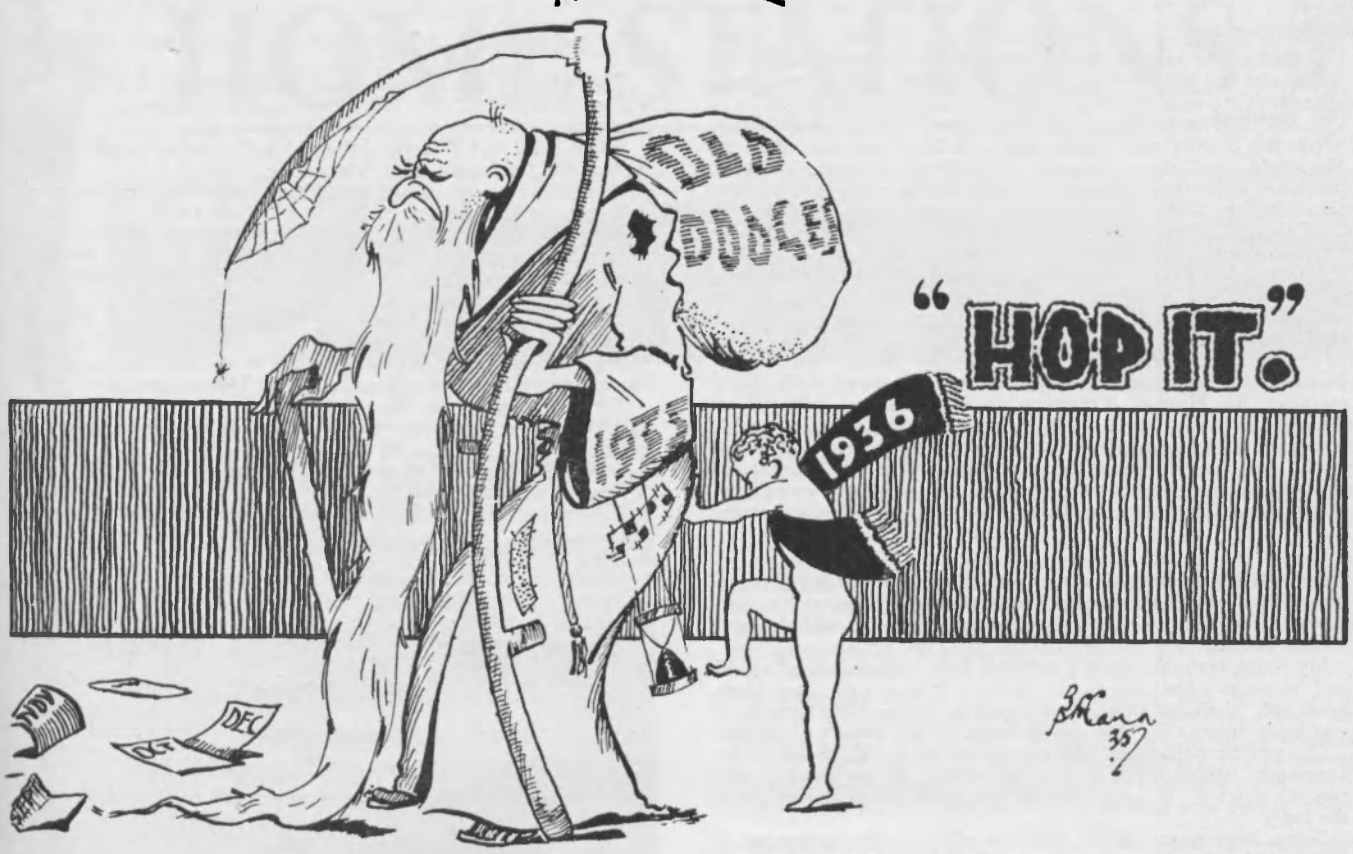
The sniping and enemy activity in the vicinity of Nahakki and Ghalanai demanded retaliatory action, and so, on the 28th Sept., orders were received for an operation to take place the next day to inflict as much damage as possible. The 3rd Infantry Brigade was again to guard the left flank. Nowshera Brigade was to secure the hills, including Point 4080, at the western end of the Wucha Jawar Valley, and Peshawar Brigade was to sweep up the Kamalai Plain and (it was hoped) drive the enemy under the fire of Nowshera Brigade. Force H.Q. for the operation was to be located with Nowshera Brigade H.Q. on a hill some 1500 ft. above the plain, from which a view could be obtained of both valleys.

The choice of this position put a very heavy strain on Signals. Mule transport was out of the question and all equipment had to be man-handled. Two No. 1 sets were borrowed from the 2nd Infantry Brigade which was guarding the L. of C., and these, together with an R.A.F. R/T set, were carried up somehow. In addition, a pair of D.8 had been laid from the camp office to the bottom of the hill, whence it was extended with D.2 to the top. The 3rd Infantry Brigade H.Q. was joined on to the main route at Katsai, and the Pack Cable Section laid a pair out behind Peshawar Brigade from the Nahakki exchange. Every precaution was taken for the maintenance of these lines, the Force H.Q. line having three linemen's posts on it, as it was realised that they might be —and in the event were—of supreme importance. The C.R.A.'s Section also had a line from the top of the hill to an R.A. exchange in the valley. This exchange was joined up to Battery positions and Wucha Jawar Camp.

The writer is not in a position to describe what took place on Point 4080. Owing to the precipitous nature of the country over which the Guides would have to move, it was decided to rely on V/T for communication from this Battalion to Nowshera Brigade H.Q. No doubt, the transport of a No. 1 set would have been very difficult, and at night perhaps impossible; but certainly a



View from Nahakki Camp.



line should have been laid. A Signal plan should not rely on one means of communication when others are available.

As it happened, Battalion H.Q. of the Guides was not visible from H.Q. Nowshera Brigade, and in addition the former was under such heavy rifle fire that visual signalling was impossible. The result was that Brigade was out of touch with this Battalion, and it was not until after 08.00 hrs. that the news was received —and then from another source--that the Guides had suffered heavy casualties and their withdrawal might present very serious difficulty. Soon after ten o'clock the bulk of Force H.Q., together with the wireless detachments, was withdrawn to a position in the valley. The Force commander and G.S.O.1 remained with Nowshera Brigade H.Q., and a small detachment of Signals stayed with them. Everything now depended on this line and the arrangements made for its safety. Luckily, it stayed through and the Staff could speak to all Brigades up till the moment of withdrawal. This entailed the sacrifice of some cable, but was well worth it.

After this action, no other operations took place. Two days later representatives of the tribe sued for peace, and though the unit remained in Wucha Jawar and Ghalanai for another month while the road was completed, only routine work went on.

The permanent line route was dismantled between the 19th and 27th October, and the poled cable again did duty. The withdrawal of Mohforce began on the 1st November and was completed by the 5th. All poles and cables were salved, and the last detachment of " Sigs Mohforce " arrived in Peshawar on the 4th November.

The operations, from a Signal point of view, were intensely interesting. It is seldom that a Signal unit has such a chance of testing its capabilities. Schemes, or even manœuvres, can never compare with active service. It is the unexpected which happens in war, and it is this factor which tests the organisation and training of a unit.

This short account has inevitably left out much that went to make up the daily life of members of Mohforce Signals. The heat, the dust and the flies can easily be visualised by those who have campaigned on the North-West Frontier during the hot weather. On the other hand, the Force was fortunate in having an excellent motor road back to Peshawar, so that it was always kept well equipped with canteen supplies and the small extras and comforts which make such a difference.

On the whole, we enjoyed ourselves and would have been very sorry to have missed the experience. Naturally enough, and in accordance with the traditions of the British Army, we grumbled at the discomforts, but as far as the writer's knowledge went, there was no single instance when any job of work was shirked, or when any individual did not cheerfully do his utmost to play his part as a cog in the machine and by his efforts help the smooth and efficient functioning of Mohforce Signals and the whole Force.

= = Plain Tales = =

Periodical Tour.—I often wonder why I write " Plain Tales." I am quite sure you are not a bit interested, and would just as soon see a nice fat technical article on this page. However, now that we have started, we may as well have a chat.

In accordance with our usual custom at the close of the year, we—that is, Little Morris and I--supplied ourselves with petrol and cigarettes and fared forth on the King's highway. It was a beautiful day and we became lost only four times. Before night fell we arrived in the city of Birmingham, having knocked up the creditable average of 15 m.p.h. which, of course, included stops at various establishments. We might have made a better run but for the attitude of a man at Stratford-upon-Avon who insisted that, with a little more care on our part, his luggage grid would never have been rammed by our front bumper.

The celebrated Watch Committee of Birmingham seem to have given themselves a holiday. The comedians at a variety show there got away with one or two fruity ones that made even us go red and were almost good enough for a Sergeants Mess.

Saw a film in which Bing Crosby was starred. Not a bit surprised to see several stalwart Englishmen straighten their old school ties and walk out in disgust. This film would cause great anguish to stalwart Scotsmen with or without old school ties.

A few days in Brighton and district reminded us of old times when the Signals slept under boats, walked eighteen miles to Maresfield, had their "drunk" certificates framed, collected policemen's helmets, and assisted the local tradespeople to educate their children. Mr. Ted Darlow is a painter and decorator at Uckfield. We don't want to hear any laughter over in the corner. He is probably quite a good painter and decorator.

Chatting idly to an old friend what time he industriously parted cods from their interiors, we learned that the Uckfield district contains a large number of ex-Signals, most of whom are engaged in the building trade.

Thence to Dover, losing ourselves only twice. Received a boisterous welcome from Tessa and was entrusted with many messages for Minnie. Returning to Uckfield, we adhered to routine and missed our turning. Somewhere near Battle at midnight, Little Morris decided to have a puncture. Fixing our torch (W.D.) so that we might have adequate light for the job of changing wheels, we kicked it—and the rest of the story can have no place in a Magazine that finds its way into respectable homes.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—Well, that's got rid of them—I mean those Terriers. Quite a decent lot of blokes—fellows, rather, and very interested in me when they discovered that I was the well known Minnie.

My young man calls quite a lot these days. His name is Oswald and he wears a black fur coat. At least, it must have been black years ago. I should think he is happy-go-not-so-lucky because, if you know how, a fur coat can be made to last almost a lifetime.

Did you hear that Jock had written to the B.B.C. to ask if the announcer would speak a wee bit louder, as his battery was running down ? Is it any wonder that these people always get to the top ?

Sigmn Rogers, our waiter, who also plays a red hot trumpet in Barleux's band, is going away to work for his living. He starts on the 16th December. This is a wallop for the band, but they all wish him the best of luck.

Anyone desirous of giving the band a leg up with trumpet or violin should drop us a line.

I thought we should have heard from Lord Hillingdon by now, but perhaps he hasn't a stamp. Freddy Seymour, as he is more often addressed, has left us at last, to our great regret, but with every good wish for the future. Even little George waved his tail.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

About People.—The well known steeplechase jockey Sergeant "Rough" MacIntosh is now a big noise in the stables and has already developed a cavalry roll. He is considering whether he shall grow a real horseman's moustache or not.

Mrs. Grimblefitt fell downstairs in her quarters last week through being in a hurry to see how much C.R.A. her husband had left. She broke her ankle. Serve her right. Moral: C.R.A. is the root of all evil. Let husbands keep it.

Our Indian correspondent cables the information that the S.T.C. (I.) are working hard these days. This must interfere seriously with their golf. Actions for libel will be dealt with in strict rotation.

L/Sergeant Jones (Paul), the celebrated Welsh racing motorist, has been tuning up his screamlined A.J.S. (post war, but only just) for an attempt on the endurance record to the North. He has discovered that six-inch nails will not replace steel studs in a clutch. He has gone by train.

Barleux, who avoids publicity so well, is terribly worried by the persistent rumours that he is married and would like it known that these rumours are grossly exaggerated. What offers ?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

The Plot Thickens.—Ukann Larfe sat at a small marble-topped table with his head in his hands and his eyes glued on the beautiful girl in front of him. He gradually became tired of holding his head, so, pulling his hands away quickly, he allowed his head to strike the table with a hollow thud. Collette and Ukann laughed very heartily at this and the strain was eased a little.

"Now, Monsieur Larfe, you will show me the plans you found, eh ?"

The detective rose to his feet and smacked her on the neck with a piece of celery. "You ask rather too much, Collette," he said, smiling.

"Oh, I do, do I ?" replied the girl with a merry laugh, hitting him on the forehead with a flower vase.

How long the negotiations would have continued in this manner, or where they would have ended, it is difficult to say. It is therefore comma very fortunate that just as Ukann was getting a grip on the champagne bottle, the cafe door was thrown open and Mrs. Hermione Larfe walked in, accompanied by a distinguished looking man wearing a monocle and a fur coat with the pockets full of turf.

"This is where you stop something, Ukann," said Collette, preparing to dive under the table. For once the beautiful spy was wrong, for Hermione appeared to be in a good humour. Her escort removed his monocle and regarded Ukann gravely.

"You remember me, Monsieur Larfe ?"

"Yes. Yes, of course. I have something for you. I'll go and get it."

Collette made a vain attempt to grab him as he fled.

Once outside the room the detective went pale, then red, then pale, then possibly red again, though it is more than likely that he remained pale. It is a matter into which I have not enquired deeply.

Jumping on his bicycle, without which he never rode a bicycle, he rang the bell furiously and rode upstairs to his room. Inspector Faceache rose to meet him.

Who was Hermione's boy friend? How did Faceache get there? What does Collette do ? What would *you* do ?

You're lucky. You haven't got to supply the answers.

BARLEUX.

Time-Expired Personalities.

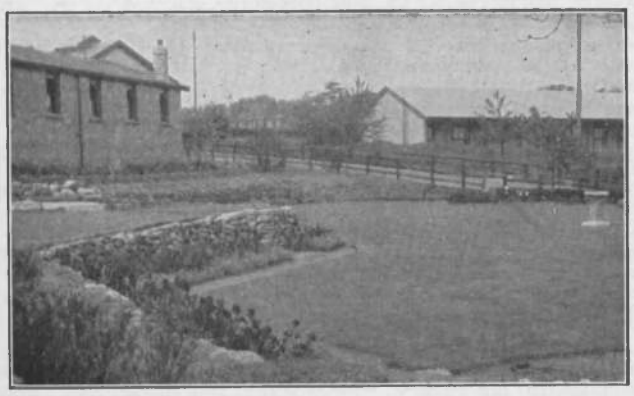


HOME STATIONS



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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



A View in the Lines.....*Depot Battalion*

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Our first item in this monthly news bulletin must be to send the season's greetings to all branches of our widely scattered Corps. A happy and prosperous New Year to all, accompanied with the wish that their Christmas has also been a pleasant festive occasion.

The diary and photographs of the Quetta catastrophe which appeared in the November and December issues of THE WIRE form a vividly interesting account of the good work accomplished by Signals during the chaos. Surely, in the near future additions will have to be made to the " Corps History," to show the young idea that there is often occasion, even during peace conditions, for soldierly qualifications combined with technical knowledge to play their part. The pictures of the ruined buildings give one some idea of the devastating effect of an earthquake. The huts here sometime shake before a " pass off," but we take off our hats to Quetta.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. H. R. V. Cooke, who has taken over the Battalion weapon training, and to Corpl Buckley from the 2nd Divl Signals. May their stay be long and happy.

Departures.—Lieut. L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson per H.T. *Neuralia* en route for Singapore. We were sorry that your stay was so brief, sir.

Corporal Cairns, our orderly room stalwart, per H.T. *Cameronia* to Sarafand. You will find it easy to keep warm now, Larry.

L/Sergeant Andrews A., our provost sergeant, has left us to take up an appointment in the Prison Service at Wakefield. He has commanded the respect of all ranks by the efficient manner in which he carried out his duties at the S.T.C., so we feel sure that he will make a success of his new venture. Our best wishes go with him.

L/Sergeant Morgan to the 2nd Divl Signals prior to departure for China. Sigmn Sherry, our hot foment and physic purveyor, to civil life. Sigmn Hindmarch A. to the 4th Divl Signals. Sigmn Moore C. to the 2nd Divl Signals. It is rumoured that the latter celebrated the occasion by getting married. Our salaams, bon voyage, and bon soir to all.

The Drill Course dispersed on the 14th December to return to their units, where they hope to demonstrate their powers of command by seeing that all grooming is carried out in very quick time. One of these n.c.o.s was heard to remark, " Perhaps all the armchairs in our mess will not be occupied by fellows with permanent passes."

Promotions.—Who said that promotion had ceased in the Corps ? We have proof that this old and admirable custom has not been entirely abandoned. Congratulations to Sergts Abraham S. T. J. and Quinn W. J. and L/Corpl Jenkins W., who join the legion of the paid with a fat portion of back pay ; and also to U/L/Corpls Payne J. and McGuigan on their step up the ladder.

Courses.—Our provost staff are well to the fore again and deserve commendation. Corpl Gay E. qualified as a fire fighter, bold and free. L/Corpl Lee A. passed as a regimental provost sergeant. Both courses were completed at Aldershot.

Billiards.—Cheers are due to L/Corporals Taylor and Jenkins on reaching the final of the billiard handicap. Taylor (scratch) won by 36 from Jenkins (minus 150) in a game of 400 up. In his voyage to the final, the latter compiled a break of 61. It is suggested that his opponent enjoyed the outing in collecting the balls from the pockets (that shook him).

Boxing.—Congratulations to members of the Depot boxing team on their good showing in the S.T.C. championships held in Nov.

Shooting.—Why must the Mounted Wing wait until they are competing against the Dismounted Wing before compiling a record score of 777 (an average of 97.125 per member) in the inter-Company small bore shooting ? The generous benefactors who usually help the other team by shooting on the wrong target failed to oblige. We'll turn out our best team next time (and include the Sergeants Mess caterer).

Social.—On Armistice Night the S.T.C. Corporals Messes held their annual carnival dance. It was voted a great success by all, the ball room swindle and the novelties parade being very popular. The catering was carried cut by the Somme Cafe, and judging by the way the n.c.o.s dashed about with the refreshment wagons, there is no truth as to " the wheel of the wagon being broken." The Signal dance band, as usual, supplied an enjoyable musical programme to make the dance a really happy occasion. We were quite sorry when midnight came and the function ceased.

Agony.—Congratulations to a certain n.c.o. on his rapid acquirement of wealth in a recruiting campaign. Was it conscience money ? Did he pass himself as a well fed recruit ? If so, no doubt his bank balance will grow with his tunic measurements.

Bateman in the Shade.—The Guardsman who dropped it hasn't got a look in. Who was the warrior who went one better and dropped them both ? Yes, both of them: whip *and* rifle. What a pity he had not a hand grenade. He could have lived his remorse down quicker. Still, perhaps that would be a tall order.

Agony (continued).—Who was the recruit who, on being asked if he was hurt when he fell down, replied to a very senior n.c.o.: " Yes, mate, not 'arf " ? We daren't publish any more.

Is it true that Laurel and Hardy, the lady killers of the Wing, after a mild splash at Richmond had to borrow fivepence from a poor little rookie to pay their bus fares back ? It is so degrading to men dressed in evening dress and new bowlers.

Dutch the First.—Was it for thirty-six caramels, thirty-six cameras, or thirty-six camels, that you exchanged the car? Dutch the Second, Canterbury.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—First of all, we wish all readers " the very best " for the New Year. Judging by remarks overheard, the message of greeting and the photo which Her Royal Highness, our Colonel-in-Chief, so graciously sent to the Corps will hold premier place among the greetings in many homes throughout the world.

At the time of writing, everyone is consulting Bradshaw's and pestering the paybloke with the usual queries regarding big pays for the Christmas leave.

Recruits.—To quote our Company sergeant-major, " Our best recruiting officer (Jack Frost) is hard at work again," and we are receiving our usual influx of recruits, barrack room accommodation being strained to the limit.

Flag Competition.—1st, No. 11 Squad, under L/Sergt Jones ; 2nd, No. 6 Squad, under Corpl Payne ; 3rd, No. 12 Squad, under Corpl Nicholls.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Wilson from the 4th Divl Signals.

Overseas.—Once again the office is being inundated with the drafts arriving from overseas en route for civvy street. R.S.M. Hughes, C.Q.M.S. Hore and thirty-nine other ranks arrived on 3/12/35 and were quickly despatched to their homes.

Foreman-of-Signals Course.—We also welcomed Corpl Harris and L/Corpls Spafford and Whalebelly, who proceeded on leave prior to their course at the School of Signals.

No. 5 Drill and Musketry Course.—The course is due to sit for examination prior to dispersal, and before this is in print the members will have departed to leave and their respective units. We hope they have enjoyed their stay in the Wing as much as we have their company. Unfortunately, we lost L/Corporal Glover, who had to return to A Corps Signals through sickness, missing part of the course.

Congratulations.—To No. 4 Squad, who departed for their various Trade Companies on 25/11/35. They competed twice for the cross-country shield and won all seven runs. They contributed six members to the Wing cross-country team which secured second place in both runs for the Mackworth trophy. Sigmn Armstrong won the first S.T.C. Mackworth run and was second in the second run. He also won every race in the Wing. Other trophies included the shooting shield and the flag awarded for the best barrack room. Sigmn Tolentino was the boxing member and won the inter-squad bantam weight competition. EL PEE.

F Company, Training Battalion.

15th December 1935.

General.—For the past few months our WIRE correspondents have been weird but hardly wonderful. Now we start in deadly earnest to make F Company notes interesting, seeing that we have someone who can write. Having finished my "trumpet practice," here is the latest news from the Boys Company.

Extensive preparations are being made for Christmas leave, which commences on the 19th December and end on the 4th January. The pay official is being overwhelmed with questions something like this: " 'Ow much am I drawing for leave, corp ?" and " Am I getting a ticket to . . . . . ," etc. It really is surprising that the hair of the pay bloke is not silver. Still, boys will be boys—not 'arf!

Congratulatory.—Hearty congratulations to all the boys who passed the examination for the first class certificate of education, to those who passed in various subjects, and to others who now have their seconds. We must not forget, either, to congratulate L/Corporal Cunningham, who has just pulled that rank—at least, without pay—which is just as good, although I won't crack that one about the baton. I believe this is the second time in your short military career, isn't it, Joe ? It must prove that you can't keep a good man down.

Departures.—Sigmn Guest R. E. has left us, after quite a long stay, to spend the winter and a few summers in Palestine. So now for that jew's course. We have also said good-bye to Sigmn



" Every picture tells a story." This one must tell its own, no descriptive title being provided for it.

Moore M., who has gone to Canterbury, and to Sigmn Ball J. R., who is now doing a spot of soldiering in Chatham. What a life!

Sports.—All details of our sporting activities will be found in the Sports Notes.

Finis.—And that is that ; and after that, next month will see us with another WIRE correspondent—I can feel it in my blood.

EFF.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

General.—A Corps Signals unite in wishing the rest of the Signals, all over the world, a bright and prosperous New Year.

The weather in Aldershot has been such as to make the usual Christmas exodus an event to be remembered for all time. Visions of a double " dodger," and shaving after having been " shaved " in Punky for years, bring thoughts of home and everything which that word stands for to the very front of a man's mind. Hence, Company officers have had a busy time in signing furlough forms and leave passes.

Many interesting events have been enacted since our last notes appeared in THE WIRE. For instance, a war has been fought and won—not in the mess, but on the roads and in the woods of Hampshire. The going was extremely heavy. However, good work was done by all ranks, bringing the usual kudos to the Corps. Secondly, the individual training brought several unknowns to the front in the hope of capturing that elusive " tanner." Whispers of results have come through, and from what I hear there are many fortunate ones.

Next, we must touch on another kind of training—miniature rifle. Instructors have been digging for new talent, and they certainly have found some. Last week, at least thirty found their way to the range voluntarily (?) for this very congenial pastime.

Drafts.—Many of our members have departed for foreign climes, and we hope they will thoroughly enjoy themselves in their new spheres. Space will not allow of all their names being mentioned, but our best wishes go with them. May a good journey and prosperous times lie ahead of them.

Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to U/L/Corpls Brightmore, Weech, Prescott, Mandell, Ball, Colten, Ingram, Evans, Eustace, Edmonson, Rixon, Vernon, Adam, Richardson, Gully, Vassila, Keeling and Harris on their appointment to the first step of the proverbial ladder. Also to L/Corporals Grigg, Ditchfield and Cunningham on being paid for the rank.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of ex-Corporal Wallace F. on Saturday 14th December 1935. He was a likeable, cheerful fellow, extremely well thought of by rank and file. Many of the Corps now in different parts of the world will, I know, join with us in sympathising with his relatives in their sad bereavement. A party of fifteen corporals from A Corps Signals attended the funeral.

The following letter from his mother was received by Lieut. N. G. Newell : —

" Zhob," Front Street, Slip End, near Luton, Beds.
" 14th December 1935.

" Dear Sir.—It is with a sense of deep loss and a sore heart that I am writing, on behalf of my son's wife, to tell you that he passed over to-day at 2.15 a.m. He put up a splendid fight but was worsted in the end, and now we have but memories of a loyal and lovable personality, a fine spirit that had never been crushed, and who will always be remembered with love and affection. Would it be asking too much of you to insert a reference to his early decease in THE WIRE, as it is impossible to write to the many who knew and respected him. For your generous action in safeguarding his interests in the disposal of his kit, we thank you.

" Yours sincerely, BETTY E. A. WALLACE.

" Lieutenant Newell, Aldershot."

We Want to Know.—Who forgot to rise in the morning—and why ? Who took the " m " out of pump ? What's Jimmie living in barracks for ?

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CELLARS STOCKED - Payment as Consumed

Marriages.—Corpl Bunce C. F. has been and gone and done it. Well, buck up, Bunny. Best wishes and all that. The Cads send their felicitations on the occasion of your nuptials and hope that your vicissitudes will be infinitesimal.

Agony.—To Elpee, Catterick: Have just found my pen. Am now saving up for a stamp. Tes.

Now, gentle reader, the moving pen—having written—now moves on. Au revoir!

J.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—Departures and arrivals are far too numerous to be given in detail. Those who have left us have had our good wishes conveyed to them verbally, and those who have joined us have them to come. Our congratulations to C.S.M. Hamlin, L/Sgt Lynch and Cpl Dobson on attaining their respective ranks.

Bouquets.—Congratulations to Major H. A. Spencer, M.C., the trainers and the members of the Mons Barracks team who put up such a good show in defeating a boxing team from the London Fire Brigade. We hope this is chronicled elsewhere, but send herewith Mr. L. H. Drake's contribution to the programme, in case of accidents (see next page).

Visitors.—Corpl Haswell C. W. (T.A.) avec camera paid us a visit the other day and has sent us some photographs which we think of general interest (see next page).

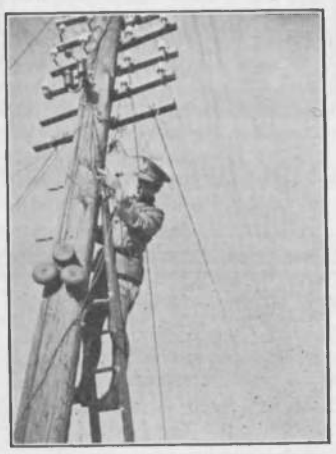
Old friends will notice that Nobby is becoming ambitious in his old age. There is another excellent photograph exemplifying the Odol smile, but I am too modest to send it.

Quarterblokish.—Sergeant Howler (not in the Blue Book), after a period of inactivity, has blossomed out again. " Did you see that bit in the paper this morning about the Abyssinian Dedsak Kassa ? What romantic names they give their quarterblokes!" Then, again, he created a mild disturbance in Fowler's Road



A London Fire Brigade Team will attempt to extinguish the Royal Signals here to-night.

Memories of Maresfield.



Signals at Work.



Visiting Rounds.

(Stores Alley) when he shouted " You so-and-so twister!" All the doors opened and interrogative heads poked out. " Sign here for six whatsits," said the dead-sack fellow, " and I'll give you three. I'm not going to have the troops telling lies about me!" He also affirms that a man, sent for a " Captain of the Week's form," eventually barged in with a form, soldier's, 6 ft., to the utter astonishment of the Captain of the Week.



Mechanisation Unlimited.

(A) Old No. 4 Stable, now converted into a Garage and Workshops.

(B) No. 3 Stable in process of reconstruction at the expense of our long-faced friends.

And Now.—Having written so many Sports Notes and used up a lot of valuable space here, I resignedly await the blue pencil.

JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The first individual training season is drawing to a close. Many have been observed with either studious or puzzled looks upon their countenances. Again, others are seen with the proverbial sweat on and burning the midnight oil in a last desperate effort to make up for wasted moments.

According to Headquarters, there is a nip in the air at check parade time, heralding the approach of Christmas. Half the Company have returned from furlough, and the remaining half are eagerly looking forward to the 22nd December.

Departures.—Among others, Signalman Passey to Hong Kong Signal Section. We hope that he will not be disappointed, and that some day he will be able to tell us the real truth about things. Then Gunner Gwillim has left us for No. 2 Company. We hear that he hoped to go further afield. To all who have departed for other shores since our last issue, we send our best wishes. Our good wishes also go with Signalmen Brett (to Reserve) and Dunn (discharged).

Arrivals.—We extend the hand of friendship to L/Corporal Hughes from Egypt Signals. A hearty welcome, also, to arrivals from Catterick.

Marriages.—Only one to date: that of Sigmn Moore at Hipswell, Yorks. But romance is still in the air, as indicated by the fact that L/Corpl White of our Headquarters has been registered on the waiting list for the M.Q.R. Remember, Blanco, " he who hesitates is lost."

HENPEST.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We are still suffering from that contagious disease known as grooming, exercising of horses, etc., but rumours continue to reach us to the effect that mechanisation is not so very far off. So cheer up, lads; there's a good time coming (we hope!)

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergt Searle of Mounted Wing fame, and also Signalmen Buckle and Wilson from the Training Battalion, and hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Signalmen Dickson and Lambert to Malaya Signal Section, Sigmn Russell to Egypt, and L/Corporal White to civvy street. Good luck to all of them!

Vocational Courses.—Signalmen Thorpe and Bramham have joined the " select " at the A.V.T.C.

Sports.—We congratulate No. 6 A.S.S. on their grand effort in reaching the semi-final of the inter-Section football competition, and wish them luck in their forthcoming battle with A Section of No. 1 Company. Hard luck, A!

Marriages.—Rumour has it that Father (Dad) Drake is contemplating the great ordeal of a life contract. Good old Pop!

Agony.—Taffy Eyres, late of F Section: Merry Christmas. B.G.T.

To 8001 from 8100: How did you manage to scrounge that one? Congratulations.

To P. Conway, 5th Div.: Sweat off, Pat, lad; will write as soon as possible. 389 and 394.

To anyone feeling run down: Try Northampton; you can't beat it. PAXY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Things generally are fairly quiet at present, and a good deal of our time is spent on sporting events. In the inter-Section football, L Section beat B by 4—3 goals; and as a result, it is strongly rumoured that the Villa are now after Busty as goalkeeper, in addition to our representative as a prospective manager. K Section hope to represent the Combined Services this year, having beaten E Section by 15—0 goals.

Furlough.—By the time these notes appear in print, most of the Company will be on furlough; and it is hoped that they will take a lesson from those who went on the first batch and had the misfortune to lose their wallets. Several " single " soldiers have already asked if railway concession vouchers can be sent to them for their prospective wives to travel with them, should they have to do so. The belt must be given to two representatives of L Section who insisted on attending the C.O.'s drill parade whilst on furlough. It is to be hoped that on return from furlough we do not see " Nostalgia E.D." entered on any sick reports.

Departures.—Corporal Walker and Signalmen Goldfinch and Holmes B. to Malaya. Sigmn Robson to Hong Kong. Sigmn Walton to civilian life. They will all be missed very much. In Corporal Walker we lose an enthusiastic soldier, sportsman and humorist, as his medal (which he will not wear owing to his reserved nature) will testify. Sigmn Goldfinch will be a loss to our boxing team and to our sports teams generally. We wish them all the best of luck in their new abodes.

Arrivals.—Corporal Oliver, L/Corpl Cant, and Signalmen Cox and Silvester from India. Sigmn Treadwell from the School of Signals. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

Courses.—Sergt Hay to A.V.T.C. Hounslow for a " position of trust " course. (Where is our cat?) L/Cpl Binge to A.V.T.C. Aldershot for a course in electric welding. (Well done!) L/Cpl Humby is at present in the Army P.T. School, where he hopes to qualify.

Bravery.—Congratulations to Sergt McKee J. on the award of the long awaited long service and good conduct medal.

The Passing of a Warrior.—Sweet as the breath of a fairy, he came to us—little Colin Walker; and as sweetly, he went. Like the most gentle of summer zephyrs he came, paused awhile to cause a slight ripple on the mill pond calm of 2nd Div., and then passed on to fresh fields and pastures new.

In response to urgent demands from Singapore for an Empire builder, Records (doubtless recalling how Walker won his medal in Shanghai) petitioned 2nd Div. for the release of the hero, promising to send in lieu two pack ponies and a power-buzzer amplifier, or a complete set of " London Cries " and a lighting set. So it came about that 2nd Div., placing Empire before self, allowed Corpl Walker to proceed to Singapore.

This Empire building hits some chaps hard. Little Colin had been home only some six years: a brief enough respite after three years fighting and bleeding on the football pitch at Shanghai. Yet, in spite of this, our hero rose nobly to the occasion. He left us dry-eyed but with a dark brown expression which spoke well for his courage.

His career in Aldershot was triumphal. He captured every trophy and medal open to n.c.o.s. Who is there who does not recall with pride how, against fearful odds, Micky captured the Witch's Broom at Thursley? His pot house reminiscences were unique. Hans Anderson was an " also ran." Grimm would never have won fame had Micky been his contemporary. Only the fact that little Colin could not write permitted the late Edgar Wallace to enjoy such a huge circulation. We realise now that the maiden who told the stories in " Arabian Nights " was, after all, very much over-rated.

A recital of a few of his purple patches in Catterick explain fully why he was sent to Aldershot. We will give anybody three chances to guess why we have passed him on. Yes, that's right: either we had to move the unit or else Micky. A case of pro bono publico. As the Petrol Pump King said, " If that boat is posted as missing, we shall know that Micky has cornered the captain and talked him off his course." Our deepest sympathy goes out to his fellow passengers. After all, we could always put in a pass and go to the next county but one, but in the confines of a 10,000 ton ship not even the look-out man will be safe.

But we miss him; oh, yes. Listen! L/Corpl Lavender is at last able to put in a complete day's work in the stores. Driver Lawton contemplates taking on for twenty-one years (having ascertained that there is no H.T. in Singapore). Sigmn Garner has got the stores just as *he* wants them. The football team can do their training in twice the time. The C.S.M. has lost one furrow from his brow. The married n.c.o.s no longer tremble at the sound of that voice. Tim Healey stands alone. "Courages" are heading towards bankruptcy, and Corpl Smith can make his pay last out.

We hope that Colin's big brother will keep an eye on our little treasure and see that he doesn't spend too much time with the dancing girls on the moonlit beaches. We can just see him with an hibiscus blossom behind his ear, strumming dreamily on his guitar, whilst native boys make ready the motor launch which is to carry him on his weekly tour of that chain of No. 1 sets situated on the surrounding islands. Go to it, Micky boy. Doubtless we shall hear more of you through the medium of THE WIRE. Cheerio, and all the best from No. 3 Company.

We Want to Know.—If the lighting attachments in Singapore are fool proof. Which n.c.o. took the unexpired portion of his day's rations to Aberdeen. What were the mysterious movements of a certain C.S.M. at 6.30 a.m. on the morning of the 23rd November, and why he issued kit at such an unearthly hour.

Heard on the Range.—Busty: " If I aim at three o'clock on the target, and you aim at four, what happens?" Bert: " Your bullet will hit the target an hour before mine."

L Section Lament.

There is a man here
Who's going in gear,
For marriage looms up in the distance:
At night, with a dash,
He sets out for Ash
And the girl who's leading him this dance.

He's a boxer, I'm told,
And he'll knock me cold
If he finds who the writer of this is:
But Christmas will show
His boxing's no go
When he has to call her " the missis."

At the end of the day,
He will wend his way
With the greatest of ease and with passion:
He's caught in her trap,
But the poor simple sap
Doesn't know that marrying's the fashion.

He says wedded bliss
Is the reason for this
Expense and time spent with his Nancy:
But I'm married, and so
I'm trying to show
That marriage is more than a fancy.

In a cottage for two,
His skies will be blue,
And her eyes are of the same colour:
But I notice, my friend,
Since you turned round the bend,
That your eyes are getting much duller.

Now I leave you to learn,
Though your living you earn,
The price of your freedom you cannot:
The ring that you buy
For the sweet marriage tie
Will be known as the forget-me-knot.

Conclusion.—Now we have occupied enough space in our popular Journal, so in closing we wish all past and present members good luck and the compliments of the season. Don't forget, in the toast to absent friends, that many ex-members of your units are still soldiering in the 2nd Div. THREECO.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 15/12/35.

A happy New Year to all members of the Corps for 1936.

General.—Blackdown is rather quiet these days. What with troops on annual leave, and quite a number gone overseas, we are in a fine pickle. In spite of these difficulties, the local cabaret seems to be doing fairly well on Tuesday evenings. By the time these notes appear, I am hoping to be enjoying a well earned leave far from these parts.

We are still short of personnel, and everyone remaining in Blackdown is fully employed. The 1st A.A. Searchlight Group R.E. are carrying out night training during the winter. This is not usual, so we have our hands rather full.

Marriages.—Congratulations to L/Corporal Monty Aldridge on having the pluck to lead Miss Vera May Newman to the altar at Frimley Parish Church on the 12th November. He has three years in China to think it over!

Births.—These are in the minority, but we never know. Anything might happen.

Departures.—On the 12th December 1935 in H.T. *Dorsetshire*, for a tour of duty in Shanghai, L/Corporals Aldridge M. and Pfeiffer G. (Vidler, used to be). We wish them bon voyage and good luck in their new station.

Attachments.—We welcome to the fold the undermentioned who are attached to us from A Corps Signals. We hope they enjoy their stay in the "interior." Signalmen Durack S., Gorman W., Grainger, Hopgood A., Hartley J., Millington W., Parsons F., Sherratt R. and Broomfield C.

Oversea Sections.—We welcome the notes submitted in last month's Magazine from Corporal Ient A. V., 1st Cable Section. What about making an effort, No. 2 Cable Section? We are rather interested to know how you are shaping.

We Want to Know.—Does Digger know that Arsenal have a centre forward? (Nobby is rather keen to know.) Who is the signalman who, on reading Orders about the award of the long service and good conduct medal, thought it was awarded for two years service? (I bet he is wondering what his chances are.)

Old Soldier's Corner.—We congratulate Sigmn Ryan J. J. on being awarded his medal for long service and good conduct. It's quite all right, Paddy; we have it locked up in the safe.

Here's to the next time. JAY EM GEE.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Candahar Barracks, 19/12/35.

General.—The time has come, the Walrus said, to talk of many things—but shsh! we may not. We were bursting to tell you of something known only to about two thousand people, including Said Ali, but have decided to keep it a tight secret until next month. Curious?

Flip.—This hitherto undiscovered character has been with us some time, but it has been left to one Seb, late of Bulford, to realise his possibilities. This was probably owing to Seb's intensive course of whitewashing (passed with honours) which was taken by Flip. Flip's forte is vocalistic and (speaking in the vulgar tongue) Garbo has nothing on him. We hope to record his adventures anon.

Bongo Beaker.—This is not a queer bird, but just the name of a much coveted trophy for inter-Squadron competition in the 12th Royal Lancers. All sports, turn outs and barrack room inspections are included. The winning Squadron takes the trophy and has a really generous binge to celebrate it. We were fortunate enough to be attached to Regimental Headquarters Squadron, the winners this year, and would like to record a vote of thanks for their consideration and appreciation of the help we were able to give. The celebration was rare and refreshing—unlike the lion, we enjoyed it all, including our Alfred.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to our new O.C., Lieut. G. H. S. Balmain. We hope his stay will be long and happy, and assure him of the whole-hearted support of the Troop, rain or fine. We haven't had much chance of personal contact, as his visits are rather phantom, but we like his car.

We welcome L/Sergt Murphy and seventeen other ranks from Bulford; also Signalmen O'Callaghan and Lineham from Tank Brigade Signals. All have tasted of the Troop spirit—a liqueur of distinction which has a distinctly pretty flavour and grows on one after a few pegs. Others who have returned to the fold are L/Corporals Allen and Speakes from Catterick, "just as they had the mess to themselves." Signalmen Faulkner and Cardew from a short tour of Cardiff—the P.O. in particular. Ben now says "Pwll-de" instead of swearing. Indeed to goodness, did he effer!

Departures.—L/Corpl Lafford and Signalmen Wills, Fraser and Robertson have left us for Bulford for a short stay before going their various ways—the first named to Catterick (Foreman-of-Signals in embryo), the others to Egypt. We are sorry to lose them and wish them the best of luck.

Dejection in Punki.—Our last month's report of the coming departure of Sergt Archer to India is now corrected. His posting has been cancelled and he remains with the Troop until such time as the powers that be say nay. Two hundred horses, please note.

Sport.—The annual football match with D Troop, Aldershot, went off with great success and enjoyment. The game was fast, keen and played in ideal weather, although the ground was a bit stodgy. We managed to put the ball on the spot four times to their once: a well earned success. Special mention must be given to our supporters. Although few, they did great stuff, led by our famous stentorian P. G. Coates and supported by alto MacWood. D Troop extended their usual hospitality after the match, rounding off a most enjoyable visit.

In Conclusion.—We wish all units a happy and prosperous New Year. E. ZEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—The last month has mainly consisted of rounding off the first period of individual training and the completion of trade tests. The results will not be known until the New Year.

The usual "big dig," which consisted of parading one hundred and twenty men a day for two weeks to make recreation grounds, is now over and the majority of the unit have proceeded on furlough. Everyone is very grateful that this Garrison fatigue has been reduced this year to less than half the previous periods. This valuable time taken out of the individual training period is a great handicap.

We were very pleased to welcome about a dozen Territorials from the 43rd (Wessex) Signals and two P.S.I.s from Cardiff for a fortnight's attachment. A great deal was got through in the short time, and both instructors and instructed appear to have benefited tremendously.

F Troop Cavalry Divl Signals suddenly descended upon us and carried away about twenty n.c.o.s and men, who will be greatly missed in this unit both in work and games. We all wish them the best of luck, and hope to see them back again before long.

3rd Divisional Signals.

Gone, but not forgotten!

No more! No more! The sergeant said
The guard will walk no more.
No more will he, with solemn tread,
Pace by the C.O.'s door,

No more the sergeant's dulcet tones
Will echo, loud and clear,
" Are Smith, Brown, Jones out on parade ? "
No more the loud " Here! here! "

Oh! shades of guards of long ago,
How must your pulses beat!
Just think, a piquet once a month,
And no more poor sore feet.

But what must the poor corporals think ?
They'll take it pretty hard,
For they have got to work the same
Without their lovely guard.

But now we'll get our beauty sleep.
Now that's without a doubt,
For who could really go to sleep
Till they'd heard " Guard, turn out."

No more! No more! The guard has gone,
But all the horses still live on ;
If they all die, our piquet's done,
So no more work. Roll on! roll on!

Guard, will ye no come back again ?

Arrivals.—Sigmn Lipscombe E. from the Training Battalion, 1/11/35. Sigmn Grainger E. from the Depot Battalion, 7/11/35. Sergt Brundell A. from the 53rd Divl Signals (T.A.) 8/11/35. Signalmen Broven J., McEneaney J. and Oakey L. from the Training Battalion, 19/11/35. Sigmn Green from the Training Battalion, 29/11/35.

Departures.—C.S.M. Harrison B. to the Training Battalion, 1/11/35. Corpl Marsh A. and Sigmn Naven J. to Tilbury Docks for embarkation to Mauritius, 7/11/35. L/Sergt Greenwood E. to the 53rd Divl Signals (T.A.) 8/11/35. Sergt Gladwell T. to Tilbury for embarkation to Egypt, 22/11/35. Signalmen Smith H., Guy M. and Green R. to Southampton for embarkation to China, 23/11/35. Signalmen Brown C., Mottershead A. and Notley F. to Southampton for embarkation to Malaya, 23/11/35. Lance-Sergeant Murphy S., L/Corporals Jury G. and Kime W., U/L/Cpl Cole W., Signalmen Cook R., Lee R., Gale V., Froud F., Bloomfield J., Bowser S., Fox W., Johnstone A., Sebborn W., Andrews C., Bramley J. and Kings L., and Driver (I.C.) Brewis T. to join F Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals, 2/12/35.

Appointments and Promotions.—U/L/Corporal Brooks C., appointed Lance-Corporal on the Corps roster w.e.f. 18/9/35. Corpl Ashford W. appointed Lance-Sergeant, 12/10/35. L/Cpl South C. to be Corporal, 11/10/35.

Education.—Awarded the first class certificate of education at the October 1935 examination: Sergt Ivison R., L/Sgt Bailey G., Signalmen Folks R., Hamilton D., Potts R. and West F.

Medals.—Awarded the long service and good conduct medal (with gratuity): C.S.M. Field C., Sergeants Brooke G. and McIntosh W., L/Corporal Barter E., Sigmn Riley F., and Driver Broadhead H.

Marriages.—Driver Morris W. to Maude Elizabeth Rondell at Wimborne, Dorset, 22/10/35.

Births.—To Signalman and Mrs. J. Bunting a son (Ian John) 21/10/35. To Sigmn and Mrs. E. Mill, a daughter (Kathleen Valerie) 8/11/35. To Signalman and Mrs. E. Bain, a daughter (Charlotte Mary) 25/11/35.

Sergeants Mess.—The principal item of news this month concerns the departure of C.S.M. Seymour (Fred to his friends) on completion of his pontoon. One of our oldest inhabitants, he came here from China in 1927 and never forgot it. Fred has been a dining member for well over twelve months since Mrs. Seymour left the district for reasons of health. Following so closely on the departure of Taff Thomas, this loss is specially regretted. A new speaker has not yet been appointed.

C.S.M. Seymour was " seen off " in the customary style in the mess on the 28th November, and R.S.M. Harrison presented him with a gold watch in token of our high esteem. To my great regret I was unable to be present at this function, so I do not know what Freddie said. Whatever it was, it wouldn't all go on one page!

And so yet another old comrade steps out of this large family to try his luck in what must surely be a strange world. The best of luck from us all, Fred, and remember that a visit at any time will give us the greatest pleasure.

We have been glad to have a few Territorials with us for the past week or so. Once upon a time, it would have been the work of a moment to tell a Terrier from a Regular, but it is not so easy with our visitors, who are obviously a workmanlike and soldierly party. The following have been dining members, and when I say " dining " I don't mean maybe. 43rd (Wessex), C.S.M. Gibbings and Sergeants Addlesee, Norman, Field, Adams, Ray, Keys and Youlden. 48th (South Midland), Sergt Colquhoun B. The last named refuses to believe in the existence of our Bond Street, or indeed in the existence of any kind of shop in Bulford Camp. Any place outside Birmingham is " abroad." They all left us on the 7th December, with regrets on both sides. As our radio would say, if it worked properly, " Here's to the next time!"

The following were also very welcome visitors during Nov.: A/R.S.M.s Stone G. and McCormick R. and Sergeant McLachlan (Mr. Summerville to us). The messing is now in debt, Slim, but picking up grandly.

Recent changes in our membership. Sergeant Brundell arrived from the 53rd (Welsh) Divl Signals, and L/Sergt Ashford enters the Mess on appointment. Both are heartily welcomed. L/Sergt Gibson embarked for Hong Kong on the 12th December with our best wishes for a pleasant sojourn in the East.

A rapid calculation tells us that Christmas will be gone by the time you read this. We therefore take the opportunity to wish you all a very happy New Year.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—We offer the usual welcome to our new adjutant, Lieutenant L. de M. Thuillier, and hope that he finds Canterbury preferable to Bulford. Having arrived at a very opportune moment for us (probably he doesn't think so) he has had a very busy time lately. No doubt, next month will be different, and overtime (maybe) a thing of the past.

Another successful junior n.c.o.s dance was held on 25/11/35. Considering the coldness of the evening *and* the gymnasium, there was a very good attendance. The prize for the spot waltz was won by the M.C. and partner! We don't mind partners winning, *but M.C.s* (?).

Many movements are in the air, and for the present they will remain so.

It is hoped that next month will see a contribution from No. 1 Company.

Wives' Social Club.—In spite of the downpour, most of the wives of the unit accepted Mrs. Parsons' kind invitation to tea in the men's reading room on the 7th November. Everyone was asked to vote for the way in which she would like the Club to function during the coming months, and as dancing was mentioned several times, Miss Peggy Court, M.A.O.D., A.I.S.T.D., was asked to give a lesson at the meeting on the 6th December. A very interested crowd assembled in the reading room for the dancing instruction and practice, while the toddlers were thrilled by the balloons and clockwork toys provided round the billiard room fire.

Thanks to the generosity of the Officers, Sergeants and Corpls Messes, the Club has no financial worries for the present.

No. 2 Company.

General.—This Company has now been presented with the remainder of the horses of the unit, owing to the fact that a general change round has taken place. B Cable's long-eared friends have joined us, but why grumble ? The Army is to be mechanised throughout within a year or two (maybe).

Departures.—Our numbers are still decreasing as men depart for service overseas. Corpl Hall has left us for China, and L/Cpl Hilliar and Signalmen Bell J., Smith R. A. and Walsh depart for Egypt on the 20th December.

Kennel Club.—We are sorry to report that the Kennel Club is now extinct. The hounds have been taken away, and all that is left is an empty kennel. The head kennelman has also received orders to move, and by the New Year he may be on a short Mediterranean cruise for his health.

Weather Report.—The weather in this part of England has made a slight change for the better! Frost and cold having

superseded the rain, the hot water supply in the barrack rooms is conspicuous by its absence, especially in the early morning.

Drafts.—The trooping season is making a large call on the personnel of this Company and, by the time all the troopers have sailed, we shall probably have an average of about a dozen horses per man. HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Since my last notes were published, there have been several changes in the Company, as 75 per cent. of our stalwarts have been posted to No. 1 Company. In return we have received twenty-eight n.c.o.s and men, most of whom are staff employed, due shortly for discharge or for draft. Shortly we shall be losing Sergt Lewis and thirteen other ranks who are taking a trip to a sunnier climate. Lieut. H. L. Lewis has already stepped aboard the big boat and will welcome Sgt Lewis and Co. at the dockside.

Arrivals.—The Company welcome the following, who have recently joined from stations shown. L/Sergt Fee G. and Sigmn Martin J. from overseas. Sigmn Lewis T. from A Corps Signals. Sigmn Hawker H. and Driver (I.C.) Vidler from the Training Battalion, Catterick.

Certificates.—Congratulations are extended to Signalmen Little R. and Laidlaw H. on gaining the first class certificate of education.

Courses.—The undermentioned have returned from courses as shown. Cpl Main W., W/T course, Catterick. Sigmn Gooding, Lancashire, cook's course. Sigmn Nightingale, hygiene course.

Trooping.—Signalman Little R. left us on 11/12/35 for the Tientsin Signal Section. We hope he will soon settle down with them.

Births.—Ref. my notes of last month. The name of Sergeant Marchant's daughter is Muriel Patricia.

Medals.—Congratulations are extended to F/S/Sergt Heath, Sigmn Nickells G. and Driver Blay W. on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal. How did you do it, Nick ?

Greetings.—The Company wish all ranks at home and abroad a happy New Year. JACQUES.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, 12/12/35.

General.—A happy New Year to everybody, and may your New Year resolutions be faithfully kept. Knowing the impossibility of keeping resolutions, I do not propose to make any myself.

Arrivals.—All ranks offer a hearty welcome to our new commanding officer and his wife, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. H. G. Henderson. We hope they will enjoy a very happy and lengthy stay with us. We cannot offer a climate similar to that of Waziristan, but this is " the Queen of Watering Places."

To the following we also extend hearty greetings and best wishes for their welfare, and trust that the change will bring no regrets. Signalmen Roman and Douglas from the S.T.C. Drivers Lewis and McDonald from the Depot Battalion, S.T.C., and Driver Proudlock from Canterbury. L/Corpl Edwards called here on his way from Waziristan, but on completion of his furlough he will wend his way to N.I.S.C. Belfast.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with the following on their departure. Signalmen Fletcher and Farrer to Palestine. Sigmn Kettlewell to Egypt. Sigmn Parker C. C. to Malaya. L/Corpl Peacock and Sigmn Holden to A.V.T.C. The following sportsmen, assorted, have left for China: L/Corpl Lancaster F. and Signalmen Smith L. H., Harrop C., Bloom L., Keene J., Disley A. and Royal S.

The rate of exchange is therefore: arrivals 5, departures 13. The optimists are now seeing a summer in Scarborough during 1936 (subject to oil sanctions, of course).

Courses.—The following have lately been successful at courses and therefore earn our congratulations. Sergt Dodds, Q.i. gas instructor. Signalman Haughton, School of Cookery, very good. L/Corpl Marshall (Tank Section) and Sigmn Franklin obtained satisfactory reports on completion of a Creed teleprinter course.

Educational.—Sigmn Dunn G. F. passed in English and map reading, and Sigmn Jones J. D. C. in English, towards the first class certificate. Sigmn Hazelwood obtained his second class prior to joining from Catterick.

Social.—(For Ladies Only.) The women's social afternoons continue to function under the leadership of Mrs. Henderson and, from all appearances, seem to attract a bigger following than the unit dances. As the latter do not appear to attract a great deal of support lately, it is suggested that the two social centres combine. Now, you wives, don't tell me you have children. I know them all by sex, age and name, and your husbands are not on piquet every night. What about it ? Send father to the whist drive on Wednesdays and you come to the dance on Fridays, or vice versa to suit your choice. These functions are arranged for your benefit, and there are plenty willing to work to that end. However, think it over and we'll meet at the Christmas tree.

Medals.—The Quartermaster has been graciously pleased to increase the indent for L.S. and G.C. medal ribbon to meet the requirements of C.Q.M.S. Wilson J. and Signalmen Lowday J. and Robertson W. " Old soldiers never die ; (new version) they only sew away."

Births.—To Driver Hirst J. a son (John) and to Sigmn Smith J. E. a daughter (Audrey Ann). And there are no mulberry bushes in the garden.

Marriages.—None reported, but one at least pending.

Promotions.—L/Cpls Vize H. and Powner P. to be Corporals. U/L/Corporals Sharp J. E. and Crouch L. to be Lance-Corporals.

OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

On Tuesday 10th December 1935 a dinner was held to bid farewell to Sergt Curtis F. J., who is leaving the Service on completion of twenty-three and a half years service. On the conclusion of the customary speeches, Sergt Curtis was presented with a clock and with it our best wishes for the future of himself and Mrs. Curtis.

There are still no marriages to report from this department.

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Once more there is little news of importance. Preparations are being made for Christmas, and according to the programme we are in for an enjoyable time. The F-of-S and the Line Section are busy in the reconstruction of some F.E.C. cable. There is nothing further of note except to examine Part Two's.

Arrival.—Signalman McLoskie from Catterick. We wish him a pleasant stay.

Departures.—Corporal Dodd to Catterick for embarkation leave prior to sailing for Hong Kong. Sigmn Arnold leaves on the 16th December for Catterick, before sailing for India on the 4th Feb. We wish them both good luck and a pleasant voyage.

Moves: Out-Stations.—Sigmn Hutchison to Ballykinler from Belfast. Sigmn Davidson to Baronscourt from Belfast. We hope they will enjoy their Christmas in the country.

Education.—We congratulate Signalman Inskip on obtaining English and physics towards his special certificate.

Voc. News.—Signalmen Eccles and Sutton are to leave us shortly to attend a course at Chisledon in electric wiring and brick laying respectively.

Casualties.—We congratulate Sigmn Hayes and Driver Yates on having additions to their families.

Humour (?)—There has been a decided haggis taste about our food since we have had two wee Jocks as cooks. So intent are they on living up to the national tradition that we believe they count everything, including minutes.

A new claim is made by the linemen as to their being intellectual. We wonder if purchasing romantic novels from F.W.W. and falling asleep in the boudoir has anything to do with it.

Tailpiece.—Adieu till next month. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

November 1935.

General.—Hello, everybody! Herewith the news. Congratulations to the junior n.c.o.s squad on their pass off the square. There were no failures, so no longer will we hear their melodious voices in the early morn. They are now qualified to put drill squads through their paces, so we can be on the look-out for them on the Saturday morning drill parades. The operators have been successful in their tests, and extra training is now cut down to two hours per week from 6.30 to 8.30 a.m. on Thursday morning. We are only a small Company, but we are proud of our efficiency.

Entertainments.—On Saturday 3rd November the Company held an all ranks whist drive and dance. This was, without doubt, one of the biggest successes that we have had in recent times. The amber coloured seating accommodation was the hit of the evening, and the dance was exceptionally nice. A huge crowd attended the whist drive, and we had to start with sixteen tables, as there was insufficient room to place any more tables in the room. When the dance started, the floor was packed with couples. During the interval Mrs. A. J. Hannah kindly presented the prizes. The band excelled themselves on this occasion, and altogether it was a great show. A pat on the back to the committee for their good work.

Golf.—Again we throw out a bouquet to Sergeant Whittington and congratulate him on winning the Maguire cup by defeating R.Q.M.S. Smith (R.A.M.C.) over a thirty-six hole course by 6 and 4. Sergt Whittington was two up at the end of eighteen holes. The Maguire cup is a scratch competition held annually and open to all members of the S.T.C. (I.) Golf Club. At the conclusion of the competition, our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., kindly presented the trophies won throughout the past year. Of the six presented, the Whittington family took three: the ladies' stroke competition (won by Mrs. Whittington), the Nokes cup and the Maguire cup. The remaining trophies were for the annual bogey competition (won by R.Q.M.S. Smith, R.A.M.C.) and the men's stroke and half yearly ladder competitions (both won by Q.M.S. King V. J.). Congratulations to them all on their splendid efforts. I tried hard for all these trophies, but only succeeded in learning more about that "old old language."

Arrivals.—We welcome back our Company commander (Captain L. C. Boyd) from leave, and hope that he had a very enjoyable time. We also extend a hearty welcome to the following, who joined us during the month: Sergt Lombard and family, and the wives of C.Q.M.S. Prebble F., M.M., and Sergt Mills W. May their stay with us be a pleasant one.

Repatriations.—On the 11th November we said good-bye to the following, who have left us for the home establishment: Sergt Nokes and family, Sergt Murphy and family, L/Sergt and Mrs. Appleby, and the wives of Lieut.-Quartermaster Lawrence and R.Q.M.S. Kingman who have been invalided home. All will be missed by the Company, and our best wishes go with them.

Appointments and Promotions.—Corporal Greig T. to be L/Sergeant w.e.f. 5/10/35—and after only six years! Congratulations, Tommy. How much did your suit cost ? Also to Corpl Driver on his promotion to that rank. Well done, Johnny!

Birth.—To C.S.M. and Mrs. G. R. Price a daughter (Geraldine Anne Gregory) at the Married Families Hospital, Jubbulpore, on 12/11/35. Hearty congratulations.

We Want to Know.—Who has a barra port and egg each night before retiring—and why ? Who heard a mysterious voice in the night—the one previous to a great event in his life ? (What did it say, Bill ?) What famous person became tongue tied, and where ? Which of the junior n.c.o.s nearly stole a kite hawk ? Can a famous Corps saxophone player, now at home, read music ? (If so, he can join our band.)

MUTT.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

The past month has been uneventful in the main, but we regret to record the departure of some of the old stalwarts, namely Sergts Nokes and Murphy and L/Sergeants Appleby and Cooke. We are going to miss them, particularly during the next few weeks in view of the annual tournaments with the officers and corporals. Sergt Murphy is a considerable loss to us, as he represented the Mess in all games. However, we wish them all the best, and are consoled by the thought that they, at least, do not regret the prospect of England.

The fortnightly whist still continues, even if it is on a small scale.

The Leicester Regiment has relieved the King's Regiment at the Ridge, and we have become acquainted by means of informal visits. There is no doubt that we are going to be good friends.

A heavy programme faces us for Christmas, and also for the Indian Signal Corps reunion and the senior officers' conference which coincide in February next.

Congratulations to C.S.M. and Mrs. Price on the birth of a daughter on the 12th November 1935.

Corporals Room.

21st November 1935.

General.—All good things come to an end at some time. In other words, I have to report that our much discussed junior n.c.o.s course has terminated with all of us passing off satisfactorily. I think a few of us gave the O.C. a slight shock. A few n.c.o.s complain that they do not know now what to do with their bandolier the first thing in the morning, and that they are afraid of catching cold after leaving it off. Our kind instructor L/Sergt Cooke (Reggie) has left us for a far better land (U.K.) with all our blessings upon him.

Departures.—Well, the trooper has claimed its first member of the Mess. L/Corpl Hickman, aboard the *Nevasa*, is travelling in the right direction. Don't lose any more blankets in the train, Jock.

Arrivals.—Still waiting, but one never knows.

Congratulations.—Another two deserving cases dealt with. Alright! we know how long you have been waiting. Anyway, here's to Tommy Greig on getting that third one up, and to Johnny Driver on getting his second one. I'm sure the Mess will be sorry to lose Tommy. However, as the saying goes, what is our loss is another's gain. The Sergeants Mess had better keep an eye on the grippers' shield now.

Promotion.

While cleaning his boots and bandolier,
The Signalman dropped a mournful tear,
And to himself he softly sighed
" For a Corporal's rank how hard I've tried!"

While turning out the men for guard,
The Corporal thought that life was hard
And said " Instead of this for me,
A Sergeant I would like to be."

The Sergeant thought his life a mess
While on his rounds of R.O.S.,
And murmured " How much more success
If I were but C.Q.M.S."

The C.Q.M.S.—feeling sore
While checking through his barrack store—
Said " I'd be happier, I wager,
If only I were Sergeant-Major."

The Sergeant-Major—full of woe
While on his rounds of W.O.—
In glowing terms said " I would fain
Be serving in the ranks again."

Sport.—A deep depression in this line is settled over the Mess at present. However, at a tin and bottle tournament held on the

B.O.R.s tennis courts last week-end, lo and behold! if three of our members—Roberts, Talbot and Paling—did not walk off with their week's groceries.

S.O.S.—Robbo is still waiting for that cablegram. He has given up the Indian mail. R.P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY



Rawalpindi, 19/11/35.

General.—Thursday the 14th inst. was a day of note in the annals of A Corps Signals, India. In view of the fact that the unit had been taking part in the recent Mohmand operations, it was decided that the men should have a treat, this being a "Mohmand" dinner followed by a smoker.

Our C.O. (Lieut.-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy) started the ball rolling by proposing "The King." Following this he made a short speech, congratulating the men of A Corps Signals on the fine performance put up by all who took part in the operations and expressing his thanks to them. This was followed by a toast to "A Corps Signals." The men then gave three rousing cheers for the C.O., who in turn proposed three cheers for the men, which were heartily given by all the officers present.



Lieut.-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy (O.C. A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi) and Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C. (C.S.O. Northern Command, India) at Ghalani, September, 1935.

Having dined, we sauntered over to the theatre to enjoy the smoker, which was due to start at 9.30 p.m. The first on the bill was Mr. Eames, who gave us two songs which were greatly appreciated. Following this, Miss Jean Bayliss, the daughter of our R.S.M., gave us two dances which were very graceful and clever. L/Corporals Jordan and Phillips each did a turn on the piano accordion and piano respectively. Sigmn Marsden did a tap dance with a little Honolulu hip-slip thrown in. (Well done, Marzie; you'll be on the stage yet—with a broom?) The one and only Corporal Pat Mills then took the floor and conducted community singing with the help of Sigmn Kent. We had all the latest, excluding "Bubbles." After this we filed away quietly so as not to wake the infants of the camp.

Departures.—Blighty calling. This call has been answered by Corpl Freeman, L/Corpl Bridges (of cricket fame), Signalmen Holmes, Hine (invalided) and Sadler, and L/Sergeant Boxall and Sigmn Wardle on payment furlough.

Sigmn Byrne on duty to Delhi, and Sigmn Stewart on posting to Peshawar District Signals.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Smith has now joined us from Waziristan, and we welcome back to the fold Sigmn Ward E. from Delhi. (What's the lift now, Nebby?)

Agony.—We wonder if Bobby is still searching for the missing link, or has he Freed-a link from his beezer? E.H.V.

December, 1935.

General.—Since the return of the unit from Peshawar, we have been getting our eye in under the able assistance of numerous instructors. We should produce some very good shots this year, as prizes are being awarded for the best shot and the highest first class score made by any person who was a second class shot at the last classification. It is too early for results yet, so keep A Corps notes in mind next month.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Sergt Smith C. on joining the select band of Quartermasters w.e.f. 8/9/35.

Agony.—Has L/Corpl Henwood H. run out of stamps, or is the home town isolated?

Social.—The first Royal Signal dance of the season was held in the Cambridge Barracks theatre on Saturday 30th November. Although it was well attended, we hope to see more at the other shows. (I have been given to understand that there are to be whist drives and dances on alternate Saturdays throughout the cold weather season.) One very noticeable fact was that an outside dance band was engaged. This is the first occasion in years that this has had to be done. Owing to postings, troopers, etc., our dance band has unfortunately broken up, but it is hoped that we shall be able to produce another one in the near future. R.S.M. Bayliss, C.S.M. Eastes, Sergeants Clark and Grose, and the committee showed their usual zeal, and it is hoped that they will be rewarded for their efforts during the season.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Wednesday 27th November 1935.

Greetings.—A happy New Year to all readers, both at home and abroad, from all ranks of the 1st Indian Divl Signals.

General.—These notes are being written almost a month before Christmas. Things are rather quiet with us all at Rawalpindi. Everybody is apparently saving up for the festive season, and news seems to be scarce these days.

Since our last notes appeared, the events worthy of record include Armistice Day—which was observed by church parades for all denominations. These were well attended and impressive services were held, the remainder of the day being a holiday.

Our first draft for repatriation sailed from Karachi per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on 11/11/35. This included Captain J. Wynn and Signalmen Boothman, Blakemore, Blamey, Brown and Robson. L/Sergt Slater F. and family left for their "luxury cruise" per s.s. *Tuscania*, and L/Sergt Bainbridge S. (class A invalid) left per H.T. *Nevasa*. We hope they have all settled down in their new surroundings, and that L/Sergt Bainbridge will soon be fit.

The R.A. Signal Sections have left to join their respective R.A. Brigades—E Section to join the 5th Field Brigade R.A. at Margalla Barracks, Rawalpindi; F Section for Lahore on 15/11/35 to join the 28th Field Brigade R.A.; and G Section for Abbottabad on 18/11/35 to join the 21st Mountain Brigade R.A.

K Section (2nd Rawalpindi Infantry Brigade Signal Section) rejoined the unit on 13/11/35 after *marching* back from Mohforce—a distance of 140 miles. They all looked very bronzed and fit after their activities on the frontier, and they have promised shortly to give me some notes of their very own to include in the next issue of THE WIRE.

Whilst on the subject of Mohforce, the following complimentary message, which was republished in Unit Orders, was received by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, from the Signal Officer-in-Chief, India: "This is to let you know that I have heard nothing but excellent reports on the work of your units during the recent Mohmand operations, which is extremely gratifying. You must all have had a very strenuous time, but as usual you all seem to have delivered the goods."

The representative Sections of the 1st Indian Divl Signals in these operations were K and L, although various B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s of other Sections were attached both as despatch riders and to replace casualties, etc. We must congratulate all concerned on putting up a good show.

Just at the moment we are all in the throes of getting ready for the District Commander's annual inspection. Red and yellow ochre is the order of the day, and everything that can be polished is being so treated. We hope that all will go off well and that the good reputation which the unit holds will be maintained. There is no doubt that the appearance of the unit lines these days is a treat, and we only hope the rain doesn't come and spoil it all.

In addition to the above, great activity is taking place behind the scenes in getting ready for Christmas. If everything goes to plan, we should all have a very fine time this year. Preparations are being made for dinners, dances, children's Christmas trees and teas, a concert party, and pagal gymkhana ; but more of this next month, when I shall be able to describe the events after they have taken place.

In spite of all the above we have not been neglecting our unit training, and several schemes have been held, including an all-night scheme which necessitated moves in the wee sma' hours over treacherous nullah country. This was very good training for all concerned, especially the M.T. drivers.

Functions.—Since the unit has been down from the hills functions have been rather scarce, but commencing on Saturday 30th November a fortnightly dance is to be held in the regimental theatre. This is to be a combined affair for A Corps Signals and the 1st Indian Divl Signals ; and for the benefit of those who know them, Rod's band will be in attendance. We trust these affairs are going to be a success. They will certainly add to the social life of both units, as things have been rather quiet lately.

The Sergeants Mess are of a more sober tendency (ahem!) and have decided to hold whist drives on every alternate Wednesday. Now come along, you ladies ; what about all turning up and making the prize worth winning ?

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on their respective rises in the world: L/Sergt Chantler to be Sergeant, and Corpl Allston G. appointed L/Sergeant.

Condolences.—We were very sorry to read in THE WIRE of the death of Corpl Blakeman L. at Aldershot. He was a member of this unit for five years, and many of us here remember him very well ; and much sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

Musical Appeal.—The unit is still looking forward to receiving some musical talent in the near future. With the necessary instrumentalists to fill the gaps in the ranks of our dance band, we should be able to put on some really good entertainments. At present we have drummers, crooners, pianists, and banjoists by the score ; but we need a couple of saxophonists, a violinist and a trumpet or cornet player. So come along, you lads who are warned for India. Bring your saxophones and label them "Pindi."

Wanted.—Some results from our Camera Club. Where's George ?

ONEDIV.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Friday 13th December 1935.

Now that peace is once more with us, we are able to fill the gap which has occurred during the last few months as regards WIRE notes.

First of all, a happy New Year to all readers of this Journal.

Mohmand Operations, 1935.—We are forwarding an article by our commanding officer, Major E. P. C. Collin, on the last spot of bother that happened this way. The accompanying photographs are not all that we could desire, but they may help to portray a few events of interest to people who do not have the luck to come to this part of the globe. [See pages 6 to 11.—ED.]

SIGNALMEN!!!

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I think, too, that the following excerpt from *The Civil and Military Gazette* is worth reprinting.

"SIGNALMAN'S GALLANTRY: AWARDED MILITARY MEDAL.

"Simla, 23rd September 1935.

"Under the authority delegated to him by the King-Emperor, the Commander-in-Chief is pleased to approve of the immediate award of the Military Medal to Signalman Smith P. C., Peshawar District Signals, for conspicuous gallantry in the face of the enemy during the present Mohmand operations. When attached for duty with the 1st Battalion 4th Bombay Grenadiers in Tora Tigga Valley on the morning of the 3rd September, he was under heavy fire for three hours but continued to operate his wireless set single-handed and remained completely unperturbed throughout. During the withdrawal of this Battalion, when it came under particularly heavy enemy fire, he stopped the mule carrying the set in a position where no adequate cover was available, in order to be able to take down important messages from Brigade Headquarters. His coolness and devotion to duty throughout the day set an inspiring example to all those around him."

Another bouquet is given here as well:—

"H.Q. Peshawar Brigade, 5th November 1935.

"My dear ———. I want you to know how much I and the Battalions of the Brigade appreciate the magnificent work put in by our Brigade Signal Section during the past two and a half months, first under Molloy and then under Purser. Speaking for myself, I never had a moment's doubt about the efficiency of my communications, and I am sure the Battalion had the same feeling of complete confidence in the efficiency of the Section. Such a feeling goes a long way to assure the success of any operation. Apart from the high technical efficiency of the personnel of the Section, their willingness to help on all occasions, cheeriness in all conditions, and fine soldierly spirit were the admiration of all of us. I could not wish for two better signalling officers than Molloy and Purser. I shall be grateful if you will convey the thanks of the Brigade to the Section.

"Yours sincerely, ———,"

Speaking as one who " witnessed " the battle from the base, I should say that the whole operations were entirely successful—not only from the military or political point of view, but from a point of seeing how two strange Signal units rubbed along together. We take the opportunity here of thanking A Corps Signals for their very friendly co-operation and camaraderie during the last " war," and hope that we can meet again under better conditions than a Frontier operation.

Well, I think this is all about the last stunt. It brought into vogue a number of names that were not exactly originated at the front, and a lot of " howlers," but there is not sufficient room here to reprint them. We'll let bygones be bygones.

Drill.—(With apologies to S.A.T.) Heard on recent Company drill parades: " That man with the topi on, stop moving about." " Now, then, swing your arms about as if they don't belong to you." " Smack that rifle! If you had the chance to smack me, you'd smack a bit harder" (remarks in the ranks). " Turn round and wipe that white off your back." " Shove your fingers down the barrel as far as you can get 'em."

Departures.—Sergeant Cummins A., L/Corporal Wilkin W., Signalmen Birkett W., Baker W. and Mackenzie W. to the United Kingdom for discharge and transfer to the Reserve.

Sergt Handley F. to 3rd Indian Divl Signals, and Sigmn Copestake F. to A Corps Signals, India.

Arrivals.—L/Corpl Thomas P. from 2nd Indian Divl Signals, and Sigmn Stewart J. from A Corps Signals.

Tailpieces.—Lovely Salig Ram. Who is Punkah ? Where is his army ? MIIM.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Tuesday 3rd December 1935.

General.—Once more unto the breach, dear friends—or to be more precise, get the nose down to the grindstone. Why? Well, there are only two more days to mail day, and the WIRE notes just have to be on their way then. " Wot a life," as Minnie said to the Bishop.

However, the first item to be recorded is that the unit camp referred to in our last notes has now been postponed, and at the time of writing it is not known when it will take place. (Those lucky few still languishing on leave in Blighty will now be back in time to enjoy it, sez us.)

Unit and Section schemes are still keeping us fairly busy, and J Section left yesterday to join the Kohat Brigade for Brigade training. This will keep them out of mischief until the 19th of this month. On the 13th quite a large proportion of the remainder of the unit will sally forth to take part in the last week's exercises, and then return to barracks in preparation for the big feed and the usual good times which one associates with the festive season.

Birth.—To Sergt and Mrs. A. J. Costello a daughter (Margaret) on 12/11/35.

Marriages.—Nowt at the time of going to press, but there are indications that this item may not be blank in the near future. (These dark nights, you know.)

Promotions and Appointments.—We heartily congratulate Sergt Sprunt R. A. D. and L/Sergt Weeks A. on their elevation to those ranks, thereby swelling the income tax returns.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Moran T. and Hatton S. from the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. To them we extend a hearty welcome, and trust that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Departures.—On 7/11/35 the following left us for the United Kingdom. Signalmen Madgewick and Simpson on transfer to the home establishment, Signalman Ball S. on transfer to the Army Reserve, and Sigmn Wilson C. to a vocational course in radio engineering. All ranks join in wishing them the best of luck in their new spheres.

On 26/11/35 we said farewell to Signalmen Hayes and McCann, who left us on permanent transfer to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut. With the departure of these, the unit dance band loses two of its stalwarts, and in McCann the unit football and hockey teams lose a staunch, hard working half back.

Shades of Ripley.—'Twas the preliminary examination, and the subject was " A short description of a cricket match." Imagine the Schoolie's surprise on checking one candidate's paper when he read " Lancs v. Yorks at Manchester. Rain stopped play."

A note arrived per bearer, addressed to the n.c.o. i/c ration stand, saying " The meat you sent me yesterday was not fit for the dog." And the good lady was surprised to receive the reply: " Dear Madam. The meat was not meant for the dog: it was for your husband."

'Twas the first week in November, and the annual supply of coir had been dumped on the bungalow verandahs. Imagine the surprise of one of the old hands when a junior n.c.o. (fairly new to the country) said to him: " Do they always provide materials for a bonfire on Guy Fawkes Day ?"

Conclusion.—All ranks of this unit join in wishing all Signal units, wherever they may be, the heartiest of wishes for the forthcoming festive season. May it be one long to be remembered by all. ROBO.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Unit Headquarters.

Thursday, 14/11/35.

Departures.—R.S.M. Hughes sailed to-day, per the s.s. *Tuscania,* for home and discharge. The Sergeants Mess, in particular, thank him for his effort to put things on a sound basis. Good luck to you, sir! Per H.T. *Nevasa* on the 9th November, L/Sgt Fee G., M.M., to the home establishment; Signalmen Nichols W., Gridley S. and Moss J. to the Army Reserve. Per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on the 11th November, L/Sergt Fraser J. D. and Signalmen Rice A. and Leonard J. Per the s.s. *Alora* on the 9th November, to tranship at Egypt to H.T. *Nevasa,* Corpl Lowes R. and Signalmen Roberts T., Ryan J. and Silvester J. Good luck, all of you, and a merry Christmas at home.

To 7th (M.) Brigade R.A. Signal Section, Muttra, on the 26th October, Sigmn Gedney.

To W.E.S. Cherat on the 8th November, Sigmn Lloyd J.

Arrivals.—From the 1st Indian Divl Signals (but actually from U.K. leave) Sergeant Rand and family. Mrs. Hunter and family from U.K. to join Corpl Hunter.

Signalman Field C. rejoins the fold after a period with W.E.S. Quetta; and last, but not least, L/Sergt Norcup and family, and linemen from Ranikhet, to the Plains just in time to see the last fan revolving in the mess. L/Sergt Norcup's greatest disappointment had been that he had not seen a fan working in India, so one was turned on in the mess, specially for his benefit, to show how the thing works. E.G.

No. 1 Company.

Apologies.—We tender our apologies for the absence of notes last month, preparations for our move from Chakrata to the Plains having occupied the time normally devoted to such things.

General.—Our detachment duly descended from the hills, plus a large number of thoroughbreds and piehards (mostly piehards) which certainly did not accompany us up there. We now find ourselves settling down to those local schemes which generally precede the manœuvre period.

On the whole, our sojourn in Chakrata proved highly beneficial both to our health and to our pockets. A large percentage of the operators who risked their lives in motor buses (less brakes) in that torturous hill journey were successful, and the extra Rs.10 per mensem are no longer an ambition but a fact. Congratulations are due to those candidates who fought and nearly died for their class i. rating, but who secured it: Corporals Turner and Lowes, L/Corpl Halstead, and Signalmen Justice and Robertson. The B.ii. candidates are too numerous to mention.

At the conclusion of the training, a celebration was called for. The married families of the detachment rose to the occasion and spared no pains in producing what was undoubtedly a delightful afternoon tea. This was deeply appreciated by everybody. Sideshows of all descriptions were in swing, from miniature golf to fortune telling, and at night a dance was held to work off the afternoon tea—and in most cases it did!

Repatriation.—The undermentioned old soldiers should by now be experiencing " that sinking feeling " somewhere in the

Indian Ocean: L/Sergt Fee, M.M., and Signalmen (Tishy) Rice, Roberts, Ryan, Nichols, Silvester and (Mutiny) Moss. We sincerely hope they make Southampton in due time.

Unit Dance Orchestra.—The unit dance band have progressed "by bounds and leaps," and are fulfilling engagements which come round almost daily. The first engagement of the season opened with a presentation to band leader Corpl Swann of a silver shield for the best gripper. We are of opinion that he will retain this in future seasons and that it will eventually become his own property.

Congratulations.—These are due to U/L/Corporals Hodson and Parry on attaining that rank.

Bush Mail.—If Sigmn Jock Beattie, believed to be resident in Dehra Ismail Khan, will communicate with Sigmn Jock Justice, he will learn something to his advantage. J.E.W.

No. 2 Company.

Wednesday, 13/11/35.

General.—These are stirring times. Some have been stirred from their state of lethargy and are now on their way to Blighty, while J and K Sections have been stirred into unwonted activity and are now hiking along the Roorkee road towards Dhanauri. The joys of the open road, as described by various authors on the strength of a walking tour through Devon, do not appear to be manifest to anyone in either Section, as no one has yet delivered himself of any panegyrics on the subject.

Amidst the usual welter of recriminations and post-mortems, Section and Unit schemes have been proceeding apace in preparation for the manœuvre season. The chief sufferers this year appear to be the No. 1 set operators, whose sets have been adapted to fit the new carriers for operating on the move. This innovation presents difficulties to beginners, the manual motion being out of harmony with that of the pedal extremities, while very few mules are to be found which regard the new proceedings with the equanimity of a Wodehouse butler.



THE MULE THAT FOUND THE LEAK.

Owing to the fact that their Brigade is not taking any active part in the Dhanauri concentration, L Section will have (for a No. 2 Company Section) a comparatively easy time this year, and they remain with the rest of the Division at Dhanauri. By way of atonement, however, they have Brigade exercises at Lucknow from the 4th to the 23rd of January 1936. Since this venue will extend the geographical knowledge of most of the Section personnel, these exercises are being anticipated with an interest not usually accorded to such schemes.

The weather is a topic which, like the poor, is always with us. There is a nip in the air nowadays, and only the small Spartan coterie who worship at the shrine of Sandow, or those who (in the language of the quartermaster) are "deficient of same," disdain to wear a cardigan in the chilly evenings. Just as each succeeding summer becomes "the hottest known" in our letters home, so does each succeeding winter become "the most severe" when accorded the same mendacious treatment.

Departures.—At last, L/Sergt Fraser and Signalmen Leonard and Gridley have left us for civvy street, while Corpl Lowes had the good fortune to secure a passage earlier than he anticipated and has gone to join the staff at the S.T.C. We wish them all the best in their new spheres. The Company also extends its best wishes to R.S.M. Hughes on his departure for discharge after a fine record of twenty-five years service.

Promotions.—Sigmn Barlow J. G. to be U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 1/11/35. Congratulations, Jean.

Whispering Gallery.—The following piece of character reading was gleaned from our neighbours and friends in H.Q. First Mancunian: "What sort of a bloke is he?" Second ditto: "Oh, he can't be up to much. He has lived in Manchester for twenty years and he's never seen the City play." BILL WUM.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Tuesday, 19/11/35.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes last month.

Christmas will soon be upon us once again, and the Troop take this opportunity of wishing all ranks, both at home and abroad, a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Preparations are on foot for an excellent day's enjoyment within the unit on Christmas Day.

Training.—This is now in full swing, and men and horses are daily to be seen going to war—or so we non-combatants are told. Another annual camp is due, and the Troop proceed to Dilaura on the 27th of this month and return on the 19th December.

Departures.—L/Sgt Boyle T. J. (Paddy) to the home establishment, and Sigmn Leonard J. (Jim) to the Army Reserve.

Speaking of departures, a number of hearts are still beating rather abnormally, owing (we are told) to the belated allotment of further passages to the Blighty cantonment.

Entertainments.—We are enjoying the weekly whist drives and fortnightly dances given by the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, and hope they will continue after the camp period.

Births.—Congratulations to Corpl and Mrs. E. R. Roberts on the birth of a daughter yesterday.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Sergeants Boyle T. J. and Lourie A. on attaining that exalted rank.

Marriages.—Again attention is drawn to notes from Scarborough (ex-Divite).

Conclusion.—Here's to the next time! PIP.

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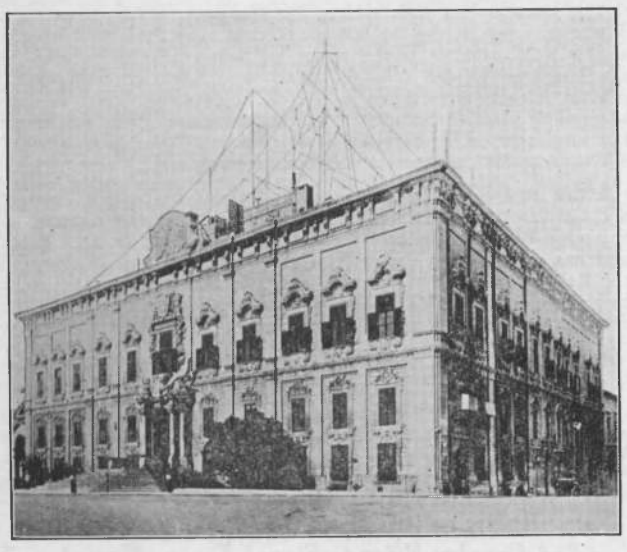
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Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD



Malta Signal Section.

Thursday, 5/12/35.

Part I.—There are no more Christmas stories to write. Fiction is exhausted. Therefore, for seasonable diversion we are reduced to two very questionable sources: fact and philosophy. We will begin with—whichever you choose to call it.

Telephones are pestilential little instruments with which we have to cope under a bewildering variety of conditions. Especially when little ills overwhelm them are we put to our wits end. We exhaust our paltry store of consolation ; and then we treat them, coaxingly, to action. Then we grovel in the dust of a thousand years and ask " Why ?" As for telephones, no one understands them except past, present, and (we hope) future Signal personnel. Now we come to a fact—or whichever you choose to call it. We once had a report that a telephone was working beautifully—from " just past time."

Part II.—Congratulations are extended to Sigmn Machin D. on being awarded his first class certificate of education. To L/Corpl Welbourne and Sigmn Smith A. E. on passing in English and geography and mathematics and map reading respectively. To young fathers Signalman Machin (a son) and Signalman Scriven (a daughter). To L/Cpl Drake and Signalmen Eccles and Smith H. on grasping their extra " tanners." To Sergt Pinkstone on being awarded the long service and—sorry! being admitted to the M.Q. roll. To Corpl Perkins on " liking it."

Canteen Hours.—From reliable reports, it is gathered that these (see sub-heading) are not spent in canteens. One understands that the chief relaxation is sweating. Sounds funny, out of working hours—and nearly Christmas, too—but s'true, nevertheless. The usual P.P. tale is " I was sweating for seven and six on the top line and the bally number wouldn't come up." They didn't let us sweat for seven and six, did they, old timers ?

Hear this one! A signalman, returning to barracks with a champion black eye: " Yes, and then I ran into a blank blank lamp-post." And we don't even have lamp-posts in Malta!

And this fairy story. A signalman once drove a car ; but you can't laugh unless you know the inside—then it's a hospital story.

Blackouts.—Mr. Beattie, Jubb.: Writing—with good set of stamps. How's golf ?

Bush, Canterbury: Told you I would like to—and I have.

Dangler, Hong Kong: Do you still keep the little note book ?

McBride, India: *That's* a big place, but you can always get out if you use a hack saw—left-handed.

Barleux, Bulford: Remember the boots ? How much did he lose ?

Lewis, Canterbury: Call in and have one.

Wells, Egypt: The old team haven't won a game this season.

Veness, Ino: Respects and salaams.

Andrews, Aldershot: Writing getting better ?

Robbie, Aldershot: Do *they* still do guards and stable parades, Bill ?

And a happy and prosperous New Year to YOU and yours.

NEMO.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, 12/11/35.

Apology.—I have spent the whole of October in trying to think of an excuse for the non-appearance of notes last month. Pressure of work will not " wash," because I am too well watched, so I will have to confess to laziness and lack of news.

Social.—The great event of the month was our trip to Macao on Sunday 20th October for the annual hockey match. Old Loaites must think of these trips with very pleasant memories.

The team and spectators left Hong Kong, under the " care " of Sergt Colley, by the 9.30 a.m. boat and arrived at Macao at 1 p.m. Owing to an error, the game took place at two o'clock instead of four o'clock as in previous years—which did not leave us much time to settle down after our long trip. The usual large crowd of spectators turned out to support Macao, but the voice of our old friend Corpl Nobby Clarke (of the " Medics ") made itself heard above the mass. A report of the game will be found in the Sports Notes.

After the game, Hotel Riviera seemed to be the favourite spot until we all resorted to the new restaurant-cum-cabaret-cum-fan tan house for dinner. During dinner Lieut. Da Costa said he was pleased to see us again, and hoped we would continue to send a team to Macao for several years to come. A toast was drunk to the Macao Hockey Club, and in return " Royal Signals " was given. The remainder of the evening (and night) was spent in dancing, playing fan tan, imbibing beer, and other " sports " peculiar to Macao.

At 2.30 a.m. everybody returned to the boat, which sailed at three o'clock, and most found a bed. Somebody was short of a bed, and when offered a long chair he told the purser some uses for chairs which I had not heard before. We arrived at Hong Kong at 7.30 a.m.—some feeling fine, others not so fine.

Everyone had a good time (we know Dilley did) and Sgt Colley is still trying to puzzle out how the Governor's A.D.C. does the champagne bottle trick.

Ramalho sends his regards to Johnny Rousseau, and Rodrigues wishes to be remembered to Austen and all who know him.

The Band (Musical).—There are several budding musicians in the Section (shades of Freddy Pope!) Burgo Veitch is fast becoming a nimble-fingered expert and is striving to strum the guitar, and Cox annoys the lads with a mandoline. A few more aspirants, and we hope to form a dance band.

The Band (Non-musical).—Promotions: the Rat to first flute and solo cornet, the Butcher to drums, and Harold relegated to dishing out the music.

The cash question is very serious, and we are all wondering what is going to happen. The Army dollar for November is 2/03¼, but outside it has dropped to 1/6 in less than a week. Owing to the hoarding of silver dollars, which are still worth two shillings, the Colony is flooded with one-dollar notes. It is said that in Wanchai one can get a dollar note and thirty cents for a silver dollar. This sounds queer to me, but, of course, this is a queer place.

Departures.—Corpl Funnell leaves on the 30th November for an F-of-S course at the School of Signals. He has our best wishes for success.

Arrivals.—Some soon, we hope.

PUSH.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

In case someone wonders where the above unit has sprung from, it is necessary to explain that the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals (T.A.) was formerly the Air Defence Formations Signals. Under the re-organisation due to the formation of the 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, the Air Defence Signals has advanced to the dignity of a Divisional Signals and is now attached to Divisional Headquarters. Further developments are awaited with interest.

The annual dinner was held at headquarters on Saturday 7th December. There was a very good attendance, and the drill hall was well dressed for the occasion. The hon. colonel (Colonel O. W. Nicholson) was in the chair, and our guests included Colonel C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O., 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., Lieut.-Colonel H. Leigh, Major C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., Major H. C. Carey Thomas, Captain A. W. Byrne, T.D., Captain S. R. Moss Vernon, M.C., Captain S. E. Redfern, Captain J. C. Rowe, 2/Lieut. R. L. Edgerton, B. O. Anson, Esq., Dr. M. Hart, R. H. J. Kepple, Esq., A. W. White, Esq., H. M. Batten, Esq., B. J. Bradford, Esq., and E. A. Jack, Esq.

We were very pleased to see a group of n.c.o.s' guests: Messrs. Arnold, Fuller, Grist, Green, Hopkins, Morse, Taylor, Topp and Wood.

Major G. J. Morley Peel, T.D., proposed the health of the guests, to which reply was made by Colonel C. G. A. Cooper, D.S.O., and Mr. H. J. Green. The honorary colonel gave the toast to the unit, to which Lieut.-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D., replied.

The inter-Company and inter-Section challenge cups were presented to the winners by the honorary colonel.

An excellent entertainment was arranged by the socials committee under the direction of Captain A. Hemsley, T.D. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton St., Brooks's Bar, Manchester, 13/12/35.

Greetings.—We take this opportunity of wishing all ranks in Royal Signals a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Prize Distribution.—The annual prize distribution was held at headquarters on Saturday 16th November last, when about one hundred and twenty officers and five hundred other ranks, with their guests, spent a very enjoyable evening.

Colonel W. S. Ashley, commanding officer, in his opening remarks said he was pleased to be able to report the unit up to full strength. The unit also has a waiting list of good class men "falling over themselves" to get into the unit. With regard to the prize winners, it was remarkable to report that six sergeants tied for the sergeants' prize and six corporals for the corporals' prize, which showed a remarkable keenness amongst the n.c.o.s of the unit. Like the good sportsmen they are, the sergeants and corporals drew lots for the prizes.

Major G. A. Renwick, formerly M.P. for Stretford, then made a speech in which he appealed to all employers to let their Territorial employees go for the full fifteen days camp. Major Renwick then presented the prizes and spoke encouragingly to all recipients.

Colonel D. R. D. Fisher, D.S.O., G.S.O.2 (42nd Division) said he was sorry to have to report that our Divisional commander, Major-General K. G. Buchanan, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., was indisposed and unable to be with us, but had specially asked him to represent him at this function. We all hope that Major-General Buchanan will have a speedy and complete recovery.

After a short speech by Colonel Sir William Coates, K.C.B., C.B.E., V.D., T.D. (chairman of the East Lancashire Association) we all adjourned to refresh the inner man, after which dancing took place in the main hall to the strains of the unit band under the conductorship of Bandmaster E. T. Grundey.

Officers.—Congratulations are extended to Lieutenants Walker, Presland and Harrison on their promotion to full rank. I hear that the above have already ordered their barrels of beer, so that the extra "pips" will be duly wetted.

Sergeants Mess.—A smoking concert was held in the mess on the 30th November, when a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Owt About Owt.—Monocles. Should window panes be worn plain, or with gold rims and ribbon? If you want to know, ask Frankie, but don't mention this to Norton.



Junior Officers Ride.—The accompanying photograph was taken during the two-day ride for junior officers. Are they not a handsome lot?—the horses, I mean. T.A.H.L.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals

H.Q., The Priory, Exeter, December 1935.

Editorial.—Another year draws swiftly to its close, and these notes will appear in 1936. To all, we hope a happy Christmas has befallen you and that the New Year will improve upon its predecessors.

The new training year is now under way, and as an incentive to progressive efficiency we learn that our party of w.o. and senior n.c.o.s has acquitted itself well on the first instructor's course held with our parent unit, the 3rd Divl Signals. Everyone who sampled the course regrets that the fortnight with their Regular comrades was all too short. They thoroughly enjoyed the stay at Bulford, and we hasten to thank the 3rd Divl Signals for providing such an excellent and well balanced period of work and play.

I was a privileged spectator at the first day's training, and I must say that the arrangements in all branches for the fortnight's course were excellent.

It may be a coincidence, but our recently departed adjutant, Captain J. R. Patten, has just settled in at Bulford.

Individual training—particularly with operators' paid classes—is proceeding steadily, and these classes are well attended. We would, however, like to see still more aspirants for trade ratings and increased pay.

Recruits are continuing to come in, and Devonport at the moment is "collecting" boys.

During the interval at No. 3 Company officers' dance at headquarters on the 6th December, a few pleasant moments were used to show Captain and Mrs. Patten in tangible form our appreciation of what they have each done in their respective spheres for this unit during their stay with us. The token took the form of an engraved and inscribed silver box, and the gathering was representative of all Company, H.Q. and attached officers. We managed on this occasion to extract from Ronnie more than his usual response of two or three words.

As we go to press we hear that No. 1 Company officers have launched their first dance. The numbers were small, but it is

understood that the date clashed with three important civic functions. We hope the next choice of date will be more fortunate.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Training.—The w.o. and senior n.c.o.s have returned from their fortnight's course with the 3rd Divl Signals at Bulford, full of zeal and enthusiasm. They seem to have thoroughly enjoyed and benefited by their short interlude with the Regulars. The paid operators classes are now in full swing.

Football.—The Eleven played C Company 2nd Battn King's Regiment on the 27th November, losing by 1—3. They drew at 2—2 with Devonport Y.M.C.A. on the following Wednesday, and lost by 2—7 to the Royal Sussex Regiment on Wednesday 11th December. The scorers in the latter game were Signalmen Murch and Petherick (captain).

An enjoyable supper dance was held by the officers of No. 1 Company at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel on Wednesday 11th December. About eighty guests attended, including Captain C. W. Knight, the adjutant, and Captain Evans from No. 3 Company at Exeter.

We have recently been pleased to see at the drill hall Sigmn Talbot of the 3rd Divl Signals, Driver Stevens of the R.A.S.C. (who has now gone to Egypt), and Signalmen Clifford A. and Forward L.—all formerly of this Company.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

A happy and prosperous New Year to all!

Owing to an unforeseen circumstance our notes for last month could not reach the appropriate quarter in time, but in order to preserve our sequence we hope space will permit publication of notes for both months.

Training.—At the moment of writing we are nearing the halfway line of the first thirty-hour course for operators in our new training programme. Excellent progress has been made and the lads have responded well, the energies of the permanent staff being taxed to the limit. We sincerely hope that all concerned will maintain the present effort until the arrival of the Trade Board, and thus lay a good foundation for the new training year.

Social Functions.—The Company held their first dance of the season at Langley Hall, Southampton, on Friday 6th December. It was a happy and lively affair and was voted a big success. Well done, Dickinson Brothers and those responsible. A good forerunner for future ones.

Father Christmas has just announced his arrival at Hamilton House, and naturally the kiddies are eagerly looking forward to the 25th January for their annual party.

Officers' Annual Ball.—As usual, marked success attended the officers' annual ball at the South-Western Hotel, Southampton. There was a very large attendance, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Departures and Arrivals.—Through the medium of THE WIRE we desire to send a final "Cheerio!" to Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. We wish him and Mrs. Patten every success. The members of No. 2 Company extend a hearty welcome to Captain C. W. Knight and are anxiously looking forward to the annual dinner, when we shall have an opportunity to greet him personally.

Courses.—Sergeant Ray and Corporals Spink, Grey and Collett are full of beans, having just returned from courses at Bulford. They hope to make a few sparks fly. The courses, it is understood, have been very beneficial and were very much appreciated.

Company Annual Dinners.—Our representatives thoroughly enjoyed themselves at No. 3 Company's annual dinner. Our own dinner will be held at the Cadena Cafe on Saturday 4th January. We are looking forward to seeing friends from other Companies.

BEGBIE.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

Training.—The training of operators is the chief aim at present, and the programme followed is similar to that of last year. There is great keenness everywhere, and the improvement shown is most noticeable. The recruits are very keen, and we have some very promising youngsters. For the remainder of the Company there is shooting under Corpl Floyde, who has just returned from a course at Bulford. Both he and Corpl Ward, the two representatives of this Company who attended the course for n.c.o.s at Bulford, appear to have enjoyed their experience with the Regular Army and greatly benefited by their stay. We hope that in future years there will be more volunteers. We take this opportunity of congratulating both these n.c.o.s on their good report.

Social.—Another very successful dance has been held since our last issue. Corpl Woodley is proving a very good dance secretary, and we wish him luck in his future efforts.

On Friday 6th December the officers held their invitation dance in the drill hall, and they had the pleasure of entertaining a very distinguished gathering. Among those present were Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., and Mrs. Walsh, Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Sandford (R.A.M.C.) and Mrs. Sandford, Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., and Mrs. Western, Captain and Mrs. R. H. Creasy, Captain and Mrs. W. Brock and officers of the 4th Devons, Captain C. W. Knight (adjutant 43rd Signals), Captain Patten (our late adjutant) and Mrs. Patten, Major W. J. L. Cornelius (No. 1 Company), Captain A. F. S. Fane (No. 2 Company), Lieut. and Mrs. E. J. Hatfield and officers of the Depot, Devons, and many officers of our own and other units. A very enjoyable evening was spent. The drill hall was beautifully decorated with evergreens and flags, and R.Q.M.S. Webb is to be heartily thanked and congratulated on his effort.

Christmas is now on us, so we take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and a most prosperous New Year.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6, 17/12/35.

I have been wondering if a scribe is really expected to be energetic enough to make a large contribution of notes at this time of the year. If so, should the effort be of a serious nature or otherwise? For instance, were I to become so enthusiastic as to write of the Christmas season, its appeal to mankind, etc., would it be appreciated more than an ordinary ghost tale? I am still wondering about this problem, and in order that none should be offended I am resolved to remain silent until the opinion of my public has directed my pen into the chosen channel. In any case, I am just as busy and excited over the whole question of holidays, presents, and extra helpings of pudding, as the rest of the world, so that I cannot set my mind to the question of notes at all.

Our activities at the drill hall cease as from 9 p.m. on the 19th December (except for the Sergeants Mess), the unit being free from the necessity of soldiering for a fortnight.

Here's hoping one and all turn up in the New Year, fit, keen and ready for lots more hard work during 1936.

0020.

Sergeants Mess Children's Party.—Saturday 14th December saw the annual scramble between the buns and the children, and as usual the kiddies ran out easy winners. Tea—a handsome spread—was served at 4.30 p.m., and the members did well with a strange weapon, the teapot, instead of the usual bow and arrow (or Brendi—ahem!) under the eagle eyes of their ladies.

The "orderlies" had their tea while Mr. Punch entertained all the fathers and most of the children at the other end of the drill hall.

Then followed the ever popular Aunt Sally. Sergeants Munt and Haley certainly seem made for leading ladies in this production, and if the parents were as good shots as the offspring it would be listed as a dangerous occupation.

C.S.M. Tanner, Sergt Brown and L/Corpl Mackenzie were the principals in a comic boxing match—very amusing to the boys, who seemed to want to practise it; while musical chairs and goal kicking with a football for prizes helped the time to pass quickly until the arrival at 8.45 of Sergt Brown as Father Christmas. He came in Sergt Webb's car, driven up a ramp into a drill hall lit only by two spotlights and the shining eyes of the children. He quite looked the part as he handed each child a Christmas card, 2/6, a tin of toffees, and a bag of fruit.

Colonel Reid was observed enjoying "ring o' roses" among other things. Little Bobbie Tanner and Jose Jordan were each presented with a bottle of milk for having grown most during the past year; while Sergt Birch enjoyed the Punch and Judy show more than anyone else present.

Thanks are due to all who combined to make this one of the most enjoyable functions of the year. As the youngsters dispersed

with arms full and tired but beaming faces, the organisers were well rewarded.

The evening was concluded by a concert for the elders in the sergeants mess, for which a party was engaged and gave an excellent performance.

Weapon Training Courses.—Making sure of the shield again ? Sergt Sealey, Lance-Sergeant Jordan and L/Corporals Nutting and Harding have been attending an interesting course of instruction at the London School of Instruction, Regent's Park Barracks.

POLYH.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and Affiliated S.R. Units.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 12/12/35.

General.—These notes will be the last we shall compile under our present unit title, as after the 14th December we cease to be the 47th Divisional Signals. What we are then to become is apparently not yet known—at least, *we* haven't been told. The only crumb of satisfaction given us so far is information that we *shall* become something and not " get the sack."

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

The work on individual training and instructional courses for the 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 18th December and will re-open on the 6th January.

We omitted to mention last month that Armistice Day was commemorated as usual. A party of one officer and eight other ranks represented the unit at the Armistice service at the London Troops Memorial, Royal Exchange. The Lord Mayor and his Sheriffs attended, together with many city and other notables.

As in previous years, a small representative party from the unit took part in the British Legion Ceremony of Remembrance at the Albert Hall on Armistice Day.

Saturday 7th December saw our drill hall converted into a picture palace, when we were given a cinema entertainment (talkies). The main pictures concerned gas: not the kind "gassed" about at Disarmament Conferences, but the stuff so fashionable among suicides. A few comic films were shown, and a fishy one showing how salmon are caught. Owing to the very bad weather, the attendance was not so good as was anticipated, although the show was buckshee!

The result of the efficiency competition for the year 1st Nov. 1934 to 31st October 1935 shows F Section on top, with E and No. 204 M.A.B. Sections second and third respectively. This is a very comprehensive competition, which takes into account such matters as attendance at drills, week-end trainings and annual training, Trade Board results, musketry exercises, average scores at musketry, general efficiency at annual training, and introduction of recruits.

Officers.—The monthly dinner was held on the 5th December, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Lieut. E. A. Bennett has transferred to the R.A.S.C. (T.A.) We wish him success in the future.

Sergeants Mess.—We held our second annual dinner and dance on Saturday 30th November. About one hundred and thirty officers and Mess members attended, with their wives and friends of both sexes, and enjoyed an excellent dinner and an exceptionally jolly dance afterwards.

During dinner our president, C.Q.M.S. Elms, presented Lieut.-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard with a parting gift from the Mess on terminating his period of command of this unit. Our new commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., M.INST.C.E., M.I.MECH.E., in responding to the toast of " Our Guests " given by our president, spoke of the unit's past, and just a little of the future, which apparently is veiled in obscurity if not mystery. Mrs. Humphreys gave a very witty and amusing speech in replying for the ladies.

Immediately after dinner, " decks were cleared for action " and dancing commenced at 9.30 and was carried on until midnight. Judging from the comments of many of those present, that evening was the most enjoyable the Mess has ever had.

On the 17th October we had a visit from Mr. Arthur L. Goundrill, the one-handed billiard champion. He gave us a very interesting and enjoyable evening's entertainment, during which he played one of our members in a game of billiards and another in a game of snooker. He beat them both—literally "one-hand."

Make a note that our next dance will be on the 1st February, and come along.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following. Lance-Sergeants Bugden, Pettifer and Binnie to Sergeant. Corporals Romer, Potter, Hobbs, Watts and Cheesley to L/Sergt. L/Corporals Harvey-Smith and Hawkes to Corporal. Signalmen Ward, King, Williamson and Hill to L/Corporal.

Annual Training.—We understand that we are going to Wannock, near Eastbourne, for our 1936 camp. We sincerely hope it will not be the same spot as the last time we were there ; but if it is, may we have some—no, all fine weather!

Shooting.—On Friday 15th November we shot against the 7th Middlesex Regiment and lost by a small margin. We are meeting them again at their headquarters in the near future, and hope to " put it across 'em " with a big margin.

Social.—Our dances are still popular. Make a note of these dates: 11th and 25th January: and come along for an enjoyable evening.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

If it were not for starting the New Year badly, I am afraid these notes would be conspicuous by their absence this month. But my readers must not be disappointed, so with a sigh I pick up the journalistic pen (ahem!) and dip it in the font whence all knowledge flows.

Instruction.—Our instructors courses are still in session. One group has been attending a drill and weapon training course at the Birmingham School, Thorp Street, Birmingham, whilst Sergt Colquhoun did his share in a lump and departed to Bulford, where besides acquiring great skill and cunning with the lethal weapon he appears to have had a very appreciable time in the 3rd Divl Signals mess.

Worcester Exercise.—A detachment of G Section, under 2/Lt. P. M. Bowen, proceeded to Worcester on Sunday 1st December to take part in an indoor exercise in co-operation with the 67th Field Brigade Royal Artillery, T.A. From a Signal point of view, a very successful day's training was performed.

D.R. Exercise.—The D.R.s, under Captain A. G. Simpson, were engaged in a scheme in the Cotswold district on Sunday 24th November. The D.R. Club members now carry badges on their machines.

Congratulations.—To Captain E. N. R. Soutter on gaining his third pip.

Agony.—We would greatly like to hear from Jock Laing, Tich Green and Bill Sargent.

Evidence that there might have been motor cycles in Shakespeare's times:—

" I will remedy this gear ere long or sell " (*Henry VI.*)
" May drive into a fine " (*Merchant of Venice*)
" A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!" (*Richard III.*)

Death.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Corpl Samuel William Gould, on Friday 13th December 1935, as the result of an accident on the 1st November. He was our n.c.o. i/c despatch riders, and although he was a comparatively newcomer in our midst he was more than popular, and the unit will feel his loss as he had proved himself an efficient n.c.o.

J.G.T.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

Belated.—The best of wishes for the season and a bright and prosperous New Year to all ranks of the Corps, from all ranks of this unit.

General.—The first sixty-hour course terminated on the 17th December. All attending it have done extremely well. The

standard of operating has shown a marked improvement, and a general keenness for further participation in these courses prevails.

A course for regimental signallers has been held in this unit during the past fortnight. We are always pleased to meet these Signal representatives of other units in the Division, and it does a great deal to foster the close co-operation which is so necessary between all Signals of a Formation. We hope that they have enjoyed their short visit to us, and that they have benefited as much as they hoped. It was noticed that the D.iii. became very popular with them—especially with one member who remarked "I hope I get one for a Christmas present." I have heard old soldiers say that it is possible to buy a D.iii. cheap in the thieves' bazaar in Peshawar. Perhaps someone in the Peshawar District Signals will see this plea—but not this Christmas!

Editorial.—It is regretted that notes this month are sparse, owing to our scribes having been kept busy with preparations for forthcoming events, social and otherwise. We hope to rectify this next month. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Operator and linemen courses reach the half-way mark in just under two weeks from now; and, after a fourteen days break, it is our intention to carry them on until the Trade Board is due to arrive. Owing to the invaluable assistance given us by the instructors from the Scottish Command Signal Company, it is unanimously agreed that this winter's courses have been the best ever.

A few of our pupils are hoping to reach Group E standard before the New Year break, and to all of them we offer our best wishes. To those who have fallen away in their attendance, we can only say "Look what you have missed." Still, you will have one more chance after you have recovered from the Hogmanay festivities. Roll along! there are still one or two vacancies on the roll.

Recreation.—Badminton and table tennis are still very popular in Stirling, and a lot of energy is expended each Monday, Wednesday and Friday on the court in the hall. This goes with a swing, but there are still plenty of members who have not yet shown up.

We wish No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company every success in their endeavour to win the Aberdeen and District Badminton League, and shall follow their fortunes with interest. We also note their challenge to us, but regret that we have not become proficient enough to play a match against another team one hundred and twenty miles away. If they have any solution, we should be glad to know of it. We are willing to receive any tips they can spare.

A very pleasant evening was spent in the hall on Monday last, 2nd December, when an all ranks tournament was played off on the knock-out principle. Prizes were presented to the winners and runners-up by Captain James Cochran, both for badminton and table tennis, and refreshments were kindly provided for all by the officers. It is with regret that we have to record that the attendance fell far below our expectations, and it is hoped that all members of the Company will try a little harder to get here when the next function becomes due. The standard of play, if not high, was adequately made up for in keenness, and knocking out the "rabbits" was not quite so easy as it looked.

It is hoped that this tournament will be the forerunner of many others, and that more will be encouraged to turn up in future. It is also intended to hold a smoking concert for all ranks early in the New Year, and as admission and refreshments will be free, we are hoping for a full house.

Re-Engagements.—Followers of the wanderings of this Company will be delighted to know that we have succeeded in holding on to the services of John Thomson for another year. The pay roll is therefore still in safe hands. I am authorised by him to say that it is not correct to say that he was born in this hall; but it was just somewhere near it. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

The Old Wish.—A happy and prosperous 1936 to all Signals at home and abroad.

Entertainments.—The second Company dance will be held on the 13th December. A good company is assured, and we are all looking forward to a very enjoyable evening.

Rifle Club.—The first monthly prize (a silver medal) was won by L/Corpl Young J. with a handicapped score of 99. This score was run very closely with 98's and 97's by several other members of the Club. Get your eyes down, lads, for the next Company competition. A silver medal will again be the prize.

Training.—Winter courses are progressing favourably, both at Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline. The O.C., during his visits, has remarked on the keenness shown. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

1936.—We greet the Corps in many lands. It is the wish of the Territorials and Supplementary Reservists of the Signals at Glasgow that all prosperity may attend their comrades throughout the year. Here's to those we know so well! Leeds, Aldershot and the Cockneys; Loralai, Rawalpindi and Meerut; we salute you. We think of you, too, in Cairo, Hong Kong and Malta. A guid New Year tae yin and 'a!

The Armistice.—The great day was, as usual, suitably observed by the Lowland Signal units. There was an excellent turn out of all ranks on the parade which marched past the Cenotaph in George Square. The officers on parade were Lieut. J. B. Lindsay (T.A.) and Lieut. W. Johnstone (S.R.) The unit wreath found its place amongst the tributes to our fallen comrades. Our detachment presented a fine appearance. The eagerness of our younger lads to participate in the Armistice parade is highly commendable.

Recruiting.—The C.O., adjutant and permanent staff are not allowing the grass to grow beneath their feet. A good start has already been made with recruiting. The results, especially for the T.A., are regarded as satisfactory. The right type of recruit is being secured.

Tough Training.—Our youthful Sergt McCulloch of the T.A. has recently returned from a concentrated physical training course at Edinburgh. The move to provide additional P.T. instructors is a wise one and must prove of great benefit to the units.

Merited Medals.—We congratulate Sergeants Bodys W. S. and Livingstone J. and Corporal Wright J. P. on the award of the Territorial efficiency medal.

Football.—A start with the season's curriculum has been made by the Football Club. R.S.M. Brandon is meanwhile at the helm. No effort is being spared to ensure success in the Glasgow Amateur League.

Adieu, Atkinson!—We were indeed pleased to welcome Sergt Fred Atkinson (late of Tidworth) who called on us recently, prior to his departure for China. We wish our old P.S. man the best of luck. May he and his family prosper in that far off land!

Scotsman's Corner.—Dear Harry. It was "F." Don't argue!

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 16/12/35.

Individual training has commenced, and the P.S.I.s and selected unit n.c.o.s are busily trying to insert seeds of knowledge under the cranium crusts. Lectures are in full swing and numerous blackboards have been taken into use. Some weird and wonderful diagrams are to be seen all over the place. We look forward to the time when, about July and August next, those seeds will be flowers in full bloom. Rumour has it that the spot where this display will take place is Ilfracombe. It sounds good and will be something new for us.

Judging by the rumbling sounds which emerge from the lower rooms of the Tower, we wonder whether the six-wheeler is being fitted with paddles for the journey over the Bristol Channel or whether it is just a few expressions of opinion by the "Q" department regarding the need of inserting a few "care of equipment" seeds under the above mentioned cranium crusts.

A well attended smoker was held on the 14th November, at which opportunity was taken of bidding farewell to C.S.M. Spillman W. and Sergeant Brundell A. A suitably inscribed silver cigarette case was presented to C.S.M. Spillman by Captain F. T. Arnold on behalf of No. 3 Company, and Sergt Brundell received a clock from Captain V. W. Hawkins on behalf of No. 2 Company. We are happy to congratulate ex-C.S.M. Spillman on his appointment as an inspector at Doncaster Post Office. He was with this

unit for many years, having previously served with the 13th Division Signals during the war.

We congratulate C.S.M. Pugsley F. on his promotion to that rank vice C.S.M. Spillman. Sergeant-Major Pugsley is a pre-war member and he served with the 53rd throughout the war. Congratulations, also, to Sergt Alexander G. C. L. on his appointment to commissioned rank in the Carmarthen Fortress R.E. (T.). The D.R. Section has suffered a severe blow in losing him. He has, however, left them plenty of ideas which they would do well to follow.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s Mess held a very successful reunion on the occasion of their fourteenth annual dinner at the drill hall on the 7th December. Our hon. colonel, Lieut.-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., was absent, but he sent his good wishes for the occasion and expressed his regret at not being able to attend.

Most of the officers of the unit were present at the dinner and very much enjoyed the n.c.o.s' hospitality. A reference to the Ashanti war by the D.C.S.O. (Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.) was very well received.

The old timers of the 53rd (Welsh) Divl Signals R.E. (T.) held their fifth annual reunion at the Philharmonic Hotel, Cardiff, on the 16th November. Captain-Q.M. W. S. Catleugh was in the chair. They gathered from all parts and numbered seventy. Anyone who served with the 53rd Signals during the war will be welcomed at this reunion which takes place annually at 7 p.m. on the Saturday following Armistice Day at the above mentioned hotel.

Agony.—Lost, one R.E. sword. The chap who lent it is going about with a nasty glint in his eye, and the one who borrowed it is fearful that the owner will be tempted to use it on him when it is found.

More Rumours.—The D.R.s are to have that workshop and lecture room after all. THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

Change of Command.—Congratulations to Major Lilley on his promotion and appointment as second-in-command of the unit. He was always held in the highest esteem by all ranks of the Company whilst Company commander. Captain Beck has now taken over in his stead, and we extend our heartiest congratulations to him also, with the comforting feeling that the Company will be kept up to its present good standard of efficiency.

Unit Boxing.—Once again No. 1 Company won the unit inter-Company boxing, but by no means easily and with the knowledge that either of the other Companies might have done so instead with just a little variation in the luck of the game. It has been said by those who have witnessed the boxing since its inception in this unit that the standard exhibited was the highest ever, and there is no doubt that this—as far as the Stratford Companies are concerned—was due to the untiring efforts of Sergt Hitchin (P.S.I. of No. 2 Company) in training the teams.

The Company was represented by Signalmen Thompson, Rix, Griffiths E., Griffiths A., Mathews, Winterhalder, Booker, Kemp, Reynolds and Trayer. Signalmen Thompson, Winterhalder and Booker won their weights, but from a Company point of view Sigmn Rix deserves special mention, as he gained more points for the Company than any other competitor although he lost in the final of his weight to Winterhalder.

Unit Dance.—The annual dance and trophy presentation took place at the West Ham Baths on the 6th December, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all who attended. The fact that the Company had had a most successful year was evident by the number of trophies we received, and our O.C. and C.S.M. must have felt very weary after their constant trips to the presentation table. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Since our last notes we have fitted twenty-five men of the unit with blue patrol suits, and in the near future we hope to have the whole unit in blues. This should improve recruiting by 100 per cent. We are at present very busy in getting ready for the unit annual dance, of which we will tell you more later (if we can remember).

Training.—Our budding Marconis are in fine fettle, the following being the answers given to two questions. "A molecule is composed of two electro irons." "Ohms are the initials printed on the envelopes used by the Government, Naval and *Millinery* officials."

From punching the key to punching one another's noses was the step taken by all the operators in the Company boxing. Future excursions in search of trophies by operators during 1936 include New Year's resolutions and the V/T and W/T cups.

Boxing.—The inter-Company boxing was a great success, in which No. 1 Company came out on top. The standard of boxing is the highest ever reached, and the boxers are to be congratulated on their fine performances in the ring.

Arrival.—A hearty welcome is extended to our new adjutant, Captain R. H. Hooper, and we hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Departures.—It is with much regret that we say good-bye to our old adjutant, for he has done so much to build up the unit. We wish him the very best and hope he will come up and see us some time.

Jewish Mail.—Jolly good hunting!

Tailpiece.—When are travelling claims being paid out ?

BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Congratulations.—Hearty congratulations to our late commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., on his appointment as Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command. Also to Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D., on his promotion and assuming command of the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals. A wreath of laurels, also, to Major J. Lilley (once of No. 3 Company, may we mention) on his recent promotion and appointment as second-in-command.

Boxing.—In case no one gives us a pat on the back, we'll give ourselves one and say "Very well done!" to the staunch lads who bled for us at Stratford on the 3rd December.

Foremost amongst the gladiators stands Schnozzle, our tame hurricane. He did not disappoint the critics. Clamping his teeth together with a spanner, he set sail amongst the lions of Stratford and succeeded in wresting five valuable points from them. Well done, Schnoz! we prophesy great things for you.

Boy Ewing, enlisting only a week prior to the competition, put his back into things and produced three points for us. He unfortunately injured his arm during his first fight, or he would no doubt have gained a further victory.

Sigmn Dunce was also a winner, but was rather surprised at the exceptionally good fight put up by his opponent, Sigmn Reynolds of No. 1 Company, who has made startling progress. Congratulations, Reynolds! a jolly fine scrap. Sigmn Fry also won his fight, as did Signalmen Laflin and Maslyn.

Of the ten men who represented No. 3 Company, six won their first fights ; and whilst heartily congratulating No. 1 Company on their success in retaining the boxing cup, we feel assured that in 1936 they will have a real tough job in keeping it from coming south.

Our coach load of supporters assure us that they enjoyed a thoroughly good evening's sport, and we take this opportunity of thanking our Stratford opponents for their arrangements and hospitality to our team.

Unit Dance.—This was held at the Municipal Baths, Romford Road, on the 6th December and proved to be a really enjoyable function. During the evening we were presented with the athletic shield and visual trophy, which were won by the Company during annual training in 1935. Congratulations are due to No. 1 Company on having the heaviest load of trophies to carry home. Music was provided by Sergt Barnett A. and his band, who made a real success of it. How *do* you get that fiddle under your chin, Alf ?

A large railed-off area was noticed in the sergeants mess, labelled "Tom Sayers," but to our sorrow it was not filled. What was the matter, Tom ? Get lost in the fog, or were you fishing ?

Greetings.—A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all, especially to C.S.M. and Mrs. F. Dowie, Sergt and Mrs. Hancock, Corpl Wilbraham J., and our friends of J Section, 4th Divl Signals,

Recruiting.—During the month our numbers have shown a substantial increase, and we are within striking distance of 100 per cent. strength. The suggestion has been heard that a recruiting cup, or trophy or shield, be numbered amongst the unit trophies and awarded annually to the Company producing the most recruits.

A Sticker.—The member of No. 3 Company who tried hard to polish the drill hall floor with powdered resin! THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Drill Hall, Ashburnham Road, Bedford, 6/12/35.

General.—Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, and so is old Tom Sayers. That's only tit for tat! *Note*: When you have read it, there won't be any sense in it.

Some members of the unit leave to-night for Stratford to attend the annual dance. It is with deep regret that I shall not be with them. My wife says " . . . . . Yes, my lad, remember annual camp." Nuff said.

Extra Duty.—The linemen, together with the P.S.I. and the C.O., proceeded to Yeldon rifle range on Sunday 1st inst. to inspect and test the underground cable used for the telephone on the range. It was decided to start at the butt end, and the first test was to the 100 yards firing point: result, nil. This state of affairs continued for 500 yards, and it was then decided to pack up. The cable has been buried for fourteen years, so I really think the secretary of the Association should have a new line put in. This will be our job (we hope) and the lads are looking forward to a bit of underground cable work.

Social.—Our dance, with sausages, did not come off on the 30th November as previously advertised. The reason does not matter, but I think it will be all right for the 14th of this month. If so, you will know all about it.

" Bullets."—Example: An inside job. Bullet: Two dinners on plate. (Strictly copyright.) TOMASS.

London Divisional Signals.

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

The London Division.—On the 15th December 1935 the London Division was constituted from troops of the 56th (1st London) and the 47th (2nd London) Divisions. This unit is proud to report that it has been chosen to be the Divisional Signals for the new Division. Our new title will be " The London Divisional Signals." Application has been made for permission to retain our connection with the City of London by the addition to our title of the words " City of London Signals."

Annual Prize Giving.—This was held on Friday 6th December, and we were honoured by the presence of Field-Marshal the Viscount Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.C.L., LL.D., who very kindly presented the prizes. The very distinguished company included Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., commander of the London Division which came into being on the 15th December, Colonel Evelyn Wood, D.S.O., O.B.E., the secretary of the City of London Territorial Association, Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E., and the commanding officers of nearly all the units of the old 56th (1st London) Division T.A.

The programme commenced with the distribution of prizes and then, while the guests enjoyed some refreshment, the stern business of paying out proficiency grants and travelling allowances took place. The proceedings ended with a very good concert given by the Roosters, who were in their best form. Below is appended a report of the speeches.

COLONEL G. D. OZANNE, M.C., M.I.E.E., commanding officer, said his audience would have heard of the recent decision of the Government to increase the defence forces of the Empire. Such a step was extremely expensive, and the cost of this would fall heavily on the taxpayers of this country. If it were not for the voluntary forces which are now in existence, it would be almost impossible to defend the Empire. He therefore wished his audience to realise how important these voluntary forces were. Of these, the Territorial Army is the greatest.

He would like his audience to think for a moment of the tremendous thing the Territorial Army is, not only to this country but as a factor of peace throughout the world. They were all anxious for peace, prosperity and work for all, and the strength of the Territorial Army was important to ensure this. The personnel must be well trained and well equipped in the future. Many of his audience knew that at the commencement of the Great War the Territorial Army came forward, and from them grew the finest Army we have ever had.

Those of his audience who were serving or had served would go home and know that they had done their duty. Those who had not served or had friends who were not serving should go home and think over the matter. They would come to the conclusion that the men who were serving were doing the right thing by belonging to the Territorial Army.

His audience had before them a list of prizes, and would notice that they were not so numerous as in some other units. We in Signals had little opportunity to enter for competitions. Despite this, the unit was in the closest possible touch with units of all arms of the Service in the Division. In nine days this would be the only Divisional Signals in London.

He would like to mention recruiting. When the City of London Signals came here two years ago, they were 150 strong. Since that date they have lost 87 men and have enlisted 205, making a strength of 268. They would shortly be starting a waiting list, so those who are thinking of joining should hurry up. They were particular in selecting those who joined the unit and only took young men of good education.

The City of London Signals had the finest despatch riders of any Territorial Signal unit in the country, and was the only unit to be over strength in that category.

He wished to offer the very grateful thanks of the unit to Colonel Evelyn Wood, of the City of London Territorial Association, who had done so much for them. He also wished to thank Major-General P. R. C. Commings, who, incidentally, had just informed him of his appointment to command the new London Division.

The unit had to say good-bye to two distinguished officers who had been with them since its inception. He referred to Captains F. C. McMurray and W. J. E. Gammage. The unit was very sorry to lose them. On the other hand, he was glad to welcome back Major A. V. D. Hort, who was until recently second-in-command and was now returning from the Reserve to command No. 3 Company.

Colonel Ozanne then referred to the good work done by Lieut. G. W. Gray in the Rifle Club, by Lieut. P. L. M. Day in the School at Arms, and Sergeants Collins and Fairchild and Corporals Blau and McAllister, who had done so much hard work in training recruits. He also paid a tribute to the work of R.S.M. Hales A. G. in raising recruits.

He was very sorry to have to announce that Corporal Brett, of No. 3 Company, had died suddenly on the 5th December following an operation.

They were all very grateful to Lord Allenby for coming out, probably at considerable inconvenience, to be with them and to present the prizes.

FIELD-MARSHAL THE VISCOUNT ALLENBY said it gave him great pleasure to be at Signal House, and despite what Colonel Ozanne had said, he had been put to no inconvenience whatsoever. He had been very interested to hear the many good points raised by Colonel Ozanne, especially as regards the voluntary service which has been given and will be given by all British speaking peoples.

He was the commander of Cavalry in Flanders at the beginning of the war. He saw the dirt and filth of that war, and he thought he could say that we as a nation did not want war, and he did not think there was a nation in the world who *did* want it. We who were the leading representatives of democracy did not believe in these rumours of war, but whenever a great crisis had arisen all men and women had responded to the great call of their Empire. Great Britain was still the greatest country in the world, and if they kept together it would always be so.

MAJOR-GENERAL P. R. C. COMMINGS said: I wonder if all of you in the City of London Signals, and those present who are not members of the Signals, realise what a very great honour we have had bestowed on us this evening, for it is no mean thing in the history of the Signals to have here this evening at our prize giving a very famous soldier—a Field-Marshal and one of the finest examples of an English gentleman and a citizen.

The Signals form the most important part of the Division, and I am very pleased to say that the City of London Signals have

maintained a very high standard of efficiency during the past year. During the year there have been many important things which have marked the life of the City of London Signals, the most outstanding of which was His Majesty's Silver Jubilee. It remains for me to congratulate them on the excellence of their parade that day. The loyalty of those who made it their business to attend is worthy of the highest praise, and we sympathise with those who through no fault of their own were unable to attend, for I am sure that you all did your best to do so. There was also your training camp at Aldershot at Easter. All who attended are to be congratulated, and also those who made the excellent arrangements which gave the greatest of happiness to all concerned; and we offer our best thanks and gratitude to the Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot, for their help.

I should like to congratulate your despatch riders on their clever riding display. I think that Colonel Ozanne and those with him can look back on the past year and say that everything has been highly satisfactory and successful.

Colonel Ozanne spoke of building up the strength of your unit. I don't understand your complicated and technical trades, but when we look back to 1930 your strength was 162. In 1933 the year was kept fully occupied by the building of this very fine drill hall. At the end of September 1933 you came into this hall and your strength then was 150. Now this evening, on the 6th Dec. 1935, your strength is 268 out of an establishment of 348; and that, to me, is a most satisfactory increase. To my mind, the enthusiasm and determination of your commanding officer have been responsible for that very fine result.

I take this opportunity of saying something with regard to recruiting. I think we should concentrate our minds on this unit only, and I think it is the duty of those who are not members of the Signals to think of becoming recruits. Our dear old country is better off, both financially and from the point of freedom, than any other country in the world. We are the most peace-loving nation in the world, and we are determined to maintain peace and progress along that road which leads to prosperity, through the members which the country has given to the Government recently. If we are to attain this ideal, we must all realise that we must be able to protect ourselves and defend our country. Those of you who don't belong to the Territorial Army should follow the Field-Marshal's example and join up to do your bit for your country. It is up to your mothers and fathers to encourage you to do so. Perhaps those who have not joined don't realise that the Territorial Army is designed to protect the country.

I want to say that this evening, to me—as it must be to many of you—has been most enjoyable. It is delightful to be here as your guest, but there is no escape from the sad fact that this is the last time we shall be together at a prize giving as part of the 56th Division. On the 15th December the 56th and 47th Divisions will be no more, and a new Division is to be formed which will be known as the London Division. Now, all I want to say is this: If we form the London Division with keenness and true spirit, that Division will become in the eyes of the authorities one which is formed in the interests of the country, and therefore it is up to us to see that the future London Division is never found wanting.

When the New Year arrives, Colonel Ozanne will leave you for other spheres of soldiering. Colonel Ozanne is an officer whose determined character, imperturbable personality, shouldering of responsibility, and determination to gain the greatest honours for the Service and the Signals, have made him a commanding officer respected by all. He will be greatly missed. I offer him the very best wishes from us all, and to his wife, who throughout his command has had the welfare of all around her at heart.

General Commings also referred in glowing terms to the work of the Lines of Communication Signals, Supplementary Reserve, and read extracts from a letter from General Sir Cyril J. Deverell, K.C.B., K.B.E., A.D.C., for whom they functioned as a Corps Signals during the Army manœuvres.

Despatch Riders Club Trial.—This event was organised by Lieut. S. J. Lovegrove and 2/Lieut. R. E. Denison-Pender, and was held on the land of Lord Chesham near Latimer, Buckinghamshire, on Sunday 8th December. We are greatly indebted to five members of the Banks and Insurance Motor Cycle Club who very kindly came out and acted as observers. Lieut. B. J. Milnes and the permanent staff provided the remainder. To show that the trial was a success, the report of the event published in *Motor Cycling* dated 11th December 1935 is reprinted here by the kind permission of the editor.

Fine weather, an excellent day's sport and good fellowship such as only Service training can give, epitomize the trial held last Sunday by the Despatch Riders Section, City of London Signals. The trial was out of the ordinary in many ways. For one thing, petrol was free to competitors! For another, no route marking was used, the riders being each issued with a route card and a map and sent off at two minute intervals to find their own way over about twenty miles of Buckinghamshire byways.

No "COMPS."—Having negotiated one circuit of the course, the D.R.s were then required to do so in the opposite direction, approximately forty minutes being allowed for each circuit. Marks were deducted for failing to keep to time schedule, also for stopping, footing, stalling the engine, and failure to pass an observer. No "comp." tyres were permitted. Besides testing the riding ability of these part-time soldiers, the trial was a good test of their ability to find their way across country with the help of a map, and considering that the route card consisted merely of a list of map reference numbers, right well they acquitted themselves. Although the men were in plain clothes, the start at Hockley Farm, near Chesham, presented quite a military scene with the large Army lorry, signal flags to denote the starting point, and the general atmosphere of Service efficiency. When the *Motor Cycling* man arrived on the scene of action he found the two organising officers, Lieut. S. J. Lovegrove and 2/Lieut. R. Denison-Pender, poring over a map and conversing in cryptic sentences such as "He's going to observe on 432187," and so on. Even when presented with a map and a route card all to himself, the *Motor Cycling* man thought it wiser to accept the officers' services as guide to the sections.

OBSERVED SECTION 433188.—The first obstacles to be watched were 433188 and 432187, which (translated) were two watersplashes in a large field. One was deep and wide, the other being fairly narrow with a muddy exit. Some doubts were entertained by the officials as to whether the water was not too deep—even for D.R.s—but Sigmn Garton (Royal Enfield) showed that it could be done. Raising his feet almost to the level of his handlebars, he motored through very steadily in a cloud of steam. Thinking that two men are definitely better than one when lifting his machine out of difficult spots, Sigmn Holland (Panther) carried his helper on the pillion throughout the entire length of the trial—except when they were parted by force of circumstances. They crossed the river successfully but slid to earth on the slippery grass on the other side. Another to make a good show in the first watersplash was Sigmn Swanson, riding a B.S.A. Sloper. He was not so fortunate in the second one, however, and a great column of steam marked the spot where he stopped. He was not the only rider to do this, Corpl Sulsh, on a very handsome chromium-plated International Norton, finding the ground clearance a trifle on the low side. He rested for quite a while in splash No. 2 (or should it be 432187 ?) and Sigmn Somerfield (Levis) passed him at speed, showering mud and water in all directions. The exit from this field was by way of a gate having a pronounced step and, owing to the difficult approach, this caused nearly everyone to stop. In fact, the only D.R. to negotiate it successfully was Sigmn Somerfield, who handled his mount in quite professional style. Sigmn Darkin (Rudge), looking very smart in black racing leathers, found that competition tyres would have helped a lot when he stopped in the mud with wheelspin.

THE LOST "BATTALION."—On leaving these observed sections, our reporter proceeded under escort to Hollins Hall Hill. This was known to the initiated as 463196, but apparently some of the D.R.s got the numbers mixed up and, instead of going up the hill, they could be heard roaring through the wood at the top. All those who got the formula right rather wished they had not been so clever when they saw what faced them. It was a very steep climb in a leaf-surfaced gully, and no one was successful in reaching the top without assistance. The second man actually to find the hill was Sigmn Early (Norton), who managed to get farther up the incline than most before wheelspin stopped his forward progress. Whilst he was being assisted to the top Corpl Sulsh and his International arrived on the scene, and although the latter rider made a very creditable effort to avoid the worst, the combination of high gearing and low ground clearance proved too

[*Continued at foot of col. 2, page 40*]

SPORTS NOTES

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—For all who may be interested in the sport side of this Company, here is a short account of the match in which No. 3 Section Royal Signals met the Depot Battalion Royal Engineers (Boys) in the third round of the enlisted boys Army Association football cup which was played at Chatham on the 9th December.

Arriving at Kitchener Barracks at 4.30 p.m. on the 6th, the Royal Engineers promptly made us feel at home, although one or two superstitious minds regarded the number (13) of our barrack room as an unlucky omen. Thanks to the splendid fare and the goodwill afforded us by the Sappers, the following day dawned with our lads in the best of spirits and keyed up for the match, but unfortunately the weather had a say in the matter and owing to a heavy fog the match had to be postponed for two days—much to the gratification of the boys, who were settling down to a good time. Light training was the rule over the week-end, and Monday afternoon came with our team in fine fettle.

The match was witnessed by quite a large crowd, including some civilians, who showed their appreciation of the spirit of both teams. After a very keen game in which both teams, though somewhat robust, played fine football, we finished with the score equal at 1—1.

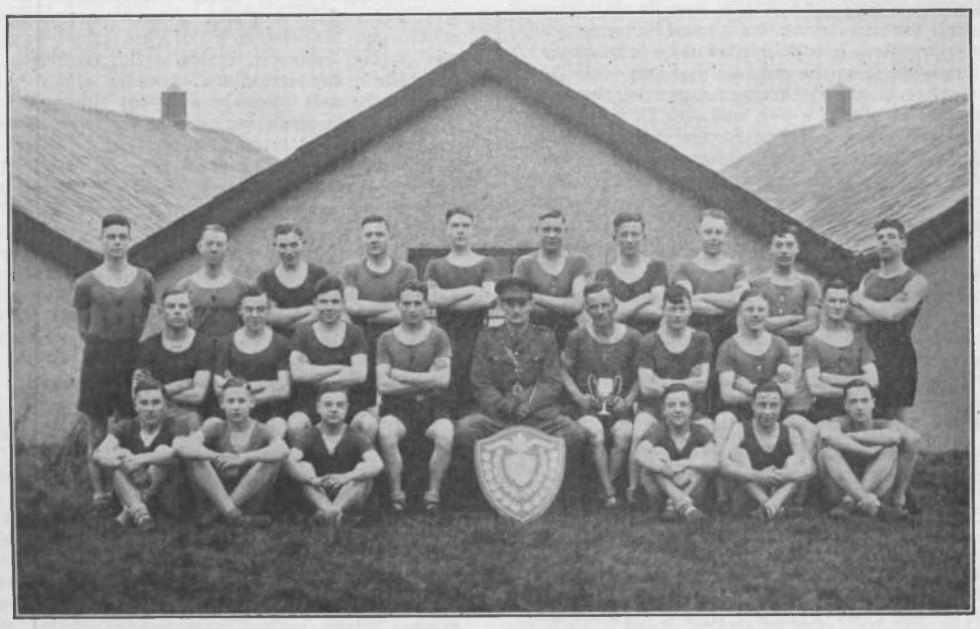
The Royal Engineers settled down immediately to an attacking game and pressed continually, and it was not a surprise when half-time found them one goal to the good. On resumption we had more of the game but met an excellent defence, and it was not until near the end that Terrey equalised with a splendid shot from just outside the penalty area. We decided to play extra time of ten minutes each way. Soon after the commencement of this the R.E.s scored again—due, no doubt, to the fact that our defence was now weakening, one of our backs having been crocked. Soon after the Sappers scored again from a free kick taken just outside the penalty area. Nothing daunted, our boys fought back, but the final whistle blew with our team defeated by two goals.

We were beaten by a better team, but had the consolation of discovering a footballer in Boy Page, who throughout the game played splendidly and aroused the admiration of both spectators and players by the amount of work he did and his keen tackling. Our thanks are due to Colonel Firth and all ranks of the Signals who kindly turned up and and gave us their support, and I think they will agree that it was a fine game played by two fine teams.

Here are the results of other matches played by teams from F Company.

GARRISON BOYS LEAGUE.

31/10/35 Operators "C" v. Cheshires, away, won by 7—0 (Player 4, Rixon 2, Westbrook)
31/10/35 I.M.s v. East Lancs, home, won by 13—0 (Cornish 4, Lander 4, Gamble 4, Allan)
31/10/35 E.F.s v. Essex Regiment, home, won by 4—1 (Evans, Galloway, Bowles, Murray)
2/11/35 Cameron Highlanders v. Royal Signals " A," home, lost by 0—2
25/11/35 K.O.S.B. v. Royal Signals " A," away, drew at 2—2 (Campion, Barr)
28/11/35 Royal Signals " E " v. Cameron Highlanders, won by 5—0 (Lander 3, Cornish, Gamble)
28/11/35 Royal Signals " D " v. K.O.S.B., away, lost by 2—3 (Galloway, Evans)
28/11/35 Royal Signals "A" v. Essex Regiment, away, won by 8—0 (Barr 2, Campion 2, Creed 2, Deane W., Ainsworth)
4/12/35 Royal Signals " D " v. Royal Signals " C," lost by 1—3 (" D " team, Galloway ; " C " team, Player, Watson, Quinn)
5/12/35 East Lancs v. Royal Signals " A," won by 4—1 (Own goal, Creed, Campion, Deane W.)
5/12/35 Royal Signals " B " v. Royal Signals " E," lost by 0—1 (Cornish scored the only goal of the match)
10/12/35 Royal Signals "A" v. Royal Signals " B," won by 2—1 ("A" team, Blackman, Deane W. ; " B " team, Harding)



F Company Boys Cross-Country Team.

Back row (l. to r.)—Boys Clover, Scott, Earl, Harrington, Jones, Clarke, Connor, Adams, Pitney and Crosten.
Front—Boys Butler, Brewster, Birch, Malone, Lander and Cornish.
Middle—Corpl Boy Terrey, Boys Moore, Roberts D. and Cullen, Lieut. P. R. Hyde, L/Cpl Blades T., Boys Valentine, Halstead and Campion.

KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION.

25/11/35 Royal Signals " B " v. Royal Scots Fusiliers, home, lost by 0—3

25/11/35 Royal Signals " E " v. Cheshires, home, won by 3—1 (Gamble 3)

Cross-Country.—The Company team won the third and last Mackworth trophy race. As they were also successful in the two previous runs, they have won the cross-country shield for the umpteenth time in succession. This shield has been in our custody for a long, long time—almost before some of the junior members of the Company were born, in fact. The team had worked well this season against the strongest opposition we have had for some time. In every run we were hunted home in a very determined fashion by the Dismounted Wing, who this year have surprised everyone by their ability and keenness.

The third run was also the S.T.C. individual championship. In this L/Corpl Blades T. gained first place and so holds the 50th Divl Signals (T.A.) challenge cup for the second year in succession. L/Corpl Blades, Corpl Boy Terrey, and Boys Butler and Clover were awarded S.T.C. " Jimmies."

Our representatives in the Battalion team, if few in number, keep their end up. L/Corpl Blades was first for the Battalion in both Garrison League runs, finishing tenth in the first and fifth in the second. Boys Clarke, Croston, Earl and Pitney were not frightened by the big fields encountered in the Garrison runs and were well up amongst the scorers in both runs.

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

[*See also Editorial Notes on page 2*]

Corps Boxing Match.—The outstanding sporting event of the past month was the boxing match between the London Fire Brigade and the Royal Corps of Signals (Aldershot) held at the Command Boxing Centre on the 3rd December last, commencing at 7 p.m. A good following turned up to witness an excellent evening's sport, which made the thoughts of many present turn to the old Church Hut at Maresfield where the London Fire Brigade twice fought the Corps.

There were twelve fights, of which the Royal Signals won nine and the Fire Brigade three, Signals winning the match by 21—15 points. Our representatives excelled themselves, and several of them have never fought better. They fought as if they realised that they were up against worthy opponents and brought out the very best of their ability.

Half way through the programme there was an exhibition match between Firemen Stuart and Shawyer. Tony Stuart, as we all know, has represented the Golden Glove Boxing Club, as has Fireman Shawyer. Their performance was in every sense an exhibition: they were a treat to watch. Stuart was testing out a damaged hand in readiness for his fight at the Albert Hall on the following night, and Shawyer was just having a loosener in readiness for his fights in Norway and Sweden, for which places he was leaving on the following day with the Golden Glove boxing team. They were heartily cheered by all present for a quick and skilful display of exhibition boxing. Our thanks to both of them.

Owing to a car breakdown, four of the Fire Brigade team were somewhat late in arriving, but to fill in the interval a special contest was staged between a second from each corner—Sergeant Parker of the Signals and Fireman Fraser—which was really amusing; but it should be remembered that, when you are holding your man on the floor, you are not allowed to bite him. It just isn't done!

Fireman Grainger (ex-Corps) put up a very good fight indeed against Sigmn Murdock.

Third light heavy weight—Fireman Jewson v. Sergeant Wheeler. The first round was very even, but in the next two rounds they mixed it more, and Jewson was awarded the verdict after a good close fight.

Fifth middle weight—Fireman Jones v. Signalman Paton. Jones scored well with his left in the first round, and Paton was bleeding freely from his nose. In the second round Jones swung a vicious left to the head and Paton took the count. A good fight, with plenty of action from Jones.

Fourth middle weight—Fireman Grainger v. Signalman Murdock. First round: Murdock definitely on top, stopping his man with hard lefts several times. Second round: even until the end, when Grainger floored Murdock, who was saved by the gong. Third round: Grainger's round. Murdock missed several times with wild uppercuts. Fourth round: even, fast and good. Murdock awarded the fight; Grainger a best loser.

Third welter weight—Fireman Ellis v. Sigmn Carruthers. The latter won a good close fight.

Third middle weight—Fireman Hickey v. Sigmn Nation. A good fight. Sigmn Nation knocked out his man in the third round. Hickey ran into one, and as he faltered Nation swung home another one which did the trick.

Second middle weight—Fireman Reeves v. L/Corporal Spencer. The latter put up an excellent fight against an older and more experienced opponent.

Second light heavy—Fireman Abbott v. Signalman Collett. An excellent fight which was a toss up until the third round, when Collett floored his man three times and the referee stopped the fight.

First light heavy—Fireman Sharp v. Sigmn Follows. An even fight which resulted in a win for Follows.

Second welter weight—Fireman Breed v. L/Corporal Milligan. Milligan was given the fight on a technical knock-out in the second round after swapping some good hard punches.

Light weight—Fireman Evans v. L/Corpl Kennedy. Both boxers mixed it from the gong and kept it up for four rounds; a good hearty fight which Kennedy won by a narrow margin.

First welter weight—Fireman Wright v. Signalman Barker. An excellent fight, with Barker piling up points. He is a very cool boxer, who is really good to watch. His opponent, Fireman Wright, was the best loser of the evening and took lots of punishment. Barker a worthy winner.

First middle weight—Fireman Vickery v. Sigmn Rogers. Rogers won by a technical knock-out in the third round.

The Chief Signal Officer, Aldershot Command (Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O.) was present and kindly presented the trophies to the competitors. At the conclusion he called for three cheers for the Fire Brigade, which were readily given by all, and the Fire Brigade responded with three rousing ones for the Corps. So ended an excellent evening's sport.

The return fixture will take place at Holborn Stadium, London, on the 14th January, commencing at 8 p.m.

Here are the results of previous meetings between the London Fire Brigade and the Royal Corps of Signals.

		L.F.B.		Signals
1923	Maresfield	11	...	13
15/ 4/24	People's Palace, London	12	...	12
27/11/24	Maresfield	11	...	13
3/ 1/25	National Sporting Club, London	17	...	19
23/11/27	Maida Drill Hall, Aldershot	14	...	13

Inter-Unit Team Championship.—Excellent boxing was provided at the Command Boxing Centre on Friday night, 22/11/35, when A Corps Signals defeated the 2nd Divl Signals by 23—19 points in the second of the series of inter-unit competitions for the Signals team championship.

Bantam weight—Sigmn Lloyd (A Corps) walked over.

Feather weight—First String: Signalman Sharkey (2nd Div.) and Sigmn O'Brien (A Corps) both boxed cleverly. They used the ring well and employed left leads of more than average strength and neatness. A very close bout over three rounds ended in a points decision for Sharkey, the referee congratulating both men. Second String: Sigmn Dunkin (A Corps) knocked out Sigmn Skidmore (2nd Div.) with the first blow of the fight.

Light weight—First String: Signalman Goldfinch (2nd Div.) and L/Corpl Kennedy (A Corps), well matched, opened at a great pace and, mixing matters with a vengeance, afforded a spectacular battle royal. Goldfinch, the harder hitter, connected with a vicious right hook on two occasions in the second round, but Kennedy replied strongly and there was little between the two when they came up for the final session. Goldfinch, although rather prone to wild swinging, carried the fight in this round, but Kennedy had totalled a sufficient margin to win by a fraction. A very close and spirited fight. Second String: A hard right to the " wind " as the bell signalled the close of the second round gave Sigmn Goodwin (A Corps) a big advantage over Signalman Waugh (2nd Div.), although Waugh came up smiling for the last round and scored with a smart two-handed attack. Goodwin, however, replied strongly and took a comfortable points verdict. The referee congratulated Waugh on a

plucky fight. Third String: Displaying the better ringcraft, Sigmn Weech (A Corps) soon had Sigmn Thirkell (2nd Div.) in difficulties, and a stiff right jab to the body put the 2nd Div. man down for a short count in the second round. Going still further ahead in the closing stages, Weech claimed an easy victory on points. A plucky loser.

Welter weight—First String: Two exceptionally good boxers whom I have seen in action before—and admired—Sigmn Barker (2nd Div.) and L/Corpl Spriggs (A Corps) set off at a cracking pace and both scored heavily with lefts to the jaw and right uppercuts. Spriggs, taller of the two, took first round honours, but Barker, a strong fighter, scored easily in a hectic second round. The final stage was anybody's fight, and one of the grandest contests of the evening ended in Barker taking a popular decision on points. Second String: Sigmn Carruthers (A Corps) received the verdict after the referee had disqualified L/Corpl Humby (2nd Div.) for holding, after repeated warnings, in the third round. Third String: Bright boxing—not without its humour—marked the opening round of the bout between L/Cpl O'Rourke (2nd Div.) and L/Corporal Milligan (A Corps), an exciting second session going in favour of Milligan, who sent his man to the canvas with a hard left hook. Milligan won on points. Fourth String: L/Corporal Evans (2nd Div.) took the decision in the first round, the referee disqualifying L/Corporal Brigg (A Corps) for hitting low after earlier warnings.

Middle weight—First String: A good darting left gave L/Corpl Spencer (2nd Div.) a good points lead over Sigmn Yates (A Corps), and this match-winning method of attack gave him a clear victory after three rounds of brisk boxing. Second String: A right to the point of the jaw put Sigmn Redgrave (2nd Div.) down for the count in the final round of his bout against L/Cpl Harris (A Corps). Third String: Forcing the fight, Sigmn Still (A Corps) took first round honours against Sigmn Stannard (2nd Div.) and went ahead to win by a clear margin of points.

Light heavy weight—Sergt Wheeler (2nd Div.), an old warrior of the ring, met Sigmn Craddock (A Corps), and after a rather one-sided display for two rounds the referee intervened in favour of Wheeler.

Heavy weight—Signalman Rogers (2nd Div.) knocked out Driver Finnegan (A Corps) in the first round.

Final points—A Corps Signals 23, 2nd Divl Signals 19.

The 2nd Divl Signals had previously beaten the 1st Divisional representatives, and the third (and final) contest between A Corps and the 1st Divisional teams was decided at the Command Boxing Centre. A Corps Signals won this by 23—19 points: the same score as against the 2nd Divl Signals.

Football.—The season to date has not been so successful as we had anticipated, but we have shocked a few teams who have regarded us as "easy meat." Our 5—1 win against the Royal Tank Corps gave our supporters plenty of scope for using that now famous phrase "That shook 'em."

We opened our Aldershot Command Senior League programme rather disastrously, being beaten by the South Staffordshire Regiment to the tune of 9—0. Their ability as footballers did not merit such an avalanche of goals, and it was obvious that their reputation was to a great extent responsible for such an overwhelming defeat.

It was, therefore, a surprise to ourselves, our supporters and the Tank Corps when we beat them by 5—1 only a week after our poor effort against the Staffords.

In our next League game we beat the 1st Divl Signals by 7—4, and we were beginning to think our luck had changed—the more so because both these recent successes had been on the grounds of our opponents.

A further away match against the 13th Field Brigade Royal Artillery resulted in a draw of 2—2, but we should have consolidated our position by at least four clear goals in the first half. We were leading by 2—1 goals up to five minutes from time, when a bad slip by our goalkeeper presented the Artillery with a goal and one precious point.

At home to the East Yorks Regiment, we made them go all the way and they had to admit that luck had been with them when the match ended at 3—0 in their favour.

Our latest game was against the 2nd Divl Signals, who beat us by 6—4 goals. This match was very keenly contested, overkeenness in some cases necessitating a few words of wisdom from the referee. It cannot be said that the 2nd Div. players were blameless, but our men might have restrained themselves when they were the victims of vigorous tackling. To attempt to retaliate leaves the referee with only one course: that of awarding a free kick, a warning, or sometimes marching orders. The match was enjoyable from the spectators' point of view (the writer received a few accidental kicks where they hurt most) and we are keenly looking forward to the games to come in the Mons Barracks Senior League.

Our record to date is played 6, won 2, drawn 1 and lost 3; goals—for 18, against 25. Our goal scorers are Signalmen Smart (9), Greenwood (2) and Delaney, Hughes, Radford, Bourton, Davis, Pearce and an opponent one each.

We have had the services of Sigmn Bourton, who has been attached to us pending his return to India. All members of the team join me in wishing him success and good luck. He arrived at a period when our search for a full back seemed fruitless, and his services were very much appreciated.

We lost all interest in the Army cup when we were beaten by 6—2 by the 32nd Field Brigade R.A. after a drawn game of three goals each.

We are now in the second round of the Aldershot senior cup competition, having received a bye in the first round. Our opponents are to be the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards.

On Tuesday 10/12/35 our juniors met and defeated the 2nd Divl Signals juniors by 4—2 goals in the Mons Barracks Junior League. Sigmn Kippen scored three good goals, and Signalman Carruthers brought the tally to four. Had we fielded that team in each of our games with the 1st Divl Signals, I feel sure we would be holding a far better position in this new league.

In the Aldershot junior cup we beat D Battery 10th Field Brigade R.A. by 3—2 goals, but we were badly beaten by the Royal Engineers Reserves, the score being 9—0.

With the advent of the furlough season, the first half of the football season 1935—36 is completed. The New Year should see A Corps Signals more firmly established in the football limelight. Keep it up, A Corps.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—Armed with a resolution to repair the omission of detailed boxing notes last month, a Trevor Wignall complex and a galaxy of trite phrases, I repaired to the Command Boxing Centre on the 20th November to witness the epic struggle between the 1st and 2nd Divs. Having discarded all my complexes, I proceeded to get so interested that the notes suffered in their continuity, to say nothing of their legibility. The 1st Div. representatives are mentioned first in each case.

Sigmn Cavanagh (bantam) and Sigmn Young (feather) each had a walk over, which gave us a lead of four points.

The first bout between L/Corporal Griffin and Sigmn Sharkey (feathers) was marked by a careful opening. In the second round things began to liven up and go slightly in favour of Griffin. In the third round he held on to his lead, but Sharkey fought him all the way. Griffin won. "A lively fight," said the referee—and the concourse concurred.

Driver Tomlinson and Signalman Goldfinch (lights) opened the second fight with a creditable amount of give and take, with the balance in favour of Goldfinch, who maintained his points lead throughout. Here, again, the loser was congratulated.

The fight between the second strings, Signalmen Bergelin and Thirkill, might have ended differently had Bergelin made more of his reach and opportunities. As it was, Thirkill had to make the going, and in the third round both were on the boards for different reasons. A very good fight indeed, with the laurels to Thirkill.

Of the third strings, L/Corpl O'Brien did not take long to show that he was more experienced than L/Corpl McGready. Two to the solar plexus and two to the head eventuated with monotonous regularity for McGready, who was forced to adopt the defensive practically all the time. He did well to keep going for the three rounds.

Two fights each, so far. What have we in the welters? Corpl Clarke appeared to take an initial advantage over L/Corpl Humby with a workmanlike left-right-left. The second round was more even; Clarke appeared to be tiring (the "v" in A.V.T.C. doesn't mean vitality). In the last round Humby emerged the victor from a welter (*sic*) of missing and mixing.

Driver Philmore took a nasty left from Sigmn Waugh in the opening of the next fight and appeared to be unduly handicapped by the latter's speed. Philmore improved in the second and third

rounds, but failed to shake Waugh's sang froid. The latter was a winner all the way and fresh at the end, but that was no phault (*sic*) of Philmore's.

Driver Finch met a difficult customer in L/Corporal Evans and took a good deal of punishment in the first round, speculating how he could return the compliment. In the second round he appeared to stop speculating, but in taking the fight into enemy territory he met Evans' left rather severely and the referee stopped the fight.

Sigmn Clegget and L/Corpl O'Rourke looked well matched, but in a mad minute Clegget did well to emerge only points down from the obvious experience of O'Rourke. In the second round Clegget missed badly once or twice and O'Rourke placed two to the jaw, which satisfied the referee (and Clegget, too, if I am any judge).

Points now fourteen all! What can we do in the middles? Sigmn Nation L. v. Sigmn Barker looked to me another case where the referee might intervene—on Nation's behalf. I was surprised, and so, no doubt, was Barker. Nation ducked and hit out like a well-plucked 'un, and only Barker's experience brought him the narrow margin necessary to win. I thought the three rounds were very even.

Signalman Bowling, with very little reconnaissance, quickly connected with the solar plexus of Signalman Stannard half-way through the first round, and brought the points to seventeen all.

Three fights to go! Programme scribbed all over—pencil lost—cigarette out—feet cold. Here are Signalmen Alcock and Mellor. Some lively exchanges in the opening stages and, contrary to expectation, maintained in the first round. Little advantage either way. The second round commenced in the same way. Somebody will stop one presently. Alcock did—in the wind. So ended the middles.

In the light heavy Sigmn Follows met L/Corpl Spencer, and of two good men Follows had the advantage in physique and experience. After shaking his opponent, he emerged the fresher from a prolonged clinch and sent one to the jaw that ended the fight before the bell for the end of the first round. Twenty all!

Signalmen Collett and Rodgers put up a jolly good fight for the decider. There was a good deal of in-fighting in the first round, which ended pretty even. The second round was a good scrap—in Rodger's favour. The third round was an excellent effort by both, and each measured his length on the boards through overeagerness. I waited for "Traffic lights" to signify the victor. It was Rodgers. We had lost by 21—22 but had seen a good evening's boxing, to say nothing of Jimmy Emblem doing a little shadow boxing on the quiet in the corner.

A few days interval here while A Corps take 23 points and the 2nd Divl Signals 19. This, presumably, will be recorded elsewhere.

On the 25th November we met A Corps, already with one scalp to their credit and looking for more.

Sigmn Cavanagh met Sigmn Lloyd (bantams). The first round appeared to be Lloyd's. In the next Cavanagh improved, and the last round was anybody's, but looked like Cavanagh's for a beautiful left to the point. Lloyd was declared the winner. I was probably biassed.

Our first string feather, L/Corpl Griffin, was unfortunately in hospital and his deputy had not been medically examined, so the second strings (Signalmen Young and Dunkin) came forward. The first round was a contrast in styles, with an occasional "five rounds rapid." The rapid element developed in the second round, and much punishment was given and taken. A good scrap and a close fight, of which Young was declared the winner.

In the lights L/Corpl O'Brien met L/Corporal Kennedy—and found him an awkward handful. O'Brien managed to get home his favourite left a few times, but Kennedy's rushing tactics upset the programme and O'Brien was down three times and nearly through the ropes. Kennedy was awarded the fight on a narrow margin.

Driver Tomlinson and Sigmn Goodman gave us a good exhibition of some honest to goodness boxing—no clinching or shock tactics—and while Goodman had the better of each round, Tomlinson took his punishment well and came back for more in an effort to give in return.

Sigmn Bergelin and L/Corpl Weech looked physically matched as they entered the ring. Bergelin was forced on the defensive in the first round, but livened up (and, I believe, astonished himself) in the second. In the third round I thought Bergelin had overtaken his opponent on points, as Weech became very erratic. I was wrong—the decision went to the latter.

Three points behind, and welters to follow. Sigmn Clegget appeared too small for L/Corpl Spriggs, and after the initial set-to it looked as if it was a case of Spriggs getting his punch home, but round one ended with Clegget still aggressive. The second round was a repetition of the first; and in the third, while there was no doubt of Spriggs' superiority (except probably to himself) Clegget kept pegging away until the final bell—a plucky fight.

Sigmn Feakes put in some good footwork as a defence against the onslaughts of L/Cpl Milligan, but the latter was too big and persistent, and the referee very rightly stopped the fight.

Sigmn Philmore met a cool and doughty opponent in Signalman Paton. The latter made his opening and produced a knock-out in the first round.

Sigmn Smith always has the misfortune to be drawn against a tough proposition. In this case it was L/Cpl Gully. The referee gave Smith the opportunity of withdrawing after he had taken a great deal of punishment, but he elected to carry on. Shortly afterwards the referee intervened again, awarding the fight to Gully. Watch Smith, Mother India. He's a plucked 'un.

Score: 10—17, and middle weights in the offing. Signalmen Nation and Yates were well matched, but Nation had the advantage and proceeded in such a businesslike way that the referee intervened on Yates' behalf and awarded the fight to Nation.

Sigmn Bowling had a little more opposition in L/Corpl Harris than was the case against the 2nd Div., but the issue was never in doubt and left the wish that one could have seen Bowling extended a little further.

Sigmn Alexander, fresh from the soccer field, came up and took one on the point from Sigmn Still. I have an idea that this has happened before, too. Hard luck, Alexander!

Sigmn Follows, in the light heavies, was too good for Signalman Tucker. The referee stopped the fight at the right time. If all goes well, we ought to see Follows extended when the London Fire Brigade call here.

In the heavies Sigmn Collett was more than a match for Driver Finnigan, and the referee intervened.

The final score was 23—19 in favour of A Corps Signals.

After the last fight Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., congratulated both teams and presented a new silver cup (provided by Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Barker) to A Corps; so what will come to be known as the Barker cup will be zealously guarded by A Corps for the next twelve months. Medals were presented to the winners and runners-up.

Soccer.—We didn't "carry our bat" any further than the second round of the Army cup, but we only lowered our colours to the 3rd Battn Coldstream Guards after a brave struggle. The ground was very slippery and the Guards team made full use of their heads: another case of practice beating theory—if you see what I mean. What a distance they had to fall when they hit the dust! The whole team played very well, and Driver Boot gave a magnificent display which was applauded time and again by the Guards. We lost by 1—4.

We are not doing too well in the League, but we are having some good matches and the team do not grieve too much about results so long as they give a good account of themselves.

Cross-Country.—In No. 8 Command Group run we did not have the 4th Battn R.T.C. to compete with, as was the case last year. We were thus able to record a comfortable victory, and the medals are now in course of being engraved.

In the third Cobb trophy run, No. 1 Company ran No. 2 very close for first place, only about fifty points separating them. With one more run to go, No. 2 Company are assured of first place, and No. 3 Company are faced with an uphill fight to tie for second place.

Hockey.—The weather conditions having been against us during the last month, we have only played two unit games. A friendly against the R.A.O.C. was lost by 2—3.

The cup game was a very near thing for us, as the Artillerymen, whom we beat by 3—2, played clean hard-hitting hockey, whereas we tried the short passing game. Sigmn Collett scored in the first minute with a flick shot from a long corner. Ten minutes later the R.H.A. were on terms. After some up and down play they

scored again. This seemed to spur us on, and we applied a little more E.M.F. to our movements. Just before the interval Collett flicked in another. The second half saw both goalkeepers doing well to keep out some very good shots. Dewdney, our keeper, refused to be beaten, so the R.A. let Sergt Harvey through to score the winning goal.

When we meet the King's Own in the next round, our team must back each other up so that there are no gaps. In the last game we had a big hole between the two backs.

No. 3 Company v. No. 2 (for the Cobb trophy). This was a very comical match to watch. Every player gave of his best and never stopped trying. Sticks, kicks and pushing being the order of the day, No. 3 Company, who had the weight (sorry, Doc!) managed to win by 3—1.

In meeting No. 1 Company, No. 2 put up a very gallant show against a team containing nine unit players. Of course, they were allowed one swing round the head and a kick now and then, but No. 1 Company held on to the ball and startled Shore by trying to hit him six times—but six times they hit the back boards! Then Mills decided to have a go and put in one, and three minutes later Scott surprised himself by putting in the second one for No. 2 Company. (Who said they were offside ?)

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—After a promising start in the Salisbury Plain Area League, the team had a rather scrappy period owing to players being away, but have now settled down again to play good strenuous football. The defence is sound, and the forwards combine well, taking quick advantage of any openings given them.

The team as it is now comprises Corpl Burrell ; Driver Eccles and L/Corpl Kime ; L/Corpl Henwood and Signalmen Julyan and Moon ; Signalmen Brown O., Oliphant and Drysdale (captain), L/Corpl Craig and Sigmn Shore. The following have also played in the team: L/Corporals McKenzie and Abrahams, and Signalmen Verschelde, Hall, Sherwood and Beard. Sigmn Andrews has unfortunately been posted to F Troop, but will be a gain to them (if he has time to play football ?)

We were unfortunate to lose the first round of the Army cup, by a penalty goal, to the 23rd Field Brigade R.A. We should all like to meet them again and show them how we really can play.

Corpl Burrell and Signalmen Drysdale and Andrews played in an Army trial game here on the 5th December and acquitted themselves right honourably. May they all have caught the selectors' eyes!

The Bulford Garrison League is making arduous progress through postponements due to rain (of which we have had enough for the whole of England). No. 1 Company team is at present "odds on" favourite for finishing at the top, where it now stands. Good luck to them!

Results in the S.P.A. League up to date are: Won 5, lost 5, drawn 1.

v. Experimental Station, Porton, away	won by	5—0
v. 1st (Light) Tanks, home	won by	3—1
v. 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, home,	lost by	1—2
v. 2nd Loyals, away	lost by	1—3
v. 33rd Field Brigade R.A., away	drew at	2—2
v. 9th Field Brigade R.A., away	lost by	0—6
v. 7th Field Brigade R.A., home	lost by	2—6
v. 3rd Hussars, away	won by	4—3
v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A., home	won by	5—2
v. 6th Medium Brigade R.A., away	lost by	1—4
v. 2nd Royal Warwick Regiment, home	won by	4—3

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Football.—The season has not been very successful for us so far, and the patron saint of football has given us no aid, but the passionate hope that we shall one of these days win another match gives us the courage to publish our results to date.

FIRST ELEVEN.

5/10/35 v. Ramsgate St. Lukes, home	lost by	2—7
12/10/35 v. Chartham Mental Hospital, away	lost by	1—3
2/11/35 v. Canterbury Amateurs, home	lost by	0—4
6/11/35 v. R.A.F. Manston, home	lost by	2—5
16/11/35 v. Chislet Colliery, away	lost by	3—10
23/11/35 v. Betteshanger Colliery, away	lost by	2—3

SECOND ELEVEN.

3/10/35 v. Canterbury Co-op. F.C., home	won by	4—0
17/10/35 v. Faversham " B," home	lost by	2—7
14/11/35 v. Sandwich, home	lost by	2—3
21/11/35 v. Canterbury Co-op. F.C., away	lost by	3—4
28/11/35 v. Canterbury Invicta, home	lost by	1—6

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Hockey.—Now that the ground conditions have improved since the departure of the monsoons, the Company is getting some practice games with a view to strengthening its team for the forthcoming tournaments. All of last year's team will be available, and with the return of Sergt Shiner and Sigmn Softley to the unit, there should be no lack of talent.

Here are the results of some of the scratch matches: v. Cantonment Sports Club lost by 1—10 ; v. A Company Leicestershires drew at 2—2 ; v. R.A.M.C. lost by 1—7.

Football.—Nothing much has been done in this game so far, but now that the Indian tournament has concluded, we hope to witness some good games. During the forthcoming trooping season we will lose Sergt Murphy, L/Corpl Roberts and Sigmn Nelson. These players have been the mainstay of the unit team, and it will be a hard job to find replacements of their standard.

Cricket.—Sunday 3rd November last saw the opening game of the season, when our Company team met a team from the Leicestershire Regiment but failed to emerge the victors.

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (INDIA).

Major G. P. Pavey, M.B.E., b Ross	33
Sigmn Nelson J. b Cowdell	0
2/Lieut. A. C. Iyappa c and b Cowdell	0
Sigmn Bourner A. b Ross	31
Sigmn Softley R. c Beasley b Ross	3
Corpl Collett L. lbw b Ross	1
Captain L. C. Boyd not out	16
Sigmn Hampton G. lbw b Ross	0
L/Sergt Matthew F. b Brisley	0
Sigmn Tyler K. b Ross	9
Corpl Edge T. lbw b Ross	3
Extras	2
Total	98

1ST BATTALION LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT.

Lieut. Barrell b Pavey	36
Private Parker b Iyappa	17
Lieut. Wills Rust b Pavey	30
Sergt Haynes b Bourner	9
Sergt Brisley b Bourner	11
Lieut. Leyland not out	12
Private Hall c Hampton b Iyappa	23
Extras	11
Total (6 wickets)	149

A Company S.T.C. (India) v. 15th Field Brigade R.A.

A COMPANY.

Major G. P. Pavey b Siddall	18
Sigmn Nelson b Verity	22
2/Lieut. Iyappa c and b Siddall	30
Sigmn Bourner b Siddall	9
Corpl Collett b Siddall	0
Sigmn Hampton b Siddall	17
Sigmn Softley c Gabbitas b Siddall	2
Sigmn Henrick not out	14
Sigmn Davidson c Siddall b Whitehouse	0
Sigmn Clarke b Siddall	6
Extras	18
Total	136

15TH FIELD BRIGADE R.A.

Whitehouse c Henrick b Bourner	29
Gabbitas c Collett b Nelson	17
Wall b Iyappa	11
Davies c Pavey b Iyappa	3
Lieut. Daley run out	42
Lomas c Pavey b Bourner	1
Verity b Iyappa	0
Logan c Wallis b Iyappa	4
Sherbourne b Iyappa	4
Leahy not out	10
Siddall b Iyappa	4
Extras	9
Total	134

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Cricket.—The season is now in full swing here, and having only recently left such a popular cricket station as Karachi, we looked forward to some good games. Unfortunately, this is not to be the case. Rawalpindi possesses only one ground, which is always booked, and we have to take a back seat. Karachi is undoubtedly one of the finest stations in India for good cricket, as far as military circles are concerned, and we were under the impression that we should be able to make a name for ourselves in this Command, seeing that at least three of our players had played in representative matches for the Europeans of Karachi. But through the unit being at Peshawar at the commencement of the season, the ground was not booked. Therefore we have to rely on other units giving us a game.

A Royal Signal team is run here, but up to the present only two of the Corps team, Corpl McKenzie and L/Corporal Jordan, have been able to secure a place.

The first game of the season was played against the 1st Indian Divl Signals, and what with having no practice and also being used to playing on a matting wicket, our chances did not look very rosy. However, we proved winners by 28 runs. 1st Indian Divl Signals, 53 (Corpl McKenzie five for 14, L/Corpl Jordan four for 35) ; A Corps Signals, 81 (Sigmn Brownrigg 51).

Sigmn Brownrigg was included in the Royal Signal team, but unfortunately he received an injury in one of the matches and has since been in hospital. We hope that he will soon be with us and show us how to get runs. (Tell us how you won the cricket bat, Harry.)

Football.—Once again the unit are getting down to it in the matter of football, and according to rumours they are going to win all that is before them. The R.S.M. and Sergt Clark are the figure heads of this. Of course, we must not forget the official director Oscar, for without him such teams as the Grippers and Binders would be without a game.

[The following Sports results, torn out of the centre of a sheet, had nothing accompanying them to indicate whether they refer to football or to hockey.—ED.]

3/11/35 v. 5th Squadron R.A.F., home, lost by 1—2 (R.A.F. through own goal)
4/11/35 v. 63rd Battery R.A., home, won by 5—0 (Keenlyside 2, Brownrigg 2, Abbiss)
6/11/35 v. 63rd Battery R.A., away, drew at 0—0
10/11/35 v. 5th Squadron R.A.F., home, lost by 2—4 (Matthews, Keenlyside)
13/11/35 v. 73rd Battery R.A., home, lost by 1—2 (Sokell)
14/11/35 v. 5th Squadron R.A.F., home, won by 4—0 (Barker, Bone, Gilpin, Pitchford)
20/11/35 v. 1st Indian Divl Signals, away, lost by 2—3 (Wilson 2)
22/11/35 v. R.A. Brigade, home, lost by 0—4
24/11/35 v. G.M.P.s, home, won by 4—2 (Brakenberry 3, Roberts)
24/11/35 v. 1st Indian Divl Signals, away, lost by 1—2 (Brown J.)
26/11/35 v. 73rd Battery R.A., home, lost by 0—4
27/11/35 v. Ordnance Club, home, drew at 0—0
29/11/35 v. 1st Indian Divl Signals, home, won by 2—1 (Homer 2)

Hockey.—Owing to postings, leave and normal duties that interfere with a unit, the hockey team are not having such a good time as could be desired, However, we have one or two good triers in the unit who will, with a little practice, be able to take the place of those who have left us.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Sport continues to flourish in the unit, and though the matches played are too numerous to give descriptive details, a brief summary of the matches and the results will show that we are well down to it in the sporting line.

Football.—v. 5th Field Brigade R.A. won by 3—1 (Bundy, Lester, McGrattan).

Hockey.—v. Pindi Rovers won by 1—0 (Trott) ; v. M.T. Training Battalion won by 3—2 (Trott, Thompson 2) ; v. 1st Battalion The Hampshire Regiment won by 4—3 (Thompson 3, Fitzpatrick); v. Kohat District Signals won by 1—0 (Trott) ; v. H.Q. Northcom won by 5—2 (Thompson 2, Fitzpatrick 2, Trott) ; v. 5th Field Brigade R.A. won by 7—1 (Thompson 3, Trott 2, Hall, Fitzpatrick).

Cricket.—The season in Rawalpindi has now been opened for some weeks, and we have played some ten games, of which we have won four and lost six. This year we have been combining with A Corps Signals. In one of the matches the hat trick was performed by Sigmn Simcox. L/Cpl Warhurst has been carrying out the duties of umpire, and Sigmn Garven those of scorer. The averages to date are given below.

BATTING.

	Inns.	Not out	Best	Total	Aver.
Sigmn Simcox	14	1	*50	219	16.85
Sergt Askew	4	6	45	65	16.25
Sigmn Briggs	4	3	5	15	15
Sigmn Mires	6	0	40	73	14.6
Corpl McKenzie	6	2	24	54	13.5
Sigmn Cox	14	1	45	173	13.3
Lieut. Steward	10	1	20	91	10.1
Sergt Richards	8	0	31	80	10
Sigmn Ward	6	1	*26	50	10
Sigmn Donaghy	10	1	19	77	8.55
Sigmn Charlton	10	2	*27	64	8
L/Corpl Stringer	11	3	19	57	7.12
L/Corpl Jordan	4	0	5	9	2.5

* Not out.

BOWLING.

	Overs	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Aver.
Sigmn Mires	10	0	23	5	4.6
Sigmn Donaghy	21	1	90	11	8.18
Sigmn Cox	77.2	12	292	28	10.42
Sigmn Simcox	48.1	5	223	20	11.15
Sergt Askew	11	3	48	4	12
L/Corpl Jordan	28.2	3	123	10	12.3
Corpl McKenzie	21	3	70	4	17.5

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

On Saturday 24th November the hockey and cricket teams of the 1st Indian Divl Signals from Rawalpindi paid us a visit. On the same afternoon the 1st Div. beat us at hockey by 1—0 after a very keen and enjoyable game. A large crowd of spectators turned up, and all voted it quite one of the best games witnessed on our ground. Thanks, One Div., for such an enjoyable treat. We had our revenge on Sunday, when we beat them at cricket by a margin of five wickets. 1st Indian Divl Signals 85 (Rose, seven wickets for 49) ; Kohat Signals 86 for five wickets (L/Corporal McMahon 24; Sigmn Price 29, including two sixes and three fours).

On Sunday 1st December we met and defeated the Best eleven by an innings and 54 runs. Kohat Signals 187 (L/Corpl Angus 50 retired, Private Rutty 50 retired, Sigmn Rose 41) ; Best eleven 59 (Rose five for 30, McMahon three for 0) and 74 (McMahon five for 20, Rutty two for 9, Lieut. Good two for 16).

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Soccer.—Since the publication of our last notes, the following matches have taken place:—

21/ 9/35 v. Green Howards ..... lost by 0—4
22/ 9/35 v. E Battery R.H.A. ..... won by 2—1

24/ 9/35 v. E Battery R.H.A. ..... drew at 1—1
26/ 9/35 v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals ..... won by 6—0
27/ 9/35 v. 6th Battery R.A. ..... won by 2—1
2/10/35 v. E Battery R.H.A. ..... drew at 1—1
10/10/35 v. 91st Battery R.A. ..... lost by 1—3
18/10/35 v. 49th Battery R.A. ..... won by 1—0
19/10/35 v. E Battery R.H.A. ..... lost by 0—3
4/11/35 v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals ..... drew at 1—1
14/11/35 v. 3rd Indian Divl Signals ..... won by 2—1

Hockey.—Very few games have been played owing to the condition of the ground, but as this has now been remedied, more matches appear in the offing.

25/10/35 v. Garrison Police ..... lost by 0—2
6/11/35 v. Khrishna Scouts ..... won by 1—0
16/11/35 v. Garrison Police ..... drew at 1—1

Cricket.—Two games have been played. Both have been against E Battery R.H.A. On the 6th October we lost by 13 runs, but on the 16th November we reversed the result and won by 58 runs.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Cricket.—Small Units knock-out. Royal Signals 58 (Martin 19) ; R.A.S.C. 80 for four wickets.

Football.—Small Units League results: v. R.A.M.C. lost by 0—3 ; v. R.A.S.C. won by 3—0 (Buttery, Sinclair, Thomson) ; v. 12th Battery R.A. drew at 0—0 ; v. 20th Battery R.A. lost by 1—2 (Shove) ; v. 22nd Company R.E. lost by 0—2.

Hockey.—v. Police (Mamak League) lost by 1—2 ; v. Punjabis (Knock-out) lost by 1—3 ; v. Radio H.C. (League) lost by 0—1 ; v. Argonauts (League) lost by 2—3.

The annual Macao game was one of our best this season, and the team put up a good performance against very fast opponents. Dove, in goal, played as though inspired and stopped some very difficult and hard shots, thoroughly deserving the applause he frequently received from the large crowd. The pace at the start was much too fast for us in the afternoon heat, and it took us quite a time to settle down. The defence played a sound game and had hard work in repulsing a very fast set of forwards. After settling down, exchanges were fairly even until half-time, when Macao were leading by 2—0. On resuming, two quick goals for Macao shook us up until the defence found their feet again. Play was once more fairly even, and it gave us great heart to see Martin score with a terrific shot. He had been playing a good game and deserved to score, after much bad luck. The finish came with Macao winning by 4—1. Team: Dove, Dilley, L/Corpl Shove, Buttery, L/Corpl Nash, Cox, Short, Farrell, Martin, Fielding and Sinclair.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Signal Inter-Company Boxing Competition.—Some interesting bouts were witnessed in the Signal drill hall, The Green, Stratford, on Tuesday 3rd December, when the 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals held their annual inter-Company boxing contests. There was a capital entry from the three Companies, two of which are quartered at Stratford and the other down at Southend. Major McConville, the adjutant, and Lieutenant Nettleship officiated as referees ; Major Lilley, T.D., Lieut. Coles (6th Essex Regiment), Lieut. Jarvis and ex-R.S.M. Kenyon A. E. as judges ; and C.S.M. Hooper as M.C.

The inter-Company championship cup was won by No. 1 Company, Stratford, with 27 points. The cup and medals were presented by Major Lilley, acting for the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Manley, T.D., who was unavoidably absent.

Class A: 9 st. 12 lb. and under—Final: Sigmn Dunce (No. 3 Company) beat Sigmn Reynolds (No. 1). 10 st. 12 lb. and under—First series: Sigmn Thompson (No. 1) beat Sigmn Griffiths (No. 1). Final: Sigmn Thompson beat Sigmn Bygrave. 11 st. 12 lb. and under—Final: Sigmn Fry (No. 3) beat Sigmn Griffiths A. (No. 1)

Class B: 9 st. 12 lb. and under—First series: Sigmn Laflin (No. 3) beat Sigmn Traylor (No. 1), Sigmn Howell (No. 2) beat Sigmn Dear (No. 3), Sigmn Maslyn (No. 3) beat Sigmn Kemp (No. 1), Sigmn Rix (No. 1) beat Sigmn Gordon (No. 2). Second series: Sigmn Mitchell (No. 3) beat Sigmn Maslyn, Sigmn Howell beat Sigmn Laflin, Sigmn Winterhalder beat Sigmn Herbert. Third series: Sigmn Rix beat Sigmn Howell, Sigmn Winterhalder beat Sigmn Mitchell. Final: Sigmn Winterhalder beat Sigmn Rix. 10 st. 12 lb. and under—First series: Sigmn Ewing beat Sigmn Mathews, Sigmn Booker beat Sigmn Points. Second series: Sigmn Booker beat Sigmn Hallett. Final: Sigmn Booker beat Sigmn Ewing. 11 st. 12 lb. and under—Final: Sigmn Patterson beat Sigmn Hurst.

TERRITORIAL AND S.R. NOTES.

[*Continued from page 33*]

London Divisional Signals—*continued.*

much for him. He ran backwards for some distance before falling off, and upon restarting found that his clutch just wouldn't act. An outstanding feature throughout the trial was the cheerfulness with which the men faced the difficulties and misfortunes which befell them. Nothing seemed to upset the " matey " atmosphere of the day's outing.

DIFFICULT GOING.—Farther round the course, several riders seemed to be having trouble in finding a section known as Green Lane, a long and rutty stretch of going which ran from 440224 to 430215. Somewhere in between these numbers were a lot of D.R.s trying to sort themselves out, and to their great credit they were remarkably successful. Signalman Darkin (Rudge) appeared according to plan at the end of Green Lane, but instead of proceeding along the main road—the correct route—he crossed it and plunged into the undergrowth on the other side. He did not take long, however, to find out that the numbers over there did not agree with those on his route card, and he reappeared and rejoined the course.

GOOD FUN.—After two circuits had been completed, everyone foregathered at Hockley Farm (446204) for a hearty tea, and no one made any mistake about *that* calculation! It is certainly wonderful what a lot of fun can be got out of a map, a piece of country and a lot of numbers—if you know how!

RESULTS.—Premier award: Sigmn Darkin W. (Rudge). Runner-up: Sigmn Garton G. W. (Royal Enfield). Third: L/Corporal Willson E. (B.S.A.).

Obituary.—We all heard with very great regret that Corporal Brett, of No. 3 Company, had died on the 5th December after an operation for appendicitis. He was buried at Streatham Cemetery on Wednesday 11th December. A small party of the unit attended the funeral. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the relatives of Corpl Brett in their sad loss.

Casualties: Officers.—We are sorry to have to bid farewell to Captain F. C. McMurray, who has for so long commanded No. 1 Company, and Captain W. J. E. Gammage, commander of No. 3 Company. A brief appreciation of the work of these officers will appear in next month's notes.

We welcome from the Reserve Major A. V. D. Hort, who returns as a Captain to command No. 3 Company, and Captain W. E. Chinn, who goes to the Supplementary Reserve.

C.O.L.S.

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 an earlier page.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAE CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFEICIAE 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. XVII.—No. 192 FEBRUARY, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

On behalf of the Royal Corps of Signals we wish to express our profound sorrow at the death of His late Majesty King George.

The loss of the affection and care which he never failed to show for his Army will be deeply felt by all ranks.

The close interest displayed by His Majesty in the welfare and progress of the Corps was marked in the past year by the honour extended to us in the appointment of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal to be our Colonel-in-Chief.

We offer our dutiful and heartfelt sympathy to His Majesty The King, Her Majesty Queen Mary and to all the Members of the Royal Family in their sad bereavement.

- Editorial Notes -

King George's Jubilee Trust Fund.—Apropos the Editorial Notes in our September 1935 issue, we publish hereunder a further list of subscriptions to the above Fund for the information of all concerned.

	£	s.	d.
Civilian Staff, Officers Mess, S.T.C. Catterick	1	1	0
Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C.	2	2	0
Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast	2	18	6
Malaya Signal Section, Singapore	3	1	0
Gibraltar Signal Section	3	18	10
Egypt Signals, Cairo	13	19	6
Hong Kong Signal Section, China	1	18	2
Tientsin Signal Section, China	1	7	6
2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, India	11	5	0
No. 2 Company Line of Communication Signals (S.R.)	3	3	0
Chief Signal Officer & Staff, Western Command, India	0	15	0
Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat, India	1	5	0
Shanghai Signal Section, China	0	15	0

:: :: ::

The following is published by special request.

" The late Corporal Wallace F., A Corps Signals, Aldershot. Mrs. F. W. Wallace desires to express her grateful thanks for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to her in her recent sad bereavement."

:: :: ::

Motor Cars.—As another example of business enterprise, we call the attention of our officer readers—particularly those serving overseas—to MESSRS. ALLERY AND BERNARD'S advertisement on page 62 of this issue.

Mr. H. J. F. White, who will be remembered by many who served in France, Bedford and Haynes Park during the war, has joined the staff of the Firm in question and is prepared to give personal attention to the requirements of officers and others, either at home or abroad, who wish to take advantage of the facilities offered.

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Supply any make of new or used car for a definite period.
Re-purchase the same for cash at an agreed figure at any time within one year of sale.
Accept any make of car in part exchange.
Arrange easy hire purchase terms where required.
Give special attention to those wishing to obtain credit notes on disposing of their cars when leaving home for overseas, and vice versa, with the object of obtaining others on arrival at their destination.

Any reader desirous of obtaining further information is invited to apply either to the Firm direct or through the medium of this office. Such correspondence will receive immediate attention, and detailed particulars will be readily supplied on application.

Signals Association Notes

Westminster Branch.

The next Annual General Meeting of the Westminster Branch of Signals Association will be held at the Headquarters, 1st Anti-Aircraft Divl Signals (T.A.), 56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1, at 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday 26th February 1936.

The meeting will be followed by a Smoking Concert to which all visiting members of the Corps, who may be able to attend, are cordially invited,

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, Liverpool	Clerk
2	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool	Clerk
3	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool	Clerk
4	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
5	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool	Clerk
6	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
7	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
8	Ex-N.C.O. Sussex	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postal Sorter
10	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
13	Ex-N.C.O. Devonport	Private Service
14	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Fitter
15	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
16	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
17	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
18	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Postman
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Instrument Mechanic
21	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Postman
22	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Postman
23	Ex-N.C.O. London	Instrument Maker
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
25	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
26	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Lineman
28	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
30	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
31	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
32	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Telephonist
33	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
34	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Telephonist
35	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
36	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Postman
37	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Bus Conductor
39	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Wireless Operator
40	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Postman
41	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Postman
42	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Postman
43	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
44	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
45	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
46	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
47	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
48	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
49	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
50	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Postman
51	Ex-Signalman, Catterick	Police Constable
52	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
53	Ex-Signalman, Isle of Wight	Lineman
54	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Postman
55	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Electrician
56	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
57	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Labourer
58	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Postman
59	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Postman
60	Ex-N.C.O. Derby	Postman
61	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Postman
62	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Postman
63	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Electrician
64	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury	Fitter
65	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Night Watchman
66	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Barman
67	Ex-Driver, Salisbury	Groom-Handyman

[*Per the Salisbury Branch*]

68	Ex-Signalman, Netheravon	Switchboard Operator

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

The following Telegram was despatched to The Lady-in-Waiting to Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, on the death of His late Majesty King George at Sandringham on Monday, 20th January, 1936 :—

Miss Sybil Kenyon-Stanley,

32 Green Street, London, W.1.

Please convey to Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal the humble duty and heartfelt sympathy of all ranks past and present of Her Corps at the death of His Majesty The King.

H. CLEMENTI SMITH,
Brigadier,
Representative Colonel-Commandant
Royal Signals.

To which the following reply was received :—

32 Green Street, London, W.1,
22nd January, 1936.

Dear Brigadier Clementi Smith.

I am directed by The Princess Royal to express to you and all ranks past and present of the Royal Corps of Signals her heartfelt thanks for your sympathy in her great sorrow. Her Royal Highness deeply appreciates your kind thought of her.

Believe me, yours sincerely,
DOROTHY YORKE,
Lady-in-Waiting.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section
Mr. A. C. Lennox, Canada
Mr. W. Moffat
G Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals
Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore
Major W. U. Tyrrell, R.Signals
School of Signals, Catterick
Major R. H. R. Neale, R.Signals
Sergeants Mess, Aldershot
Chester Branch
Royal Signal Officers Mess, Catterick
Mr. R. E. Woolley, South Africa
3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—

Captain R. G. L. Giblin, R.Signals

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn Darlington.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Sigmn Yorks.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
3	N.C.O. Aldershot.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	5	0	0
4	Ex-Driver,Birm'gham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
5	Ex-N.C.O. Oldham.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
6	Widow of ex-Signalman, Colchester.	Domestic difficulties	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O. Salisbury.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
9	Ex-Driver,Bournemth.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn Southampton.	Temp. difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Quarterly Orphanage Maintenance Fees ...		...	10	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.



Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
18th January 1936.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the February 1936 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..... 8/3/30

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

Army Vocational Training.

The Painter and His Training.

It is the general impression of "the man in the street" that anyone can carry out a painting job provided he has a pot of paint and a brush, and that painting is a simple process that can be easily picked up.

This is a fallacy which is soon removed by experience. Like all other crafts, painting and decorating is a trade which has to be learnt, and the trained man steers clear of the pitfalls and difficulties which the novice is bound to bump up against.

The painter and decorator must understand the mixing of colours, the blending of shades, the properties of thinners, dryers and varnishes, and the uses of paint both as a preservative and as a decoration. He must also be able to prepare the surfaces of wood, plaster, stone and metals to take and retain paint, enamel and distemper, and know how to apply these under varying conditions.

Even with the present day facilities for obtaining ready mixed paints, a lack of knowledge of these paints or faulty application of them may spoil the whole job. Chemical and physical action takes place in the setting and drying of paints, and this action is an asset or otherwise according to the skill of the operator. The working of the paint or varnish with the brush is also of great importance—so much so that many paint manufacturers now employ skilled workmen to test their paints from a practical and working point of view before placing them on the market.

Nowadays, distempering is a very important branch of the painter's trade and demands a sound knowledge of materials in order to avoid the finished job flecking or rubbing off.

Glazing of every description is undertaken by the painter; and anyone who considers it easy to cut a piece of glass to size should try, when he would soon see that hand skill and "knack" are more necessary than the finest diamond.

In the old days, paperhanging, marbling, graining and sign writing were all done by specialists, and to some extent this prevails to-day; but the present day desire to "get on" makes most young men anxious to become good craftsmen, and they therefore take every opportunity of learning how to reproduce the markings of the grain of different woods and marble, and also the application of gold leaf and plastic paints.

Knowledge of the correct method of hanging wallpapers is also a valuable asset to the painter, and the value of the ability to write signs cannot be over-estimated. Many a painter retains his job in the slack winter months because he is capable of doing what is to some extent the work of specialists, but at the same time comes under the general heading of painting and decorating.

The application of paint with a spray gun instead of the brush is developing, and whilst this also is frequently the work of specialists, the painter who can spray as well as brush paint has another accomplishment that will assist him in earning a livelihood.

To a man who has deft hands and likes variety in his work, the decorating trade offers great possibilities. At no time has the surface treatment of buildings been more in the hands of the painter and decorator.

The students at the Army Vocational Training Centres receive training in all the branches of the decorating trade, and those with an aptitude for any particular branch are allowed to specialise in it.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major A. L. Harris from Woolwich to Aldershot (1st Div.Sigs.)
Major W. C. V. Galwey from Aldershot to School of Signals
Major H. D. Beadon from School of Signals to S.T.C.
Captain B. S. Watkins from India to Aldershot (2nd Div.Sigs.)
Captain R. T. Williams from Catterick to Aldershot (A Corps Signals)
Lieut. D. W. Burridge from Catterick to India (S.T.C.)
Lieut. C. T. Honeybourne from Canterbury to India (3rd Divl Signals)
Lieut. P. C. Williams from Aldershot to India (3rd Divl Signals)
Lieut. D. C. Lyall from Scarborough to India (1st Divl Signals)
Lieut. W. J. S. Gray from Aldershot to Blackdown.
2/Lieut. D. R. Yearsley from S.T.C. to 1st Divl Signals
2/Lieut. A. FitzG. McGill from S.T.C. to 2nd Divl Signals
2/Lieut. M. G. Ridley-Martin from S.T.C. to 2nd Divl Signals
2/Lieut. J. F. Campbell from S.T.C. to 3rd Divl Signals
2/Lieut. P. E. M. Bradley from S.T.C. to 4th Divl Signals
2/Lieut. A. J. Leahy from S.T.C. to 4th Divl Signals
2/Lieut. R. M. Way from S.T.C. to 5th Divl Signals

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 17/12/35]

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel H. E. Day, D.S.O., M.V.O., ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers, having attained the age limit of liability to recall, 16/12/35

[War Office 20/12/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain C. W. Knight is seconded for service with the T.A. 14/11/35
Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., is restored to the establishment, 14/11/35
Lieut. L. de M. Thuillier to be Adjutant vice Captain R. R. A. Darling 25/11/35

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. C. Newbold to be Lieutenant 29/10/35
W. J. F. Clarke to be 2/Lieutenant 21/12/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divl Signals—Lieut. H. R. V. Cooke vacates the appointment of Adjutant 31/12/35
Lieut. P. R. Wainman to be Adjutant and to be granted the temporary rank of Captain (with pay and allowances of Lieutenant) whilst holding the appointment, 3/12/35

[War Office 24/12/35]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned are restored to establishment 22/12/35: Captain N. H. Edes, Captain H. E. Rance.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

50th (N.) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel H. Bowes, C.B., T.D., D.L. (retired) to be Honorary Colonel 25/12/35

[War Office 31/12/35]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain W. E. Chinn, from Regular Army Reserve of Officers to be Captain (with pay and allowances of Lieutenant) 1/1/36
R. J. Jordon to be 2/Lieutenant 1/1/36

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—R. G. W. Ollerenshaw to be 2/Lieut. 28/12/35
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—2/Lt. F. H. Potter to be Lieutenant 14/12/35

[War Office 3/1/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., to be Brevet-Major 1/1/36

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TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel H. L. Howard, M.C., T.D. (now 28th London Regiment) to be Brevet-Colonel 30/10/35
56th (1st London) Divl Signals—Major A. C. C. Willway to be Lieutenant-Colonel 1/1/36
Captain G. M. Welsford to be Major 1/1/36
Lieut. B. H. Brown to be Captain 1/1/36
D. J. MacBeth to be 2/Lieutenant 1/1/36
The undermentioned to be Brevet-Majors 1/1/36:—
46th (N.M.) Divl Signals—Captain J. Lander
52nd (L.) Divl Signals—Captain V. D. Warren
55th (W.L.) Divl Signals—Captain R. W. Bailey
A.D.F. Signals—Captain A. Hemsley, T.D.

[War Office 7/1/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

54th (E.A.) Divl Signals—Captain R. H. Hooper, M.B.E., to be Adjutant 15/12/35

Plain Tales

Afterwards.—Having searched through all my clothes in a vain effort to locate a truant ten bob note, I may as well sit down and reflect on the cussedness of things generally.

Surely, when some of us look back at Christmas, we must wonder if it was really worth it. Perhaps you are not like me. They tell me I had a bunch of parsley for a button-hole at supper time on the 25th, and was thoroughly enjoying cold roast pork, chicken, pickles, Christmas pudding, custard and cheese, all on the same plate.

Life would be so much easier if the New Year could be pushed a bit further away from Christmas. No sooner have we informed

the tradesmen that they must darn well wait than along comes the beginning of a new quarter to give us a punch in the pocket where we keep our car money. Last week I managed on fourpence because there was nothing else left. One of these days I will tell you how it can be done.

Still, we live. Mr. Hore-Belisha's speech on the radio impressed me so much that I have decided to spend every penny I can get in case I am swiped by one of the 1936 vehicles. Perhaps I can swipe a couple myself first. I am not superstitious and, any way, I've got crossed fingers, so it is sure to be all right.

A certain well known hairdresser at Catterick must be prospering, for he was able to send me a new and obviously unused Christmas card. It is nice to know that one's friends and former music pupils are getting along.

Thank goodness for one laugh in the Jubbulpore notes. They appear to be advertising for a saxophonist who can read music. Why only a saxophonist ?

I see that Professor Nokes (the eminent authority on mud) is back in England. It is curious that he has not been posted to Bulford, because nearly everyone returns to that frightful station eventually.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Another Lie.—R.S.M.: " How many men have you got working here, corporal ?" Corporal: " None of 'em, sir."

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

On The Air.—One good thing about the B.B.C. is that they do not permit the Chief of the Ovaltinies to use their microphone. What a voice! I cannot rid myself of the idea that he is a very large fair man with a bristly chin, a red nose and an onion-laden breath. Maybe I'm wrong.

Then all those dear little children, most of whom seem to be suffering from adenoids. " Why listen to them ?" you say ? A sort of morbid fascination, I suppose.

The 3rd Divl Signals Sergeants Mess used to have a passable radio set, but now it is just an article of furniture. Which is not at all surprising in a Signal unit. An Infantry Battalion Mess would have had the set working again the same day.

Uncle Alf: " You're a miserable blighter this month."

Myself: " F-zzzzzz-zz."

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

That Was All.—The number of other rank car owners continues to increase. Which reminds me.

" You've passed the red light," said the constable as he stopped the car.

" Pooh!" said Signalman Doings. " I don't take any notice of those things."

" And," said the constable, " you're on your wrong side."

" Oh! I just drive where I like," replied Doings.

" Where's your licence ?"

" Haven't got one."

" Perhaps you're not insured either," said the sarcastic policeman.

" Course not. This old thing is only worth about ten quid."

L/Corporal Gadget leaned across the wheel and said to the policeman: "Don't take any notice of him, chum. He's drunk."

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

School Tie Department.—A reasonably good education is a great aid to progress in most walks of life, but there are still some remarkable people who contrive to advance in spite of handicaps. Only the other day I observed a certain Army Form endorsed " Excused britches."

You know how one thing leads to another ? There was once a Staff officer at Maresfield who invariably wrote " priviledge." Another officer said that he had come to " indentify some candidates," but then he wasn't a Staff officer. A Major Hogglewigg once informed me in all seriousness that Pyrrhus was the patron saint of dentists.

Never shall I forget that rough diamond General Sir Crumblethorpe-Hiccups, N.Y.D., Y.M.C.A. (and bar). We met in Cologne some time in 1919, and the old chap was quite friendly. " Well, well," he roared. " It's a long long time since I seen you."

If there is any point at all in this, it is that there is definitely a ray of hope even for those persevering souls who strive and fail with painful monotony to grasp the coveted " first."

Join The Army.—I was very interested in a scheme I heard of the other day. It seems that the War Office would like to bring the Army a little more into the limelight of the Press, with the object of making known to possible recruits the numerous advantages of being a soldier.

You and I fully realise the advantages, but the ignorance of some civilians is nothing short of amazing. A few days ago a young man asked me if a sergeant was higher than a major. This is not intended for a joke, but is a plain fact.

During the first few years of his service a man often wishes he could get out of it, but when the time comes he " takes on," especially if he has attained a rank. Then he begins to realise that he is a member of a big happy family. In the Signals, this family feeling is most marked by reason of the wide area over which we operate. A man with a few years service may go to any Signal unit in England, Egypt, India or China, and be sure of meeting friends.

If a civilian would like to know whether there is anything in " this Army business," let him go to a Sergeants Mess when an old soldier is being " seen off."

You and I have seen hard-bitten sergeant-majors standing with tears in their eyes, choking over a farewell speech. Maudlin, you say. Not a bit. They are leaving their friends of a lifetime, and double the time in civvy street will not replace those friends.

True, they haven't made a fortune, but for twenty-one years they have been assured of home, friends and money. Wars, etc., excepted, it is what we call " a position of the utmost security."

Well, that of course is just one angle, and you do not need to be told that I could fill THE WIRE with cast-iron reasons why you and I should be allowed to continue for another pontoon. 1936 is my last lap.

I wonder what it feels like to wear gent's natty suitings permanently ?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

A Narrow Escape.—Ukann Larfe reeled back against the sideboard and absent-mindedly poured himself out a double whisky. " What are you doing here, Facey, old boy ?" he asked. " And look at your poor head—all blood and dirt."

" One thing at a time, Ukann. The blood can wait. You know more about that than I do," said the Inspector with a savage grin.

" Now, Facey. Just as if I . . . . . ."

" Shut up! That bloke downstairs with your wife is a fake. Not the chap you think he is."

" But, Facey, he looks honest. Got a moustache and all."

The Inspector pensively burnt a hole in the table-cloth with his cigarette. " My advice to you, Ukann Larfe, is get out, take the plans with you, and make it snappy. Try the window."

They found a coil of rope in the wardrobe, fortunately placed there for the purpose of this instalment, and the fearless detective prepared to descend the seven storeys on the outside of the massive building. He swung himself over the window sill and grasped the rope firmly. The Inspector gazed down into Ukann's upturned face. He didn't like it much, so he punched him on the nose.

" What's that for ?" asked Ukann coldly.

" You'll know in a minute," was the reply ; and our hero was horrified to see the Inspector opening a large clasp knife. As he was about to sever the rope, probably with a fiendish laugh, the door was burst open and fifteen stone of Hermione Larfe rushed in. A square foot of damp turf caught the Inspector full in the face and he staggered, blinded and half senseless, to the sideboard from which the whisky had been removed by some person unknown to us. The rotter!

Hermione looked round wildly, her beautiful hair tumbling about her massive shoulders. " Where's my precious ?" she crooned in a reverberating baritone.

Ukann Larfe slid rapidly to the ground and sneaked away in the fast gathering gloom. " L'amour est une livre ecrit par les dieux," he muttered, clutching the plans in his hot little hand.

" Oui—mais pour bien le suivre il faut le lire à deux!" replied a sweet voice, and the lovely Collette hurried along beside the distracted detective.

What do you think of Aston Villa ? Don't tell us. We know.

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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

*1038895	C.S.M. Day C.	4/ 7/35	68
2306326	C.S.M. Tremain T.	9/ 9/35	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

*6838688	C.Q.M.S. King R.	4/ 7/35	73
2306007	C.Q.M.S. Stevenson W.	9/ 9/35	15
2308518	C.Q.M.S. Norcross N.	12/ 9/35	16
2311587	C.Q.M.S. Hamlin H.	15/ 9/35	16

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2311575	Sergeant Baker W.	5/ 9/35	16
2306715	Sergeant Smith C.	8/ 9/35	16
1857466	Sergeant Hawley A.	9/ 9/35	16
2311694	Sergeant Laing J.	12/ 9/35	16
2309062	Sergeant Carpenter A.	15/ 9/35	17

To be Sergeant.

1857185	L/Sergeant Cockings P.	9/ 9/35	29
2315371	L/Sergeant Luck W.	9/ 9/35	30
2315203	L/Sergeant Tanner J.	9/ 9/35	30
2313843	L/Sergeant Sprunt R.	9/ 9/35	30
*2312655	L/Sergeant Chantler A.	12/ 9/35	78
3703331	L/Sergeant Onyett F.	15/ 9/35	30
2306793	L/Sergeant Hotchkiss W.	18/ 9/35	30
2312486	L/Sergeant Hitchen E.	18/ 9/35	30
2315290	L/Sergeant Haines E.	18/ 9/35	30
2314376	L/Sergeant Gould A.	18/ 9/35	30
2310502	L/Sergeant Moore J.	18/ 9/35	30
2306620	L/Sergeant Widgery J.	18/ 9/35	30
2314097	L/Sergeant Brooke J.	26/ 9/35	30
2313842	L/Sergeant Coy B.	28/ 9/35	30
*6449448	L/Sergeant Cooper H.	3/10/35	78
310195	L/Sergeant Jones T.	6/10/35	30
2312810	L/Sergeant Hamilton C.	6/10/35	30
4525909	L/Sergeant Abraham S.	12/10/35	30
1850227	L/Sergeant Quinn W.	22/10/35	30

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2317983	Corporal Holden T.	8/ 9/35	37
2314988	Corporal Lynch A.	8/ 9/35	37
2314678	Corporal Walters L.	9/ 9/35	37
5822869	Corporal Green D.	12/ 9/35	37
6336253	Corporal Dadswell H.	15/ 9/35	37
1857324	Corporal McKinnon C.	18/ 9/35	37
7109641	Corporal Wyse B.	18/ 9/35	38
2557756	Corporal Gratwicke S.	18/ 9/35	38
6391205	Corporal Weeks A.	26/ 9/35	38
2315761	Corporal Edwards F.	28/ 9/35	38
2314404	Corporal Vickers E.	1/10/35	38
2309777	Corporal Stone J.	1/10/35	38
2314669	Corporal Hancock E.	1/10/35	38
2315224	Corporal Lay F.	1/10/35	38
755722	Corporal Allston G.	3/10/35	38
2315984	Corporal Greig T.	5/10/35	38
393604	Corporal Kenny H.	6/10/35	38
2315195	Corporal Mottram J.	11/10/35	38
2316835	Corporal Ashford W.	12/10/35	38

To be Corporal.

2319746	L/Corporal Singleton C.	5/ 9/35	57
2317210	L/Corporal Ward F.	5/ 9/35	57
2318227	L/Corporal Whalebelly L.	5/ 9/35	57
2308502	L/Corporal Ponsford W.	8/ 9/35	57
2315532	L/Corporal Vize H.	8/ 9/35	57
771889	L/Corporal Bridges S.	9/ 9/35	57
2317013	L/Corporal Wood H.	12/ 9/35	57
2317886	L/Corporal Watson C.	12/ 9/35	57
2315378	L/Corporal Stonehouse R.	15/ 9/35	57
2308512	L/Corporal August R.	18/ 9/35	57
2316949	L/Corporal Reynolds B.	18/ 9/35	57
2315410	L/Corporal Driver J.	18/ 9/35	57
2309470	L/Corporal Christie G.	18/ 9/35	57
1865275	L/Corporal Homer G.	18/ 9/35	57
2318044	L/Corporal Revill T.	26/ 9/35	57
2317779	L/Corporal Denison H.	28/ 9/35	57
2319033	L/Corporal Lewis L.	3/10/35	57
2318464	L/Corporal Main W.	5/10/35	57
2319678	L/Corporal Jones N.	5/10/35	58
2318836	L/Corporal Potesta W.	5/10/35	58
2316365	L/Corporal Dobson S.	6/10/35	58
2315736	L/Corporal South C.	11/10/35	58
2313950	L/Corporal Powner P.	12/10/35	58
2317229	L/Corporal Mohrstadt H.	12/10/35	58

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2320133	Signalman Parris R.	1/ 4/35	
2319321	Signalman Metcalf F.	1/ 4/35	
2320245	Signalman Dakin F.	2/ 7/35	
2322198	Signalman Durnan W.	3/ 7/35	
2209868	Signalman Lee A.	5/ 7/35	
2320450	Signalman McFee J.	6/ 7/35	
2307828	Signalman Wilson F.	8/ 7/35	
2316483	Signalman Burdes S.	10/ 7/35	
2317264	Signalman Cavill C.	11/ 7/35	
2318407	Signalman Saunders A.	13/ 7/35	
2319650	Signalman Boyland J.	17/ 7/35	
2318119	Signalman Wilson A.	26/ 7/35	
2321296	Signalman Mills F.	1/ 8/35	
2321892	Signalman Robertson D.	1/ 8/35	
790458	Signalman Richardson C.	1/ 8/35	
2321311	Signalman Rhead T.	6/ 8/35	
2317580	Signalman Owens W.	12/ 8/35	
2318710	Signalman Stokoe J.	12/ 8/35	
2319340	Signalman Thompson G.	13/ 8/35	
2316600	Signalman Godly L.	17/ 8/35	
2320883	Signalman Grigg T.	18/ 8/35	
2322215	Signalman Craig J.	19/ 8/35	
2320389	Signalman Wilkinson D.	23/ 8/35	

Discharges.

1852765	R.S.M. Hughes S.	18/12/35	3
2306326	R.Q.M.S. Tremain T.	14/12/35	6
2306322	C.S.M. Terrell W.	2/11/35	14
*7809473	C.S.M. Spracklen R.	4/11/35	68
2310734	C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Ayton A.	3/12/35	10
*6134318	F/S/Sergeant Hamper J.	20/11/35	70
2307371	C.Q.M.S. Taylor W.	3/11/35	15
*1854483	C.Q.M.S. Weller R.	25/11/35	73
2306706	C.Q.M.S. Hall P.	6/12/35	16
2306275	C.Q.M.S. Hore W.	17/12/35	14
2311556	Sergeant French H.	1/11/35	17
2306328	Sergeant Gale C.	3/11/35	20
*1857071	Sergeant Shaw R.	3/12/35	73
*5488595	Sergeant Cummins A.	4/12/35	75
*2308588	Sergeant Collingwood C.	4/12/35	74
*2303777	L/Sergeant Fraser J.	4/12/35	78
6193146	L/Sergeant Butler C.	18/12/35	33
2314010	Corporal Brookes G.	13/11/35	34
2314577	Corporal Turrell R.	29/11/35	
739689	Corporal Andrews A.	30/11/35	43
2314292	Corporal Willcocks C.	5/12/35	50
2315595	Corporal Edgar J.	17/12/35	38
748639	Corporal Jarvis D.	18/12/35	43
2306926	Corporal Sandall A.	18/12/35	34
2318430	Corporal Broadhead F.	18/12/35	45
2315574	Corporal Wallis C.	19/12/35	50
2315625	L/Corporal Hurt J.	13/12/35	51

To Army Reserve.

2318167	Corporal Freeman F.	5/12/35	54
771899	Corporal Bridges S.	5/12/35	57
2316206	Corporal Berry T.	17/12/35	44
2318627	L/Corporal Howard E.	26/10/35	61
2318968	L/Corporal Chapman W.	2/12/35	
2318761	L/Corporal White H.	15/12/35	
2319124	L/Corporal Powell V.	17/12/35	
2319889	L/Corporal O'Donnell N.	18/12/35	

* *Special Roster, India*

Corps Boxing Record

BY CAPTAIN H. A. SPENCER, M.C.

Here is a record of our Corps boxing activities from 1921 to 1929. It is very brief, and I have set down only major team competitions and individual contests.

At Maresfield, where we boxed in and out of season, there were so many competitions that it would be impossible to include all results, for we had a competition every fortnight—either inter-Company senior, or Novice Leagues for the Pinsent cup—and unit team matches. On more than one occasion, we had two teams out fighting matches and a senior or junior match going on in the camp.

Prior to 1921, Major Carden, R.E., was the secretary for Corps boxing. He was an enthusiast and did much to lay the foundation of what was to come. Nor must we forget the large-heartedness of those n.c.o.s and men who appeared to live with a pair of gloves on, never refusing to help any youngster to get on: to name only a few, L/Cpl Wheeler C., Driver Emblem, Signalmen Rigg, Dibbs, Williams and Richmond, and Boy Viney. The ranks shown are as they were then and will be well remembered by older members of the Corps. It would be invidious to mention officers by name, but suffice it to say that their support was whole-hearted and unstinting.

In 1921 we did not possess an indoor hall large enough to hold a crowd or in which to erect a ring, and the first Corps championships took place on the Lake ground. Later on, Padre Hughes very kindly allowed us to use that part of his Camp Church which was unconsecrated.

1921

Eastern Command Team Championships.

Training Battalion ..... Runners-up

Eastern Command Individual Championships.

Welter weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

1922

Team "Friendlies."

Maresfield. 19th May.
Royal Signals ..... 12 pts — 4th Royal Sussex Regt. 6 pts

Chichester. 22nd June.
Royal Signals ..... 5 pts — R.Navy, Portsmouth... 10 pts

Portsmouth. 26th August.
Royal Signals ..... 14 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 19 pts

Chichester. 25th September.
Royal Signals ..... 8 pts — R.A.F. Gosport ..... 4 pts

Maresfield. 5th October.
Royal Signals ..... 11 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 12 pts

Maresfield. 9th November.
Royal Signals ..... 26 pts — R.E. Chatham ..... 16 pts

Portsmouth. 22nd November.
Royal Signals ..... 13 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 7 pts

Eastern Command Team Championships.

Training Battalion ..... Third

Eastern Command Individual Championships.

Welter weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

Army Championships.

Welter weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Light weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

1923

Team "Friendlies."

Maresfield. 25th January.
Royal Signals ..... 14 pts — R.A.F. Uxbridge ..... 13 pts

Chatham. 14th February.
Royal Signals ..... 18 pts — R.E. Chatham ..... 12 pts

Maresfield. 22nd February.
Royal Signals ..... 6 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 14 pts

Uxbridge. 1st March.
Royal Signals ..... 20 pts — R.A.F. Uxbridge ..... 16 pts

Chichester. 13th June.
Royal Signals ..... 10 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 11 pts

Chatham. 7th November.
Royal Signals ..... 13 pts — R.N. Chatham ..... 20 pts

Maresfield. 22nd November.
Royal Signals ..... 16 pts — R.N. Chatham ..... 20 pts

Maresfield. 29th November.
Royal Signals ..... 15 pts — R.N. Portsmouth ..... 14 pts

Maresfield. December.
Royal Signals ..... 13 pts — London Fire Brigade... 11 pts

Eastern Command Team Championships.

27th and 28th March.

Training Battalion, Royal Signals ..... Second

Southern Command Team Championships.

3rd Divisional Signals ..... Winners

Army Team Championships.

5th and 6th May.

This was the last year in which the names of individuals were put into the hat and drawn out and matched irrespective of the teams to which they belonged. The winners of each team weight were subsequently matched against the winners of the individual weights for the Army individual championships.

The Command eliminations produced seven teams for the finals, with the following results in points:—

1st	Training Battalion, Royal Signals	46
2nd	2nd Battalion Royal Scots	42
3rd	Royal Irish Fusiliers	41
4th	2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment	41
5th	2nd Battalion The Royal Welch Fusiliers	26
6th	1st Lancs Fusiliers	21
7th	2nd Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment	21

In commenting upon this "boxing record year" for the Army, both in numbers of entries and contests and the standard of boxing, *The Sporting Life* said: "First stands the victory of the Royal Corps of Signals, runners-up only in the Eastern Command. Signals 'stuck it,' turned the tables on their conquerors, the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and beat the whole Army—proof that the Signalmen have inherited the indomitable spirit of their progenitors, the Sappers." And again: "Not only did they amass the highest collective number of points, but they produced also seven finalists, and of the seven four were absolute winners."

In this year Signals gave a lead to the Army by running a purely boys' competition, and the following weights were culled:—

Ant weight	7 st. 8 lb.
Mosquito weight	7 st. 2 lb.
Gnat weight	6 st. 10 lb.
Midge weight	6 st. 4 lb.

Signalman Richmond, if he reads this, will probably remember sitting in the sports office on Sunday morning, 14th October 1923, wrestling with the problem of defining which in fact was the *biggest* of the above insects.

Eastern Command Individual Championships.

Welter weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

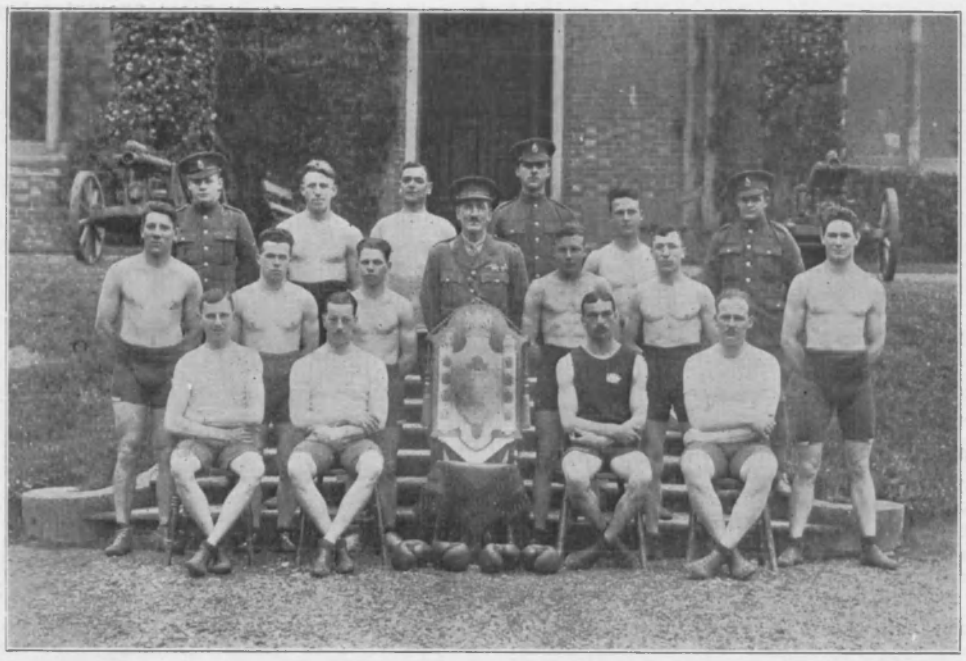
Army Individual Championships.

Feather weight ..... L/Corporal Boy Viney, runner-up
Middle weight... Corpl Wheeler stood down in the final owing to injuries.
Light Heavy weight ..... Driver Emblem, runner-up
Welter weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, runner-up

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Light weight ..... Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner

In 1923 Lieut. H. A. Spencer, Corpl Wheeler, Sigmn Richmond and L/Corpl Boy Viney fought for the Army in team contests and were awarded their Army colours.

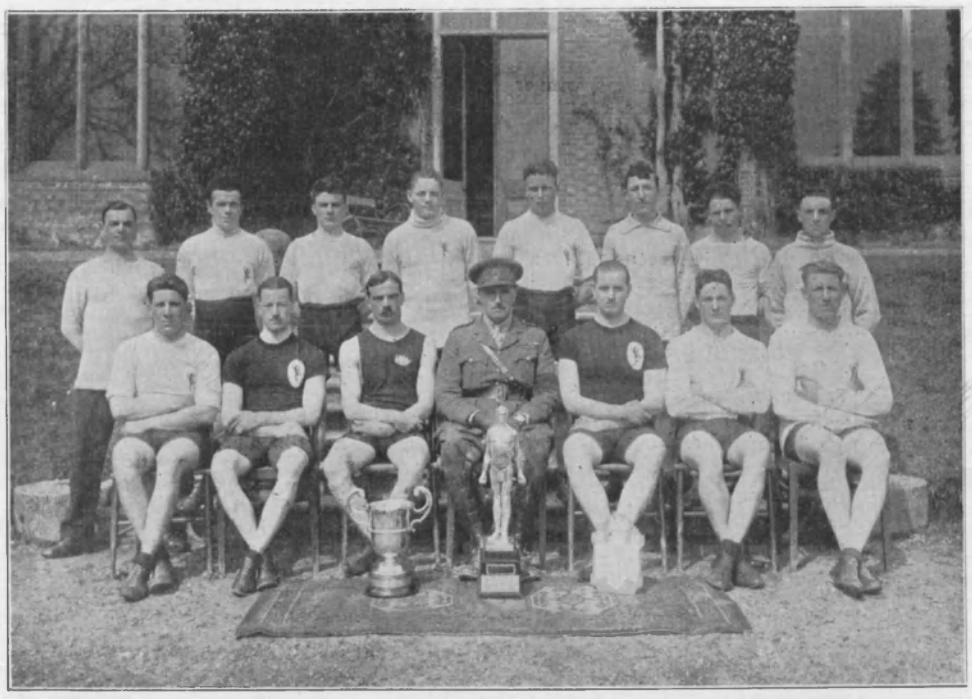


Boxing Team, Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, Maresfield Park, 1922-23.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Corpl With, Driver Smith, Staff-Sergeant Hayden (A.P.T.S.), Sigmn Hutcheson, and L/Corporals Dibbs and Richardson.

Centre—Driver Emblem, Sigmn Richmond, Boy Collins, Colonel H. L. Mackworth, C.M.G., D.S.O., Boy Viney, Sigmn Hughes, Corpl Wheeler C.

Sitting—Lieutenants C. H. Beattie, M.C., B. H. House, H. A. Spencer, M.C., and Q. E. M. A. King.



Boxing Team, Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, Maresfield Park, 1923-24.

Winners Eastern Command and Runners-up Army Team Championships.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—Staff/Sergeant Hayden (A.P.T.S.), Signalmen Richmond and Hutcheson, L/Corpl With, Boy Viney, Sigmn Hughes, Boy Collins, L/Corpl Jones R. P.

Sitting—Driver Emblem, Lieutenants B. H. House and H. A. Spencer, Colonel E. F. W. Barker, C.B.E., D.S.O., Lieut. L. B. Nicholls, Corpl Wheeler C., Driver Smith,

1924

Team " Friendlies."

Maresfield. 28th February.
Royal Signals ..... 14 pts Royal Air Force ..... 13 pts

People's Palace, Mile End Road, London. 15th April.
Royal Signals ..... 12 pts London Fire Brigade... 12 pts

Maresfield. 5th November.
Royal Signals ..... 17 pts R.N. Chatham ..... 16 pts

Portsmouth. 13th November.
Royal Signals ..... 16 pts R.N. Portsmouth ..... 14 pts

Northolt. 28th November.
Royal Signals ..... 16 pts R.A.F. Northolt ..... 17 pts

Maresfield. 27th November.
Royal Signals ..... 13 pts London Fire Brigade... 11 pts

Chatham. 3rd December.
Royal Signals ..... 19½pts R.N. Chatham 19½pts

Army Team Championships: Eastern Command Elimination.

Second Round. Lydd. 15th January.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 20 pts
3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps..... 13 pts

Third Round. Maresfield. 2nd February.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 19 pts
The Royal Scots ..... 14 pts

Fourth Round (Final, Eastern Command). Maresfield. 14th March.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 16 pts
Royal Irish Fusiliers ..... 14 pts

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final. Aldershot.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 21 pts
1st Durham Light Infantry..... 12 pts

Final.
2nd Loyal Regiment ..... 17 pts
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 16 pts

Army Amateur Individual Championships.

Aldershot. 6th and 7th March.

Fly weight.....Sigmn Collins, winner
Feather weight .....Sigmn Hughes, runner-up
Light weight.....Sigmn Viney, runner-up
Welter weight .....Sigmn Chambers, runner-up
Middle weight .....Corpl Wheeler, runner-up

Army Open Championships.

Aldershot. 23rd and 24th March.

Feather weight .....Corpl Richardson, runner-up
Light weight.....Sigmn Viney, runner-up
Middle weight.....Corpl Wheeler, runner-up
Light Heavy weight.....Driver Emblem, runner-up

1925

Team " Friendlies."

National Sporting Club, London. 3rd January.
Royal Signals ..... 19 pts London Fire Brigade... 17 pts

Uxbridge. 30th January.
Royal Signals ..... 20 pts R.A.F. ..... 25 pts

Chatham. 12th February.
Royal Signals ..... 16½pts R.N. Chatham ..... 19½ pts

Aldershot. February.
R.Signals (Aldershot)... 18 pts R.N. Portsmouth ..... 15 pts

Army Team Championships: Eastern Command Elimination.

The Training Battalion reached the third round by reason of other teams scratching.

Third Round. Maresfield. 28th January.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 18 pts
R.E. Chatham ..... 15 pts

Fourth Round (Final, Eastern Command). Colchester. 18th Feb.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 17 pts
Royal Scots ..... 16 pts

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 19th March.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 19 pts
1st Middlesex Regiment ..... 14 pts

Final. 20th March.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 17 pts
2nd Battalion Loyal Regiment..... 16 pts

Egyptian Army Championships: Final.

Royal Signals ..... 15 pts 3rd Hussars..... 18 pts

Army Individual Championships.

Tidworth. 25th, 26th and 27th February.

Light weight.....Lieut. H. A. Spencer, winner
Feather weight .....Sigmn Richmond, winner
Welter weight .....Sigmn Langley, winner
Light Heavy weight.....Corpl Wheeler C., winner

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Stadium Club. 12th March.

Feather weight .....Sigmn Richmond, winner
Light weight.....Sigmn Viney, winner
Welter weight.....Sigmn Langley, runner-up
Light Heavy weight.....Corpl Wheeler C., winner

Amateur Championships, Great Britain.

Albert Hall. 1st and 2nd April.

I.S.B.A. Feather weight. Sigmn Richmond had a badly cut eye and had to retire in the first series.
I.S.B.A. Light weight.....Sigmn Viney, winner
I.S.B.A. Welter weight. Sigmn Langley lost on points in the first series.
I.S.B.A. Light Heavy weight. Corpl Wheeler C. lost on points in the first series.

Signals here put up a record which will be very hard to beat by any Unit or Corps. The Training Battalion team provided four of the eight members of the I.S.B.A. team in the finals of the Amateur Championships of Great Brtiain.

Army Open Championships.

Aldershot. 17th April.

Feather weight.....Sigmn McCarthy, runner-up
Light weight. Signalman Viney beat L/Corpl Jones R. P. in an All-Signals final.
Welter weight .....Sigmn Langley, winner
Light Heavy weight .....Driver Emblem, winner

European Countries Championships.

Light weight.....Sigmn Viney (England), runner-up

After April 1925, boxing activities ceased in Maresfield owing to the impending move to Catterick Camp. Practically all the boxers were posted to other units, chiefly abroad. I met some of them in 1934 in Rawalpindi, where they had come from Karachi to box their way to the finals of the All India team championships.

I have but very sketchy records of the years 1925 and 1926 or the first eight months of 1927 that I spent at Catterick. We made a fresh start to get boxing going again and to get a team together. It was a heart-breaking business. There was no place suitable for training or holding competitions. We tried one competition in the large garage, but it was so cold that the only people there were the few officials and diehards, and the boxers, who when not boxing were huddled round braziers. The Y.M.C.A. then came to our aid, and we used their large hut for our next show. It used to add to one's worries to see hundreds of Signal boxing fans turned away owing to " house full " troubles, especially as quite a number had come from Darlington, Middlesbrough and other places in the North to see our team. We tried to train in the T.B. top dining hall, but the floor was so slippery that we were always having injuries and had to give that up.

The only bright spot about Catterick then, from a boxing point of view, was that we " found " Sigmn Stuart, the future heavy weight champion of the British Empire. We could not find a heavy weight in the ordinary course of running competitions, so we went round the morning parade of D Company to pick out the biggest man on parade. It happened to be Stuart. He did not like boxing and loathed training ; but after sitting in the cold



Boxing Team, Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, Maresfield Park, 1924-25.

Winners Eastern Command and Army Team Championships.

Standing (l. to r.)—Sigmn Campbell, Driver Emblem, Staff-Sergt Hayden (A.P.T.S.), Sigmn Rodda, Corpl Jones R. P., L/Corpl Dibbs, Sigmn Clarke.

Sitting—Corpl Wheeler C., Lieut. H. A. Spencer, Lieut.-Colonel Lloyd Owen, O.B.E., M.C., Major R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut. L. B. Nicholls, 2/Lieut. A. J. Keddie.

In front—Signalmen Richmond and McCarthy.



Boxing Team, Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, Catterick.

Winners Northern Command and Semi-Finalists Army Team Championships, 1925-26.
Winners Northern Command and Runners-up Army Team Championships, 1926-27.

Standing (l. to r.)—Boy Brice E. G., Sigmn Rodda F., Lieut. A. J. Keddie, 2/Lieutenants H. O. Pargeter and E. S. Cole, and Signalmen Stuart V. and Ryan G. W.

[*Photo by Gale and Polden Ltd. Aldershot*]

Sitting—Sigmn Williams A., Corpl Tapley P., Sergt Payne L. F., Lieut. H. A. Spencer, Corpl Jones R. P., Signalmen Wheeler P. F. and Fowler F.

In front—Sigmn Govier P.

dining hall for a week, watching the others boxing and getting warm, he gave in and consented to box. He still dislikes training, but we hope he will train enough to win the A.B.A. title again this year. [This was written early in 1935.—ED.]

We resorted to the old idea of training by fighting, and entered our boxers for competitions in all parts of the north of England. The Northern Counties A.B.A. were very helpful, and we are very much indebted to them. In the team were some very promising youngsters in Signalmen Stuart, Rodda and Wheeler P. (brother to Corpl Wheeler C., who had been posted to Egypt) L/Cpl Jones R. P. and Sigmn Moore. These formed the nucleus of what would have been another good team but which was unfortunately again broken up by postings in 1927.

1926

I cannot remember the dates or points of these matches (probably some reader might be able to fill in the gaps).

Army Team Competition: Northern Command Elimination.

Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat The Cameronians
Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat the Depot Battalion, Royal Signals (Final, Northern Command)
Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat the 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps (Lydd) (winners of the Eastern Command)

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final: Aldershot.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals lost to the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment

Army Individual Championships.

Light weight.....L/Corpl Jones R. P., winner

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Light weight.....L/Corpl Jones R. P., winner

1927

Army Team Championships: Northern Command Elimination.

Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment

Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat the Depot Battalion, Royal Signals (Final)

Training Battalion, Royal Signals beat the 7th (Queen's Own) Hussars (winners of the Southern Command)

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 17th March.
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 17 pts
1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders..... 16 pts

Final. 18th March.
2nd Battalion Loyal Regiment..... 17 pts
Training Battalion, Royal Signals..... 16 pts

Individuals.

Sigmn V. A. Stuart, Heavy weight champion, North of England

Army Individual Championships.

Light weight.....L/Corpl Jones R. P., winner
Light Heavy weight.....L/Corpl Howard, semi-finalist
Light Heavy weight.....Sigmn Rodda, winner
Heavy weight.....Sigmn Stuart, semi-finalist

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Portsmouth.
Light weight.....L/Corpl Jones R. P., winner
Light Heavy weight.....Sigmn Rodda, winner

This ends my record of boxing activities in Catterick, as in August 1927 I was posted to the 1st Divl Signals at Aldershot. Perhaps somebody would kindly fill in the gap with the records of what happened from that date to the present.

The 1st Divisional Signals at Aldershot were very keen on boxing and, combined with the 2nd Divisional Signals, had a good team. During the foregoing years they had had many team matches against Royal Signals, Maresfield, and the Royal Navy, Portsmouth, besides others in Army team competitions.

Colonel R. H. Willan was a great enthusiast, and on one occasion he and Colonel Walsh boxed for the team in an Army competition match. Captain Brian House had captained the team very ably, and when I took over there was very little to do in the way of organisation. It was a very young team, but what they lacked in experience they made up in fighting spirit in the ring. For instance, it took men of the right spirit to get over the early shocks of the 1928 semi-finals against the Loyal Regiment. In the first eight fights I was the only winner, but, undaunted, the team fought on and Sigmn McCreeth started them on a succession of seven wins to victory.

ALDERSHOT RECORDS.

Team "Friendlies."

Aldershot. 23rd November.
Royal Signals ..... 13 pts London Fire Brigade... 14 pts

Portsmouth. 9th December.
Royal Signals ..... 21 pts R.N. Portsmouth ..... 27 pts

L/Corpl Howard, Sigmn Rodda and L/Corpl Jones R. P. fought in Army sides during 1927 and received their Army colours.

1928

ALDERSHOT RECORDS.

Team "Friendlies."

Chatham. 10th January.
Royal Signals ..... 15 pts R.N. Chatham ..... 17 pts

Aldershot. 3rd February.
Royal Signals ..... 17 pts Aldershot Command ... 13 pts

Portsmouth. 10th February.
Royal Signals ..... 22 pts R.N. Portsmouth ..... 18 pts

Alton, Hants. 30th November.
Royal Signals ..... 12 pts Aldershot Command... 11 pts

Stoke. 21st December.
Royal Signals ..... 11 pts
Police of Great Britain and Irish Free State..... 13 pts

The Police team consisted of Irish Civic Guard champions and champions of Great Britain.

Army Team Championships: Aldershot Command Elimination.

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 22nd March.
Royal Signals ..... 24 pts
2nd Battalion The Gordon Highlanders..... 21 pts

Final. 23rd March.
Royal Signals ..... 26 pts
1st Battalion The Seaforth Highlanders..... 19 pts

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 12th April.
Royal Signals ..... 23 pts
2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment..... 22 pts

Final. Aldershot. 13th April.
Royal Signals ..... 23 pts
2nd Battalion The East Lancs Regiment..... 21 pts

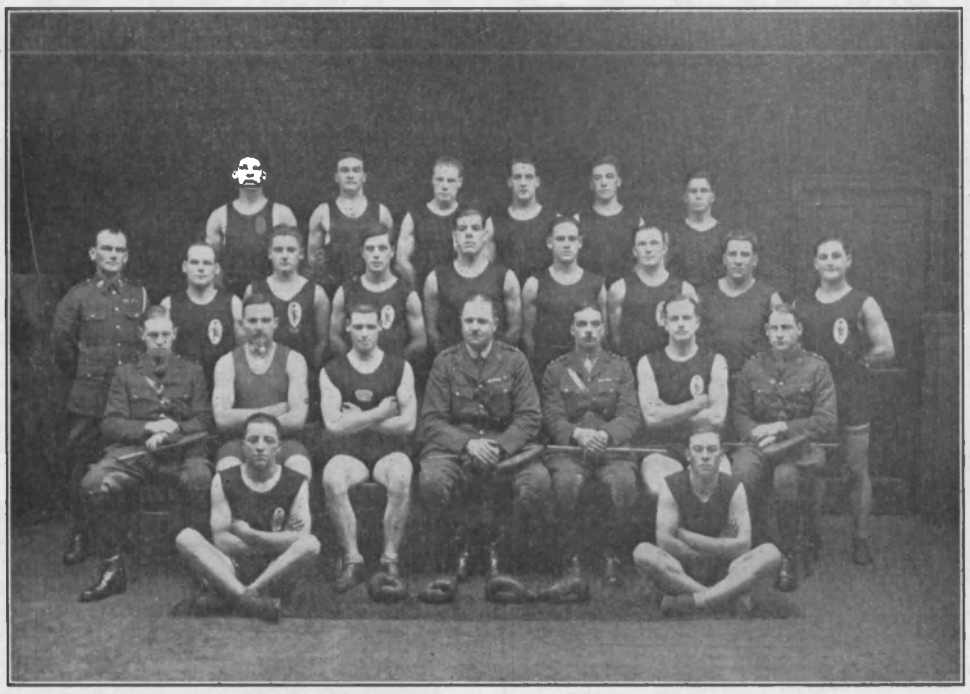
Sassoon Cup Competition.

Army Team winners v. R.A.F. Team winners. Henlow.
Royal Signals ..... 19 pts R.A.F. Henlow ..... 28 pts

Our team in this match were very stale. They had been fighting continuously for quite six months against the best boxers in England, both amateur and professional. For I should add here that the Royal Navy teams that we fought were professional sides and always included some of the best boxers at their weight in the country: to name a few, P.O. Spiller, Stoker Miller, Marine Trinder, A.B. Watson, A.B. Larby and A.B. Willoughby. Colonel Willan foresaw this, but the team wanted to box and they were rather badly beaten.

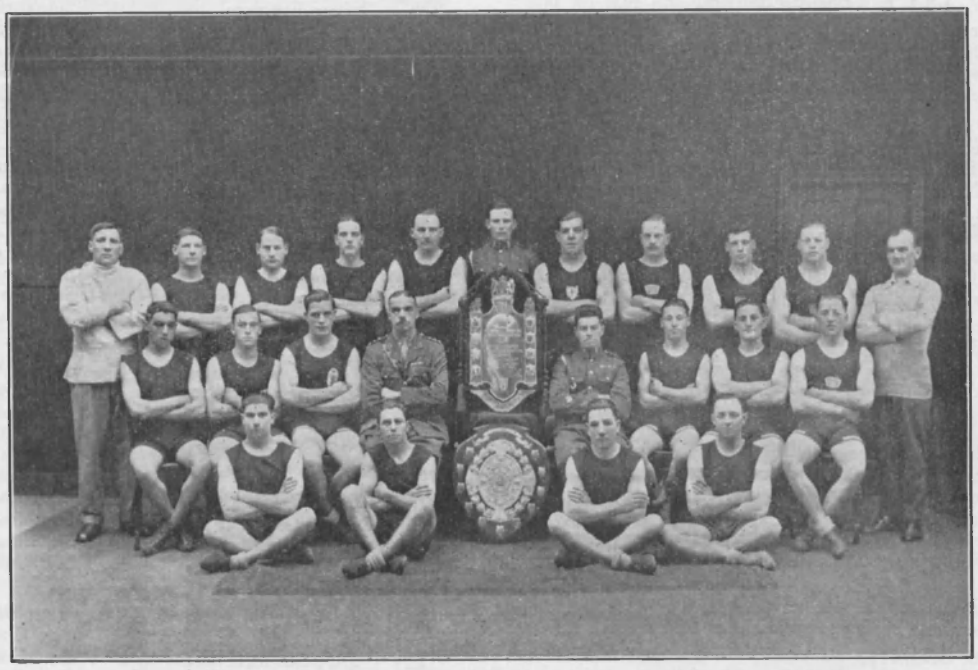
Army Individual Championships.

Stadium Club. 26th, 27th and 28th January.
Officers Light Heavy weight.....Lieut. E. S. Cole, winner
Light weight.....Driver Grainger, runner-up
Light Heavy weight.....L/Corpl Rodda F., winner
Heavy weight .....Sigmn Stuart, winner



Boxing Team, "A" Group, Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot, 1927-28.
Winners Aldershot Command and Army Inter-Unit Team Championships.

Back row (l. to r.)—Signalmen Wheeler P. and Thomas, Corporal Langley, Sigmn Morris, Driver Fountain, Sigmn Hogg.
Centre—Sergeant Smith (Trainer), Driver Benjafield, Signalmen Midgley, Taylor, Stuart and Wathen, Corpl Pinkney, Driver Emblem, Sigmn Moore.
Sitting—Lieutenants J. C. Hardy and L. de M. Thuillier, L/Cpl Rodda, Colonel R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., Captain H. A. Spencer, M.C., Lieutenants E. S. Cole and D. C. P. Hall.
In front—Drivers Grainger and Baker.
[*Photo by Gale and Polden Ltd. Aldershot*]



Boxing Team, "A" Group, Royal Corps of Signals, Aldershot, 1928-29.
Winners Aldershot Command and Army Inter-Unit Team Championships.

Standing (l. to r.)—Driver Emblem, L/Cpl Wheeler, Lieutenants D. C. P. Hall, W. M. Ponsonby and L. de M. Thuillier, Signalmen Blackburn and Stuart, Lieut. E. S. Cole, L/Corpl Rodda, Corpl Howard, Sergt Smith.
[*Photo by Gale and Polden Ltd. Aldershot*]
Sitting—Sigmn Fowler, Driver Baker, Sigmn Taylor, Captain H. A. Spencer, M.C., C.S.M. Bayliss, Sigmn Hamilton, L/Corporals Moore and Grainger.
In front—Signalmen Brunton and Hogg, Driver Duffy, L/Corpl McCreeth.

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I.S.B.A. Championships.

Officers Light Heavy weight.....Lieut. E. S. Cole, winner
Middle weight.....L/Corpl Mills P. (Depot Battalion), runner-up
Light Heavy weight.....L/Corpl Rodda F., winner
Heavy weight .....Sigmn Stuart, winner

The following fought for the Army on several occasions and were awarded their Army colours: L/Corpl Howard, Lieut. Cole, L/Corpl Rodda, Driver Grainger and Sigmn Stuart.

In the match Metropolitan Police v. The Army at the Albert Hall on the 25th April, Signals provided four of the Army team of five.

Other boxers who were much to the fore during this year and fought for the Command and in contests in many places in England and Wales were L/Corpl Moore, Sigmn Taylor, Sigmn Hogg, L/Corpl Wheeler P., Driver Baker, L/Corpl McCreeth and Corpl Langley.

1929

ALDERSHOT RECORDS.

Team "Friendlies."

Our first match in 1929 was billed in Dublin as an *International Match*: Garda Siochana v. Royal Signal Corps, and was fought at the Guards Depot, Phœnix Park, Dublin, on the 25th January. We lost six fights to one. The Dublin authorities entertained our team lavishly for several days, and they all have happy memories of that visit. Though we lost, the fights were very close and well contested.

Catterick. 31st January.
R.Signals (Aldershot)... 18 pts Northern Command ... 15 pts

Birmingham. 5th February.
Royal Signals ..... 4 pts Aston B.C. ..... 5 pts

Army Team Championships: Aldershot Command Elimination.

Bordon. 13th February.
Royal Signals "A" Group..... 26 pts
1st Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment..... 19 pts

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 21st February.
Royal Signals "A" Group..... 24 pts
1st Irish Guards ..... 20 pts

Final. Aldershot. 22nd February.
Royal Signals "A" Group..... 25 pts
2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment..... 20 pts

Army Team Championships.

Semi-Final. Aldershot. 11th March.
Royal Signals "A" Group..... 26 pts
1st Battalion Manchester Regiment ..... 19 pts

Final. Aldershot. 12th March.
Royal Signals "A" Group..... 25 pts
2nd Battalion East Lancs Regiment..... 20 pts

Army Individual Championships.

Heavy weight .....Sigmn Stuart, winner

I.S.B.A. Championships.

Light weight.....Sigmn Williams, winner
Heavy weight .....Sigmn Stuart, winner

1930

Signalman Stuart won the Heavy weight championship of Great Britain, and also the championship of the British Empire at Hamilton, Canada.

In September 1929 I left Aldershot for India, and unfortunately have no further records of the boxing which took place in England afterwards. There may be a few discrepancies and omissions in the foregoing, and I should be very pleased if any reader would supply me with any additions or corrections necessary.

I have attached the record of boxing championships from 1921 to 1929, when the meetings ceased.

Royal Corps of Signals Boxing Championships.

	Heavy.	*Light Heavy.*
1921	Sergeant Trapmore	Signalman Harvey
1922	Signalman McCafferty	Driver Smith
1923	Driver Smith	Driver Emblem
1924	Driver Emblem	Signalman Richards
1925	L/Corporal Smith	Driver Emblem
1926	Signalman Stuart	Signalman Rodda
1927	Signalman Stuart	Lance-Corporal Rodda
1928	Signalman Stuart	Lance-Corporal Rodda
1929	Corporal Howard	Lance-Corporal Rodda
	Middle.	*Welter.*
1921	Driver Emblem	Sergeant Baker
1922	Driver Emblem	Signalman Stoddart
1923	Corporal Wheeler	Signalman Dibbs
1924	Corporal Wheeler	Lance-Corporal Dibbs
1925	L/Sergeant Wheeler C.	Lance-Corporal Langley
1926	Lance-Corporal Howard	Signalman Wheeler P.
1927	Signalman Moore	Signalman Wheeler P.
1928	Signalman Moore	Signalman Wheeler P.
1929	Lance-Corporal Mills	Lance-Corporal Moore
	Light.	*Feather.*
1921	Signalman Morphew	Signalman Field
1922	Signalman Richmond	Boy Viney
1923	Signalman Langley	Signalman Richmond
1924	Lance-Corporal Viney	Signalman Richmond
1925	Lance-Corporal Jones	Corporal Richardson
1926	Corporal Jones	Signalman Govier
1927	Driver Grainger	Signalman Thomas
1928	Driver Grainger	Signalman Thomas
1929	Signalman Williams	Signalman Fowler
	Bantam.	*Fly.*
1921	Boy Viney	Signalman Richardson
1922	Signalman Richardson	Boy Collins
1923	Lance-Corporal Richardson	Boy Collins
1924	Corporal Richardson	Signalman Field
1925	Signalman Pascoe	Signalman Field
1926	Signalman Fowler	*No entry*
1927	Signalman Hogg	*No entry*
1928	Signalman Hogg	*No entry*
1929	Signalman Hogg	*No entry*

HOME STATIONS



5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



The Reception Room.....Depot Battalion.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—We cannot commence the New Year better than by dwelling on the last festive delights of 1935. On the 12th Dec. the annual Christmas tree party for the married families was held, at which Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. F. O. St. John and our officers and their ladies were present.

An excellent tea was provided by the N.A.A.F.I. After this important item was over and the tables had been cleared, a short interlude of musical selections by the Corps Band and various games was provided.

Then came the event of the season: the Christmas pantomime and the advent of Santa Claus. The pantomime cast was composed entirely of officers and ladies from the S.T.C., all of whom gave an enthusiastic and commendable performance. The theme of the plot concerned a certain imaginary island on which dwelt all the characters of the story books: a combination of pretty ladies and adventurous heroes. The performance of the ladies was much admired, whilst Sinbad the Sailor got very gay in dancing a horn pipe with a lady who certainly could dance. The antics of Dick Whittington's cat and the dog Pluto caused great amusement.

After an enjoyable show the toys were distributed to the kiddies, making the whole occasion a really happy affair for all concerned.

Christmas Dinner.—On the occasion of the men's dinner the officers assembled in the dining hall to give the festive outburst a good start. C.S.M. Nash proposed the toast, to which Driver Sims appropriately replied.

The real Christmas spirit and feeling having been created, the men (130 of them) set to work with a will to do justice to the excellent menu concocted by the P.R.I. and his staff. From all accounts, it was the best ever. One n.c.o. even went so far as to say it was the best feed he had had since he joined up (including many efforts at Bellerby, Scorton and other well known Northern resorts). Driver Meikle—who, by the way, does not drink (except an occasional drop of whisky)—does not include eating in his list of non-accomplishments. He completely wrecked three man's size dinners.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Moore J. ex India via Netley. Corpl Cook from the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot. Signalmen Warr and Fox R. from the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. L/Corpl Pike from the 5th Divl Signals, Scarborough. A hearty welcome to all.

Departures.—Sigmn Maughan T. to civil life. Sigmn Hennell to be a real live policeman at Chester. We wish them both all the very best for the future.

Births.—A daughter (Patricia) was born to Sigmn and Mrs. Cooper on 2/1/36. A good effort for the New Year.

Agony.—Who is the n.c.o. who found a new use for highly burnished coal boxes ? It is said that the brighter they are, the better use he can make of them. He is so very particular.

Counting the Chickens before "Won."—Who is the n.c.o. who thought he had won a bottle of sherry in a Christmas draw, swopped it for a chicken, and then found (to his utter misery) that he had not won the sherry after all ? What use could he have made of the wishbone ?

Property.—For sale, suburban villa, completely furnished in modern style, h. and c. all rooms, large spacious guest rooms and entertainment hall. Owner no longer requires.

Promotions.—These are so rare nowadays that we almost forgot this important item. Congratulations to L/Sergt Moore, Corpl Chapman, and U/L/Corpl Barker E. on attaining their respective ranks.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Excitement has been running very high during the past month, and the usual monotonous life of the cadre personnel has been appreciably interrupted. First of all, we had the episode of the overcoat. For the benefit of those not in the know, this particular overcoat was used as a mop. I could say more on this subject, but as it would reflect in no small degree on the condition of a certain cook's "innards" on a certain Saturday night, I will refrain from doing so. Then we had the episode of the bolt in the sausage. The ginger cook insists that the skin must have been wrapped around the bolt just prior to the cooking. Whether it was, or not, remains to be seen. The findings of the court will be promulgated in due course.

It seems to be Ginger's destiny to be mentioned in despatches this month. He has now fallen madly in love, so in all probability bolts in sausages will become prevalent. En passant, it was said that on hearing of Ginger's goofiness, Longing Luce (of lovesick fame) heaved a deep sigh of relief when he realised that at last he had found a kindred soul.

Financial News.—Two of our cooks are watching with keen interest the pawnbrokers' rate of exchange, although, apart from the financial side of the question, one has to admit that it is far easier to pack a little square ticket than a full complement of civvies.

Christmas has come and gone, and once more we endeavour to work. The Christmas dinner was a huge success, and much

credit is due to those responsible for the arrangements and to the cooks who once more excelled themselves. A word about the service: this was excellent. I cannot speak too highly of the way in which our officers, w.o.s and sergeants adapted themselves to the role of waiters.

Fatigues.—There must be something attractive about the canteen spuds. Apparently the manageress has had so many volunteers, mostly of the cadre driver fraternity, that she now keeps a spud peelers roster. The lads have been going a month and they still like it. Maybe the N.A.A.F.I. staff could tell us why.

WALT.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Tuesday 7th January.

General.—After the rush and excitement of the Christmas leave period, things have settled down to the normal routine. Barrack room conversation indicates that a good time was enjoyed by all. The Christmas dinner served to the men remaining in barracks was well up to standard, and praise is due to the cooks and the messing staff who helped the men to enjoy their Christmas away from home.

Arrivals.—Corpl Adams from 2nd Divl Signals and L/Corpl McNeill from A Corps—both members of the No. 5 drill and musketry course. We hope their stay in the Wing will be a happy one.

Departures.—Captain A. J. G. McNair to the Terriers at Manchester. All ranks join in wishing you every success in your new sphere, sir. L/Corpl Vaughan J. to the Army Reserve after a vocational training course at the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot. We hope you will nail down that posh job in quick time, Jackie. Sigmn Brown N. to A.V.T.C. Aldershot, on the 1st January, for a course in plastering.

Birth.—To Sigmn Brown N. a son (Harry) on 19/12/35. Well done, Brown!

Recruits.—We are receiving a steady flow of recruits, who are proving themselves well up to the high standard of the Corps.

Congratulations.—To Signalmen Neish, Fisher and Petty, who each raised a recruit during the past quarter. EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Monday 13th January.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of our notes for the past two months, but our late scribe has been enjoying a spot of furlough prior to going to Aldershot on probation for transfer to the R.A.P.C.

Arrivals.—The following have joined us from the warmer climate of India: Sergt Brewer, L/Sergt Bigg, Corpl Harries and Sigmn Strutt. L/Sergt Smith T. stayed with E Company for a few days on his return from Egypt, but he is now on our establishment as messing n.c.o. More recruits have arrived from the Depot Battalion, but they are too numerous to mention.

Departures.—The Officer i/c Records has been having a sort-out over the Christmas period, and the following have left us. Sergt Halls E. (from the M.C. Bays inventory) to 1st Divisional Signals, and L/Sergt Wyse B. to A Corps Signals. L/Sgt Bevis has been vouchered over to 3rd Divl Signals. Signalmen Fell L. and Taylor C. (our welter-weight champs), Pearson J. and Curran J. have gone to A Corps Signals. Signalmen Wilmshurst J., Parks A. G., Kent A. and Aldridge T. (our goal-scorer) to 1st Divl Signals. Signalmen Nutt H., Hardy R., Morris S., Luxford J., Fawcett J. and Hillery W. to 2nd Divl Signals. Signalmen Walker A., Taylor T. and Wallace P. to 3rd Divl Signals. Sigmn Stillyards J. has gone to 5th Divl Signals. Sigmn Dace R. is now with Dover Area Signal Section.

Sigmn Clark M. left us to transfer to the R.A.P.C. and is now at Aldershot Command.

Quite a number will be sailing for India this month, but we will publish their names in our next notes.

Death.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of No. 2323888 Sigmn Bush S. D. R. at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, on the 27th December last. The majority of the Company were on leave at the time, but the men who were here escorted the cortège to Richmond station, where the coffin was entrained for his home at Swindon.

Discharges.—Signalmen Thomson J. and King J. have left us for civvy street. We wish them all the best in their new sphere, and hope they will both have a speedy return to good health.

Marriages.—We have that "Scarborough touch" here now, and we hear that L/Corporals Hales and Russell found a marriage certificate in their Christmas stocking; but as neither of the bridegrooms has returned from leave, we cannot publish full details until next month. We also hear that one or two more are contemplating taking the plunge.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Wheeler E. on attaining that rank; also to L/Cpl Bennington on collecting pay and being shown in the Blue Book, and to U/L/Corpl Adamson (our new doc) on being admitted to the Junior Mess.

Patience (?) Rewarded.—Sergeant Parsons L. and L/Corpl Cannings E. were presented with the L.S. and G.C. medal by the Commandant of the S.T.C. yesterday.

Life Insurance Up To Date.—. . . . . And then there was the earnest recruit who asked the harassed pay bloke if it were true that if he made an allotment, it would be continued after his death!

Agony.—Who was the cadre clerk who asked if there was a telephone in the signal office?

Final.—There is no more to report this time. H.E.S.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Tuesday 14th January.

General.—Well, here we are, back once more in Catterick after a fortnight's respite from our labours. We left here on Thursday 19th December and returned on Saturday 4th inst. We are now prepared for a long wait for our next leave, but there's always a silver lining to every cloud, and it is only seven months to summer leave. Strange to relate, nobody forgot the date of return.

Arrivals.—We welcome to F Company the fourteen new recruits who arrived on the 7th inst. and are already settling down, despite the cold but healrhy Catterick climate. We also extend the hand of welcome to Sergt Murphy C. and Corpl Lowes R. A. from India, Sergt Kelly J. from Egypt, and Corpl Barlow R. from A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Departures.—Sergt Solly W. and Sigmn Mullins R. have left us to soldier with A Corps Signals, Aldershot. We wish them both the best of luck.

Congratulatory.—Our congratulations to Corpl Boy Parker G. on attaining that rank, and to L/Corporal Boys Scott G. H. and Moore P. for a like reason. We shall soon hear their strident voices bellowing out their commands to long-suffering boys on Saturday morning drill parades.

We heap our best wishes on Signalmen Terrey, Lander, Allaway and Mayhew, who have recently joined the ranks and commenced their "eight with the Colours." They'll need them.

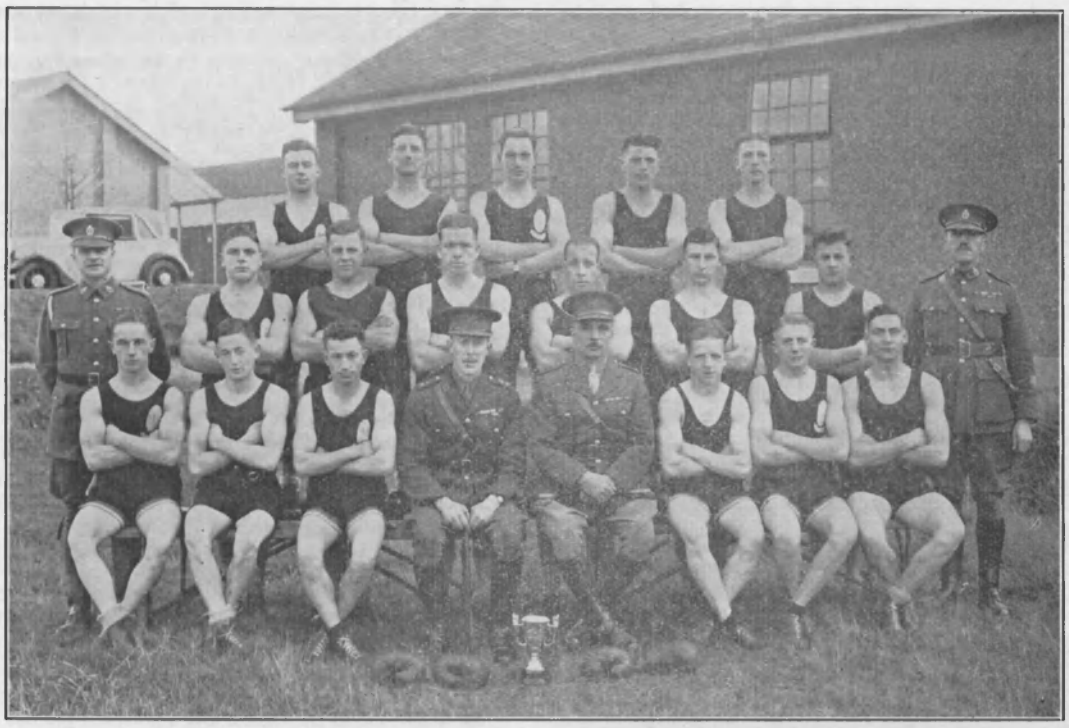
Conclusion.—This month a mere boy has written the notes, and he hopes they will meet with the approval of the writer of last month's contribution. EFF.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

A Corps Signals.

General.—The time has come again to extend the glad mitt to Signals all over the globe and to let them know how we of A Corps Signals are getting along.

First of all, the season of jollity has come and gone and we have had a really good time. The indispensable (?) few left in Aldershot had a gorgeous Christmas dinner and plenty of beer, and those who spent their Christmas at home or with friends seem to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves also. (At this point it is only fair to say that Sergt Harvey, L/Corpl Emblem and the staff of cooks ought to be highly commended on the really fine arrangements and meals supplied at Christmas time. The cooks excelled themselves.)



A Corps Signals, Aldershot, winners of the Inter-Unit Senior Team Boxing Championships (Barker Cup) 1935.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Corporals Grigg, Milligan and Spriggs, Sigmn Carruthers and L/Corpl Gully. *Centre*—C.S.M. New F., Signalmen Yates and Tucker, Driver Finnigan, Signalmen Craddock, Paton and Still, R.S.M. Wray G., M.M. *Front*—Signalmen Dunkin and O'Brien, Driver Lloyd, Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., Major H. A. Spencer, M.C., Sigmn Goodwin, L/Corporals Weech and Harris.

[*Photos by Mays, Aldershot*]



A Corps Signals Novices Boxing Team.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—L/Corporal Adam W., Signalman Scivier P., L/Cpl Ball R., Signalmen Still B., Finnegan J., Thompson E. and Deighton T., L/Corpl Gully H., Sigmn Carruthers.

Front row—Sigmn O'Brien P., L/Cpl Rixon D., Sigmn Shillito G., Brevet-Major H. A. Spencer, Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale, Signalmen Hughes F. and Goodhall H., L/Corpl Weech A.

The C.S.O., who was present at the dinner, wished us the compliments of the season and said he hoped that we would have a really happy time. L/Corporal Dodger Green, with a few well chosen words, replied. Among other things he wished everybody " bags of accelerated promotion." This remark was indeed well received. In fact, it was suggested by someone present that our friend Dodger should be put up to fill the then vacant appointment of Foreign Secretary (but he filled the position of junior n.c.o. of the guard instead).

The children's Christmas tree party, too, was a huge success. Every available family was brought to the N.A.A.F.I. by bus for this event, and I am sure both young and old enjoyed themselves.

Marriages.—On Saturday 4th January, at the Parish Church, Bromley, Kent, Lieutenant T. T. S. Cooke, R.Signals (elder son of Colonel G. S. C. Cooke, D.S.O., R.E., and Mrs. Cooke, of Southampton) was married to Miss Joan St. George Cameron (youngest daughter of the late Colonel J. Cameron, R.E., and Mrs. Cameron, of Bromley). The bridegroom was attended by Lieutenant T. J. F. Fuller, R.Signals, as best man. A party of brother officers formed an archway of swords for the happy pair as they came out of church (see photo). Among those present were Captain Morrison and Lieutenants Stonleigh, Fisher, Newell, McKean, Deakin, Pattison and Maydon. Among the many telegrams of congratulations received was one from No. 1 Company. All ranks of the Company join in wishing Lieut. and Mrs. Cooke a very happy and prosperous married life. They are believed to be spending their honeymoon in Cornwall.



Lieutenant and Mrs. T. T. S. Cooke.

[*Photo by The Picture Press, Bromley*]

L/Corpl Holman, of No. 1 Company, was married to Miss M. V. Phillips at Holy Trinity Church, Greenwich, on the 5th Jan. Every wish for their welfare and happiness goes with them in their great adventure.

Driver Smith G. W., also of No. 1 Company, has likewise taken the fatal (?) step, and to him and his bride we wish all success and prosperity in double harness.

Education.—Congratulations to the following. On gaining first class certificates at a recent examination, L/Sergeant May C. and Sigmn Gurney. On gaining second class certificates, Signalmen Gilmartin, Hartley, Peasley, Ward E., Edwards and Gorman, Driver Gorringe, L/Corporals Kennedy and Turner, of No. 1 Company, and Signalmen Carruthers and Coomb, of No. 2.

Promotions.—Something has happened! Is it that old soldiers have faded out of the picture, or only that the time has come for the sliding scale to be tipped up ? Quien sabe ? We congratulate Sergeant Todman A. of No. 1 Company, L/Sergt Jerram of No. 2, and Corporal Jones of No. 4, on their promotion to those ranks. We hope that all back pay will go where it usually does.

Arrivals.—Several have come to the unit since the last issue of THE WIRE. We hope their tour in this unit will be a happy one.

Departures.—Of these there have been many, and we wish them all they would wish themselves.

Training.—By the time these notes are published we shall be in the thick of the individual training season, and aspirants for higher trade pay will be studying hard (?) to capture the elusive " tanner." Good luck to them all.

Jew's Mail.—Sigmn Hunt I. (2322392) is asked to communicate (by post—1½d. stamp required) with Sigmn Cocking of No. 1 Company A Corps Signals.

Sigmn Atkins (595) Meerut: Two annas is still the cost of letter postage from India. What about it ? Radford (301) A Corps.

Au revoir till next time. J.

1st Divisional Signals.

General.—Signalmen come and signalmen go, but 1st Divisional Signals is very much the same. To those many who have left this happy unit recently, and to the many more who have yet to catch the boat East or who are due for civvy street, we wish the very best of good luck.

To the few lads who are now joining us from the Depot, we extend the hand of welcome. Do they realise their good fortune in being posted to us ? (Our trumpeter is on the strength of K Section.)

Dizzy Heights.—L/Corporal Newton reached full-blown status during January. May his next wait be shorter.

Dizzier Heights.—R.Q.M.S. Mitchell and Sergt Benfield are to be congratulated on their respective promotions after their long waits on the ladder.

N.B.—It is not generally known that there are going to be quite a lot of moves in 1941. Ssh! this news probably leaked out of Records.

Stocktaking Statistics.—After the recent unit stocktaking, the following should be of some interest.

If all the buckshee cable hidden away in J Section's store were laid out in long lines down Prince's Avenue, it would be a nuisance. For further information see Sergt Freeman, ex Guards Brigade.

If all the spare equipment in No. 1 Company store were placed in a big heap on the western parade ground, there would be no room for guard mounting. Thank goodness!

If all the spare 220v. bulbs in 1st Div. were to reach the R.Q.'s deadsack, Mons Barracks would be in the dark.

If the loot wallah from No. 2 Company who removed the dustbin from No. 8 Block will call at No. 3 Company store, he can have the lid—and he may hear of something to his advantage. We now know why this item is on charge as bin, ash, movable.

If the A/C.Q.M.S. of No. 3 Company brought all his hoarded brooms to light, there would be enough to go all round—one per man. However, as this would be an unfair advantage to No. 3 Company during duty week, he can keep them. He knows what to do with them.

If all the coal spirited away from the coal yard during the past twelve months were mysteriously replaced during the night, Cpl Tranter would lose that worried look.

More Stocktaking.—C.Q.M.S. to O.C.: " There's a 'box-up' here, sir." Surprised O.C.: " But I thought we were a box down!" Astonished C.Q.M.S.: " I didn't say there was a box

up, sir. There is a box down ; but I meant there's a ' box-up.' " And now they are still a box down. What a box-up!

Still More Stocktaking.—It is not true that R.Q.M.S. Spindler has gone into retirement, although he *is* contemplating going away for a well-earned rest. If you want him now, you will probably find him counting the thousands of hooks, screws and etceteras in his store. He'll be glad when it's all over!

Apologia.—Our usual contributor, R.Q.M.S. Mitchell J. S., is on six weeks furlough, so take heart if your patience has failed altogether at the foregoing. I am only the February stopgap.

LANKA MK. II.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Our old scribe having departed to a far better (?) land known as civvy street, it falls upon my shoulders to carry the burden of notes for this Company, and I am afraid that my efforts will not reach the literary heights of my predecessor.

It is not my first attempt, and my nom de plume will be easily recognised by the inhabitants of the town of troopships.

Most of the Company being on leave, news will of necessity be brief. Only a little longer and the days of luxury and lying in bed until noon will be over, and with our noses to the wheel we shall have to get down to it in preparing for another arduous year's training.

Congratulations.—These are due to C.Q.M.S. Leath, Sergt Jones and L/Sergt Somers on their elevation to those ranks.

Departures.—Far too numerous to mention by name, but we wish Godspeed and a pleasant tour to all those sent away to the outposts of the Empire. May they enjoy seeing the world.

Conclusion.—Now we must close, having no funny remarks or jokes to make.

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Since half the Company is enjoying annual furlough, we shall have to wait until next month for the tit bits, although (judging by the fan mail with stamped addressed envelopes) the fair sex must be having a fairly good time in various parts of the country. We hear that it only takes eight hours to get from Paris to London, so all aspirants for " special class " certificates should take advantage of this quick travel. I understand you only have to " jew " for twelve months.

Things have been fairly quiet recently, but we are all looking forward to February, when we commence our 1936 programme in earnest.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Nutt, Luxford, Hillery, Morris, Hardy and Fawcett, and hope they will soon settle down to field unit ways. Don't worry! Manœuvres are a cinch.

Departures.—We wish L/Corpl Parry the very best of luck in his new sphere of life. " Indeed to goodness, look you!" Drop us a line some time.

Sigmn Kettridge leaves us to join the Cads. You have certainly got the height, Dingle.

We are losing quite a number of our people at the end of this month, but until they finally embark we will not say anything.

Agony.—Who was the signalman who went on furlough and left his marriage lines between his biscuits ?

Is it true that the *late* Company clerk has severed connections in the city ?

Will somebody please confirm that Brighton is the place they say it is ?

292.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Individual training is in full swing once more, and the n.c.o.s are looking forward to a drill course which is to start very shortly.

Departures.—Lieut. H. V. Ewbank has left us for the School of Signals as the advance guard to a main force which is to leave here very shortly, and Lieut. G. Thompson has gone to look after our little Colin somewhere in China. We wish both of them the best of luck in their new stations.

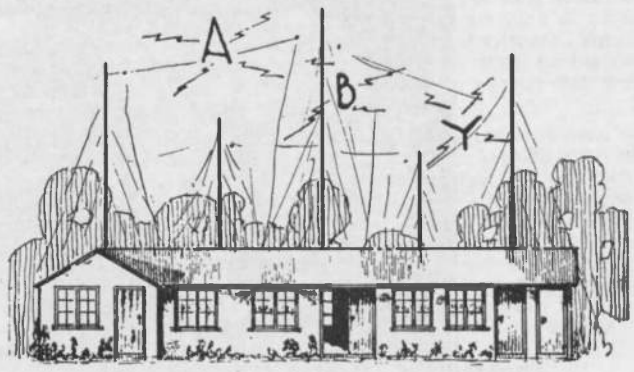
Passing of Another Warrior.—Corporal Smith has been provisionally warned for India, and he will be suitably " modified " before departure. Shanghai will hear more of this later.

Hello, Malta!—What about that photo of Malta Signals at work, Bill ?

Courses.—Corpl Dale to the School of Signals on a Foreman-of-Signals course. Signalmen Cox and Silvester to an Army Vocational Training Centre.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone.

THREECO.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Congratulations.—Although rather belated, we congratulate Sigmn Williams L. on his marriage to Miss Doris Madaline Burchett at Seale Rectory on 7/12/35. This naturally leads us to

Leap Year—and the fears of Mahatma Ji, who now seems doomed to matrimony and its joys and sorrows. There must be a romance somewhere in his life, because he spends hours in watching the issue of rations on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Comes.—Corporal Dymond F. came into the fold on the 3rd December last, and we hope he will enjoy his stay here. Sigmn Calow C. A. joined from the Training Battalion on the 14th Jan.

Goes.—Signalman Verlander E. sailed for China on the 12th December and must have gained his sea legs by this time. Corpl (Bert) Durand, although not in this Company when he sailed for Singapore, was one of us long enough to receive our best wishes (or otherwise) on his new station. Corpl Mohrstadt H. G. F. has been posted to B Corps Signals, Karachi, and sails on the 4th February. The luck of the Mohrstadts still holds. Sigmn Mitchell W. (Bing) is at the Vocational Centre on a bricklaying course. He hasn't been late one morning, so far. Sergt Bishop G. R. still works hard somewhere in A Corps, understudying C.Q. work. L/Corpl Willie Abbott proceeds to A Corps on the 20th January for an upgrading course.

Tough Breaks.—Concerning L/Corporal Cecil of the Clan MacRobboSon, granted twenty-eight days leave and recalled on the tenth day. Result: speechless for three days—and then the storm broke . . . . . (?)

Sport.—Except for my efforts to teach Mahatma Ji and Sergt Bishop how to play billiards and snooker, sport has been at a standstill for two months. We open out again on Thursday 16th January, when with much glee we shall (we hope) proceed to wipe up the cream of A Corps at hockey.

Trophies.—This being medal month, competition for the grippers' shield has been more than usually keen ; but after great competition it was won by Willie Abbott, I.G.S.M., with his never-ending tales of the Chitral column. Mahatma Ji, I.G.S.M., was a close second with the story of how he saved the rations. Sir Austen (no medals) was a bad third with how he held them back at Lucknow.

Whilst on the subject of grippers, we congratulate Jock Greig on being a champ in the land of super-grippers, and again congratulate him on his third stripe.

More Congratulations.—This time to Sigmn (Bill) Williams of body-line fame, on commanding a regular place in the Aldershot Command hockey team.



Aldershot Command Signal Company Cricket Team, 1935.

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Signalmen Goldsby T., Verlander E. J., Macken W., Williams L., Bates F. W. and Lord J. W., Corpl Mohrstadt H. G. F., Sigmn Hampson F.

Front row—L/Sergeant Stanley R. H., Corpl Chamberlain L. J., Captain H. H. Anthony, C.Q.M.S. Yates W., Sergt Bishop G. R., L/Corpl Abbott W. J.

Photo.—The accompanying photograph is of the cricket eleven who made it possible for this Company to retain the 1st Divl Signals Company shield for another year.

? ?—L/Corporal William Abbott and Sigmn William Macken have, with great ceremony, been presented with Frontier "gongs." Mahatma Ji blushed like a June rose when he received his. I was not a bit surprised, because it must be very embarrassing to get something for nothing. Our chief correspondent interviewed these two gallant chaps, and the results are appended.

C.C.: " I would like your story of how you won your medal, for THE WIRE, Mr. Macken."
Mr. M.: " I really don't know how to start. It's such a long story."
C.C.: " Come, come, Mr. Macken! please do not be so modest. Tell us all about it. Where did you win it ?"
Mr. M.: " All over the Frontier."
C.C.: " Can you give me any special place on the Frontier where you were ?"
Mr. M.: " Peshawar railway station."
C.C.: " What happened on Peshawar railway station ?"
Mr. M.: " Severe hardships."
C.C.: " How come ?"
Mr. M.: " It was two annas dearer."
C.C.: " What was ?"

The interview then ended very abruptly—like this: **!!??**

L/Corpl William Abbott's nature will not allow him to tell a lie, so that when he was asked for his story, he simply replied " I won't talk!"

Attached.—L/Corpl Cockayne and Sigmn Baxter have been attached to us for a short time, to get an insight into the workings of an Army wireless chain.

Signing Off.—73's. AUSTEN.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Aldershot.

Saturday 18th January.

We apologise to those who missed our contribution to the December issue of THE WIRE. As an excuse, we must blame the pressure of work which falls upon us at this period of the year in studying " Bradshaw."

The festive season did not pass without our having a fair share of fun, and the entertainments committee once more gained 100 per cent. marks for the manner in which they worked. A Christmas draw was organised on the 22nd December, and this was followed by an impromptu dance. It was during the course of this dance that a certain R.S.M. was handing round "Woodbines" with all the abandon with which a millionaire would offer cigars. It afterwards transpired that they were packets of ten which cost him a shilling in the Mess draw.

On Christmas Day about thirty sergeants turned out to assist in serving at the men's dinner. One man complained that he felt hurt because a certain sergeant had failed to reply to him when wished the compliments of the season. The sergeant, however, was only showing his good manners by not speaking with his mouth full.

Following Christmas the Mess, as is customary, went " dead " for a few days, and then suddenly jumped into its stride again when the entertainments committee reminded those staying in barracks that it was New Year's Eve. Naturally, dances are associated with this date, and as we are a peace loving gathering, nobody objected when the committee suggested a dance. The territory was well held by our own " scrum " until the influx of a jolly crowd from the King's Own, and then it was just a matter of showing one's skill in standing on the other person's foot before being treated in a like manner.

Just before midnight the haggis was piped by Sergeants Bishop, Kitchen and Cutler. This was rather amusingly presented. Sergt Kitchen, attired in a kilt with the vacuum cleaner tucked under his arm for pipes, headed the procession, followed by Cutler who, with great ceremony, carried the haggis. He in turn was followed by Bishop, dressed as a chef (and he really looked the part). The orchestra rose to the occasion and by all playing a different tune came within an ace of beating the delightful music of the pipes.

Midnight chimes from Big Ben were picked up on the wireless, and as they commenced the whole of the company present linked hands and sang (?) " Auld Lang Syne." One C.Q.M.S., with his mind still on his work, chanted " Should old equipment go to rot ?" instead of the author's well known words. A merry evening came to an end (officially) at 2 a.m., but quite a number of individuals came to a merry end long before that hour!

Numerous new arrivals have added to our numbers, and a cordial welcome is extended to all of 'em. The names of these, together with those who have been warned for far-flung lands, are being left to unit representatives to chronicle. Quite a number of those posted would like to get into touch with the chap who is responsible for having those lands flung so far. AH.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Thursday 16th January.

General.—Not much of general interest has taken place during the last month, since as many people as possible have been on Christmas furlough. Practically everyone has now returned, but the unit is only 75 per cent. of its normal strength.

This hits us in many ways, in sport as well as in work. We have just played the second round of the Army hockey cup against the 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps and lost by 1—4 after extra time. There is no doubt that we missed one or two who would have been playing had they not been required for urgent postings abroad. A description of the match is given in the Sports Notes.

The second period of individual training has started and goes on till the 13th March.

Sergeants Mess.—Situation fairly normal, if you know what that means. Sergt Little V. sailed away with a party of twenty-eight other ranks to Egypt, and he will be glad to know that our thoughts were with him and his companions on the night of the big gale.

Sergt Joe Brooke, at present enjoying some leave (well earned, he said), goes to the Tank Brigade Signals on his return—which almost tempts us to remark that our whatsit is someone else's thingummy.

A welcome to L/Sergt Bevis and his family, who joined us in January.

The following will be leaving us in the near future. To India, L/Sergeants Butcher, Wilson, Policella and Brown. To China, Sergt Brundell.

Our dining members are all present, reinforced by a few " married pads " temporarily torn from their hearths.

L/Sergt Jock Watt returned from leave in Devon, which is causing us some anxiety. We always thought that Jocks went to Aberdeen or thereabouts at this time of the year.

We were pleased to learn that ex-Q.M.S. Vic Tilford was nicely settled at Port Sunlight. A hearty greeting from all friends. At least one member will be able to have his " annual " free of charge, for which he is duly grateful.

It is hoped that our whist drives and dances will be resumed now that the band is back from leave. Although our mess is a little off the beaten track, regular patrons are always assured of a jolly evening.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—By the time these notes appear in print, the 4th Divl Signals will be a mere skeleton of a unit. Numbers and names too numerous to mention have proceeded overseas during the last two months. Several of the "barrack permanent fixtures" embarked for sunnier climes than Colchester and Canterbury. There was a rush on O.1734's prior to the drafts embarking, owing to the sudden decision of quite a number of likely lads to give up their freedom.

Births.—Nil. But just wait a couple of months: it's a close race, but no names, no scratched eyes.

Congratulations.—Army Rifle Association Competition, 1935. To No. 3 Company on winning the Corps shield series (a) at home. The winning team and scores were: Corpl Scratcher (67), Sigmn Price C. (67), Sigmn Carey H. (66), ex-Sigmn Rushen L. (63), Corpl Cooke (61), Sigmn Dalton G. J. (60), Corpl Main W. (56), L/Corpl Marshall A. (55). Credit for the team's success is due to Lieut. H. C. Daniel, as he has been weapon training officer for the last two years. His efforts and interest have greatly improved the unit's average in the annual musketry classification.

K.P.'s 1936 Revue.—Extract from one of the Company's orders: " The C.O. will inspect the draft on . . . . . Dress, *revue order* less arms and medals." What a show! A galaxy of beauty and legs performed their act amidst a riot of applause from the R.S.M. There was no time for encores owing to the mammoth programme and a couple of stars already awaiting the " Caps off " order.

No. 2 Company.

General.—If it were not for a little gentle persuasion, I am afraid these notes would be conspicuous by their absence this month. But having got the office fire well stoked up, I will see what news I can rake up after I have broken the ice on the ink.

Since last month's notes went to press, the majority of the Company have sailed for foreign climes and the remainder is now composed mainly of drivers and personnel due to embark for overseas on the 27th January and the 3rd February. Each driver has four nice horses to look after.

Departures.—Signalmen Lees J. and Redman E. have left us for civvy street, with every good wish for the future.

Arrivals.—One: Sigmn Moss from the Training Battalion.

Sport.—Owing to the scarcity of personnel in the unit, there has not been much football or hockey during the past month; but we are looking forward to a cross-country run next Wednesday, of which I will tell you next month if I get back in time. There must be a prize in the offing, as all the crocks, etc., are in training, and Speedy (the cook-house wallah) is doing his best to help them by cutting out the sugar in the tea, so that they will not get too much surplus weight to carry.

Marriages.—Spring must be in the air, as there have been so many marriages that I have given up hope of keeping track of them. But here are a few of the happy couples. Driver Rothwell H. to Janet Elsie Aeton at St. Thomas's Church, Hyde, Chester, on 14/12/35. L/Cpl White R. to Alice Mary O'Sullivan at St. Thomas's Church, Canterbury, on 28/12/35. L/Corporal Cotton A. to Elizabeth Ann Watson at the Parish Church of St. Mary, Colchester, on 22/12/35. L/Corpl Ebbage F. to Phyllis Edith Back Crick at the Parish Church of St. Andrew, Deal, on 21/12/35.

HAPPY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

General.—Enter 1936. Our first job this year is to thank all those who have sent us good wishes for the future.

Having said good-bye to 1935 with its many goings, we now await the many comings which we hope 1936 will bring. Like the Scotsman's coat, though threadbare, the unit still hangs together.

Christmas Festivities.—The few other ranks remaining in barracks during Christmas sat down to a bumper dinner. During the meal Major G. C. Winckley, M.C. (in the absence of the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel H. G. Henderson) said a few words and on behalf of the officers toasted the health of all present. The toast was responded to by Cpl (Tich) Bolshaw. Congratulations are due to the messing staff and cooks on the excellent meal produced. The waiters, too, improved matters. I am sure some of the w.o.s and sergeants have done this job before.

Children's Christmas Tree.—This most popular event took place on the 3rd January. It is regretted that so many husbands were absent, but youth will be served and the children appeared perfectly happy and contented. After tea, the children were amused by a ventriloquist and Punch and Judy show. The former, in addition to ventriloquism, amused with various imitations, but he committed rather a *faux pas* with his imitation of a baby crying! Young Havildar put him well in the shade with a spot of the real goods. However, both shows were well received and made a good introduction to the event of the evening, the arrival of Father Christmas. Why do R.Q.M.S.s fall for this job? After careful consideration, I have put it down to one of two things: it is either the build of Q.M.s in general or the desire to give things. Be that as it may, Father Christmas on this occasion kept his end up and performed his duties to the satisfaction of all. The thanks of the families are extended to the committee for such a good show.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to the following who have left us for duty elsewhere: Captain W. A. Peachell, Lieut. G. B. Stevenson, Sergt Dunningham S. C., L/Sergt Wood E., Corporals Powner P. and Warburton, L/Corporals Chaffey E. and Newton A., Signalmen Cation E., Fox W., Conway P., Douglas J., Nurse W. and Roman W., and Driver (I.C.) Sides W. May they all have a good journey and as pleasant a time as possible.

Marriages.—Business as usual. Sigmn Cockell S. to Miss Elsie Ethel Hayell. Driver Coupe W. to Edna Emily Booth. There are others, but not too numerous to mention.

Sergeants Mess.—Considering the number in mess, the Christmas draw was quite a successful event, and for the second year in succession the goose was won by our only single member, Sergt Dunningham. I understand a good home was found for it.

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The next news that I have to report is that at long last we have a hundred per cent. married Mess. We have lost our one and only Sergt Dunningham, who has kept his independence to date and has left us for Headquarters S.T.C. The best of luck, Stan. Let us know when the wedding is to be (and where).

Sergt Rapple (attached from R.A.P.C.) has been with us nearly two months and still remains single. He has not, however, spent a summer in Scarborough yet, so there are hopes of some cake in that direction.

Congratulations to L/Sergeants Sharpe D. and Coaten H. on reaching " the floor above." Two new members alias two married members, but every little helps in these hard times. OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Victoria Barracks, 14th January.

The New Year has brought us a variety in climatic conditions, as we have been either nearly frozen to death or at times drowned.

The year 1935 was an eventful one which brought some minor changes and (to harp back to an old theme) a " spot of trouble " that gave us a taste of semi-active service. Quite a number of the old Company have left us and are now either civilians or serving abroad. We wish them all good luck in the present year.

A very enjoyable Christmas dinner was attended by all ranks. After the usual toasts had been given, the party continued until approximately 5 p.m., during which some interesting items were rendered by Signalmen Coram, Doyle and Cassidy, Driver Scoffen, and others. We congratulate ourselves on our first rate messing staff and cooks. We thought the dinner was superb.

The recent floods have caused great excitement amongst the linemen who have been away on cable laying, as it became a daily exercise to pump the cable trenches clear of water before settling down to the job in hand. They returned each evening looking like grave diggers around the feet and with bent backs. Their boast is that they cleared some 45,000 gallons of water and so solved the secret of why the grass is so green over here. The F-of-S could be seen with a little grey note book, trying to outwit the weather clerk and calling the country names other than emerald, but the Press said it was the same in England, so he had a little consolation. Our sergeant lineman almost collapsed when, after clearing one trench, he returned after lunch to find it was once more a miniature swimming bath.

Promotions.—We congratulate Corpl Dickenson, now in India, on his new rank.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to L/Corporals Castell F. and Swift T. and Signalmen Causey and Brightwell on their transfer to the Reserve. L/Corpl Castell is taking up employment in electric welding after his recent " voc," whilst L/Corpl Swift left us to take up a position in his own home town. We hope the others will also be as fortunate. Signalmen Eccles and Sutton have left us to attend a vocational course, and we wish them success.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corpl Oliver and L/Cpl Edwards from Wazirdist, Corpl Wood from A Corps Signals, Aldershot, and Signalmen Houghton, Laws, Lawson, Rogers, Oliver W., Seager, Wise and Slavan from Catterick.

Recreation.—Although there has been little opportunity for sport, we have played a few football matches. Our team shows great promise, whilst the new arrivals have provided some good talent. The hockey team is also quite good, and we hope to have some notes in the future.

Oddments.—The new hat craze has led to many a laugh, and one can scarcely realise that there are so many golfers in the unit.

The messing n.c.o. treated us well at Christmas, organising things very well indeed ; so they can't all be barbarians in Newcastle. Perhaps 'tis the foreign name he bears that provides the talent.

The out-stations are slowly recovering from Christmas, annual leave and draft shocks, so we hope they will be able to contribute something next month.

Tailpiece.—We should like to thank all those who sent us cards at Christmas, including old members, and to express our regret that we were unable to give a more suitable acknowledgment owing to our unit being so small and scattered. HEC ME.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

December 1935.

General.—To all units at home and abroad, and all ex-members of the S.T.C. (India): "A merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

The scribe who uses the nom-de-plume of Mut (no relation of Heela Mut) has gone to Bombay in the capacity of face lifter and hopes to come back a champion, so here's wishing him success.

Arrivals.—We extend the welcome hand to Sergeant and Mrs. Snow from Rawalpindi. We hope they had a "rattling" good journey, as they came all the way by car.

Departures.—C.S.M. Price G. R. and family to Karachi. We hope you will not get too sunburnt at the Lido, sir. Our loss is definitely B Corps' gain.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Corpl Wallis on receiving the pice. Disappointments: plenty.

Entertainments.—The Company held a whist drive and dance on Wednesday 4th December. We tender our thanks to the band and committee for making the evening a great success.

Tin and bottle tennis tournaments are now being run fortnightly and, according to the number of cans carried and bottles broken, they are becoming quite popular.

Scots' Press.—To Geordie: Reunion to be held in October, 1936. Cross Scan off the roll, as I think he likes India too much. Nellie.

NIL SINE LABORE.

Corporals Room.

Monday 16th December 1935.

General.—Yes, another member of the Mess has that feeling of "bring them back dead or alive" in his blood. In other words, Tich Connolly has taken unto himself a gun and on Thursdays and Sundays sallies forth, long before the stars have whispered "All's well, dawn," with an eager desire to kill in his heart. It has been suggested that it would be just as cheap if these gun men left behind the burden of ammunition. However, we do have a lovely surprise now and again and find pig or fowl on the menu for dinner.

The Mess annual billiard tournament has just been played off. Robbo carried away the cup after playing a brilliant game in the final against last year's winner, Tommy Edge. (How much does the cup hold, Robbo ?) This will, no doubt, be his last billiard tournament in this Mess. He will shortly join the band of V.T.s at Chisledon, where he will learn how to lay a perfect green and chase worms out of the flower borders.

We are now competing against the sergeants for the Younger cup. So far, we have played them at hockey and tennis, and have had a shooting competition on the range, reports of which will be found in the Sports pages. The Mess is very unlucky this year in having such a small number from whom to choose these various teams. We have yet to play the sergeants at football and cricket.

We Should Like To Know.—George (Knox)! what qualifications must one hold to be allowed to carry the bag round, and what is it worth ?

How many writing pads does Talbot use in a week, and who May he be writing to ?

R.P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Friday 3rd January.

General.—December has been a busy month for us, and we are certainly not lost for copy. Our only worry is whether the Editor will be able to allow us sufficient space for all we have to say.

Our last notes ended on the eve of a General's inspection, which we passed with flying colours. On the 2nd December the unit lines were inspected by the G.O.C. Rawalpindi District (Major-General R. C. Wilson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C.) who was very pleased with everything he saw. We felt that our efforts had not been in vain. The Commander, Rawalpindi, conveniently arranged his inspection of the unit for the 3rd December, the day following the District Commander's inspection.

Company schemes and route marches continued during Dec., but from the 21st onwards things began to take a Christmassy aspect, and the official Christmas holidays were from the 23rd to the 28th (inclusive). Nobody could complain of lack of entertainment. There was something happening every day, and I will endeavour to give a brief account of each function. Except for the B.O.R.s Christmas dinner, most of the functions were on a combined scale with A Corps Signals. This arrangement worked very well and showed the spirit of friendliness between the two units.

Corporals' Dinner and Dance.—The corporals started the ball rolling by holding their annual dinner and dance on the 21st December. The dinner, by all accounts, was a very successful affair, and L/Corporals Thorpe and Bellinger of A Corps are to be congratulated on it. The dance after was held in the Signal theatre, which had been completely re-decorated and now looks very smart with an artistically decorated band stage, the roof covered with draped yellow silk, and the walls with side lights covered with coloured electric globes—altogether a great improvement. The dance was well attended, and during the evening the two C.O.s and other officers attended with their wives. It was a very fine show. The only comment we have to make is (as one junior n.c.o. was heard to observe) "You couldn't get inebriated—it took too long to get served."

Children's Christmas Party.—On the 23rd December the annual children's Christmas party was given by the officers to all families of Royal Signals, Rawalpindi, and all those who attended had a wonderful time. There was everything the kiddies could desire, including camel and pony rides and even a roundabout. It was not only the kiddies, however, who delighted in the fun. What with the daddies on the roundabout and the mummies on the camels—to say nothing of the "bomb" attacks on various unsuspecting people—everybody seemed to be having an enjoyable time.

The order then went round to be seated for tea, and there was a general rush to the sergeants mess, where a lovely spread was provided which was enjoyed by both young and old. One father was heard to say it was the first time he had heard his son admit that he couldn't eat any more! We also discovered that sergeants like jellies.

After the tea was over, everybody adjourned to the theatre for games, and much fun was caused by musical chairs, etc.

The event of the day, to which all the kiddies had been looking forward, then took place. The lights went out and on the stage Father Christmas appeared in a snow-covered sleigh, carrying his sack of toys. The sleigh was drawn down the length of the hall, where the curtains were parted and a huge tastefully decorated Christmas tree was disclosed. By now the kiddies were "all eyes" to see what Father Christmas was going to produce from his bag, and as their names were called out we noticed that none of them were slow in coming forward for their presents. After every child had received a gift, three resounding cheers were given for Father Christmas, and so ended a very happy day. Many thanks are due to the officers and their ladies for giving everybody such a good time.

Christmas Day.—This was celebrated in the time-honoured style with rum and coffee for "gunfire," and at 1.15 p.m. the men sat down to their dinner and were waited on by the senior n.c.o.s. The C.O. and officers of the unit were present, and after the Royal toast and toasts to the Colonel-in-Chief (H.R.H. Princess Royal) and to the C.O. and officers had been honoured, the C.O.

said a few well chosen words which were responded to with three hearty cheers, and the business of eating commenced. A fine menu was provided (which space does not permit me to print) and it was enjoyed by all. The dining room had been splendidly decorated, and much credit is due to all concerned for the work which they put in to make the show a success.

All Ranks Dance.—An all ranks dance (fancy dress) was held on the 27th December. This was well attended and some very fine fancy dresses were seen. The prize winners were " the Robot," " Hitler " and " Mickey and Minnie Mouse."

Boxing Day Activities.—The chief event of Boxing Day was the football match between the 1st Divl Signals and A Corps Signals. This is without doubt a " local Derby," and the popularity of the match was shown by the large crowd which turned up to witness it. The match was an ideal one and the spectators had plenty of thrills. A Corps scored first, but this put the Div. on their mettle and they were quick to equalise (Sigmn Donaghy scoring). At the end of the first half the score was 1—1. The second half started off with a swing. The Corps forwards then managed to get away and a second goal was added to their score. Excitement was now tense. The A Corps supporters were certain the match was theirs, but one minute before the close of play a low shot from Sigmn Cox J. found the net and the Div. had equalised. The cheering must have been heard all over Pindi. A very fine match ended in a draw of 2—2 : a result which seemed very popular.

Mixed Hockey.—Another event of Boxing Day which drew an interested crowd of spectators was a hockey match between the ladies and the married officers, n.c.o.s and men. This was a very amusing game to watch. The men were handicapped in having to use the stick with one hand only and not being allowed to run. During the second half a football was introduced in lieu of a hockey ball. This considerably livened up the proceedings, and although there were umpires on the field this did not deter the ladies, who were not averse to kicking the ball or even carrying it. Showing masterly skill, they managed to win the game by completely baffling the men's goalie (C.Q.M.S. Bradbury) on two occasions ; and at the end of the match, amidst great applause, Mrs. Vulliamy presented Mrs. J. R. G. Walker (captain of the ladies) with the cup. This was duly filled and the team's success was celebrated in " shandy."

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.—On the 23rd December the Sergeants Mess annual draw took place, and about Rs.200 worth of prizes were distributed to the lucky winners. Mrs. Weeks functioned very nicely by frequently calling out " Blank!" whenever Miss Bayliss or Miss Pout pulled out lucky (?) numbers. It was an enjoyable evening, especially for those who got repeated prizes of " four old ales."

On the 26th December the Sergeants Mess held their annual Christmas dinner and dance. Ninety-two persons sat down to a sumptuous meal which commenced at 8 p.m. The sight was certainly a very fine one, with the hall decorated with coloured streamers and lights, the tables loaded with the Mess silver, and the ladies wearing lovely frocks. It certainly gave one the impression that India was not a bad place (especially at Christmas time). C.S.M. Eastes proposed the Royal toast, C.S.M. King the toast to our Colonel-in-Chief (H.R.H. Princess Royal), and R.S.M. Bayliss " Our Guests." The reply to the latter was given by Sub-Condr Bowdler (I.A.O.C.) an ex-member of Royal Signals.

After dinner the floor was cleared and dancing commenced, the dance being attended by the officers and their ladies and many outside guests. Novelty dances were held for which prizes were given, and altogether a very successful evening was spent.

Much credit is due to Sergt Bloodworth and his band of helpers who decorated the mess and generally ensured everybody having a good time.

Sartorial News.—No doubt, much pleasure will be felt by many of those who are coming out to India this season when they hear the news that civilian clothes may now be worn by junior ranks when off duty. The actual order reads that all ranks down to U/L/Corporal may wear plain clothes when not on duty, signalmen may wear them when proceeding to or from organised recreation, and all ranks when on leave outside their permanent station. It was surprising to see how soon our junior n.c.o.s produced their " civvies " when the order was published—they must have been in the know. But we must say they look very smart, sitting in the " two chips " in the cinema.

Repatriations.—The following sail from Bombay on H.T. *Nevasa* on 7/1/36: Corporals Gray H. and Gandey G., L/Corpl Beeby K. and Signalmen Brown E., Angell G. and Jebb T. On 21/1/36 the following will be leaving us per H.T. *Neuralia* from Karachi: L/Sergt Allston G., L/Corpl Stringer A., Signalmen Charlton M., Fay H. and Kent C., and Corporal Millen G. and family. We wish them all the best in their new spheres.

Sergt Chantler and family proceed on nine months leave on 7/2/36 per H.T. *Cameronia* ex Bombay.

Promotions.—L/Cpl Shepherd N. to be Corporal. U/L/Cpl Beeby K. appointed paid L/Corporal. Congratulations to both.

Birth.—To the wife of F/Cpl Long G. a daughter on 30/11/35. Congratulations to the proud parents.

Re-Engagements.—L/Sergt Allston G. to complete twenty-one years with the Colours. ONEDIV.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Friday 3rd January.

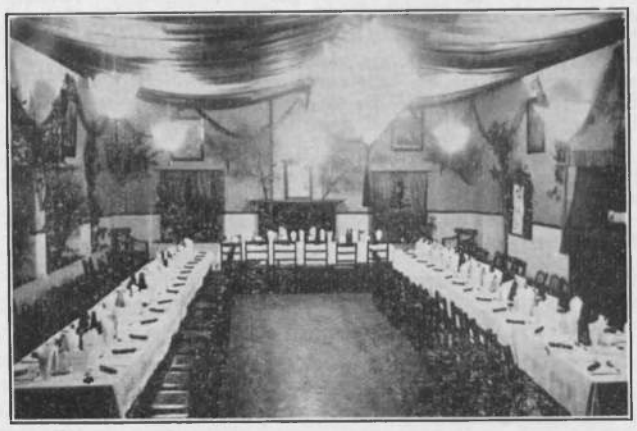
General.—This month I must commence with an apology for the brevity of these notes, but must plead the festive season as the reason. After all, it takes a few days to work off that Christmas feeling and get back to normal again.

We have had a very cold month. Especially was this noticed during the Brigade and District exercises held between the 13th and 18th December over some of the roughest country around this part of the world (as anyone who has been around there will agree). The area was between Hangu and Lachi, with those two awful kotals to cross. The fact that we managed to get over without any casualties speaks well for the animals, for there were several occasions when they had almost to sit down and slide for a considerable distance—and with a load like a Stuart-Turner engine, it was far from easy. I think I can say without fear of contradiction that everyone was heartily glad when the " Cease Fire " was sounded and the orders given to return to barracks.

There was one casualty on the final day. One of K Section's mules (complete with No. 1 set) fell over a khud, hurting the mule rather badly but not damaging the set—which was rather a good thing, for at that particular time this set was playing an important part in the " battle," being with a battalion engaging the enemy and wireless being the only means of communication with Brigade.

However, all's well that ends well, and we arrived back in barracks in the early afternoon of the 18th, and then commenced preparations for the Christmas holidays—from the 23rd to the 28th inclusive, except for necessary duties, etc.

Christmas Day passed off very quietly indeed, but the fare provided was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all ; and we offer our congratulations to both the catering and decorating staffs on a really good show.



The B.O.R.s Mess on Christmas Day.

This year, the decorations were taken down in the normal way. Last year, it may be remembered, they came down rather too quickly to be really comfortable—especially so at 4 a.m., when one had only been in bed a short while.

Leave It To Us.—'Twas a dark, cold night ; the day had been a long and tiring one ; and at last we were settled in camp. One of the Staff called in at the signal office, asking if a message had arrived for him. On receiving a reply in the negative, he said " Should one arrive, will you please deliver it to me right away?" Supt.: " Very good, sir." Staff: " Oh! by the way, do you know where I am ?" Supt.: " No, sir." Staff: " Well, I shall be where that bicycle lamp *was*."

Departures.—The following left us on 1/1/36 en route for England: Sergt Dunn and family, Signalmen Barnsley, Griffiths and McLaren, Sigmn Utting and family—all for transfer to the home establishment. With them went Sigmn Race, who is for transfer to the Army Reserve. The best of good wishes for every success in the future go with them.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Bevan from U.K. furlough on the 1st January, after having been away since last March. What a break! The others who went with him are, we understand, somewhere in India, having arrived at Bombay and not at Karachi as usual. They will, however, be with us again in a couple of days.

Conclusion.—Raining. What a night! ROBO.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Thursday 19th December 1935.

General.—November brought with it the usual collective training. Everyone, needless to say, was out for the usual pat on the back, and it is safe to assume that this was obtained. It is wrong to sing one's own praises, however, so nuff said.

On the 29th November the unit commenced the five days march, the M.T., animals and foot sloggers moving out from Meerut to Dhanauri Camp and finishing up with the usual sore feet and Dunlop tyre feeling. (Note: No A.B. 256 was necessary en route.) The unit was continually in touch by W/T with Dhanauri and Meerut during the period of the march. The attack and defensive schemes proved our communications perfect. A and D Sections made almost a dead heat in the clearance of traffic, although they tried hard to beat one another. Looking back on the work for the last month, we may be excused for being a trifle boastful.

We are now re-established in Meerut, and it is with the " hope of reward that sweetens labour " that we look forward to a hectic Christmas.

Theme Song.—Our Section sergeant's got a medal on his chest—to the tune of " As we go marching along."

Arrivals and Departures.—Sergeant Handley from Peshawar District Signals. Sergt Murray to S.T.C. (I.) Jubbulpore. F.S.

No. 2 Company.

General.—These notes, like a one-time best seller, cover a period of three weeks. Manœuvres have come, and so quickly have they gone that we instinctively think of the advertisements of a well known firm of petrol producers.

That Christmas is at hand is apparent even to the most casual observer, but the fact is driven home now and then as the dak wallah descends on one with a parcel from home which can only be secured by paying duty to the extent of what appears to be a King's ransom. " Absence, hear thou my protestations."

It is now an open secret that this unit will relieve the 2nd Indian Divl Signals at Quetta before the end of 1936. The news has been received here with rather mixed feelings. It is said that there are fewer stables, but isn't there less stability ? (pun!) A few hints to tourists would be appreciated by the lads of the village. What about it, Jock Clayton ?

Now that the privilege of wearing plain clothes has been extended to all other ranks, long and earnest discussions are to be heard regarding the possibilities of a mauve and green tie when matched with a bluish sort of shirt, y'know. Shades of Jeeves! Rumour has it that a certain Scot in this Company is buying plus fours to match his issue stockings. It is confidently anticipated, however, that Signals in general, and No. 2 Company in particular, will set the sartorial standard for the rest of the station.

Training.—Eastern Command manœuvres, this year, were over in less time than it takes to think of them, and compared with last year's exercises at Delhi we had more or less a rest camp.

The unit left Meerut by march route on the 29th November for Dhanauri, near Roorkee, arriving there on the 5th December. From No. 2 Company there was only one Section (L) on the line of march, all the other Sections having joined their Brigades earlier in the training season, J and K Sections being the trail blazers to Roorkee. An Indian student has recently attracted considerable attention in London and elsewhere by his fire walking feats, and the opinion held here is that he is a reincarnation of an ex-I.B. Sectionite who had marched to Roorkee!

Two short exercises comprised the whole of the manœuvres, the first being a defence exercise which occasioned little movement but much discomfort owing to an untimely fall of rain. The second exercise commenced in the morning on the 13th December and finished about 4 p.m. on the 14th, with everyone within easy marching distance of Roorkee. The Div. spent the nights of the 14th and 15th in camp at that place and, with the exception of the mounted column, returned to Meerut by M.T. in two parties on the 16th and 17th.

There are still signs of activity, as L Section have to do a twenty-day camp at Lucknow, leaving Meerut on the 3rd January, while G Section will, no doubt, be with them on the railway platform on their way to Babina for the R.A. Concentration.

Congratulatory.—Capt. E. V. McCormack, our O.C., receives two lots of congratulations—firstly on attaining that rank, and secondly on the birth of a daughter at Meerut on the 9th Dec.

The Company also extends congratulations to Lieutenant S. G. Humphrys, O.C. F Section, on being successful in the last promotion examinations.

Compliments of the Season.—Although these notes will not be published until 1936 is well advanced, we wish all our friends in other units, and those who have left us for civvy street or the Reserve, a very happy and prosperous New Year. BILL WUM.

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See page 42, showing
SIXTY-EIGHT MEN PLACED IN EMPLOYMENT DURING JANUARY

Are YOU helping the Signals Association to continue that magnificent work ?

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Signal Barracks, Abbassia.

Santa Claus Visits Egypt Signals.—This paragraph is really intended for the old members of the Corps in Egypt, whose thoughts must have been with us at least once this Christmas, wherever they may have been. To them we send our wishes for a very happy New Year.

I will try to describe for you the very happy Christmas tree party which assembled in No. 1 Company's T.I. room on Saturday 21st December.

Many hours had been spent by willing hands in arranging the decorations and the lighting of the room. I saw them working silently for days before the party. They received their reward if they saw the expressions of complete happiness on the children's faces. The room was a blaze of colour, with frosted windows. There were two rows of tea tables down the centre of the room, and some more at the ends. The whole of the catering arrangements were carried out by the N.A.A.F.I., who are to be praised for their efforts in giving such good service.

The guests began to arrive about 3.30 p.m. and were received by the commanding officer, officers, w.o.s and sergeants who had arranged the party. A barrack room in No. 1 Company lines had been set apart for the children's games, and soon the spirit of Christmas began to make itself evident. Happy children, young and old, joined in the fun. Some of the parents also played games. One unmarried officer was such a success with the children that one of them made a guess that he was Father Christmas in officer's clothes, but she was wrong, for the officer was among the children to greet Santa Claus when he arrived.

About 4.30 p.m. the party took their places for tea. The officers and their ladies waited on the guests, who were comfortably seated amidst a setting of beauty in the decorated room. No expense or personal effort had been spared to make this party a success that must live in the minds of both young and old for many years to come. Everyone was pleased to welcome Mrs. G. E. Mansergh, the wife of our commanding officer, who had recently recovered from a very serious illness and had been prevented from engaging in social life for a considerable period. Everyone knows what a strain such a party must have been to her, but it is the earnest wish of all that the coming year will bring her a complete recovery and much happiness.

When the tea was over the children went back to the play room, and as usual there was a native gulli-gulli man to entertain them. These men are very clever in performing tricks with chickens, and to the delight of the children the chickens were made to appear from all sorts of places. This entertainment went on until someone whispered that Father Christmas had been seen near Signal Barracks. The rush for the door was like fighting for bargains at a fashion sale.

The arrival of Father Christmas deserves special mention. Who he was, I am not going to say, for I have reason to believe that THE WIRE is read by many children. In fact, I shall not mention any of the helpers, because each one gave of his or her best in making the party a success and may deprecate any special recognition of such services. When it became known that Santa Claus was due to arrive, the children stood in the darkness watching the entrance to the barracks. It was a pitch-black night, but the stars were very bright ; in fact, it was a perfect setting for his visit. Motor cycle headlights skilfully placed behind the border trees threw the entrance into limelight brilliance. It was very silent, as only Egyptian nights can be. Presently a faint noise in the distance caused every eager little neck to stretch forward, and all eyes were focussed on the entrance. Expectation soon changed to realisation, for into view came the most majestic Father Christmas I have ever seen, with a red robe and a snow-white beard, mounted on a white camel. The beautiful colouring of the Oriental trappings and the Bedouin in his native dress made a picture that one would expect to see in the stories of pantomime. But a *real* Santa Claus on a *real* camel! that set the children into loud cheers. The scene was complete. Santa was asked many questions before he finally brought his camel to rest in front of the door of the room prepared for his reception.

Father Christmas then made his way to the end of the room and waited for the noise to die down a little. The children and parents took their seats, waiting eagerly to hear of the tiresome journey and hardships he had endured in crossing the desert from cold Europe, where he had left his sleigh. If you remember, last year he managed to come *all* the way in his sleigh ; but he said that he found the going too bad this year to do so. Perhaps the sand has become more difficult to cross this year ? Well, he announced that he had a big surprise in store, which was quite correct. Almost immediately the lights went out, to reveal a beautiful Christmas tree with coloured lights that twinkled and laden with presents of all kinds. Then commenced the distribution of the presents. Every child became the proud owner of some token of Christmas in Egypt, 1935. To add to the excitement, every lady also received a nice memento in the form of a useful present. As Santa Claus was leaving, he was overwhelmed with a shower of coloured balloons which fell from the ceiling. There was a rush on the part of the children to extricate their beloved Father Christmas and at the same time to capture another prize.

As the children left the room, they received sweets and other seasonable fare to gladden their happy hearts. So ended the annual Christmas tree party. We must now turn over the page of 1935 and look forward to the coming year. Before we do so, shall we all say " Thank you, Father Christmas, and your many willing helpers, for making this year's party a real success " ?

To all members of the Corps, and in particular to our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Mary, we send our best wishes for a happy New Year.

No. 1 Company.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to all new arrivals, some of whom made a rapid exit from the unit for other places. Cpl Mottram, with his blue book, arrived safely and immediately found the job he has been looking for: i/c cookhouse.

Never backward in shouting the praises of No. 1 Company, our own supporters were completely put in the shade by an unknown voice holding forth on the beauties of the Company, and they were amazed to find a meeting of recent No. 3 Company lads, presided over by Larry Hayward, offering thanks to the powers that be.

Air transport is now in use for carrying out some of our reliefs, and I believe a story could be told of a 30-cwt. lorry being rammed by a plane.

The Christmas period went off as usual, except that the dinner was prepared by our own cookhouse staff and was voted by all the best ever. Fancy not being able to give away beer!

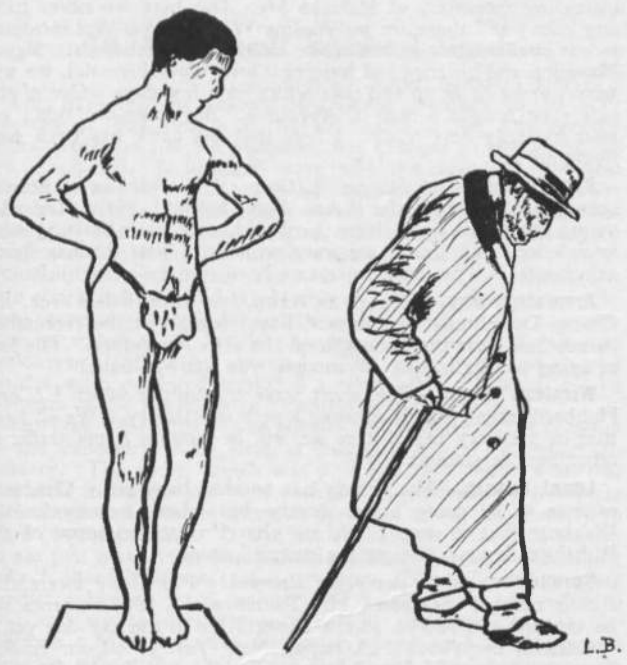
Congratulations to the unit cross-country team on once again winning the Command cross-country championship.

Company H.Q.—On the 13th November we said goodbye to L/Sergt Smith, L/Corpl Hughes, and Signalmen Clayton, Fox and Ward, who left for U.K. on the *Somersetshire*. They will all be missed. During their stay in Egypt splendid service was rendered by them. L/Sergt Smith was always ready to assist in any entertainment. L/Corpl Hughes, although not outstanding in games, was a very handy team man in any sport. Signalman Clayton was, and still is, far above the average unit soccer and cricket player ; he played for the Army in Egypt at cricket and soccer, and for his unit at tennis and hockey. Sigmn Fox, until forbidden by doctor's orders, was a good boxer ; his cheery smile in face of long and difficult stretches of duty as W/T operator will be missed. Sigmn Ward, a good all round sportsman, would work until he dropped. The best wishes of the Company go with you all.

Mr. Ruck has left us for No. 3 Company, but he continues to play games for A Section, so things are not so bad.

It is with real regret that we say goodbye to some of our old pals of Egypt Signals—jolly good fellows all. Work is the breath of life to them.

The attached sketches depict Willie Fox, now gone to the Army Reserve, unfortunately. This is by one of his companions in crime. Willie had ever a cheerful countenance, and could be trusted to do his stuff under any conditions. The best of luck from all your Kaa pals, Willie.



All for the Name of the Corps.

SIGMN "Willie" Fox before working on Egypt Group.

MR. William Fox arrives in England after two years on Egypt Group.

General.—The P.R.I. released the moths from his money bags and provided riding camels for the troops on Christmas Day and three buses for a trip to Saqqara Pyramids on the 27th. The trip was most enjoyable.

B Cable Section, No. 3 Company.

General.—Here's a happy New Year to you, folks; and we hope you all had a very merry Christmas, too.

After the festivities were finished and we were able to see straight once again, we noticed that old Santa had been to see us. This time he left us a nice new Morris 30-cwt. to play with, and some of the Section are having a short course in driving under the able instruction of Taffy Brown. Sigmn Taylor is also doing his stuff with the roller skate—sorry! the Austin. The old cry of "Lend me your hoof pick" has now been changed to "Give her the gas." Oh, yes, everyone here is car-minded now.

Birth.—Daddy Christmas also visited L/Corpl and Mrs. Back on the 22nd December and left them a beautiful bouncing boy (Michael Robert). Good shooting, Shoey! He's just like his dad.

Sport.—Hats off to our cross-country team. They took second place in the inter-Section final run, losing to the Command by only 7 points. A very good show indeed, considering they had to run against Sergt Cotterell, Corpl Broadley, and other famous runners.

We defeated K Section at football by 2—0 and M Section at hockey by 2—1. Keep going, B. SPIDER.

G Troop, Cavalry Divl. Signals, Helmieh, Cairo.

[Attached to the 11th (P.A.O.) Hussars]

Tuesday 10th December 1935.

General.—It looks as though I shall have to bore you again. The office clerk, after searching the unit for budding Edgar Wallaces, had to *detail* me to write these notes, and here I am again.

Arrivals.—Too many to catalogue, but quite a draft and on loan. Signalmen Swale, Slaymaker, Knight, Morrell and Smith A. from Egypt Signals, to all of whom we extend the usual grimy paw. Our new C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Jarvis W. C. has just arrived and is in the process of taking over. We trust he will have a long and happy stay with us.

Departures.—Sigmn Walker (Micky) of boxing fame was with us a short time, but has now left us for Egypt Signals, together with Sigmn Devlin, on attachment.

Two detachments and three extra operators left on the 7th inst. to relieve our other detachments from their sojourn in the blue. We trust they have no escapades with our friends the scorpions. The latest news from our archæologist out there is the discovery of an old Roman villa. The Professor states that he moved at least thirty-five tons of sand before finding five skeletons—one of which he declares to be a distant relation of Darky Goswell (12th R.L.)—and several vases gaily adorned with bathing belles (causing great excitement and much discussion on the diet used by the ladies to acquire such Silf-like figures). Another discovery was an old badge with various designs and the letters "R – Y – – C – – PS – F – – GN – L –" written in Old English, which (adds the Professor) goes to prove that the site itself is at least from 3000 to 4000 years old.

Celebrations.—On the 2nd December we had a holiday to commemorate the fifth year of G Troop's stay in Egypt. In the morning the Troop played the attached men at hockey, the result being in favour of the Troop. In the afternoon a soccer match was arranged between the attached and the Troop. Myers, playing in professional style, combined with McGinn to great advantage. This combination should prove a great success. To end up the holiday we had tea in the N.A.A.F.I., for which we must thank our O.C. and C.Q.M.S. Emsley, who are untiring workers for our happiness.

Jew's Mail.—Richardson: I'd like to hear from you some time soon. Mac.

Everard: Why for you no write me long time? 098 Mac.

Conclusion.—And now we must say "Adios," or more appropriately, "A rivederci." To all units at home and abroad we send our best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mersa Matruh, December 1935.

General.—Many things have happened in Egypt since our activities were last reported in THE WIRE. At the present moment the Troop is well split up and we are scattered in various parts of Egypt.

No. 1 Detachment are at present at Salum, "defending the frontier." My report on their activities is rather cramped, as the main body of the Troop hasn't set eyes on them for about a month and they have sent no report along to let us know how they are faring.

Nos. 2, 4 and 5 Detachments and Troop Headquarters are with a Squadron at Mersa Matruh. Our camp is sited within 200—300 yards of the seashore, but the weather around this particular spot doesn't seem at all kind to the residents. We have had several sandstorms and more than enough rain; and those two elements, especially if they come in condensed force, are no joke when one is under canvas. However, we make the best of conditions and life runs fairly smoothly.

We were out here for Christmas, and we fared very well considering the condition of things all round. The Cavalry Brigade commander, Brigadier A. L. I. Friend (late C.O. 11th Hussars) visited the dining tent with his staff, and made a speech which was received with enthusiastic cheers by the assembled company. The day passed, however, as most Christmas Days do—everyone finishing off in the canteen bar and getting a thick head to wake up with on Boxing Day.

Our stay here is indefinite, but we are hoping that general political arguments will cease and that we shall soon get back to Cairo and the daily round and common task.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold our new Foreman-of-Signals, C.Q.M.S. Jarvis W. C., and hope that his stay with us will be to his liking and general comfort. We are also very much looking forward to seeing our old friends the 12th Royal Lancers, who after an all too short rest in England are now about to land once more on Egyptian shores.

Births, Marriages, etc.—They never happen here. We have nothing on the 5th Div.

Agonies.—None, except perhaps living in Mersa Matruh.

Conclusion.—I will endeavour to write more next month if anything worth while turns up. PAT.

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

Monday 6th January.

General.—Well, folks, Christmas has once more left us with thick heads and short pay. Christmas Day started with the tea boy saying " Shai, effendi." The next event, after a good breakfast, was the annual parade ably commanded by L/Cpl Honor, assisted by Sigmn Medlycott. After the march past we had the annual soccer match, officers and senior n.c.o.s versus the men's mess. The men were once more victorious, by 5—0 goals. The remainder of the day, so far as I can remember, was spent in the approved manner. The junior n.c.o.s and men took advantage of the kind invitations from the married personnel and senior n.c.o.s mess, and everyone seemed to have the Christmas spirit.

Boxing Day.—That was pretty good, too.

L.S. and G.C. Medal.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Tate A. on the award of this medal.

Arrivals.—These are too numerous to mention in detail, but we must welcome L/Corpl Smith R. P. L., who has arrived for his second tour—his reason being that he forgot to see the Wailing Wall during his last tour.

Aeroplanes.—Ably led by Air Chief (L/Sergeant) Dowie, our aviation squad is progressing rapidly. Some of the machines even fly now. It is quite true that one of the senior n.c.o.s asked for a change of duty because he wished to try out the new elastic on his aeroplane. As Corpl Shaw insists on climbing on the roofs of billets to ensure perfect take-offs for his machine, it would be appreciated if any unit could forward a parachute for his use.

Children's Christmas Treat.—Provided by the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s Messes, this was again a first class success. Father Christmas (Sigmn Medlycott, as usual) made a dignified entrance (toes up, heels down) on a donkey. The donkey, even more dignified, had other ideas about entering so rowdy a gathering, but was persuaded to do so, after much coyness, by willing hands under the haunches. Corporals Trudgett (a newcomer) and Storey made a huge success of " Oranges and lemons " and enjoyed it quite as much as the other children.

Obituary.—All ranks express their sincere sympathy with the relatives of Mounted Constable R. C. V. Mott, M.B.E. (late Corpl, R.Signals) who gallantly met his death in battle with a gang of bandits in the hills of Judea. The manner of his death earned him the first King's Police Medal awarded posthumously.

Tailpiece.—That's all, soaks—sorry! I mean folks.

Q.R.U.TUT.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

November 1935.

Go East, Young Man, Go East.

If you would share the thrill and romance
Of dusky-skinned beauties in Orient dance,
Or a highly odiferous rickshaw boy's prance,
Go East, young man, go East.

You are longing to see the tropic moonbeam
O'er mangrove swamp and jungle stream ?
Have a night out with the bayonet team
Out East, young man, out East.

And you would see the sights of the East—
The Orient plant and man and beast ?
(While on you a million mozzies feast)
Go East, young man, go East.

For when you've had your fill of these
And long for the pleasant English breeze,
You'll yell, as you bend on your creaking knees,
Go West, young man, go West. —DELYS.

[*With profound apologies to the author of "Go West, young man"*]

General.—Yes, sure enough, it's Malaya again, with the tom-toms thumping and guitars strumming. Hark! what is that very weird high-pitched jungle cry ? Sorry! I'm mistaken. It was only Sigmn Currie engaged in a heated argument.

Little has happened during the past month to stir the ever-increasing monotony of Malayan life. Out here we never have any riots ; and there are no Wailing Walls or Wal-Wal incidents to stir our imagination and make us oil our rifle barrels. Signor Mussolini and his crowd of hysterical little Blackshirts did, we will admit, make us sit up and take notice for a few days. One of the lads even bought a map of Abyssinia. But come on, lads ; get your butterfly nets ready. I hear that big game has been seen flying around.

Departures.—Our Reggie (L/Corporal Pearson) is at present spending a month at the R.A.F. Base, Seletar. Now, Reginald, young fellow, be good, learn hard and come back bursting with knowledge ; but, please, we want no tales of your thrilling flying experiences. The other operators have told us enough already.

Armistice Day.—Strange to relate, but nevertheless true, the Changi Detachment represented Royal Signals at the ceremonial parade held near the Cenotaph on the 11th November. The fact of being wrecks has its advantages, you know, Changi.

Wireless Waves.—The short wave transmitter which L/Corpl Hubbard recently made is proving very satisfactory. We all hope that in the very near future we will be passing Army traffic to other Service stations.

Local Gossip.—Mrs. Hong has another baby girl. Chadwick expects to be going home shortly—but when, nobody knows. We hear (but it wasn't told us) that Private Frampton of the Wiltshire Regiment is getting married soon.

Conclusion.—No, don't get alarmed! I am fully aware that I have not yet mentioned Mr. Twitchen. A few moments ago he moaned and stirred, so there is still life in the gay dog yet.

Cheerio, everybody! A happy New Year to all our readers from the Equatorial Signal boys. BARON (T.B.C.)

Stop Press.—Wanted immediately, a cartoonist. Write, phone or call at the P.B. signal office enquiries department. Urgent.

Friday 13th December 1935.

General.—By the time these notes appear in print, our new arrivals will know what " Nanti," " Apa khaba " and " Lagi boy, lagi duff " mean, and will (I hope) have settled down, if such a thing is possible in Malaya. We all hope they enjoyed their cruise a la *Neuralia* and will thoroughly enjoy their three years exile in this land of mystic surroundings.

Moulting Period.—Sergeant Watmore has tired of the view he gets from his signal office door, so he decided to decamp and erect an office somewhere else. The last time I saw him, he was wandering around, gazing at various offices and enquiring the rentage, etc. Finally he decided on a little hole at the back of the R.E. contractor's office, where a gorgeous panorama of the still life of Malaya is obtained. L/Corpl Hubbard has decided to keep up with the times and has moved his old iron, etc., into a larger and much healthier store, formerly the property of the R.E.

Talking of moving, it is needless to say that the W/T Section is on the move all day long.

Departures.—They're in the offing. Our happy little band will soon be split and scattered o'er the jungle wastes of Malaya.

Wireless Waves.—We have had a succession of R.A. shoots lately. With the new fortresses springing up, guns have to be calibrated, etc., and it all means work for the wireless ops.

Dance.—We had the usual monthly dance last Saturday. L/Cpl Hubbard displayed his new shoes (2 dollars 60 cents, Change Alley).

Cheerio, everybody! T.B.C.

Fort Canning Detachment.

Last month our Changi Detachment woke up (for the first time, I believe) to the fact that it was not taking its place in the news. Hence the advent of its notes. Goodness knows what they have to shout about, but I suppose there had to be some counter-blast to the roaring of Pulau Brani. Similarly, we at Fort Canning

[*Continued on page* 78]

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

The 1936 training season programme promises to be very interesting. Full details of the alterations in the Anti-Aircraft Signal work are not yet available, but changes in the apparatus are anticipated. In order to move with the times we have also started a class in wireless, and for the benefit of those who are not already skilled in the subject we are starting from fundamental theories. The class is progressive, and we may very shortly be forced into searching for further expert instructors.

Socially, we ended last year with a carnival dance which was well supported and very much enjoyed. Some amusing competitions were announced during the evening, for which a miscellaneous collection of articles ranging from trouser buttons to corkscrews had to be obtained. The speed with which the articles were produced provided a remarkable revelation of the contents of the handbags and pockets of our patrons.

The New Year started in an equally jolly manner on the occasion of the children's party held at headquarters on Saturday 4th January. The party, which was well attended, began with tea, and after the tables had been cleared Father Christmas (complete with sleigh bells accompaniment) appeared down the chimney to hand out the presents. It was remarkable that each child seemed to get just what he or she wanted: a feat of organisation which only Father Christmas could attempt. The proceedings were further enlivened by a conjurer and juggler, who proceeded to add mystery to mystery—to the great entertainment of the children. A child dancer was much appreciated by adults and children alike. Our thanks are due to the social committee for organising the party so successfully.

Personal.—We offer our hearty congratulations to Major A. Hemsley, T.D., on receiving a brevet in the New Year's list.

H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks' Bar, Manchester 16, 15/1/36.

Ladies' Dinner.—This annual function was held at headquarters on the 14th December and was a great success, both from the point of view of attendance and the wonderful dinner put up by the Mess committee, not forgetting our old friend Sergt Jones H. The mess had been very tastefully decorated by Lieutenants Woods and Allen, ably supervised by Captain Lea. About sixty-four officers and their guests sat down to dinner, after which followed very suitable speeches by the commanding officer (Col. W. S. Ashley) who welcomed our guests, and by Miss Ashley, who responded for the ladies. Later, dancing was indulged in until the wee small hours. The dinner was voted by all to have been the best ever, and the Mess committee can be heartily congratulated on following our motto "Go one better."

Farewell and Welcome.—It was with sincere regret that we had to say farewell to our adjutant, Captain H. E. M. Swan, on the completion of his tour of duty with this unit. He is shortly proceeding to India and at the moment is cooling his heels at Chester. We hope he will have a happy and successful time in his new sphere; and if by any chance he again visits Cottonopolis, we hope he will come up and see us some time.

We extend the good old Lancashire hand to Captain A. J. G. McNair, who has joined us from Catterick as adjutant, and we hope his stay will be a happy one.

Sergeants Mess Ball.—A very successful ball was held at headquarters on New Year's Eve, when about two hundred very happy people attended. This function was voted to have been the best the sergeants have ever held.

Sergeants Mess Children's Party.—Father Christmas, this year, arrived in the Santa Claus Express—and how the kiddies cheered! More children than ever appeared to be attending, and Father Christmas (Sergeant Etheridge, as usual) did his stuff as expected of him. Every kiddie received a present, and after a really good tea, at which most of the sergeants' wives officiated, games were played. Colonel W. S. Ashley again very kindly provided added entertainment for the kiddies by showing Felix and Micky Mouse films.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter, January.

Editorial.—Having refreshed ourselves during the festive days of Christmas, we have now returned to our labours—or rather, to put it more accurately, our pleasures: to wit, soldiering as a hobby.

It took very little time to get once again into the stride of events, and the various classes of training carried on as if there had been no break. No fresh students have put in an appearance at these classes, which is a pity, as it is those few missing men whom we particularly want to encourage. Those attending appear to be doing quite well, and it is hoped they will be rewarded in February.

Weapon training practice occupies the after-drill periods—mainly to exercise those who show less aptitude than the majority in mastering the art of a straight shot.

I was present at No. 1 Company's officers and n.c.o.s S.E.W.T. on Dartmoor on the 22nd December last, and although cold, a most enjoyable and instructive day was spent. We would like to see more of these exercises, but the financial position decrees that we must be content.

Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes are extended to Lieut. C. G. H. Govier on the occasion of his recent marriage. Working at duplex is far more fascinating and interesting than at simplex!

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Training.—A very successful officers and n.c.o.s S.E.W.T. was held in the neighbourhood of Cornwood and Cadover Bridge on the 22nd December last. In spite of the somewhat rigorous cold and the fact that the R.S.M. at one period lost all sensation in his feet (!) the exercise was enjoyed by everyone.

The drill hall was closed from that date until the 30th Dec., during which period the P.S.I. was allowed a brief respite from his labours. Since the beginning of the New Year the paid classes have been continuing with vigour.

Football.—The eleven secured a victory in their first match in the Devon Wednesday League (Division III.) defeating the Drake Junior Imperials by 4—2 goals. The team played a good game throughout. Sigmn Petherick A. C. (vice-captain) succeeded in scoring twice during the first half and repeated his achievement during the second, thus accounting for the total score for the Signals. Congratulations to the whole team on their success in this their first league match.

Social.—No. 1 Company offer their special congratulations to Lieut. C. G. H. Govier on his marriage, and wish him and Mrs. Govier every success and happiness.

Former members of the Company who have visited us during the Christmas period include P/S.A. Ford B. W. J., R.N., looking very smart and completely naval, on leave from Portsmouth; Marine Sheard G. J., a further example of the smartness of H.M. Royal Marines, from the R.M. Depot at Deal; Gunner Long W. T., from Bordon, also looking very fit; A/Cooks Rendle A. and Ford E. G., both from the R.N. Barracks, Devonport.

A "Plain" Tale From Bulford.—Being one of a number from the 43rd Wessex Divl Signals who made tracks for the 3rd Divl Signals at Bulford at the end of November, I have been asked to write a little on what we sampled there.

Being an old stager, I went on the venture with a quiet calm, but the majority went with noisy qualms!

Taking things in order of priority, we will begin with our reception in the sergeants and junior n.c.o.s messes. From the senior w.o. down to the junior n.c.o., we were received as pals

and made to feel at home, and needless to say, some of the qualms disappeared. The food in the sergeants mess (both solid and liquid) was top hole. (I got Younger every day, and I'm sure that Percy and John put on a S.T.one—no pun, George—and Tich rather belied his nickname.)

The juniors did not do so badly, from what I saw and heard, especially after the farewell party. The Sergeants Mess committee are to be congratulated on the social arrangements. Shall we ever forget Freddy Seymour's farewell night? (Never, no never; neither will Freddy.)

Then our own farewell night. (The Terriers did not do so badly at singing, or should I say humming?—talk about humming birds—but at poki-di! Nuff sed.)

Now for the course. It was just what we required. First, let me congratulate the instructors on the way they put the stuff over. (Well, one expects "plain" tales from Bulford!) If anyone could not pick up operating, line, or musketry, well—they should not be Terriers. It was interesting to see the barrack room in the evening; the operators and line classes were writing up copious notes. One corporal actually went bald. He said "his instructor said it was just like eating cake." However, he could not see the connection between cake and hammers and jumpers.

Personally, I did not see the drill and musketry squad taking many notes, but they say it was very worrying, trying to drill six men in fours and halt them on the left or right when moving to a flank in fours. (I hear that they have all gone into "panto" this Christmas as ballet dancers, as the result of doing this in slow time!)

One of the musketry squad, on his return, had an interesting experience with a musketry squad in the drill hall. He commenced by saying "I'm going to put across a few ideas from Bulford," and then went on: "The essence (at this, the squad got restless) of all firing instruction, etc., etc., action becomes instinctive" (this last word extinguished the sole remaining man of the squad; the others had already fallen out with various excuses as to night work, etc.)

Well, to sum up. A lot was learnt in so short a time, and the expense to the T.A. Association (if it can be called such) was well worth while. Socially, everyone was delighted and hopes to pay another visit.

A query from Corpl G——: Can the Regulars invent rubber hammers and jumpers? He says "It would be better for dockyard *workers*."

More queries. What was so interesting in "The Emerald Way"? (ask Sergt Barlow). Did Sergt Jones get old Boanerges fit to take him on Christmas leave? What was the attraction in London for the C.S.M. and Sergt F? Why does Jock Watt like the big dig?

Cheerio to Brum from all at Plymouth! I close by wishing all the 3rd Divl Signals the best of health and luck for 1936.—F.G.

Not a "Plain" Tale.—At No. 2 Company's annual dinner at Southampton, we had a very happy time. I was privileged to be present and represent No. 1 Company, and I was impressed with the happy spirit of good fellowship that exists there. We were welcomed (I travelled with No. 3 Company representatives from Exeter) with great hospitality and had a thoroughly good time.

Thanks are due to our hosts, in particular for the accommodation arranged after the dinner; and I wish very sincerely that the distance between Plymouth, Exeter and Southampton could be reduced, that we might exchange visits more frequently and give greater prominence to that esprit de corps which only gets a chance of asserting itself once or twice a year.

Good luck, No. 2, and thanks very much.—F.G.F.

ONECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6, 16/1/36.

A happy New Year to all our readers! Perhaps this greeting should have been extended last month. However, it's never too late . . . . . .

On the 11th inst. the annual unit dinner was attended in full force. Having had several days to recover from the Christmas festivities, most of those present enjoyed the spread without fear of indigestion. A concert followed—an entertainment suitable for the occasion; and the general feeling appeared to be one of satisfaction. As far as I am able to confirm, all eventually arrived safely at their homes—better late than never. Oi! The Quartermaster expressed great satisfaction on finding that no blankets were missing this year.

Bouquets.—Here's one to Captain Booth. It is amazing to be forced to realise how very intelligent our next-door neighbour is. Jolly stout work, "General." What does it feel like to be a contributor to the *Quarterly*? I doubt whether anyone will really understand such technicalities, except you and I. What's that?

Question.—What table does everyone wish to be? Comfor-"table," of course. Easy, isn't it?

Fruit in Season.—Raspberries are still available if necessary.

New Year Resolutions.—To pay income tax (if possible). To pay Mess subs (if able).

Future News.—It hasn't happened yet. Shall probably tell you all about it next month.

Promotions.—Under the circumstances, I will not mention any names. Where's my beer, "Captain"? 0020.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 15/1/36.

General.—We told you last month that we should cease to be known as the 47th Divl Signals after the 14th December 1935. This appears to have been somewhat premature, as we still retain that title but are known as "Divisional Troops" pending (we suppose) our re-christening. We don't know what our new name will be, or when the party will take place, but we'll let you know in good time.

As our H.Q. was closed for training on the 18th December and did not re-open until the 6th January, there is practically nothing to say about our military activities except that the pre-Easter individual training and special (paid) courses are now in full swing. Great activity is being displayed here in the building sphere. The whole place is being re-decorated and many alterations are being effected.

Sergeants Mess.—Nothing of special interest has taken place during the past month. On Christmas Eve, as has always been our custom except when that day falls on a Sunday, some of us foregathered in the evening to have a "Wish you a happy Christmas" one. We were very pleased to have a visit from an old comrade in Sergeant "Scoff" Offord, who recently quietly but quickly quitted Quetta.

We are also pleased to welcome back to our circle ex-P.S.I. Sergt "Tiny" Joyce, who was discharged (time-expired) a little while ago and has now enlisted in the Terriers as orderly room sergeant.

Christmas Party.—At 3.30 p.m. on Saturday 28th December the doors of our drill hall were thrown open and some two hundred and ninety children and their mums and dads poured in to sit down to tea.

The seven long rows of tables presented a remarkably pretty and appetising appearance, with their heaps of very wonderfully assorted good things to eat and gaily coloured bon-bons placed at each plate. No wonder those kiddies' faces shone with expectant happiness! No wonder their parents had difficulty in restraining them from rushing to their seats!

Hardly had they "got down to it" than the crackers commenced to crack like distant rifle-fire, and soon the hall was filled with the buzz of excited chatter and laughter. The officers and w.o.s with their wives and lady friends acted as waiters, and dashed up and down and in and out with tea and milk and reinforcements for the depleted ranks of cakes and bread and butter. Some wanted strong tea; others must have it very weak; while a few requested warm milk for the babies. Naturally, however, nothing was too much trouble for the waiting staff, who certainly appeared to be enjoying their job. We thought some of the officers made excellent Nippies—so far as the waiting went, of course. The ceremony of eating and drinking lasted nearly an hour,

Our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., took advantage of a lull towards the end of these proceedings to say a few words of thanks to the ladies' committee, presided over by Mrs. J. G. Fleming, the wife of our hon. colonel ; to Captain F. H. Bury, our adjutant, for the set of " uncritisable " signal orders he produced for the party ; to Mrs. Wrightson, the wife of our R.Q.M.S., for the excellent arrangements made for the tea ; and to C.S.M. Moorse, C.Q.M.S. Elms and Sergt White for their assistance in general, as they were responsible for the preparations for the party.

After tea was over and the tables cleared away, the party was entertained by a very clever conjurer. Most of his tricks required the use of tissue paper, which he repeatedly designated " tish." In fact, he seemed to have a " pash " for " tish "! We noticed, too, that when he bowed in acknowledgment of the applause, he crossed his legs as Tishy was alleged to have done. He kept the youngsters (and the old ones, too) highly amused and on tiptoe for what was going to happen next. Following the conjurer came Corpl Court's charming little daughter, who gave a very graceful exhibition of tap and acrobatic dancing. She certainly is a very accomplished little lady.

Then came the event of the evening! Father Christmas, looking all his 1935 years, arrived with a most wonderful sleigh laden with presents and drawn by a real—reindeer ? No, dear! a pony, disguised by wearing snow-white antlers with bells on. All the young people were clustered in groups, according to their names, around a monster gaily-decorated and flood-lit Christmas tree. When the presents had been unloaded and placed in position, the job of distribution proceeded. It must have been a dry job calling out all the names two or three times over, to be quite sure that a present was being handed to the boy or girl for whom it was intended. However, after a time they were disposed of and the tree stripped, and then came a very excited examination of each other's new possession. Several tiny children were observed dragging their respective mothers to Father Christmas in order that he could be thanked personally by the recipient of a present.

Annual Prize-Giving.—On Friday 10th January, at the annual prize-giving, we had once more the great pleasure of being entertained by the ever popular Roosters. As usual, they were exceptionally good, and gave the audience of some four hundred members of the unit and their friends a downright jolly evening's entertainment.

Immediately prior to the interval, the distribution of cups and medals took place. Mrs. Humphreys, the wife of our commanding officer, kindly consented to hand these to the winners. No. 2 Company carried off the inter-Section efficiency cup (F Section), the cable laying competition cup (204 M.A.B. Section) and the inter-Section Trade Board cup. F Section also won the No. 2 Company Section efficiency cup, and E Section received medals as runners-up in the cable laying competition. No. 3 Company secured the inter-Company musketry cup, and K Section won the No. 3 Company inter-communication competition cup.

Social.—We had a record attendance at our New Year's Eve ball, and everyone enjoyed a really rollicking time. Our first ordinary dance of the year, on the 11th January, was equally as good but on a slightly minor scale. Nevertheless, it was an exceptionally good show and undoubtedly went to prove that dances at Fulham House are becoming even more popular.

We are pleased to notice, too, that more members of the unit, apart from the social committee, are turning up for these dances. All said and done, it is for them that all social events are held at headquarters, and it is hoped that still more fellows will come along on each and every occasion. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11, 10/1/36.

Our Honorary Colonel.—We offer our most cordial congratulations to Colonel Bertram J. T. Ford, D.L., T.D., on the knighthood conferred upon him in the New Year honours list in recognition of his great public and philanthropic services. Colonel Ford, who became honorary colonel of this unit in 1932, has had a long and distinguished association with the Volunteer and Territorial Forces and the T.A. In the Volunteers he passed through every rank from private to sergeant-major, and at the time was the youngest sergeant-major in the Force. As a result he has a great understanding of men and the difficulties of men of all sorts and conditions. In this unit his popularity is firmly established, and we have experienced many instances of his interest and his open-handed generosity. We fervently trust that we shall have many more years of the benefit of his association with us. The accompanying photo is published by kind permission of *The Birmingham Gazette Ltd.*



General.—An instructors course for linemen has just commenced and will continue through January. Apart from this, there is very little in the way of training to place on record. However, the commencement of the training season is drawing near, and with it camp, which we hear with some satisfaction is to be on the " Plain," so we shall be seeing our friends of the 3rd Div. once more.

Congratulations to Sergt Marsh J. and Corporals Stephens H., Warrilow E. C. and Portman H. V. on obtaining " Q.1 " for the weapon training course held in Birmingham ; also to Sergeant Colquhoun B. F. on his satisfactory report for a similar course held at Bulford.

Adventure in the Cotswolds.—Feeling the need of inspiration after the ruthless blue pencilling of my latest literary masterpiece, I betook myself to a quiet Cotswold town. It was a cold morning, and I entered a small restaurant in search of warmth and a cup of coffee.

Just as I settled down, the peaceful atmosphere was rudely shattered by an unearthly clatter, resembling an iron foundry in full blast. The disturbance grew nearer and presently subsided outside the very door of my refuge. The door was flung open, and three strange figures clad in astonishingly misshapen and begrimed apparel bustled in and proceeded to make themselves comfortable before the blazing fire.

One of the trio espied the bell provided for summoning the waitress and proceeded to shake it insistently. When the waitress appeared the visitors regarded her with some surprise, and presently one of them was heard to exclaim in disappointed tones: " I told you this wasn't a boozer, Bob." Evidently the visitors had been misled by the title of " Red Lion " flaunted by the establishment. There followed an agitated conference, which ended in the decision to overlook the absence of liquor and content themselves with coffee, which was duly ordered,

My interest being aroused by this unusual company, I entered into conversation with them and learned that their names were respectively Hadnowt, Thursday and Billious. They were members of an exclusive sect known as the Donars, who worshipped a nudist named Mercury and imposed upon themselves a form of penance in carrying cumbersome mechanical contraptions composed chiefly of wheels and wire, with the aid of which they endeavoured to transport themselves as best they could through unexplored regions, carrying messages.

In the meantime Mr. Thursday had reposed his ample figure in an arm chair and had already dozed off, with the emission of peaceful sounds, whilst Mr. Hadnowt settled down to a pretentious meal which had evidently been provided for more than one but of which he was disposing with astonishing effect. Mr. Billious grew very communicative and informed me, among other things, that the watchword of his sect was "Certa Cito," which he translated for my benefit as meaning "Steady past your granny's."

In a further burst of confidence, he declared that of the three mechanical wonders outside, his own excelled the others in reliability to develop mysterious faults at convenient moments. He attributed this feature largely to his own ingenuity in effecting semi-permanent repairs with the aid of odd pieces of rag and string. This observation drew from Mr. Hadnowt (between mouthfuls) a vigorous protest, he asserting that his own mount was of B.S.A. origin. He regarded such a contention in the light of blasphemy.

In order to prevent possible bloodshed, I expressed a desire to view these curious articles, and was immediately and with great enthusiasm jointly escorted outside by Messrs. H. and B. whilst Mr. T. remained peacefully somnolent. There I beheld three mechanical monsters, in varying stages of rust and decrepitude. The one belonging to Mr. Hadnowt had been very generously besmeared with brilliant scarlet paint. He explained to me, as he caressed it lovingly, that in the course of his professional duties he had left it against a Post Office pillar box which was being painted, and he "presoomed" the paint must have somehow got spilled. He proudly pointed to the device "B.S.A." still discernible beneath the paint, and explained that he presoomed I must know that this was the hallmark of quality.

In the meantime, Mr. Billious was behaving in a very odd manner about his machine, the colour scheme of which must have had some bearing upon its owner's curious name. He was engaged in jumping at it and giving it a series of brutal kicks, to the accompaniment of a violent flow of invective. "It's alright." observed Mr. H. "I presoome he's trying to start it." Suddenly there came a shattering explosion which disturbed a flight of startled sparrows and (incidentally) dislodged quite a number of loose parts on the machine. But this seemed to be alright, since Mr. Billious left off kicking and proceeded to pick up the debris and replace it with the aid of pieces of string and wire.

The commotion had evidently aroused Mr. Thursday from his slumbers, as he appeared on the scene, yawning heavily, and enquired the cause of the trouble. Mr. Hadnowt explained that it was only Billy trying to start his bike, but (he presoomed again) he had conked out of juice. Mr. Thursday said that it was time they were moving, as he had "a round to play at four." Then, turning to me, he observed: "Perhaps you had better go. I think he is going to ask you to push it."

Taking the hint, I retired within doors; and after some further commotion I heard a fresh outburst of ear-splitting noise which grew to a crescendo and presently died away in the distance.

GET'CHER.

Sergeants Mess.—The annual children's party was held on Saturday 11th January, commencing with tea for the children and parents, after which the children were entertained by a troupe of juvenile dancers. This was enjoyed by the children and grown-ups alike, exceptional talent being shown by a youngster of the troupe aged four years. Another show greatly enjoyed was the filming of a Mickey Mouse picture for which we have to thank Mr. G. James, jun. Father Christmas (looking suspiciously like Shoey Mulgrue) then went the rounds and distributed gifts to the kiddies. The arrangements were in the hands of C.O.M.S.s Sant R. T. and Galpin W. and Sergt Mulgrue E., to whom we extend many thanks for once again providing a real good show. The parents afterwards adjourned to the mess and held a social evening.

P.S.—Will Father Christmas please oblige the R.S.M. by informing him how much time and money was spent on his beard?

GEE GEE.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2, 14/1/36.

General.—It has been so cold around here lately that all the ink has been frozen up; and though it sounds pretty weak, that's the best excuse I can find for our absence from these pages a month ago. However, as there's plenty of news this time, it is hoped to make amends for the deficiency.

After spending December like the idle rich, we are busy again with the individual trade training idea that proved so valuable last year. The dozen or so junior operaters that we produced from the father and son classes, whence they came straight from the recruit squad, have been included in the trade training and are showing real promise. They should certainly become very useful members of the Wireless Section, to which they have been assigned, before camp. By the way, in case any super-optimist still cherishes the hope of another seaside camp this year, let the clouds of ignorance be swept from before his eyes. We're going to Catterick for a Divisional camp.

Training.—In addition to the usual classes for the various trades, there has been added to the programme (known to the intimates as the Pink 'Un) special classes for the senior n.c.o.s, many of whom, with the fairly quick promotion of the last couple of years, had rather outstripped their regimental knowledge. These classes include lectures on tactics by the adjutant, a lecture on administration by Lieut.-Q.M. F. Tebbs, D.C.M., and a special course in drill by R.S.M. Keane. Major Schneider, the adjutant, set the course off on the 2nd January, and in his address stressed the necessity of a large number being present in camp and of everyone knowing all he could about his own job. The faults of Signals were much more easily discovered than those made by either Infantry or Artillery, and the 1936 training season would be a real test of efficiency. As an extra inducement, pay would be issued for the course. There was a very good turn up, and after the classes had been sorted out, work began in real earnest.

In addition to the ordinary questions of training, the senior n.c.o.s have a weekly heart-to-heart talk with the adjutant, when general questions are dealt with, and there is no doubt that these talks will have a very good effect, particularly upon the younger members of the Mess.

Great importance is also attached to the three Sunday mornings which have been set aside, for it has been found in the past that the three hours of unbroken instruction prove of considerable benefit.

At the conclusion of the individual training period in March, we shall carry straight on with the Section work and will have the old site at Arthington available again for our week-end camps.

Though rather belated, congratulations are due to Cpl Robinson, who "fathered" the best son, and to the aforesaid son, Sigmn Fahy, who was not only the best operator but also returned a particularly high percentage for his procedure paper.

Officers' Ball.—A good ship with a lively crew put to sea on the 20th December for a voyage of merriment. Though she was home-made, she had an excellent trip, thanks largely to her builders, who worked under the supervision of Major Schneider and Captain J. N. Armstrong. About two hundred and fifty guests assembled in the drill hall, which had been converted into the remarkably realistic deck of a pleasure yacht, with upper deck, lifeboats, lifebelts, and gangways to the dance floor over blue metallic paper representing water. There was a cocktail cabin, and in the other cabins were fixed teles 110 which were used for booking dances.

The whole affair was a great success, and among the distinguished company were Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D.; Lieut.-Col. H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and Mrs. McLaren; Lieut.-Col. G. H. Walton (50th Divl Signals) and Mrs. Walton; Lieut.-Colonel G. J. Underwood (46th Divl Signals); Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. Northern Command) and Mrs. Bray; Lieut.-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E. (A.C. Signals) and Mrs. Campbell; Major and Mrs. L. W. Schneider; Major and Mrs. A. C. Haddow; Colonel J. E. Rusby, M.C., and Mrs. Rusby; Mrs. L. Hey, who

accompanied her son Lieut. W. L. Hey ; Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D. ; Captain and Mrs. J. M. May ; Captain and Mrs. C. Bray ; Captain J. N. Armstrong ; Captain and Mrs. W. L. S. Moxon ; Captain D. H. S. Sanderson ; Lieut. H. Rycroft ; Colonel H. T. Bates (49th Div.) and Mrs. Bates ; Lieut.-Col. G. Armytage (R.A.) and Mrs. Armytage ; Lieut.-Colonel J. B. Gawthorpe (7th Battalion West Yorks Regiment) and Mrs. Gawthorpe ; Lieut.-Colonel A. M. Ramsden (8th Battalion West Yorks Regiment) ; Lieutenant-Colonel D. Carby Hall (R.A.S.C.) ; Lieutenant M. J. Conway (Scarborough) ; Captain W. Brown (Birmingham) ; and other regimental officers.

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell.—All ranks, not only of the A.C. Signals S.R. but also of the T.A. side, will be pleased to learn that Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, O.C. Air Contingent Signals, has now recovered from his recent illness and is quite fit and well again, and will join in wishing him the best of health in future.

Annual Unit Ball.—The drill hall presented another gay scene on the 3rd January, when nearly four hundred guests were present at the unit annual ball. As usual, a good time was had by all. Time was when these good old functions were a sort of reunion after annual camp, but present-day keenness has altered all that, and the number of faces that one only sees under canvas and at the ball has dropped practically to nil. However, the affair was none the worse for that, and made a grand opening for the New Year. Among those I noticed present were Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Campbell, Major H. Richardson, and Major and Mrs. Schneider, as well as a large number of the ever-welcome old comrades. Ex-C.S.M. Donald Cundall, despite the fact that on his own admission he has been a member of the Mess for well over forty years, looks as sprightly as ever. He must have just about lost count of the regimental " do's " that he has attended.

Tit-Bit.—The winter training is producing its usual lighter side, and the tit-bit of the month comes from one of the classes—that for senior n.c.o.s. Explaining the position to which one should smartly spring on hearing the command " Attention!" a future drill instructor (?) blissfully declaimed: " Thumbs should be held squarely back, arms hanging naturally to the side with the shoulders behind the seams of the trousers." And he wondered why the others laughed!

C.S.M. Lindsay.—Though he has been here for some time now, C.S.M. Lindsay A. P., our new P.S.I., has not been welcomed through these columns. We hope he will overlook this and accept the sincere welcome that always awaits newcomers. We hope his stay will be long and happy, and that he will quickly be off the sick list.

Historical Record.—Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., hononary colonel of the 49th (W.R.) Divl Signals, T.A., has presented an historical record to the Officers Mess. It took the form of a bound leather book and case containing the complete nominal roll of all officers who have served in this unit since 1860. Colonel Boyle has taken an immense amount of trouble to gather the necessary information, and it is a gift and a record which we are very proud to possess.

It is interesting to note that the following officers have served as adjutant of the unit: General Sir G. M. Harper, K.C.B., D.S.O., Brigadier-General R. F. Sorsbie, C.B., C.S.I., C.I.E., and Colonel R. F. A. Butterworth, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Another interesting item in the book is that the command of this unit was shared from its formation in 1861 to 1903 between Colonel W. Child and Colonel W. E. Dawson—a matter of forty-two years. Yet we complain to-day that promotion is slow!

Lieut.-Colonel W. A. Stott, T.D., who was adjutant of this unit in 1903, also presented a bound volume containing a collection of photographs connected with this unit since 1899.

Tailpiece.—Wherever he is in this widely scattered empire of ours, we send special salaams to Sergt Wood E. G. (Chippy). All the lads are wondering where the " unknown destination " is. To the rest, all the best. TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

General.—Now that Christmas and New Year festivities are over, we shall be settling down to our winter recreation and training. This period promises to be a very busy and (we hope) successful one. Practice will be taking place on the miniature range in preparation for the inter-Company shooting trophy. The Badminton Club is getting into its stride again. Training will be continued with the next sixty-hour course for operators and linemen. At the conclusion of this course we hope to present a number of candidates for the Trade Board to be held in March. Lectures for officers have commenced, and courses for selected n.c.o. candidates for the instructional cadre of the unit will be taking place in the near future. It is hoped to complete this cadre before individual training commences. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—The Christmas and New Year festivities being now things belonging to the past, winter training was continued on Tuesday 7th January. We at once jumped off from the point at which we had stopped and are now again well into our stride. We have to congratulate nine of our candidates who successfully passed their test to Group E before the Christmas break: one as operator signals and eight as linemen. All, however, are still as keen as ever to capture their B.iii. in a month or so's time. The linemen were able to commence their outdoor work on Sunday, when they were initiated into a few of the mysteries of the working numbers on wagons, telephone. It is hoped to continue these outings each Sunday until the end of March, by which time they should be quite experts at outdoor work.

The whole Company is looking forward to the Company smoker to be held on Friday next, and a real good evening together is anticipated. Something for nothing is really too good to miss, after all ; and from what the writer has seen and heard of the intended programme, we seem to be in for a bumper night. All that is now required is a 100 per cent. attendance to encourage the artists. It is hoped to give a full account of this function in our next notes.

Recruiting is brighter than of late, though still rather on the sticky side. We have, however, managed to increase our strength by seven, and have great hopes of adding another seven in the very near future.

Apologies are offered for the brevity of these notes, but it is hoped to fill our allotted space soon. TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—The winter months are slipping by: so many things seem to be going on at once that time passes unnoticed. The Rifle Club has held the second Company shoot, which had to be decided by a re-shoot. A few of our tame artists are rehearsing for the smoking concert, and arrangements are being made for the annual whist drive, supper and dance. Future T.A. instructors come and go, and the sixty-hour course still proceeds. Officers' and n.c.o.s' lectures commence on Monday, when the adjutant arrives from Aberdeen. Altogether a very busy time.

Rifle Club.—The Company Rifle Club has had a very enjoyable month. Great keenness was shown in the Company competition, the silver medal being won by Sigmn Aitken after a re-shoot.

Garrison New Year Shoot.—Congratulations, lads, on once again taking the cup as winners of the New Year shoot. This was a very close thing this time. The 6/7th Black Watch were all out to beat us, and the result was in the balance until practically the last shot was fired. Signals eventually won by only two points, with the Heavy Battery R.A. a further four points behind.

Entertainments.—The second Company dance went off without a hitch, in spite of several other dances being held in the town on the same evening.

The annual smoking concert will be held on the 23rd January. A full report will be given with next month's notes. To finish the season, the annual whist drive, supper and dance will be held on the 7th February, when we hope to welcome members of the unit from Aberdeen and Stirling. Jack Campbell and his famous fife band have been engaged, and if the weather clerk is kind to us, a crowded hall is assured. FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

New Zealand Note.—It is a far cry from Wellington, New Zealand, to Glasgow. We are most grateful for the Christmas

greetings from our friends of the Signal Central Depot there. Here's tae them frae the clansmen o' the Clyde!

Glamorous Gaiety.—The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess made a night of it on the 20th December. The footlights were the evening's first favourites. The Pavilion Theatre accommodated eighty of our members and friends to make merry with Dame Pantomime. The well appointed mess lounge provided the after-theatre venue. Tables were laid for almost one hundred people, and it was in high spirits that a sumptuous supper was enjoyed. The climax was reached when the merrymakers adjourned to the lecture hall for dancing. It was almost 2 a.m. ere the eight hour carnival concluded. Truly this was a night of nights. The theatre night has become a recognised Mess institution, as was evinced by the encouraging patronage of the members. The officers were well and truly represented by Captain R. G. L. Giblin, our adjutant, and Major G. W. Cumming, C.O. Supplementary Reserve.

Malayan Message.—It was with very great pleasure that we observed a reference to ourselves in the Malaya (Singapore) notes in the December WIRE. C.S.M. Haggart greets his comrade at Pulau Brani. We will eagerly peruse the Journal for any further communication from that detachment.

Full Flight.—The various regimental organisations, clubs and courses are in full flight. Badminton, rifle and revolver shooting, boxing and football are amongst the winter attractions. There are also monthly dances for the Men's Club and paid courses for operators and linemen.

Mechanical McAdie.—McAdie, the mechanical one, has completed a bicycle course at Stirling. His knowledge of nuts and bolts is now profound. He cycles without holding the handle bars. Beacons and speed cops have no terrors for him. The highway is his speed track. His time for the return journey from Stirling was 23 hrs. 17 min. 47 sec.

Meet McNeil.—There were many hearty handshakes for L/Cpl McNeil J., of Catterick, who visited us recently. It was grand to meet again this promising lad who graduated from our Territorial ranks to the Regular branch of the Corps.

Ne'erdy Nicht.—New Year's Night was celebrated in traditional fashion at Jardine Street. Despite the most inclement weather, there was a good turn out of Auld Lichts. Unfortunately R.Q.M.S. Colin Sinclair, the chairman, had (like Cinderella) to make a hasty departure at midnight. Sergt Jock Christie, however, proved an excellent substitute. He carried out the dual role of chairman and caterer with marked success. There were songs and drams. There were speeches and toasts. Such was the manner in which we celebrated the advent of 1936. Once again we repeated our toast to the Corps, " A guid New Year, and mony may ye see."

Regimental Revelry.—It isn't every night that we have a regimental dinner. For that matter, it is only once a year. When we remember that 1935 was one of the most prosperous years in the history of the Lowland Signal units, something definite had to be done. So it happened that the 1935 dinner, which took place on the 20th December, was one of the most successful gatherings ever held at Jardine Street. It isn't every night, for that matter, that we can listen to Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Robertson tactfully reproving us for our shortcomings whilst extolling our good deeds. The dinner was excellent, and so were the speeches. Major G. W. Cumming, Major Niven and Captain R. G. L. Giblin contributed towards the orations, which were of a high order. The evening drifted merrily on with song and story. A fitting nightcap for 1935 was the regimental revel. May there not be a single " kent face " missing at the revel of 1936.

Sergeant Shields.—It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of ex-Sergt Shields J., who at one time served with our Territorial units and the S.R. Things have not been going too well for Mrs. Shields and her family. It was no small satisfaction to ex-Sergt Shields' old messmates to know that they were able to make things a little brighter for Mrs. Shields and her household on Christmas Day.

Parish Poser.—Our permanent staff are long suffering and slow to wrath. Their trials and tribulations are many. Imagine, then, the consternation of one of our permanent pen pushers on being informed by a budding Territorial that he (the budding one) was born in Malta in the parish of the Mediterranean.

Many a Year Ago.—" The proud supremacy of the 1st L.R.V. as the dude corps of the city is threatened by the Engineers. Two sappers of the Engineers drove in a two-horse carriage last night to the parade in Woodside Road from such a fatiguing distance as Steven Street, St. George's Cross."—*Glasgow Evening News*, 9th March, 1889.

" The 1st Lanarkshire Engineers are to be put through some practical work on Saturday. The regiment will parade at Anniesland Toll and will march back to the drill hall."—*Glasgow Evening News*, 28th December, 1892.

" Now that the ' fireside soger ' season is on the wane, it may be worth narrating a little incident. At the drill competition of the Royal Engineers at Kelvinside the other night, a Company which rather fancied itself for the ' pot ' was bamboozled by an order for a very simple movement. For a minute confusion prevailed in the ranks. Mr. Cole is the bandmaster, and apparently a humorist, for he got his men to strike up ' 'E dunno where he are.' It should be added that the Company soon recovered its balance and went through the remainder of the movement with great credit."—*Glasgow Evening News*, 16th May, 1894.

" The Sergeants Mess of the Lanarkshire Engineers are now issuing invitations to an inaugural dance to be held at their new and handsome Jardine Street headquarters on Friday 22nd Nov." —*Glasgow Evening New*, 28th October, 1895.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 13/1/36.

The annual children's Christmas party was held on the 14th December, when guests to the number of 250 were entertained. C.S.M. Greenwood officiated as Father Christmas, and the drill hall resounded to the merry shouts of the youngsters. There were so many of them that they were compelled to sit down to tea in three relays. It is wonderful where they get 'em all from. One signalman marched in his bunch: two sections of four and a blank file of two.

Other successful social events were the n.c.o.s dance on New Year's Eve and the other ranks dance on the 8th January.

The venue of camp at Ilfracombe is a new departure for this unit. We have never yet ventured across the Bristol Channel, although we have tried every place on the Welsh side. It should prove a very interesting adventure, and there is much speculation as to how we shall get there. Memories of our trip to the Isle of Man in 1925 are making some of our members consider the various remedies for combating sea sickness. The blue water school are all in favour of sailing the six-wheeler across, and inspecting Steep Holm on the way with a view to testing its possibility as a visual transmitter between Ilfracombe and Cardiff. The air-minded are all for fitting her with wings and taking off from the local aerodrome. Anyway, if I'm sick going over, I'm coming back by road, if it takes me a week—so there!

It is with much regret that we find our notes of last month made no reference to the excellent lecture on " Signals in the Ashanti War," given by the adjutant at the w.o.s and n.c.o.s dinner. This lecture prompted the further reference to that war by the D.C.S.O. The " old soldier " who lives in the tower was asked about it, but he says that particular war was just a minor affair and he does not remember if he was engaged in it or not.

There has been a general move round of officers, and some will commence the training season with an entirely new class of work. Captain V. W. Hawkins is now to command No. 1 Company. Captain F. T. Arnold has moved from No. 3 Company to No. 2, and Captain W. R. Hawkins from D Section to No. 3 Company. Lieut. W. G. F. Bale takes over D Section, and we look for great results.

Congratulations.—To the following on their promotions: L/Sergt Westwood C. W. and Corpl Williams W. E. to Sergeant, Corpl Edwards W. H. to L/Sergeant, and Sigmn Garlick A. S. to L/Corporal.

Sport.—The unit football team had a spot of bad luck when it was beaten by the 7th R.W.F. by 4—0 goals in the Divisional final, and thus narrowly missed the honour of representing the Division in the T.A. football championship.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—We heartily welcome Captain R. H. Hooper, M.B.E., who arrived from the Northern Command Signal Company to take over the duties of adjutant from Major J. McConville, M.C., who has retired to civilian life after a military career of which he has every reason to be proud. It is with sincerity that we wish them both a very pleasant time in their new spheres.

Training.—Paid evening classes commence early in February and will run on for a period of two months. After that, we hope to produce gratifying results, although, no doubt, we shall be able to occasionally supplement the words of a popular pantomime hit.

Children's Party.—As usual, this turned out an excellent show and did great credit to the organisers. The kiddies had a great time, but the festivities were not confined to them alone. This is proved by the fact that certain well-known lights of the unit (well lit at the time) expected to find a fish shop open on the Broadway at 5.30 a.m. and took a piano-accordion with them as an extra inducement to the proprietor—no doubt thinking that he was an Italian.

Boxing.—Everyone is looking forward to the contest with the 9th Lancers on Tuesday 14th January. It may seem a little ambitious to try conclusions with a Regular Army unit, but all feel certain that our lads will give as much as they get. The contest affords excellent practice for our team in view of the approaching Divisional championships, which we anticipate with a good deal of justified confidence. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Now the holidays are over, we are going to put our shoulders to the wheel and do great things—or we hope to, at any rate.

Training.—Paid evening classes are being held from the 3rd February to the 31st March.

Have You Ever ?—Have you ever considered how the history of this country would have read if electricity had always been in use to the extent that it is to-day ? John, who was King of England in the good (or bad) old days, might have saved his kit from the Wash if he had had an electric wringer ; and Henry VIII. could have managed with one wife to attend to his linen if he had provided her with an electric iron. The cakes would not have been scorched if Alfred the Great had used an electric toaster ; and the bit about Bruce and the spider (try, try again) might not have been in history if Mrs. Bruce had used a Hoover. Think of the difference radio would have made to 1066 and all that. However, perhaps it is as well that they did not have electricity in those bygone days.

Boxing.—The unit boxing team is due to fight the 9th (Q.R.) Lancers from Tidworth on Tuesday 14th January. We will publish the results in next month's issue of THE WIRE.

Children's Party.—This was a great success, and praise is due to all who helped. The attendance was not quite up to standard, but there was an all-in wrestling match at the West Ham Baths, and that may account for some of the kiddies not turning up.

Congratulations.—To L/Sgt Sharp on his recent promotion.

Jewish Mail.—What about it, Norman ? THE BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

General.—A hearty welcome is extended to our new adjutant, Captain R. H. Hooper. We hope he will enjoy his stay with the unit. A hearty welcome, also, to our latest joined recruits, who have commenced their service by putting their backs well into their work.

Our activities during December were rather curtailed owing to the drill hall being in the hands of the General Post Office for the greater part of the month. However, we have commenced the New Year with a really excellent muster of the Company, and we are looking forward to a full attendance for the paid evening classes which commence in February.

Training.—At the moment, ground work is being put in for the paid evening classes. The N.R. men are out for blood (or a Group E) and the officers mess sideboard is capable of holding a few more cups.

Congratulations.—To Captain T. Wilks on his recent promotion. To Sergt Bradbury W. and L/Corpl Marshall W. on successfully finishing an instructors course with 4th Divl Signals.

Who Was It ?—Who helped along the awkward recruit from the country by placing a length of straw in one of his boots and one of hay in the other, and instead of shouting " Left ! right ! left ! " yelled " Hay ! straw ! hay ! " ?

Who told the boys in the canteen that when he sailed for India, years and years ago, the weather was so rough that the troopship remained on one wave for two days ?

To All.—A happy and prosperous New Year. THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

The Drill Hall, Ashburnham Road, 13/1/36.

Congratulations to Sigmn Deverick W. on obtaining the Territorial efficiency medal, and to Sergt Sayers A. F. (our P.S.I.) on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal with gratuity. It is hoped that people who know him will keep quiet.

There is nothing much to report from Bedford this month. The paid evening classes do not start until the 3rd February, so the instructors are having a holiday—or swatting up.

The R.S.M. visited the Detachment on Wednesday 8th January. He decided to come up after three false alarms, and then very comfortably missed the train. However, he arrived in good time to see some of the lads, and they gave him a good time. He caught the 22.15 hrs. train to London at 22.35 but left the station at 22.40 because the train was twenty minutes late and then the engine had to be changed. I hope you follow me, because I'm still a bit muddled. By the way, we arrived at the station at 22.01 hrs. I remember that distinctly, because the girl in the buffet said "We are closed, and you don't want any more."

To Southend: If the keys of the A sets are lost, am I entitled to take out all the screws ? Wire reply. TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7, 13/1/36.

How can one open these notes better than by wishing this excellent Journal continued and growing success in the present year ? THE WIRE each month contains much interesting matter and deserves to be read through from cover to cover. I am afraid, however, that many subscribers do not peruse it completely, but I would ask them to resolve to do so in the future. They will find that, as in kidney soup, a great deal of meat sinks to the bottom, for in THE WIRE a lot of entertaining stuff is kept till the end.

The most encouraging part of this training season, so far, is the rapid influx of recruits. For November and December 1935 this unit had the highest number of new men in the Division—an excellent state of affairs and worthy of the special congratulatory order from the commanding officer. At the end of the old year No. 1 Company were twenty short and No. 3 Company eleven short of establishment, while No. 2 Company at Prescot lagged behind, being forty under strength. By the time the annual training period comes round, we are hoping to have our full complement.

It is my pleasure to record further promotions, the first in importance being the elevation of Captain R. W. Bailey to the rank of Brevet-Major. This is most popular and is accompanied by the unit's sincere congratulations. I find that Majors are usually either very thin or—er—" well made," and Major Bailey certainly fulfils (I almost said fully fills) one of those qualifications. The next on the list for a majority will prove the exception to the above rule, being neither very thin nor otherwise ; but he has his own qualification in that he is the possessor (whether proud, or not, I cannot say) of a pair of legs not a little bowed.

Other recent promotions are: L/Corpl Snelson C. to Sergeant, Corporal Hodgson to L/Sergeant, L/Corporals Henry S. and Cotham V. to Corporals, and Sigmn Kirby H. to L/Corporal. These fellows have earned their reward and will no doubt figure in future honours lists.

L/Sergt Orford and U/L/Corporals Brownlee and Campbell proceeded to Preston on a T.A. instructors course in M.T. duties, for which they obtained satisfactory reports.

The winter classes have been interspersed with periodic lectures which, without exception, have proved extremely interesting. Sergeant Drudge, P.S., gave us a talk on " The British Somaliland Boundary Commission, 1929/30." As well as being topical, the lecture gained by being first-hand, since Sergt Drudge was the n.c.o. selected to accompany the Commission in charge of the W/T. The latter played an important part, as the surveyors plotting the boundary were dependent on accurate time reports for fixing their direction. On the 25th November last Colonel C. R. Gover, D.S.O., C.R.A. 55th Division, talked to us very entertainingly about " Signals in a Field Brigade R.A. Concentration," and our adjutant, Captain E. MacDonald Burns, told us all about " Intercommunication with the R.A.F."

At the end of each training season, prizes are awarded to those recruits and trained men who have put in the greatest number of drills. In 1935 the following people did best, and they are to be congratulated on attaining such excellent records. Recruits: 1st Sigmn Flinn J. (128 drills), 2nd Sigmn Frane R. (124). Trained men: 1st Corpl Shearon R. (135), 2nd L/Corpl Grenan P. (127).

The inter-Company miniature range competition took place early in December. Once again No. 2 Company were the winners, and once again we offer them our congratulations. Whilst not wishing to detract from their repeated triumphs, I will not be sorry to be in a position to insert some other Company at the head of the list next time. It was a good fight for the honours. No. 3 Company finished second.

Of the recruits who fired their weapon training range practice, the following three gained prizes for the best scores: 1st Sigmn Evans C., 2nd Sigmn Forsyth T. M., 3rd Sigmn Crowley D.

The annual regimental hot-pot has been fixed for the 15th February in the Bluecoat Chambers. As usual, we will have a first rate concert party—preferably without the fair sex, who are adequately represented by the nymphs disporting themselves on the handsome ceiling of the room.

The officers' ball has been duly held. As ever, the event was extremely enjoyable. A number of guests were unable to get to the Adelphi owing to the thick fog, and consequently the numbers were somewhat depleted. Those present, however, carried on the good work. Our dance committee acquitted itself nobly, as did the Adelphi people, who served an excellent supper. We were glad to have with us as guests Lieut.-General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command, Lieutenant A. J. W. Grubb, R.A., A.D.C., Major G. E. Mirehouse, G.S.O.2, 55th Division, Captain C. M. Smith, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel F. S. Ferguson, T.D., Lieut.-Colonel S. M. Wilson, Lieut.-Colonel S. T. J. Perry, M.C., T.D., Lieut.-Colonel C. S. Lyon, T.D., and Colonel G. H. S. Maunder, O.B.E. Several of those mentioned were accompanied by their ladies.

This year we went to Prescot for the officers' miniature range shoot for the Rooker cup. I think the object should be not to score several bulls but to register " two magpies." Perhaps I ought to explain (although I hate doing so) that this is the name of Captain Rooker's residence. Under existing conditions, however, Lieut. R. A. Lees won the cup with a score of 34 out of a possible 40.

The little dots dashed along to our Christmas party, held on Saturday 21st December last, singing " The Morse we are together." So many turned up that we had to have two sittings for tea. The R.S.M. made a very gallant and imposing Father Christmas. Unfortunately, the party arranged for Prescot had to be abandoned owing to an outbreak of measles.

To the following proud fathers and their wives, we extend our felicitations and our best wishes for the future of their infant replicas. To Sigmn and Mrs. A. Weild a daughter (Brenda). To Sigmn and Mrs. C. J. E. Heyes a son (Kenneth Charles). To Sigmn and Mrs. W. D. Williams a daughter (Barbara Gertrude). To Sigmn and Mrs. T. Kearney a son (George Thomas). To L/Corpl and Mrs. R. Buckley a son (Ralph). 1935 has been a vintage year for babies, of whom I hope the males will be poured straight from the " wood " into the Signals. FIVE-FIVE.

London Divisional Signals.

Signal House, Atkins Road, Clapham, S.W.12, 15/1/36.

In this month's notes we have to chronicle the departure of our former commanding officer, Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., and also of two of our Company commanders, Captains F. C. McMurray and W. J. E. Gammage. A brief appreciation of the work of these officers is appended. But first we must report affairs of a more pleasant nature.

Children's Party.—This event, which was inaugurated by Mrs. Ozanne in 1934, proved an even greater success on the 21st December last. Tea was laid in the drill hall for three hundred, but so many came that an overflow party had to be held after the first had finished.

The Elliott Twins enjoying the fun.

Blind man's buff and other games worked up an appetite, and after the business of tea—with paper hats and musical instruments—the children and their parents enjoyed a splendid conjuring display, followed by a Punch and Judy show.

Father Christmas arrived with due solemnity, heralded by the original Father Christmas film taken and shown at the Signal Training Centre, and kindly lent by Colonel St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler. Assisted by Mrs. Denison-Pender, who very kindly attended the party, Father Christmas then presented a gift to each of the children.



C.S.M. Angell doing his best.

To all our officers and their wives who gave both money and time to help on the party, to Mrs. Ozanne who bought all the presents, and to those friends of the unit who sent donations, our grateful thanks are due. It was a very good party.

Captain J. E. McCartney, R.A.M.C.—We are very happy to chronicle the promotion of our Medical Officer. Brevet-Major McCartney is really much more than our M.O.: he is one of us.

No gathering is complete without him. He has work unsparingly on our behalf and completely identified himself with the work of the unit.

Promotions: Officers.—Major A. C. C. Willway assumed command of the unit on the 1st January, 1936, and is promoted Lieutenant-Colonel. Captain G. M. Welsford becomes second-in-command and is promoted Major. Lieut. B. Houghton Brown is promoted Captain to fill the vacancy. The unit congratulates these officers on their promotion, and welcomes Mr. D. J. MacBeth on his first commission.

Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E.—On the 31st December last Colonel Ozanne handed over the command of the unit which he had held for just over five years. Those five years have been very eventful ones in the history of the City of London Signals.

Occupying in 1930 a headquarters and drill hall in Calthorpe Street—probably the worst in London—the unit was at a low ebb: its strength in other ranks was only 162. Colonel Ozanne speedily recognised that three things were necessary to restore the unit to a high standard of efficiency: (1) to raise its prestige, (2) to obtain new headquarters, and (3) to increase its strength.

To raise the standard of the unit, he set in motion the machinery necessary to obtain permission to have the association of the unit with the City of London officially recognised by the inclusion of the words " City of London Signals " in its title.

Apart from the hopelessness of the existing headquarters, where there were few amenities for officers or men, he soon recognised that the position of the unit in Calthorpe Street was an effective bar to any effort that might be made to increase the strength: the class of man required for a Signal unit does not reside in that insalubrious part of London. Signals depend for their usefulness mainly on a high standard of technical efficiency, but also in great part on a very close liaison with other arms of the Service. These factors convinced Colonel Ozanne that a new headquarters in a residential district was necessary.

Only those closely connected with the Territorial Army can have any conception of the labours involved by such a decision. The necessary negotiations occupied the whole of 1931 and 1932. Conferences with the City of London Territorial Association and the War Office, visits to possible sites, formulating a design for the new building, forcing the authorities to recognise that a Signal unit demanded certain particular additions to the normal type of drill hall—all these, and more, were necessary. It is difficult to appreciate that all this was done, not by a whole-time soldier but by one whose time was fully occupied by his business.

But 1933 saw the preliminary negotiations brought to fruition. The " model " drill hall had been designed and the site chosen. The foundation stone was laid on the 25th March by Lieutenant-Colonel The Right Hon. The Earl Stanhope, P.C., D.S.O., M.C., Under-Secretary of State for War, and the unit moved into its new home in September of that year. During the actual work of building, Colonel Ozanne visited the spot every week, helping to clear up doubtful points, advising and inspecting. The result was acknowledged by all to be the finest headquarters of any in London, if not in the country.

The culmination of all these labours was reached when Signal House was formally opened by Their Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of York on the 10th February 1934. This was a very great honour for the City of London Signals, and indeed for the Royal Corps of Signals as a whole.

Colonel Ozanne's labours were not yet finished. There remained the matter of the strength of the unit, which at the time of the move was 154. The change of headquarters from the City to the south-west of London was bound to affect many of its members who live in the east and north-east of London. Strong measures were necessary. It is an axiom in Territorial Army circles that it takes at least two years for the presence of a unit in a new area to become known. Could this period be shortened? Colonel Ozanne adopted the system of Shop Weeks. Under this system a shop is hired in the busy part of a main street, and the window is decorated with various Signal and sports gear. Members of the unit attend both inside and out on the pavement. Literature is prepared and distributed.

To popularise the unit and further to advertise it, diaries containing printed notes on the composition and functions of the unit (as well as the ordinary diary material) were prepared and distributed to all ranks. Dances and Badminton Clubs were also organised, to ensure that as many people as possible had opportunity of visiting the new headquarters.

The arrangements at Signal House were (as has been stated) well nigh perfect. They included lecture rooms for each section of the unit, a very good sergeants mess, a corporals room, a canteen with facilities for billiards, etc., a miniature range, a squash racquets and three badminton courts, and workshops ; and to promote that close liaison with other arms of the Service which is so necessary for the efficiency of Signals, an officers mess was provided—which is a model of its kind.

Greatly assisted by the honorary colonel (Colonel J. C. Denison-Pender) Colonel Ozanne commenced a systematic drive to make commanding and senior officers of other units conscious of the good tone and high efficiency of the Divisional Signals. Monthly dinners in the mess were organised. The annual prizegiving became a function for which invitations were eagerly accepted. A ball given by the officers in 1934 was very successful. The 56th (1st London) Division held an indoor tactical exercise without troops at Signal House in 1934. In short, instead of being a rather unknown quantity, City of London Signals is now one of the best known units in London.

The result of all these efforts can be recapitulated in a few words. City of London Signals to-day has a waiting list for officers, is over strength in despatch riders, and is only eight below strength in other Signal trades.

Before concluding this appreciation of an outstanding commanding officer, it is right that at the termination of his career as a commander a short summary of his service should be given. Colonel Ozanne was commissioned to the Indian Army in 1909 and served in India until 1914. He obtained a special Instructor's certificate at the Army School of Signalling at Poona in 1912, and was regimental signalling officer until proceeding with his Regiment on active service in East Africa. In 1915 he formed Z Signal Section, which by 1917 had become Z Divisional Signal Company, with Major Ozanne as its commander. He was at the Signal Service Depot at Wellington and Jubbulpore as Company commander and chief instructor until his retirement as a Major in 1923. After a period in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers, he joined the Supplementary Reserve (Royal Corps of Signals) in 1926 as a Major, serving in that capacity until transferred to the Territorial Army for the command of this unit. He was promoted Brevet-Colonel in 1934.

Colonel Ozanne will still continue his close association with the unit for which he has done so much, as he is to be appointed Deputy Chief Signal Officer, T.A., London District.

In 1931 he was appointed a member of the City of London Territorial Army Association, being reappointed in 1934. He serves on the General Purposes and Lands and Buildings Committees. He also serves on the Joint Publicity Committee of the City and County of London Territorial Army Association.

Colonel Ozanne was entertained at dinner by the officers on the 16th January 1936. Any appreciation of the work that he has done for the unit would be incomplete without mention of Mrs. Ozanne, who throughout his tenure of command has been untiring in her efforts to assist in any project for improving the amenities for all ranks. Her work in connection with dances and other social activities will long be remembered. To her we owe the institution of the annual Christmas party for the children of all ranks which (as already reported in these notes) is so greatly appreciated.

To Colonel and Mrs. Ozanne we offer our grateful thanks and our best wishes for all success in their new work. We trust that we shall see them at all our functions in the future.

Captain F. C. McMurray.—Captain McMurray, who will very shortly be gazetted to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers, enlisted at the age of 16½ years in September 1914 and served from then until November 1919 in the New Army, both in Mesopotamia and during the Afghan War, being wounded in the former campaign.

He commenced his Signal service by transferring to the Royal Engineers as a telegraphist in 1915. He was commissioned to the Indian Signal Service in 1918 and joined the old 40th Divisional Signal Company. He was demobilised in 1919 and joined Cables and Wireless Ltd. shortly afterwards. He was commissioned to the 56th (1st London) Divl Signals, T.A., in August 1921, being promoted Captain in 1926.

He has commanded No. 1 Company since 1930, and as a result of his work the efficiency and esprit de corps of that unit have improved very materially. He was entirely responsible for the idea of the unit co-operating with Cables and Wireless Ltd., and it was due to his efforts that a very large number of most desirable recruits was obtained. He has given up a great deal of time to his work. It was his idea to approach our present hon. colonel with a view to his accepting that appointment, which (owing to his position in Cables and Wireless Ltd.) has proved of immense help to the unit.

Captain McMurray leaves the unit for business reasons, but we are assured that both he and Mrs. McMurray will find time to visit us often.

Captain W. J. E. Gammage.—This officer was transferred to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers on the 5th December 1935. He has been connected with the Signals for over twenty years, having been in the Signal Section of the O.T.C. both at Highgate School and Birmingham University. He was commissioned to the 56th (1st London) Divl Signals in 1924 and was in No. 1 Company until 1931. During the greater part of that time he commanded B Cable Section. Promoted Captain in 1929, he was transferred to No. 3 Company to command the Signal Section for the 168th Infantry Brigade. He assumed command of No. 3 Company in 1934.

Captain Gammage is, then, one of the oldest members of the unit. He has served with it both at Calthorpe Street and at Signal House. Pressure of business now forces him to cease his active association with the unit, but we all confidently hope that both he and Mrs. Gammage will often come to see us.

C.S.M. Tyrrell F., M.M.—In our notes for December we reported the retirement of C.S.M. Tyrrell, who found that his business commitments prevented his remaining in the Supplementary Reserve. I understand, however, that he instantly regretted it. He has now re-enlisted in the T.A. and has rejoined the Sergeants Mess. Long may he remain an ornament thereof!

Obituary.—We regret to announce the death of Signalman Wooldridge, of No. 4 Company L. of C. Signals, S.R. He was killed in a railway accident on the 20th December last.

Casualties: Other Ranks.—As we go to press, we hear that Sergt Lamb, of No. 2 Company, is in hospital as the result of a motor-cycle accident. We wish him a speedy recovery.

C.O.L.S.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD—Malaya Signal Section.

Fort Canning Detachment *(continued from page 68)*

wish to tell the world that Pulau Brani is *not* R.Signals, Malaya, but merely an almshouse for the aged, a home of rest for buck-shee storemen, and a dump for broken-down sets and operators; and that the hub of Malaya is in Singapore, where the brains of the Signals are concentrated, as the following will show.

First, Q.M.S. *Walker*:
On lines he's a corker—
A man we appreciate highly.
Then there's our Taffy *Ellis*
(" In arduis fidelis ")
Who chases our line faults with *Riley*.
We'll be sorry to lose them:
No one can accuse them
Of slacking, so patent their verve is.
This year, by the way,
We part with *Smith* (*J.*)
Of our love-making telephone service.
We've a new Corp—a " nailer "—
By name of Pip *Taylor*:
He's a product of Bulford ('nuff said)
And he don't care a jot
If assisted by *Scott*,
Who can climb down a pole on his head.
And then we have *Jones*:
He pigeons and phones,
Amends King's Regs. in very terse style,
And sometimes, when it's fine,
He repairs an odd line
To prove that he's thoroughly versatile.
Of D.R.s we've twain,
And in sunshine or rain
They've proved to the police they are goers:
Chinese, by a long chalk,
Would leap for the side-walk
Rather than face *Smith E.* or *Stowers*.
Solley walks miles,
With mysterious files,
To keep up his own circulation.
And, lastly, our *Brooks*
Circuit diagrams cooks
To give utterly false information:
He draws and he draws,
Till the sweat from him pours,
In inks purple, green, pink and yallery—
The last of his planning,
Called " Circuits at Canning,"
Is hung in the local Art Gallery.
Pulau Brani or Changi
Can be ribald or slangy,
But they can't rob our 'scutcheon of lustre.
They're merely provincial;
We're all that's essential,
Though, true, it's but few that we muster.

Note writing at Fort Canning is a little difficult. We form composite sports teams with the R.A.S.C. and H.Q. clerks. Needless to say, we are well represented in the teams.

Fort Canning won the Singapore Third Division Soccer League last season, and this year they will be striving in the Second League, while the hockey team still survives in the Garrison knock-out competition.

We congratulate Corpl Taylor and L/Sergt Walters on their recent promotion, and finally welcome those twenty-four stalwarts who are coming to swell our ranks during next month. We hope their three years in the East will pass quickly and pleasantly. It won't be our fault if they don't like it. They may be sure of a good reception.

In conclusion, we wish to our comrades at home and abroad, a merry Christmas; to our comrades on the seas, bon voyage; and to all, a happy New Year and the best of luck.

Changi Detachment.

November 1935.

General.—We were recently unfortunate enough to have one of our submarine cables broken by a Naval supply ship hauling it up on her anchor. Considering the size of the cable, we thought it strong enough to hold the entire Atlantic Fleet. So much for our thoughts! It caused a slight dislocation of our telephone system, but the trouble was promptly overcome by changing over to an alternative cable, thereby causing the minimum inconvenience to our subscribers. I won't go into details about the repairing of the cable, as I believe the Pulau Brani scribe has already descanted on it. Apart from that item of news, there is very little to report this month.

Arrivals.—We welcomed the 41st Company R.E. from Pulau Brani early last month. They did not appear to be very enthusiastic about their move. We sympathise with them and admit that Changi is somewhat of a come down after Pulau Brani. At the same time we are glad to have them here, as it will mean that we shall see some first class sport and share in social events such as dances, etc., and some of those " do's " of which we hear so much. Welcome, the Sappers!

Departures.—Corporal Busty Rogers to Blakan Mati, prior to getting the first boat for U.K. It won't be long now, Busty. It's still very old " draftyish " here, though.

THE FROG.

SPORTS NOTES

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Soccer.—We have only played two matches since the last notes were submitted. Garrison Boys Soccer League: Royal Signals "A" beat Royal Signals " C " by 3—1. The goal scorers for "A" were Barr, Deane W. and Ainsworth, and for " C " team Watson scored the only goal. Royal Signals beat the East Lancs Regiment by 8—1 (Mayhew 5, Harding, O'Marah, Morrice).

Billiards.—Up to the present we have not had a great deal of success in this line. In the inter-Company billiard competition we have played three games and lost them all, but nevertheless congratulate ourselves on having a very consistent team. Here are the results to date: Lost to D Company, School of Signals, and E Company: by 2—4 games in each match.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Hockey.—Annual furlough, drafts and weather conditions all helped to make December a blank month in our fixture list. It was a little unfortunate that after five weeks without a game, and having lost three good players on draft, we had to play the 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps in the second round of the Army hockey cup on Wednesday 15th January. However, our team put up a very good show against a better side, the full time score being 1—1. Extra time produced another three goals for the Tanks and thus the final score was 4—1 against us. There were many exciting moments in a fast game, and Sigmn Cook (our goalkeeper) featured in most of them. He and Corporal Burrell (centre half) played exceptionally well. Good luck to the Tanks in their next round, and to us—next season!

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Tennis.—On the 5th December the junior n.c.o.s met the signalmen in a friendly match on the all ranks courts, and this resulted in a decisive victory for the signalmen by 9—0 sets (54—21 games). Signalmen Scanlan and Traill beat L/Corporals Paling and Talbot by 6—3, L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 6—0, and L/Corpls Roberts and Marshall by 6—4. Signalmen Nelson and Tyler beat L/Corporals Roberts and Marshall by 6—2, L/Corporals Talbot and Paling by 6—1, and L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 6—5. Signalmen Burns and Davidson beat L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 6—1, L/Corporals Paling and Talbot by 6—2, and L/Corporals Roberts and Marshall by 6—3.

A tin and bottle tournament was held on the 9th November. After keen competition L/Corporals Paling and Roberts carried the cans away, with Sigmn Nelson and Mrs. Jones close runners-up. The booby prize went to L/Corpl Talbot and Sigmn Newell.

A similar tournament was held on the 30th November. L/Cpl Talbot and Mrs. Maguire carried the cans this time, with Sigmn Davidson and Mrs. Jones as runners-up. Sigmn Hazeltine and Mrs. Gourlay were awarded the booby.

In the Younger cup tournament the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess met the Junior N.C.O.s Room on the former's courts on Wednesday 11th December. C.S.M. Price and Sergt Bramwell lost to Lance-Corporals Paling and Talbot by 4—6 and to L/Corporals Roberts and Marshall by 4—6, and beat L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 11—9. R.O.M.S. Kingman and Sergeant Jones lost to L/Corpls Paling and Talbot by 3—6, and beat L/Corpls Roberts and Marshall by 6—3 and L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 6—3. Sergeants Humphrey and Keegan beat L/Corporals Paling and Talbot by 6—4, L/Corporals Roberts and Marshall by 6—4. and L/Corporals Lennon and Wallis by 6—1. The W.O.s and Sergeants Mess won by 6—3 sets (52—42 games).

Hockey.—The w.o.s and sergeants met the junior n.c.o.s in the Younger cup competition on Saturday 7th December, and after a very hard and keen game the seniors won by 5—2 goals. A Company beat C Right-Half Company by 7—2, D Company by 7—2, and R.A.M.C. by 3—1,

Shooting.—The annual shooting competition between the W.O.s and Sergeants and the Corporals Room was held on Thursday 12th December. The sergeants emerged the victors with a narrow margin of seven points: 308—301. This was the closest result for many years.

Athletics.—In the C.P. and Berar Olympic games held at Jubbulpore on the 26th November, our relay team won the Rai Bahadur Bose relay race challenge cup. This trophy was awarded to the team obtaining the most points.

One mile relay (four×440 yards)—Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart, Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut, Sigmn Bourner, Sigmn Rowley.
440 yards relay (220, 110 and 110 yards)—Signalman Hampton, L/Sergt Matthew, Sigmn Scanlan.
440 yards relay (four×110 yards)—Sigmn Hampton, Signalman Scanlan, L/Sergt Matthews, and (?) ——.

In the individual events, Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart put up an exceptionally good performance in winning the 440 yards. Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut was placed second in the 880 yards.

Much credit is due to Brevet-Major E. G. W. Pearse for the interest he took in training the team, and also to the competitors for rising to the occasion and collecting another trophy.

Deck Tennis and Basket Ball.—With a little more training, we may be able to publish some victories next year (?)

Cricket.—v. Jubbulpore C.C. on 28/11/35: S.T.C. (I.) 200, Jubbulpore C.C. 171. v. G.C.F.C.C. on 14/12/35: S.T.C. (I.) 65, G.C.F.C.C. 204.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

There has been no slacking off in the sport line since our last notes, and many interesting matches have been played with results, on the whole, very favourable. Space does not permit a detailed account of any except the Christmas holiday matches.

On the 21st December an interesting hockey match was played between the officers and the sergeants, this being the first match of the tournament which takes place every year for the annual games tournament trophy. Both teams fielded a good side, and a pleasant game took place which the sergeants were fortunate in winning by 3—1 goals. We believe that several members of both teams were stiff for days after, but we congratulate them all on turning out and putting up a good performance.

As a matter of interest to readers, the teams were as follows. Officers—Goal, Lieut. Dagg; backs, Colonel Phillips and Lieut. Kealy; half-backs, Lieutenants Hay and Sladen and Major Schofield; forwards, Lieutenants Seeley and Carpenter, Capt Morgan, and Lieutenants Charlton and Steward. Sergeants—Goal, Sergt Wedgbury; backs, Sergt Wyeth and C.Q.M.S. Johnson; half-backs, Sergeants Warner, Bloodworth and Powles; forwards, Sergeants Clutterbuck, Stevens and Peters, C.S.M. King, and L/Sergeant Brown.

The goals were scored by L/Sergt Brown, Sergt Stevens and L/Sergt Clutterbuck for the sergeants, and by Captain Morgan for the officers.

Other results are as follows.

HOCKEY—FIRST ELEVEN.

v. 1/15th Punjab Regiment, won by 5—0 (Fitzpatrick, Captain Morgan 3, L/Corpl Stringer)
v. V.R. Depot, Chaklala, won by 6—0 (Thompson 3, Briggs 2, Charlton)
v. Kirpa Ram's Eleven, won by 5—1 (Thompson 2, Fitzpatrick 3)
v. 3/11th Sikh Regiment, lost by 2—4 (Fitzpatrick, Capt. Morgan)
v. Kirpa Ram's Eleven, won by 6—2 (Thompson 3, Fitzpatrick, Trott, L/Corpl Crimes)
v. W.O.s and Sergeants, won by 6—0 (Thompson, Fitzpatrick 4, Clarke)
v. Kirpa Ram's Eleven, lost by 1—3 (Thompson)
v. H.R.S. Chaklala, lost by 1—7 (Fitzpatrick)
v. 1st Battalion Hampshires, lost by 1—5 (Trott)
v. A Corps Signals, won by 4—0 (Fitzpatrick, Angell, Captain Morgan 2)

HOCKEY—SECOND ELEVEN.

v. A Corps Signals, won by 9—0 (Briggs 6, Hall 2, Cosford)
v. I.O.R.s, drew at 3—3 (Trott, Charlton 2)
v. A Corps Signals, won by 2—0 (Briggs 2)
v. I.A.O.C. lost by 1—2 (Charlton)
v. I.A.O.C. lost by 0—1

FOOTBALL—FIRST ELEVEN.

v. 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, drew at 2—2 (Cox J. 2)
v. Gordon College, won by 13—2 (L/Corpl Cleveland 3, Cox 6, McGrattan 3, L/Corpl Bundy)
v. No. 5 (A.C.) Squadron, R.A.F. won by 3—0 (Cox 2, Herrington)
v. 1st Battalion Hampshires, drew at 1—1 (Cox)
v. 1st Battalion Hampshires, lost by 2—3 (Cox, Mobberley)
v. A Corps Signals, drew at 2—2 (Donaghy, Cox)

FOOTBALL—SECOND ELEVEN.

v. I.A.O.C. drew at 2—2 (Mobberley, Chambers)
v. 1st Hampshires, lost by 1—8 (Sharp)
v. I.A.O.C. won by 2—0 (Handley 2)
v. 1st Hampshires, lost by 1—3 (Leeder)

CRICKET.

v. A Corps Signals, lost by 28 runs
v. H.Q. Northern Command, lost by six wickets
v. No. 73 Field Battery R.A. won by an innings and 4 runs
v. R.I.A.S.C. lost by four wickets
v. Kohat District Signals (at Kohat) lost by 43 runs
v. I.A.O.C. won by seven wickets
v. J. N. Mehta's Eleven, won by 38 runs

TENNIS.

In a match played against A Corps Signals on 29/12/35, the 1st Divl Signals won by 31 games.

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

Up to the time of writing we have had a fairly successful season, especially at hockey and soccer. Details will be found below.

Soccer.—Inter-Services (inter-Company) knock-out cup. After accounting for R.A.F. General Hospital and the Detachment Royal Berks, we met the R.A.F. from Ramleh in the Area final. The match was played on the Command ground at R.A.F. Supplies on Saturday 14th December before a fairly large crowd.

The game was very thrilling and the excitement was tense throughout, especially in the last few minutes. The first half was fairly even, and we changed over leading by one goal to nil—a very good one scored by Sigmn Reedman from the edge of the penalty area, the R.A.F. goalkeeper being well beaten. Midway through the second half we increased our lead with one of the best goals seen here for some time. L/Corpl Honor met a very hard centre from the right wing with his head, and once again the goalkeeper was helpless. This goal was all the more remarkable as Honor was a good fifteen yards out. When everyone thought that we had the game in our pocket, Ramleh broke away and scored a somewhat lucky goal. But worse was to follow, for with only about four minutes to go they got through again and so equalised, much to our dismay.

Extra time was played, but no further score resulted, and so a re-play was necessary. Special mention must be made of the R.A.F., who never gave up trying, even when they were two down with only six minutes to go. On the whole they were a trifle fortunate to earn a further game, but we could not really begrudge them that.

All our team played extremely well, but special mention must be made of L/Corpl Honor (who was the best forward on view) and also the splendid work of our half-backs. The following team represented the unit. Goal, L/Corpl White ; backs, Corpl Hamilton and L/Cpl Pettit ; half-backs, Cpl Furze and Signalmen Guest and Waterston ; forwards, Sigmn Smith H., Sgt Smith C., Sigmn Reedman, and L/Corporals Honor and Cameron.

THE RE-PLAY.—In the re-play on the same ground a week later (21st December) we made one or two positional changes and the following lined up. Goal, L/Cpl White ; backs, Corpl Hamilton and Sigmn Reedman ; half-backs, Corporal Furze and Signalmen Guest and Waterston ; forwards, L/Corpl Pettit, Sergt Smith C., L/Corporals Cameron and Honor, and Sigmn Smith H.

The game opened very briskly, with both sides having an equal share of the game. We had two great opportunities in the first half ; once our centre forward was clean through but shot outside from very close range. After about twenty minutes play our outside right was crocked and was a passenger for the rest of the game. Half time arrived with Ramleh leading by one nil—and, I think, very deservedly. In the second half we seemed to fade out, and our opponents had nearly all the play and increased their lead in the last few minutes from a penalty. Once more our defence played very well, but our forwards could not get going.

Ramleh were worthy winners on the day's play. They are due to meet the winners of the Palestine Police v. Lancashire Fusiliers (from Haifa) in the semi-final.

Results to date—Played 13, won 7, drew 4, lost 2. Goals—for 30, against 18.

Hockey Results.—

25/11/35 v. R.A.F.G.H. away, won by 4—0 (Smith C. 2, Smith R., Smith J.)
26/11/35 v. Jaffa Urban S.C. home, won by 8—0 (Smith J. 5, Pettit, Hamilton 2)
11/12/35 v. R.A.F.G.H. (cup) home, won by 9—0 (Smith J. 5, Hamilton, Lieut. Haigh, Pettit 2)
15/12/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh "A" (cup) home, won by 5—0 (Pettit 2, Hamilton, Hawkins, Smith C.)
20/12/35 v. R.A.F. Ramleh "B" (cup) away, won by 4—1 (Pettit, Smith J., Hamilton, Moran)
6/12/35 "B" Team v. Detachment Royal Berks, home, lost by 1—2 (Corpl Furze)

Results to date—Played 10, won 9, lost 1. Goals—for 41, against 6

Rugby Results.—

20/11/35 v. Jaffanese, home, won by 6—4
1/12/35 2nd XV. v. Jaffa Urban R.F.C., home, drew at 3—3
13/12/35 2nd XV. v. Jaffa Urban R.F.C., away, won by 10—0

Results to date—Both teams: played 7, won 3, drew 2, lost 2. Points—for 43, against 31.

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.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVII.—No. 193 MARCH, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Royal Signal Officers' Dinner Club.—With reference to Memorandum No. C.C.100/2 (A.G.7 Signals) dated 21st January 1936, it is notified for information that, in view of the announcement in the Press of His Majesty's wish that Corps and Regiments in any way connected with a member of the Royal Family should not hold Regimental Dinners, etc., during the period of full mourning. Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O. (Representative Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals) has decided that the Corps Dinner which was to have been held on the 8th May next shall be postponed. A further announcement will appear in these columns in due course.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Our readers will learn with regret that Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., who has done so much for the Signals Association, has resigned from the Central Committee. He offered to resign in September 1932 on account of the many conflicting calls on his time, but at the request of the Committee he consented to continue. His resignation has now been accepted, and his place on the Committee is taken by Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan (O.C. L. of C. Signals) who, by virtue of his position both in the General Post Office and as Commanding Officer of a Supplementary Reserve unit, is peculiarly well situated to represent the Supplementary Reserve.

At the same time, Colonel Waley Cohen has most kindly offered his services to the Committee so far as the other calls on him will allow. His invaluable experience and help will therefore still be available, and the Committee will not fail to take advantage of them. Few members of the Association outside the Committee are in a position to know of Colonel Waley Cohen's great benefactions to the Corps, or to realise how much he has done for the Association through his activities on the Committee; and for these, the thanks of the Corps are due to him.

The Late Ex-Signalman Cyril V. R. Mott, Royal Signals (Palestine Police).—Apropos our Editorial Notes in the January issue, the following extract is culled from *The Daily Telegraph* of Friday 21st February 1936.

. . . . . .

The gallantry of Constable C. V. R. Mott, of the Palestine Police, who was shot dead while trying to arrest a gang of bandits, was posthumously honoured at the Colonial Office yesterday. The King's Police Medal—"Policeman's V.C."—was presented to his mother by Mr. J. H. Thomas, Colonial Secretary. Constable Mott, who formerly lived at Coleman Street, Chatham, had already been awarded the M.B.E. for services during the Palestine disturbances in October 1933, three months after he joined the Palestine Police. The official report of his death in November last stated:—

"While investigating the theft of some railway property, a Palestinian policeman was murdered. A party of Palestine Police was sent to arrest the murderer, who was discovered to be a member of a gang of bandits. They came upon the gang in a patch of scrub jungle about ten miles west of Jenin (sixty-five miles north of Jerusalem), and a fight took place during which the gang fought bitterly and with considerable gallantry. During the efforts of the Police to close with the gang, Constable Mott left cover to fire at point-blank range. He was within a few yards of the bandits when he was fatally wounded. His gallant conduct contributed largely towards the eventual success of the Police, who arrested the surviving members of the gang, three of whom had been killed."

Constable Mott was twenty-eight years of age. He served from 1925 to 1932 with the Royal Corps of Signals as a despatch rider.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Royal Signal Corps Museum.—At the twenty-first and the twenty-second meetings of the Corps Committee, it was decided to institute a Corps Museum at Catterick when accommodation could be provided. This, it was realised, could not be for some years. The Committee had in mind exhibits of the following types:—

(*a*) Typical apparatus to illustrate technical methods in the past, such as the Begbie lamp, early types of telephone, telegraph and wireless apparatus, signalling discs and shutters, etc.
(*b*) Apparatus improvised in the field, such as cartridge case switch units.
(*c*) Models of the horse-drawn airline wagon and cable cart (predecessors of the cable wagon), etc.
(*d*) Interesting photographs, sketches, diagrams, newspaper cuttings, originals of important messages, etc.
(*e*) Non-technical equipment or relics such as flags or trophies, either our own or of an enemy, of particular historical interest to Signals.
(*f*) Regimental crests, cap badges, buttons, proficiency badges, etc., connected with signalling, of the Imperial or the Dominion Forces.
(*g*) War medals awarded to Signal officers or other ranks of the past, whose present owners are prepared to present or lend them to the Corps Museum.

Accommodation for the display of such exhibits will not be available before a building scheme, now under consideration, has been completed. The Commandant S.T.C. has, however, offered to store and take care of any exhibits until the accommodation is ready.

If any reader has anything in his possession which he thinks would be of interest, and which he is prepared to give or lend to the Corps Museum, will he kindly notify the Secretary, Royal Signal Corps Committee, A.G.7 (Signals), War Office, London, S.W.1 ?

When the list of articles has been compiled, the Corps Committee will examine it and will make a selection of suitable items, thereby avoiding unnecessary duplication. The Committee will then ask the respective owners if they will be kind enough to make the necessary presentation or loan.

It will be seen from the type of object in view that certain exhibits can only be provided by the Ordnance authorities, but there are many others of equal or greater interest which can only be provided by the kindness of officers or other ranks.

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We again call the attention of our Unit Representatives to the urgent need of keeping this Office regularly posted with detailed information regarding ARRIVALS in and DEPARTURES from their respective units.

Every effort is made to ensure that copies of the Corps Magazine are correctly addressed and promptly despatched to each registered Subscriber, and so long as we receive notification of MOVEMENTS as and when they occur, we will undertake to see that the necessary redirections are effected immediately.

With a view, therefore, to correcting our existing records with up-to-date information, will Unit Representatives kindly favour us, at the earliest possible moment, with a Nominal Roll of their Unit WIRE Subscribers to date, and subsequently with a monthly casualty report conveying all movement particulars.

We would convey our thanks in anticipation for this additional service.

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Corps Promotion Roster.—In response to numerous enquiries, it is notified for general information that we are contemplating the publication of a revised and up-to-date edition of the CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER (pocket edition)—subject, of course, to a sufficient number of orders being forthcoming to cover the cost of production.

Assuming that the necessary information will be available for publication within the next three months, will unit representatives indicate as early as possible the number of copies for which they will guarantee to send in orders. On receipt of that information the work will be put in hand immediately, and we will at once calculate and publish the price at which the book can be sold. This course will not only enable prospective purchasers to obtain their copy at a minimum price, but will also preclude our being left with a number of unsold copies on our hands.

[The publication has hitherto been retailed at 1/- per copy, post free.]

Corps Cricket Matches.—The following fixtures have been arranged for 1936:—

Royal Signals v. The R.M.A. at Woolwich on 6th June
Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C. at Aldershot on 1st and 2nd July
Royal Signals v. R.E. at Aldershot on 6th and 7th July
Royal Signals v. R.A.O.C. at Aldershot on 8th July
Royal Signals v. Catterick Garrison at Catterick, 13th, 14th July

:: :: ::

Corps Hockey.—The annual game versus R.M.A. Woolwich was to have been played at Woolwich on the 15th February. It was, however, found that visibility was less than twenty yards, owing to fog, and consequently the game had to be postponed. The selected Subalterns side was:— W. H. L. Gordon, D. M. Smyth, P. A. Watts, W. J. S. Gray, J. E. S. Sanders, M. D. Price, J. H. St. G. Hamersley, H. B. de M. Hunter, F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson, P. E. M. Bradley, P. G. Curry.

Signals Association Notes

Civil Employment.

Linemen.—A number of vacancies for well-qualified linemen are still available in the Southern, South Midland and Home Counties areas of the Post Office Engineering Department.

Selected candidates would be appointed as Labourers at a commencing wage of 46/- per week, but would be regarded as unestablished skilled workmen as soon as they could be certified competent to perform the duties allotted to them.

There are exceptionally good prospects of permanent employment for men who will take an interest in their work and endeavour to acquire the technical knowledge and skill necessary to qualify for higher rates of pay.

The scale of pay for unestablished skilled workmen is as follows:—

LONDON: 48/6 rising (by increments of 1/- to 1/6) to 70/- per week.
PROVINCES: 45/6 rising (by increments of 1/- to 1/6) to 67/6 per week.

After five years satisfactory unestablished skilled service, they will be placed on the Established List as skilled workmen, class ii.

Candidates should be prepared to work in any area to which they may be allotted, and agree to commence at the Labourer's rate of pay on probation.

Potential candidates are invited to apply, in writing, to this Office, stating their qualifications in full detail.

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It is notified for general information that the UNITED SERVICES CORPS (formerly known as the Veterans Corps) is again open for recruiting.

The present strength of the Corps is approximately 1200, but owing to the uncertainties of employment during the recent trade depression no attempt has been made to increase this—the number of candidates applying for enrolment being more than sufficient, without circularising the Forces.

Improvement in the employment situation, however, now justifies a larger number of enrolments, and it may be to the advantage of those of our readers who are anticipating discharge or transfer to the Reserve to know something of the activities of the Organisation in question.

Last year, the average effective weekly employment statistics worked out at approximately 97 per cent.

The United Services Corps was founded soon after the close of the South African War and was originally known as the Veterans Corps. It is a uniformed Service Organisation for the employment of ex-Regular Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen in the better positions of responsibility and trust. The governing body is the Council composed of distinguished Naval, Military and Air Officers, with other influential persons. The Organisation is conducted on military lines, and members are subject to the discipline and regulations of the Corps.

MEMBERSHIP.—Membership is confined to ex-Regular Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of exemplary character, who must enrol within three years of their discharge from the Service or transfer to the Reserve, preference being given to those who apply immediately on leaving the Forces. Only men of the highest character are accepted, and before enrolment can be finally approved, the candidate is required to submit himself for an interview with the Commandant at Headquarters.

ENTRANCE FEES, ETC.—The Corps is not a charitable organisation in the accepted sense of the word, and every member is required to contribute towards the Corps Funds. The Enrolment Fee is £6/10/0, with an Annual Subscription to the Corps of 16/- payable on enrolment and afterwards on the 1st January of each year or by quarterly instalments. In addition, a deposit of £1 as a guarantee of good conduct must be paid at the time of enrolment. This deposit, together with a portion of the Enrolment Fee, is returnable subject to the conditions laid down in the Regulations of the Corps.

UNIFORM.—This is compulsory, and the cost of the first full issue of kit, which must be paid for on enrolment, is £6/10/0.

PHYSICAL FITNESS.—Every applicant, before final enrolment, must produce a Medical Certificate showing that he has been thoroughly examined and found fit in every respect.

CORPS GUARANTEE.—Every member of the Corps is specifically guaranteed by the Council to the extent of £50.

RESIDENCE.—Corps Headquarters and four Divisions are located in London, and there is also a small Division at Birmingham. Members (except those in the Birmingham Division) are required to reside in London, as the main operations of the Corps are confined to this area.

EMPLOYMENT.—Enrolment in the Corps is not in itself a guarantee of employment, but no man is accepted unless the Commandant considers that the candidate possesses suitable qualifications for the type of work found by the Corps, which is as follows: Commissionaires, Reception and Enquiry Clerks, Messengers, Gate Keepers, Store Keepers, Factory and Dock Police, Staff Supervisors, Time Keepers, Bank and Stock Broker Messengers, Resident Caretakers, Club Stewards, Watchmen, Lift Attendants, Club Porters. The average rate of wages is £3 per week, or 10/- per diem for temporary duty.

Further information, together with Enrolment Forms, can be obtained on application to The Commandant, United Services Corps, 19 Hand Court, W.C.1.

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, Middlesbrough	Postman
2	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
3	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
5	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
6	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Lorry Driver
9	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Postman
10	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Postman
11	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	P.O. Lineman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Lineman
13	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Welder
14	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireless Electrician
16	Ex-N.C.O. Windsor	P.O. Lineman
17	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Postman
18	Ex-N.C.O. Bulford	Chauffeur-Handyman
19	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Postman
20	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Chauffeur
21	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
24	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
25	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
27	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
28	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Cook
29	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Labourer
30	Ex-N.C.O. Sunderland	Postman
31	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Clerk
32	Ex-Driver, Dundee	H.T. Driver
33	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Wireless Operator
34	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Clerk
35	Ex-N.C.O. Chatham	Lineman
36	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Works Supervisor
37	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
38	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Postman
39	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, London	Assembler
41	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Motor Driver
43	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Porter
44	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
45	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
46	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Labourer
47	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Service Salesman
48	Ex-N.C.O. London	Clerk

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Air Defence Brigade Signals
B Corps Signals, India
2nd Indian Divisional Signals
Peshawar District Signals
Royal Signal Officers Mess, Catterick

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Driver Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-N.C.O. Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2	0	0
3	Ex-Sigmn Wales.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	3	3	0
4	Ex-Sigmn London.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	3	0	0
5	Ex-N.C.O. Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4	0	0
6	Ex-Sigmn Edinburgh.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	10	0
7	Ex-Sigmn Durham.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3	0	0
8	Widow of ex-Driver Colchester.	Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0
9	Ex-Sigmn London.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
10	Ex-Sigmn Lincs.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
11	Ex-N.C.O. Middlesex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1	10	0
12	Ex-Sigmn Newcastle.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
13	Ex-Driver, Wilts.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2	0	0
14	Ex-Driver Glasgow.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4	0	0
15	Ex-N.C.O. London.	Temporary difficulties.	Loan	1	0	0
16	Widow of ex-Sigmn Cheshire.	Domestic difficulties	Grant	2	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
18th February 1936.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the March 1936 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 8/3/30

Yours faithfully, C. W. M. FIRTH, Colonel,
Officer i/c R.Signals Records.

Funeral of His Late Majesty King George V.

The funeral of His late Majesty King George V. provided a somewhat unusual task for four units of the Royal Corps of Signals, and it is thought that a description of the funeral in so far as it concerned the units in question will be of interest.

The London Division of the Territorial Army was given the proud and responsible task of lining the major portion of the processional route. For this purpose it was divided into four Groups, each composed of, roughly, a Brigade. The composition of No. 4 Group was as follows:—

Commander, Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., Deputy Chief Signal Officer, London District.

Staff Officer to the Group Commander, Lieut. S. J. Lovegrove, The London Divisional Signals.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry) T.A.—Commander, Captain J. S. Judd; 7 officers and 111 other ranks.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals, T.A. and S.R.—Commander, Lieut.-Colonel H. C. L. Humphreys; 17 officers and 171 other ranks.

The London Divisional Signals (City of London Signals) T.A.—Commander, Lieut.-Colonel A. C. C. Willway; 19 officers and 169 other ranks.

The Line of Communication Signals, S.R.—Commander, Lieut.-Colonel M. F. Allan; 4 officers and 89 other ranks.

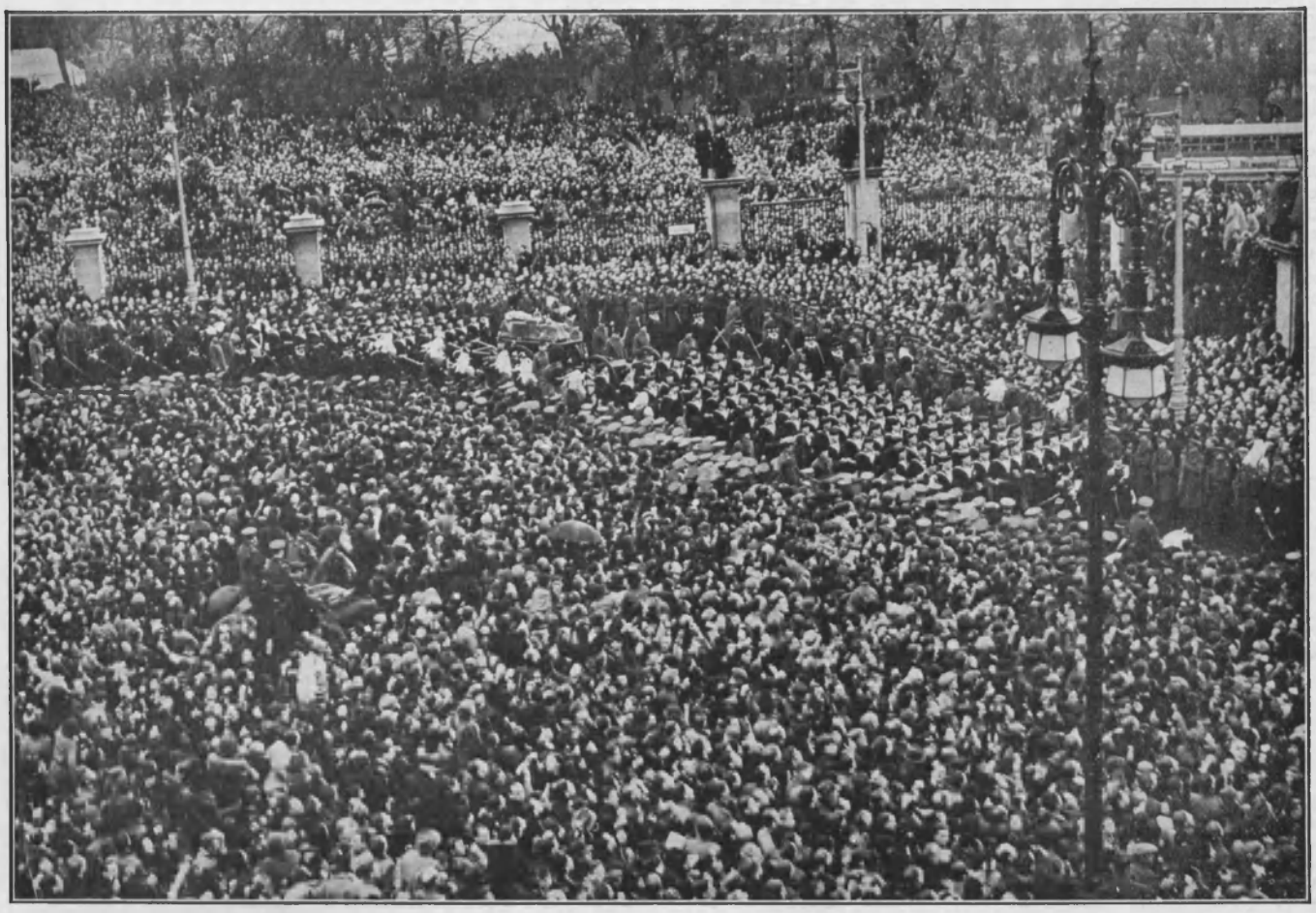
The Group was allotted some 210 yards of the route from the Park gates at Marble Arch to the south, and therefore had to contend with the crowd where it was thickest.

Adjutants and markers reported to the Group commander at the Park gates at 7.45 a.m. A few minutes afterwards the great crowds from the Park side broke through the thin police cordon and overran the processional route, but the route was cleared sufficiently to allow the Troops to get into their positions by 8.15 a.m. But hardly had they done so when a great crowd of people appeared walking down the processional route from Hyde Park Corner. They filled the whole of the route and came in a continuous stream. We heard later that part at least of the several thousands there were those who had been diverted from Piccadilly earlier in the morning.

The press of people continued until 9.30 a.m. There was no possibility of allowing them to continue beyond Marble Arch and into Edgware Road, as the Troops and Police there were already almost completely swamped by the press of spectators. The London Divisional Signals and the Line of Communication Signals had the difficult task of allowing this great number of people to pass through their ranks and also the ranks of spectators, who were already about thirty deep, and thence into Hyde Park.

The line of Troops on the west side of the road strove to hold their ground, while mounted Police carved lanes through the crowd and the foot constables shepherded sections of the mass of people through the lanes thus made. As the spectators were passed out of the processional route in this way, they merely augmented the crowd on the west side of the route.

It soon became apparent that all Troops on this side would be fully occupied in holding back the spectators, and at 9.20 a.m. orders were given that the men were to make a sort of boom with their rifles and forego any effort to salute the procession in the



The Throng of People at Marble Arch to see the Funeral Cortege of His Late Majesty King George V. on 28th January, 1936.
[*Photo by Fox Photos Ltd. London*]



The Funeral Cortege of His Late Majesty King George V. passing Marble Arch on 28th January, 1936.
[*Photo by Fox Photos Ltd. London*]

proper manner. Reinforcements were drafted over from the east side of the road, and soon there was a solid chain of Troops and Police connected by rifles.

As the hour for the start of the procession approached, the pressure behind these men became very great and their line bulged ominously at several places. As the first of the minute guns from behind them signalled the start of the procession at 9.45 a.m., a sudden stillness came over the crowds. The pressure was still there, but all the swaying stopped. It became apparent that, barring accidents, all would be well.

The 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals, the 47th Divisional Signals and those of the other two units who were on the east side of the road, assumed the position of " Rest on your arms reversed " as the long procession came in sight, and all stood rigid during the seventy minutes taken by its passing. It is to the credit of all four units that not a single man fainted during all that time.

It was not so among the spectators. Casualties came thick and fast. In the writer's somewhat limited field of vision, there appeared to be two or three cases of fainting every minute. On the west side of the road, these had to be dragged out of the crowd into the processional route for treatment ; and when, as the gun carriage passed, we came to the " Present " and could see, there appeared a double row of prostrate casualties lying in the road in front of the Troops.

This appears, perhaps, to be a description of the unusual difficulties involved rather than of the actual procession. Everyone must, however, have read the admirable descriptions of the scene which have appeared in the Press. It is, therefore, with the object of emphasising that it was in more ways than one an unusual situation for the Corps that this article was written. Firstly, it was (as far as the writer is aware) the first occasion on which four units of Royal Signals have paraded under a Royal Signal commander as a separate entity on a parade on such an important occasion. Secondly, in addition to their strength on parade, the 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals were charged with the responsible task of providing a great portion of the wireless communications necessary for controlling the procession. They had seven C set cars and about thirty other ranks employed on this duty.

It is a queer trick of Fate that the proud duty of representing the Corps during two recent great occasions—I include the Jubilee procession—has fallen not on the Regular Army but on the Territoral Army and the Supplementary Reserve. We are told that we acquitted ourselves with credit on both occasions.

It would be a very fine thing if the authorities could be persuaded to allow some of the Regular Army Signal personnel to come up to London for the Coronation and allow them, together with the Territorial Army and the Supplementary Reserve, to parade together as a complete representation of Royal Signals.

C.O.L.S.

Starting the Royal Funeral Procession.

" The Wireless Signal."

Another honourable entry goes into the record of the 2nd Cavalry Divl Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry): that of the duty of passing the wireless signal directing the movements of the funeral procession of King George V. from Westminster Hall towards Paddington Station on the 28th January.

The crews for the four necessary wireless stations having been chosen, a practice was arranged and carried out on the Sunday, two days before the Royal funeral. There were anxious moments in that rehearsal carried out with the regimental wireless motor vans by the operators in plain clothes, under the eyes of slightly suspicious policemen and curious crowds. Some adjustments of the sets had to be made before all was pronounced correct and the crews could go home at the end of a long afternoon.

On the Tuesday morning, soon after eight o'clock, the four vans—smartly green-painted and spotless, with their picked n.c.o. crews in impeccable khaki review order—drove to their allotted positions: one to New Palace Yard for general control purposes ; another to the corner of Horse Guards Avenue and Whitehall ; a third to Horse Guards Parade ; and the last to the Mall by Marlborough Gate, the position of the head of the procession.

In New Palace Yard and on Horse Guards Parade, which were clear of the general public, erecting station presented little difficulty, but in the other two places it was a very different matter. The vans, with police help, had to thrust themselves through a vast assemblage of somewhat resentful people ; and amid the press the necessary aerials had to be put out, shortened and fixed to neighbouring lamp standards. Soon the crowd's resentment gave way to a most embarrassing interest in all the proceedings of the signallers. The gallant warrant officer in charge at Marlborough Gate was subjected to a hundred feminine blandishments, to the end that the van might be made either (*a*) a stand for spectators, (*b*) a shelter from possible rain, or (*c*) a repository for all kinds of impedimenta. All requests were very politely refused, but in the end (without permission) the running board and driving seat were more or less taken into possession by the crowd—the almost overborne crew being just, and only just, able to do their work. There was even fear at one time that the whole side of the vehicle would be staved in by the sheer weight of humanity. Similar experiences befell the station at Horse Guards Avenue. In the other two cases there was no hindrance to the work.

The general idea was that, when all was ready for the start at Westminster Hall, the controlling operator on No. 1 set should simultaneously send to the other three stations the one word " Move." On receipt of that wireless signal a member of each of the three out-stations, outside his van, should raise a signal flag as a sign to the marshalling officer posted opposite to him on the line of the procession ; an operator on each wireless set, in the meantime, sending the " Received " signal back to the control station.

All was done without a hitch. Ten minutes after getting into position, all four sets were in communication. The three out-stations came up with their call signs, and reported the strength of the received signals—almost perfect in every case. Then came an anxious time of waiting and testing, and all felt to the full their share of responsibility for ensuring a simultaneous marching off at all the key points of a procession that would be historic.

In New Palace Yard, as the minute hand of the great clock above crept close to 9.45, the sergeant operator sat at his key sending procedure signals (" Ink, Ink! ; Ink, Ink!") to keep up the communication till the fateful instant. Were the others still all right ? Would anyone go off his wave-length ? Was the radiation still up to standard ? . . . . . His corporal began to tell off the seconds in tens, and then fives, waiting for the movement of a hand on the other side of the Yard. It came. Instantly the letters were tapped out—" M-O-V-E "—and within perhaps thirty-five seconds the answering " R " was returned by all three out-stations in succession.

The control operator breathed a sigh of relief, while at Marlborough Gate and Horse Guards Avenue two harassed n.c.o.s, as they saw the procession in motion, thankfully dropped the flags which, in those mighty crowds, they had feared they might not be able to lift at all.

ERIC E. PHILLIPS.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major G. P. Pavey from India to S.T.C. Catterick
Major C. R. H. Firth from Scarborough to Woolwich
Major A. J. Harris from India to S.T.C. Catterick
Captain E. L. Farnall from India to Aldershot (A Corps Signals)
Captain J. J. Duvivier from India to Canterbury
Captain G. St. J. Martin from Staff to Aldershot (2nd Div.Sigs.)
Captain H. E. Rance from Aldershot to India (S.T.C.)
Lieut. D. I. Goldsmith from Canterbury to India (Peshawar District Signals)
Lieut. J. M. S. Tulloch from Aldershot to India (1st Divl Sigs.)
Lieut. C. H. Stoneley from Aldershot to K.A.R.
Lieut. R. E. Crawford from Bulford to Tidworth (Tank Brigade Signals)

Extracts from " The London Gazette."

[War Office 17/1/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—Captain A. J. G. McNair, R.Signals, to be Adjutant 4/1/36

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) F. Reid, M.C., T.D., A.M.I.E.E., to be supernumerary on vacating command 1/1/36
Captain (Brevet-Major) A. H. Read, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel 1/1/36
53rd (W.) Divl Signals—D. Stephens to be 2/Lieut. 18/1/36

[War Office 21/1/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain C. A. H. Chadwick is seconded whilst a student at the Staff College, 21/1/36

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

42nd (E.L.) Divl Signals—Captain H. E. M. Swan, R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant 4/1/36

[War Office 24/1/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.C.S.O. for T.A. duties London District, to be supernumerary on vacating appointment, 1/1/36
Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., from the London Divl Signals, is appointed D.C.S.O. for T.A. duties, London District, 1/1/36

[War Office 28/1/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain R. H. Hooper, M.B.E., is seconded for service with the T.A. 15/12/35
The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains:—
D. W. Burridge, 28/1/36, with ante-date for seniority only to 30/8/35 and precedence below Captain H. C. B. Rogers
J. W. Gordon, 28/1/36
W. D. Weir, 29/1/36

[War Office 31/1/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned Gentlemen Cadets from the R.M.A. to be 2/Lieutenants 30/1/36:—
D. A. Dickson, J. E. Anderson, O. B. G. Shounridge, A. F. Freeman, J. H. St. G. Hamersley, W. C. Ramsay, N. D. Shaw

[War Office 4/2/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant P. R. Hyde to be Adjutant vice Captain C. A. H. Chadwick 21/1/36
The undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to be Lieutenants 2/2/36:
T. de B. Miller, G. H. K. Hewlett, A. J. E. Johnson, F. S. P. H. Lang, L. J. D. Read, C. T. Honeybourne, E. B. Elliott, G. D. T. Harris, R. Linton, G. A. Dutton, A. V. Benton, P. C. Williams, R. J. Western.

[War Office 7/2/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain A. J. G. McNair is seconded for service with the T.A. 4/1/36

[War Office 11/2/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ESTABLISHMENTS

School of Signals—Capt R. Sutton-Pratt, R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Instructor (Cl. CC.) 2/2/36

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2/Lieut. S. L. Harrison to be Lieutenant 28/11/35

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., from D.C.S.O. for T.A. duties, London District, to be Colonel 1/1/36, with seniority 21/4/31

[War Office 14/2/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain H. E. M. Swan is restored to the establishment 4/1/36

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—D. E. J. Ross to be 2/Lieut. 15/2/36

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"Elegant Extracts."—BY EDMUND MALONE and GEORGE HAWES, late of the Royal Fusiliers. With a Foreword by MILLICENT DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND.

This most interesting and entertaining book is unusual in several respects. The earlier chapters give an admirable account of the normal life of Army officers in foreign stations: these cover a wide area—from India to Ireland, from South Africa to Tibet. From these far-flung posts they are sent to France, and finally we follow their careers in the difficult post-war days. We meet hosts of well-known personalities—Millicent Duchess of Sutherland, "Hunter Bunter" in all his glory, Lloyd George, Lord Curzon, Townsend of Kut, Marshal Foch, and many others.

The reader will close the book with the thought that the authors are justified in hoping, as they say in their Foreword, that they will not be classified with the Stage and Club type of red-faced retired Colonels.

Demy 8vo; 8/6 nett. Lovat Dickson and Thompson, Limited, Publishers, 38 Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

"Gallipoli: The Fading Vision."—By JOHN NORTH. The whole story of the Dardanelles campaign, seen in the perspective of time as "one of the supreme dramatic crises of humanity," is presented in "GALLIPOLI: THE FADING VISION," by John North, which comes from Faber and Faber next month.

The "fading vision" of the title has reference to the men of Gallipoli, who remain in the foreground of the picture, although the story itself is told through the protagonists. The purely military and naval narrative—which is highly detailed and shows continual awareness of the human factor—is evolved with the technique of the novelist: it is a gradual unfolding of clues.

- - Plain Tales - -

"Hot" News.—March is a dull month, and there is no news apart from that which we can find in the daily papers. We will manufacture some. The guy who said that truth was stranger than fiction didn't know what he was talking about. Take a few of the things that might have happened last week.

No. 4 Company had a check of technical stores on Monday and discovered that they were not deficient of a single item, and that, moreover, everything was really serviceable. The O.C. is making as good a recovery as can be expected, and the C.O. has ordered an immediate Court of Enquiry.

Signalman Panhandle, until recently our very inefficient bath house attendant, has just been left £20,000. When interviewed by our special correspondent, he said "I think I'll put in for a week-end."

Sergeant Codface, a most unsatisfactory n.c.o., was discovered smashing windscreens on cars parked at Command Headquarters. Colonel Alkali Hokey-Hokey, N.F.R., found him with the hammer in his hand. "Why are you doing that?" asked the Colonel. "Well, why not?" replied Codface, reasonably enough; and having smashed the last one on the park, he saluted the Colonel gravely and rode home to tea on his bicycle.

It is understood that the largest battleship in the world has just been completed at Wungchi in the interior of China. It is 7002 feet long (G.M.T.) and has fifteen funnels, only one of these being necessary as propulsion is by internal combustion engines from old motor cycles. As Wungchi is 950¼ miles from the sea, there is much speculation regarding the use to which the vessel will be put. In certain well-informed circles, and in some cases quarters, it is thought that the ship is the result of a trade test for Chinese instrument makers.

Mrs. Grimblefits, who has so many accidents in her hurry on pay days, fell downstairs again on Friday and broke her other ankle. Serve her right.

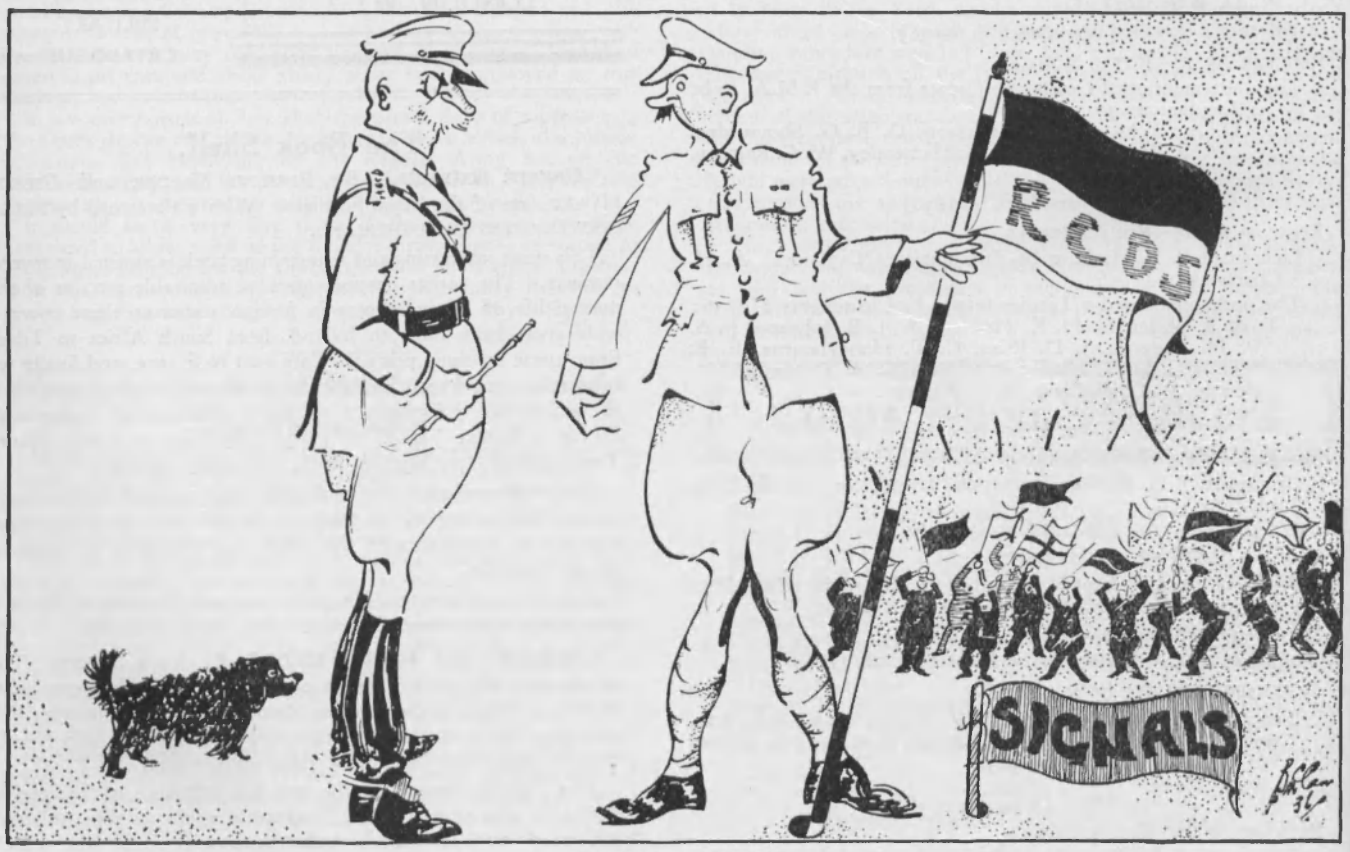
⁘ ⁘ ⁘

One Minute Problem.—The Quartermaster-General of a certain European State was instructed to provide the army with new boots. The strength of the army was 100,000. Of these, an even number (just back from a war) had each lost a leg, while half the remainder declined the issue and were permitted to buy their own boots. How many boots was the Quartermaster-General called upon to provide? Have one more try; then turn to page 128.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—They tell me that I ought to be popping over to Tidworth again in a day or two, but I am not quite sure what they mean, so we will leave it for the time being. Anyhow, that man Barleux keeps rattling the handle of the fire bucket in a nasty suggestive way.

Stinging tears came to my eyes and an aching lump to my throat when I read about the families that were to be rent apart in the exigencies of the Service. And then came great news for some of them. L/Sergt Wilson and Corpl Johnson will take their families with them to India. Such laughery and merriness. That well-known pianist and accordion player Mrs. MacIntosh is also sailing with her equally famous husband, the equestrian. Dance bands in India are advised to snap an opportunity when it presents itself. Mrs. Mac has performed with Barleux and his band with considerable success.



AWKWARD SQUAD.

C.O.: Why the publicity, Sergeant?
C.O.: Humph! Recruiting Stunt?
Sergt.-Instructor: To let folks see who this —— Squad belongs to, Sir.
Sergt.-Instructor: Yes, Sir, for the Navy.

Sergeant Jim Kemlo tottered into my kitchen the other day, pushed his Crimean medals on one side, and settled himself in a chair with a sigh. " Good gracious!" he said, or something like that ; " they must be pushed when poor old folks like me have to go to India."

I could only look at him sadly until I spotted young George swiping my saucer of milk. Which was a pity, because I was about to make a clever remark.

:: :: ::

Ukann Larfe.—The famous detective and his beautiful but unwelcome companion trudged wearily into the Bureau des Whatsits on the Champs Quelque Chose. A clerk came forward to receive them. " M'sieur, Madame . . . . ." he murmured politely, and bowed so low that a button flew off with a vicious click and made him look a perfect fool.

Ukann Larfe gazed at the clerk for a moment in deep thought, and then quietly kicked him on the shin. He walked out of the building, dragging the puzzled Collette with him. To be perfectly honest, I'm dashed if I know why they went in, so perhaps we will leave them sitting on the edge of the pavement, eating peanuts, while I think it out. They will probably become splashed with mud, for I have just decided that it had better be raining a little.

Another astounding instalment this afternoon, but you won't read it until April. See ? BARLEUX.

Be Prepared.

Yes, get prepared and be prepared—for civilian life. This should be the aim of every soldier in addition to his military ambitions.

Much has already been said and written on the subject of civilian employment, but it is certainly one that cannot be too widely discussed.

All of you—especially those about to finish their service—must immediately get rid of any " Why bother ?" ideas on the matter. It is a serious problem, though it may not appear to be so long as you are in the Service.

The soldier is apt to get many false impressions. He usually hears only of the people who secure employment—and it sounds " all merry and bright." The majority, however, fade away and are forgotten, except a few (it may seem many on paper!) who are remembered under the " Benevolent " heading.

On a rough average, eight out of ten men have no definite hope of a job on leaving the Service. Are you going to be one of the eight ? Do you want to have to ask for benevolence ?

Old or young soldier, your Army career will come to an end sooner or later ; and before that happens, it is up to you to make a big personal effort to fit yourself for employment in civilian life. It is also up to you to help yourself. Do not entertain the hope that "you may be lucky " and that by the time you finish there will be no unemployment. It is plain to see that unemployment will remain with us for many years.

Make your effort to get a job, at least, during the last twelve months of your service. There is no need to detail here the various ways and means, as they are fairly well known. Broadcast throughout the country your name, qualifications, etc. You only require one person or department to " tune in " to your wave-length. The point is that you *must* do your bit—and do not wait until you *are* a civilian before you do it.

It may be worth while mentioning here that the Benevolent Fund—the helping hand in trouble—is only meant for really genuine cases of distress.

To the ex-soldier civilian life is a strange and hard affair, in which the "chummy" spirit is completely missing. Every worker is for himself only, and views with suspicion any man " on the dole." The good and indifferent jobs are booked up for years ahead in a sort of vicious circle—and a close-fitting one at that. Government Departments have lengthy waiting lists, which is easy to understand in view of the fact that such appointments last twenty years or more. It is like waiting to step into a dead man's shoes, providing you are fortunate enough to know of him and the exact time when he will no longer require his footwear.

Once again: BE PREPARED. R.R.

The 10th Divisional Signal Company.

Sixteenth Annual Reunion Dinner.

This dinner was held in Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, on Saturday 25th January, the chair being taken by Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C. (late R.Signals) A.A.G., War Office. There was a very good attendance, and among those present were Majors F. B. Barker, O.B.E., J. F. M. Whiteley, M.C., and C. C. S. White, M.B.E., of the Royal Engineers, who served with the Company during the war. There were also Major M. E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., Captain G. C. Smith, and Lieutenants A. E. Overton, J. H. Roebuck and W. T. Benslyn, who also served with the Company.

After two minutes silence in respect for our late King, and when the toast of " The King " had been drunk, Colonel Wemyss in a short speech said he was pleased to be with members of this wartime Company again, and noted how very remarkable was the enthusiasm to meet thus yearly. Almost every year some member attends for the first time, and the " esprit de Company " appears to increase with the passing years. This was the beginning of the sixth round (the dinners being held in turn in London, Manchester and Leeds) and he very heartily congratulated all those present.

Major M. E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., who commanded the Company for some considerable time during the war, responded to the toast of " The old Company." He expressed his regret at not being able to attend the annual dinner during the past few years owing to business reasons, but looked forward to attending regularly in future. Despite rumours to the contrary, he claimed that this Company held the record for the number of annual reunions, and also for the numbers attending, having regard to the strength of the Company. He expressed a wish that something could be done—say, a fund formed—to bring to these dinners members who were not able to afford the expense.

During the evening a fund *was* started, and the amount received was very substantial. It is realised that members of the old Company may generally be reluctant to admit their embarrassment. Should this account come to the notice of anybody who knows of an old 10th Signal man who cannot afford the luxury, it would be appreciated if he would communicate with the undersigned. (Any such information will be treated as confidential.)

Colonel Wemyss conveyed greetings from the Desert Mounted Corps Signals, and these were heartily reciprocated.

It is hoped to hold the next annual dinner in Manchester on the third Saturday in January 1937. J. J. GRAHAM.

27 South Avenue, Burnage, Manchester.

Vocational Training.

As yet another instance of the value of vocational training for those who contemplate discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, we publish hereunder a letter of appreciation from an ex-Signalman of the 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough, for the edification of all concerned.

Staines, 15/1/36.

To the Commandant, A.V.T.C. Aldershot.

Sir.—I am in receipt of your E/J/2500/JP dated 14/1/36, and instructions have been noted. As my pass expires on Friday 17/1/36 I shall return on the evening of that date, and have informed Messrs. Lagonda Motors of my intention.

I should like to add that I am very pleased with the employment obtained for me by the A.V.T.C., and shall do my best to live up to the standards which have been set and insisted upon by my instructors and the staff of the Centre.

I take this opportunity of thanking you and Mr. Mason, my welding instructor, for the treatment, consideration and valuable instruction that I have received during my period at the Centre ; and should I at any time find myself in a position to assist the Centre in obtaining employment for its students with Messrs. Lagonda Motors, I shall do so.

I shall make a point of visiting the Centre on Saturday 18/1/36 to interview the employment clerk and also Mr. Mason.

I am, sir, yours sincerely, ——

Ex-Signalman, Royal Corps of Signals.

[Left the Centre 17/1/36. Trade, Electric Welder]

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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 provided in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

2309685	C.Q.M.S. Tracey J.	3/11/35	15

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2306663	Sergeant Wheeler E.	3/11/35	17
2306665	Sergeant Leath G.	4/11/35	17
2306656	Sergeant Crockford A.	23/11/35	17

To be Sergeant.

2314747	L/Sergeant Savage W.	22/10/35	30
1860298	L/Sergeant Todman A.	2/11/35	28
31227	L/Sergeant Handford J.	3/11/35	28
2311099	L/Sergeant Hammond P.	4/11/35	30
2309334	L/Sergeant Murphy S.	4/11/35	30
2310962	L/Sergeant Field E.	15/11/35	30
2311282	L/Sergeant Morley W.	23/11/35	30

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2306721	Corporal Sharp D.	2/11/35	24
2314029	Corporal Brown H.	4/11/35	28
2315883	Corporal Skitt G.	4/11/35	30
2313021	Corporal Chappell R.	5/11/35	31
2310956	Corporal Coaten H.	15/11/35	36
2746082	Corporal Robinson R.	23/11/35	36
2312258	Corporal Moore J.	23/11/35	38
2309269	Corporal Jerram F.	26/11/35	38
2308375	Corporal Somers T.	28/11/35	38

To be Corporal.

2315865	L/Corporal Shepherd N.	6/10/35	58
2317003	L/Corporal Henning H.	22/10/35	58
5100885	L/Corporal Henshaw F.	2/11/35	55
2316211	L/Corporal Jones D.	3/11/35	56
2319118	L/Corporal Chapman E.	5/11/35	58
2316922	L/Corporal Bolton W.	15/11/35	58
2319357	L/Corporal Farley G.	23/11/35	58
2319455	L/Corporal Hudson J.	30/11/35	58
2316766	L/Corporal Dickinson E.	30/11/35	58

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

2317970	Signalman Nash R.	13/ 3/35	
2319311	Signalman Launders E.	23/ 8/35	
7211627	Signalman Taylor G.	28/ 8/35	
2318349	Signalman Barton F.	29/ 8/35	
2321303	Signalman Kime W.	29/ 8/35	
2322080	Signalman Mackenzie D.	29/ 8/35	
2322195	Signalman Hickmore L.	29/ 8/35	
2321930	Signalman Ditchfield O.	1/ 9/35	
2316394	Signalman Perree E.	1/ 9/35	
2320528	Signalman Somerville G.	2/ 9/35	
5722407	Signalman Taylor H.	3/ 9/35	
2319602	Signalman Halstead B.	4/ 9/35	
2320930	Signalman Boffy J.	4/ 9/35	
2319969	Signalman Pyne L.	5/ 9/35	
2320982	Signalman Cunningham M.	5/ 9/35	
2318977	Signalman Donovan S.	5/ 9/35	
2318512	Signalman Davies E.	5/ 9/35	

Deceased.

*1048955	C.Q.M.S. Small F.	3/ 2/36	73
*2316138	L/Sergeant Ward D.	1/ 2/36	78

* *Special Roster, India*

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318793	Corporal Healey K.	2/ 1/36	50
5823033	L/Corporal Bayley C.	1/ 1/36	59
2318829	L/Corporal Hiscock J.	2/ 1/36	
2318785	L/Corporal Fairbanks F.	2/ 1/36	
2318821	L/Corporal Vaughan J.	4/ 1/36	
2318858	L/Corporal Wilkin W.	15/ 1/36	50
2318889	L/Corporal Cartledge A.	17/ 1/36	
2318884	L/Corporal Castell F.	18/ 1/36	
2217639	L/Corporal Lamont W.	23/ 1/36	

" Discharges " are unavoidably held over.

Quarry House, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Quarry House was founded in 1920. Although it is not run for profit, it has no endowment, so it must do its work in as practical and economical a way as can be achieved. That work, in relation to H.M. Services, has three main objects.

For General Leave.—Many Ratings, Ranks and Airmen live too far from their homes to visit them for leave. Such are welcome at Quarry House, where the full maintenance is 30/- per week inclusive ; there are no extras.

For Boys and Apprentices, special rates are arranged with Establishments according to need, as it is realised that the full rate is beyond their means. Prior right to vacancies in Quarry House is given to Boys who have no homes or whose homes are abroad ; but no hard limit is set.

The suggestion is urged upon Commanding Officers and Officers in special charge of Boys that a lasting benefit is conferred on such as have no homes by putting them in touch with Quarry House. The Boy who scrapes an invitation from another one to go to the latter's home for leave is making no plan for future leaves, when his need will grow more acute. Many who first came to Quarry House as Boys have continued to make it their home until the end of their service or until, on marriage, they started a home of their own. That speaks for itself of the value of encouraging Boys to sample Quarry House for leave.

For Sick Leave.—The Man or Boy who has been ill and is granted sick leave to pull up strength again, in many cases, lives in a poor home or a crowded town. If he can be persuaded to use Quarry House and get the sea air, unlimited food and care-free atmosphere, obviously he will make far quicker and greater improvement. In many cases, to effect this, Service Hospitals have sent both Men and Boys to Quarry House, while retaining such on the Hospital roll, as part of their Hospital treatment. This gives medical endorsement to the value of Quarry House.

For Exceptional Cases.—Occasionally, in all Training Establishments, a Boy gets in who after a while quite clearly shows lack of ability to become an efficient Rating, Rank or Airman, as the case may be. There is nothing against his character, but his mentality or temperament is *slow*. Usually his home is poor ; he has suffered from under-nourishment or under-development. The Boy's prospects on returning home are worse than drab. In some cases Commanding Officers have advised parents to send the Boy to us for a while, and the advice is gladly taken. In only one case have we failed to set the Boy permanently on his feet, and that failure was due simply to lack of mental power—not of honesty of character.

General Accommodation at Quarry House.—While there are special quarters for Boy Ratings and Ranks, Quarry House has an annexe of separate single rooms for serving men of more senior rank,

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.

Our chronicle of events this month must open on a sad note. We know that the whole Corps is with us in our expression of sympathy with our Colonel-in-Chief in the bereavement which our Royal Family has endured: a loss we have all felt to be a personal as well as a national one.

General.—Winter having been in existence for about nine months in Catterick, the snow has been at its thickest of late. By the help of the snow plough and a large squad on fatigue, however, we hope to be able to find our way to the post box in order to forward our contribution. Why our late Polar explorer ever bothered with Iceland still remains an unsolved mystery. Still, we notice that the chosen few who have already left for sunnier climes did so cheerfully, without even that dark brown expression which is reported to have spoken well for the courage of a certain Colin Walker who was removed to Singapore. We of the Depot were intensely gratified that the worth of modest Mickey has at last been recognised.

Arrivals.—A/S/Sergeant Venables, who has taken over the Battalion armoury. Sigmn Large A. from the 2nd Divl Signals. We extend to them a hearty welcome.

Departure.—Sigmn Stevens J. to civil life. We hope to hear more of him, for he has built up an interesting reputation as a traveller in the wild icy regions. We wish him the very best of luck in the future.

Courses.—Lieut. H. R. V. Cooke and Corpl Pike are at present sojourning at Hythe, learning the arts of warfare. L/Cpl Daly J. (of drill instructor fame) has left us for a cadetship at Camberley. We look forward to their respective successes,

Marriage.—We have to report the marriage of L/Cpl White R. to Miss Florence Yorke at Richmond on 12/10/35. (Yes, he certainly kept it dark.) It is said that a certain Welshman credited himself with a wedding present he had saved: he had two coffees for his " break " on the strength of it.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Stirk and Pike, and U/L/Corporals Large and Fox R., on the attainment of their respective ranks.

Agony.—Who is the n.c.o. who boasts of three complete sets of eating irons but still eats all his meals with a tea spoon ? Does it help him to keep his girlish figure ?

Who is the stalwart who, with the help of two warriors, hobbled to the M.I. room and refused a stretcher—only to find that the M.O. had not heard how ill he was ? (Hence the M. and D.)

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Wednesday 12th February.

General.—We are receiving a steady flow of recruits, and barrack room accommodation is being strained to its utmost.

Departures.—L/Corporals Allen A. and Stares A. J. to warmer climes. Many well-known local hostelries and beauteous damsels will mourn their departure.

Birth.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Chadney and his wife on the birth of a daughter at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, on 11/2/36.

Death.—We regret to announce the death of No. 2324387 Driver (I.C.) Perry D. at Darlington Isolation Hospital on 10/2/36. All ranks of the Wing join in offering sincere condolences to his parents.

Who Was This ?—It came to pass that the Chief Abbot took it unto himself to perform the regimental duty in his best civilian " clobber," and thereby lost his status as the Chief Anti-Nester.

Nothing lacking—complete with box of chocolates and bouquet of flowers—he betook himself unto the place known as the N.A.A.F.I., where a vision fair did strike him in the region of the heart, and thereof he fell. Greatly wondering, he sallied forth and was soon seen in a strange land, to wit, the place where moving pictures are shown and many young couples enjoy themselves on the back rows. To him—so righteous—this was strange ground indeed. And lo, next day he appeared as one in a dream, greatly troubled, so causing divers opinions to be cast about his most illustrious person.

Those more versed in such matters thereupon began to gather together, and strange ramblings anent ration bags, accumulators, C.R.A. and various allowances were heard. So Fate decreed that so did the mighty fall.

Clues are: (a) It's a d—— bad show ; (b) How's love, Walter? ; (c) What's happened to Poona ? ; (d) If any man knows any just cause . . . . . (to be said with an Irish brogue).

Solutions should be forwarded under sealed cover to the Sergts Mess, Depot Battalion.

Finis.—The WIRE correspondent does not associate himself with the foregoing paragraph, and does not want any senior n.c.o. visiting his office with murder in his eyes and the pace stick brandished aloft.

EL PEE.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Thursday 13th February.

General.—Everybody seems to be worrying about the recent case of cerebro-spinal meningitis ; but as every precaution is being taken, we hope to be free from this menace in a day or two.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Pearson has joined us from the 2nd Divl Signals, L/Corpl Day from A Corps Signals, Sergt Dunningham from the 5th Divl Signals, and last (but not least) Sigmn Inky Dawson from the 3rd Divl Signals.

Departures.—By the time these notes appear in print, our one and only Sigmn Holtby L. (Slasher) will have been introduced to Bulford's long-eared pals. We hear he is in for a " snip " job, so we hope he is enjoying his new abode. L/Corpl Allen J. is now accommodated in A Corps Signals.

Marriages.—Ref. this heading last month. L/Corporal Hales went into double harness with Miss Rose McKenna at Sunderland on 1/1/36, while L/Corpl Russell went into partnership with Miss Ann Beaumont at Darlington on 20/12/35.

Birth.—We extend our congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Cox on the birth of a son and heir (Roger Edward) at the Military Families Hospital, Catterick Camp, on 20/1/36.

Drafts.—The following have left this unit to do a spot of soldiering in India. Corpl Dickinson E., L/Corpl Rhead T. (Doc), Signalmen Lines W., Cooper C., Charlesworth H., Hooper M., Morgan M. and Wemyss W. per H.T. *Dilwara* on 28/1/36. Sergt Page W., L/Sergt Tant H., Corpl Knight E., L/Corpl Brown J., Signalmen Arnold T., Griffiths C., Knox W. and Webster E. per H.T. *Somersetshire* on 4/2/36.

Christmas Dinner.—In last month's notes we omitted to thank the N.A.A.F.I. for the splendid dinner they provided for the troops on Christmas Day. About one hundred men from the Battalion assembled in Vimy Lines canteen and, after the commanding officer had proposed a toast and wished all present the compliments of the season, they " tucked in." After everyone had disposed of the meal (and, of course, the beer) it was declared that the dinner had surpassed all previous efforts on the part of the N.A.A.F.I. The troops showed their appreciation in the approved style.

Christmas Party.—This is another important event which was not mentioned last month. The Christmas party organised by Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. J. A. S. Tillard and the officers of the Training Battalion was attended by over three hundred guests in the Newbigging Hall on 11/12/35. Tea was followed by a juggling performance, and then a pantomime given by officers and ladies proved very amusing, adding much to the delight of the youngsters. Next on the programme came the prize giving by Father Christmas, and the kiddies were very pleased with their presents. When everyone had been satisfied, games were played for the remainder of the evening. A switchback was provided for the " elder youngsters," and many of the adults were acting like two year olds for an hour or two. (Still, it comes only once a year.) How the kiddies enjoyed themselves was realised when the R.S.M. called for three cheers for the organisers, for the response was deafening.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergt Short F. and Corporal Hardwick C. on their recent promotions, and to U/L/Corporal Trevethan P. on rising to the dizzy heights.

Agony.—If Corpl Evans S. (late of Quetta) will communicate with Corpl Harries of this Company, he will hear of something to his advantage.

Finis.—I quit. H.E.S.

E Company, Training Battalion.

The Old, Old Story.—Many moons have waxed and waned since this Company last supplied notes to the official journal of the Corps. To all ranks (past and present) who have served with E Company, we tender our apologies and state with truth that steps will be taken to prevent a recurrence of such a lapse.

Command.—On the 10th February Captain H. P. Hart, M.C., handed over the command of this Company to Captain R. Sutton-Pratt. To the former, who is now O.C. F Company, we tender a fond adieu. Our loss is certainly F's gain. To the latter we extend the hand of welcome. We hope his stay with us will be long and pleasant.

Weather.—The icy grip of winter is now upon us, but on perusing the newspapers it would appear that we are indeed very fortunate to be serving here instead of in " the sunny south "—for although the temperature here is slightly below freezing, the sun *is* shining. Personally I can feel no heat from it, but am nevertheless thankful.

Kemmel Lines Institute.—Since the arrival of our new O.C. great activity has been taking place in the vicinity of the above. No longer is it necessary for personnel of this Company to take the long trail to Vimy Lines for a spot of comfort. We have it in our midst—and no mistake. Hitherto the Institute has been practically deserted, but now it is rather difficult to take full advantage of the many amenities which it affords.

Trooping Season, 1935/36.—Many of our stalwarts have been detailed for service in India. Included in the roll of honour are L/Sergeants Healey and Green, Corporals Collins E. (one of our sporting celebrities) and Philpott, and last (but by no means least) the one and only L/Corpl Forster A. E. I wonder what will happen to the Corporals Room when this worthy brother departs for a sunnier clime. He is indeed a radiant personality. Good luck to them all!

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.—To the following recipients of the above, we tender our congratulations: C.Q.M.S. Edmunds D. J., L/Corpl Wilson F. and Sigmn Winton W.

Marriages.—These have been too numerous to mention during the last two months or so. Any detailed information in this connection would no doubt be forthcoming from the Band Club, c/o E Company, as the C.R.A. roll appears to be a nominal roll of the Royal Signal Band.

Arrivals.—To all who have arrived in the Company, we offer our best wishes for a happy stay with us.

Departures.—In a constantly changing Company such as this, it is quite impossible to enumerate all of them individually ; but we trust they have found their new stations appreciable and that they will endeavour to uphold the name of the Corps in whatever sphere they may serve.

Promotions and Appointments.—The usual salaams are accorded to the undermentioned on their respective promotion or appointment: L/Sgt Walsh, M.C., Cpl Routledge J., U/L/Corpls Baldwin, Hurst and Lockey.

Transfers to Army Reserve.—Our best wishes are tendered to Sigmn Roberts W. N. and Driver Butterworth J. on their departure to civilian life. We trust they will soon obtain employment to their liking. In this connection, we hope the vocational training courses recently undergone by them will prove beneficial.

Discharges.—Signalmen Sanders F. and Walton R. decided to leave the warmth and glory of the Army and have purchased their discharge. Good luck to you both!

Company Lines.—It might be of interest to state that we are now the possessors of a fine parade ground, thanks to the introduction of tarmac. One can now perform drill movements as per book, and not a series of gymnastics as heretofore.

F Company, Training Battalion.

Saturday 15th February.

General.—This month our notes, although short, should be very interesting owing to the fact that we have two scribes on the job.

To commence, we heartily welcome Captain H. P. Hart, M.C., as our new Company commander. We hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one. We also welcome C.Q.M.S. Johnson G. F. from India, although up to the present we have not seen much of him.

Our best wishes go with L/Sergt Tant H. E., who has left us to do another tour in India. For the last few weeks he was attached to D Company, but we always considered him one of us. Even *he* said that F Company office was warmer—and he should know!

Query Corner.—We should like to know if there is any truth in the rumour that hot water bottles are being issued to n.c.o.s of

this Company and that electrical heaters are now authorised barrack equipment. Who was it who didn't know Aldershot, Joe ?

Marriage.—Our best wishes accompany Sigmn (Dolly) Bray on his matrimonial venture. But what a best man!

Departures.—We shall soon lose four stalwarts in Signalmen Allaway, Terrey, Mayhew and Lander, who proceed to join field units on the 20th inst. Goodbye and good luck! EFF.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Change of Command.—Many changes have taken place in the personnel since the trooping season started, and nearly as many more are inevitable ere its close. It is all very necessary, but at the same time very unfortunate. Probably the large exodus will in some measure ease the sorrow we know Colonel R. E. Barker experiences in relinquishing command of the unit. And the sorrow is mutual, for a better blend of harmony, encouragement and the will to work would be hard to find. The good wishes of the unit go with you, sir, not forgetting Mrs. Barker and Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. We hope that after your sojourn in the Antipodes you may occasionally be able to cast a benign eye on a place where you know it will be appreciated. The Officers, Sergeants and Men's Messes gave suitable and separate send-offs to Colonel Barker which conveyed more to him than any printed words can do.

While we wait the arrival of Major A. L. Harris, M.C., to take over the reins, the duties of C.O. devolve upon Major R. Jee, M.C.

Moves: Officers.—The following officers have our very best wishes for success in their new spheres. A glance at the names will show we are now weaker in rugger, hockey, sprinting and cricket respectively. (Our loss . . . . . !) Lieut. C. P. S. Denholm-Young to the R.W.A.F.F. Lieut. W. J. S. Gray to A.D. Brigade Signals. Lieutenant C. H. Stoneley to the King's African Rifles. Lieut. J. M. S. Tulloch to India.

Greetings to 2/Lieut. D. R. Yearsley, who has joined us and boosted up the cross-country team.

Captain R. H. R. Steward, M.C., and Captain W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., exchanged the duties of adjutant and O.C. No. 3 Company. Would that all changes might be as unilateral!

Congratulations to Lieutenants F. S. P. Lang and G. T. D. Harris on their promotion to that rank.

Other Moves.—This heading could develop into two lengthy nominal rolls, but we content ourselves with welcoming a goodly batch from the S.T.C.—but not nearly enough from abroad yet. We live in hopes. Meanwhile we are short of senior n.c.o.s in numbers sufficient to form an abstract mess. Our best wishes boarded the boat for the East with F/S/Sergt Marshall, Sergeants Freeman and Storey, L/Sergeants Farlow and Henshaw, Corporals Dobson, Fensonie, Hibbit and Ravenhall, L/Corporals Oliver, Wood, Green E. and Green J., and thirty-three other ranks. Our second blow ; and still one to come—or rather, go.

Sign of The Times.—Friends abroad may be interested to know that the waste ground bounded by Nos. 10 and 20 Blocks, the sergeants mess, mob stores and garages now resembles a gigantic sand-building competition. Workmen are busy digging holes and making heaps for the foundations of another garage. In due course we may manage a photograph (full stop). The western parade ground is being macadamised and will be so nice to evolute on that we shall require another two squares to keep the peace.

Appreciatory.—Thanks to Lanka Mk II. our unbroken series of WIRE notes was preserved. We realise that some rude person might say " Why ?" But we thought of it first. JESSAMINE.

Soccer.—Despite the many changes in our senior team, our position in the Command League remains unchanged. It is much more comforting to reflect that the junior team accounted for all comers in the Mons Barracks League and thus are the first winners of the Saar trophy which was provisionally (?) put up for this League. In the senior section of the Mons Barracks League we lost by 2—4 to A Corps Signals, but a few days later managed to draw at 2—2 with the same team in the Command League. All of which shows that we are equally as inconsistent as Aston Villa.

Cross-Country.—Not that we had any idea of winning, but with the direct intention of " showing the flag," we entered a team in the Young Soldiers cross-country championships. Our fellows ran well and packed well. That they didn't pack near enough the leaders is accounted for by the fact that they hadn't had the training. Here it was opportunity that was lacking—not the will. We finished eleventh in the Command. As there is bound to be a preponderance of young blood in the unit next year, we ought to be able to improve on this.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The time again arrives when I must stir up what grey matter I possess and produce some effort for the Company's contribution to THE WIRE.

The shortage of personnel in the Company, combined with normal duties, makes our lot much harder than usual, but we bear up and eagerly await the new arrivals to help in making up our numbers for duty and sport. Great difficulty is being experienced in trying out Company teams, and those who valiantly try to fill the gaps and are giving of their best are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Training proceeds apace, and so far our budding M.T. drivers have not yet succeeded in causing damage to themselves or their vehicles. Perhaps the reason is that the instructor takes them out to the wide open spaces, where the chances of damage are nil. But we look for better efforts on the road!

Congratulations.—To F/S/Sergeant Walmsley J., Sergeants Jones T. A. and Cole W. E. P. and Sigmn Jones W. C., on the award of the L.S. and G.C. medal. Unfortunately, I missed the presentation, but I believe it was a great spectacle—Sergt Jones, in particular, marching to secure his medal with laudable aplomb.

Departures.—We bid farewell to C.S.M. Pearson C. M., who has gone to the Depot Battalion, Catterick. Two drafts (names too numerous to mention) have left for foreign parts. We wish them good luck and a pleasant tour, and hope that all concerned will prosper.

Arrivals.—Nil. (Some on the way by boat, we hope.)

Agony (or Jew's Paradise).—Will Brown R. A., late of B Corps Signals, please communicate with L/Corpl Legge, late of Peshdist and now of this unit ?

All announcements for insertion in this section should be accompanied by one 1½d. stamp and one cigarette card to be given to my Benevolent Fund. Nuff said. PIP.

No. 2 Company.

General.—We are now practically back to normal, and inspections have commenced in full swing. Each day we read in the papers that the Army will shortly be mechanised, and we sincerely trust that the Government will not be " stingy " over the loan. We would remind them that " procrastination is the thief of time." As far as can be seen, nothing startling is likely to happen this month, and January proved uneventful. We could mention several things, but hardly think they would pass the Editor's scrutiny. Owing to the departure of n.c.o.s there have been several " sweats " on ; and judging by the " bobbing " going on, several people think they are entitled to stripes. Even little Jock reckons that he stands a chance.

Sport.—Owing to the fact that No. 6 A.S. Section did not have a man on " feeds " the afternoon the inter-Section final was played, they managed to beat K Section by two goals to one. We hope shortly to publish a photograph of the victors.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Ferguson, Phillips and Murray are due to arrive here this month. We hope they will soon settle down. We will endeavour to make their stay a happy one, although feeds, picquets, guards and flying sentries have to be dealt with.

Departures.—I promised to include a detailed account of these, but owing to pressure of business I can only say to them: We all hope you have had a good voyage and that you will soon settle down to new conditions. I cannot think of anything funny to say, because so far we have felt your loss in more ways than one.

I have had to considerably reduce my visits to " The Princess and Countess " since " you " have left. However, to Corporals Deegan and Fairclough, L/Corporals Taylor, Pike and Ready, and Signalmen Swift, McIntosh, Dyson, Mills and Redgrave, we say " Good luck! and remember that there are bags of squash, be it lemonade or otherwise." 292.

No. 3 Company.

General.—At last the powers that be have nearly succeeded in breaking up our Company. The final tap comes on the 18th March, when the last Indian draft goes. With it we lose Corpl Smith, L/Corporals Webster and Steward, Signalmen Ghey, Good and Evetts, and perhaps Sigmn Ward W. who is waiting man. After that the C.S.M. will call the roll of the personnel remaining behind (probably himself and Sergt Brunton) and shout " Spit ye like men!"

Departures.—The whole Company regrets the departure of our O.C., Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., who has been appointed Chief Instructor at the School of Signals, Catterick Camp. During his stay with the Company, Major Galwey won his way into the hearts of his men, and one and all wish him success. Good luck, sir! Catterick's gain is our loss.

Sergt McKee also leaves us for Catterick, and we wish him the best of luck. Sigmn Hurrell returns to the Depot Battalion to inspire the recruits. L/Corpl Binge has decided that the Army doesn't give him enough exercise in foot slogging, so he is to become a " flatfoot " and worry the long-suffering motorists in the Hyde district. Sigmn Maxfield has decided that the " See the world " notion is a bit farfetched and is going to try his luck in civvy street.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold L/Corpl Snell and Sigmn Temple, and hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 14th February.

General.—There is nothing much to report this month. The absence of half the unit overseas makes news rather scarce. At present we are doing a small spot of technical training, and also getting in some practice for the Powell miniature rifle competition which takes place this month. We hold this trophy at present and hope to place another shield on it from this unit.

Arrivals.—Sergt Devey H. from the 50th Divl Signals, T.A., Darlington, on the 16th January. Drivers (I.C.) Browne B., James E., Buckley A. and Weston W. from D Company, Training Battalion, on the 30th January. We hope they all enjoy their stay in the unit. Sergt Devey's stay will be rather short, as he has been warned for embarkation on the 18th March for service in India.

Promotions.—Yes, it's quite true! Congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Bale H. J. and Corpl Joyce R. W. on their promotion to those ranks w.e.f. 19/12/35.

Births.—Well, well! the stars foretell. Congratulations to Cpl and Mrs. R. Joyce on the birth of a son (Brian) at the Camberley and Frimley District Hospital, Frimley, on the 6th February ; and also to L/Sergt and Mrs. H. Hodgson on the birth of a daughter at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, on the 9th February.

Appointments.—Congratulations to Signalman (U/L/Corporal) McCarthy E. F. (Paddy), Base Defences, Mediterranean, on his elevation to paid rank w.e.f. 19/12/35. I will " have one " next time we meet.

Jew's Post.—To A. J. Hopwood, probably in Scarborough: What about a line ? B. O'Malley.

To L/Sergt Hodgson, Base Defences, Mediterranean: What about the promised gift ? I'm still in Blackdown. Paddy King.

To L/Corpl Rossiter, Base Defences, Mediterranean: Let me know about the week-end pass. Con.

To the Frog and Tadpole: The swimming season starts soon. What about coming home for it ? Flycatcher. JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Assaye Barracks.

General.—I must apologise for the absence of notes from this unit for some months. For the reason see McCann's cartoon in the last issue of THE WIRE. Anyway, I will try to hunt up anything of probable interest that has happened since our last notes.

We have had several small drafts leave the unit, in addition to D Section, who have joined the 5th Divl Signal Company in Egypt.

Annual furlough is now but a memory, as is the first period of individual training.

We welcome to our unit the following officers, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Captain E. H. C. Harris from the Southern Command Signal Company at Portsmouth. Lieut. R. J. Smijth-Windham, who is at present upholding the prestige of the Corps with the Mount Everest Expedition. (All ranks of the unit—and of the Corps, too, I'm sure—wish him and his comrades every success in their venture.) Lieut. R. E. Crawford from the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford.

On the other hand, we regretfully witnessed the departure of Captain C. T. Hughes, M.C., to the Southern Command Signal Company, Portsmouth, after more than five years excellent service with this unit. We were very sorry to see him go, and take this opportunity of thanking him and Mrs. Hughes for all their helpfulness and kindness to us. We also offer our somewhat belated but neverthe'ess sincere congratulations on the occasion of Captain Hughes' promotion to Brevet-Major. All ranks join with me in wishing Major and Mrs. Hughes every happiness and success in the future.

Congratulations.—To the following n.c.o.s on their promotion: Sergeants Coy B. and Hamilton C., Corpl Moore, and U/L/Corpl Marley H.

To the following on their marriages. Sigmn Linton J. to Miss Eleanor Farmer at Andover on 2/11/35. L/Cpl Galbraith A. C. to Miss Lily Collett at Andover 21/12/35. Sigmn Burke C. S. to Miss Gladys Eva Dowle at Birmingham on 21/12/35. Signalman Adcock J. to Miss Hilda May Scarfe at Glamorgan on 24/12/35. Sigmn Bromley W. to Miss Edith Ethel Brown at Cove on 28/12/35.

To L/Corpl and Mrs. Berry on the birth of a daughter (Patricia Ann) on 4/1/36.

To the following on passing tests as shown against their names: Signalmen Dowding B. and Carrison S., operator signals B.ii. Signalmen Gibson, Nicholas and Lennon, electrician fitter A.ii. Signalmen Johnson and Williams F., instrument mechanic A.ii.

Departures.—L/Sergeant Beckett J. to the Training Battalion, Catterick. C.Q.M.S. Tebby C. to the 3rd Divl Signals, Bulford. Signalmen Hancox N. and Morris to Egypt. Driver Linehan and Signalmen Thompson and O'Callaghan to F Troop and subsequently to Egypt. Sergt Atkinson F. and Signalmen McGinley J., Songhurst J. and Linton J. to China. Sergt Smith J., Corporal Mulholland F., L/Corporals Ashford and Richards J., Signalmen Carter A., Milner S., Cheffings K., Nicholas N. and Parnell H., and Driver Pierce J.. with D Section to Egypt. Sergt Winteringham R. to civvy street on discharge. Sigmn Smallwood to civvy street on transfer to the Army Reserve. Sergt Warren W. to the Depot Battalion, Catterick. Signalmen Johnson W., Price E. and Robinson E. to India.

At the Sign of the Glad Hand.—We heartily welcome the following to the fold and trust that they will be happy with us. Corpl Connaghton from the Training Battalion. Sergt Brooke J. W. from across the way (3rd Divl Signals, Bulford). Sergt Crouch from the 47th Divl Signals, T.A. Signalmen Fisher, Whitelaw and Gibbon from India. Signalmen Kirk, Strugnell, Lander and Terrey from the Training Battalion. RUSTY.

Annual Christmas Tree and Party.—This was held in the Garrison lecture hall, Tidworth, on Thursday 19th December 1935.

In spite of a very wet afternoon, the majority of the families of the three Signal units in Tidworth attended and were welcomed on arrival by Major and Mrs. Mathew and the officers and ladies of Royal Signals.

Tea was served at nicely decorated tables, and we owe a very great debt of gratitude to Mr. Shiels, Miss Phillips, and the staff of the N.A.A.F.I. for the excellent catering arrangements which helped so much to make the party so enjoyable.

Following tea, an entertainment was given by Mr. Nixon of Bournemouth. The arrival of Father Christmas was greeted with loud cheers, as was the mention of the children's ever popular Mickey Mouse. After the presentation of gifts—which, I may add, greatly attracted the attention of the Witch (ably portrayed by Sigmn Mullen)—three further cheers were given for Sgt Hamilton

(Father Christmas) who departed for Weyhill on his new pattern aeroplane.

And so came to an end a very enjoyable afternoon ; and to all who helped in making it so, we offer our warmest thanks.

E Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth.

Aliwal Barracks, 15th February.

General.—We must apologise for not contributing regularly to THE WIRE, but we hope to do so in the future.



The Hippodrome (from a Wilts and Dorset Bus Halt).

As you will see elsewhere in these notes, we have lost some of our members on drafts to India and Egypt, and we take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck in their new stations. L/Sergt Riando, who has been with us for about five years, has gone for his second tour. We are grateful to him for the help he has given us during his stay here. His cheerful personality will be greatly missed.

The 2nd Cavalry Brigade is being mechanised, and we with it. This means the loss of our horses. No doubt, old members now abroad who read this will shed a silent tear; but alas! these things must be, and we must look to the future, whatever it holds in store for us. We shall undoubtedly increase in size, and I am certain that our work will be very interesting.



The Tennis Court in the Club Grounds.

The weather has been frightful, to say the least of it ; and the Bourne has been and is still in flood from North Tidworth to well beyond the Club—all the way to Salisbury, in fact. We are sending a couple of photographs depicting the flooded areas, which may be of interest to old members of the Troop. We wonder when Tidworth was last in a similar state. The weather has now changed and we are enduring that famous north-east wind which whistles along the verandahs and finds its way into every room. Last Thursday there was a terrific storm of rain and sleet which froze as it arrived on earth. The result was not pleasant and the ground was most treacherous, not a few people falling down, especially at night. The exercise party did not venture out of stables as the ground outside was a sheet of ice. Having no more news, we will say goodbye until next month.

Departures.—The following have left the Troop during the past few months, and we wish them all good luck. L/Corporal Cartledge transferred to the Reserve. Sigmn Smith discharged by purchase. Sigmn Barr to Egypt Signals. L/Sergt Riando to Waziristan District Signals. Signalmen Nicoll and Somerfield to Meerut. Sigmn Melhuish to Kohat.

Births, Deaths and Marriages.—None of the former two, but quite a few of the latter, considering the size of the Troop. Sigmn Smith to Miss Ruby Joyce Sturgess at Andover on 27/11/35. Signalman Blake to Miss Kathleen Barham, also at Andover, on 10/12/35. Sigmn Johnstone to Miss Edith May Fay, again at Andover, on 16/11/35. We wish them all happiness.

Promotions.—We congratulate the following on their advancement. L/Corpl McLaven to be Corporal w.e.f. 2/12/35. Sigmn Bradshaw to be U/L/Corporal w.e.f. 4/12/35.

Trade Ratings.—The following have obtained higher ratings as shown. L/Corpl Bradshaw to operator signals B.i. Signalmen Penman and Rapson to operator signals B.ii. Sigmn McCutcheon to electrician fitter A.ii. We congratulate them, and hope to be able to give more names later on.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Saturday 15th February.

General.—We were very pleased to assist the City of London Territorial Signals during the week-end 8th and 9th February. A body of about forty officers, w.o.s, n.c.o.s and men spent Saturday night in our barracks. On Sunday we helped to make up their Artillery and Infantry Sections by supplying a few n.c.o.s and men and vehicles for a T.E.W.T. which was held at the Bustard. All returned to barracks about 2 p.m. after a successful morning's exercise, in spite of the arctic conditions.

We hope to be able to help in a similar way in future, as it leads to a good liaison between Regular and Territorial units.

The weather during the last month has been against sports. However, a few results appear under the Sports notices.

Sergeants Mess.—What with sliding all round the lines on the frozen roads and dodging the painters in the mess, it is a matter for some congratulation that we are still able to think clearly. Or are we boasting ?

The mess certainly looks very cheerful with its deep cream and chocolate brown walls, white ceiling and black beams. We now get the illusion of sunshine, but as Lofty Ayres says, we are still shivering.

C.S.M. Peddlesden and ten sergeants of the City of London Territorials spent the week-end 8th/9th February with us on a scheme. The weather was arctic, but they appeared to be enjoying it. Sergeant Fred Tyrrell was his old self in a new guise. C.Q.M.S. Lister, from A Corps Signals, was also with us in connection with the scheme and met a few friends.

Recent welcome arrivals are L/Sergeants Moore and Bainbridge. We are wondering what they think of us.

In the Bulford Garrison Sergeants Mess Billiard League we are doing very well: played 5, won 4, drawn 1. Owing to a very careful and sheltered upbringing (sensation) I have never excelled at this game, and was not present when the team beat the 9th Brigade R.A.—which is a matter for regret, as there was much free beer that night.

Boy! Call up my sleigh. It is knocking off time.

Death of Ex-Sergeant J. Keogh.

Those of us who were at Maresfield or Crowborough in the early part of 1920—and particularly those of us who remember those stirring days when the Corps, then but a newly born babe as far as military age is counted, was striving for recognition in the field of Service sport—will recall Jim Keogh as one of the stalwarts who,

under the leadership of Colonel (then Major) E. de W. Bradley, succeeded in arousing in the Corps that enthusiasm for rugger which has never since grown cold.

Sergeant Keogh re-enlisted in the Corps (then R.E. Signals) in January 1920, and was soon spotted as one who knew something. As a result of special promotion he attained the rank of Sergeant fairly rapidly, but was discharged on the termination of his short engagement in 1923.

His previous military service was as an officer of the Dublin Fusiliers, with which famous regiment he served in France from 1914 until being posted to the R.F.C. He was awarded the M.C. for gallantry in action whilst with the Irish regiment, and on the termination of hostilities was demobilised with the temporary rank of Major.

Ex-Sergeant Keogh had suffered from severe gassing during the war, and this led to tuberculosis, from which he died on 11/1/36. I was present at the funeral in Chonnor Cemetery (Oxon) and an interesting fact came to light. He was not quite thirty-eight years of age when he died. It will be seen, therefore, that this old comrade of ours was serving his country—and, indeed, making the supreme sacrifice—when little more than sixteen years of age.

H.V.W.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—Canterbury is rather quiet these days, giving one very little to write about. However, we are not quite news-proof.

Hearty congratulations to our adjutant, Lieutenant L. de M. Thuillier, on the occasion of his marriage. He and his wife are at present sojourning on the Continent.

Wives' Social Club.—In spite of the extremely cold weather, there was a fair attendance at the Club's whist drive and tea held in the reading room on the 12th February. After games had been indulged in, a happy afternoon was brought to an end.

And so for the present we leave you.

TOC.

No. 2 Company.

Dear Readers.—" He-a-aw "—" He-a-aw." That's our "Good morning " straight from the stables.

As I'm the oldest soldier here, I have been prevailed on to write about this old Company, as there are only a few specks of khaki left in it to look after us. Well, we can't grumble, although it's a job having only one two-legged valet to every four of us. They do their best, however, so we still manage our little outings on Wednesdays and Saturdays. I heard our chef, Monsieur Toc Booth, saying we would have the office staff to ride us to-day, as some of our devoted friends are on coal fat-i-gue. I do hope the duftar wallahs are gentle with us.

Of course, I hear lots of things said by our attendants at times, but it wouldn't do to broadcast them—the language seems so strange from what is on the order board at the door of our stable. Still, I wish they wouldn't keep talking about clipper blades. We don't want to be clipped in this weather! Why, just think of it—my own personal slave didn't have his face washed this morning. I heard him saying something about the pipes being frozen in the annexe, whatever that means.

Well, well! such is a gee-gee's life. It does surprise me to hear what a stir there is about this 'ere petrol stopping a war. Now, what's wrong with us ? We don't need anything more than a drop of water and some oats (who said linseed ?) Of course, we get coughs and colds at times, but, dear readers, don't forget Waterloo.

Well, cheerio!—sorry, he-a-aw. Nose bags are coming.

DUST BIN.

P.S.—I wonder if one of these 'ere four-wheeled contraptions—cars, two-seater, they call 'em—would let us know how our departed valets now out East are getting on ?

No. 3 Company.

The absence of so many people of the Company makes it rather difficult to write notes for THE WIRE.

The Company is now reduced to a parade strength of four, the remainder (?) being regimentally employed. If No. 2 Company have the worry of the horses, we have ours with all the unit M.T. to look after—our greatest difficulty being lack of drivers.

Arrival.—We extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieut. P. E. M. Bradley, who has taken over as O.C. No. 3 Company.

Departures.—Corporals Patching and Moody (Captain Bill), L/Corpl Parsons, and Signalmen Carey, Foster, Knowles, Cook, Long and Redhouse to India. Sigmn Barrett to Gibraltar. Sergt Varley to A.V.T.C. Hounslow. Signalmen Ashwood and Whittle to civvy street. We wish the travellers all good luck at their new stations, and to Sgt Varley and Signalmen Whittle and Ashwood the best of luck in civvy life.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Jacob on getting the pay. To Driver Hill on his marriage.

Agony.—Mickey: Will ye no come back again ? Blondie.

Finale.—As the above is the correspondent's last effort in the literary line before leaving for civvy street, I take this opportunity of bidding au revoir to all old friends, especially those of Hong Kong.

MASKEE.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, 14th February.

General.—On the 28th January a memorial service for His late Majesty King George V. was held in the Parish Church, Scarborough. A large percentage of the unit attended this and also took part in the civic procession to and from church. Unfortunately, the weather was not of the best.

The trooping season continues to take its toll, and during the past few weeks further drafts have left for India. Three members of the unit dance band have transferred en bloc to Peshawar. What about some exchanges, Peshdist ? Single men preferred.

Marriages.—Slowly but surely we continue the good work, and this month we offer congratulations to Sigmn Rudge J. on his marriage to Miss Hetty Dixon, and to Driver Picton G., who was married to Miss Beatrice Ellen Wood.

Births.—To Sigmn Beech N. a son (Trevor) and to Signalman Cooper A. a daughter (Shirley Kathleen). Again we offer our best wishes.

Education.—The undermentioned have been successful in obtaining a second class certificate: Drivers McIntosh J., Proudlove G., Ward H., Hirst J. and Allot R., and Signalmen Ashmore G., Bacon H. and Smyth J.

Service.—L/Corpl Boniface P. and Driver Aubrey Scholfield decided to stay on for the last lap and have completed A.F.B.136 in due course.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following have decided either to take an interest in the Blue Book, or not, as the mood takes them. Signalmen Gattrell, Barlow F. and Dove G. S. to be U/L/Corporals w.e.f. 12/2/36 and U/L/Corporals Thom and Sanderson to be L/Corporals w.e.f. 20/11/35 and 3/1/36 respectively. L/Corpl Lane A. to be Corporal w.e.f. 6/12/35. L/Sgt Carnell O. M., M.M., to be Sergeant w.e.f. 7/12/35. Quite a nice little helping. Congratulations to all.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following to the fold and hope Scarborough proves beneficial in every way. Lieut. and Mrs. Bower from India. 2/Lieut. R. M. Way from S.T.C. Catterick. Sigmn Cavanagh from the 1st Divl Signals.

OXO.

Sergeants Mess.

Arrivals and Departures.—A hearty welcome is offered to Sgt and Mrs. Dunn and family on their posting from Kohat. We hope their stay in Scarborough will be long and happy. We must also congratulate Sergt Redworth on his return to headquarters from detachment at Catterick. The work of mess caterer is surely much preferable during this arctic weather.

L/Sergt Sharp D. has left us for a vocational course and intends to try his hand at electrical installations. Best of luck, Don.

Rewards.—C.Q.M.S. Wilson W. J. received his reward after remaining undetected for eighteen years. Apologies are tendered for not publishing this item last month.

Condolences.—Our condolences are offered to the relatives of A/R.S.M. Keane, who passed away at Leeds on Sunday 8th Feb.

[See also 49th Divl Signal Notes on page 118.—ED.]

OXO.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Victoria Barracks, 15th February.

In our last notes we referred to the large amount of rain and snow we were having, but the past month brought us a series of gales which played havoc with the G.P.O. telephone lines. Fortunately, we were able to assist in a very minor way.

The Line Section, who are engaged in reconstruction, were also complaining of the weather ; but this " so and so " country was not the only place where it blew and froze, so they had a little consolation. We really see very little of them now, as they are continually moving around and grumbling about their lorry, which is never available at the right moment or else refuses to function. However, they have great hopes that the Foreman of Signals will use his influence and procure one of the new lorries (when they eventually arrive) for the exclusive use of F.E.C. Despite all their groans about plans and the non-arrival of stores, the huge programme is rapidly nearing completion. The Line Section will return to H.Q. (whilst the F. of S. balances his budget) and increase in weight until the next little grey book appears in print.

We were unfortunate to make only a draw of the game in the N.I.D. hockey cup, but we hope, with a bit of luck, to do well in the replay which takes place on the 24th February.

Before dealing with Part Two Orders which show how some of our oldest hands have left us for service abroad, we should like to mention how sorry we are to lose those friends.

Promotions.—We congratulate L/Sergt Wardly on his appointment, and L/Corpl Ryan on being placed in the little Blue Book.

Departures.—Corporals Salmon, Wootton and King, L/Corpl Thompson J., and Signalmen Cade and Hunter to Catterick prior to embarkation for India on 18/3/36. Sigmn Maddox also left us for the same place, with his ultimate destination as Egypt. We wish them a good leave and a pleasant voyage. Our best wishes go to Sigmn Townsend, who has been transferred to the Army Reserve.

Moves: Inter-Station.—L/Sergeant Wardly from Dunree to Londonderry. Signalmen Slavin, Seager and Laws from Belfast to Dunree. Sigmn Lawson from Belfast to Lenan.

Fort Dunree.—We congratulate L/Sgt Wardly on his appointment and hope he will like Londonderry.

Fort Lenan.—Hello, cads! Lenan calling—which is surprising after such a storm as we have just experienced. On the third morning we awoke to find the billiard room had been turned into an open air Lido, but things are now back to normal, and those hills of Donegal are looking less like the Swiss Alps.

The Chain Gang have duly arrived, and are making a gallant " solo " effort to get the largest amount of work done in the least possible time. The one person they seem to have missed is a popular chap named Ticker.

Disturbances.—One crooning Irishman. Anybody wishing to purchase his repertoire should apply to the Chain Gang.

Marriage.—Our best wishes go to Sigmn Gray on his marriage to Miss Sloan of Falkirk. X.464's are now decreasing in intensity.

Hospital.—Our wishes for a speedy recovery go to Signalman Swetnam, who was taken ill whilst on leave and is in the Lichfield Military Hospital. One colleen at least is singing " Come back to Erin."

For Sale.—An instrument of torture that operates between 10 and 40 metres. Buyers, please apply to Fitter AZJ.

Agony.—Wot abaht it, Dick ? Ginger. Chuck, Fort Sandeman: Sri fer delay. G.W.

So ends our first edition. We hope to have something new and interesting next month. ISE GONE.

Omagh.—We congratulate Sigmn Hunt on being presented with a family.

Tailpiece.—" And so for the present . . . . . " HEC ME.



Stanley Woods, the famous Motor Cyclist Racer.
A Telegraphed Picture.
[Published by courtesy of " The Daily Mirror "]

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Tuesday 14th January.

General.—Hullo, everybody! A Company S.T.C. (I.) wish all Signal stations at home and abroad the compliments of the season.

Christmas Festivities.—We commenced our Christmas fun with the fancy dress football match at 10.50 a.m. on Christmas Day. The teams paraded at the Company office, and to the weird noises of mouth organs, tin cans, tin whistles, etc., they marched to the football ground. His Most Deficient the Rajah of Garam Pani and his aid-d-koms (Mutt and Tubby Lay) first inspected the two teams, Spike Lombard's Eleven and Big Hamilton's Cissies, and were then introduced to the members, after which His Most Deficient the Rajah kicked off into the dense crowd of spectators. The game was very comical to watch. It lasted ten minutes each way, with a ten minute interval to slightly oil the competitors. Spike's side, with some smart rugby tackles, made Big 'Am's side meet mother earth very frequently and emerged the victors.

The B.O.R.s dinner was a great success. They sat down at 1 p.m. and, as has always been the rule, they were waited on at table by the w.o.s and sergeants ; and to cries of " Fill 'em up!" everything went down nicely. The commanding officer wished the B.O.R.s the very best of good health and success during the coming year. A special word of thanks must be given to Corporal Lambird and his staff for a really excellent dinner, and to the decorating committee for their very artistic efforts in adorning the dining hall.

In the evening the B.O.R.s held their annual concert and smoker, and from the number of husky voices the next morning, I am sure everyone enjoyed the function.

On Boxing Day the B.O.R.s held an outing at Happy Valley. L/Corpl Paling ably looked after the bottled food, whilst L/Corpl Knox and Sigmn Scanlan proceeded to swell their bank account by running the lotto. After a very enjoyable day, the bus conductor (Sergt Palmer) escorted us all back to barracks.

On Friday the 27th the coster ball and fancy dress dance was held. This is given each year by the B.O.R.s for their friends. The main hall was decorated like a clothes line alley, and in place of chairs there were barrels (empty), boxes and sacks. Cabaret turns were produced during the evening by the officers, sergeants and signalmen. The officers comprised Major Nicholls, Captain Orr and Lieutenant MacMunn, and the applause nearly brought the place down. Sergt Baker, L/Sergt Lay, Sergt Lombard and R.Q.M.S. Kingman put up an excellent show, but without a doubt the B.O.R.s dancing troupe, led by Signalmen Gallaher and Barran, made the hit of the evening. The winners of the fancy dress costumes were Mrs. Fishwick and Sigmn Tyler. The best costers were Mrs. Maguire (who completed a " hat trick " by winning this prize for the third year in succession) and L/Corpl Varnell (R.A.) Our thanks are due to the married families of the S.T.C. (I.) for the appetising refreshments they provided, and to the band and committee for providing such a happy evening.

Repatriations.—We have said goodbye to Sergeant Hunt and family, L/Corpl Roberts and Sigmn Barltrop, who have left us to keep the home fires burning. Our best wishes go with them.

Promotions and Appointments.—Nil this month, but better luck next time.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergt (Pop) and Mrs. Humphrey on the arrival of an heir to their family estate. Well done, Pop!

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Sergeant Murray and family from the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut, and to L/Corpl

MOTOR CARS

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Richardson and Signalmen Bourton and Hull on their return from leave in the U.K.

We Want to Know.—Who was the sergeant who, after staying on the water wagon during the Christmas festivities, had the misfortune to have his photo taken sitting beside a bottle of beer?

Who ate all the cream cakes before the ball ? I don't think the policeman or the Company clerk would do a thing like that.

NIL SINE LABORE.

Officers Mess.

On Wednesday 8th January the officers of the Signal Training Centre (India) bade farewell to two old friends in accordance with the age-old custom of the Service. Major C. E. J. Reynolds, I.S.C. (S.L.) and Captain H. D. Orr, R.Signals, who were due to proceed on leave pending retirement within a few days, were dined as guests of the Mess.

On these occasions normal mess procedure is waived in so much that speeches are permitted. When the toasts to the King-Emperor and Princess Royal had been drunk, Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard rose to propose the health of the guests. He expressed the feelings of everyone when he said that the Corps in India was losing two of its staunchest supporters, and that the deepest regret would be felt by everyone at their departure.

Replying, Daddy Reynolds said he was deeply grateful for all the support he had received from brother officers during his service in the Indian Signal Corps. Jock declared that of all his happy years in the Service his time in the Jubbulpore Mess was the happiest. Both guests made us feel that they were as sorry to go as we were to lose them.

After the pipes had set Jock's ears atingle, the Mess " got down to it." Jock was collared by his friends the Dogeared Subalterns. Hurdling over the bicycle stand and cock fighting, at which Jock proved himself an expert, varied by a display of roof climbing by Dogear No. 1, Desmond Hoysted, passed the time until the Pipe Band marched off. Jock was then escorted to the small ante-room for wrestling, hand springs over chairs, and the usual plethora of Guest Night songs which need no detailed description.

About 12.30 a.m. the guests showed signs of trying to escape. This was, however, successfully countered by the introduction of beer and sandwiches, which gave the Dogears time to prepare the send-off. Seated in a large armchair in the back of a car, each guest was in turn driven off to his bungalow by a somewhat circuitous route, escorted by three subalterns on each running board, and entertained by vocal efforts which are known to have penetrated the dreams of more than one Jubbulpore resident.

The dining-out of officers has a completely different atmosphere to any other guest night. It is a purely family affair, and we all hope that both Daddy and Jock realised how loath the family were to say goodbye to them.

W.O.s and Sergeants Mess.

General.—Barra salaams to all Messes at home and abroad. We commenced our Christmas festivities with the Christmas draw and concert on the 19th December. The draw went down with many sweats, but the prizes went out just the same. As there were over forty prizes, the names of the winners would take up too much space, but Q.M.S. (F-of-S) King V. J. must have got tired of going up for his hampers. Well done, Vic! The short concert that was given after the draw brought many laughs, and great credit should go to the performers, R.Q.M.S. Kingman and Sergeants Loo Baker, Tubby Lay and Wally Lombard.

On Christmas Eve a carol singing choir was provided by R.Q.M.S. Kingman and Sergeants Baker, Lay, Greig and Lombard. These happy crooners tore their way around and entertained each house with a few carols until friends Greig and Lombard (who were quite willing to strain their vocal chords) had to retire to bed. However, the remaining three carried on the good work until all quarters had had their entertainment, and in the early hours they gave No. 12 Shed their final chords.

The children's Christmas tree and tea party was held on the 21st December. Elephant and donkey rides and roundabouts were in full swing for the kiddies. A Ford van was converted into a boat, and its able crew (Admiral Lombard, Rear-Admiral Lay and Able Seaman Thornton) gave the children some very happy joy rides around the camp. At times the " children's " ages varied from three years to thirty odd. After tea the kiddies were entertained to a show given by Sergeants Baker, Matthew and Lay, and (again) R.Q.M.S. Kingman. The kiddies thoroughly enjoyed this show. In due course everything was ready for the Christmas tree, and Lieut. G. MacMunn, who played Father Christmas, brought loud cheers from the children. The party broke up about 7 p.m., and the children went away very happy and contented with their presents. A word of thanks to the committee for their splendid efforts.

On Saturday 28th December the Mess held their annual dinner and ball. For the first time in this Mess the wives of w.o.s and sergeants were invited, and this was really a very fine show. Everyone seemed in excellent spirits, and the dinner went down without a hitch. Our Tommy gave us an excellent toast in " Absent Members," although he was a little nervous. The dance which followed was a very good show indeed, and the band, who were in great form, gave us some excellent dance music.

In conclusion, all committees of the Mess are to be congratulated on the very fine work they put in to make the Christmas festivities go with such a wonderful swing. I am sure every member of the Mess spent a very happy time. MUTT.

Corporals Room.

General.—Well, another Christmas has passed by, and I take this opportunity of wishing all readers a prosperous New Year. Although the programme for the Christmas festivities was not very extensive—owing, no doubt, to the fact that Signals Week will soon be upon us—I'm sure that everyone had an enjoyable time during the holiday period.

Our i/c cookhouse, Corpl Lambird, gave us an excellent Christmas dinner, while the senior n.c.o.s kept our glasses at the " high level." Many thanks are due to our O.C., Captain L. C. Boyd, for showing such an interest in the B.O.R.s at such a festive time. He does not believe in spoiling the ship for a pint of tar. Our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, and other officers paid us a visit during the dinner and made everyone feel as comfortable as possible. L/Cpl Knox gave a very appropriate toast on behalf of the B.O.R.s of the unit.

In the evening a concert and smoker was held in the mess for the B.O.R.s. L/Corporals Talbot and Roberts took charge of the beer for the evening. Did they keep the tap running ? I'll say they did! Talbot was as firm as a rock.

On Boxing Day several members of the Mess shared in the B.O.R.s outing to Happy Valley, accompanied by plenty of " gargle " and sandwiches. L/Corpl Knox kept everyone busy by running a housey-housey school. It was possibly due to our being out in the open that everyone acquired a great thirst, and L/Corpl Paling (i/c beer during the Christmas period) had to make a hasty trip back to camp for a further supply. Just before dusk one of the local buses brought us and the empties back to camp.

Departures.—L/Corpl Roberts has at last been taken away from the S.T.C. (I.) to commence work (?) with that well established firm, the A.V.T.C. at Chisledon. Robbo left us as the New Year came in, being despatched from the station in the usual manner by Talbot, Paling and Marshall. Robbo had his " first this year " before we left him with a few pick-me-ups for the journey. We are all sorry to see him go, and wish him the very best in his new sphere of life. The unit is losing a good sportsman. Robbo! oh, your —— backhand!

Arrivals.—At last, after a much extended leave in Blighty, L/Corpl Richardson has returned to the fold. We are sorry to hear that Corpl Driver, who was on the same liner when returning from leave, was detained in hospital at Bombay. We hope that he will be with us again in a few days. If Oliver Twist were in messing with us now, he'd surely give Richy the glad hand. From the far distant lands he brings his store of sauces and tin opener. Woolworth's Stores must now be sitting back after such a rush.

Indoor Games.—Last month I told you how Robbo carried off the billiard cup after beating Corpl Edge in the final. Well, he nearly worked the double. However, he lost in the final of the snooker cup to Corpl Edge. A fine game, that, Tommy. Let's hope that Edge (junior) will be picking up a few tips. R.P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY



Rawalpindi.

General.—As usual, the Proclamation parade was witnessed by a large crowd. Congratulatory comments on the smartness of the Corps and the march past were heard. The 7th January saw us taking part in a Signal demonstration. Practically all the officers in the Command saw the functions of a Corps and Division in the field. They spent a most interesting day touring the different branches of Signal work in the field, which were (for convenience) laid out in a small area. On the 20th January we were inspected by Major-General Powell, Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps. He expressed great pleasure in his visit, congratulated the Corps on the turn out, and also imparted to us quite a lot of information as to the origin of the Indian Signal Corps.

Musketry.—Our annual musketry has just finished. Firsts seem to predominate. Interest was caused by the offer of a prize of R.s 20 for the highest score and R.s 7/8/- for the individual who attained the highest among the second class shots of last year. We congratulate Lieut. R. L. Carpenter, who dropped only one point out of a possible 65 (good shooting, sir). Signalmen Cornthwaite and Morrison shared the first prize with a score of 59 each. Sigmn Lock walked away with the other one. Well done, Taffy!

Trades.—Much sharpening of pencils and many exclamations of "Now, don't get a shake on!" are to be heard these days. It must be these fortnightly tests of the operators that is the cause of it.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieutenant F. P. Johnson, R.Q.M.S. Day, Sergts McFarlane (and family), Andrews (caught whilst on leave) and Ward D., M.C., and L/Corpl Bowyer.

Departures.—Quite a number. C.Q.M.S. Johnson, L/Sergeant Evans, Corporals Mills (let go, Pat), Francis (Darky) and Hutchison (how long this time, Jock ?), Signalmen Kent, Dale, Hayward, Barry and Lloyd. Our best wishes go with them.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death (through a motor cycle accident) of L/Sergt Ward D., M.C. He was one of our most popular n.c.o.s, and his presence in the unit will be very much missed.

We also very much regret to announce the death of Mrs. Mealing. Many old Karachi-ites will well remember the deceased lady, and a very large circle of friends will miss her.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Wedgbury on the birth of a daughter (Elisabeth Anne).

Appointments.—Congratulations, also, to L/Corporals Young and Richardson on their appointment to that rank, and to U/L/Corporals Green and Fox on getting the first leg.

Agony.—To Tich Long: Is Charlie Hodge still wanted on the phone ?

We Want To Know.—Will the I.L.D. reunion be held in Aldershot or on the Isle of Wight ? Will a certain C.S.M. be invited ? and why ? What you do, Driver Sahib, in dock at Bombay ?

What We Do Know.—That a departure from these shores contemplated in the near future (not necessarily in this unit) is causing a certain n.c.o. (may be this unit) to look a little seedy. Quite a shock, coming so soon, wasn't it, S——. WEB.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Thursday 30th January.

His Majesty's Death.—It was with deep regret that all ranks learned of the death of His late Majesty King George V.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday 28th January at 4 p.m. (I.S.T.) which corresponded to 10.30 a.m. in England—or the time when the funeral procession was passing through London. The local service took the form of a drum-head service on the Army sports ground, where thousands congregated to pay their last tribute to the late King.

The depth of grief shown by Indians of all classes and creeds was very striking. I think this should be brought to the notice of the people at home, who of recent years have been growing somewhat tired of India and her political upheavals. Congress can declare a hartal (closing of shops) but the most successful and persuasive of Congress agitators never produced such a complete stoppage of all work and trading as was spontaneously and immediately carried out as soon as the news of the King-Emperor's death reached the bazaars.

General.—The events which have taken place since our last notes, in the order of their occurrence, are as follows.

On the 1st January the usual annual Proclamation parade was held on the Brigade parade ground. Little did any of us realise that this would be our last Proclamation parade for King George V. After the ceremony was over, all units marched past and the salute was taken by the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command. According to all accounts, the 1st Divl Signals put up their usual good show.

On the 7th January a Signal demonstration was held, both A Corps Signals and the 1st Indian Divl Signals taking part. The object of this demonstration was to show the chain of communication from Army Headquarters down to Battalion and Battery Headquarters. The entire signal communication was laid out in a small area, and everything was labelled clearly to indicate its function. All officers of the district attended and, we believe, received as much benefit from it as we did ourselves.

On the 21st January the unit was inspected by Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps. After he had inspected the parade, the Colonel-Commandant made a speech to both British and Indian ranks in which he conveyed the good wishes of the Corps at home to the Corps in India, and also a special message from Colonel R. G. Earle, who originally raised this unit. The unit then marched past in column of route, Major-General Powell taking the salute. We must put on record the able performance of Sergt Smith R. M. T. as drum-major of the day.

The following notice appeared in Orders later: "Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps, wishes it to be known that he much appreciated the opportunity of inspecting the unit to-day, and also to add that the turn out and drill of both British and Indian ranks on the ceremonial parade was exceptionally good."

On behalf of all ranks, British and Indian, we wish to express our appreciation of General Powell's tour here, and to say how extremely glad we were to have had the opportunity of welcoming him.

Weapon Training.—Just as these notes are being written, the chief item which occupies our thoughts is weapon training. The senior n.c.o.s have just completed a cadre course and are going to expound their knowledge to the troops, commencing on the 1st February. All we have heard just recently is "The points to note in this position are . . . . . ." We hope that we shall have a record number of first class shots this year.

Arrivals and Departures.—We have had a goodly number of these this month.

Lieutenant N. J. H. Minshall rejoined from leave ex India on 30/12/35 and proceeded to join the S.T.C. (India) on 20/1/36. 2/Lieut. S. K. Ray (Indian Army, attached to the 1st Indian Divl Signals) was posted to the 16th Light Cavalry, Sibi, on 2/1/36. Lieut. R. B. Gray was posted to the 3rd Indian Divl Signals, Meerut, on 1/1/36.

R.S.M. Wills was withdrawn from vocational training with the Customs at Bombay and proceeded to A.H.Q., New Delhi, on 19/1/36 for employment as superintendent clerk to the Signal Officer-in-Chief.

Corpl Manning G. was posted to Waziristan District Signals on 12/1/36, and Sergt Ellerton-Long to the S.T.C. (I.) on 27/1/36.

The following left for U.K. on 7/1/36 per H.T. *Nevasa*: Corporals Gray H. and Gandey G., L/Corpl Beeby K., Signalmen Angell G., Brown E. and Jebb T.

The following sailed for U.K. on 21/1/36 per H.T. *Neuralia*: Corpl Millen G. and family, L/Sergt Allston G., L/Corpl Stringer A. W., Signalmen Charlton M., Fay H. and Kent C.

The following will have left the unit by the time these notes appear. Lieut. E. K. Steward posted to the S.T.C. (India) on 14/2/36. Sergt Smith R. M. T. and family to Waziristan District Signals on 13/2/36. Sigmn Meek F. to the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, on 1/2/36.

The following sail for U.K. per H.T. *Dilwara* on 29/2/36: Signalmen Mullin A., Gibbons J., Hawkes F., Lewis W. and Jones C.

The following sail on 4/3/36 per H.T. *Somersetshire*: Corpl Cummings C., L/Corporals Launders E., Cuthbertson J. and Bundy C., Signalmen Garven G., Phillips N. and Fears W., all for the home establishment; whilst C.Q.M.S. Hall T. E. and Corpl Scrase R. proceed by the same boat on six months payment furlough.

Sergt Chantler and family proceed on nine months leave per H.T. *Cameronia* on 7/2/36, and Mrs. Stevens (wife of Toco) and her three children proceed on 4/3/36 per H.T. *Somersetshire*.

The following n.c.o.s arrived back, fat and blooming, after a long leave in England: Sergt French W., L/Sergt Stickley H., Corporals Choulerton J. and Swinson L.

Promotions.—We congratulate the following on going a step further up the ladder: L/Sergeant Sunderland to be Sergeant. F/Corpl Long G. to be Farrier-Sergeant. Corpl Cosstick F. to be L/Sergeant. L/Cpl Thorp W. to be Corporal. U/L/Corporals Millett W. and Bundy C. to be paid L/Corporals.

Educational Awards.—Sigmn Hedley T. passed in English "C" towards the special certificate of education. Sergt Sunderland H. passed in English, maths and geography towards the first class certificate, whilst Signalman Vincent W. passed in English. Sergt Bloodworth H. and Sigmn Chambers J. have been awarded first class education certificates. Our congratulations to all.

Medals and Awards.—L/Sergt Brown F., having completed the traditional eighteen years undetected, has been awarded the long service and good conduct medal with gratuity.

Courses.—Sigmn Bancroft has proceeded to the Army School of Cookery, Poona, on a cook's course. We hope he will come back with a recipe for a brand new type of rissole—if that be possible.

Sergeants Mess.—We were very pleased to have the opportunity of seeing R.S.M. Wills once more when he passed through Pindi on his way from Bombay to Delhi. It conveniently happened that he arrived on the day of our monthly Mess meeting, and he was able to give a farewell speech to all members. We must take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Wills for all the hard work he put in towards making the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess a success, and we wish him all success in his new sphere as superintendent clerk to the S.O.-in-Chief.

We have also said goodbye to Sergt Ellerton-Long, whom we shall miss on the tennis court: and we shall be shortly losing R.M.T., who will be missed in the euchre school. (No, he is not going to Kneller Hall.)

Officers v. Sergeants Annual Tournament.—Up to the present the result of this tournament is a level score, but there are still the football, cricket and snooker to be played. There is no doubt that it is a keen contest this year. Results of events played to date are: Tennis, officers won by 11—1 games; hockey, sergeants won by 3—1 goals; billiards, sergeants won by 570—385 points; shooting, officers won by 328—317 points (competition temperament told against the sergeants).

Almirahs: Food.—This heading will probably not convey much to people at home, but the mere mention of it in Cambridge Barracks, Rawalpindi, causes the married quarters bungalows to tremble. It was suggested the other day that these almirahs should be handed in for return to the barrack master, and the following day husbands were seen walking about with tense looks on their faces and written all over them grim determination to hang on to these almirahs to the very last. Shortly after this, a notice appeared in Orders inviting applications for the post of n.c.o. i/c barrack furniture, amongst other jobs. Of course, we are not suggesting that the two matters are linked.

Sport and Athletics.—Several practice cross-country runs have been held, to select a team for the District cross-country run which comes off shortly. Our boxers are also busy training under the watchful eye of L/Sergt Ellison D., in preparation for the District boxing championships: whilst L/Sgt Cosstick is putting the football team through their paces in preparation for the District football cup competition. ONEDIV.



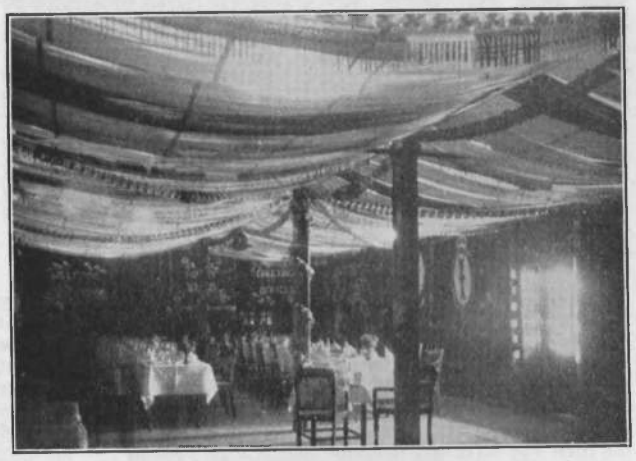
1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Monday 20th January.

We wish all our readers a happy New Year, and take it for granted that they spent an enjoyable time during the Christmas period. Everybody here did so, and quite a book could be written on the various capers which were cut.

The junior n.c.o.s' Christmas dinner was the first notification of the approach of Christmas and was, as usual, a jolly fine affair. Many guests were invited, and those who were able to attend did so, thus helping to make the party go with a great swing.

On Christmas Day was held the united dinner, which all members of the Troop attended. Captain J. J. Duvivier and Lieut. G. S. Knox came along to extend Christmas greetings to us, and all ranks took this opportunity of expressing regret and extending best wishes to our commanding officer on his transfer to the home establishment. Many toasts were drunk and many cheers given, which is the custom at this time of the year. An outstanding feature was the speed at which the eats and drinks disappeared. There was no doubt that the Visual Troop could beat the rest of the world at this game—and a good game it is, too.



The Mess Room decorated for Christmas.

We were very pleased to have a few guests from Peshawar District Signals with us for the Christmas holiday. Whether they wanted to transfer to a Cavalry Troop, or not, is not known. Perhaps an application or two will be forthcoming in the near future.

Boxing Day was a very lively one, even though it may have been commenced with a few "fat heads." These were speedily cured during the treasure hunt, the clues of which were very skilfully arranged by the commanding officer. The first pair home



One of the "Comic" Football Teams.

were L/Corpl Evans and Sigmn Harvey, who required the A.T. cart to take away the bottles and tins that made the first prize. A comic football match was held in the afternoon, some snaps of which give an idea of the various costumes worn. In the evening an impromptu social and dance in the Institute was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Work follows play, and the remaining days of the old year were spent in preparing for the Proclamation parade on the 1st January. The Troop marched past under the command of Lieut. G. S. Knox, and everything was very well done. (While they march like Guardsmen, they ride like Cavalrymen.)

Training is in full swing, and schemes are the order of the day. By the time our camp period arrives, everybody should have a good insight into what is required for manœuvres.



The other "Comic" Football Team.

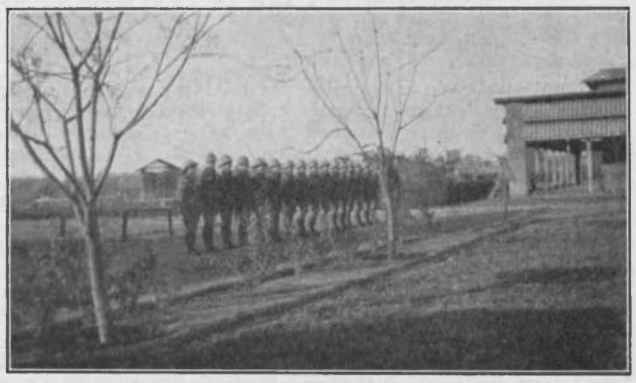
Quite recently we received four No. 1 sets from the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop at Sialkot. A party of three, with Corporal Stonehouse in charge, accompanied them and demonstrated how they had been worked by the 2nd Troop during their recent manœuvre. It is quite a pleasure to have members from other units with us, and we look forward to seeing them again. The sets are working very well, but the personnel and horses required for their use have left the unit rather shorthanded.

In games with other units we more than hold our own, both at hockey and football. Unusual though it may seem, boxing is another sport taken up in the Troop. Sigmn Ball is due to meet the "basher" of I Battery R.H.A. in a few days, and Signalman Falkingham goes to Rawalpindi to meet some other leather swingers in the near future. In next month's notes, we hope to give an account of the fights. Meanwhile, good luck to them both. We all hope they will bring added laurels to the Troop.

At the Nowshera Horse Show, held quite recently, Lieut. G. S. Knox gained first place with his polo pony Darius. Other competitors from the unit made very good attempts in their various events, but found the class of horseflesh opposed to them of a very high order. It is hard to win prizes at Nowshera, but nevertheless we shall keep trying.

At present our Australian remounts are coming along well and, with the exception of one, they are quite docile. They will have to remain so if they are to carry No. 1 sets on their backs next season!

A very successful all ranks dance was held in the Institute on the 4th January. Those present thoroughly enjoyed themselves and expressed the opinion that it was the best held in the Garrison during the past few months. It entails a lot of hard work to prepare the Institute for a dance, especially when a billiard table has to be taken to pieces and removed in order to make floor space. The 14/20th Hussars dance band was engaged to play for the night and performed quite well. All thanks are due to those who helped to make the show a success. We might add that the dance was an invitation one and admission was free.



"The Thin Khaki Line."

Recent additions to the Troop are L/Sergt Longhurst, Corporal Nuttall and L/Corpl Bale, all of whom have returned from U.K. leave.

Our best wishes accompany Captain and Mrs. Duvivier, who have gone to the home establishment. The same are extended to Sigmn Mason, transferred to the King's Regiment at Mooltan.

Corporals Mess.

A very enjoyable evening was spent in the mess on Saturday 21st December, when the junior n.c.o.s held their Christmas dinner. An excellent spread was put on, and after justice had been done to it we got down to the serious business, at which about twenty visitors were entertained, and by appearances at the close of the evening the business *was* serious.

On Christmas and Boxing Days the junior n.c.o.s and men were very well fed, watered and entertained under the able management of Corpl (Blossom) Norman, to whom thanks are due for a very good show.

We welcome the return of Corpl Nuttall and L/Corpl Bale from six months leave (which lasted ten months) in Blighty.

L/Corporals Cross and Ferguson are both expecting the big boat, and we hope to be able to report their departure in our next notes. We have one consolation in knowing that when they are gone, we shall not be long after them.

We thank ex-Sigmn Jelly for his kind wishes and card at Christmas, and wish him all the best for the future.

Our Mess dart team entertained the 14/20th Hussars team, and a very good evening ensued. The match resulted in a defeat for the Hussars by 14—11 points. We are hoping to win the league and shield by the end of the cold weather. Darts, by the way, are a good excuse for our veteran member to say "Chips in the kitty" or "Who has paid twice?"

Will anyone who is fluent in Hindustani please tell us the correct name for Allah Bungalow.

RISI.



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Friday 7th February.

Things are looking up, and the modernisation of the Troop is going ahead. Four No. 1 W/T sets were tried out last training season with a view to ascertaining their suitability for work within a Cavalry Brigade. The sets have proved immensely efficient and popular. Whereas the old C. mk. ii. sets (1926) required three pack horses, one will carry the No. 1 set. Then, again, to establish communication with the C mk. ii. sets, it was necessary to off-load three packs and erect an old-fashioned aerial. These events often happened during a ten minutes halt. With the No. 1 sets, communication can be established with the horses loaded by simply inserting a plug. In fact, it is possible to maintain communication with the horses moving at a trot: hence their popularity. For "Halt! erect station" the password becomes "Plug in." What a change!—and a change is as good as a rest.

Even the Headquarter Section is not immune from the progress of Indianisation. Two Indian despatch riders have arrived and will eventually take their place on the establishment instead of two British D.R.s.

The Brigade camp was held at Jalalpur from the 29th November to the 19th December. The principal point of interest was the debut of the No. 1 W/T sets. These proved remarkably suitable sets for Brigade communications, and I believe a dozen have been ordered.

Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps, visited the Troop on Saturday 25th January and, judging from reports, enjoyed his inspections.

Sigmn Rork J. arrived from U.K. leave, complete with ribbon and explanations, and Sigmn Darragh J. from A Corps Signals.

Promotions have been rather brisk, and the following are congratulated. L/Sergeants Gratwicke S. and Kenny H., Corporal Stonehouse R., L/Corpl Grant A., and U/L/Corpl Roake J.

The orderly room sergeant is still throwing the hammer about the Punjab, this time making 107 ft. 8 in. at the Lahore District sports and gaining first place.

To L/Corpl Cuthbertson, 1st Indian Divl Signals: Save you a corner bed in Mons Barracks. Cook T. KHANA.

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Fort Akalgarh, Monday 3rd February.

Some months have elapsed since our last publication of notes, but we have again come up for air and to forward an account of what has happened during the past few months.

Since our last notes appeared, the unit has gone through a memorable period in many respects. However, here goes to say a few words about all of them.

The annual move from Razmak was completed by the end of September, and we were one complete family by the middle of October when the families arrived from the hill stations.

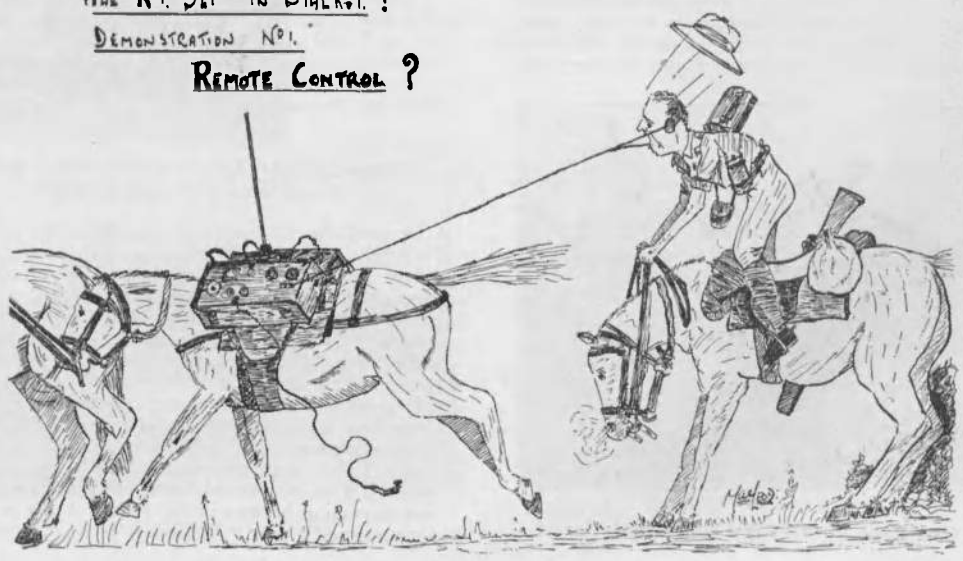
In early November we welcomed back to the fold Major and Mrs. Roberts from long leave in U.K., as well as a number of married ladies who came from home to join their husbands. Some say that one lady is only on a Cook's tour just to see what Dera Ismail Khan and Murree look like before she returns to "home, sweet home."

The social life commenced with the arrival of the ladies, and the weekly dances, etc., in the sergeants mess were well attended functions. The official dance season opened with an all ranks dance which was voted by one and all a good show. The same evening we said goodbye to quite a large draft en route to U.K., so one might guess the nature of the farewell. However, when the roll was called next morning no one was missing, and they all left by staff cars for Darya Khan (an old friend to a lot of our readers).

Old members of the unit will, no doubt, be glad to hear that we now have a golf course, and all ranks are playing very regularly, if not successfully. Our thanks go to Captain Allen, who commenced this very popular side of our sports.

And so we went on until the Christmas period arrived. This was officially opened by a tea dance in the sergeants mess after the finals of our local tennis tournament.

On the 22nd December our golf experts held a pagal golf gymkhana on the golf course, which was very well attended by outside people as well as by members of the unit. It consisted of clock golf, driving off an egg, long driving (serious ?), blindfolded driving, approaching into a basket, miniature course, and an Aunt





Officers and N.C.O.s at the B.O.R.s Christmas Dinner.

Sally. All events proved very popular—even the long driving. The most amusing event proved to be the driving off an egg. Our commanding officer proved the master of the egg until L/Cpl Crammond tied with him. However, each and all went away feeling very satisfied with the Golf Club's first official function.

With the arrival of the 23rd everyone was feeling keyed up for the great day, and in the evening was held the Sergeants Mess Christmas draw and dance. The draw was the usual success, and the dance was carried on until the early hours of the next morning.

The annual children's Christmas tree was held on the 24th in the sergeants mess. All the small ones enjoyed themselves both in eating and playing games, etc., until late in the evening. One has heard it said that Father Christmas has even volunteered to return to India next year for this time-honoured function.

The great day having arrived—ushered in with the usual pomp in the canteen—thirty-eight sat down to dinner about 1 p.m. Our C.O. and adjutant arrived shortly afterwards, wishing one and all good luck, etc. After dinner Major Roberts and Captain Allen said a few words which I am sure will live in the memory of those lucky enough to be present. Unfortunately, this was the last occasion on which these two officers will attend our Christmas festivities, and we take this opportunity of wishing them both the best of luck in the future, wherever they go.

Once more, on Boxing Day, we had a pagal gymkhana—this time on the polo ground. This was very well attended and was voted a great success. In the evening the Sergeants Mess annual dinner and dance was held, at which some fifty odd people sat down to dinner—a record for the Mess.

Perhaps the greatest success of the Christmas season was the all ranks carnival dance on the 27th. This was so well attended that we had not sufficient seats for all the guests. This speaks for itself. Prizes were given for fancy costumes, which appeared very difficult to judge, for everyone in fancy dress was very good.

Then came a welcome lull in the festivities until the junior n.c.o.s held their annual dinner and social evening on the 29th.



Bullock Cart Race in the Pagal Gymkhana.



A Group of the "Boys" during Christmas.

From everyone's appearance next morning, this function also was of the best.

On New Year Day we had a three club competition (9 holes) on the golf course. The winners were L/Corporal Thompson and Signalmen Finch and Bell J., each of whom returned a card of 47—quite good, considering that someone drove off with a putter and played out of bunkers with a driver.

So ended a very enjoyable Christmas period for 1935. Our thanks are extended to all who worked to make these functions a success, and especially to our dance band, who (although very hard worked during this season) played at all our functions.

During December we were visited by the Signal Officer-in-Chief in India, accompanied by the C.S.O. Northern Command, who expressed themselves very pleased with all they saw during their stay in Waziristan.

It is also with great pleasure that we record the visit of Major-General Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, to Dera Ismail Khan. He was accompanied by Mrs. Powell. Although their stay was short, they attended quite a round of small functions organised in their honour.



Major-General and Mrs. Powell, Major and Mrs. Roberts, Lieutenants R. M. Adams and J. T. Cussens.

General Powell inspected Headquarters on parade inside the Fort, this being the first inspection on our new parade ground. After the inspection he read to us a message of congratulation from the Royal Corps of Signals to the Indian Signal Corps on the twenty-fifth anniversary of its birth: "We send the warmest congratulations of all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals to the Indian Signal Corps on the attainment of its twenty-fifth birthday. We feel that the alliance between the two Corps is a mutual privilege, and we watch with pride the growing fame of our sister Corps and its achievements in peace and war. The two Corps share the same high tradition of service in the field, and are so closely linked both in sentiment and interest that the welfare of either is the concern of both. We wish you continued success and increasing honour in the Indian Army of which you form so distinguished a part."



Mixed Doubles Final. Winners in play.

The commanding officer (Major A. W. Roberts, M.C.) then made a suitable reply to the Colonel-Commandant, after which a presentation parade was held. The Colonel-Commandant presenting Jemadar Isiah Datta with his Viceroy's commission parchment, Sergt Szarkowski with his L.S. and G.C. medal, Signalman Campion with his first class certificate of education, and Naik Sarangapani with a first class Assistant P.T. instructor's certificate.



The Presentation Parade in progress.

All ranks then joined in giving General and Mrs. Powell three hearty cheers, after which the unit marched past the Colonel-Commandant, Lieut. R. M. Adams commanding the parade.

This unit is perhaps more proud of its relation with the Indian Signal Corps for the reason that it was one of the first units to be formed in 1911. Colonel (then Captain) Earle formed the 34th Divisional Signal Company S. and M. (now Waziristan District Signals) at Ahmednagar on the 1st March 1911, and on this present



Ladies' Race at the Children's Party.



Some of the Crowd watching the Tennis Finals.

memorable occasion the following was received from Colonel R. G. Earle, C.M.G., D.S.O.: " The Indian Signal Corps, since its formation twenty-five years ago, has created a great record of service both in the Great War and after, and is still keeping up this great record (as we have heard) by the work done at the time of the Quetta earthquake. I am pleased to have belonged to so distinguished a Corps and to have commanded one of its first units. I wish it every success in the future, and should like to be remembered to all old friends, especially to any members of the original 34th and 35th Signal Companies who may be present." Our commanding officer has suitably replied.

Before departing to visit other Signal units in the Northern Command, the Colonel-Commandant sent the following message to this unit: " I wish to place on record my congratulations to all ranks of the unit for their turn out and general bearing on my parade ; and I wish to say how greatly I was impressed by the organisation and general efficiency which was apparent to me during my visit. I also wish to thank all ranks who have entertained me for their hospitality. Every moment of my visit to Waziristan has given me great pleasure, and Waziristan District Signals will always have a warm corner in my heart. I am sorry that I am unable to see the whole of the unit, but I have no doubt that the rest are as efficient and well turned out as the two Sections that I have seen."



The Clown at the Children's Christmas Party.

Major-General and Mrs. Powell left for Kohat en route for Peshawar on the morning of the 14th January. So ended a most memorable visit.

Before closing the notes for this month, we would like to thank Captain F. J. Allen, who has left us to take up an appointment as technical adviser in signalling to the Indian State Forces, for all he has done during his all too short a stay with the unit as adjutant. We shall miss him greatly, but wish him the best of luck in his new appointment.

Lieut. and Mrs. Palmer left us early in January for Jubbulpore, and we wish them the best of luck.

The drafts are due to arrive during February, and we hope they will find Waziristan to their liking.

To Captain and Mrs. Scott, from Peshawar, we extend a very warm welcome. We sincerely hope that they will like Waziristan as well as Peshawar. Captain Scott is our new adjutant, to whom we offer our full support. He is a very active member of our golf committee and has already done much to improve our new course.

We bid goodbye to our many friends who have left us for the U.K. during the past few months, and trust they will be happy in their new spheres of life.

Late News.—Just as we were about to go to press, the Section moved out to Mirali for a training exercise. (Old members will recall this place in 1933.) They have just arrived back again with many tales of how well the scheme went, both from the Signal point of view and the social life out there. From what one can hear—which is not much at present—evidently the old 72 ft. mast did not go up as well as it should do. But, of course, one cannot expect things to be o.k. if one forgets the halyard the first time it goes up. Can one ? Perhaps we shall have some more tales to report next month.

Extracts from a Signal Officer's Mail.—The following was received, complete with two wireless sets for repair. (Can you wonder they went wrong ?)

" Dear . . . . —I am sending the set and also the box containing the batteries. Also a screw we found loose the other day. What is ' eye ' ? There are directions on the L.T. battery saying that vinegar disperses it, or something like that. There is a curious white substance floating on the electrolyte. Does one really add vinegar ?"

" Dear . . . . —I am most grateful to you. I am in complete ignorance. The fault may be something quite obvious, but I suspect the connections in my house."

Can any Signal unit beat these two letters ? WAZIR.

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

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Wednesday 15th January.

General.—The absence of WIRE notes from this unit for the past two months is regretted. An endeavour is made this month to get us back into touch by a brief summary of the period since our last appearance in print.

The end of October saw the departure of our Pack Section to Burma and the return of the Peshawar Detachment. Lurid tales were told by the latter, but we can rely on the Pack to emulate them on their return to the unit. Even now, rumours are heard of the Pack's swimming feats. I understand that they are considering themselves qualified for a change in designation to the Hydro-W/T Section or the Submarine Light Pack Section. I'll write and let you know about the rain in Blighty, Nobby.

During November we lost Captain D. A. L. Wade, M.C., who proceeded on leave prior to taking up his new appointment as G.S.O.3 at Army Headquarters, Simla. Captain and Mrs. Wade have the best wishes of all ranks of the unit. We were very sorry to lose you, sir.

The wireless station was moved to Kiamari and is now located in the Western Command Headquarters building, Mules Mansions, with the transmitters in a building in the Supply Depot. Both transmitting and receiving rooms command excellent views of the harbour, the former being almost adjacent to the trooping berths. Handy!

December! Ah, December! I have sufficient material concerning December to almost fill our already increasingly large WIRE, but fair's fair, and I will only give you a brief account of the Christmas festivities.

Holidays started on Monday 23rd, and festivities were soon in an excellent swing—started by a fair organised by the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess in the afternoon, and the junior n.c.o.s dinner and dance in the evening of that day.

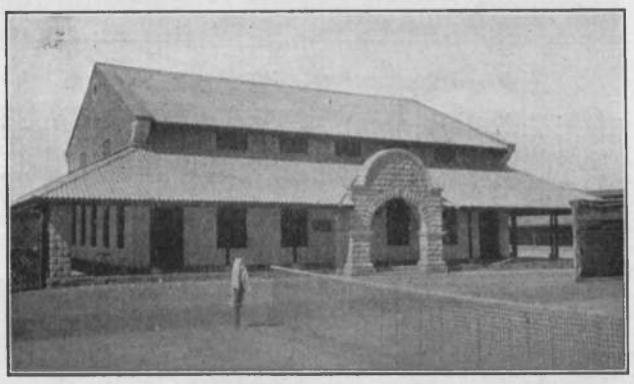
On the 24th we had an " International " soccer match between England and Scotland, resulting in a win for the former. This day also saw the commencement of a five-a-side soccer tournament and the holding of the kiddies' Christmas tree.

Wednesday the 25th was, of course, the B.O.R.s dinner day, and a very fine show it was. I feel sure that everyone had an excellent time.

The 26th provided a full programme, including a hockey match between the junior n.c.o.s and the men (resulting in a well fought draw), sports organised by the Unit Club members, and the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess dinner and dance.

The high spot of Friday the 27th was the Unit Club concert—an excellent show. All ranks and their friends were invited, and the fare included the R.A.F. concert party, the West Yorks dance band, Mesdames Collins and Wood, and our own Jock Doris.

A treasure hunt was organised by the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess on Saturday the 28th. This provided an excellent morning's sport, with Sigmn Jock Massey the ultimate winner.



The Mess Room, Karachi.

Our new messroom—of which we are pleased to forward some snaps—lent itself well to the various functions held, and thanks are due to those fellows who decorated it. It must have taken quite a considerable amount of spare time.

January commenced with the usual Proclamation parade, when the Signals put up their usual good show before thousands of spectators. This month we were honoured by

A Visit from our Colonel-Commandant.—On Sunday 5th January Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., inspected the unit and addressed us on the purpose of his visit. (All ranks here thank all ranks at home for their good wishes.) The Colonel-Commandant then presented Mohmand medals to Sergt Steele, Corpl Walsh and Signalmen Eccleshall and Jones D., and the clasp to Sigmn Irvin S. The Colonel-Commandant continued his stay through Monday and Tuesday, inspecting the W/T station and lines, and on Tuesday evening he attended a dance where he was welcomed by a novel illuminated greeting from the Indian Signal Corps.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Sergt Harper G. A. at Peshawar, where (as one of the Peshawar Detachment) he was temporarily stationed.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Miller A. from S.T.C. L/Corpl Dallimore and Signalmen Attfield, Glynn and Green G. from U.K. leave.

Departures.—Lieut. N. I. Bower, L/Sergt Widgery, Corporals Taylor and Colwell, L/Corporal Cant, and Signalmen Copeman, Crompton, Brown W., Browne R. A., Martin and Whitelaw to the home establishment. Corporals Wallis and Broadhead, and Signalmen Dines, Emery, Lough and Soloman to discharge and the Army Reserve. Sigmn Ellison to the Zhob Signal Section.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to the following on making the ranks stated: C.Q.M.S. Laing, Sergeant Widgery, Corporals Chrystie and Dennison, L/Corpls Locke and Hughes, and U/L/Corporals Knight, Hobbs, Ewer and Jordan.

Correspondence Corner.—Have any of our listeners located VU2BZ yet ? Keep up the good work, Peter. All supersonics listen daily for you.

To Cyril, Bulford: Noted. We await confirmation of the rumour that you've carted it again. Our offer still holds until 1938. Mac, Loralai. Kindly note, A and D.

To Sigmn Eldridge R., 2nd Div. Aldershot: Congratulations, Reg. Hope all your troubles will be little 'uns. Aldridge, Percival and Thomas, 22 Squad.

A signalman, provisionally warned for the home establishment, wishes to exchange with one due for India. Write P.O. Box 4, Deolali. BEKORE.

Sergeants Mess.

October.—On the 16th the Mess proceeded to Kiamari Docks to bid farewell to the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, who were leaving the station per the s.s. *Ellora* for an unknown destination. A very pleasant evening was spent on board until eight o'clock, when we took our departure amid many farewells and wishes of bon voyage. Since our arrival in Karachi a sporting friendship had been formed between the two units, resulting in many enjoyable functions.

With the advent of long nights before us, our entertainments committee (Ned and Elsie) have started to make things hum in the shape of impromptu dance-cum-variety shows. Their first attempt, on the 17th, was undoubtedly an unqualified success. The items were varied, and much appreciated by the ladies, especially "Are you there, Brother Bob?" (for gentlemen only). One lady was quite angry because there were no feminine entries: she evidently wished to get her own back on someone. Brother Conway very much deplored the absence of Brother Baker in this competition. Two contests were reserved for the ladies, and the keenness displayed was worthy of note. In the snifters test, a number of small jars holding various condiments were covered with a cloth. The competitors had to write their estimate on a slip of paper, and the one who correctly guessed the greatest number won. Ye gods! Woe to the hubbies of some of the contestants who tell their better halves they were on lemons all night! The next ladies' contest was pokey dice. I used to throw aces in the good old days, but I would certainly not risk shaking with some of the entrants here. They were marvellous. Hubbies, beware! don't shake for new frocks, hats, etc. You'll lose. The prizes for the various contests were kindly distributed by Mrs. Trapmore. Songs were rendered by various members, and a very amusing skit, entitled " Madame Delively," was produced by the one and only Buck. The evening was very enjoyable and appreciated by one and all. Well done, Elsie and Ned! Let us have some more like it.

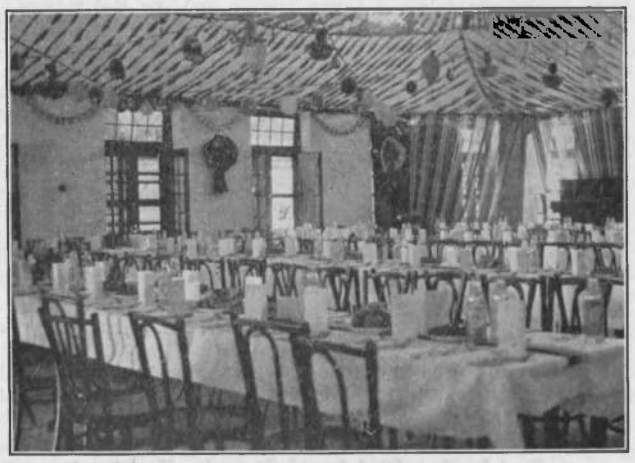
November.—Things are still looking up here, and on the 5th they went off with a bang—and the kiddies did enjoy it. A very neat and carefully planned firework display staged by Blunyana and Co. in front of the mess in honour of the notorious Guy. All went crackingly and the wee bairns thoroughly enjoyed the fun, especially that contributed by our Whimsical Walker in his impersonation of the famous Charlie Chaplin. On the last embers of the old guy dying out, each child was presented with a bag of sweets and departed homeward singing " Guy, Guy, hit him in the eye."

At night the light fantastic toes of the dancers trod a merry measure until late hours. During the dance, several impromptu games were resorted to. The principal one was fixing the tail on the donkey, for ladies only ; and believe me, from the positions in which some of the ladies stuck old Ned's narrative—well, I would rather be any other animal than a Jerusalem cuckoo.

Again, on the 23rd, Blunyana Ltd. put on another impromptu affair which included dancing and games, and from the keenness displayed, the popularity of the shows is guaranteed. Several songs were rendered, and an amusing character sketch of a Port Said itinerant hawker was given by Sgt Taylor, causing hysterics amongst the ladies. A vote of thanks is passed to C.S.M. Hawkins of the Queen's Royal West Surreys (on leave from Quetta) for his magnificent display as a pianist during the evening.

On the night of the 13th we entertained our C.O. and officers to a games tournament consisting of snooker, darts, shove-halfpenny and bridge. Several interesting games were witnessed, and a very enjoyable night was brought to a close in the small hours of next morning.

December.—The festive season of Christmas has passed. It was a glorious roundabout of excitement, and the highest praise is due to our entertainment committee for the successful results obtained. Festivities were opened on the 23rd by a fancy fair organised by the R.S.M. Aunt Sally, football kick stalls, race games, etc., drew many speculators who were eager to display their prowess in the hope of increasing their cigarette stock. Aunt Sally and the kick stalls were always packed—the former with ideas of " knocking his block off," but with little results ; and the latter with budding 1st Division football hopes.

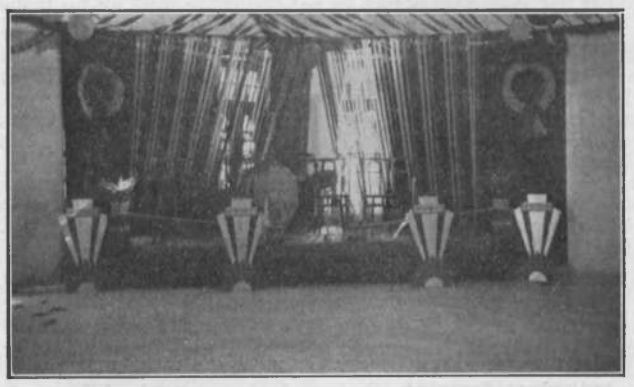


Interior of the Mess Room, Christmas 1935.

On the 24th Santa Claus arrived by sleigh at five o'clock and disposed of the contents of his sack to the kiddies. Prior to his arrival, the Mess entertained the mothers and children to tea, at which our genial C.O. and officers presided. The former opened the proceedings by reading a telegram from Santa Claus, which was attentively followed by the eager-faced little ones. On the conclusion of the distribution of toys, the mess was transformed into a miniature Selfridge's, where scooters, aeroplanes and Flying Scotsmen were on exhibition. With the approach of night, the bairns retired to sleep and dream of their visitor.

The main item on the 25th was the B.O.R.s dinner, at which all w.o.s and sergeants became waiters, displaying that esprit de corps for which the Signals are noted.

The 26th was the special day, it being our annual Christmas dinner and dance, which went off splendidly. The arrangements reflect great credit on the entertainment committee so ably piloted by R.Q.M.S. Mitchell. The toasts were proposed by C.Q.M.S. Laing and loudly responded to by all, especially the toast to the ladies given by our one and only Buck. I wonder, did the rolling pin start work when he arrived home ? The visitors' toast was ably responded to by C.S.M. Wallace of the Queen's Royal West Surreys. At the conclusion of the dinner, all adjourned to the ball room and " trod the light fantastic," which went with a gusto. The R.A.F. band did their stuff—and did it well. During the programme a spot waltz and novelty statue dance were introduced, the former being won by our Frontier veteran Sergt Conway and his partner Mrs. Moore, whilst the latter was carried off by Mr.



The Stage in Corps Colours, Christmas 1935.

and Mrs. Buck Taylor, who gave some splendid exhibitions of living statuary. No, Buck, I didn't say " La Milo." The prizes were presented by Mrs. Dent and Mrs. Trapmore respectively. From " stable information " received, our visitors (who were legion) enjoyed themselves immensely and at the conclusion gave three hearty cheers for B Corps Signals and the R.A.F. band. The dance terminating in the early hours of the 27th, all wended their way in the most appropriate manner possible to their respective couches, well pleased with a splendid's night's entertainment.

On the 28th we held a treasure hunt (reported elsewhere). This concluded our Christmas festivities, and the highest praise is due to Messrs. Trapmore and Mitchell (our R.S.M. and R.Q.M.S. respectively) for the manner in which they kept the ball rolling without a hitch. Well done, stout fellahs!

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to C.S.M. Price and family from the S.T.C. May their stay be a long and happy one. Who mentioned the short grass county ? Also to Sergt Watford and family from U.K. leave. We hope you will like Karachi, Bob.

Wanted.—Will the wife of a Mess member who uses khaki starch kindly pass the recipe to the other married ladies of the unit ?

Heard at the Grocery Bar.—Lady to assistant: " One tin of preserved cherries, please." Assistant: " Sorry, madame, but we only keep Cherry Blossom boot polish."

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Sunday 2nd February.

General.—In the second month in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six there came the word of the R.S.M., saying " Lo, thou son of a babu, for three long months thou hast not written a word for THE WIRE, and I am sore displeased. Turn ye now from your evil ways and hearken unto me. This month is the month of February, and thou wilt present unto me thy notes." And, lo! upon the second day of the second month there *were* WIRE notes. Thus therefore saith the scribe as follows.

Departures.—This trooping season has seen the departure of several personalities. We have said goodbye to C.Q.M.S. Parsons and Signalmen Rockall and Gibbon of this Company, all of whom were glad to get away to a terra firma which, compared with Quetta, is much *firmer* with less *terror*. During the Christmas period we had to rely on the wireless and newspapers to record our shakes. Those of us who felt any were not in an ideal condition to count them.

Corpl Homer left us for No. 1 Company soon after joining the happy band of full corporals.

Arrivals.—We are all pleased to welcome our commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.) on his return from leave down under with the Aussies.

We are still looking forward to the drafts from the U.K., but up to the present we have had nothing but nil returns. The Blighty summer leave people returned just after Christmas after having had ten months holiday. Some people are born lucky.

Sigmn Clark E. J. also entered our fold from No. 1 Company. After five years with horses, he has decided to work for his living and is now doing duty as a clerk and pushing a pen instead of a curry comb.

Promotions.—We have had the pleasure of congratulating L/Sergeant Lay on attaining that rank. He celebrated his new appointment with a trip to Jubbulpore over the Christmas period, together with Sergt Baker. Neither of them was keen to come back. What is it that Quetta has not and Jubbulpore has ?

We also offer all the best to L/Corpl Ben Chadwick on getting the pice for his anointment—I mean appointment—and also to U/L/Corpls Pleasance and Greaves on attaining the dizzy heights. Both are sweating on getting paid before they go home.

Awards.—We are all pleased to note the award of H.E. the Viceroy's certificate to our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., " for services in connection with the earthquake in Baluchistan, 1935." L/Naik Gurdit Singh was also honoured, but in his case with a Commander-in-Chief's certificate.

Individual Training.—It is pathetic to see the I.T. people rapidly developing that worried expression you usually see only in advertisements. The B.i. and B.ii. aspirants can be seen nightly puzzling over the questions that have developed during the day. The new Vol. II. Part I. is always prominent, and Blighty is not the only ohm that is spoken of. However, the pay sergeant is preparing to put a little more money away each week for those who pull through. I am sure that if we hadn't the busty sahib in the chota pay daftar, many of us would have nothing to go home with. It is rumoured that his new motto is " Let me be your father."

The education results have just been published. L/Corporal Clayton passed in modern European history as an extra subject, and Sigmn Hay passed his English paper to get the special. It proves that he can write English even if he can only talk Scots. Och, but he's a braw bricht laddie!

Of the few who sat for first class certificates, U.H.Q. did very well. Sigmn Cathmoir passed in two subjects to complete his first class. Another Scotsman. It is unbelievable. L/Corpl Greaves, a Yorkshireman, passed with a " D " in all four subjects. L/Cpl Chadwick, a Lancashire lad, passed in English, as also did Sigmn Paterson, who, I am sorry to relate, also belongs to a clan over the border. L/Corpl Chadwick is having a spot of leave at home, but Sigmn Paterson, inspired by having mastered our strange language, is swatting hard now for the remainder of the subjects. I am told that he has been threatened with a dozen different deaths if he doesn't pass at the next examination.

Have You Heard This One.—"Did you feel that one?" During the Christmas riots an n.c.o. of fame walked into the mess room and demanded to know who had taken his favourite seat. The reply came back, " Smudge " ; but the n.c.o.'s reply wins: " Smudge who ?"

We have heard rumours of the Christmas decorations at Karachi, and wonder how far they extended. Is it true that even the flagstaff took part in the celebrations ? I was told to ask a fellow with a moustache. I suppose that is the person who always talks of his family heirloom.

EFJEE.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

Friday 31st January.

General.—The Zhob has, in common with the rest of the world, been celebrating Christmas since the last notes from this Section were written ; and now that things are once more back to normal, an uncoloured account of the proceedings can be rendered.

A concert party came into existence at the end of November, with the O.C. as producer. The cast was drawn from the entire station and two performances were given, one on 13/12/35 and the other on the following night. Both performances met with a rousing reception.

Inspections.—The C.S.O. Western Command, Colonel R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C., toured the Zhob during the latter part of November. Paint pots were resurrected, and the inspection went off without a hitch.

Arrivals.—From their native land, after ten months leave, Signalmen Taylor and Kinsey, both looking fit, and Ousie still being capable of gripping to an alarming degree. We also extend the glad hand to Corpl Pearson and Sigmn Hobson, who have joined the Section on permanent posting from Quetta, and Sigmn Haydon from B Corps Signals, who is attached and joins us from Karachi.

Departures.—Corpl Pearson to Fort Sandeman to relieve Corpl Bartlett, who is due for transfer to the home establishment this trooper. (N.I.S.C., please note.) Sergeant Bosworth and Sigmn Kinsey to Hindubagh.

Appointments.—U/L/Corpl Jamieson H. to be L/Corporal, and Sigmn Constantine to be U/L/Corporal, w.e.f. 18/9/35.

Education.—The establishment of learned gentlemen in the Section has been increased as a result of the last first class certificate examination held in October. All candidates from the Section passed in the subjects for which they sat, and great credit is due to W.O. Carroll (A.E.C.) for successfully cramming the required amount of knowledge into their heads. There were not many " D "s, but a certain little lance-corporal from Fort Sandeman, noted for his rotundity and fraternity, managed to raise one.

Christmas, 1935.—The Institute, which has been under reconstruction by the M.E.S., was finished by Christmas Eve, and

serious business started with a few " quick ones " in the cubby hole. Later, a car kindly lent for the occasion whisked the carollers away on a tour of carol singing (*sic*) and practically every resident in the station suffered accordingly. The casualties were fairly light, the only noticeable damage being (1) a fine old oak table battered to pieces by the furious feet of the band leader, and (2) one dog (to wit, Spot) who gambolled under the wheels of the car but still lives to tell the tale.

Christmas Day and the accompanying fare provided one of the high spots of the festivities. Connie, i/c provisions, did great things, and the way he stuffed the turkeys would put Mrs. Beeton in the shade.

New Year Eve Dance.—A New Year dance was held in the Institute. It was a fancy dress affair, and everyone seemed to have gone to great pains to make it so. The costumes were largely novel and some very fitting to their wearers. Dawn came ere the revels ceased. Old King Cole (alias Jamie) entertained regally, whilst Crusader Bartlett (well be-ribboned) hid the various veins of his knightly figure with great aptitude. Debonair Dungey was missing from this glittering throng ; 'tis said he was still suffering from the pangs after his leave at Karachi. The " depression" departed from 'Orrible 'Orace (canned Mac) as the night wore on ; and our tame monk (hitherto famous for his masterly cookery book), who was also worshipping at the shrine of Bacchus, hardly did credit to his cloth. The catering arrangements were excellent, and our grateful thanks go to the ladies who were wholly responsible for this. It is agreed by all that this event was the finest ever staged here.

Entertainments.—Of late, several equestrian figures have appeared in the riding school, and the spectators much appreciate their efforts in entertaining them. A notable horseman of this Group, Tim, has been having great difficulty in obtaining a horse with sufficient life even to walk ; but nothing deters him, and we hope that a suitable mount will be found soon, as this poor stuff gives Tim no chance to display his skill as an ex-Kenya bush-ranger and hunter.

We Have Heard.—" I could go without food for a month ": Ousie. " You can't take it ": from the same source.

An S.O.S. from Our 'Erbie.—To No. 3 Company, Bulford: Do Millie and Middie want wheels for soap boxes yet ? Does a certain n.c.o. still stand on a box when making his bed down ? (Signed, 'Erbie.) All answers must be accompanied by two three-halfpenny stamps to defray our 'Erbie's expenses, and all incorrect answers will be returned to the senders in unstamped envelopes. The decision of the secretary to the Society for the Provision of Fur Coats for Pole Cats will be final. And that *is* final.

PHILLUP.

Fort Sandeman.

Apology.—Firstly, we must apologise for neglecting our notes for the past couple of months. But Christmas arrived, and we all took the cup of good cheer much too early and several things were neglected, though the elbows got plenty of practice.

General.—We are all seriously down to work again. The Pack W/T Detachment are showing their paces down the roads twice weekly. There are a lot of new faces forming this Detachment, so they have decided to get the feet in trim. Bear up!

Corpl Bartlett, who ably led the Detachment for a couple of years, has handed over to Corpl Pearson. Darkie is settling in very nicely, though he doesn't like the picture house. Corporal Bartlett is expecting to go home in March.

Christmas Functions.—Several " do's " were held, and as far as we can remember they all went very successfully. We thank those concerned with the functions, as they were all excellent. We must congratulate the O.C. and his merry band of savages at Loralai, who gave a wonderful show for the New Year. We hear it is going down in history.

Arrivals.—Corporal Pearson from the U.K. via Quetta. Sigmn Ellison from B Corps Signals via Loralai. So far they seem to be liking our abode, but they cannot tell the difference between mutton and goat, so Jock has to part with his knowledge.

Education.—The old school tie came well to the fore in the recent examinations, and we must congratulate all those who passed. It is rumoured that there was not a single failure, and all results were good. Congratulations to Sigmn Buck Taylor on completing his special with a " D " in English. We all thank W.O. Carroll for the excellent tuition he gave us during his short stay up here and in Loralai. The results definitely prove that the instruction was excellent.

Marriages.—We all congratulate our Detachment commander, who has taken the plunge, and wish him all the best for the future. Quetta-ites of the 1926—1931 reign, please note.

Sport.—Our hockey team is still able to put up a gallant fight, and we all look forward to the weekly struggle with the officers of the station. The results vary, sometimes in our favour and sometimes for them. Our last meeting proved a great success for us: we won to the tune of 7—1 goals. We are looking forward to building a stronger team this year when the new folk get a little more accustomed to the ground.

The quoits court is in great demand these days. It was recently built by some of the energetic 'Erbs, and now every afternoon there is much activity on the ground.

Tailpiece.—To Sigmn Taylor, Aldershot, and Sigmn Goodhand, Canterbury: Best wishes for the future, but mind the girls. To Kipper Hickmott: Windy, eh ? G.A.C.

Hindubagh.

General.—There has been a complete change in the Detachment, with the exception of Sigmn Moad, who is still hanging on. After spending the Christmas holidays at Loralai, we have now returned to Hindubagh to hold the fort for a further year. We were welcomed with some very cold weather, the ground having a fine covering of snow. The journey from Loralai was not exactly a pleasure trip. We are all looking forward to March, when the weather should make things more cheerful. Sergt Bosworth and Sigmn Kinsey have taken the places of L/Corporal Jamieson and Sigmn Eley respectively.

We are expecting some visitors from Quetta in the very near future. They are calling in en route to Loralai, and we hope they have a better trip over the Pass than we did.

Greetings.—Here's wishing the Corps a happy and prosperous New Year—including those who will be on the " briny " for the sunnier climes.

We Want To Know.—What happened in Blighty, Bamba ? Has Smith J. C. recovered from his holiday ? They tell me that the Coal Hole is still in the Strand.

Passing Show.—Our friends from Quetta with W/T demonstration No. 1 sets arrived, but only remained with us for one night, departing to Loralai the next day. J.L.M.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Friday 17th January.

General.—The Company engaged in the normal round of the Christmas festivities. A unit Christmas tree was a great success. Mrs. Sykes, our commanding officer's wife, very kindly purchased the presents in England, and her personal interest resulted in a finer selection of toys than we have had in previous years.

Most of us will spend our next Christmas in Quetta, and from all accounts it will be quite a change. Although the winter there is severe, the comparatively cool summer will more than compensate for it ; and, no doubt, the married folk will be pleased that hill moves are unheard of.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Captain E. V. MacCormack (from No. 2 Company) as Company commander. Sergt Fred Handley arrived from Peshawar District Signals and has taken over the duties of A/C.S.M.

Departures.—Sergt Murray and family to S.T.C. Jubbulpore. L/Corporal Rudd and Signalmen Rainbird and Hills to the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Congratulatory.—To Sergeant Nobby Clarke and his wife on receiving a Christmas gift of a little Nobby. V.A.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

No. 2 A.A. Cable Section, H.M.S. "President IV."

c/o G.P.O. London.

Introduction.—Yo ho, landlubbers! Jack's ashore, and so are we, although our address belies us. With brevity aforethought we must "Heave, ho!" and cast a line to answer the many enquiries made as to our welfare.

General.—After an interesting cruise and a brief "vacation" at Mustapha Camp, Alexandria, last September—where we met numerous friends to whom we had once before said farewell—all hands were employed in unloading and checking our stores. These being mostly issued from Mobilisation Stores, they were in an excellent condition—a cheery feature when faced with an unknown task, as was apparent at that time. After visions and soul-stirring stories (especially those exploded by the Section newsvendor Paddy) of the mysterious Port X, things and even Sections began to move in the direction of the unexpected.

First off, the Section was divided when Corpl Powell's detachment was posted to the 1st A.A. Cable Section, and the survivors changed quarters when we moved to Mex Camp. Here, after encountering all that can be expected in brand new billets, such as digging trenches, dug outs, sand bagging, and numerous other fatigues beside our own task of laying lines, we once again welcomed back our other detachment, who had meanwhile made one alteration in their composition, i.e. L/Corpl Wake A. replaced L/Corpl McCarthy.

Having returned to our original number, we once again plunged forth into the many tasks awaiting our attention. These consisted of similar duties to those in which we occupied our Blackdown days, such as supplying and maintaining V.P., searchlight and gun positions with lines, but over a vastly different country and under unusual circumstances. In endeavouring to elucidate things, it must be understood that all communication within the area of this Force is a combination of Naval, Marine and Army Signals. This course of events, beside having definite advantages, has of course disadvantages which are apt to occur through lack of a thorough procedure covering the sphere in which these communications exist. In case of a possible misunderstanding, it must be pointed out that our co-operation with the Royal Marine signallers is cordially appreciated, and in work or play they are hard to beat.

Night runs are frequent, for which the amplifier and the experimental V.P. switchboard are in constant demand. Combined exercises with the Navy, Army and Air Force also occur periodically, and for those who travelled with the Royal Engineer "Princess" on manœuvres last year, it might be interesting to note that in these exercises "ill-disposed persons" are to be expected. This prompts us to think of one who, when assisting a "spy" to surprise us with a gas attack, tripped over the alarm wire, thereby warning all and sundry. We trust he is not now so agile, although still able to give our other Blackdown-ites a laugh in their "spot" somewhere out on the desert.

One of these days it may be possible to prevail upon the "Tiches" of the Section to write a few chapters dealing with Alexandria as seen by the bright young people, but at present they say they are still looking for inspiration.

There is a possibility that, by the time these notes appear in print, one of our members (Sigmn Fellows R.) will have said goodbye to the Service after twenty-one years of sporting khaki. We are unanimous in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Fellows bon voyage throughout whatever journey they undertake in their new life.

We do not know yet if they are keeping our bed spaces reserved for us in Blackdown, or if it is intended for us to travel north after our return. Dame Rumour prevails in her most jubilant manner in stories pertaining to this much-discussed topic, so one can safely say it will be somewhere between March '36 and March '40.

Meanwhile, our footballers still show their skill whenever games can be arranged, so those nicely settled at Blackdown can be prepared for a hard game if our lads get the chance to play them. A detailed list of the many games contested would hardly be of interest, because who would know of "Eight Gun Position" and so forth? The team, however, have enjoyed numerous engagements and can boast of a winning margin if they so wish.

Agony.—Duggie: What about it? Jock. L/Corporal Harper wishes to know if Con can still handle a pen. Shoe V.: Still looking for the letter. Please note the address. Topper. L/Cpl Lane, 5th Div.: Hope you are enjoying the course— or is Leeds the attraction? Ress. Sigmn Cozens: Ted Grint, what about a line? Sid. Corpl Rafferty, Hong Kong: Will write later from above address. Sergt Hodgson H.

Conclusion.—Here I will (allowing for my Irish inheritance) come to the fore and introduce the Section under the command of Lieut. P. H. Smitherman: Sergeants Brown H. and Hodgson H., Corporals Field L. and Powell F., L/Corporals Harper W., Kirk R. and Wake A., Signalmen Ashton, Blake, Bennett, Buckett, Carmichael, Couzens, Clarke, Crockett, Dale, Fellows, Gale, Hodge, Judd, Merriman, Lewin, Ryan, Taylor, Walsh J., Walsh J. F. and Wright.

More Agony.—Bill Riley, Singapore: Sling me a hammock; will come aboard at Alexandria. Yim Kin. BADGY KIRK.

F Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

Seb-ullivan's Opening Chorus.—

There's a fact that's reprehensible—
Almost incomprehensible:
F Troop sailed for Egypt on New Year's Eve.
To be repatriated *many* weary men have waited.
That we'll be home in April, none believe.

A Depression Moves Eastward.—Most annoying. What with Paddy's voc course, and Hector, Mick and several other dark horses just about to get married, we are suddenly bundled off, lock, stock and barrel (see Thomo) to the land of sand, Pyramids and mystic smells of the East. Verv inconsiderate, we call it!

Shades of a Troopship.—The blow was softened by the s.s. *California*. Posh bunks, posh messing (ask No. 27 table), and stewards (strangely enough) all answering to the call of "Jock!" Although mal-de-mer claimed many victims, and the direction was (so we are told) the wrong way, we had a very pleasant trip. Dare we hope for a "ditto repeato" on the return—if and when?

Rest Period.—During this time everyone is busy—painting, overhauling, cleaning, and finding a new answer to "What are you on?" In the brighter intervals one juggles with the local lucre, and comes to the conclusion that the cost of living (PT.3 per bottle) is high or else we are easy.

Camouflage.—

I sprang on the lorry, and Willie, and he.
I painted, Bram painted; we painted all three.
"Roll on," said old Mick, with paint pot in hand.
"Roll on," echoed Seb, throwing handfuls of sand.
The lorry was covered from bonnet to tail
With sand, paint and varnish, to cover the trail.

We painted the gear box, the axles (a pair)
So that no shadow could be seen from the air.
"Good work," said the foreman, twirling his 'tache.
The mule nearly smiled, but that *would* have been rash.
The lorry was covered, below and above,
But no one could drive it—ten men had to shove!

S.E.B.

Quotations from the Big Cheeses.—

"Now, then, stop wasting that sand!"
"Well, lads, sit down and let's see how we stand!"

Q.E.D.—Streaky, in all his wisdom, has solved a problem. He states that, by remaining motionless in the desert, camouflage would be perfect. When it was pointed out that a shadow would still be cast, he hit upon a brilliant idea. "Throw sand on it" sez he!

Congratulations.—To Sergt Murphy on attaining full rank; also to Sigmn Griffiths on obtaining a voc course.

Backsheesh.—Griff: How did you wangle it? Paddy and Hector are most jealous. Dodger, Hong Kong: Still looking for a line. Geordie (ex Bulford).

And so, folks, farewell. E.ZEE.

G Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

General.—Once again the time for writing notes has come round, and here I am, stuck for want of something to write. The Troop is still away from "home," but during the last month we have changed our residential quarters: we are now with our Headquarters once more. Things are more or less normal, and we are carrying on much the same as usual.

We give a very hearty welcome to the 12th Royal Lancers, who are back here in Egypt far sooner than they—or we—expected. We strongly sympathise with them in arriving amidst clouds of sand, but hope they will enjoy themselves as much as is possible in the circumstances. From our point of view, it is grand to see the familiar badge once more. Greetings to F Troop, too, on their first visit to Egypt.

The January weather report is not very good. We have had on an average four sandstorms per week, coupled with a fair amount of rain, which is rather an unpleasant joke on the part of Old Man Weather. One does not mind the conditions so much when one is in a brick barrack room, but under canvas it gets beyond a joke. However, enough of the morbid.

Two reconnaissances were carried out during the month, each party being accompanied by No. 5 Detachment. Some rather heavy going was encountered on both trips, but we managed to overcome our "getting stuck" problems. On one of the trips we met a detachment of the Frontier Districts Administration right out in the blue—the majority of them Sudanese, and a very fine type of men, too. Our Wireless Detachment became very friendly with the O.C. Section and his men, who showed us over their camp. Two days later we got back to camp again. I think almost everyone enjoyed the trip, and it was at least a break in the monotony of camp life with its eternal sandstorms and general bad weather.

No. 1 Detachment are still away and, according to reports that filter through from time to time, are having quite a decent time.

At the time of going to press No. 3 Detachment have gone off reconnoitring, so I will report on their activities (if any) in next month's issue.

Arrivals.—We extend the usual grimy paw to Signalmen Clarke R., Conway P. and Goff N. on arriving in the Troop on 27/1/36, and trust that they will soon settle down. We don't know how long they will be attached to us.

Congratulations.—To Micky (our five years tour abroad canine veteran) on doing the 1½ miles odd from Brigade H.Q. to our lines at least four times a week—and all on his own, too. To Ikeynoff on the dead straight brick wall around the car park, built under his supervision. To Grayinoff on his discovery of a new tobacco (grown about 2 mms. off the Cairo track), duly blended, patented, and named "the Gralen Desert blend—ultra full strength." I might add that there is an immediate rush for gas masks when the Grayinoff apparition appears around the corner avec pipe and puffing like the deuce at Gralen.

Jew's Mail.—Taylor, 351, Loralai: Am going home next March. What about answering my letters before I go? Myers 349.

Conclusion.—I might have a few more sandstorms to write about next month.

P.S.: Pigeons.—The writer of the above notes forgot to mention the famous pigeon episode. We wonder why, because it was definitely the "creamiest" joke yet.

8th K.R.I. Hussars Signal Section.

Main Barracks, Abbassia, Cairo.

General.—"Sieeda," you fellahs. See how one gets hold of the language in double quick time out here! S'wonderful.

We arrived at approximately 11.45 p.m. on the 31st December after a very nice trip on the P. and O. ship *Barrabool*. None of your old *Nevasa* tricks on that tub: dinner served up at supper time and all the old cads' tricks. Still, we are expecting to go home on the *Queen Mary* if there is a shortage of troop-carrying aircraft.

So far, our stay here has been a continuation of the holiday we had at sea, owing to the fact that our sets and cars are not yet available for use. However, we are shortly hoping to become fully equipped and to get a little more acquainted with the No. 7 sets.

For the benefit of WIRE readers who may have friends in this Section, here is our roll. O.C. Section, Lieut. Lewis; Sergeant Lewis, Corpl Wilbraham, L/Corporals Honey, Evans D. R. and Hilliar, Signalmen Bell, Brown, Cox, Moore, Hurst, Walsh, Smith R. A., Richardson, Roberts, Jones, Sullivan L. and Howman, and Driver Vidler.

Sigmn Cox has played several games of soccer for Egypt Signals since our arrival here, and is well on the way to becoming their leading goal scorer. L/Cpl Evans has also assisted Egypt Signals in the rugger line and given a good account of himself. In addition, Sigmn Cox and Corpl Wilbraham have also assisted R.H.Q. Squadron of the Hussars. It was great to be on the winning side for a change after the disastrous half-season at Canterbury!

On the 16th January Lieut. Lewis took the Section on a trip to the Sphinx and the Pyramids, which proved quite interesting. Several of the more energetic of the Section accompanied him on the climb to the top, but we are sorry to relate that of these one came under the starter's orders but did not run—much. Still, bear up, Fairy. The spirit was willing even if the flesh was weak.

We have made the acquaintance of the R.A. Section under the command of Lieut. Daniels, and it was with great joy that we welcomed the noted—or rather, notorious—Scratcher to this land of the Pharaohs.

It is quite possible that we shall be leaving here in the near future, but we will try to keep up our contributions to THE WIRE, and hope that all the Canterbury Sections will do likewise. By the way, if you get round the Khartoum district, don't forget to give the Ross bird a look in.

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Special.—To Big Bill Moody: Come out here, Bill. They even ask yer!

Hospital.—We are sorry to report that Sigmn Jones, of this Section, is at present in hospital with an abscess on the jaw. Reports state that he is progressing very favourably, and we hope he will be with us again prior to our move.

Jew's Mail.—To Stinker Foster, at present on his way to Ponki: All de best from the Section. Hope you manage at least more than one tomato season, but we doubt it.

To Lout Ketteridge: My word! you'd better pull up your socks. Some of these Egyptians can give you a yard or two start.

To Chatty Field: "Two lips to kiss (?) with, but nobody's using them now"—maybe.

Poetry.—The following is from the pen of the Section poet, and he hasn't been out in the sun very much so far.

KIT INSPECTION.

You all know that terrible feeling
When your socks are all out of repair,
And you're deficient of laces and blacking,
And no hair brush for doing your hair.

When your clothes brush has been used for Blanco,
And your shirts are needing a mend,
And your tooth brush is all black and mouldy
Since you used it to spread Soldier's Friend.

It is then that the words "Kit inspection"
Bring fear to the hearts of us all,
And you feel you are due for some jankers
Or a nice little trip o'er the wall.

So you start going round on the borrow
To your mates in some other platoon;
At the Soldiers' Home, perhaps, at supper,
You knock off a knife, fork and spoon.

Then you stand to your kit like a hero,
Without any socks to your feet,
And you swear to yourself that next pay day
You'll make up your small kit complete.

And when you have called out "Kit present,"
You pray that the officer's gaze
Won't fall on your scruffy old holdall,
Or you might stop at least seven days.

It's the same thing with every soldier;
Those three things—wine, women and song—
Will make a man flog all his clothing
And send many a good soldier wrong.

And so, customers, that completes the programme for this month. Goodnight, everybody. Goodnight.

WEEPING WILLO.

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

Wednesday 5th February.

General.—Fore! Golf balls to the right of us, golf balls to the left of us, championships all round us. Whilst writing these notes we are taking refuge in the Armoury.

We are pleased to notice that two of our local lads contested the final of the Sarafand open championship: Gus Cheesman (M.B.) and McKechnie. The finals were played off in ideal weather, the feature of the game being Cheesman's fine drives: but McKechnie won the game by his consistency on the greens. The result being in doubt until the last hole, Gus played doggedly, but in vain, to win the hole and thus draw the game. His doggedness, no doubt, was due to his large gallery, which included Dandy and Brownie.

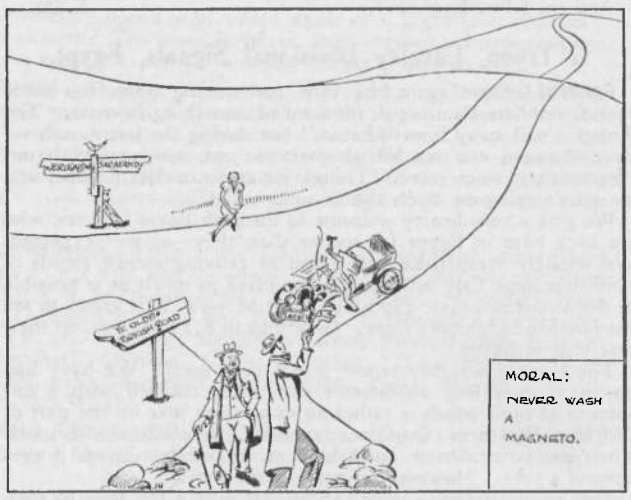
The final of the Plate championship was contested by Lieut. J. D. Haigh and Corpl Cairns. Although Lieut. Haigh won by four up and three to go (whatever that may be) we must congratulate Corpl Cairns on his fine show in reaching the final, since he only arrived here in November. Lieut. Haigh's victory was accomplished by some very fine spoon shots.

Now follows our brief interview with the new champion.

Press: "What do you usually go round in?"
Champ: "A pair of flannels and a sweater."
Press: "No! I mean, what is your handicap?"
Champ: "Sore feet and asthma."

Press: "Who is your favourite film star?"
Champ: "Max Baer. He is so stunning. I would also like to add that I think the Jaffa Police are just wonderful."

We had better tee up and drive on to something else, before we get clubbed.



Promotion.—Congratulations to Cpl White on being promoted to that rank.

Births.—Apart from several blessed events at the ranch, the returns are **nil.**

This Month's Short Story.—Taffy Smith overheard a revolver instructor saying "When firing, the toe must point towards the target." Our hero said "What happens if he fires at aeroplanes?"

Aviation News.—A large increase in membership is, no doubt, due to the absence of a monthly subscription.

An attempt on the long distance record was made by Corporal Shaw and his plane. The plane took off and also took Cpl Shaw off! Try to picture the plane and owner posed on the roof of a billet. Corpl Shaw yells "Contact!" The timekeeper looks at his watch. Corpl Shaw now gets contact as he hits the ground. The timekeeper rushes up, shouting "Three seconds" as the duration of the flight. Meanwhile Corpl Shaw, still with the plane in his hand, has lost interest in the attempt. He now prefers to eat his meals from the mantelpiece.

Jew's Mail.—To Monty Aldridge (late Blackdown) now somewhere in China: What about a line to Palestine? Tut.

Tailpiece.—Tell your newsagent to order next month's WIRE for you, as there will be a pattern for a pair of step-ins.

TUT AND TICK.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Sunday 12th January.

General.—Hullo, everybody! The Tuans are calling once again. First and foremost, let us welcome to this land of tin and rubber thirty-one new arrivals from Old England: Sergt Collins. Corporals Walker and Cotton, Signalmen Church, Mottershead, Parker, Smyth, Smart, Carlson, Payne, Tomlinson, Bowler, Hudson, Strong, Notley, Holmes B. (Sammy), Copping, Brown C., Smith J., Goldfinch, Lambert, Dickson and Buck; also Corporal Durand to take over the duties of C.S.O.'s clerk at Fort Canning. They arrived on Christmas Eve and were welcomed in the time-honoured Malayan manner. On disembarkation they were met at Ordnance Pier by the usual jazz band, all as mad as a Malayan sun could make them. After the usual formalities, they were marched up to the bungalow and thence to the canteen for drinks and buns. During the evening an impromptu show was put on and a few drinks disposed of; and a number of fat heads were to be seen or felt the following morning.

Christmas Day on Pulau Brani was very successful indeed. Whilst sitting down to dinner, a surprise visit was paid to us by the Command Signal Officer (Major Noel Brown) and our second-in-command (Captain Moppett) who exchanged the season's greetings with the old and new drafts. During the evening another impromptu concert was held, Corpl Micky Walker obliging by telling us some of his " little tales."

New Year's Eve.—1936 was welcomed in with the traditional ceremonies. During the evening the R.E.s entertained the Naval lads from H.M.S. *Cornwall*, and Signals were invited to join in. We had a very enjoyable time, and our heartiest thanks are accorded to the 41st (Fortress) Company R.E.

Agony.—Uncle Jack, No. 11 F-of-S Course, School of Signals: Does the P. and O. port side differ from a troopship's, or was it the Red Triangle band ? Digger.

Departures.—Our heartiest good wishes go with Corpl Rogers (Busty) who left for England on Friday 10th January. Perhaps the cook at Aldershot still has a vacancy for you, Busty.

Seen and Heard.—That the Chief Engineer of the *Sir Hastings Anderson* is on the tack (until he meets another old friend, I suppose).

Farewell to Thee.—Although he is in the R.A.O.C., we know and love him just like one of our own kind. Now his three years contract in Malaya is finished, we deem it necessary to say a few words of farewell to the most talked of man about town in Malaya. He's forty-two years old, married—was, and knows everybody's business in Malaya : at the same time, making sure you all know his own. Take a look at Private Chadwick of the R.A.O.C., still going strong. We wish him the best of luck. He shouldn't forget, when passing Italy, to drop in and ask Mussolini if he has heard his case.

Congratulations.—We congratulate L/Corporals Williams and French on attaining that rank ; also Sigmn Parkin on obtaining his first class certificate. Little Eric Currie secured English and maths.

Conclusion.—Soon this little band of Colonials who " held them back " from Pulau Brani in '34 are going their ways and leaving the new draft to carry on the good work. Sergt Watmore goes to Fort Canning, to be followed by the ever faithful Twitch, with Sigmn Currie fetching up the rear. Sigmn Holmes goes to Changi, where the R.E.s will, no doubt, require him on the football field.

And so, until we meet again, farewell to thee.

BARON (T.B.C.)



Malta Signal Section.

Valletta, 8th February.

Part I.—

The strong winds, they blow ;
Our routes strain—and go ;
And what do our linemen do then, poor things ?
They work until dawn,
But their hopes are forlorn,
For the winds start to blow again—poor things!

. . . . . .

Cable, cable everywhere—
No chance for forty winks—
For the sewers are unhealthy
And the corners help the kinks.

Part II.—Congratulations are extended to L/Cpl Welbourne D. on attaining that rank. To the Three Musketeers (U/L/Corporals Shaw, Burrows and Grace) on the commencement of a very long journey. To Sigmn Costigan on the birth of a son, Lawrence, at Scarborough on 15/12/35. To Cpl Keywood on increased M.A. in the person of one Ethel Marjorie, born 5/1/36. To L/Corpl Drake on anticipating his 26th birthday with asset May, born 31/1/36. To Signalmen Eccles and Williams F. C. on their marriages dated respectively 26/12/35 and 7/1/36 . . . . . (and sympathy with their wives).

Our best wishes to Signalman Eccles on his repatriation, and a hearty welcome to L/Corpl Craig and three other W/T experts from Bulford on 24/1/36. And pleasant memories to our C.S.O., Captain D. R. Paterson, after a well-earned ten days respite.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Signalman Hicks J. at the Military Hospital, Imtarfa, on 31/1/36, after a very severe illness. A quiet, unassuming fellow was Jackie.

Canteen Hours.—Apologies for our non-appearance last month. Many excuses could be offered, but none would be taken, so . . . that's that.

We all had quite a nice time at Christmas, and the enclosed photograph will give some little idea of the Mess Deck. Our officers paid their annual visit . . . . . with the usual speeches for and against. Beer flowed, and bottles . . . . . but it is rumoured that next Christmas we shall have hogsheads. They will be too heavy to throw about.

Father Christmas was the *piece de resistance* at the kiddies' party held on the 20th December, and the many little eyes were happy after beholding the presents. The Sergeants Mess also entertained the kiddies to tea, but it is understood that the mothers had most of the fun.

Black-Outs.—Eccles, Aldershot: Who had the shirts? Jacques, Canterbury: On inventory ? NEMO.



" All set for a good Christmas dinner."

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

This unit took part in lining the route of the funeral procession of His late Majesty King George V. Only a very short time was available for rehearsing by the detachment which was formed from volunteers immediately available at headquarters. Fortunately, the street selected for the 1st Anti-Aircraft Division was wide and the crowd was in good order. It was not possible to return by Underground, and the detachment (headed by Major A. Hemsley, T.D.) marched home.

The annual General Meeting of the Westminster Branch of the Signals Association, which is due to take place on Wednesday 26th February at 56 Regency Street, S.W.1, will be over when these notes appear, but an account will be included in the April issue. It is hoped that there will be a big reunion of old comrades of Signals on that occasion. H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

H.Q., Norton Street, Brooks's Bar,
Manchester 16, 13/2/36.

Proclamation of H.M. King Edward.—This unit sent three representatives for the Proclamation ceremony at the Stretford Town Hall on Wednesday 22nd January: Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., R.S.M. Brooks A. E. and C.S.M. Spong H.

Memorial Service for His Late Majesty King George V.—A Divisional parade was held in Manchester on Tuesday 28th Jan. All units assembled at the Town Hall in Albert Square and marched to the Cathedral for the service. About twenty officers and one hundred other ranks attended from this unit under the command of Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley. Our band also turned out in full strength under Bandmaster E. T. Grundey, the drums and trumpets being fully draped.

A most impressive service was held at the Cathedral, which I am sure will be long remembered by all who were privileged to be present. Our trumpeters had been specially chosen from the whole of the Division, and had the honour of sounding a fanfare at the commencement of the service and Last Post and Reveille at the conclusion. We were very pleased to see in the columns of *The Manchester Guardian* an appreciation of the way in which they carried out their duties.

At the conclusion of the service the unit marched back to Aytoun Street for dismissal, and on the way halted at 1.30 p.m. for the two minutes silence. Before being dismissed, our commanding officer, Colonel W. S. Ashley, expressed his pleasure at the number of men on parade and the smart manner in which they had conducted themselves.

A detachment under Captain E. N. Stafford and Lieut. Presland was also sent to Stretford to take part in the memorial service at Stretford Parish Church.

Course.—A thirty-hour paid course for operators and linemen is at present being held at headquarters. Our own T.A. instructors under R.S.M. Brooks are working very hard, and we trust their efforts will have been well worth while in the results after the Trade Board has sat on the 7th and 8th March.

Officers.—We are very pleased to welcome to the unit 2/Lieut. R. G. W. Ollerenshaw, who has just been gazetted from the Oxford University O.T.C., and we hope he will spend many happy years with us. We are also very pleased to hear that our fighting giant, Lieut. R. H. Clegg (Kong to us), had a walk over in the Divisional boxing tournament heavy weight and will now appear in our colours in London at the Territorial Army boxing championships. I'm not surprised that Richard had a w.o. in his match, as one has only to look at him to realise that Snowdon would seem but a pimple if they were both put together. At the moment I can say what I like about him, for he can't hurt me much, as he is hobbling about on crutches with one foot in plaster of paris. During a bout of training he broke a bone in his foot, but the M.O. has told him he will be alright for London—and that is all we were worrying about.

Boxing Notes, 1935/36.—Boxing may be said to have commenced, as far as this unit is concerned, with a meeting held at headquarters at the beginning of May last year, under the auspices of Captain H. E. M. Swan, who was our adjutant at that time, and one boxing officer, Lieut. R. H. Clegg. About twenty-five men were present and training commenced that very evening in the miniature range. We later took our gloves to camp, set up a ring, and there staged a most successful competition on the first Wednesday. Prizes were awarded to the winners, and every encouragement was given them to "go one better," as the Divisional motto has it—which, we may say, several of them have since elected to do.

Practice was intermittent only during the close season, but Lieut. Clegg managed to arrange a number of useful individual fights for some of the boxers. Early in the New Year we began seriously to train a team to enter for the Divisional tournament to be held at Bury on the 13th and 14th February. It soon became obvious who were the best and keenest boxers, and the team almost picked itself.

By way of practice we had a friendly match with the Manchester University Club on the 3rd February. Unfortunately we were without Lieut. Clegg, who had damaged his foot the previous week, but as the University were also a man short in that weight the sides were even.

No light heavy weight, feather weight or fly weight contests took place, but two welter weights were arranged. These were fought first. Lieut. P. Yates (deputising for Lieut. Clegg) beat W. Makinson, the opposing captain, in the first one. Signalman Woodworth A. had to retire during the next and thereby lost after doing very well at the start. One all. Next came the middle weight contest. Sigmn O'Keefe beat his more bulky opponent after a really good display—he must have been giving away about 10 lbs.—and we were one up again. The next two fights were both drawn. Sigmn Woodworth S. drew in the light weight class with the secretary of the University Club, C. H. Milton (now 2/Lieutenant in the 42nd Div. R.A.S.C.) Finally, Sigmn Jarvis, our bantam weight (and, after Lieut. Clegg, perhaps our most experienced boxer) drew with his opponent. He would have won but for making the mistake of "mixing it" with a stronger opponent in the last round.

At the conclusion we all sat down to a fine supper given us by the University Club, thus bringing to a close a most enjoyable evening's sport.

At the moment of going to press we are on the eve of the Divisional tournament, when we hope to insert the thin edge of the wedge at least, and, if fortune favours us, even to be able to write "Venimus vidimus vicimus."

The unit scribe is very much indebted to Lieut. P. Yates for the foregoing boxing notes. T.A.H.L.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—It was with great sorrow that we learnt of the passing of His late Majesty King George V., and we hasten to offer to His Majesty King Edward, Her Majesty Queen Mary, H.R.H. The Princess Royal (our Colonel-in-Chief), and all the members of the Royal House, our deepest sympathy with them in the great loss which they and the whole Empire have sustained. Their loss is also ours, inasmuch as our late King kept in very close contact with his Army.

Training.—The paid classes for operators are almost completed, and the trade test which follows will, we hope, reveal a large number of additional trade-classified operators. The linemen's and other trade paid classes now commence, and we look for good attendances.

Weapon training is progressing by monthly stages in each Company, and the shooting generally appears to have improved.

Social.—Each Company has now held its annual dinner, and reports of each function have appeared or are now published. It is pleasing to note that each Company has annually brought this

function to the notice of its respective civic authority, thereby endeavouring to broadcast, in one way at least, the privileges that belong to a Territorial and the benefits to be obtained by becoming one of us.

Insufficient recreational accommodation is still unfortunately a drawback in one Company, and difficulty is experienced in maintaining numbers to cover the losses through members joining the Regular Forces. There are signs, however, that the situation may improve before very long, and we persevere hopefully. A sound social side to our life is essential to ensure progress on the training side.

Officers.—An interesting and instructive S.E.W.T. took place in the Basingstoke area recently and was well attended. Captain C. W. Knight, our new adjutant, made his debut with us on this occasion and produced some interesting situations. An eye-witness account of what took place during one reconnaissance is attached, and is a clear illustration that mechanisation has more than a mere commercial value! MERCURY.

" Captain Bridgwater's syndicate had passed a most instructive day, rather devoid of any comic relief until " Captain " Spicer (who, like Malvolio, had greatness thrust upon him) found some amusement. The syndicate, with most commendable thoroughness, explored a small cart track to see if it were passable for a cable wagon. It was. His Morris, however, cannot be ranked with a cable wagon, for with but 80 yards to go to reach the road, it " quitted " in the middle of a truly marvellous patch of mud. Luckily enough, there was a tractor on a nearby farm. Two typical yokels held the stage with great success. One searched diligently, while the other looked on, for ten minutes. They then went into conference, and it was discovered that Yokel No. 1 had been looking for a spanner which Yokel No. 2 had been nursing lovingly. Various large cans and a funnel were eventually produced, and large quantities of hot and cold water, petrol and paraffin were poured into the tank. The performance was concluded when they hauled out the Morris. To everyone's surprise, the entertainment tax was only five shillings. After paying this and departing, Mr. Spicer consulted his solicitor (the leader of the syndicate). He decided to send the bill to the T.A. on the ground that the adjutant had (deliberately and with malice aforethought!) misled us as to the state of this track. The adjutant, with the astuteness of a Regular, evaded the charge, but Mr. Spicer lives in hope!"

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

In Memoriam.—A memorial service for our late Sovereign was held at St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth, on Tuesday 28th January, at which the Company was represented by Major W. J. L. Cornelius and a party of n.c.o.s and men under Sergt Weight.

Training.—The operators' paid classes are now drawing to their close, and it is hoped that those concerned will benefit by them in their trade tests later on.

The adjutant, Captain C. W. Knight, gave an interesting lecture on the 3rd February to the n.c.o.s of the Company, his subject being " Military Law."

Annual Dinner.—This was held on the 1st February and proved a great success. Unfortunately the commanding officer was unable to be present, but we were very pleased to welcome the adjutant at his first dinner with us, and also 2/Lieut. F. H. Reeks (representing No. 3 Company) and R.S.M. Stone G. E. (permanent staff).

At the beginning of the dinner the Company stood in silence for two minutes as a mark of respect for our late King.

Major Cornelius, in proposing the toast of " The Commanding Officer," emphasised the point that 34 per cent. of the men who had left the Company had joined the Regular Forces—a very satisfactory record.

Lieut. P. W. Shaw, in proposing "The Adjutant and Permanent Staff," became very nautical and at one period his speech became so " salty " that one began to wonder whether he was contemplating a transfer to the senior Service! However, he is to be congratulated on his successful perseverance with his naval metaphors. Captain Knight, in replying, said he was glad to see the Company was recruiting boys, and he also congratulated the football eleven on their good start.

2/Lieut. R. D. Nash, in proposing " The Guests," welcomed Major D. K. Hopkyns (late R.E. Postal Service), Postmaster of Plymouth (who responded) and also said how pleased they were to see Mr. W. J. Cornelius, father of the Company commander, and Major W. V. Pearce of the 43rd Wessex Divl R.A.S.C.

C.S.M. Gibbings F. J., in proposing "Nos. 2 and 3 Companies," regretted the absence of several of the old stalwarts from the Exeter Company. 2/Lieut. F. H. Reeks, in replying, said he knew how sorry the latter were that they could not be present.

During the evening Major Pearce presented a miniature replica of the Coley cup for efficiency to Sigmn Tweedle R. W., who is to be heartily congratulated on winning it.

The Company once more, as on other occasions, had the pleasure of hearing L/Corpl Stone S. R., who gave us " Old Man River," " Smiling Through " and other favourites. Very enjoyable music was also provided by the harmonica band of the Devonport Unemployed Welfare Centre, led by Sigmn Joryeff C. W. H. of No. 1 Company. The band included Miss Maisie Moore, a lady crooner, and is to be congratulated on its enterprise and successful results.

Altogether the dinner provided a thoroughly happy and successful evening, eventually terminating at some unnamed hour in the morning.

Football.—The Company team continue to flourish. On the 15th January they had a sporting game against Solway Stars. At half time their opponents led by 5—0, but during the second half the Signals managed to draw level, leaving the result 5—5. On the 29th January the Company team met Boot Trade Association, being defeated by 5—3, this being the team's first League loss.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

January 1936.

We were delighted to have our Devonian friends of H.Q., Nos. 1 and 3 Companies with us at our sixth annual dinner, held at the Cadena Cafe, Southampton, on the 4th January. A very enjoyable time was spent ; especially the welcome innovation of adjourning to Hamilton House for a little community singing, when the boys tested the full capacity of their lungs to the music of a piano accordion. My word! No. 2 can whisper!

Apart from all officers of the Company and H.Q. staff, our Company commander (Captain A. F. S. Fane) who presided, was supported by a representative company of officers and old comrades. Lieut.-Colonel H. J. Humphreys (secretary of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight T.A.) represented the T.A., and Alderman F. Woolley, J.P., the town of Southampton.

" Although we are down in the Company, we can soon make up the deficiency. Do not forget that the best recruiting sergeants in any unit are its men," said Captain Fane, who further reminded the gathering that the Company had done well in winning the Moore efficiency trophy at the last summer camp.

Captain C. W. Knight, to whom the Company extended a cordial welcome as our new adjutant, said he was confident that the vacancies would soon be filled.

Captain E. R. Moore proposed the health of the guests, and referred to the pleasure which the presence of Alderman F. Woolley gave them, recalling that he had attended the annual dinner of this Company for many years.

Alderman Woolley, in reply, congratulated the Company upon its efficiency and offered his good wishes for its future progress, reiterating the slogan coined by Captain Fane.

In regretting the absence of the Mayor (Alderman T. H. Saunders) Colonel Humphreys hoped that everyone present would recognise the importance of urging all eligible men to join the Territorials. From the moment they joined, what did they become ? They became comrades of an excellent society and club. The Territorial unit is a fine club for men of active instincts.

The excellent arrangements were in the hands of 2/Lieut. R. W. Day and C.Q.M.S. Green E. W., and all concerned congratulate them. We sincerely hope that our Devon friends enjoyed themselves. Bert's H.Q. smile is sufficient.

General.—It is with considerable interest that we note the kind remarks of our friends of the 3rd Divl Signals contained in their Sergeants Mess notes of January. We appreciate the eulogistic references to the work of the Terrier, and thank them very much for the cordial welcome extended to our comrades.

The operators course and weapon training are now in full swing, and the looks on numerous faces show confidence regarding the results of the Trade Board and that well earned ten shillings.

BEGBIE.

February.

Firstly, we thank our friends of No. 1 Company for their kind remarks re our annual dinner, and would reiterate the expression "It was a real pleasure." The notes on the dinner are embodied in the preceding notes.

Memorial Service.—There was a good muster of No. 2 Company, who turned out smartly, at the memorial service held in Southampton's mother church, St. Mary's, which was the centre of the town's tribute to His late Majesty King George V. The Company paraded with other local units, being joined at church by a civic procession of the Mayor and Corporation, various organisations, and the Consular Corps, etc.

Training.—Although the operators course is about to terminate, the linemen's and D.R. courses will be in full swing when these notes appear. All are eagerly looking forward to the respective tests.

It is apparent that more activity is likely to be recorded at the close of the winter session. From a cursory glance, the coming year should mark further progress in the training of the foregoing.

Our operators classes are divided into groups: A, B, C and D. It is learnt that up to the moment of writing satisfactory progress has been made in all directions. With the lengthening of the evenings and the close of the winter session, naturally, our thoughts commence to turn to Section training. The first year men are rather apprehensive as to their experience and are very anxiously awaiting their first trip to the country for their Section exercise.

For several weeks past, weapon training for all ranks (other than operators) has been in full swing. Trained men will fire on the last Thursday of the months of January, February, March and April. All are doing their best.

Observation.—Well done, Pip, 2nd Divl Signals. It is very pleasing to note that you have again broken the ice. The lads in the town of troopships have certainly not forgotten you, and send you their best.

Perplexed.—A pundit of history has suddenly discovered "Hoddington Hussars," which he thinks somewhat mythical. Perhaps someone could help the poor fellow. BEGBIE.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6, 14/2/36.

Editorial.—Many changes have taken place in the unit since the 1st January. Last month, it was not possible to include all the details in our notes. We now endeavour to repair this omission.

Officers: Promotions.—We extend our heartiest congratulations to these officers. Lieut.-Colonel Reid, M.C., T.D., to be Brevet-Colonel. Captain (Brevet-Major) Read, T.D., to be Lieut.-Colonel. Lieut. L. E. List to be Captain. Lieut. T. Freer-Ash to be Captain.

Au Revoir!—Brevet-Colonel Reid, having completed four years in command of the unit, has handed over the reins to Lieut.-Col. Read and remains supernumerary to the establishment. Colonel Reid will, I am sure, realise that we regret the expiry of his office, and at the same time permit our hearty welcome and congratulations to his successor.

During the past years we have all tried to do our job in the manner expected of us. On several occasions we have succeeded valiantly; on others, perhaps, we have not shone so brilliantly; but at all times we have worked with the knowledge that ready sympathy and kindly help and guidance were always at hand. This fact has given us encouragement and enabled us to strive more energetically, whilst also creating a happy and contented atmosphere throughout the whole unit. We shall naturally experience a feeling of loss in Colonel Reid's departure, but to balance this we anticipate receiving an equally magnetic influence from his worthy successor.

De Bonheur.—We are pleased to extend our heartiest congratulations to Lieut.-Colonel A. H. Read, T.D., on assuming command of the unit, and we hope that his experience in this capacity will be a most pleasant one.

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies.—Captain Harris assumes command of No. 1 Company vice Lieut.-Colonel Read. Captain Freer-Ash assumes command of No. 2 Company vice Captain K. Boag, retired. We wish you both luck, and hope soon to hear of your progress in a big way.

Here and There.—No. 3 Company. L Section at Southgate has grown so large of late that it has been decided to recruit another Section. Consequently, J has been disbanded and is to be reformed at Southgate. K Section and Company H.Q. are now the only representatives of No. 3 Company at Stamford Brook. We send greetings to Southgate, and extend our good wishes for the success of this venture.

Bricks and Mortar.—Extensive building alterations have been in progress for some weeks, and now that the scaffolding has been removed we observe an elaborate system of Company offices and Section stores. Company H.Q. are now able to indulge in luxurious comfort; armchairs are common furniture; each staff is as proud as a peacock of its own little nest. So far, no bricks have been dropped. Even the workshops have their own machinery; it is understood that this pump was not stolen, but acquired on permanent loan.

The Brighton contingent have also persuaded the authorities to improve their surroundings, and now proudly enjoy the comfort of new accommodation during their moments of recreation.

Who Said?—It is understood that several applications have been received for the appointment as adjutant to the unit. Who has been giving us away? or can we sing? Anyway, the large greenhouse has been taken over by the Q.M. He is endeavouring to force signatures this season.

Boxing.—We are pleased to hear that several entries, including representatives from Brighton, have been submitted for the Divisional championships. Good luck, boys! hit 'em hard. We are sure you will give a good account of yourselves.

Sense and Nonsense.—We have just heard of a good job for a one-legged man: hopping in Kent. All correspondence received will be examined and filed until the next summons arrives.

The Editor thanks all those who contribute to these notes, and hopes others will follow the good example. 0020.

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On the 16th January we had a visit from Captain C. R. H. Firth, who was our adjutant about 1925—29, and we were pleased to see him looking fit and well.

Annual Dinner.—The function on the 10th January was attended by almost as many guests as members, and the high lights were the few words by Colonel Reid in which he expressed his regret at relinquishing command of the unit and referred to many happy hours during his tour of duty. Everyone showed appreciation by singing a lusty "For he's a jolly good fellow."

Lieut.-Colonel Read, who took command as from the 1st January 1936, was unavoidably absent owing to indisposition, and his speedy recovery was sincerely toasted.

C.S.M. Gardiner, D.C.M., proposed the toast of the guests. This was ably replied to by Colonel (Doc.) Keogh, who has graced our camps and functions for so many years. He supported Colonel Reid's remarks by emphasising his words concerning enjoyable hours with the unit.

Another familiar and welcome face was that of ex-R.S.M. Gilbert, who has pitched his civvy tent in our district.

Followed various presentations, and I must say that the Cable Section were well represented here. C.S.M. Gardiner, D.C.M. (No. 3 Company) received his long service medal amidst much encouraging noise, and L Section (our lusty infant at Southgate) nobbled the Hosbach wireless cup at the first time of asking.

The concert party worked hard and gave some well received popular items, but they suffered from inattention as old pals kept meeting old pals, etc., etc. Nuff said. Need I add that the various trophies were generously "moistened" during the course of a very pleasant evening?

From Thursday to Wednesday.—During the last month there have been some wholesale inter-Company postings, and we trust the gentlemen concerned will settle down comfortably in their new billets. The moves are as follow.

O.C. No. 1 Company: Captain Harris. A Section: Lieut. C. S. R. Rowe (from J Section). D Section: Captain Booth (from A Section) and Lieut. J. Hann (from J Section). O.C. No. 2 Company: Captain Freer-Ash. Jay walking: J Section is to be reformed at New Southgate.

Ideal Homes.—Some of the new Section stores and offices are being occupied now, and are found to be very useful. Is it usual to bring up an insurance policy when staking a claim ?

In My Garden.—Although the buds will soon be bursting (tra-la-la-la!) and it is still a bit cold to gambol, we notice that the tent poles planted in the greenhouse do not seem to make a great deal of progress. The ultimate aim is, I understand, to breed true black and white cable poles and avoid the painting thereof.

Coals of Fire.—Did our petrol store arrive in a cart ? What's the connection between a ball and chain and the orderly room at camp or Eustace, sand, and the P.S. and camels ?

Egypt, Ahoy!—Will our old friends in Egypt please note that we are due for Canterbury again at Easter and will miss their help and company. If they can manage to send us a little sunshine to improve our " R nothing " weather, we shall be duly grateful. In the meantime, good huntin'.

Can anyone send us a photograph of a nice brown face? We have quite forgotten what one looks like, although we have studies in all shades of red and white. POLYH.

25th Construction Section.

We are in the happy position of being able to state that we are only four short of our total strength of fifty-nine other ranks. The right type of tradesmen and potential soldiers have come our way, and we are well on the way towards becoming a very efficient Section.

On Sunday 16th February our O.C. and n.c.o.s from H.Q. are taking the members of our Section to Uckfield on a day's scheme.

As soon as circumstances permit, we shall take as many Sunday and week-end schemes as possible, being very certain of good attendances.

This year's annual training is to take place at Shorncliffe from the 26th July until the 9th August. We hope for fine weather and a good deal of training plus a little social relaxation.

Our latest addition is ex-Corporal Smith (No. 2315605, late of 4th Divl Signals and Egypt, where he will perhaps be remembered as Nifty).

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and affiliated No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 13/2/36.

General.—Yes, we are still the 47th Divl Signals, but later on we might be the—er—yes, we might.

Pre-Easter training is still going along smoothly, and the attendance, in spite of the arctic conditions of late, is being well maintained. Recruits are coming along slowly but surely. We can, however, still do with a lot more.

On Sunday and Monday, 26th and 27th January, we had a full dress rehearsal parade in connection with the duty allotted to us on the occasion of the funeral of H.M. King George on the 28th January. Seventeen officers and one hundred and seventy-one other ranks were on parade on that memorable Tuesday morning when we lined the route on both sides of the east carriage drive in Hyde Park from a point about 150 yards south of Marble Arch. In spite of the fifty-five minutes during which we stood at attention (with heads bowed for most of the time) during the passing of the procession—which must have been a severe ordeal for our youngsters, if not for the older and more seasoned members—not one fell out. The few in attendance who had done similar duties at the funeral of King Edward VII. recalled that very hot day and wished the weather on the present occasion had been a little more on the warmer side. There is no doubt that the whole scene, with all its splendour and sadness, will remain impressed for all time upon the memories of those who were privileged to have done duty there.

It may interest old members of this unit to know that we go to Wannock, near Eastbourne, for our camp this year.

Officers.—Our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, has left us for a visit to Palestine and the Near East, and will be away for about six weeks.

Our monthly dinner was held on the 6th February and was, as usual, a very cheery affair.

Sergeants Mess.—On Saturday 8th February we held our annual dinner at headquarters. The attendance this year was the largest since these dinners commenced. Some 140 members and their friends, with representatives from other Messes, sat down to the usual excellent repast. During the evening we were entertained by Billy Town's concert party, whose programme was interspersed (or interrupted, if you like) with speeches—those necessary evils considered so proper at dinners.

This was the first Mess dinner at which we had the pleasure of the company of our new C.O., Lieut.-Col. C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., and one of the enjoyable occasions on which Colonel J. G. Fleming, O.B.E., D.S.O. (our late hon. colonel) has graced our festive board. Unfortunately, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. (D.C.S.O. London District) and our late C.O., Brevet-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., T.D., were prevented from attending.

A very happy event occurred when our C.O. presented a clock (a very persistent chimer, too!) to ex-P.S.I. Sergt (Tiny) Joyce, D.C.M., in recognition of the services rendered by him in the cause of Territorialism.

Shooting.—We managed again to retain the Vigers cup by a large number of points, when we shot against H Section, Special Constabulary, on the 17th January.

Social.—We are having a St. Patrick's Ball on the 17th March, and an ordinary unit dance on the 28th March. Come along and have a good time. EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Efficiency Medals.—We congratulate the following recipients of the rooty gong: 2558113 Sergt Stephens G., 2559708 Sergeant Wollaston A., 2559810 Sigmn Mayall A.

Departures.—We very much regret to note that Lieut. T. E. Gwyer has disappeared from the Active List. We shall miss his presence. He was a popular and energetic young officer.

Indoor Exercise: Bristol.—The second of a series of indoor exercises in co-operation with R.A. Brigades was held at Bristol on Sunday 19th January last, the Signal party (under 2/Lieutenants Bowen and Danielsen) leaving Birmingham on the Saturday afternoon. Arriving at Bristol at about 7 p.m., the party were met and conveyed to Horfield Barracks, there to spend one evening at least in pukka Army style. The exercise proved a success, the C.R.A. 48th Division expressing to the Signal party his appreciation of the fact that they had had to come so far. Appreciation is also due to the 66th Field Brigade R.A. for their kind hospitality over the week-end. The party returned to Birmingham on Sunday evening, happy to have spent an interesting week-end: a change from ordinary civilian routine.

Linemen Instructors Course.—This course was concluded on Thursday 30th January, when the candidates were passed out before Major P. H. Jones, M.C., and the adjutant.

The previous Tuesday was occupied in a very interesting manner with an impromptu three-cornered debate, the subjects being " Visual " (Sergeants Bright and Goffe), " Wireless " (Sergeants Harding and Powell) and " L/T " (Sergeants Ruston and Greensall). The debate proved very interesting and amusing. C.S.M. Bardoe and Sergt Winter (P.S.) acted as umpires and awarded the vote to the visual case.

At the conclusion of the course, the commanding officer expressed his great satisfaction with the result, and especially with the attendance, which he said proved conclusively the value of these evenings and week-end courses.

Sergeants Mess.—There are several items on the programme this month which unfortunately will be too late for inclusion in these notes. The members of the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess of the 5th and 6th Battalions Royal Warwickshire Regiment have invited the Mess members of smaller units to a combined Mess concert on the 22nd February ; and the officers have invited the members of the Mess to supper on the 29th February. These two functions should give something to write about. GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—The editor of our unit notes has asked to be excused his duties for this month. It is not certain whether the cause is pressure of work or a love affair. Whichever it may be, good luck to him!

His Late Majesty King George V.—This unit sent a representative parade to the civic funeral service held at Leeds Parish Church, and marched in the civic procession.

Representatives were present during the Proclamation of King Edward VIII. from the Victoria Hall, Leeds.

The Late R.S.M. Keane A. J.—It is with deep regret that we announce that R.S.M. Keane passed away on Sunday 9th Feb. His illness was caused through a chill, which developed into double pneumonia. His death means a great loss to this unit, and the passing of a very loyal and popular warrant officer of the Corps. Not only was he popular in this unit, but his cheerful reputation had penetrated into the other units of Leeds.

R.S.M. Keane had been attached as P.S.I. to this unit for the past four years, and took over the duties of R.S.M. from R.S.M. Coffin at the end of August last year. He enlisted as a boy in the Royal Engineers in 1912, was posted to the ranks in 1915, and went to France in 1916. He served in Archangel in 1919 and at Singapore from 1927 to 1931.

He leaves behind him a widow and two sons, the elder of whom is awaiting acceptance as a boy in the R.A.O.C.

Full military honours were given at his funeral on Thursday 13th February, when he was buried in Harehills Cemetery. The escort and firing party were provided by the members of the Sergeants Mess. The bearer party was found by the P.S.I.s and C.S.M.s of the Companies of the unit. The Corps Band from Catterick played during the march from his house to the cemetery. Over forty wreaths were sent from relations and friends, from the various messes of the unit, and from other units of Leeds. The coffin, resting on a gun carriage, was drawn by a six-wheeler. On the coffin were his cap, belt and sword.

Following the coffin were the insignia and wreath bearers, family mourners, officers of the unit, representatives from other units, and other members of the unit in uniform. The parade was over 250 in number. The representatives of other units included contingents from the Yorkshire Hussars, 69th (W.R.) Field Brigade R.A., 5th Divl Signals, Northern Command Signal Company, 7th and 8th Battalions The Leeds Rifles, 49th (W.R.) Divl R.A.S.C., 49th (W.R.) Divl R.A.M.C., Legion of Frontiersmen, and the Royal Signals Old Comrades Association.

The Rev. P. C. A. Carnegy, Vicar of All Souls, took the service in the cemetery chapel.

Training.—Our individual trade training is going well ahead. The records show that an average of 140 members are attending on two evenings each week and for three hours during the morning of the first Sunday of each month. We have thirteen different trade classes, and the instructors are carrying out noble work. The advantages gained from the courses will show during the Section training which commences in April.

It is suggested that some interesting articles might be written for THE WIRE on the best way to produce trained operators in the T.A. Signals. An exchange of ideas would be welcomed by this unit. Without doubt, it is our greatest problem.

Regimental Signallers Course.—At present we are holding a signalling course of a fortnight's duration for the unemployed members of the Signal Sections of all the Battalions and R.A. Brigades of the 49th (W.R.) Division. The candidates are accommodated and fed in the barracks. This is where our "Q" department shines: the diet sheet accounts for the improvement in the health of the candidates during the course. Good old "Q"! We are apt to take these things for granted.

Annual Party to the Children.—Some two hundred children arrived to be entertained, and it is felt that they were not disappointed. We commenced the proceedings by filling up the empty corners with a tea, followed by a variety entertainment and the arrival of Father Christmas.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.
No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—We hope the inclusion of notes from No. 1 Company will not have disastrous effects on everybody concerned. It is admitted that the shock is great, but we hope with all sincerity that the constitution of all is sufficiently strong to withstand the strain. Our scribe has promised that only "sanctions" will prevent his having notes published regularly in future.

Winter Training.—Our winter training classes have been most successful, especially as regards the attendance, and a lot of keen promising lads are anxiously awaiting the trade test to prove that operators are made and not born. Good luck to them all! Even if they fail, they will have the consolation of knowing they have worked hard and well, and there is always another day.

Boxing.—The annual tournament for the Dent cup was held this year at Darlington and provided an excellent evening's entertainment. The results showed that each Company worked hard, and although No. 3 were the winners, Nos. 1 and 2 put up a hard fight. The small margin by which No. 3 Company won means that next year the tournament will be watched with even keener interest, and it is hoped that the cup will then have a new inscription engraved upon it. Nevertheless, well done, No. 3! I consider that No. 1 are to be congratulated on taking second place. It was unfortunate that they were unable to enter a full team, and the handicap proved too much for them. To start six points behind and run to second place was a fine effort. Well done, No. 1!

Annual Training.—The news has gone round that this year's annual training is to be held at Whitby, and the Company is eagerly waiting for the big day. The recruits are particularly keen, and a really good fourteen days camp is anticipated.

Shooting.—Competition for the P.S. shield is very keen, and I am given to understand that Nos. 2 and 3 Companies are working in secret to obtain this coveted trophy. Well, the best of luck to both! but No. 1 are also sorting out the dead eyes—our only trouble being which of our expert teams will win it?

S.O.S.—Will Bob Curry, last heard of in the sergeants mess at Catterick Camp, please return at once to its owner, who is deeply concerned.

D'TON.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—I hope that the issue of these notes will not cause the lads to dash to the opticians; but the after-camp period is usually quiet, and there has been very little of consequence to report.

Social.—A dance in aid of the children's treat was held in the Victoria Hall on the 5th November last. It was a great success from the entertainment point of view, everybody having a very enjoyable evening. The function was to be attended by the Mayor of Middlesbrough, but unfortunately he was indisposed and unable to attend. Major Sheffield, the adjutant, our O.C. and the Company officers were present. They formed an effective team in the palais glide and swept across the floor in great style.

The annual children's treat was held on Monday 23rd December. We had a large number present, both children and adults, who thoroughly enjoyed the tea and games. We had with us a troupe of girls who gave an excellent display of tap dancing. The entrance of Father Christmas was the signal for a great rush for toys, but we managed to get the children lined up and everything went off very satisfactorily.

We offer our thanks to the two ladies who presented us with two very nice mistletoes. These were duly drawn for and presented, one to a girl and the other to a boy, during the evening. The gifts originated from the dance on the 5th November, where the two ladies so enjoyed themselves that they decided to give these mistletoes to be presented to the children.

Shooting.—We hope to commence practising very shortly. The range will be open to any of the members of the Company, so roll up, all you dead eyes, and let's get a real good team together.

Badminton.—The badminton team is in very good form at the present moment. We have only played one match this year, which resulted in a 14—2 win for us. We had a few matches last year, most of which resulted in hard-fought draws.

Boxing.—Our boxing team has been practising very hard, under the supervision of Corpl Olsen, for the Dent cup tournament

which takes place on the 8th February ; and by the time these notes are in print, we hope to have the cup safely in our possession.

Winter Training.—A number of n.c.o.s, operators and linemen are at present on a training course. They are all working very hard, and by the time the course is finished, we are confident that most of the operators and linemen will have a trade rating, and those who already have a rating will have gone up to a higher one.

Strength.—We wish to congratulate C.S.M. and Mrs. Woodcock on the arrival of a daughter on the 27th January.

We welcome to the Company a number of recruits, all of whom will soon become efficient in their various trades.

Passing Comment.—Now that the place of the annual camp (Whitby) is known, the lads are all waiting eagerly for the day when they will pack up their kit and leave for fifteen days enjoyment under canvas. To cheer up certain members, we should like to pass on the rumour we heard that reveille won't be sounded until ten o'clock and that breakfast will be served in bed. Believe it or not. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

On the 16th January we badewell to our P.S.I., C.S.M. Devey H. We wish him and Mrs. Devey all the best for the future.

We welcome in his place C.S.M. Widgery from B Corps Signals.

Training.—The operators winter, T.S.B.O.s and counter clerks courses have just finished, and all seem very pleased with the results. The senior and junior n.c.o.s are at present undergoing a drill duties course in preparation for the forthcoming training season.

Medals.—Heartiest congratulations to Sergt Trotter and Sigmn Brown on the award of the Territorial efficiency medal. (We'll have a drink later, Alex.)

Boxing.—The inter-Company boxing was again a great success, with this Company winning the Dent cup for the third year in succession. All are to be congratulated on a fine performance. Well done, lads! Don't forget that we want to win the unit championships also.

Recruiting.—The new P.S.I. has not allowed the grass to grow beneath his feet. A good start has been made. The " full up " notice will soon appear above the door and a waiting list prepared.

Heard in the N.C.O.s Mess.—" When is the crib course commencing ?" FIFTEEN-TWO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

It is regretted that the following notes on the children's Christmas party were not ready in time to be included in last month's issue.

Children's Christmas Party.—The usual happy annual party took place in Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen, on Saturday 21st Dec. Children to the number of 102, and their parents, had a very enjoyable afternoon and evening. The arrangements (in the very capable hands of R.S.M. Hillman) were excellent, and full justice was done to the inviting repast provided. The icy conditions of travelling prevented our hon. colonel, Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., from being present to fulfil his usual role, but a very able deputy was found in Major T. P. E. Murray. His arrival (on a sledge, secretly and silently) created a scene of great excitement—not confined to the children only. The children were duly presented with their gifts, and many happy shouts of " Look what I have got!" could be heard. The close of the evening came far too soon for many of them. Before leaving the subject, a word of thanks must be given to those members of the unit and their wives who worked hard to make the party such a success.

Appreciation.—A golf cup has been presented by Lieut.-Col. F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., a former commanding officer. The cup is to be competed for by officers and their guests at the time of the annual dinner. The thanks of the officers are conveyed to Colonel Forsyth for this further token of his kindly interest in the welfare of the unit.

Badminton.—Enthusiasts in this game suffered an enforced suspension of play during the Christmas festivities, but since the resumption at the end of January the game seems to have gained in popularity with all ranks. Both sections of the Club (ladies and gentlemen) continue to do well in their respective mixed doubles and men's doubles, and many enjoyable games with the local and rural clubs have been played. Meantime our own Club competitions are in full swing, and some very keen matches have been witnessed. A dance will be held next month, when the prizes for the winners of the various competitions will be presented.

General.—Winter courses for operators and linemen are being well attended and much progress is being made. The signal school, although not yet quite completed, provides the necessary facilities for the variety of practical work which is required from operators and linemen on these courses. Training is also carried out on Sunday mornings, when outside instruction is given provided the weather is favourable. Indoor work includes operating, instruction on instruments and W/T sets, an aerial being fixed up and led into the school for this purpose. Outside work includes V/T and linemen's training. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

Captain James Cochran is congratulated on taking over command of the Company from Captain A. H. Lennie, M.M., who has been transferred to H.Q. at Aberdeen. Congratulations, also, to Lieut. W. R. Muirhead on his promotion to that rank.

Training.—The thirty-hour courses which will end in March continue to be well attended, and it looks as if there will be a record entry for the next Trade Board. The operators class is deriving great benefit from Sgt Pendergast's visits from Edinburgh.

Recruiting.—The special drive for recruits has proved very successful, and a good type of man is being brought into the Company. We will let figures speak for themselves. We were twenty-seven under strength in October last, but are now only eight short of establishment. Every effort is being made to have the Company at full strength at camp.

Parades.—The Company was represented by a detachment of officers and men at the memorial service to His late Majesty King George V. at the Church of the Holy Rude, Stirling, and a detachment of officers and men took part in the Proclamation of King Edward VIII. at the Mercat Cross, the Castle ramparts and the Old Burgh Port, Stirling. The Proclamation was carried through with many survivals of old-time ceremony.

Entertainments.—The badminton court and the recreation room in the drill hall continue to cater for the leisure hours of the members of the Company. An enjoyable smoking concert was held on the 17th January. We can do no better than quote the report from *The Stirling Observer*:—

" On Friday 17th January an enjoyable smoking concert for all ranks was held in Goosecroft Drill Hall, Stirling. There was a very full attendance of members of the Company, and each member was allowed to bring a friend with him. Representatives from the Sergeants Messes of the 7th Battalion A. and S.H., the Depot R.A.O.C. and the 51st R.A.O.C. (T.A.) attended. Many former members of the Company were also present.

" Captain James Cochran (O.C. Company) presided, and he was supported by Lieutenants James Gray, W. R. Muirhead and John McLaren, the Section officers of the Company. C.S.M. Todd was in charge of the programme. The function was honoured with the attendance of Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D. (Deputy Chief Signal Officer for Scotland) and Captain A. H. Lennie, M.M., H.Q. 51st (H.) Divl Signals, T.A.

" A varied programme of songs, etc., was carried through, and community singing was indulged in from *The Evening Times* community song sheets. The high light of the evening's entertainment was a conjuring show by Mr. Harold J. Marshallsay, the well known local expert."

It is hoped that this function will become an annual event in the Company. TWOCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—This has been a very busy month. On the 25th January the King was proclaimed here in Kirkcaldy. Members of the T.A. were present at the ceremony to represent the Services. A very creditable number of the Company attended the church parade held on the day of the funeral of H.M. King George V,

The second winter course is still proceeding satisfactorily, and the candidates are all confident of passing the Trade Board which is to be held in May.

Entertainments.—Our annual whist drive, supper and dance was held on Friday 7th February, and was voted by all to be an outstanding success. We were very sorry that our C.O. (Colonel E. B. Reid) was not able to attend, but we know that he made every effort to be present. We were very pleased to welcome Major Murray from Aberdeen and Captain Cochran and Lieut. Muirhead from Stirling, and hope they all enjoyed themselves.

Owing to the death of our late King, the annual smoking concert was postponed. It will now be held on Thursday 20th February.

Rifle Club.—The Club is still very popular and the competitions are getting very keen. The monthly medal was won by Sigmn Williamson.

Agony.—L/Corpl Young has drowned his white mice.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

The Royal Funeral.—The Lowland Signal units paraded with the Garrison Battalion of the 2nd Black Watch on the 28th Jan. at Maryhill Barracks, afterwards attending a solemn service in the Garrison Church to commemorate the passing of H.M. King George V. The service was simple and touching, and it was with humble sincerity that we paid a last tribute to our late beloved Sovereign.

The Officers.—One of the most outstanding events of the year —the annual dinner of the officers of the Lowland Signal units— was held at Jardine Street on the 10th January. This gathering has for many years been notable because of its distinguished guest list. Headquarters, Jardine Street—with its high castellated gables—has housed many an annual banquet of its officers since 1895. Outstanding men of letters and the sciences, of the Navy and the Army, have graced the banqueting hall. This year's gathering was remarkable for its almost purely military constitution, our officers being honoured by the presence of distinguished officers of the Army serving in Scotland.

" Spud " Survives.—We were a little anxious when we learned that our good friend C.S.M. Murphy, of our permanent staff, had been removed to the Military Hospital at Edinburgh. We are glad, however, to be able to record that the redoubtable Spud has survived the ordeal of the surgeon's knife and is making a good and speedy recovery.

Football Fades.—The ambitions of our football team have this season centred round the competition for the Scottish amateur cup. Unfortunately, the Lowland Signal team suffered defeat in the third round at the hands of Maryhill Amateurs. Our lads are to be congratulated on going so far in this important event, which is regarded as the premier amateur competition in Scottish football circles.

For The Last Time.—The extensive and valuable collection of trophies and plate in the possession of the Officers Mess has been handsomely augmented through the generosity of Major Victor Warren. To commemorate the passing of the horses, on the Lowland Signal units becoming mechanised, Major Warren has presented to the units a beautiful equine study in bronze. The work is remarkable for its beauty of execution and bears the inscription: " In 1935 we took horses to camp for the last time."

Enter Evans.—The arrival of a new P.S. man is an important event at Jardine Street. We have to chronicle the arrival of Sergt Evans J. A. from India. Yet comrade Evans had no sooner been issued with kilt and claymore and had the heather implanted in his ears than he had to leave for Woolwich on a rifle course. The poor fellow had only been accustomed to such weapons as cudgels, bows and arrows! However, we wish Sergt Evans well when he settles with his gun and claymore amidst the fighting men of Glasgow.

When The Band Played.—" ' Ring the bells of Heaven ' was played as a march by the band of the Lowland Engineers between St. Andrew's Halls and Charing Cross yesterday."—*Glasgow Evening News*, 20th May 1889.



Back row (*l. to r.*)—Lieut. R. A. Forsyth, Major Peffers, Major G. W. Cumming, Major Niven, Colonel F. N. Westbury, Lieut.-Colonel P. C. Snatt, Major V. D. Warren, Captain R. G. L. Giblin, Captain J. C. Anderson.

Front—Colonel R. B. Naylor, Colonel Bruce Turnbull, Lieut.-General Sir A. Cameron, Colonel J. W. Robertson, Major-General V. M. Fortune, Colonel Telfer Smollett, Colonel A. H. Menzies.

[*Photo by George Outram and Co. Ltd., Glasgow*]

Queen's Prizeman Shoots a Bullock.—" Last night, between five and six o'clock, some excitement prevailed among about two thousand persons over the shooting of an infuriated bullock at Haggs Road, Pollokshaws. A drover, who seemed to be in charge of the animal, asked that it might be shot for fear of its doing any damage. A gamekeeper on the Pollok estate was engaged to shoot the animal, but having with him only a fowling piece, he failed to achieve his object. Shortly thereafter Sergt Reid (ex-Queen's Prizeman) of the Lowland Engineers appeared on his bicycle, and (a rifle having been procured) he was asked to shoot the animal. He at once went into the field, and from a distance of about 100 yards his first shot struck the animal in the foreleg and it fell, but it got up again and ran a little way. The next shot went through its neck, but the third and final shot went right into its forehead and killed the maddened beast. A spent bullet struck a man in the mouth, but Dr. Ritchie, who examined him, said there was no danger."—*Glasgow Evening Citizen*, 3rd August 1891.

Regimental Resentment.—" Much indignation was aroused amongst the officers of the Lowland Engineers in the St. Andrew's Halls, last night, by the difficulty they experienced in carrying out the hospitable arrangements they had made for the entertainment of their guests at the Regimental gathering. In the first place, it is stated that the accommodation provided for the refreshment buffet was much too limited, and that in consequence unavoidable crowding occurred in the supper room. But what was most bitterly resented was the interference by the officials in charge of the halls with the internal arrangement of the room. To show due honour and respect to the distinguished General at the head of Her Majesty's Forces in Scotland, a beautiful carpet was laid upon the floor of the refreshment room. This, it is said, was deliberately removed in the temporary absence of the purveyor and the bare floor was exposed to view."—*Glasgow Evening Citizen*, 22nd November 1894.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 15/2/36.

The outstanding event of the period since our last notes was the death of His Majesty King George V. A funeral service at Llandaff Cathedral on the 28th January was attended by county dignitaries, accompanied by representative parties of all the T.A. units in the district under the command of Brigadier I. C. Grant, D.S.O., 160th Infantry Brigade. This unit paraded about one hundred and twenty strong, which was a good figure considering the short notice of the parade. A party under Lieut. W. G. F. Bale attended the City civil service at Wood Street Church, Cardiff.

The refurnishing and refitting of the canteen has been completed, and it looks more like a place of recreation than it has ever done before. The committee deserve great credit for their work, and it remains for the members to show their appreciation by making use of the room and by helping to keep it in the same trim in which they now find it.

D.R.s.—The D.R.s room is steadily approaching completion. The walls have been whitewashed, and various items of furniture are appearing. Large diagrams of M.T. parts are being framed, and we have visions of these being studiously perused. The place will not seem homelike, however, until they've got oil all over the walls, floors and the diagrams, and the place is full of petrol fumes. Next to " blinding " at umpteen m.p.h. there is nothing like the fun produced in a garage littered with tools and oily rags.

A comprehensive training programme, which is likely to be very interesting, is being prepared. We hear whispers of trips to motor cycle works, week-ends on the road, special technical lectures, etc.

Welcome to Mr. D. Stephens, who was gazetted to the unit on 18/1/36. We hope his service will be long and pleasant.

Queries.—Who was really to blame when the Mess president's ham got mixed up with the prizes at the n.c.o.s Christmas raffle ? The president, with a happy smile and a few well chosen words, presented the prizes, including the ham, to the delighted winners. They say he chose a few more words when he heard it was his own ham!

Who tried to fill the lorry sump through the dipstick hole and complained that it was a long and tedious job ? THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

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

No. 1 Company.

General.—Quite a fair proportion of the Company members are now attending paid evening classes, and judging by the keenness that is being shown, some good results at the Trade Boards may be anticipated.

Boxing.—Congratulations to the unit team who won the Essex Young Soldiers competition—a success rendered all the meritorious by the fact that the team was picked solely from Nos. 1 and 2 Companies.

Although not faring so well in the Divisional championships, we managed to finish third of twelve teams ; and as our team was a young one—the majority had only taken up the sport this season—we can look forward to putting up a winning show next year. ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Paid evening classes have commenced, and all candidates are looking forward to an increase of pay in time for annual training. Let's hope they are all lucky.

Boxing.—The unit boxed against the 9th Q.R. Lancers on the 14th January. We won only three fights, but the remainder of the team learnt quite a lot from their Regular comrades. This proved useful when, a month later, they went in and won the Young Soldiers cup with the following team: Sigmn Reynolds, bantam ; Sigmn Hallett, feather ; Sigmn Winterhalder, light ; Sigmn Booker, welter ; Sigmn Pattison, middle. They all fought like heroes. Hallett won his weight, even after we had been at him with a spoke-shave for twenty minutes before his fight to reduce his weight by one pound. Sigmn Reynolds was very unlucky to have the verdict given against him after a hard fight.

We will tell you all about the Divisional championships next month.

Jewish Mail.—Come along, Norman. BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—On the 3rd February our paid evening classes started off in the annual orgy of buzzer, sounder, flag and lamp reading, with the elusive Group E and B.iii. as the main objective. With an attendance of forty-one other ranks, the instructors certainly had their hands full ; but by keeping the troops on the hop, the evening went with a decided swing and a very good commencement was made. This number compares well with the thirty-five other ranks who started the course in 1935 ; and like last year, we hope and expect it to swell. It is too early yet to foresee results, but with noses continually down to the grindstone, the resultant final check of test messages should be a satisfactory affair. It is expected that the usual yearly crop of " Heard on the course " will be forthcoming in due season.

Boxing.—Four of our members sallied forth to Stratford during January to lend their help against a team of Regular Army boxers. Unfortunately, none met with success ; but we have it on good authority that our Schnozzle kept his nose and chin well to the fore and put up a good show.

Bedford.—We suggest that you clear away the first layer of cobwebs with a stiff yard broom. THREECOY.

Bedford Detachment.

Drill Hall, Ashburnham Road, 11/2/36.

The unit attended a memorial service for His late Majesty King George V. in St. Paul's Church on Tuesday 28th January. The attendance was excellent, ninety per cent. of the unit being present.

Training has commenced with paid evening classes which are being held on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. The attendance at these classes is good, but would be better if more instructors would come along. After all, the lads get fed up with looking at the P.S.I.'s face all the evening. It's a good face, I know.

The unit held a grand dance on Friday 10th January, which was a great success. The music was provided by the Bedfordians dance band. This band is really the old " Tom Sayers and his

band (himself) " with the addition of a triangle trembler. This instrument is a new thing in dance bands. To quote the band leader: " He trembles the triangle when Tom's in the treble."

Agony.—To Sergt B——, dance band leader, Bulford: How much for your triangle ? Tom Sayers. TOMASS.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38 Mason Street, Edge Hill, Liverpool 7, 15/2/36.

The individual training season is now drawing to its close, and by the time these notes appear in print, we shall know the results of the trade tests to be held at the end of February. Many fellows have been putting in very regular attendances, and it is to be hoped that they will gain their reward by qualifying in their various trades. It has been encouraging, too, to see the very good operating progress of a number of one-year men. Although not perhaps forward enough for the imminent tests, certainly they will be able, at the present rate of progress, to enter on the next occasion.

Recruits of a good type continue to roll up, and whilst being able to pick and choose our men, we have every hope of being up to establishment by camp. This is a very satisfactory state of affairs which gives the unit the best showing in the Division.

This year No. 3 Company has entered a team for two shooting competitions: one the County of Lancaster small bore competition, and the other the S.M.R.C. Whilst not too sanguine of our ultimate success, we know we shall not disgrace ourselves, and the experience and resultant keenness for shooting will be beneficial. Also we will know the standard our people attain in comparison with the Infantry wallahs who have nothing to do but learn to shoot.

The last of the lectures scheduled during the individual training season was given on the 27th January by Captain J. R. S. Orchard, who explained " The manufacture of electric cables." He brought with him photographs and many samples of cable, both old and new types, and his very interesting talk was appreciated by an attentive audience, many of whom crowded round after parade for further elucidation.

The previous lecture took the form of a cinematograph show. Sergt Drudge worked the machine, and a large muster saw a really excellent film (moving, of course) on " Concealment from aircraft and from the ground." The enemy force did everything wrong and our own troops, whom we cheered wildly, did everything aright! We were warned that the enemy movements were exaggerated to stress the points illustrated, and certainly the sight of an R.A.F. officer saluting with his left hand because his right held a bottle of whiskey was somewhat incredible. Several other shots were shown, after a short interval during which ice cream and chocolate girls came round.

Now, this is only the start of the film movement in these barracks, and I am able to reveal (exclusively to readers of THE WIRE) the titles of several forthcoming super-productions. Dates of release will be announced later. The films referred to are:—

" Give us a dis, baby "—featuring Mae Test.
" Contact, or Looping the Loop "—an Air Line Terminal story.
" On the Panel "—featuring a Leadin' Live Wire.
" The Buzzer "—with Don Three and Lina Erth.
" Only a P.S. Instructor "—with the unit's drudge in the leading role.

There is also a unit film, the title of which has not yet been decided. The parts are hard to fit, but we have in the gigolo role Mr. George (Raft) Bulmer, while the comedy is supplied by Major Bailey, whose " brevity " entitles him (I think) to be the soul of wit. The success of this venture is obvious when I mention that the production is in the hands of the immense and powerful P.M.C. Corporation.

There are two changes in the officer personnel. Firstly, Mr. Shearer has gone on the Reserve ; and I take this opportunity of assuring him of the continued affection of the Mess. Secondly, Lieut. F. H. Potter has been gazetted as 2/Lieutenant to the King's Regiment. This performance of Mr. Potter's merits our warmest congratulations. He is the third member of the Mess to succeed in the Sandhurst passing-out examination. The other two, Mr. Rowson and Mr. McDonald, are with the Royal Artillery and the East Lancashire Regiment respectively. In this direction we have a record of which we can be proud, and we hasten to congratulate the Regular Army on having the good taste to acquire three such excellent fellows. Mr. Potter, as the chief purveyor of jokes to the Mess, will be much missed.

Among the men, Signalmen Brownlee J. R. and Hargreaves S. have been promoted Corporals, and to them we offer congratulations. We anticipate the competition for promotion will be keener than ever in the future, as the very keen fellows at present in the early stages of Signal development gradually mature.

The Sergeants continue their billiard matches, their latest being against the Mossley Hill Pensions Hospital. The allegation that some of the Pensioners concealed odd balls in their beards, to drop them in suitable pockets as and when necessary, is untrue.

The P.S. instructors of the T.A. have challenged the officers of the S.R. Company here to a table tennis or biff-ball match. This is a good idea, and I think the Officers Mess of the T.A. should challenge the winners. The fact that we haven't played since we installed the billiard table a couple of years ago should discount our natural superiority and make the game more interesting and less one-sided.

On the occasion of the last officers' supper, the several old (or former) members of the unit present took the opportunity of visiting the sergeants mess for the presentation of a clock to each of the brothers Cliffe, who served for so many years that my beard shrinks when I think of them. These clocks were accompanied with the very heartiest and most sincere of good wishes from everybody in the unit.

The regimental hot-pot takes place this month (February) and the usual big crowd is expected. The idea of giving permission to each man to bring a friend to the smoker after the hot-pot is a splendid one, and calculated to help forward the recruiting.

Sigmn Gamble is the proud father of a son named Joseph. We wish the youngster well and hope he prospers exceedingly. To Sigmn Woodcock J. we extend our heartiest congratulations on his recent marriage to Miss Georgina Bradley. We hope they will be very happy.

Before concluding this month, I should like to explain that certain remarks in last month's effort, of a rather personal nature, should not have appeared, though expressed and accepted in the most friendly way. I regret not having read over my script before sending the notes along. FIVE-FIVE.

City of London Signals.

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

Funeral of His Late Majesty King George V.—At 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday 21st January, one hour before the commencement of the usual Tuesday drill, orders were received by telephone that the London Division was to parade as strong as possible to line the streets for the funeral procession.

As is the habit of the Territorial Army on any great occasion, an unusually large number of men turned into headquarters, and as each arrived he was given a rifle and told to get to work. Meanwhile, the permanent staff (assisted by some volunteers who would be unable to attend the parade) despatched a circular letter to all ranks, informing them of the times and dates of practices. Some 1200 envelopes had to be addressed, and 1200 stamps licked —no small task.

Practices were held on Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th and Monday 27th, and all ranks worked with such a will that we were confident of being a credit to the Corps. On Thursday 23rd it was decided that the Line of Communication Signals Supplementary Reserve should parade as a separate unit.

It was fortunate for all that the administrative arrangements made for the Jubilee were still fresh in everyone's mind, as a week is not long in which to think out all the many problems involved. As it was, earnest seekers after information were informed: "Just the same as Jubilee, only much earlier "—and this, in fact, was so to the letter.

Many of us slept—or rather, tried to sleep—at headquarters the night before. All of us had breakfast at the unearthly hour of 5.15 a.m. We got through a very trying time of contending with the immense numbers of spectators at Marble Arch with (we are told) considerable efficiency. None of us fell out—not even those who had come to parade straight from a night's work at their civil job. Owing to the crowds, few of us could get near the lorry loaded with medical comforts (coffee and sandwiches)

[*Continued in second column on page* 128]

SPORTS NOTES

Catterick Athletic Notes.

North-Eastern Counties Cross-Country Championship.—Result: Youths' race, won by Royal Signals, Catterick. The championships were held this year at Blaydon, Newcastle, and consisted of a senior race (over 21 years) over a nine mile course, a junior race (18—21 years) over six miles, and a youths' race (16—18 years) over three miles.

Royal Signals, Catterick, entered one team for the youths' race, consisting of seven runners, four to count for team placing. The team won this race with a total of 26 points, the placing of the four counting runners being 5, 6, 7 and 8; and the remaining three were all inside the first twenty-five. The runners, all boys from F Company, Training Battalion, showed the result of their excellent training by L/Corpl Blades, and all finished strongly. The team running was especially noticeable, as the placings show. The time for the race was more than a minute better than the previous year, the individual winner's time being 17 min. 5⅘ sec. for three miles plus about 300 yards. The team order of finishing was: Boys Clover, Roberts, Campion, Butler and Brewster, L/Corporal Boys Moore and Scott.

It is very gratifying to see that two of this year's team—Boys Clover and Roberts D.—will be eligible to run next year in this race, as they will still be under eighteen years of age.

Great encouragement was given to the team by the supporters, n.c.o.s and boys who travelled with them at their own expense.

The arrangements for the meeting were in the able hands of the Blaydon Cross-Country Club, and much of the success of the Signal team can be attributed to the help of Mr. T. Charlton, the Blaydon chairman, who gave every facility for the trainers and team to walk over the course during training and entertained them most hospitably.

Great interest in the Signal entry was shown by officials and members of the various teams, as many remembered the Corps runners of past years. At the prize giving by Mr. A. E. Ensoll, the Signal team received the Newbould shield, to be held for one year, and the four counting runners received gold and silver enamelled medals. This is the first time a Signal team has won this event, and it is hoped that the success will be repeated many times.

The team will be running in the Northern Counties race on the 22nd February at Rotherham, Sheffield, where they will meet the winners of the East and West Lancashire and the Yorkshire cross-country meetings. May the result be equally successful! Next year it is hoped to enter three teams—senior, junior and youths—in the North-Eastern Counties meeting.

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Cross-Country.—The Boys team competed in the North-Eastern Counties cross-country championships at Blaydon on the 8th February. They entered the youths' race against nine other clubs, consisting of the best in the north-east of England. The course was three laps, each of one mile, and by really first class team work the Boys scored a brilliant win. Teams of seven ran, with the first four to count.

Our scoring four finished fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth: Boys Clover P., Roberts D., Campion J. and Butler F. respectively. The remainder of our team—Boy Brewster and L/Corporal Boys Moore P. and Scott G.—all finished in the first twenty, thanks to good packing and backing up. This was a really good performance—probably one of the best outside performances by a Signal team for some years; and the team are to be congratulated on the fine exhibition they put up and the really hard work they put into their training.

We brought back from Blaydon the Newbould shield, presented by H. Newbould, Esq., past president of the National Cross-Country Union, and a set of gold and silver enamelled medals. The shield looks fine in the Boys' Club, and if the next year's team train as hard and as willingly as this year's, there is no reason why we should not keep the Newbould shield as long as we have the Mackworth cross-country shield. The only way to succeed in this, undoubtedly the most exacting sport, is to train regularly and enthusiastically; and those youngsters who hope to have the honour of defending this trophy in the ensuing years are advised to keep fit in readiness for the serious training necessary for these competitions.

By the time these notes appear in print, the team will have run in the Northern at Rotherham on the 22nd February. Although we shall be " up against it " in this, the biggest youths' event in England, we hope to put up a good show.

Garrison Inter-Company Football Cup.—At last the Company team record a success! We won the first round by 8—0 against the Cheshire details. A very close game until after half-time. The Cheshires were a strong side of individuals, but their close play allowed our defence plenty of time to move and cover up. We led by 1—0 at half-time, Terrey scoring a fine goal direct from a free kick. Then came the avalanche. A slight re-shuffle of our forwards proved that we had been playing two men in wrong positions. The Cheshires adopted offside tactics—a definite mistake against a forward line with four fast and fit youngsters. Long passes—a short sprint—and they were kicking off again. The goals were scored by Deane (3), Terrey (2—penalty and free kick), Hawley (2) and Murray. Murray's goal came from a glorious pass that went wrong enough to enter the net. He admits it!

Further results are appended.

BOYS' LEAGUE.

E.F.s v. Cheshires, away, won by 2—0 (Evans, Murray)
Operators "A" v. Cheshires, home, won by 3—1 (Barr, Ainsworth, Deane W.)
Operators " B " v. Operators " C," drew at 2—2

GARRISON BOYS' KNOCK-OUT.

Operators "A" v. Lincolns, away, won by 4—0 (Ainsworth 2, Creed, Barr)
Operators " C " v. East Lancs, away, won by 6—0 (Quinn 3, Westbrook 2, Watson)
Royal Signals " E " v. Royal Signals " D," won by 2—1 (" E " team, Terrey, Allen; " D " team, Evans)

FRIENDLY MATCH.

Operators "A" v. East Lancs, away, won by 8—1 (Creed 4, Deane W. 3, Barker)

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Boxing.—The first round of the Command inter-unit team championship, 1936, was held in the boxing hut at Pinehurst Barracks, Farnborough, on 17/1/36: A Corps Signals v. The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). The Cameronians beat our team in the Command novices competition, so it was with great interest that we gathered at Pinehurst to see how our representatives would manage in the team championship. The boxing was of a high standard throughout, and resulted in a win for A Corps Signals on the first string welter weight after drawing at 22 points all.

BANTAM WEIGHT—Driver Lloyd, meeting Rifleman Grewar, lost on points after a very close fight. It was very hard to decide who was the winner. Lloyd was a better boxer but was put out somewhat by the unusual tactics of his opponent, who at times was like a hurricane, leaping in the air to land a punch.

FEATHER WEIGHT—Sigmn Hughes met Corpl Godfrey in what proved one of the best fights of the evening. Both were very tough and took lots of punishment. Hughes took a good dose in the third round and lost on points.

Sigmn O'Brien met Piper Trussler, who was disqualified in the second round for using the open glove, after having been warned three times.

LIGHT WEIGHT—Sigmn Fell met Rifleman Watson and won on points after a very keen fight. Watson pressed hard in the first round and took a lead on points, but Fell responded well and won the last two rounds to win by a clear margin.

Sigmn Goodwin met Rifleman Kershaw and lost on points. He won the first round, but Kershaw knew enough to win. He is a nice, clean, cool fighter who can give as well as take.

Sigmn Edwards met Rifleman Cummings and won on points. Cummings did what attacking there was in a rather tame fight, but rarely landed a clean punch. Edwards, although retreating, managed to land enough blows to win.

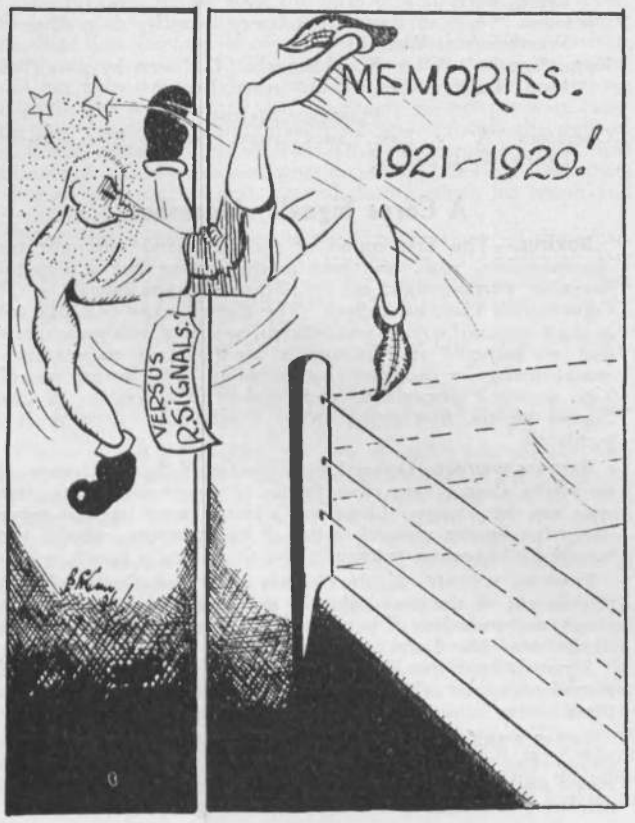
WELTER WEIGHT—Sigmn Taylor met Rifleman Mortimer in an excellent fight—from a spectator's point of view. They stood toe to toe and swapped punches, and Mortimer was out on his feet twice in the first round. Everyone felt like shouting to Taylor to step in and finish his man off; but apparently he was not feeling too well, as he allowed Mortimer to recover somewhat. In the second round there was more hard punching, and at one time both men were as good as out on their feet, but the gong saved them. In the third round Taylor knocked out Mortimer after another good set-to. Thus Signals had the first knock-out and were now leading by 11—9 points.

L/Corpl Kennedy met Rifleman Scott and knocked him out in the second round after a good mixer. Kennedy always loves to mix it when he is in the ring, and did so to the delight of the spectators. A good winner.

L/Corpl Gully met Rifleman McLaughlin and lost on points. Young and inexperienced, he met an old stager whom he found very difficult to hit. McLaughlin was a good winner. With six fights still to go, we were leading by two points, and realised that it was going to be a very close match.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—Sigmn Still met Bandsman Modlam and lost on points. What he lacked in inches, he made up in courage. Modlam, although much taller than Still, did not have it all his own way, by any means. He was stolid, but appeared to have a good punch. Still attacked practically all the time and was by far the better boxer, and in my opinion just deserved the verdict; but the judge, knowing more about the art, thought otherwise.

L/Corpl Milligan met Rifleman Allardyce and knocked him out in the second round. Allardyce was nearly a foot taller than Milligan, but soon realised that he had a handful in his shorter opponent. Milligan attacked strongly and soon settled the issue.



Sigmn Carruthers met Rifleman Jefferies and lost on points. Jefferies attacked strongly throughout and punished Carruthers severely. On two occasions no one thought that Carruthers would get up, but he did. Owing to Jefferies having a faulty glove, a delay of some minutes was caused after the second round, during which time he changed gloves. This enabled Carruthers to pull round sufficiently to avoid the knock-out which had seemed imminent.

At this stage Signals were leading by 18—17 points, with three fights to go—two of which we had very little chance of winning, owing partly to the excellence of the opposition but mainly to the fact that our men were fighting well under weight.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT—L/Corpl Glover met Sergt Wallis and was knocked out in the first round. Glover was pounds lighter and inches shorter than Wallis, and did very well to get into the ring at all.

HEAVY WEIGHT—Sigmn Craddock met Lieut. J. R. S. Drought and was knocked out in the second round, after having been floored several times. He seemed like a rubber man from the way he got up after having been floored. He certainly must have been dazed.

This left the match in an interesting and exciting position: Signals 20 points, Cameronians 21, with one fight to go. This was the first string welter weight, and should we win it, the match was ours by virtue of having won this particular event.

WELTER WEIGHT—L/Corpl Spriggs met L/Corpl Neal. This was by far the best fight in a good night's programme, and it held everyone on tenterhooks from start to finish. In the first round Spriggs attacked strongly and scored well with his left, although Neal responded well and was not afraid to mix it. The second round also went in Spriggs' favour, with Neal always looking dangerous. The third round opened with both men swapping punches, and at one time it looked as if Neal might knock Spriggs out. The latter collected some more points while Neal was "foxing," but Neal then attacked strongly again, and when the final bell went they were both going all out. The judge gave Spriggs the verdict and commended both boxers on one of the best fights that he had ever witnessed.

Later: 23rd January.—We have now been informed that our match with the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) on 17/1/36 was won by the Cameronians, owing to a new rule (which has only just come into force) that, should a match result in a tie, the team which wins most fights gets the verdict. Under the old rule it was the team which won the first string welter who won the contest. So we are unfortunately out of the competition, having won seven fights to the Cameronians' eight. We are, of course, very sorry to have lost, but we compliment the Cameronians on having a good team, and hope that they will go on to win the championship—as we think they will.

Congratulations to all our boxing team on a magnificent display against the Cameronians. Hard luck, chaps! but there is always a next time. If only we had one or two heavy weights, we should have a team to be reckoned with. In the lighter weights our fellows are very good, and every credit is due to them.

Royal Signals (Aldershot) v. London Fire Brigade.—This attractive fixture was held at the Stadium Club, High Holborn, London, on Tuesday 14th January. It was a night of hard fighting and good sport, which was enjoyed by all present. A. Shawyer, who ranks as the best amateur middle weight in Great Britain and was the A.B.A. representative in New York, Norway and Sweden, did not have matters all his own way with Sigmn Rogers, but he won by a fair margin of points. Rogers took a few hard knocks but was always ready to fight back, and, try as he might, Shawyer was unable to put him down.

LIGHT WEIGHT—S. Evans beat Lance-Corporal Kennedy in the first round.

WELTER WEIGHT—T. W. Breed beat L/Corpl Milligan in the fourth round. Sigmn Carruthers beat E. Ellis on points. L/Cpl Spriggs beat J. Wright on points. L/Corpl Gully beat C. Fisher in the second round.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—A. Shawyer beat Sigmn Rogers on points. H. Grainger beat Sigmn Murdoch, who retired at the end of the first round.

MIDDLE WEIGHT—Sigmn Barker beat J. Jones on a casting vote. Sigmn Still beat F. W. Hickey in the second round. Sergeant Wheeler P. beat C. Bircham on points.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT—D. Sharp beat Sigmn Follows on a casting vote. L/Corpl Spencer beat H. Abbott on points. Sergt Wheeler C. beat F. Jewson on a casting vote.

SPECIAL SIX ROUND CONTEST—Fireman V. A. Stuart (Tony) beat L. Stevenson of A Division, Metropolitan Police, who retired in the fifth round.

Hockey.—So far this year only six games have been played, mostly owing to the frozen state of the grounds. Of these, we have won four and lost two.

In the Inter-Unit Games League we played the 2nd Divl Signals on 30/1/36 and won by the large margin of 7—2 goals. On 4/2/36 the 2nd Divl Signals beat the 1st Divl Signals by 4—0 in the same League. So, everything considered, we are very strong favourites for the hockey cup this year. But nuff sed.

On 14/2/36 the officers of the unit played the sergeants of the unit at hockey. Although the sergeants were assisted by four corporals, the officers still managed to win by 4—1 after being one down very soon after the interval. Anyone watching would have thought that two regimental teams were playing, the hockey (especially in the first half) being of so high a standard.

Rugger.—Only one game has been played so far in the Inter-Unit Games League: against the 2nd Divl Signals, on 3/2/36. This resulted in a win for the latter, after a good hard fought game, by one goal two tries (11 points) to one try (3 points).

Billiards.—No. 8 Group Billiard League has now been completed, and the results to date (not all received yet) are as under. The 2nd Battalion R.T.C. have as good as won the League and the right to go forward into the Command knock-out for the Command trophy.

	Matches Played	Games Won	Lost	Aggregate	Pts.
2nd Battalion R.T.C. ...	7	29	13	3737 ...	29
A Corps Signals	8	29	19	4130 ...	29
1st Divl Signals	8	22	26	4080 ...	22
2nd Divl Signals	5	13	17	2500 ...	13
Military Police	6	9	27	2510 ...	9

In No. 8 Group the following won the knock-out competitions arranged to decide the best billiard and snooker players in the Group, who should go into the Command individual knock-out. Billiards: Sgt Griffith C., A Corps Signals. Snooker: C.Q.M.S. Yates, Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Hockey.—So far we have had a fairly successful season, as the following results will show. We were entertained lavishly at Bristol when we visited there, and spent a very happy day. We also entertained their team here, and we hope we returned their unstinted hospitality in some small measure. Anyway, they seemed pretty loath to leave us.

Here are the latest results. Not bad, you must admit.

v. 9th Lancers, away ..... won by 8—1
v. E and F Troops ..... won by 2—1
v. 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, home ..... won by 8—1
v. Royal Welch Fusiliers ..... won by 1—0
v. 9th Lancers ..... won by 7—0
v. Bristol Civil Service, away ..... drew at 3—3
v. 9th Lancers ..... won by 3—2
v. Bristol Civil Service, home ..... drew at 2—2
v. 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps ..... won by 3—0

"A" TEAM.

v. 3rd King's Own Hussars ..... won by 1—0
v. A Company R.W.F. ..... won by 6—5
v. Salisbury Theological College ..... won by 7—0
v. 9th Lancers Reserves ..... drew at 2—2
v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps ..... won by 1—0
v. 3rd King's Own Hussars ..... won by 4—1

Played 17, won 12, drawn 4, lost 1. Goals—for 61, against 22.

Football.—Things are not so quiet on this front. The Garrison League team have been very upset this year through postings and drafts and, of course, the loss of F Troop, with whom we combined for the purposes of this competition. Here are the results to date.

v. 5th Battalion R.T.C. (League) ..... lost by 2—3
v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps (League) ..... lost by 2—6
v. 9th Lancers "A" (League) ..... lost by 1—6
v. Royal Army Medical Corps (League) ..... won by 4—2
v. 12th Royal Lancers (League) ..... won by 4—3
v. 9th Lancers " B " (League) ..... won by 5—3
v. 2nd Warwicks (League) ..... lost by 0—7
v. 2nd Loyals (League) ..... lost by 1—3
v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps (League) ..... lost by 1—6
v. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (League) ..won by 2—1

"A" TEAM.

v. Royal Army Veterinary Corps (friendly) ..... lost by 3—0
v. Royal Welch Fusiliers Details ..... lost by 1—8

Rugby.—In this branch of sport we were again depleted in strength owing to F Troop and D Section leaving us. Results to date.

v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps ..... lost by 4— 6
v. Royal Welch Fusiliers ..... lost by 0— 9
v. 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps ..... lost by 4—16
v. C Company, Royal Welch Fusiliers ..... lost by 6— 9
v. 3rd Divisional Signals ..... won by 5— 0
v. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders ..... lost by 9—19
v. 2nd Loyals ..... won by 8— 3
v. 2nd Warwicks ..... drew at 0— 0

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Football.—The soccer team keeps pegging away at the S.P.A. League table. Our chief trouble of late has been in filling the positions of so many of our players who have left for overseas. However, the three games we have played proved that we can still, despite the unit being at half strength, turn out a team good enough at least to hold our own. Welcomed newcomers to the team are Signalmen Holtby as half back (tried and proved in the Training Battalion, Catterick) and Irving and Oakey as forwards. The team is on the short side, but keen and vigorous play makes up for lack of inches. Results since last report.

3/2/36 v. 2nd Battalion Royal Warwicks, away, won by 2—0
5/2/36 v. Experimental Station, Porton, home, lost by 1—5
10/2/36 v. R.A.S.C., home, drew at 1—1

Played 12, won 5, drawn 2, lost 5.

The win away against the Royal Warwicks was a fine performance. Porton were held to one all for more than three parts of the game, but in the last quarter of an hour they played well up to the standard of a team ranked as one of the best in the district. The match against the R.A.S.C. was played in a violent gale, and each team was lucky to find the net at all.

Hockey.—Since our Army cup venture last month, we have played but two games owing to the fact that frost and ice have been the cause of fixtures being cancelled. Our unbeaten record for friendly matches remains intact. With a much depleted team we managed to draw, away, with the Experimental Station, Porton, at 2—2, and were winners, also away from home, against R.A.F. Old Sarum by 2—1.

The latter end of February sees the commencement of the Inter-Company/Battery Station knock-out tournament, of which our No. 1 Company have been cup holders for the past two seasons.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Boxing.—In the Army and R.A.F. individual boxing championships held at Bombay from the 16th to 20th December 1935, we were represented by Sergt Matthew F. In the first series feather weight he was opposed by Rifleman Conlan, D.L.I. An excellent fight, which Matthew won easily on points, giving a beautiful display of clean boxing and earning a great ovation. In the second series Sergt Matthew fought Private Baulch, 1st Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment. The latter is an awkward fighter who carries a very heavy punch. The first round was Matthew's, who countered his opponent's hooks with a straight left. The second round was extremely close, with Matthew the better boxer, but Baulch landing to the body. In the third round Sergt Matthew tired somewhat, and this was definitely won by Baulch, who was awarded the contest on what have must been

the narrowest of margins. Well done, Sergt Matthew, but Anno Domini will tell.

Sigmn Warburton, of A Corps Signals, fought with his usual skill and reached the final by knock-outs. In the final he met Corpl Lewis, K.S.L.I., who defeated him on points after what can be rightly described as the " needle " fight of the whole competition. Corpl Lewis has now won the bantam title for four years in succession.

Major L. B. Nicholls was selected to referee the finals of these championships, and we were glad to see him in a position which he always fills so ably.

Hockey: Officers v. W.O.s and Sergeants.—The annual match between the officers and the w.o.s and sergeants took place on the Garrison ground on the 12th December. A fast game resulted in a draw, neither side being able to score.

The officers were the first to attack and nearly scored, a shot going just wide of the post. The pressure was kept up for the first quarter of an hour, but slowness on the part of the forwards and the excellence of Sergt Bramwell in goal prevented any score. The game now moved to the other end, and Sergt Paskins put in a terrific shot which was stopped and brilliantly cleared by Lieut.-Colonel Pollard in the officers' goal.

On changing ends, the game was a ding-dong affair until Lieut. Eraut broke away on the right wing, but his excellent centre was not turned to account. Sergt Bramwell again distinguished himself in dealing with repeated raids by the officers' forwards. Sgt Palmer took the ball in his own 25 and was only stopped on the circle by Lieut. Stodart, who got back just in time. Both sides made desperate attempts to obtain the elusive goal, but were unable to penetrate the opposing defences.

For the officers, the outstanding players were Lieut. Stodart, who was a tower of strength at centre half, and Lieut.-Colonel Pollard, who was impregnable in goal. Captain Clapp, on the left wing, made some very good runs. For the n.c.o.s, Sergeant Bramwell displayed judgment as a goalkeeper ; Sergt Paskins was the outstanding forward ; and in defence, Sergeants Shiner and Palmer repeatedly broke up the officers' attacks.

The teams were as follows. Lieut.-Colonel Pollard ; Captain Orr and Major Nicholls ; Lieutenants Eraut, Stodart and Hoysted; Major Murray, Brevet-Major Pearse, Captain Boyd, 2/Lieutenant Iyappa and Captain Clapp. Sergt Bramwell ; Sergt Palmer and C.S.M. Price ; Sergeants Thornton and Shiner and Q.M.S. King ; L/Sgt Matthew, Sergeants Wall and Paskins, R.Q.M.S. Kingman and Sergt Wagg.

Cricket: Officers v. W.O.s and Sergeants.—This annual affair took place on the Gymkhana ground on Sunday 12th Jan. and produced some very good cricket, the officers winning by 87 runs.

The W.O.s and Sergeants, winning the toss, elected to field ; and in this case it did not prove a good decision. Captain Boyd and 2/Lt. Iyappa opened the batting, but the latter was bowled by a really good ball from Sergt Matthew with the score at 6. The Sergeants were highly elated at his dismissal after the brilliant form he has displayed in good class cricket this season. Major Murray opened confidently and with Capt. Boyd, who was a trifle uncertain at first, brought the score to 112 before Captain Boyd was bowled by Sergt Matthew for a sparkling 57. Major Murray, after a stylish display, was caught for a valuable 54, the score then standing at 136. Lieut. Stodart and Major Nicholls were then concerned in a partnership which was not broken until the score reached 218. Lieut. Stodart treated us to a magnificent display of hitting, scoring 76 in just over half-an-hour. Major Nicholls was more sedate and took an hour in scoring 28 before playing on to a full toss, the score being 221 for five wickets. Lieut. Barker scored 12 and Lieut. D. E. Harrison 8 before the innings was declared closed at 256 for eight—and no ducks.

The fielding of the W.O.s and Sergeants was good. Special mention must be made of Sergt Arnell, who (despite having the shortest legs) had to do all the running and must have lost pounds in weight! Well done, the old 'uns.

After lunch Q.M.S. King and Sergt Murray opened the innings, playing the bowling confidently and scoring 31 before Sergeant Murray was cleaned bowled by 2/Lieut. Iyappa. Sergt Paskins and Q.M.S. King took the score to 100 before the former was caught off Captain Boyd. Things were beginning to look bad for the officers at this period, Sergt Paskins played a confident and sterling innings for a valuable 37. Q.M.S. King, apart from giving a difficult chance in the slips, played the best innings of his side and scored an excellent 44 before being bowled by Captain Boyd. Sergeants Bramwell and Matthew scored 10 and 13 respectively, and R.Q.M.S. Kingman, after a stylish display, was magnificently caught by Lieut. Stodart in the deep. After this, the bowlers obtained complete mastery and the innings closed for 169.

The officers' fielding was fair, but a good many catches were dropped.

OFFICERS.

Captain L. C. Boyd b Matthew	57
2/Lieut. A. C. Iyappa b Matthew	1
Major C. A. Murray c Matthew b Murray	54
Lieut. W. A. K. Stodart b Kingman	76
Major L. B. Nicholls b Kingman	28
Lieut. D. E. Harrison lbw b Matthew	8
Lieut. J. N. Barker c King b Matthew	12
Captain C. D. Clapp b Matthew	1
Lieut. D. St. J. Hoysted not out	2
Lieut. R. B. S. Eraut not out	2
Extras	15
Total (for eight wickets declared)	256

Bowling—R.Q.M.S. Kingman two for 113, L/Sergeant Matthew five for 87, Sergeant Murray one for 41.

SERGEANTS.

Q.M.S. King b Boyd	44
Sergeant Murray b Iyappa	16
Sergeant Paskins c Stodart b Boyd	37
L/Sergeant Matthew b Iyappa	13
Sergeant Wall b Iyappa	0
Sergeant Bramwell b Boyd	10
R.Q.M.S. Kingman c Stodart b Iyappa	12
Sergeant Mackie b Boyd	0
Sergeant Thornton not out	11
L/Sergeant Greig run out	2
L/Sergeant Arnell b Iyappa	5
Extras	19
Total ...	169

Bowling—Captain Boyd four for 49, Lieut. Iyappa five for 66, Major Nicholls none for 35.

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Football.—Once again we have had a very successful month under the able management of Sergeant Clark (we dare not state what one club have offered for his services) and our technical adviser Oscar. The team maintained their winning form. Results are too numerous to print, but out of twenty-six matches we lost only seven. Played 26, won 15, drew 4, lost 7 ; goals—for 68, against 41. Leading scorers: Sigmn Keenlyside 18, L/Corporal Brackenberry 14 (we don't count that one, Jock, when you wore reversed boots).

Hockey.—Although not so strong as we should like to be, we still manage to hold our own. We have had some severe matches, but have come out well. We hope to go far in the forthcoming tournament.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Hockey.—

FIRST ELEVEN.

v. 1st Hampshires, drew at 2—2 (Fitzpatrick, Trott)
v. Royal Army Ordnance Corps, won by 5—0 (Briggs, Sergeant French 4)
v. H.R.S. Chaklala, lost by 2—7 (Trott, Hall)
v. 3/11th Sikhs, lost by 1—3 (Captain Morgan)
v. Union Freshmen, won by 2—1 (Trott 2)
v. Kirpa Rams, lost by 1—10 (L/Corpl Thornton)
v. 2nd South Wales Borderers, won by 2—1 (Trott 2)
v. Pindi Rovers, drew at 3—3
v. A Corps Signals, won by 6—4 (Thompson 3, Fitzpatrick, Trott, L/Corpl Crimes)

SECOND ELEVEN.
v. A Corps Signals, drew at 3—3 (Charlton 3)
v. R.A.F. Chaklala, lost by 3—5 (Cosford 2, Sergt French)
v. A Corps Signals, won by 4—0 (Hall 2, Mires, Dawes)

Football.—

FIRST ELEVEN.
v. 1st Hampshires, drew at 2—2 (Donaghy, Cox J.)
v. South Wales Borderers, lost by 1—4 (Donaghy)
v. South Wales Borderers, won by 5—2 (Cox J. 2, L/Corporal Cleveland 3)
v. No. 5 A.C. Squadron, R.A.F. won by 4—2 (Cox J. 2, Horsfield 2)
v. South Wales Borderers, drew at 1—1 (L/Corpl Bundy)

SECOND ELEVEN.
v. A Corps Signals, won by 3—1 (Mobberley, Chambers, Leeder)

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Football.

7/11/35 v. — Company, 1st Dorset Regiment, home, won by 5—1 (Milne 4, Connor)
14/11/35 v. N.C.O.s Club, Dorset Regiment, home, won by 1—0 (Connor)
21/11/35 v. 4th D.C.O. Lancers, away, won by 2—0 (Connor 2)
26/11/35 v. Staffs & Departments, home, won by 2—1 (Connor 2)
20/12/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, drew at 3—3 (Robertson, Grant, McLeod)
30/12/35 v. G Battery R.H.A. away, drew at 2—2 (Connor 2)
—/ 1/36 v. C Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, away, lost by 0—6
9/ 1/36 v. H.Q. Wing, 1st Dorset Regiment, home, won by 3—0 (Bain, Gratwicke, Connor)
12/ 1/36 v. H.Q. Wing, Dorset Regiment, home, won by 9—0 (Bain, Gratwicke, Connor 7)
19/ 1/36 v. C Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, home, won by 2—1 (O'Connell, Connor)
27/ 1/36 v. 4th D.C.O. Lancers, home, won by 1—0 (O'Connell)
31/ 1/36 v. B Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, home, drew at 1—1 (O'Connell)

Hockey.

11/11/35 v. C Company, Dorsets, home, won by 5—1 (Standen 5)
8/ 1/36 v. A Squadron, 13/18th Hussars, away, won by 13—2 (Standen 6, McLeod 4, Walbridge, Fisher, Grant)
23/ 1/36 v. 4th D.C.O. Lancers, away, lost by 0—1

Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Football.—Since the publication of our last notes, we have only two important points to report concerning this branch of sport. Firstly, and with loud cheers, we must place on record that for the first time in history we have actually won the Waziristan District British football tournament. This now takes place every alternate year in Razmak during the hot weather. Well, this year we have had a very strong team, being able to draw on out-Sections to replace one or two of our regular team who were taking annual leave elsewhere. We played the crack Company of the D.C.L.I. (H.Q. Wing) and after a very good game came out the winners by two goals to nil. We then met the Tanks, very old opponents in this sport, and after drawing in the first match we won the replay by one goal to nil. This placed us in the final, in which we met the C.I.M.H. and after a good game ran out the winners by 3—1 goals, two being penalty goals scored by Sigmn Dewhurst and one from a very good effort by Sigmn McDonald. The spectators had some very anxious moments, however, before we finally annexed the trophy.

Again, we have made further history in football achievements. Our Indian ranks football team entered the District tournament for the first time. True, they had three B.O.R.s playing for them; but they managed to get into the final, and only lost to a Gurkha team by a single goal: 1—2. This is indeed something to be proud of, especially considering the reputation of the Gurkha football teams throughout India; and we all join in wishing our Indian ranks better luck next time—when they hope to go one better.

Hockey.—Nothing of great importance has happened in this game since our last notes. As usual, we have been playing the D.I.Khan Police team, but, sad to say, we have more defeats than wins to our credit.

During October we had the pleasure of arranging and witnessing one of the fixtures of the Indian Battalion District tournament in Dera Ismail Khan, but, sorry to relate, the 2/14th Punjab Regiment did not compete. Hence we were robbed of the chance of seeing once again the one and only Dyhan Chand. The Rajput Regiment from Razmak eventually ran out the winners of this tournament after a replayed final. We supplied umpires for most of the games, Sergeant Marchant and Corpl Foster giving good service in those duties.

Tennis.—At last we have a little activity to report in this branch of sport, in the form of a D.I.K. Signal tournament. We have now received the Northern Command Signals Week tennis cup, presented by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. Of course, this was a fine opportunity to run a tournament. The powers that be decided that the Command cup should be put up for competition every year in the unit for open singles, and in conjunction with this we had handicap singles and open and mixed doubles.

The tournament produced some very fine tennis, especially amongst the old ones who normally do not touch a racquet except on these occasions. The number of spectators was also very encouraging, especially for the finals. Special mention must be made of our C.O., Quartermaster, Adjutant and Medical Officer, who against all the odds ran round and round the court, getting back returns in a manner that would do credit to Perry himself. As a matter of fact, the M.O. (Captain Barton) did this so successfully that he eventually won the handicap event at the expense of Sergt Woolhouse, who had come down from his home in the hills for this tournament.

The other three finals produced tennis of a very high order. In the open singles Corpl Foster beat L/Corpl Bell by three sets to love: 6—2, 6—3, 6—4. In the mixed doubles Mrs. Barton and Corpl Foster beat Mrs. Bew and Captain Allen by two sets to love: 6—4, 6—2. L/Sergeant Washburn and L/Corpl Durnan combined very well together to win the open doubles at the expense of Lieut. Cussens and Sergt Woolhouse.

So ended a very fine tennis tournament. Mrs. Roberts kindly presented the cups to the winners, after which both players and spectators proceeded to enjoy themselves at a dance to the strains of music supplied by L/Corpl Poole and his boys.

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

Tennis.—In the final match of the Services Tennis League, promoted by the Union Jack Club, the R.A.F. (winners of "A" Zone) met and defeated the W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, B Corps Signals (winners of " B " Zone). In the final of " B " Zone, the Sergeants Mess team had beaten the Unit Tennis Club by 3—1 matches. Both teams are to be congratulated upon their respective performances.

The unit singles championship (handicap) has just come to an end. Sergt McCormack (—30) came through to win from a field of twenty-seven. He is to be congratulated on his display in the final, when he disposed of C.Q.M.S. Laing (also — 30) in two straight sets.

Football.—The team has met with varying luck. In the semi-final of the Karachi challenge cup we went down to the R.A.F. "A" team by 2—3 goals after missing a penalty within five minutes of time. In the previous round we defeated the R.A.F. " B " team by two goals to nil.

The Union Jack Club Football League is now in full swing. Up to date our record is not impressive. Nevertheless, we stand third in the table at the time of going to press.

It is fitting that under this heading I should record the departure to the home establishment of L/Corpl (Tubby) Cant. During his stay of five years with the unit, he has represented it in football, tennis, hockey, cricket and swimming. As a player of football, tennis and hockey, he is really good. As a sportsman, he is excellent.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

Territorial Boxing Championships.—We cull the following report from *The Stratford Express* of 15/2/36.

The 54th (E.A.) Divl Signals, of The Green, Stratford, were successful in winning the championship cup at the Essex Terri-

torial Young Soldiers inter-unit team boxing championships at "The Cedars" Drill Hall, Portway, Stratford, the headquarters of the 6th Battalion Essex Regiment, on Saturday evening. The Signals won with a total of 18 points, the 4th Battalion Essex Regiment being runners-up with 15. The remaining order was: 59th A.A. Brigade R.A. 14, 28th Essex Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion R.E. 13, 6th Battalion Essex Regiment 12, 5th Battalion Essex Regiment 11. As is indicated by the scoring, the contest for the trophy was a very close one, and many keen and evenly contested bouts were witnessed. Among those present were Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, T.A.; Colonel G. H. Wilmer, D.S.O., M.C., commanding 161st (Essex) Infantry Brigade, T.A.; and Colonel Sinclair Thompson, the secretary of the Essex Territorial Association.

At the close of the championships the cup was received by Lieut. Nettleship, of the 54th Signals (on behalf of his successful team) from Major-General Tompson, who also presented the awards to the winners and runners-up in the different weights.

Lieut.-Colonel P. L. Grimwood, M.C., commanding the 6th Battalion Essex Regiment, thanked General Tompson for his kindness in being present, and added that he hoped he would take away happy memories of his first visit to those headquarters and to the Young Soldiers boxing contests.

BANTAM WEIGHT.

Semi-finals—Sapper Puckett (28th Essex Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion R.E.) beat Boy Moore (5th Battalion Essex Regiment) in the first round. Signalman Reynolds (54th E.A. Divl Signals) beat Private Woolf (4th Battalion Essex Regiment).

Final—Sapper Puckett beat Sigmn Reynolds in a splendid bout. Both boxers took punishment pluckily. The winner scored more frequently, and was the stronger at the finish. A good loser.

FEATHER WEIGHT.

First series—Sigmn Hallett (54th E.A. Divl Signals), bye. Private Bowerman (5th Battalion Essex Regiment) walk-over. Sapper Cullender (28th Essex Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion R.E.) beat Private Thwaites (4th Battalion Essex Regiment) in the second round.

Semi-finals—Sigmn Hallett beat Private Bowerman. Sapper Cullender, bye.

Final—Sigmn Hallett beat Sapper Cullender in the second round.

LIGHT WEIGHT.

First series—Private Stevens (4th Battalion Essex Regiment) beat Sigmn Winterhalder (54th Divl Signals). Private Beckinsale (6th Battalion Essex Regiment) beat Private Pentney (5th Battn Essex Regiment) in the first round. L/Bdr. Phillips (59th A.A. Brigade R.A.), walk-over.

Semi-finals—Private Stevens, bye. L/Bdr Phillips beat Private Beckinsale.

Final—L/Bdr Phillips beat Private Stevens.

WELTER WEIGHT.

First series—Private Hoare (6th Battalion Essex Regiment), bye. Boy Dowling (59th A.A. Brigade R.A.), walk-over. Private Bowyer (5th Battalion Essex Regiment) beat Sapper Morris (28th Essex Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion R.E.) in the first round. Private Claridge (4th Battalion Essex Regiment) beat Signalman Booker (54th Divl Signals) in the second round.

Semi-finals—Boy Dowling beat Private Hoare in the first round. Private Claridge beat Private Bowyer.

Final—Private Claridge beat Boy Dowling in one of the best bouts of the evening. Both boxers displayed good style and the ability to punch hard and clean. A close contest.

MIDDLE WEIGHT.

First series—Boy Kilford (59th A.A. Brigade R.A.), bye. Private Paveley (6th Battalion Essex Regiment) beat Sapper Currie (28th Essex A.A. Searchlight Battalion R.E.). Sigmn Pattison (54th Divl Signals) beat Private James (5th Battalion Essex Regiment).

Semi-finals—Private Paveley beat Boy Kilford in the second round. Sigmn Pattison, bye.

Final—Private Paveley beat Sigmn Pattison in the third round.

TERRITORIAL AND S.R. NOTES *(continued)*

CITY OF LONDON SIGNALS *(continued)*

[*Continued from page* 122]

which had been parked near our position from a very early hour. We all got safely back to headquarters, received our day's pay, had some food, and so to our homes.

Impressions of the day are few. We were all too tired to think much. We can but remember the great honour that was done to London and its Territorial Division in being allowed to take such an important part in the last honours to our late King.

Colonel G. D. Ozanne.—All ranks at Signal House offer their very sincere congratulations to our late commanding officer on his appointment as Deputy Chief Signal Officer, London District. We are thus assured that we shall continue to have his advice and help for some years to come.

Social Functions at Headquarters.—In consequence of the period of Service mourning, all dances at headquarters have been cancelled. The various unit dinners have been postponed, but are to take place later in the year.

Recruiting.—Although the two men who approached some of the permanent staff just as we marched off from Marble Arch have not yet materialised, the unit has experienced a very welcome flow of recruits this month. There are, at the time of writing, no less than twenty-five of the new entry in the process of being persuaded past the Medical Officer.

Departures.—R.S.M. Hales A. G. joined us as R.S.M. a little more than a year ago, and now, on the 28th February, he is to leave us. We are assured that his departure is for his own good, or we would not let him go. During his year at Signal House, R.S.M. Hales has done a great deal for us. He has been deservedly very popular. As has been said officially, much of our increase in strength in the last year has been due to his efforts: he has been full of schemes for attracting recruits. To his energy, much of the success of such functions as the dances and charity ball in 1935, and the two children's parties, has been due. The practices for and the parades on our two recent great occasions, the Jubilee and the Royal Funeral, have been a real test of his ability. On each occasion he was completely successful.

The Sergeants Mess held a successful smoker on Saturday 15th February, at which many kind things were said about him. Despite the very short notice given, as his departure was unexpected, a good number were present. There would have been far more had not a bad fog and a breakdown on the Southern Railway prevented many from attending. R.Q.M.S. Waite proposed the health of R.S.M. Hales and afterwards, on behalf of the Mess, presented him with a leather suit case.

To R.S.M. and Mrs. Hales we offer our thanks for all they have done for us, and our best wishes for success in their new Corps. The Royal Army Ordnance Corps gains what the Signals lose.

Arrival.—R.S.M. Strange F. G. Through the kindness of Lieut.-Colonel R. Elsdale and A Corps Signals, he comes to us. We hope that his stay will be a long and happy one, and that he is able to steer us through the year ahead. We have a large increase in establishment to face.

Increase in Establishment.—We are informed that the Royal Corps of Signals (T.A.) is to be greatly increased in 1936; and to us in the London Divisional Signals will fall the duty of raising additional Sections, which will mean the recruitment of another 150 men at least. It is as well that our efforts in 1935 have brought us within measurable distance of our own establishment.

Camps, 1936, at Seaford.—It has now been decided that we are to camp this year just north of Seaford: the London Divl Signals from the 26th July to the 9th August, and the Line of Communication Signals in the same camp from the 9th to the 23rd August. We hope that both units will have fine weather and 100 per cent. attendance. Certain Sections of No. 1 Company Line of Communication Signals are to be employed with the Regular Army this year. Further details will be published later.

One Minute Problem.—(See "Plain Tales" on page 88). The only answer is 100,000 boots, though not necessarily 50,000 pairs. Try it with any even number of one-legged men.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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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. XVII.—No. 194 APRIL, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Royal United Service Institution: Temporary Suspension of Entrance Fee.—As a temporary measure, and especially to enable as large a number of officers as possible to avail themselves of the facilities offered by the Institution during the period in which His Majesty's Forces are being increased, *the Entrance Fee has been suspended.*

Officers of all ranks, whose names appear in the current official lists, can therefore join the Institution by paying the annual subscription of £1/5/0 only. Membership will date from the 1st January. Life membership is £20 or four annual instalments of £5/5/0.

The Institution offers exceptional facilities to officers studying for promotion and Staff College examinations, especially in regard to the loan of books which they would otherwise have to purchase.

The "Quarterly Journal," which is included in the subscription, is the leading Service publication and contains lectures and articles dealing with all the most important subjects of professional interest, including International affairs.

Application for membership should be addressed to The Secretary, Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

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Civil Employment.—We learn that vacancies occur from time to time in the Inspection Department, R.E. Stores (Signals Branch) for suitably qualified candidates. As a general rule, only NON-RESERVISTS who have been Foremen-of-Signals or Instrument Makers, Telegraph, class i., can be considered for such appointments. Applications, with full particulars of service and qualifications, should be submitted in writing to The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, for transmission to The Chief Inspector, R.E. Stores, Royal Dockyard, Woolwich, London, S.E.18.

Corps Cricket Matches.—The following fixtures have been arranged for 1936:—

Royal Signals v. The R.M.A. at Woolwich, 6th June
Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C. at Aldershot, 1st and 2nd July
Royal Signals v. R.E. at Aldershot, 6th and 7th July
Royal Signals v. R.A.O.C. at Aldershot, 8th July
Royal Signals v. Catterick Garrison at Catterick, 13th, 14th July

:: :: ::

We again call the attention of our Unit Representatives to the urgent need of keeping this office regularly posted with detailed information regarding ARRIVALS in and DEPARTURES from their respective units.

Every effort is made to ensure that copies of the Corps Magazine are correctly addressed and promptly despatched to each registered subscriber, and so long as we receive notification of MOVEMENTS as and when they occur, we will undertake to see that the necessary redirections are effected immediately.

With a view, therefore, to correcting our existing records with up-to-date information, will Unit Representatives kindly favour us at the earliest possible moment with a Nominal Roll of their Unit WIRE Subscribers to date, and subsequently with a monthly Casualty Report conveying all movement particulars.

We would convey our thanks in anticipation for this additional service.

:: :: ::

Corps Promotion Roster: Pocket Edition, 1936.—The work of compiling up-to-date information for this publication has been put in hand, and it is hoped to have the booklet ready for distribution at an early date.

Will all Unit Representatives, who have not already done so, kindly indicate as early as possible the number of copies they will guarantee to circulate. Orders will be dealt with in strict rotation. The price per copy is 1/- post free (at home or abroad).

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Bound Volumes of "The Wire," 1935.—A limited number of the 1935 bound volume is still available to those requiring a copy. Price 8/- per copy (post free at home or abroad).

In Aid of King George V. Jubilee Trust Fund.—The Trustees of this Fund have accepted the offer of Messrs. J. C. ENO LTD. to sell, for the Fund's benefit, a special supply of their ENGLISH MONARCHY CHART.

The Chart, which is produced in colours and measures 42×24 inches, shows the features of fifty-two Sovereigns from Alfred the Great to King George V. It was prepared for the proprietors of "Eno's," who have already distributed it to Schools throughout the Empire as a commemoration of the late King's Silver Jubilee. It has been favourably received by Education Authorities because it rigorously excludes any fanciful representations of the early Kings. Where no portraits exist, busts, coins and seals have been used as the nearest contemporary records of the appearance of the English Kings.

The Chart makes a unique wall decoration, and is a striking memorial of the late reign. Copies supplied on application to "Monarchy Chart," 160 Piccadilly, London, W.1 (endorsed "Jubilee Trust Fund"). Price 2/- (post free).

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-Signalman, Preston, Part-time Night	Telephonist
2	Ex-Signalman, Somerset	Labourer
3	Ex-W.O. Middlesex	Storekeeper
4	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Lineman
5	Ex-Sigmn, Bulford	Wet Bar Attendant, N.A.A.F.I.
6	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Wireless Operator
7	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Cleaner
10	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, Preston, Part-time Night	Telephonist
12	Ex-N.C.O. London	Cleaner
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Railway Porter
14	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
15	Ex-N.C.O. London	Messenger
16	Ex-N.C.O. London	Watcher-Constable
17	Ex-W.O. London	Attendant
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
20	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Instrument Maker
21	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Lineman
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Postman
24	Ex-N.C.O. London	Postman
25	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Wireless Operator
26	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Wireless Operator
27	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Inspector of Stores
28	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Motor Mechanic
29	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Miner
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Roundsman
31	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Works Supervisor
32	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
33	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Clerk
34	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Process Clerk
35	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
36	Ex-N.C.O. Derby	Clerk
37	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Wireless Operator
38	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Mechanic
39	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Wireless Operator
40	Ex-N.C.O. Catterick	Clerk

[*Per the Portsmouth and Southampton Branch*]

41	Ex-N.C.O. Portsmouth	Lineman, P.O. Eng. Dept.

[*Per the Salisbury and District Branch*]

42	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Clerk
43	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lineman, P.O. Eng. Dept.
44	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Wireless Operator

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

2/Lieut. J. H. St. G. Hammersley
2/Lieut. A. F. Freeman

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—

Westminster Branch, Signals Association
Royal Signal Officers Mess, Catterick

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Sigmn, Darlington.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	£3 0 0
2	Ex-Sigmn, Herts.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	3 0 0
3	Ex-Sigmn, Colchester.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2 0 0
4	Ex-Sigmn, Liverpool.	Domestic difficulties.	Loan	2 0 0
5	Ex-Driver, Sth Wales.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
6	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool.	Temp'y difficulties.	Grant	2 10 0
7	Ex-Sigmn, Hants.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1 16 0
8	Ex-Driver, London.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	3 0 0
9	Ex-Sigmn, Sunderland.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
10	Ex-N.C.O. Essex.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	4 0 0
11	Ex-Sigmn, Lancs.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	2 0 0
12	Ex-Sigmn, Middlesbrough.	Dom. difficulties.	Grant	4 0 0
13	Signalman, Catterick.	Temporary difficulties.	Grant	1 15 0
14	Ex-Signalman, Lancs.	Domestic difficulties.	Grant	1 10 0
15	Ex-N.C.O. Liverpool.	Tempy. difficulties.	Loan	2 10 0
16	Widow of ex-W.O. Surrey.	Domestic difficulties	Grant	5 0 0
			Loan	15 0 0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieut.-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham,
20th March 1936.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the April 1936 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 10/5/30

Yours faithfully, C. W. M. FIRTH, Colonel,
Officer i/c R.Signals Records.

A Demand for Skilled Labour.

Superintending Engineer's Office, South Midland District,
45 Blagrave Street, Reading, Berks,
9th March 1936.

The Editor of "The Wire."

Dear Sir.—I was interested to see your note headed "Civil Employment" in the March issue of THE WIRE. Some time back you were good enough to publish an article regarding the necessity for members of the Corps to endeavour to qualify for Post Office employment whilst serving with the Colours. In this connection, I would point out that at the present time there is a demand for skilled Plumber Jointers, and it has occurred to me that whilst a man is taking a vocational course of plumbing, it might be possible to arrange in some cases for training as a Cable Jointer to be given (in addition to wiping joints). Such an arrangement would enable men to qualify for employment either in the Post Office or with one of the Electric Light Companies.

Yours faithfully, F. PENFOLD.

BY APPOINTMENT

Corps Sports Prizes



MOST of the prominent Corps Sports Committees choose Trophies by The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company because they are distinguished by excellence of design, craftsmanship, and value.

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- - Plain Tales - -

Another Problem.—Once upon a time, a man had an enormous sheet of paper. This sheet was very fine; in fact, just one thousandth part of an inch thick. He decided to fold it up. Every time he folded the sheet, it became double the thickness of the previous fold—the foolish man! He laboured at his task for a very long time, and when he had folded it only forty times, his paper towered over seventeen thousand miles in the air. Just fancy, if he only folded it once more!

What! you don't believe it? What will you bet me?

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Is This A Record?—C.S.M. Stevenson brought a box of snapshots from Rawalpindi. The box was left forgotten until the other day, when he resurrected it to show us some views. This was the first time the box had been opened for nearly two years. A real live mosquito flew out and bit Sergeant Bainbridge, causing him to spill a pint of beer. We hasten to add that the beer belonged to someone else. Stan is the caterer.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

A Night Out.—Salisbury Signals Association held another dance at the Cadena Cafe on the 6th March. In spite of the fact that there were two other dances in Salisbury the same evening, the Signal dance was a huge success. Mr. Fred Cole and his colleagues are to be heartily congratulated. A loud speaker installed in the bar upstairs relayed the efforts of Jack Raymond's band, so that people like you and me could sit there and know what sort of dances we were missing.

Although I have been offered fabulous sums to keep quiet, I insist on saying my piece. The dances were much too long, and there were too many encores. Many people were compelled to drop out, utterly exhausted. Instead of the band being allowed to please themselves, they should have been controlled by a whole-time M.C., with a view to pleasing the customers. It is not generally appreciated that the M.C. can do much to swing the evening along the right lines.

It was a darned good show, all the same.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Reflections of Minnie.—I am not allowed to write very much this month as my time is fully occupied with Claude, my latest. If only I could get a " D " in maths, I'd prove to that man Barleux that there were *six* on Sunday 16th February. However, Claude will do to go on with.

Life is quiet these days. There are cobwebs in the piano, and there is mildew on the drum. The Mess notes from the 3rd Divl Signals will show you that our members are dwindling, but little George and I read the papers every morning, and we wonder. Sergt Brundell left us on the 12th March for Hong Kong. Good luck to him. They probably forgot to mention him in the 3rd Divl Signals notes.

Somebody said, apropos recruiting, that they should double the pay, increase leave, and reduce the working hours. At least, they would not then be able to say that there was no time to arrange the future of my families. The majority of my children find that their future is brief and singularly uneventful, if somewhat damp.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Further Complications.—Ukann Larfe rose from the pavement and rubbed his aching limbs. He looked round for his companion, the fascinating Collette, but she was not to be seen. Probably she wasn't there. He didn't care. Nothing mattered now. He was splashed with mud, cold, wet and hungry. Ukann Larfe was made of stern stuff, however, and he gave himself a shake. Suddenly he remembered the plans. Yes, there they were, still clutched in his hand. He hailed a taxi.

" Drive to the Rue Petit Pois," he ordered. " One hundred francs if you get me there in ten minutes."

" Achha, monsieur," replied the driver, and letting his clutch in with a bang, he shot off at a speedy sixty per. Ukann Larfe shrugged his shoulders and walked away in the opposite direction.

. . . . . .

Hermione Larfe glared at Inspector Faceache across the table. " You rat, you!" she hissed. " You double crosser. You low down—er." She paused breathlessly.

" Cad," suggested the Inspector.

" Thank you. I was thinking of ' rotter.' Why, you're so low, you could use your shadow for a tent."

" Tut, tut, Mrs. Larfe. I didn't really mean anything."

" Well, you can help me to find my husband now, my lad." The powerful girl picked the Inspector up with one hand and threw him down the stairs. " Tell 'em to send the lift up for me," she yelled.

. . . . . .

Do not send any money with this coupon.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

No Vehicular Traffic.—It is only on rare occasions that one reads notes from Officers Messes. It may therefore interest my vast circle of friends in the senior ranks (interval for fit of coughing) to learn that the Royal Signal Mess at Bulford now has a private garage for six cars situated between the mess and the Pimple sports ground.

Whilst writing with a public school accent, we would like to mention that Mr. N. A. Clubb, the well known rugger fiend, is leaving Bulford after eleven years faithful service. Arriving there as a signalman, he rose almost by his own efforts to the rank of full corporal. At this point he shed khaki and became chef to the Mess. Nat is willing to admit that he is a pretty good man, but his references actually made him blush. He starts his new career with the G.P.O., so we will wish him very good luck.

The episode of the Guardsman's moustache reminds us that—but, there, you wouldn't be interested even if you managed to pierce the mystery. One of the finest examples of Army whisker work is on the high seas at the present time. Our loss, etc., etc.

⁘ ⁘ ⁘

Horoscope.—The moon is now directly in the path of Eucalyptus, but the influence of Vice Versa will undoubtedly prevent a cat—catas—a doings. This augurs ill for those knocked down by steam tractors on Fridays. To-morrow of this week should be observed as a half-holiday by those who finish work early enough. Lucky stones for all readers: diamonds, emeralds and kitchen knobs. The latter should only be worn when the Quartermaster is not looking, otherwise he is liable to become seriously ill, wondering why you haven't got all dust. A good month for all kinds of business that turns out well. This month in the garden. Not me.

BARLEUX.

R.E. Despatch Riders' Sixth Annual Reunion Dinner.

The sixth annual dinner of R.E. Despatch Riders, 1914—1918 (which is affiliated to the Signals Association) was held at the Wharncliffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel, on Saturday 29th Feb., when approximately 380 ex-despatch riders made their annual pilgrimage to London for the purpose of enjoying once again the companionship of their old war-time friends and acquaintances.

The writer was a privileged guest on that occasion, and during the course of the evening's entertainment a resolution of considerable importance to present-day despatch riders was put to the vote and carried by a large majority. This resolution was to the effect that the Association of R.E. Despatch Riders, 1914—1918, would welcome new members from amongst those who were serving or had served as despatch riders in the Royal Corps of Signals, either Regular or Territorial Army. A later enquiry elicited the information that the annual subscription is 2/6, there being no entrance fee. Members receive a button-hole badge on joining. The annual dinner is held in London, usually at the end of February, and the cost of the ticket is from 7/6 to 8/6.

It will be noted that Lieut.-General Sir John Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., is president of the Association, and Brigadier R. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., a vice-president.

The aims and objects of the Association, as laid down in the official handbook, are:—

1. To foster the spirit of good comradeship among all those who served as despatch riders in R.E. Signals.
2. To provide an opportunity for those who are able to assist their less fortunate comrades.

The Association of R.E Despatch Riders (1914-1918)
Sixth Annual Reunion Dinner



Wharncliffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel, London, 29th February, 1936.
[Photograph by Rawlings Ltd.]

3. To make arrangements for an annual Reunion Dinner to be held in London at a date and place selected by the Committee.
4. By arrangement with the Royal Signals Association, to enable members (when unemployed) to utilise the employment bureau of that organisation at 95 Belgrave Road, Victoria, S.W.1.

To these, no doubt, will be added a new aim in future: to foster comradeship between the younger generation of D.R.s, both Regular and Territorial Army, and those who have preceded them.

The writer is of opinion that the question of joining the Association merits consideration from those who are now eligible. One had only to be present at the annual dinner to realise what a wonderful atmosphere of comradeship existed, and how essential it is that such a spirit should be fostered rather than allowed to fade away.

All details regarding membership may be obtained from Mr. E. R. Gilbert, Association of R.E. Despatch Riders, Hastings House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.2. Phone: Temple Bar 0046.

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.)

2306470	R.Q.M.S. Freemantle J.	19/12/35	5

To be W.O.ii. (R.Q.M.S.)

2307440	C.S.M. Mitchell J.	15/12/35	6
2306423	C.S.M. Bale H.	19/12/35	6

To be W.O.ii. (C.S.M.)

*5609456	C.Q.M.S. Lydamore A.	5/11/35	73

Appointed C.Q.M.S. (Foreman-of-Signals).

2317167	Corporal MacCulloch W.	4/12/35	42

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

*6838920	Sergeant Gavey G.	5/11/35	73
*1417989	Sergeant Gould G.	26/11/35	73

To be Farrier/Sergeant.

1850344	Farrier/Corporal Long G.	21/11/35	12

To be Sergeant.

2200975	L/Sergeant Parker S.	4/11/35	30
4525419	L/Sergeant Sunderland H.	5/11/35	30
*1860365	L/Sergeant Grant A.	26/11/35	78
734621	L/Sergeant Humphrey J.	5/12/35	30
391388	L/Sergeant Benfield G.	5/12/35	31
2315391	L/Sergeant Carnell O.	7/12/35	31
2311596	L/Sergeant Barraclough A.	18/12/35	31
2311654	L/Sergeant Short F.	18/12/35	31

Appointed Lance-Sergeant.

2316689	Corporal Cosstick F.	3/11/35	36
2315560	Corporal Wardley L.	2/12/35	38
2309554	Corporal Walsh M.	5/12/35	38
2306864	Corporal Hart W.	5/12/35	38
1850116	Corporal Taylor W.	7/12/35	38

To be Corporal.

7875398	L/Corporal Lewis R.	4/11/35	56
2318035	L/Corporal Jarvis W.	4/11/35	57
399126	L/Corporal Strachan J.	14/11/35	58
2318997	L/Corporal Thorp W.	23/11/35	58
2320473	L/Corporal Ditchfield J.	23/11/35	58
2318715	L/Corporal Watts S.	26/11/35	58
2312794	L/Corporal West E.	1/12/35	58
2309373	L/Corporal McLaven L.	2/12/35	58
2318522	L/Corporal Stirk A.	4/12/35	59
2316878	L/Corporal Pike H.	5/12/35	59
2316885	L/Corporal Greenman A.	5/12/35	59
2317990	L/Corporal Lane A.	6/12/35	59
2316957	L/Corporal Hardwick C.	6/12/35	59
2319545	L/Corporal Scott G.	6/12/35	59
2318015	L/Corporal White K.	7/12/35	59
2318690	L/Corporal Hart S.	12/12/35	59
6365	L/Corporal Holman S.	18/12/35	59
2319190	L/Corporal Routledge J.	18/12/35	59
2319603	L/Corporal Cokayne T.	18/12/35	59
2312848	L/Corporal Joyce R.	18/12/35	59
2320499	L/Corporal Moore S.	19/12/35	59
2314808	L/Corporal Honey A.	19/12/35	59

Appointed Lance-Corporal.

1422635	Signalman Sharpe J.	8/9/35	
4852782	Signalman Wrench J.	8/9/35	
2320248	Signalman Richardson W.	9/9/35	
2323125	Signalman Butler T.	12/9/35	
2318820	Signalman Smith D.	12/9/35	
2320565	Signalman Grant A.	15/9/35	
2318016	Signalman Wallis C.	18/9/35	
811942	Signalman Jenkins W.	18/9/35	
2313380	Signalman Locke H.	18/9/35	
2319641	Signalman Jamieson H.	18/9/35	
2322228	Signalman Brooks C.	18/9/35	
2321070	Signalman Welbourne D.	18/9/35	
2567149	Signalman Humby S.	26/9/35	
2315572	Signalman Gilkes A.	27/9/35	
2315873	Signalman Robinson R.	28/9/35	
2321239	Signalman Hughes A.	28/9/35	

Discharges.

2311664	C.S.M. Seymour A.	26/1/36	6
2313067	Sergeant Winteringham R.	17/1/36	23
2310939	Sergeant Crowhurst H.	17/1/36	22
1040992	Sergeant Udale A.	18/1/36	24
2306330	Sergeant Curtis F.	23/1/36	17
*1854108	Sergeant Hunt R.	26/1/36	74
*2306449	Sergeant Hay E.	16/2/36	74
1856991	Sergeant Seabrook G.	22/2/36	17
2311579	Sergeant Varley F.	23/2/36	24
2315981	L/Sergeant Cook L.	20/1/36	31
2308375	L/Sergeant Somers T.	21/2/36	38
2306879	Corporal Hunter W.	10/1/36	56
2316021	Corporal Clarke G.	5/2/36	44
2307840	Corporal Baker W.	5/2/36	53
2308909	Corporal Jennings F.	27/2/36	27

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318951	L/Corporal Parry P.	31/1/36	63
2318959	L/Corporal West W.	1/2/36	
2316816	L/Corporal File W.	3/2/36	63
2318978	L/Corporal Bisby C.	3/2/36	
2319432	L/Corporal Binge R.	10/2/36	61
2319061	L/Corporal Edwards W.	26/2/36	
2318800	L/Corporal Paul E.	27/2/36	

Deceased.

2306375	Sergeant Keane A.	9/2/36	17

* *Special Roster, India*

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Corps News—Officers

Moves—

Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard from Catterick to War Office
Major E. G. Sinnott from Catterick to India
Major B. D. Willoughby from Catterick to Egypt
Captain H. E. M. Swan from Chester to India
Lieut. J. P. North from Bulford to India
Lieut. P. B. G. Gambier from Bulford to India
Lieut. N. G. Newell from Aldershot to Tidworth
Lieut. D. N. Deakin from Aldershot to Tidworth
Lieut. T. J. F. Fuller from Aldershot to Blackdown
Lieut. R. Webb from India to Tidworth
Lieut. W. A. Purser from India to Aldershot
2/Lieut. E. F. Mervyn-Smith from Blackdown to India

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office 18/2/36]

Regular Army—Royal Signals

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors 19/2/36: Brevet-Major E. G. W. Pearse, H. M. Sylvester, M.C., V. J. E. Westropp (and remains seconded), R. G. L. Giblin (and remains seconded), and J. R. Patten, M.C.

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals

H. T. Mander, late Captain, T.A., R.Signals, to be Lieutenant 19/2/36

Territorial Army—Royal Signals

44th (H.C.) Divl Signals—Lieut. T. Freer-Ash to be Captain 1/1/36

The London Divl Signals—Captain H. T. Mander resigns his commission on appointment to the S.R. 19/2/36

[War Office 21/2/36]

Regular Army—Royal Signals

Captain R. Sutton-Pratt is restored to the establishment 2/2/36

Lieut. H. V. Ewbank is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Instructor, School of Signals, 2/2/36

Establishments—School of Signals

Lieut. H. V. Ewbank, R.Signals, to be Instructor (Cl. GG.) 2/2/36

Territorial Army—Royal Signals

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., to be Hon. Colonel 1/1/36

[War Office 25/2/36]

Regular Army—

Colonel H. I. Allen, D.S.O., on ceasing to be employed, is placed on half pay from 21/1/36 to 9/2/36

Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Barker, h.p. list, late R.Signals, to be Colonel 23/2/36

Commands and Staff—

Colonel H. I. Allen, D.S.O., h.p. list, to be G.S.O. 1st Grade, War Office, 10/2/36

Royal Signals—

Lieut.-Colonel R. E. Barker, on completion of four years service as Regimental Lieut.-Colonel, is placed on h.p. list 23/2/36

The undermentioned Majors to be Lieutenant-Colonels 23/2/36: A. L. Harris, M.C., and A. W. Roberts, M.C.

Lieut. C. H. Stoneley is seconded for service under the Colonial Office 8/2/36

Lieut. I. St. Q. Severin, from h.p. list, to be Lieutenant 26/2/36, with precedence next below Lieut. W. J. S. Gray

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals

J. E. Woodward to be 2/Lieutenant 26/2/36

[War Office 28/2/36]

Regular Army—

Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., is seconded whilst employed as Senior Instructor, School of Signals, 17/2/36

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Establishments—School of Signals

Major H. D. Beadon, M.C., R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Senior Instructor (Cl. Z.) 17/2/36

Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C., R.Signals, to be Senior Instructor (Cl. Z.) 17/2/36

Territorial Army—Royal Signals

50th (N.) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. H. Kirkaldy to be Lieutenant 4/2/36

The London Divl Signals—H. G. Sinclair to be 2/Lieutenant 29/2/36

[War Office 3/3/36]

Regular Army—Royal Signals

Captain W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., to be Adjutant vice Captain R. H. R. Steward, M.C., 1/3/36

Territorial Army—Royal Signals

Lieut.-Colonel W. E. Rayner, T.D., to be Brevet-Colonel 1/3/36

[War Office 6/3/36]

Regular Army—Establishments

R.E. Stores Insp. Dept.—Major A. L. Harris, M.C., R.Signals, relinquishes the appointment of Inspector (Cl. Z.) 23/2/36

Major C. R. H. Firth, R.Signals, to be Inspector (Cl. Z.) 23/2/36

[War Office 10/3/36]

Supplementary Reserve—Royal Signals

J. Hudson-Davies to be 2/Lieutenant 11/3/36

[War Office 11/3/36]

Regular Army—Royal Signals

Captain C. A. Oliver, M.C., to be Major 12/3/36 with ante-date for seniority only to 27/10/35, and precedence next below Major R. H. Wall

Territorial Army—Royal Signals

47th (2nd London) Divl Signals—2/Lieut. F. McCombie to be Lieutenant 4/3/36

2/Lieut. W. Hawking to be Lieutenant 11/3/36

The Mohmand Operations, 1935.

An Account of "Corps Signals."

BY ELLOFSEA (A CORPS SIGNALS, RAWALPINDI).

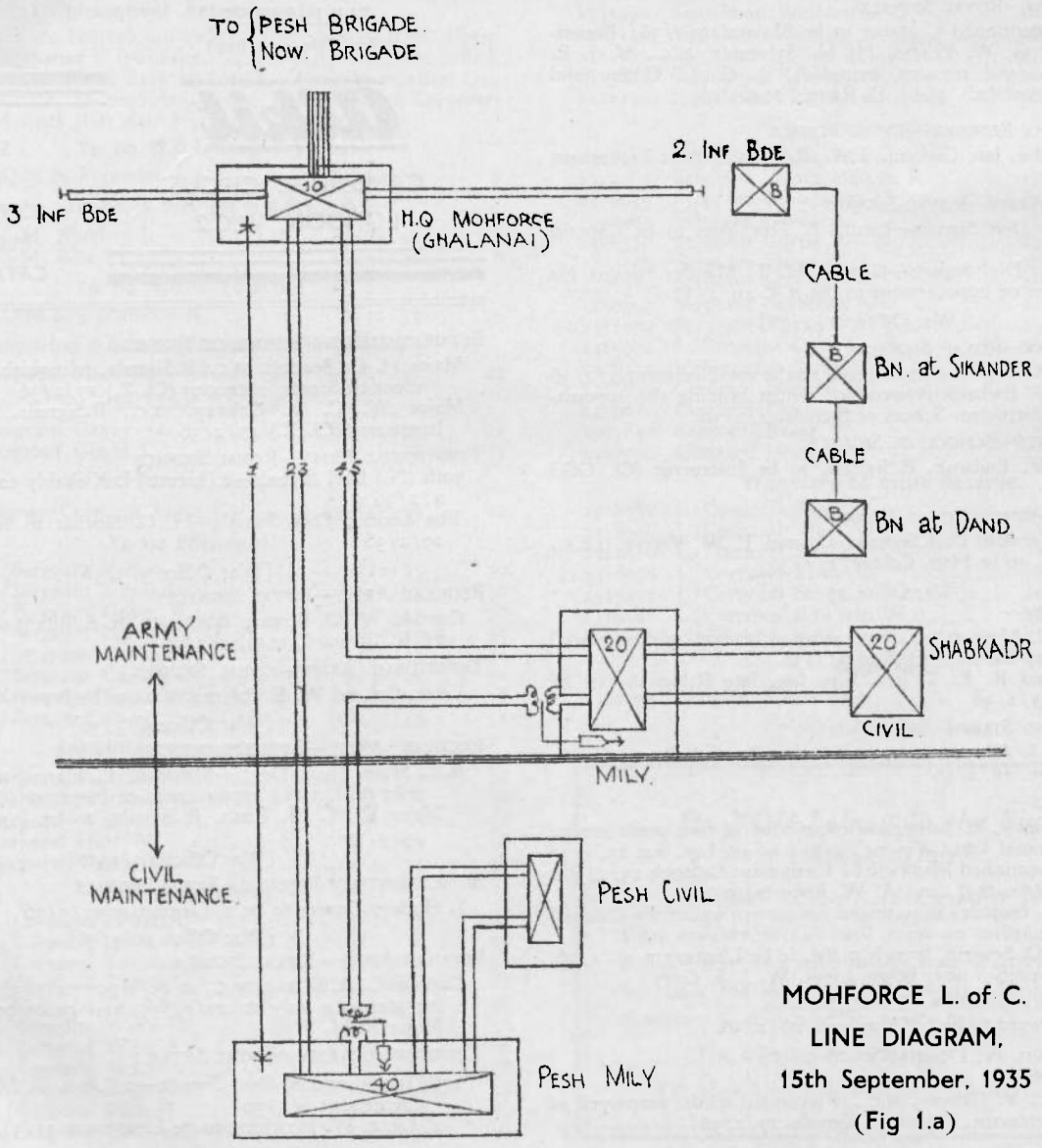
Last August the Government of India were building a road along the Gandab Valley (the latter word a euphemism for what is rather more rocky hill than sandy dale) in the Mohmand country north-east of Peshawar. The Mohmands resented this attempt to open up their country, and retaliated by hindering and interfering with the road construction. By the end of the month, they had become so aggressive that the Government decided that a strong force was necessary both to enable the road to be continued over Nahakki Pass and to instil into the minds of the recalcitrant mullahs some respect for the "Sarkar."

Accordingly the Peshawar, Nowshera, Jhelum and Rawalpindi Brigades were assembled in the vicinity of Peshawar and were christened "Mohforce." The strength was about that of a mobilised Division, and the order of battle ran to three foolscap pages. (Query: Did Corps signalmasters memorise the location of all units ?)

On the 5th September Northern Command issued orders under the heading "Inter-communications—Mohmand Operations," and these contained the following paragraph: "Responsibility for inter-communication. A Corps Signals will be responsible for the provision of all inter-communication between Peshawar and Headquarters Mohforce and for all wireless communications back to Headquarters, Northern Command. Mohforce Signals (Peshdist Sigs) will be responsible for all inter-communication arrangements within Mohforce."

On the 7th September most of the Line Company (No. 1 Corpsigs) left Pindi for the war, and next day commenced building a five wire TA—AB (stout iron poled) permanent route from Shabkadr—where the Government Telegraph Department's routes ended—to Mohforce, who were then at Ghalanai, something over fifteen miles away. Thirty coolies were engaged for the unskilled work, but progress was delayed owing to the short working day of about four hours only which was necessitated by the "tactical situation prevailing." The route was completed by the 15th September. It had been most skilfully surveyed and included a number of spectacular bays.

Meanwhile, on the 8th and 9th September, the remainder of Corpsigs, less the essential war details, "proceeded" (with apologies to Haddock, M.P.) to Peshawar. Operation Headquarters were established in the Peshawar District Signal lines, which became the temporary home of the unit.



MOHFORCE L. of C.
LINE DIAGRAM,
15th September, 1935
(Fig 1.a)

By the 11th September the signal office at Peshawar had been taken over and a detachment installed in Shabkadr Fort to work the exchange there (see Fig. 1.a). The principle of complete responsibility for a circuit was adopted, and a detachment of the C. and M. Section was attached to Mohforce Signals to man the rearward terminals.

Arrangements were made to deal with private telegrams, and a close liaison with the Government Telegraphs was established. At first, fifty to a hundred outward messages per day were cleared as State telegrams ; and the co-operation became so close that the telegraph babu occasionally gave us credit—the magnaminity of which act will be appreciated by all who know the Indian Government clerk.

Wireless communication was provided as shown in Fig. 1.b (Northern Command Headquarters were at Murree). As will be seen, 120-watt medium wave and locally built short wave sets provided parallel communications, with a C set link (the A.G. Group) providing a further alternative to the line circuits between Mohforce and Peshawar. Priority of traffic was between Peshawar and Murree on the medium wave, and between Mohforce and Murree on the short wave. The A.G. sets were of most value at night when the line was cut by tribesmen.

Characteristics of the W/T circuits were the regular complete fade-out of the short wave signals by night, and periods of heavy atmospherics which, two or three times a week, made communication on the medium waves impossible for some hours at a time.

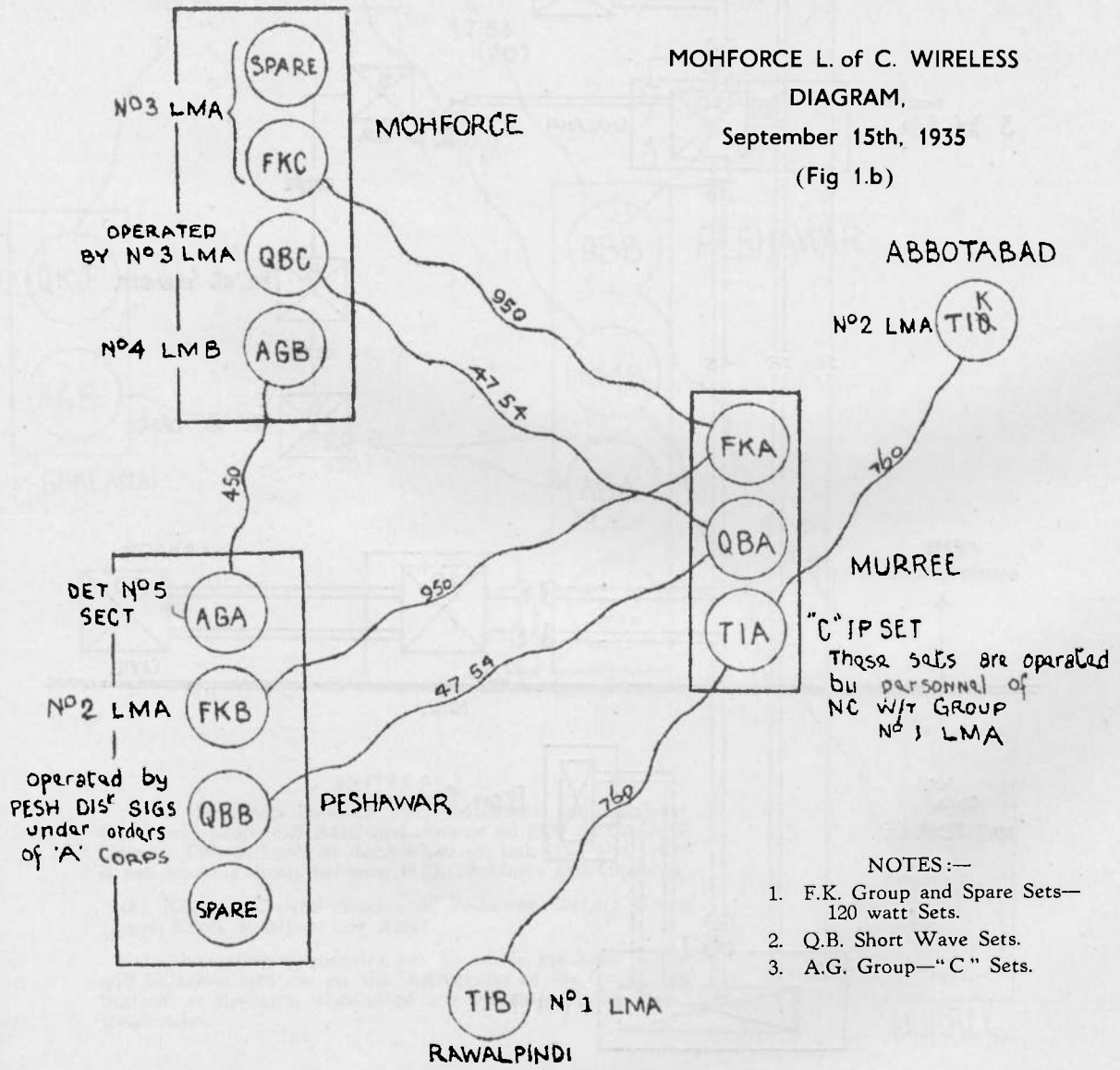
It was found most convenient to make Peshawar (the most centrally situated) the control station, as the signal strength there from each of the two out-stations was better than at Murree.

A D.R.L.S. service was established from Peshawar to Mohforce, and special runs were made to Northern Command via Pindi, at which place the D.R.'s packages were usually handed over to a waiting D.R. for the further forty miles up the hill road to Murree. There was keen competition for the Peshawar—Pindi record ; so much so that when the time for the 105 miles had been cut down to two and a quarter hours, an edict was issued forbidding the performance of runs in less than three hours.

In addition to the outline of the L. of C. communications described above, Corps Signals provided Mohforce Signals with two pack C set detachments, which did some good work and got rather nearer to the bother than most of the rest of us. The Field Cable Sections also were often busy before the somewhat dull stabilisation stage set in.

On the 18th September Mohforce Headquarters advanced to Wucha Jawar, eight miles further on, and up to that day in possession of the " hostiles " (as the local papers termed the

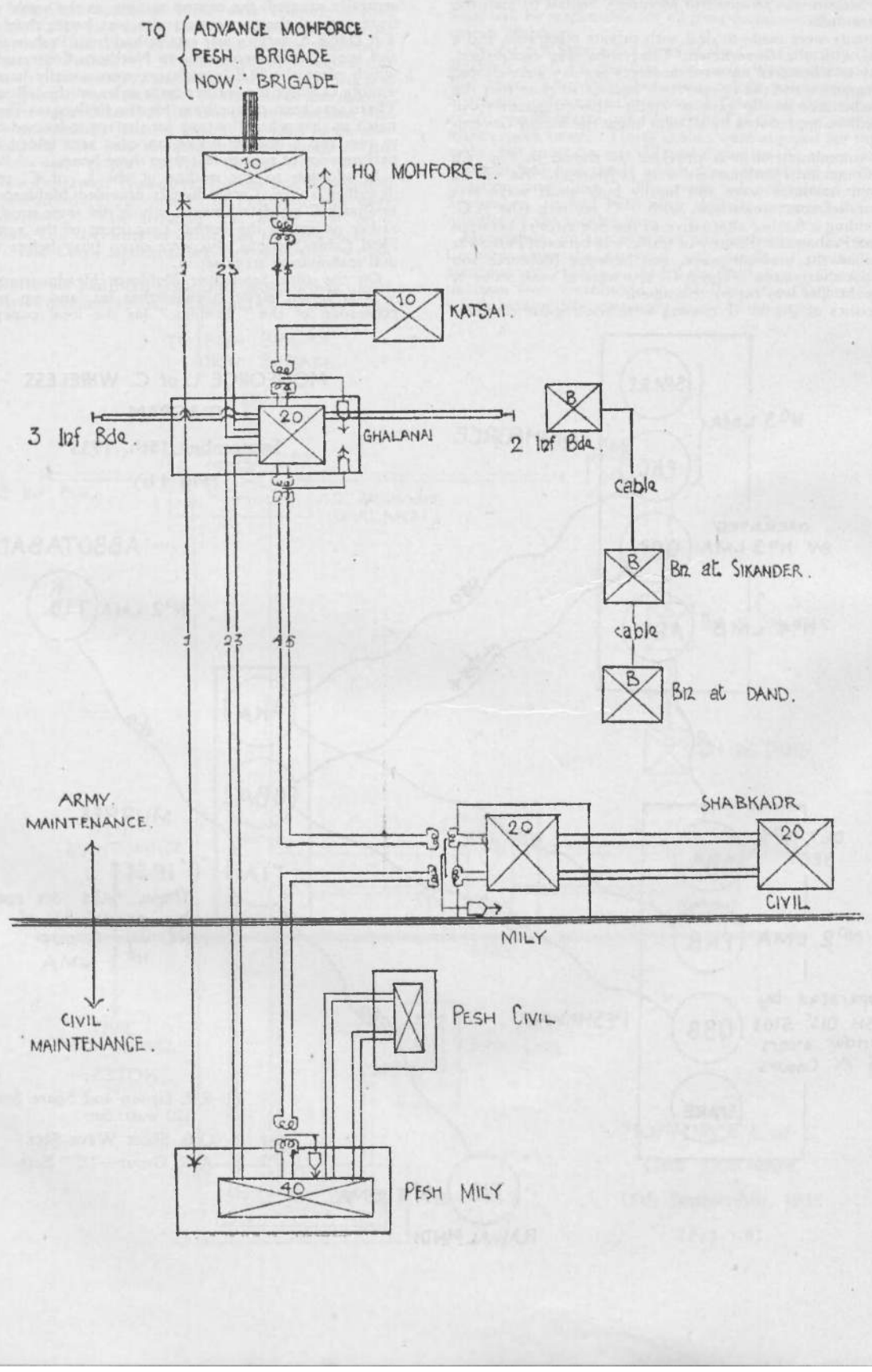
MOHFORCE L. of C. WIRELESS DIAGRAM, September 15th, 1935 (Fig 1.b)



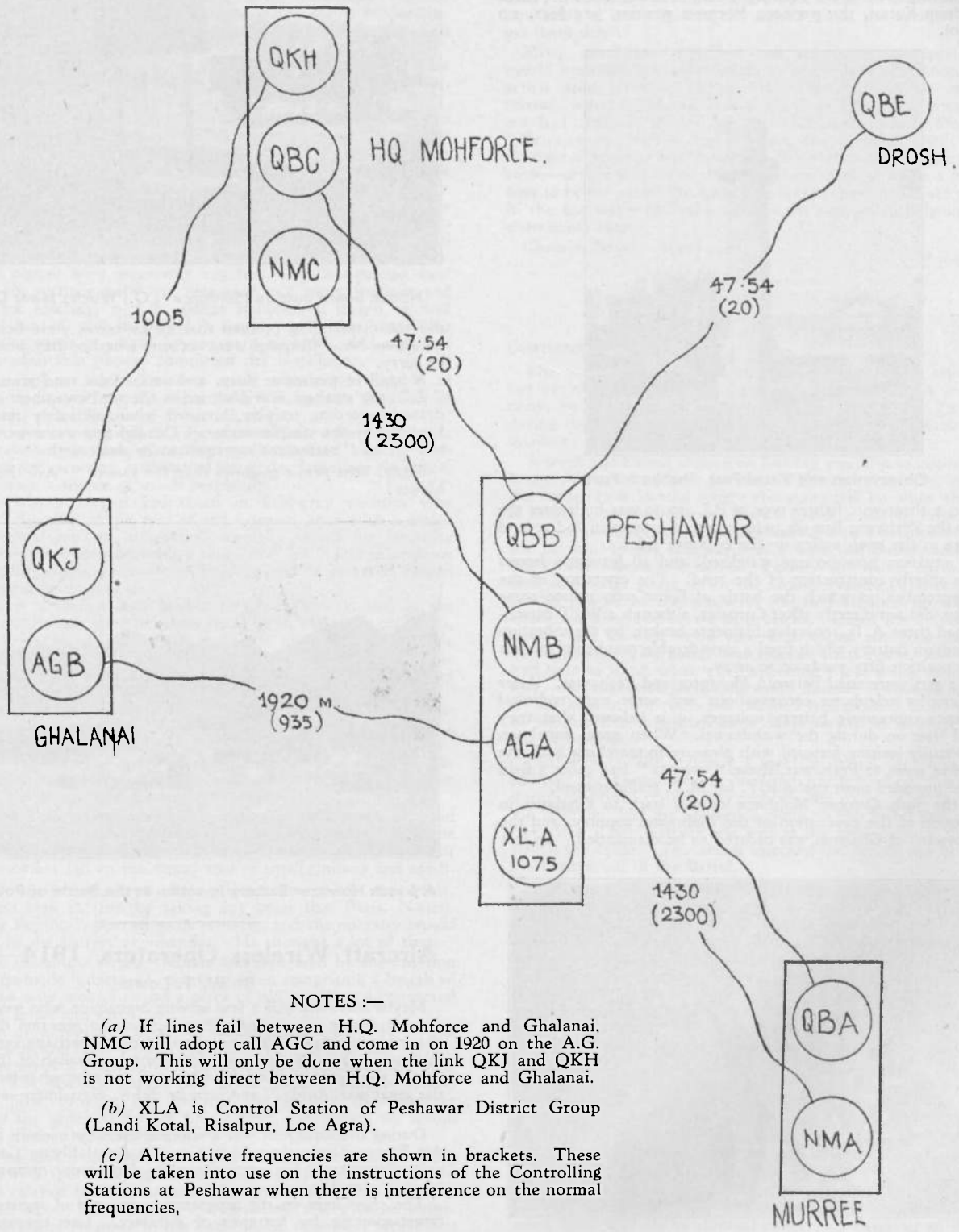
NOTES :—

1. F.K. Group and Spare Sets—120 watt Sets.
2. Q.B. Short Wave Sets.
3. A.G. Group—" C " Sets.

MOHFORCE L. of C. LINE DIAGRAM, 19th September, 1935 (Fig 2.a)



MOHFORCE L. of C. WIRELESS DIAGRAM, 19th September, 1935 (Fig 2.b)



NOTES :—

(a) If lines fail between H.Q. Mohforce and Ghalanai, NMC will adopt call AGC and come in on 1920 on the A.G. Group. This will only be done when the link QKJ and QKH is not working direct between H.Q. Mohforce and Ghalanai.

(b) XLA is Control Station of Peshawar District Group (Landi Kotal, Risalpur, Loe Agra).

(c) Alternative frequencies are shown in brackets. These will be taken into use on the instructions of the Controlling Stations at Peshawar when there is interference on the normal frequencies.

enemy). The outwitting of the tribesmen and the bloodless occupation of the heights covering the Nahakki Pass, which made the ground ours, was an outstanding event of the operations. Wireless and field cable communication was provided on the 18th, and by the following evening the P.L. route had been extended the three miles from Katsai, the previous foremost position (see Figs. 2.a and 2.b).



Observation and Visual Post, Shabkadr Fort.

Later, a three-wire lighter type of P.L. route was built over the Pass to the Peshawar Brigade, who occupied a camp in and around a village in the open valley on the opposite side.

The situation now became stabilised, and all fervently hoped for the speedy construction of the road. The operation of the 29th September, in which the battle of Point 4080 gained some publicity, did not directly affect Corpsigs, although a W/T detachment had three A.T. 100-valve filaments broken by the vibration of a Medium Battery which fired a considerable number of rounds from a position fifty yards or so away.

No. 2 sets were tried between Mohforce and Peshawar. After some lengthy telephone conversations and some very technical discoveries concerning battery voltages, it is believed that they worked later on during the withdrawal. When some signalmen were actually looking forward with pleasure to marching back the thirty-five miles to Peshawar, these " twosets " had quite a field day and provided most useful R.T. for M.T. traffic control.

On the 19th October Mohforce moved back to Ghalanai in anticipation of the evacuation of the Mohmand country, and the P.L. forward of Ghalanai was ordered to be dismantled. So fast



The start of the New Road over the Nahakki Pass.



Notice Board outside Mohforce H.Q., Wucha Jawar Camp.

did the dismantling proceed that all estimates were beaten, and for a time No. 1 Corpsigs were not sure whether they were pleased or sorry.

A spell of perimeter duty, and at last the road was finished. " Z," long awaited, was disclosed as the 1st November. A "withdrawal according to plan " ended when all safely returned to barracks by the 5th November. The fighting was over, and only the " Lost " statement remained to be dealt with.

Truly, "the pen is mightier than the sword." Ask the quarter-blokes!



A 6 inch Howitzer Battery in action at the Battle of Point 4080.

Aircraft Wireless Operators, 1914—1918.

By W. T. Lowe.

Maybe there are still a few serving Signalmen who were " over there " during 1914—1918. But it is safe to presume that many of my present-day readers were too young, or perhaps very young, in those days. Anyhow, an old ex-wireless wallah of the R.F.C. thinks you might perhaps be interested to know what he did " in the great war, daddy," and how he did it. Signalmen—attention!

. . . . . .

During the European war a wireless operator's job in the Royal Air Force—it was then known as the Royal Flying Corps—was very elementary, but certainly more dangerous, compared with what it is to-day.

The chief item on the programme consisted of registering and target-spotting for batteries of Artillery. Two operators were usually stationed at each battery. Although they kept alternate watches of four hours each, the system often demanded that both

should be on the *qui vive* the whole of the time the station was functioning.

The watch commenced at dawn and terminated at dusk. In the winter months, therefore, light duties compensated to a certain extent for the inconvenience of frozen hands and feet, mud baths and flooded dug-outs. But during the summer months great activity prevailed, and the dawn would see the operator, phones clamped to his ears, listening for signals from the first machine.

The station, however, was not always in a dugout. I have sat with an instrument in a chicken coop, a tent, tin and wooden huts, a pig sty, a stable, trenches and shell holes.

Owing to the impracticability in those days of receiving signals on the aeroplane, no transmitters were employed on the ground stations. We signalled to the airmen by means of strips of white American cloth. With these we made large code letters on the ground in a conspicuous position.

Our mark iii. trench crystal receiver was a wonderful little instrument. It comprised, roughly, a coupled inductance, two variable condensers, a perikon and carborundum system of crystal detectors, and a buzzer for adjusting them. A length of seven-stranded copper wire measuring 125 feet, a hollow-masted steel pole in six sections with the necessary guy ropes, pulleys and pickets for erecting, a 7 lb. sledge hammer, a length of well insulated lead-in, a 6 ft. picket, a copper earth mat measuring about three yards in length by one yard in width, and a pair of Brown's adjustable phones completed the installation.

The aeroplane itself carried a small transmitter capable of propagating signals from the aerial (which hung from the fuselage when aloft) to a distance of about ten miles.

To assist in tuning efforts, the transmitters were adjusted to three wave-lengths, which, owing to the limited size of both these and the receiving sets, varied but little. Jamming, therefore, was at times a source of much perplexity.

There was a certain gentleman in field-grey uniform who patrolled the area at the rear of the German lines with a motor wagon containing an installation specially tuned for jamming purposes. He would transmit a series of " Vs " and intersperse them with humorous remarks in English, and he certainly caused much amusement at times.

Then, at a certain spot known to all ex-Service men as the salient, the French were in action on our left, and their machines, or rather, the wireless attached, gave rise to much unfavourable comment from operators stationed at the English batteries. The transmitters were very flatly tuned, and one simply could not get rid of their piano-like signals.

There came a day when the air was thick with craft, and tense watch had to be kept for signals from anyone who spotted a likely target, perhaps whilst in the middle of a calibration shoot. In addition, a station operator would seem very often to be the recipient of signals from every machine except those from the one which he was straining his ears to catch.

Perhaps this was a blessing in disguise. When the ground shook with violent concussions, and terrific explosions rent the air, it probably took his mind off the fact that a projectile might at any moment fall on the flimsy roof of small timbers and earth.

If the weather rendered observation from the air impossible, ears were kept in trim by taking any press that Paris, Nauen, Posen or Poldhu happened to be sending, and the operator would hand it to the battery commander. He thought a lot of that.

The wave-length of the stations was increased by the addition of a home-made inductance coil, very often comprising a length of telephone wire wound round a piece of old wood, and connected between aerial and earth.

When an aeroplane called, we would make a letter K on the ground with the cloth strips. The observer then signalled "Stand by to fire on A.3," or whatever number the target may have been given. The machine always flew in the form of a figure 8, and as the pilot brought her towards the battery the observer signalled the order to fire, or his observations, which we would relay to the battery commander.

The stations were sometimes connected to the actual battery position by a short telephone line. Messages from aircraft would then be relayed by this method. But more often than not, this duty fell upon the operator manipulating the ground strips. Standing at the entrance to the dug-out, he called out repetitions from the operator on watch to the officer in charge of the battery.

Registration shoots usually proceeded for about three hours from one machine. But target spotting provided the operator with many strenuous moments. At any time during the day an observer was likely to transmit a call, telling us that guns were firing at a certain position ; troops moving on the Cambrai-Arras road ; convoy at such and such a spot ; and so on. No matter how faint or badly formed the signals were, the operator had to get them down.

Many incidents, humorous and otherwise, transported our minds from the scenes of warfare, or brought realisation of the actual position nearer home. It is wonderful what man can tolerate when he has no choice but to endure. At times, when we had reached that stage of nonchalance which life under difficulties and danger had imbued, the crash of shells or the thunder of cannon was little more to us than someone throwing a stone—unless that stone should find its mark or come a little too near to be pleasant: for many who were my comrades are sleeping in the fair fields of France, under the poppies of Belgium, or in some other clime.

Cheerio, boys! Stand easy!

A Matter of Insurance.

GENTLEMEN.

The soullessness of corporations such as yours is astounding. Let me review my case. I have an accident policy in your company, by the terms of which you agreed to pay me £2 a week during such time as I was prevented from working because of an accident.

A week ago I went around on Sunday morning to inspect a new house that is being built for me. I climbed the stairs, or rather the ladder now located where the stairs will be when the house is finished, and on the top floor I found a pile of bricks which were not needed there. Feeling industrious, I decided to remove the bricks. In the stairway was a rope and pulley, and on one end of the rope was a barrel. I pulled the barrel up to the top floor and, after going down the ladder, fastened the rope firmly at the bottom of the stairway. Then I climbed up the ladder again and filled the barrel with bricks. Down the ladder I went again—two storeys, mind you—and untied the rope to let the barrel down. The barrel was heavier than I was, and before I had time to think what was happening I was going up the stairway, with my speed increasing every minute. I thought of letting go my hold of the rope, but before I had decided to do so I was so high up that it seemed more dangerous to let go than to hang on. I held on.

Half-way up the stairway I met the barrel of bricks coming down. The encounter was brief but spirited. I got the worst of it and continued on my way towards the roof. That is, most of me went on, but my epidermis clung to the barrel and returned to earth. Then I struck the roof at the same time as the barrel struck the cellar. The shock knocked the breath out of me and the bottom out of the barrel.

Then I was heavier than the empty barrel, and I started down the stairway while the barrel started up. We met in the middle of the journey, and again the barrel uppercut me, pounded my solar plexus, barked my shins, bruised my body and skinned my face. When we became disentangled, I resumed my journey downward and the barrel went higher. Soon I was at the bottom and stopped so suddenly that I lost my remarkable presence of mind and let go the rope. This released the barrel, which had reached the top of the stairway, and it fell the two storeys and landed squarely on top of me—and it landed hard, too!

Consider, then, the heartlessness of your company. I sustained five accidents within two minutes. One on my journey up the stairway, when I met the barrel of bricks ; the second when I struck the roof ; the third when I met the empty barrel ; the fourth when I struck the bottom ; the fifth when the barrel struck me. You now state that it was only one accident, not five ; and instead of receiving a payment at the rate of five times £2, I am only entitled to one accident at that rate, and one alone. I therefore request you to cancel my policy, as I have made up my mind that I will not be skinned either by a barrel or an insurance company.

HOME STATIONS



5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, SCARBOROUGH

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



The Reception Room.....Depot Battalion.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

Yes, you guessed right first time. It is still snowing in Catterick, and anti-cyclones, blizzards and deep Icelandic depressions are in vogue. However, in spite of this normal feature and the abnormal fresh air craze, we manage to keep soldiering on. One never can say the moors are cold after a night's repose a la Catterick bungalow these days. There are a few bright spots, however, in our frosty outlook, so now for the latest news.

Arrival.—L/Corpl Chadwick W. (of square fame) has returned to the fold after a brief sojourn with A Corps Signals. He seemed relieved to discover that the square had not been shovelled away during the snow clearance.

Departures.—Sergeant Seabrook G. has left us for civilian life after twenty-two years of military activities. A real soldier of the old school, whom it will be very difficult to replace. He will be remembered by thousands with whom he came in contact during his tour as weapon training chief. Sergt Levy D., our orderly room stalwart, embarks on a civil career after twenty years with the Colours. Corpl Chapman E. also departs for civil life. We wish them all every success in the future, and hope to meet them at some reunion or other.

Courses.—Congratulations to Lieut. H. R. V. Cooke and Corpl Pike J., who qualified Q.1 at Hythe Small Arms School. L/Sergt Brunton W. has left us for a course at the anti-gas branch of the Small Arms School at Winterbourne Gunner.

Drafts.—Drastic alterations to inventory boards are well under way. Many of our warriors of long standing have been warned to go east of Suez in the near future, to units as shown: F/Corpl Archer F. and L/Corporal Poole D. to 4th Indian Divl Signals, Trimulgherry. F/Cpl Sharvell J. to A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. Corporal Bull G. (horsey, keep your tail up) to B Corps Signals, Karachi. Tell us how it's done, Johnny. L/Sergt Cooley T. (uncrowned king of the cookhouse) to 1st Indian Divl Signals, Rawalpindi. Corpl Bennett E. E. T. and L/Corpl White R. to Waziristan District Signals, Dera Ismail Khan. We wish them all bon voyage.

Births.—A daughter (Mary Rose) to L/Sgt and Mrs. Chadney, at Catterick Military Hospital, on 11/2/36. A daughter to Corpl and Mrs. E. Chapman, also at Catterick Military Hospital, on 19/2/36. We give them the usual three cheers.

Marriage.—L/Corpl Poole D. to Miss E. Ridley, at Richmond Registry Office, on Sunday 15th March. It was to have been on Friday the 13th, but you know what an Irishman Paddy is. Perhaps he is superstitious ? We wish him and his wife a very happy future.

Sergeants Mess.—At the monthly Mess meeting held on 21/2/36 the R.S.M. took an opportunity to make presentations to our two departing members, Sergeants Seabrook and Levy. Follcwing the customary procedure on such occasions, each of them in turn made a farewell speech to the company. One could tell from their manner how deeply the speakers felt the severance of their ties with the Corps. We all know we have that experience to come, and occasions such as these make one realise how much we all become part of our own Corps and how bitter is the blow when it comes to parting with the associations of youth.

This solemn event over, the Mess cleared decks for action in a games tournament with the Corporals. The evening was a pronounced success, particularly the boat race, which the sergeants won by two cool pints. The Mess owed its crushing victory to the huge thirst cultivated by Patrick Boyle during long years on the burning plains. We trust that another Irishman, Patrick O'Poole, will cultivate a like thirst and so regain his lost laurels. It seems that he was out of elbow practice. Someone was unkind enough to remark that he might have been suffering from a " capped " elbow.

Visitors.—Sergeant-Major Jackman (ex-R.E. Telegraphs) with Dixie Richards, visited the mess on 28/2/36 and regaled us with tales of the old school and themselves with some " General's " special nut brown. What a pity they were not in the boat race team! the Mess would have won by such a number of pints that even Jock Bowie would have gone on the water wagon.

Who is the hero who waited two hours for a lady known as Snake's Hips, only to discover that she had had an afternoon in bed in preference ? As another gentleman remarked, she is nothing less than a low-down deceiver. Who, too, is the bulwark of Empire who manages to limp to work occasionally, in spite of a finger in splints ?

Schoolboy Howlers.—Who is the recruit who made a *faux pas* in stating that his wages, prior to enlistment, were eight pounds weekly instead of a princely eight shillings ? There is no truth in the rumour that he is being attached to the pay office. What a pity! he's just the pay bloke we've been waiting for.

Was it this same recruit who asked the way to the Horses Mess ?

More Pain in The Neck.—Is it true that the foregoing question was asked because the Hartlepools Laundry was seen returning a load of straw from the wash ?

Personal (very).—Who were the n.c.o.s who sat out for two-thirds of a " ladies' choice " and then danced together to hide

their shame ? Never mind! face lifting is a cheap and popular remedy.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—For the benefit of those likely to stay in Catterick during the next few years, I'll pass on a bit of first-hand information: One new super-cinema, one new theatre-cum-opera house, trackless trams, one park complete with boating lake, several emporiums including Marks and Spencers and Woolworths, one hotel, and two pubs. When the above are actually completed—note, I said " when "—a committee is to be formed for the purpose of advertising Catterick as (1) a health and holiday resort or spa, and (2) I don't know just how to word it, but the idea is to indicate to all the surplus females in the British Isles the advisability of spending their holidays in Catterick. What a clearing house it will make!

Departures.—Major Willoughby has departed for Egypt. It is hoped that his stay with his new unit under the sunny skies will be a pleasant one. (It's a pity that some of Egypt's sun cannot be transferred to Catterick.)

Sport.—Owing to beating the Dismounted Wing in a hard game of rugby, the Mounted Wing have in all probability succeeded in gaining the necessary points to win the Mackworth trophy. We were rather fortunate, though, because in our last shooting match one of our " certs " crocked up. I won't mention names, but Corpl Jones must have trained very hard to have gone stale! Our success is due to the whole-hearted way in which the teams have played in the various games.

Pests: Extermination of.—Why must sergeant-majors always be mentioned in despatches ? Here is an extract from an Order. " Health Precautions.—During the period of special precautions against C.S.M., the following principles will be observed . . . ." Of course, C.S.M. here means cerebro-spinal meningitis, not W.O.II, or more stringent precautions would be necessary.

WALT.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—With the whole of the cadre volleying suggestions at each other in connection with *The Daily Mail's* munificent offer for aids to recruiting, we once more commence our monthly purgatory. In other words, we inflict upon the unwary our contribution to the Corps Magazine.

Congratulations.—To L/Corpl Partridge on attaining that rank and managing to place his foot on the first step of the ladder. Another customer for the little Blue Book.

Death.—We deeply regret the death of No. 2325055 Sigmn Wilson G. A. in Catterick Military Hospital. All ranks join in offering sincere condolences to his parents. Wilson had only been with the Corps a very short time when he was admitted to hospital suffering from pneumonia, from which he died.

Monday 9th March was a dull rainy day, when the spirits of everybody were at their lowest. It was on this day that the body of Sigmn Wilson was laid to rest in the cemetery near his home in the village of Spennythorne, Yorks. Although we had not known him long, it was realised by all who attended that he must have been a likeable character, for the diminutive village church was filled to its utmost by friends from the little cluster of homesteads, many of whom had known him all his life.

On the completion of the service in church, the cortege proceeded slowly to the burial ground, followed by the villagers, and there he was laid to rest. The unit was represented by Captain W. S. Wasey, Lieut. G. F. Houghton, C.S.M. Nash and Sergt Quinn. The bearer party was under L/Sgt Spearpoint F. and the firing party under L/Sergt Jones E.

By The Way.—In continuance of our " Who was this ?" paragraph in last month's issue. Will those interested please note that two more of our stalwart drill instructors have deserted the ranks of the Anti-Nesters and have placed their names on the waiting list for married quarters. We will mention no names, but Corporal P-y-e and B-wie will know whom we mean.

EL PEE.

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Headquarters, Training Battalion.

On Thursday 20th February excitement reigned amongst the married families of the Training Battalion, for it was a great occasion: the day of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition in the Newbigging Hall, St. Quentin Lines.

The hall was opened at the early hour of 8.30 a.m., as all exhibits had to be in place by 9.30 to give the judges plenty of time to examine them ; and a continuous stream of people could be seen taking in mysterious-looking packages.

The doors were opened at 2.30 p.m., when a large assembly of our married people and their friends was waiting for admission. On entering the hall, one was immediately impressed by the large number of exhibits. These were grouped under five headings: knitting, fancy work, cakes, bulbs, and something new from something old.

Wandering round the various stalls, visitors were very greatly impressed by the excellent standard of all the entries. There were 120 exhibits, and the judges had a difficult task owing to the very high standard of workmanship displayed by all the entrants. One saw excellently knitted ladies' jumpers, gentlemen's pullovers (one in Corps colours), kiddies' woollies, very beautifully embroidered table runners and centres, drawn thread work, and in the something new from something old class excellent examples of Eve's patience were to be found.

Considering the climatic conditions at Catterick, there was an excellent display of daffodils and hyacinths, which proved that the gardening fraternity had taken a keen interest in the show.

The cake stall came in for a great deal of attention, and the culinary arts displayed were of a high standard. An iced cake of extraordinary beauty and fragility—made and entered for show purposes only by L/Sergt Smith (Training Battalion)—was very much admired by all, and proved once again that man has not yet lost the culinary art.

During the afternoon selections were rendered by the Royal Signal Band, under the direction of Mr. R. R. Ricketts, and this was greatly appreciated by all.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. G. W. Howard, the G.O.C.'s wife, amid much applause.

PRIZE WINNERS.

Class 1: Bulbs—Best single bulb: 1st R.S.M. Butcher, 2nd Mrs. Wheeler. Best collection of bulbs: 1st Mrs. Crouch, 2nd Mrs. Manley.

Class 2: Knitting—(1) Lady's jumper: 1st Mrs. Taylor, 2nd Mrs. Lee; champion class, 1st Mrs. Roberts, 2nd Mrs. Stanton. (2) Gentleman's pull-over: 1st Mrs. Jones, 2nd Mrs. Butcher; champion class, 1st Mrs. Roberts. (3) Child's jumper: 1st Mrs. Short, 2nd Mrs. Waight; champion class, 1st Mrs. Wheeler, 2nd Mrs. Parsons. (4) Baby's vest: 1st Mrs. Curtis, 2nd Mrs. Peach; champion class, 1st Mrs. Roberts; additional prize, Mrs. C. O. Roberts. (5) Baby's jacket: 1st Mrs. Curtis, 2nd Mrs. Fry; champion class, 1st Mrs. Roberts. (6) Stockings: 1st Mrs. Beverley, 2nd Mrs. Walsh; champion class, 1st Mrs. Roberts.

Class 3: Cakes—(1) Plain cake: 1st Mrs. Curtis, 2nd Mrs. Green; champion class, 1st Mrs. Gresham, 2nd Mrs. Lee. (2) Fruit cake: 1st Mrs. R. Smith, 2nd Mrs. Waight; champion class, 1st Mrs. Curtis, 2nd Mrs. Butcher. (3) Iced cake: 1st Mrs. Butcher, 2nd Mrs. Beverley.

Class 4: Fancy Work—1st Mrs. Taylor, 2nd Mrs. Short; special prize for new idea, Mrs. Roberts; special prize for child entry, Joyce Robinson.

Class 5: Something New from Something Old—1st Mrs. Taylor, 2nd Mrs. Green.

This exhibition was only made possible by the untiring work of the wife of the commanding officer. Mrs. J. A. S. Tillard has done a great deal during the past three years to improve the social amenities of the married families of the unit, and this has been very much appreciated. It is understood that this Arts and Crafts Exhibition was the last Mrs. Tillard would arrange, and it will be one remembered by all as an outstanding event.

Mrs. H. D. Beadon, Mrs. D. H. Cunynghame, Mrs. C. V. L. Lycett, Mrs. H. P. Hart, Mrs. R. C. Woodbridge, Mrs. R. Sutton-Pratt and Mrs. P. R. Hyde gave valuable assistance in arranging the show.

Before the presentation of prizes, the commanding officer (Lieut.-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C.) made a short speech, in which he thanked all concerned for their efforts in making the show such a success. He remarked especially upon the great difficulty the judges had in awarding prizes, owing to the excellent standard of the entries.

During the afternoon a jumble sale was held, and by the remarks one heard, some remarkable bargains were obtained.

The judging of the exhibition entries was ably carried out by local residents.

ONLOOKER.

D Company, Training Battalion.

Friday 13th March.

General.—The trooping season has claimed our late O.C., Major E. G. Sinnott, who embarked at Liverpool on 27/2/36 for India per the s.s. *Tuscania*. The good wishes of the Company go with you, sir.

We extend a welcome to our new Company commander, Major D. H. Cunynhame, and hope his stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

Arrivals.—L/Sergt Newman has joined us from India, and Corpl Whalley from China. Corpl Fletcher has settled down in the workshops, and the steady flow of recruits from the Depot Battalion is continuing.

Departures.—Captain R. T. Williams has left us for A Corps Signals, and 2/Lieut. R. M. Way for the 5th Divl Signals. We shall certainly miss them both in the Company shooting team next year. Sergt Short F. is now with Tank Brigade Signals, and Corpl Lees A. N. S. with E Company. (We regret to note that the latter obtained his best shooting score against his old Company.) We have also said farewell to several men who have left to join various field units. Space does not permit of our mentioning them individually, but we hope they have settled down in their new abodes.

Birth.—Congratulations, although delayed, are extended to Sigmn and Mrs. Ferrige on the birth of a daughter (Norma) at Manchester.

Discharge.—Sigmn Keys decided to have another spell in civvy street and purchased his discharge last month.

Death.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of No. 2314633 Sigmn Speck G. H. at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, on the 4th March. George had been with us for a little more than three years, during which time he had represented the Company at hurdles, high jump and cricket. In the latter sport his absence will be noted most, as he was by no means a novice at the game.

The Company turned out in full strength to form a guard of honour from the mortuary of the hospital to the main road, as the coffin was borne by the bearers to the lorry which conveyed it to Richmond station, where it was entrained for York, his home city.

The Company was represented at the funeral in York by the officers of the Company and the n.c.o.s and men who acted as mourners, bearers and firing party. The band and trumpeters of the 16/5th Lancers also attended.

All ranks join in expressing sympathy with the wife and the relatives of a comrade who was ever popular with all.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Rees T. on his appointment, and to L/Corporals Axon, Pescod and Russell on erasing that "unimportant U"; also U/L/Corpls Yeadon and Tompkins on their first step towards fame.

Agony.—Who was the signalman who treasured the two screws as evidence? Perhaps if he burnishes them, we will allow him to lay them for kit.

Then there was the budding D.R. who, when the instructor was explaining the fin of the motor-cycle, thought it was a bit fishy.

Finis.—Olive oil until next month.

H.E.S.

E Company, Training Battalion.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we note the death of No. 2314633 Sigmn Speck G. H. of D Company, Training Battalion. Those of us who served with him in Egypt will always remember him as a fine type of soldier and a likeable chap. The condolences of all ranks of E Company are tendered to Mrs. Speck in her sad bereavement.

Arrivals and Departures.—Again it would take too long to enumerate these individually, but to those who have joined the Company since the last WIRE notes were published we extend the hand of welcome, and to those who have departed our hope that they are enjoying life in their respective stations. To all ranks who are leaving this Company for service in India per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on 18/3/36: We bid you bon voyage and a fond farewell.

Birth.—Congratulations to Corpl Davey R. E. on the birth of a son (Robert Cyril) on the 22nd February.

Blue Patrols.—Other ranks are certainly taking advantage of the privilege of wearing blue patrols. Judging by the very smart appearance of these individuals, the Depot Battalion will have to do a spot of catering for some new recruits.

One constantly hears debates on the question of recruiting. Many and varied schemes are suggested as an incentive. I have made notes, and some of them are quite good.

Conclusion.—There being no further business to discuss, we adjourn.

F Company, Training Battalion.

General.—This merry month these notes are not going to make Corps history, as I have just realised that two heads are really better than one. (The typist remarks that a third one might have enabled him to read the writing.)

To be conventional. Our heartiest congratulations go to Corpls Shipton and Goat on having the courage to sign on for twenty-one years. Think of the chance this will give people in civvy street. L/Cpl Robertson (of the black hut where all the work is undone) is congratulated on attaining that rank. The saw came nearer and nearer and *nearer*.

Arrivals.—We welcome Corpl Hawkes and Boy Finnegan, the latest arrivals in our happy band. The former, who came from India, was so impressed by our noted weather conditions that he

immediately volunteered for twenty-eight days leave. Boy Finnegan transferred from the A.T.S. Chepstow in order that our establishment of twins might be brought up to full strength.

We'd Like To Know.—Who was the boy who thought an absentee report was a damp cartridge ? Who opened a lecture hut window to get through on an ack set ? Who swung physical training last week because his feet were too big for his shoes ? Who still doesn't know Aldershot Joe ?

S.O.S.—Will Bobby, late of this Company, drop a line to Can-Can, as it is his birthday next month ?

Can anyone convince Claude that " cyclone " does not start with an " s " ? He says that Mickey Mouse definitely has him down for Hollywood return.

Departures.—We say farewell to Signalmen Gamble, Mitchell and Parker, who have left us for the 1st Divl Signals. May they enjoy all the best in their new unit.

Sigmn Pitney has also left the Company, but we will still see him on Saturday mornings when he takes up his position with the Corps Band. He has been posted for employment as trombonist. May his reach never decrease.

Just A Little Article.—We hope to be throwing our weight about in the Sports notes. The Operator Boys "A" team, who won the Garrison cricket shield for enlisted boys, have also qualified for the final of the Garrison enlisted boys football trophy. They are also at the top of the Garrison League, although there is a chance of their being overhauled and just pipped on the post for this honour. My opening sentence refers to the fact that I hope to report a double success in cricket and football. We will wait for the league.

F Company make a point of reporting, with fully expanded chests, these successes of our boys. It is thought, however, that an explanation is necessary in order that readers should not think our strength is our advantage. The sections of this Company number five, with a strength of from thirty to thirty-five, which compares favourably with the boy enlistment of an infantry unit.

Conclusion.—'Nuff said. So long, you people.

GEE AITCH ESS.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Command.—Lieut.-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., has arrived and taken over command of the unit. He has seen us at work and play, and we have no reason to think that our stock has fallen below par. Of course, our " forte " season is just coming along, and all else being equal, we have no trepidation regarding the future.

Third Blow.—H.T. *Dorsetshire* (of happy memory) carried away the third consignment of barrack fittings, with our best wishes, on 18/3/36. The inventory included Sergeants Benfield, Napier and Shaw, Corporals Hutchison and Watson, L/Corporal Craggs, and sixteen other ranks. We have certainly supplied our quota this year, and with ten others waiting for the boat, we feel—not without reason—that there is a strong possibility of some of us enjoying two training seasons with the unit.

Consolation.—Infiltration from Catterick proceeds, a file at a time, and the vacillation in repatriation is inversely proportionate to our efficient co-efficient. However, we welcome Sergt Colley and Signalmen Powell, Rilev and Eastwood from the Far East, and Corpl Gay, L/Corpl Pettit and Sigmn Hope from the Near East, and hope that they are all being gay on their *petit congé*.

Plumbago.—Sergeant Howler (not in the Blue Book) has been very quiet of late, but his sphere of influence appears to be spreading. Be it known, therefore, that few people derived any amusement from the fact that our Mounted Company were to " carry out mounted drill with *lead* horses." No, sir! Nothing less than cadmium bronze these days. To return to the dismounted side (and, incidentally, keep the peace) we find the gem: " The leading man takes a point to march on, and the men of the *front* automatically keep behind him." Taking us all in all, we are not backward in coming forward.

Heard during the exodus from the lecture on Brigade Sections in the Field: " Wait till I tell the missus that C.R.A. means Commander, Royal Artillery!"

Cross-Country.—In the Command team championship we displayed consistency by again appearing eleventh in the list. But we were the only ancillary troops competing, and six well-known regiments finished behind us. Sergt Cotterell was our first man home (fifteenth) and is thereby entered for the Army event at Tidworth. It seemed quite like old times to see Joe running again—not, of course, behind the others! The team are to be congratulated on putting up a jolly good show. They have all worked hard. An idea of the opposition may be gained from the fact that half the 2nd Battn The Buffs team (holders) came in before Joe.

Soccer.—Of our last two matches we have won one and drawn the other. I can't elaborate on that. It's just splendid and has rocked the league table at its foundations, but nothing can rock *our* foundations. This has been particularly noticeable in the last few games, when even the referee has remarked on the excellent spirit in which they have been played.

Acknowledgment.—Our thanks to Corpl Fensome for postcard from H.T. *Dorsetshire* " at sea," giving us news of R.Signals on board. Apparently all are giving a good account of themselves. We expected that!

JESSAMINE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The shortage of personnel is still very acute, and this makes our lot the more difficult, but the Company just manages to carry on and no more. Musketry is now the order of the day. The junior n.c.o. drill and duties course has commenced under the R.S.M., and the C.S.M. is daily besieged by eager enquirers as to the para. of K.R.s, etc., in which anything or everything can be found. Loud shouts stir the precincts of the barrack rooms daily, as the square is being tar-macadamised and a perfect surface is being produced which simply calls for drill parades.

Arrivals.—We welcome Captain B. S. Watkins, who has taken over temporary command of the Company, and we hope he will like us. We also welcome from foreign climes Signalmen Drake, Buttery, Farrell, Kennedy and Duncan, who are at present enjoying a well earned furlough.

Departures.—It was with great regret that we paraded to bid farewell to our C.O., Lieut.-Colonel A. E. P. Mudge, O.B.E., who is leaving the unit on completion of his tour of command. In him we have lost a fine soldier, friend and commanding officer, and the whole Company wishes him every success in the future.

Drafts still go, and we have lost some good men every time. We wish all who have gone, or are to go, the very best in their new stations.

Agony.—C.S.M. Purseglove thanks the O.C. and all ranks of No. 2 Company, 43rd Wessex Signals, for the pleasant time at the Christmas party, and sends his regards to all. (N.B.: This saves him 1½d!)

Conclusion.—With this we will close, news being scarce. I should be glad if any member of the Company would bring along to the Company office any items of news that would be of interest.

PIP.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We are still waiting for reinforcements. What about it, Catterick ? If we don't soon get somebody, we shall have to pack up and go on leave. After all, we cannot manage on about three men—not even in No. 3 Company.

Departures.—Signalmen McGuinness and Lane to civvy street on transfer to the Army Reserve. We wish them lots of luck in their new sphere of life. Signalmen France and Barrett to Malaya.

Marriage.—Congratulations to Sigmn Ward W. on his marriage to Miss Florence Harrop at Manchester on 2/3/36. May all their troubles be little ones!

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Appointments and Promotions.—We offer our congratulations to L/Cpl Roberts and U/L/Corporals Pearce and Bradbury on attaining the ranks shown. The first rung of the ladder is always the hardest.

Conclusion.—Au revoir, everyone. THREECO.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, 14th March.

General.—Individual training has now come to a close, and those who are for trade test will, it is hoped, soon be earning the little bit extra. Section training commences on Monday the 16th. This is on a smaller scale than usual, owing to our depleted numbers.

Departures.—Sergt Devey H. F. to the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, India, and Sigmn Hughes E. E. to A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India, per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on the 18th March. Sigmn Fellows R. to the Corps of Commissionaires on completion of twenty-one years service. We wish them the very best of luck.

Arrivals.—Sigmn Halpin P. from D Company S.T.C. on the 27th February. Corporal Ellis F. and Signalmen Barnes J. and Davis S. from Malaya Signal Section, Singapore, on the 9th March. We hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

Congratulations.—To Major H. M. Sylvester, M.C., our commanding officer, on his promotion to that rank w.e.f. 19/2/36. To B.O.M. on having the pluck to be placed on the M.Q. roll waiting list.

Here's to the next time. JAY EM GEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Friday 13th March.

General.—Individual training, apart from refresher courses for top rate tradesmen, is now over. Musketry has started and is working up to a fortnight on the ranges in the middle of May. We are looking forward to even better results this year, as Lieut. Western has just returned from Hythe and is fully occupied in teaching the latest methods. It is not a question, we hope, of putting new wine into old bottles.

Enquiries Bureau.—Mont wants to know what has become of Pip Wolfe's ex-No. 1 squad. Perhaps you can tell me, H. Thorpe?

Sergeants Mess.—We mentioned in a previous issue that Sergt Joe Brooke was leaving us, but we forgot to record his actual departure to Tidworth. How we came to overlook the exit of C.Q.M.S. Fuller H. is beyond us. Uncle Arthur (as he is better known) left us for Woolwich a few weeks ago, and we are not likely to have the pleasure of his company for a long time. While we are wishing them both good luck, we will extend the same sentiments to the following who are so heartlessly abandoning our unit for sunny skies. To S.T.C. (I.) Jubbulpore, Sergt Kemlo and L/Sergeants Wilson and Williams. To B Corps Signals, Karachi, Sergeants Vignaux and Pickering. To A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, Sergt McIntosh. To 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi, L/Sergt Bevan. To 2nd Indian Divl Signals, Quetta, Sergt White A. To Waziristan District Signals, L/Sergt Lacey. We cannot promise that all will arrive, because at least one of the above says "Nothin' doin'."

Life in the mess has been quiet for a long time, and of course dances are taboo. A whist drive was held on the 7th March, but this was poorly attended.

We were pleased to see R.S.M. McIntosh R. on the 10th March, when he paid us a fleeting visit en route to—wait and see.

The Bulford Garrison Sergeants Mess billiard and snooker cup was won by our team of enthusiastic Inmans. This is the third time the 3rd Divl Signals have annexed this cup. Congratulations! Brigadier R. C. Prance, D.S.O., attended the mess on the evening of the 10th March, accompanied by the C.O., Lieut.-Colonel C. Prescot, and the adjutant, Captain J. W. Gordon. The Brigadier, in presenting the cup to Sergt Luck, recalled that last year the Signals suggested that the winners on that occasion had plenty of spare time to practise billiards!

With great regret we read of the death of an old member of this unit. A/R.S.M. Keane A. J. had a very large circle of friends in Bulford and district. They join with us in our very sincere sorrow at his passing. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Keane.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—News is very scarce. Apart from the Wives' Social Club, a report of which is given below, very little has happened. Sports are rare: just an occasional hockey match to break the monotony.

Eleven other ranks left us for India on the 17th March. We wish them bon voyage and happy landing on arrival at their respective stations. TOC.

Wives' Social Club.—Owing to illness in the married quarters, no meeting could be held in January. In February several people asked for a fortnightly instead of a monthly meeting, so on the 12th March there was a jolly little whist drive at which Mrs. Thorpe gained the highest score. On the 26th Mrs. Norrie of Rochester gave an amusing travel talk on her experiences during a conducted tour to Budapest via Venice. A good crowd of members turned up to welcome her.

For the meeting on the 12th March several people lent cars for a drive round Herne Bay, Tankerton and Whitstable before tea. It was too cold for much strolling on the front, but this programme appeared to be popular, so a longer afternoon drive is suggested for warmer days.

No. 3 Company.

Nothing of note has happened in the Company during the last month, except the departure of the boat. We know of one young n.c.o. who wished he could have been at the quayside to wave a thankful farewell as she steamed out!

Courses.—L/Cpl Evans R. F. attended No. 45 Sergeant Cooks Course at Aldershot from 23/9/35 to 20/12/35. Result: distinguished. No. 2 Company, Stirling, please note. We have already done so.

Departures.—We have said goodbye to C.S.M. Pearce R. V. and L/Corporal Cabbett, who have left us for a course at the

A.V.T.C. Hounslow. We wish them both all the best when they get to civvy street.

C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) MacCulloch and Signalmen Laidlaw, Steele, Smith and Roake have left us for sunnier climes per H.T. *Dorsetshire*, so good luck to them in their new stations.

Reprieve.—L/Corpl Camp had his passage cancelled at almost the last minute. He is at present being besieged with questions as to how it was done, but he refused to make a statement to our correspondent.

Medical.—Is it true that rough exercise is a surprising cure for boils on the nether limb? One person tried it, but we also noted that it needed at least two visits to the all-in wrestling at Ramsgate to complete the cure. He said he went out of pure sympathy for the contestants. We are still wondering.

Births.—Congratulations to Sigmn and Mrs. Horton on the arrival of a daughter at Shorncliffe on 16th March. THREECO.

Kay and Chicko, 2nd Div.: Felt I couldn't leave this happy land just yet. YOUNKER.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Saturday 14th March.

"Oxo" has resigned, and the mantle of unit scandal monger has fallen on me. I cannot very well introduce myself as "Oxo II.," for whoever heard of two Oxo's? Two XXX's—yes! but two Oxo's . . . . . .

A short while ago a certain M.P. shook the House of Commons with a question involving a shoemaker, a butcher, and a bad £1 note. Now, we all know the answer to that famous problem. However, here is a practical problem which recently shook the foundations of the P.R.I.s office. "A" should have been paid 11d., but he wasn't—so he never had it. If he had received the 11d. he would have had 11d. too much. He didn't receive it, so he was 11d. short of the amount he would have had if he hadn't paid "B" 11d. before he received it—which he didn't. As he had no money before he was owed 11d., he was just right. Perhaps I have got a bit mixed up; but, anyhow, can you wonder at people talking in their sleep?

The trooping season is drawing to a close, and the following have either left us recently or will do so in the near future. L/Corporals Moxon, Crouch, Webber and Longworth, Signalmen Salisbury, Baines, Russell, Shreeve, McKillop, Ross, McDermott and Gale. L/Corpl Webber will be accommodated on the port side if sufficient space is available. The remaining passengers will endeavour to keep the boat on an even keel by crowding to starboard.

Departures to home units are far too numerous to relate in detail, but to all those who succeeded in leaving Scarborough without the need of concession vouchers we offer our hearty congratulations.

If you read *The Daily Mail*, you will no doubt have perused the various suggestions offered for the rejuvenation of recruiting. Now read mine—the result of very serious thinking: (i.) enlist more men, (ii.) ? . ! ? ! ? ! . ? Quite!

A tennis dance held in the gymnasium on the 21st February was a great success, apart from the financial aspect. However, the loss was only slight and everyone enjoyed themselves—so much, in fact, that the Tennis Club are giving an encore.

A very pleasant evening was spent at Waddington's Social Club on the 7th February, when our indoor games team was entertained to a tournament which ended in a draw, neither side being capable of totalling up the points correctly.

Whilst on the subject, I really must mention the achievements of our whist team, who are meeting with a fair amount of success (and otherwise) in the local league. On interviewing the team after a recent defeat, I obtained the following remarks. "I thought we were playing spoof." "I am the best player." "We forgot our rub down with *The Sporting Life*." "The best team lost."

From time to time one hears various interpretations of a sentry's orders. What about this one? (i.) My beat is between the north and south. (ii.) I will challenge all horses approaching my post between Tattoo and Reveille, whether I recognise them or not, and will release all unauthorised persons from the half-chain after feeds. (iii.) I will allow no unauthorised fires to loiter about my post.

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To all who have achieved promotion, we offer our congratulations on their patience. It is hoped that those who are fortunate enough to be in the next batch will take the opportunity to trim their beards and uphold a time-honoured tradition in the Service by "pushing out the boat" with bags of lolly-pops for their grandchildren to mark the occasion. W.

Sergeants Mess.

General.—A hearty welcome awaits the following when they make an appearance here. At the moment, all transactions have appeared on paper only. C.S.M. Hales has been posted back to this unit, but actually is attached to the R.A.O.C. at Catterick Camp. I have no doubt that he will be travelling this way some time or other. C.S.M. Brandon, also, will rejoin his old unit in the very near future, and I am sure we can find a spot for him somewhere.

Our one and only Havildar Havildar has left us for the sunny south and is now reposing, complete with his family, with the 2nd Div. at Aldershot. Sergt Redworth is due to leave before the end of the month for the 3rd Div. at Bulford.

We hope all the above enjoy the change.

Sorry! I nearly forgot. L/Sergt Benson is due to arrive before these notes are published, so we extend a very hearty welcome to him also. He understands his way about Scarborough, having been here before. Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Victoria Barracks, 17th March.

Owing to the furlough season, we are exceptionally short-handed, and with the Line Section at present on detachment, the personnel at H.Q. are few in number.

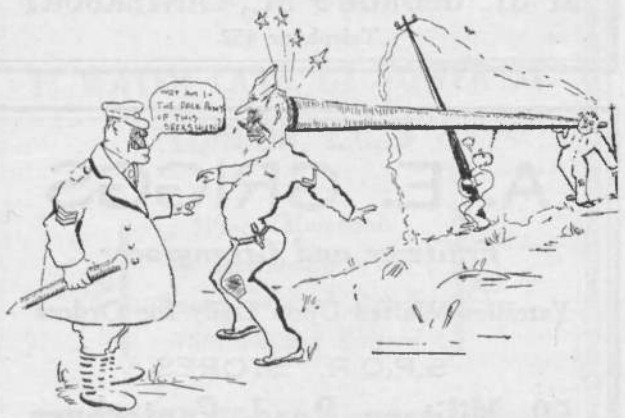
The new ideas regarding the Army have reached N.I.D. So we are to lose our horses at some time in the future, whilst some of our wireless dreams may yet bear fruit.

The Line Section are rapidly nearing the end of their tour of reconstructing our various and varied communications throughout

the district. We have, in some of our recent notes, alluded to the shortness of time, due to the fact that several important local events held up the F.E.C. programme, but with an energetic Foreman-of-Signals we have managed (even though I may write immodestly) to complete twelve months' work in a little more than half a year. Now that the ranges at Ballykinler have been transformed, we are expecting the linemen back once more. We miss them for sport, but by a remarkable coincidence they passed through here, and with their assistance we won our replay in the N.I.D. hockey cup round.

We are all looking forward to an increase in personnel, and this includes one officer ; so that the future appears to be more settled, with a possibility of some very interesting changes in organisation.

Our Company artist has produced a cartoon which we hope the Editor will publish.



Promotions.—There aren't any this time.

Moves: Out-Stations.—Signalmen Blount and Hutchison from Ballykinler to Belfast. Sigmn Oliver W. from Belfast to Ballykinler. Sigmn Davidson T. from Belfast to Omagh.

News from Out-Stations.—This is absolutely zero, but we hear that L/Corpl Watson has been married. Congratulations!

Sport.—We have been doing fairly well in this field, and have acquired a sports commentator in the person of Sigmn Inskip, who has written up something on our efforts in the Sports Notes.

Humour.—Page 26 of *The Times* of the 10th March contained an article on the Utopian Army which was much approved locally.

The air at " Where the mountains, etc.," must have something to do with naive remarks, as one of our intelligent Section has been heard to ask " What time does the train go at two o'clock?"

Miscellaneous humour: the breakfast on Thursday morning.

Tailpiece.—QRX till next month. HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island, 10th March.

Hello, my friends! this is the Happy Philosopher calling the Ovaltinies to their morning glass of " merry Andrew's."

Not many people have been killed here lately: just the usual indiscreet visitors to the Irish Free State. The Garrison got a little consolation from a rugger match with a civilian team. The Garrison won by four hospital cases to three M. and D.s. The same fellow refereed a hockey match recently. Is a wink as good as a nod ?

Many have come and gone since the last appearance of Spike Island notes. Amongst the departures were Corpl Crow (now in China), Corpl Knight (en route for India—first time since Granny died), Corpl Hunter (now Mr. W. E. Hunter of the G.P.O.), L/Corporals Spong and McGivern (for Punkie Land), Signalman Bowler (now in Singapore) and Sigmn Parker (for Egypt). To counterbalance those losses we have Corporal Francis, who has arrived from India's sunny clime for a five months holiday before his pontoon. Corpl Stevens has been promised to us from China. L/Corporals Carver and Woolnough joined from Aldershot ; the latter is still suffering from the Irish depression and Spike remorse. Signalmen Ansell (o.k. George), Chabbie Key (double current) and (our hockey gain) Reaney—also from Aldershot. I hope they all enjoy their stay in the old convict prison (ha! ha!)

Everybody here is " ticking " like umpteen Big Bens in series about the General Mannings of the Forts. There are now quite a few new words to go into Cassell's English Dictionary. Really, supper cannot be eaten with a gas mask on ; it's not done.

Odes from Ops.—Someone omitted the "Master" from Master Gunner, and that started it. Ever seen anyone trying to put on glasses over a gas mask ?

Bar-Din: We are told that if one drinks of the waters of the Nile, one is sure to return. What an awful lot of rapid drinking S.E.B. must have done to be back so soon (who said it was water ?) Still, it must be nice to winter in Egypt's sunny clime ; although after one tour it's not so good, eh, S.E.B. ? One is bound to note that it was the old group hands who were sent back for the emergency. " Oh! to be in England now that April is here " (slowly).

After-Thought.—She was only an operator's daughter, but sine curves (high potential) no resistance.

Information.—Shsh! 'Ooray! a son (William Francis) to Signalman and Mrs. Boldison on the 24th February. Another budding lineman for the Corps.

Marriage.—Sigmn (Paddy) O'Sullivan to Miss Kate Mary Long, at Cork, on 4/1/36. He tells me it's worth trying, too.

V/T Howlers.—R.A. signaller in communication with H.M. Destroyer: " Please move forty paces left." Same signaller, after a pause: " Tol." (lights of Queenstown in background). Apart from having to learn the Morse code, he was probably quite good.

Agony.—" Oh, where is my wandering boy tonight ?" Could the Duke enlighten us on the matter ? After all, one should keep one's dinner engagements. But Belgrave Square! that *is* romance with a capital " R." He mutters in his sleep " Hunting dress—ring—Pat—rhearly," etc., always in a " pound notish " voice. He walks around with a dazed look in his eyes (not more than usual, perhaps, but noticeable) and the railway returns for Southern Ireland have considerably increased since L. U. de Brrrrr found his Cork chum. Bhoys will be bhoys!

Ode to the Duke.—

The shades of night were falling fast
As through Cobb Village the Duke did pass—
Un-natural!

The girls all shouted out with glee
And pointed for the world to see—
Un-natural!

When, every night, he leaves the Fort,
He gets on board a train for Cork—
Un-natural!

And then he staggers home at night,
All blurry-eyed and awful tight,
And tells us that he's not seen Pat—
Un-natural!

Sports.—The Headquarters hockey team is partly comprised of Royal Signals, as may be seen by the photograph in the accompanying page of illustrations. We are at present heading the League with a loss of only two points.

Jew's Mail.—Barreden: We have a client Nobby, who would simply go into hysterics if he were to hear from that other young blood who suffers from the name of Bowler. S.I.C.D.S.S.

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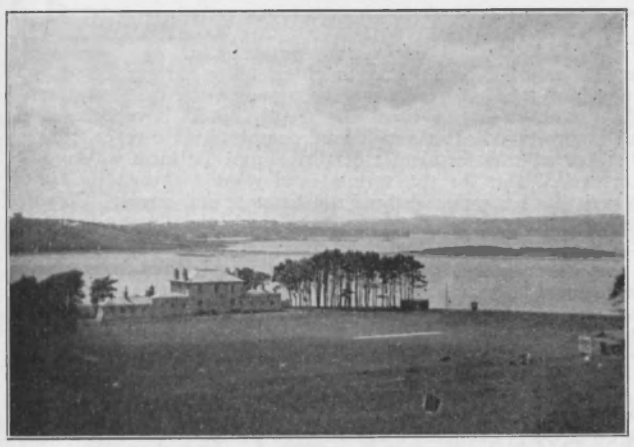
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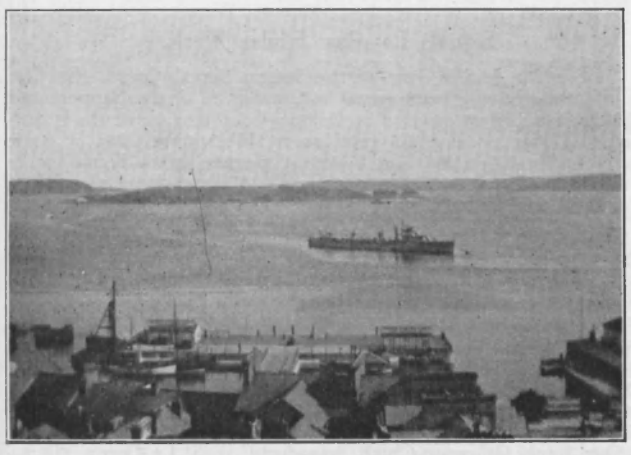
Snaps from the South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.



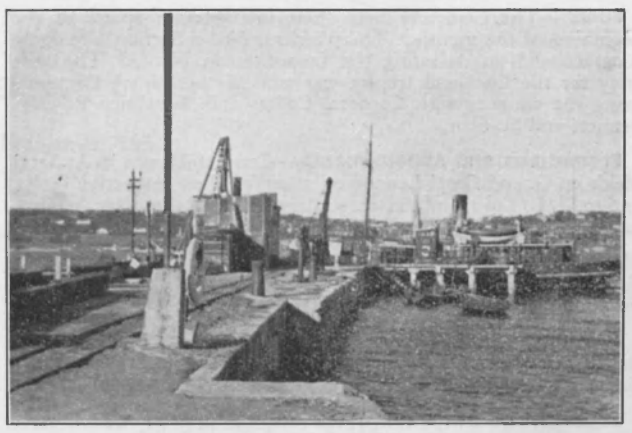
Residence of the O.C., S.I.C.D. Signal Section at Spike Island.
Aptly named "Bleak House," it occupies one side of the Island by itself. The concrete cricket pitch can be seen in the centre of the Sports Ground.



Some of the Married Quarters at Spike Island.
Queenstown in the background.



H.M. Destroyer "Scotsman" anchored in Cork Harbour.
Spike Island in the background. Queenstown Pier is shown in the foreground.



Spike Island Pier with W.D. Transport moored up.



Sigmn Cartwright Emulating the Chain Gang.
This is the only time our budding photographer was ever seen at work. Note that he did not wish to show his muscular arms. The trees were blown down during the gale of 11/2/36.



Headquarters Hockey Team.
Back row (*l. to r.*)—Sergeant Condon (R.A.), Signalman Boldison (R.Signals), S/Sgt Meredith (R.A.), Captain F. I. N. McOstrich (R.Signals), Bdrs Elles and Turner and Gnr Bawldry (R.A.).
Front—Signalmen Cunningham, Hirt, Reaney, and Thomas L. J. (R.Signals).

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

February 1936.

General.—Hello, everybody! A Company calling. From the 10th to the 16th of the month we held the Indian Signals Jubilee Week, in honour of the twenty-fifth year of the formation of the Indian Signal Corps, during which we had the visit of Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, and Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., Signal Officer-in-Chief in India, and all the C.O.s of the various Signal units in India. The programme for the week was as follows.

On the 10th the Conference Officers v. S.T.C. Golf Club, the S.T.C. winning by 5—3 games. The ceremonial parade was held on the 11th, and our usual high standard was maintained. On the 12th the mounted sports were held. The outstanding features of the show were the D.R. display, the Indian boys' P.T. and the tandem drive. A social was held in the w.o.s and sergeants mess on the 13th. Major-General S. H. Powell, Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, and all the officers attended the above shows, and I may safely say they all enjoyed themselves.

Sport.—The Company held their inter-Section sports at the beginning of the month. The winners, No. 1 Section, are to be congratulated on defeating the favourites in No. 2. The mile relay for the Copeland trophy was run on the 8th, A Company being the winners with Corporal Collett and Signalmen Rowley, Bennett and Scanlan.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to L/Sergt Meldrum G. and Corpl Lennon on attaining their respective ranks, and to U/L/Cpl Hampton on starting to climb the dizzy heights.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to R.S.M. Trapmore, Mrs. Trapmore and child, Sergt Ellerton-Long, and Signalmen Banks and Ford, who arrived during the month. May their stay be a long and happy one.

Postings.—Sergt Paskins, Mrs. Paskins and family to A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi. Sigmn Bourton to the 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi. Our loss is their gain.

Departures.—By the time these notes are in print, we will have said goodbye to R.S.M. Beattie, Mrs. Beattie and family, Sergt Palmer, Mrs. Palmer and son, and Signalmen Nelson, Sayers and Cockcroft, who are being repatriated to the U.K. Needless to say, all will be greatly missed. In mentioning these names, one can hardly omit special reference to Sigmn Nelson, one of the best all-round athletes in the unit, and Sergeant Palmer, who in the capacity of A/C.S.M. did splendid work in all sports and games held in the Company. Here's wishing them all the very best in the homeland.

Entertainments.—The All Ranks Tennis Club held a tin and bottle tournament at the beginning of the month. It is surprising to find the numerous dark horses who blossom forth on these occasions. The winners eventually were Sigmn Nelson and Mrs. Greed, with Sigmn Scanlan and Mrs. Maguire runners up.

We Want To Know.—Who is Nunc Nunc? Who flew through the air at the inter-Section sports? Who was the n.c.o. who wanted a massage before doing P.T? MUTT.

Corporals Room.

Saturday 22nd February.

General.—Well, all you cads in Blighty who are looking forward (?) to a trip to India, there are still a few vacant chairs in the mess, but don't leave it too late. The trooping season is drawing to a close, and there are cases on record of certain individuals missing the boat—whose fault? (What! who said "Roll on, the boat"?)

Since my last struggle with WIRE notes, much has happened in our little burg. Firstly, we have had Signal Week, when our small Mess did its little bit in entertaining our numerous well known visitors. A report will be found in the Company notes. Then, this week, the Fazal Din trophy sports have been held. All Companies, British and Indian, competed. However, turn to the Sports Notes for further details. From the Mess we supplied Corporal Collett for the sprints—and what a sprinter! Tubby Wright put his weight behind the hammer and discus. Corporal Driver did a twelve times round the track nip (three miles), and L/Cpl Paling did his usual three miles and then the mile for luck.

Corpl Driver and L/Corpl Knox are again exploring the outer circle of Jubbulpore. There are hikers—and hikers! Well, these two *are* hikers; and do they cover the countryside? I'll say they do.

Congratulations.—L/Sergeant Meldrum, Corporal Lennon and L/Corporal Spiers are heartily congratulated on attaining their respective ranks. We are also pleased to extend the glad hand to U/L/Corpl Hampton on getting his foot on the ladder. There is plenty of room in the mess. George.

We Should Like To Know.—Why does Talbot wish to dash off to Kohat immediately his course finishes? Surely, there is no attraction awaiting you, Chota: is there? R.P.

Signals Reunion Jubilee Week.

This is the Jubilee year of the Indian Signal Corps, the first Signal units having been raised as Companies of the Sappers and Miners in February 1911. The Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps decided to visit us in Jubbulpore, and a great reunion of pensioners and visiting parties from Signal units throughout India had been arranged. A programme worthy of the occasion had been mapped out.

Then came the news of the death of our late King-Emperor, and the cancellation of the whole Jubilee Week was contemplated. Arrangements had, however, got beyond the cancelling stage. Our Colonel-Commandant, Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., was on his way from England; railway warrants had been sent to nearly one hundred pensioners in widely different parts of India; and much expense had already been incurred. In consequence, as the Reunion Week was not due to take place until the 9th February, it was decided to carry out the programme in a curtailed form.

Our Signal Officer-in-Chief, Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., and many other distinguished officers of the Corps attended for a conference lasting over three days and held concurrently with the Reunion Week.

The programme of the week included a tea party of welcome, at which our Colonel-Commandant and our Signal Officer-in-Chief spoke; a ceremonial parade and photograph; mounted sports, and visits to the various Companies to see the work as carried out to-day; visits to the Government Military Dairy Farm and Gun Carriage Factory, and to the local cinema to see an Indian film. The British ranks also visited the cinema to see a British film on the same day as the Indian film was shown. Finally, an Indian tamasha and drama completed the week, and the visitors departed thoroughly pleased with life in general and with the Signals in particular. So ended a most successful reunion.

The following is a list of those who attended. Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant I.S.C.; Brigadier C. J. S. Le Cornu, O.B.E., M.C., S.O.-in-C. in India; Colonels R. E. Vyvyan, M.B.E., M.C., and L. G. Phillips, M.C.; Lieut.-Colonels P. B. D. H. Foot, A. C. Sykes, D.S.O., O.B.E., W. T. Howe, O.B.E., J. A. Pocock, C. H. H. Vulliamy, W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., and P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C.; Majors B. G. Rowley and W. A. M. Stawell, M.C., R.E. (Army H.Q. India); Captains W. H. G. Rogers, W. A. Scott, M.B.E., C. L. Morgan, L. V. Younie, and H. Durnam (retired).

Hon. Captains Kasim Ali Bahadur and Abdul Rashid Bahadur; Subedar-Majors T. Narayan Sami Bahadur and Nairan Singh Bahadur; Subedars Mohd Yusaf, Asa Ram and Sant Singh

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VISITING PARTIES FROM UNITS.

1st Indian Divl Signals—Subedar Zaman Ali, Jemadar Bhairo Singh, Havildar Fazal Khan.

2nd Indian Divl Signals—Hon. Lieut. Allah Dad Khan Sardar Bahadur, Jemadar Joginder Singh, C.H.M. Ram Singh, Havildar Mohd Roshan.

3rd Indian Divl Signals—Subedar-Major Jiwan Singh, Jemadar Allah Yar Khan, C.H.M. Rasul Bakhsh, Havildar Phera Singh.

4th Indian Divl Signals—Subedar-Major Panchanadan, Havildar Tulsi Ram.

A Corps Signals—Subedar Ghulam Qadir, Jemadar Nur Mohd, C.H.M. Rhaimat Khan, Naik Arsullah Khan.

B Corps Signals—Subedars Ahmed Khan and Kehar Singh, Havildars Inder Singh and Hussain Gul.

Peshawar District Signals—Subedar Uiager Singh, Havildar Fateh Mohd.

Waziristan District Signals—Jemadar Ahmed Bad Shah, C.H.M. Pillai Sami.

Kohat District Signals—Subedar Inayat Shah, Havildar Sarwan Singh.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop—Havildar Falik Shah Khan.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop—Jemadar Jindwada Shah.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY



General.—With the return of the M.A.B. and various L.M. Sections, the unit is looking quite full again. Schemes have been the order of the day—at least, for the majority of the unit. Some of them had the task of making our lines look like a garden city: a real manly effort. Hedges, trees and shrubs have sprung up in a remarkably quick time, and in a few months they should look quite well. Even now, some of the trees have attained wonderful heights (ask the Quartermaster).

Education.—Under this disguise a very successful outing to Attock was enjoyed by a number of our ranks. The party left here at 08.00 hrs. On arrival at Attock they were conducted round all the places of interest (including the prison). We still wonder how some of the party managed to arrive back here at 17.30 hrs.

A second trip—voted a huge success—was to the Murree Brewery. No lack of volunteers for this trip! They took more getting away than getting there, and it really was an "education" to see how some of our fellows stowed away the womp: two at least were greatly interested in one of the travelling carriers, and

it did not finish quite as full as it started. Even the manager wanted to know. " Who's been at my Eno's ?" Ask Bert. 'E knows.

Arrivals.—Too numerous to mention in detail. To all of them we extend a hearty welcome.

Departures.—Corpl Harbury (our 'tec) and Signalmen Delany, Plummer and Hadfield to the Blighty cantonment. Our best wishes go with them.

Social.—An all ranks dance was well attended and proved a great success. A whist drive on the following Monday also produced a good attendance. Much kudos to the organisers. Who said " Trumps will be shown on this thing: I know you can't see it " ?

Sport.—There has been great activity in this line this month, as our Sports Notes will show. We congratulate all concerned. We should also like to congratulate Sigmn McDougall (1st Divl Signals) who, despite a shoulder badly bruised in a match the previous evening, played a very good game against us.

A Royal Signal (Rawalpindi) football team, composed of A Corps and 1st Divl Signals players, have left for Delhi. We hope to be able to write about all the cups they bring back.

Rumour.—A certain n.c.o. would like a transfer to the Fighting Packs. He loves walking. Don't you, Al ?

Agony.—To Ernie: Do you still get the Yellow Peril at Ris ? Dick. W.E.B.

Headquarters.

General.—During the past few weeks we have been forcibly brought to face the fact that " Time and tide wait for no man." The time has come when we have to bid adieu to friends and wish them bon voyage. In consequence, the Old Narkovians have been hit pretty badly. A complete shuffle round will have to be effected, and then perhaps once again the battle cry will be heard in full blast, resounding throughout the unit.

It is brought to notice that our Professor in the cause has now taken his place on the C.O.D. (oh, help! I meant C.I.D.) It is hoped that he will not forget to polish his specs each morning and give the battle cry on jumping out of bed (but not too loud, as I sleep nearby).

Agony.—We are still in doubt as to the man who went on guard with two left feet. It is hard to believe that he can still put his best foot forward. (No, he wasn't a Scotsman ; neither was he using up his old boots.)

Obituary.—We deeply regret to record the death of L/Sergt Ward D., M.C., as the result of a tragic accident at Kohat on Saturday 1st February. He was attached to the Kohat District Signals, and with Sergt Sprunt was returning to their camp from Kohat when, owing to a mist, the motor cycle combination in which they were travelling collided with a bullock cart. L/Sergt Ward was killed instantly, and Sergt Sprunt sustained serious injuries from which he is making a successful recovery.

Tubby, the " uncrowned king of the Zhob," was exceedingly popular with all ranks, and his death came as a great shock to his many friends.

R.S.M. Bayliss, as chief mourner, was in charge of representatives of A Corps and the 1st Divl Signals, and C.Q.M.S. Pout represented Fort Sandeman and Loralai.

Among the many floral tributes were those sent by Lieut.-Col. C. H. H. Vulliamy and officers of A Corps Signals ; Major Paton and officers of Kohat District Signals ; W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Royal Signals, Rawalpindi ; W.O.s and Sergeants Mess, Kohat ; Indian officers and I.O.R.s, Kohat District Signals ; married families, Royal Signals, Rawalpindi ; married families, Royal Signals, Kohat ; Corporals Mess, Royal Signals, Rawalpindi ; all ranks of A Corps Signals ; all ranks of Royal Signals, Loralai and Fort Sandeman ; No. 4 L.M.B. Detachment ; Joyce, Departmental Club, Kohat ; R.A.F. Sergeants Mess, No. 1 Indian Wing, Kohat ; Airmen, No. 1 Indian Wing, R.A.F. Kohat.

A THRENODY TO AAA.

BY VOLFIVE.

The Royal Corps are bathed in tears:
A thug is living, it appears,
Who, callous, cruel and evil bent,
Never asking our consent,
Put AAA away.

AAA is dead! The cry
Of woeful Signalmen rides high
Above the wail of pipe and drum.
One sees their faces haggard—glum—
Bewildered—lost—distrait.

A.F. C.2128,
White and limp, with tears in spate,
Beside his brothers pink and buff
(The latter snivelling down his cuff)
Walk behind the bier.

" ii. ii." is just behind,
Although his " i's " with tears are blind ;
And BT, G and old AR—
All have come from lands afar
To shed a silent tear.

Flowers from all addresses, too,
T.R.O., O ii U.
P has sent a wreath of red,
The bunch of violets are from Z,
The lilies from VE.

The sudden death of AAA
Our cup of grief doth crack, crack, crack.
Good Signalmen demand to know
Who it is who dealt the blow.
Was it Beer, or Don, or Freddie ?

But listen to the hideous truth:
Eye for eye and tooth for tooth.
AAA was murdered. Aye!
'Twas no disease that made him die
Or caught him on the hop.

Up in Whitehall hides the ghoul
Who used our darling as his tool
And, when tired of AAA,
Brutally stabbed him in the back
Until his heart did stop.



1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Friday 28th February.

The greater part of this month's notes will deal with the Brigade march and Indus manœuvres from which the Troop has just returned after taking a very important part in them. Owing to these manœuvres being something out of the ordinary, we feel justified in devoting a lot of time and space to them, and trust that nobody will be bored.

On the 6th February, the unit, under the command of Lieut. G. S. Knox, left Risalpur for Khairabad and duly arrived there after a peace march of about twenty-five miles. The time taken was five hours, which included several halts for watering and feeding—not bad going. Fortunately, our T.Q.M.S. got there before us, thus enabling tents to be erected ready for our occupation. It was not very long before everybody settled down for the rest of the day and night. Rain, which seems to accompany most Army manœuvres, then took a hand in the game and didn't cease for twenty-four hours. This caused a scheme with the R.A.F. to be cancelled, and we didn't break camp until the morning of the 8th. Two Indian D.R.s who were on trial with us did exceptionally well during our stay in this camp, and cleared all traffic without making a mistake.

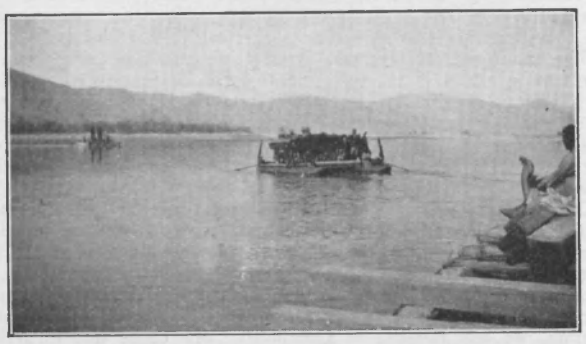
On Manœuvres with the 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.



The Brigade Commander speaking on a No. 1 Set.



Troop Camp at Hassan Abdul.



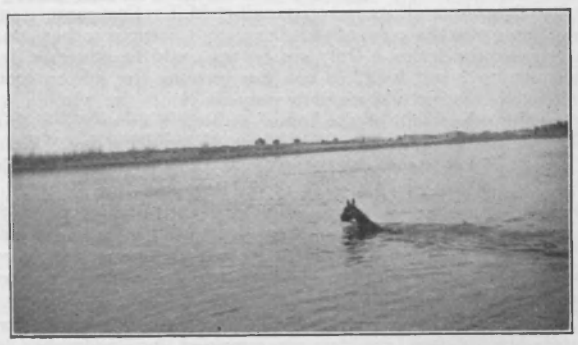
Light Tanks crossing the Indus.



An R.A.F. W/T Tender crossing the Indus.



Troop Horses crossing the Indus.



One of the Troop Horses taking a short cut.



Troop Horses nearing the far shore.



Troop Horses jumping ashore.

Everybody was pleased to get on the move from Khairabad, and ten o'clock saw us leaving for our next bound: Hassan Abdul, about thirty miles away. En route, Attock Bridge was crossed and the Attock defile negotiated. The weather now was quite fine for " scheming," and this we did until 4 p.m., when we were about eight miles from Hassan Abdul. The latter place was reached at six o'clock, and proved the best camping ground which most of us had seen in India. To find a camping ground of grass, near a river which offers plenty of scope for bathing, is the exception rather than the rule in India, and many members of the Troop took full advantage of it. The water-cress beds were also well patronised and everybody had cress for tea. Forty hours were spent in this camp, including Sunday 9th February.

Most of us were sorry to leave on Monday for our next hop to Haripur, about twenty-one miles by road and twenty-five as the Troop went. This was a busy day's scheming across very difficult nullah country, reminding us of that old game " He." Nobody was lost, and Haripur was safely reached at 6 p.m., when the unit camped for the night. This was known as the Chubby-Duster Camp on account of the enormous numbers of chubbies which got into everyone's hair, blankets, breeches, etc. (A chubby-duster is an irritating bristly seed which clings to everything with which it makes contact.)

Tuesday morning found us on the way to Tarbela, somewhere up in the hills. It would be hard to find a more gruelling route for horses, consisting as it did of miles of stony nullah beds. The country in this area is covered with a layer of stones and rocks, and it speaks well for the shoeing that not a shoe was cast during the whole day. A feature of this scheme and march was the pretty country through which we travelled, especially the pass through the hills by which Tarbela is approached. It was quite a contrast to the country previously traversed.

Tarbela was the last camp we made on the south side of the River Indus, and we entered it at 5.30 p.m. Judging from the jackals which were heard during the night, it should prove a happy hunting ground for all the foxhound packs in India. An early departure was indicated, so everybody settled down for the night—only to leave again at 4 a.m. for Sobra, a village on the south bank of the Indus. This village is about twelve miles from Tarbela and was reached after a two hours trot in the dark.

From now onwards began the difficult task of transporting a Cavalry Brigade and its accompanying M.T. Company, Light Tank Company, Battery of Artillery, and various other small units, across the Indus. Only six horses could be squeezed into a boat about 18 feet long, so one can imagine the job on hand. Nevertheless, within a space of twenty-six hours the whole Force was on the other side of the Indus without a casualty—a thing which had not been accomplished since Alexander's day. Plenty of " snaps " were taken of the crossing, and some are included with these notes.

Once safely across, on with the scheme until finally resting for the night at a place near Topi. Despite the difficulty in crossing, our transport was with us by 8 p.m. on the same day as we crossed. Our only casualty occurred at this place: a horse developed severe colic and had to be shot.

The 13th February saw us landed at Topi, where Brigade Headquarters was situated, and here we remained until midnight. At this hour commenced one of our usual night marches which didn't stop until 6 a.m., except for feeding periods. Six o'clock saw the beginning of the last phase of these manœuvres, and by 1.30 p.m. it was all over except for the final conference. The Troop then marched to Swabi and camped from 3.30 p.m. until 9 a.m. on the following day, at which time it commenced the march back to Risalpur, duly arriving there at 4 p.m. So ended our yearly training march, which had been long looked forward to by all members of the unit.

As mentioned at the start of these notes, the stunt was quite out of the ordinary, and nobody was sorry to have shared in it. Communication was maintained without a hitch throughout the show, and the No. 1 sets, which were on trial with the unit for the first time, proved quite equal to the occasion, as did the C set, V/T and D.R.s. The Brigade commander found time to use one of the No. 1 sets and thought it excellent.

Having dealt with the manœuvres, we must now talk about something else. First of all, we welcome Sergeants Hoy, Starling and Szarkowski, and Signalmen Stewart, Parkinson, Wright, Jones and Richmond from Peshawar, Kohat and Waziristan, and Sergt Madeley and family from Blighty leave.

In the near future L/Corporals Cross and Ferguson, and Signalmen Ball and Pearson will be leaving us for U.K. on transfer to the home establishment. All are old members of the Troop, and we wish them the best of times in England.

There is not much to write regarding sport, because the only matches played have been inter-unit affairs. Perhaps next month we shall have more news to give regarding hockey and football, when the Garrison has settled down once more. RISI.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Friday 28th February.

Prologue.—Raining. Apologies for the absence of notes from this unit for the month of January. When the grey matter functions properly and thinks up a good enough excuse, I will record it.

General.—The months of good resolutions and valentines have come and gone, and what are we to say about them ?

Early each morn there are to be seen white knees and red noses, and shivering forms trying to shelter as long as possible from the icy blasts that rage down the Kurram valley. Yes, you have guessed it ; 'tis the daily muscle binding squad—in other words, the " under 30's " awaiting the magic call of Markus.

The month of January was mainly spent in practising for and performing a Signal demonstration for the edification of the staff and officers of the district. Everyone worked hard, and the result showed that it was not in vain ; all concerned seeming very well satisfied at the conclusion. On the 29th January we took part in a District exercise, which I am told was another good-i-show as far as Signals were concerned.

On the 31st we marched out to unit camp at Seni-Gambat, fifteen miles out of Kohat on the road to Rawalpindi. Most of our time there was taken up with Signal office routine and practice in getting into and out of action with the maximum of speed. One District exercise was carried out during the camp period, and this proved that our practice had not been in vain. In fact, we had become so speedy that one office was in action before the other could get out ; and as they were both using the same main artery, over which at that particular moment a message was being passed, the operator had a few kind words to say about speed (didn't he, Topper ?)

We marched out of camp and back to barracks on Friday 7th February, and it rained the whole day—not a very pleasant finale ; and somehow it seems to have been raining ever since—probably just the prelude to the break up of the cold weather.

At the present moment a junior n.c.o. and selected signalmen's course is in full swing, and in consequence much throat oil is in demand.

Whilst the above are sorting out the rights from the lefts, others are trying to separate the Ohms from the Henrys, etc., in preparation for upgrading in the near future. All this activity heralds the approach of summer and the thoughts of cool drinks, with a spot of leave in the hills.



The Late C.Q.M.S. I. H. Small.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of C.Q.M.S. Small I. H. in the C.I.M.H. Kohat, on the

evening of the 4th February, of pneumonia lobar (empyema) after an illness lasting nearly a month ; and also the death of L/Sergt Ward, M.C., as a result of a motor cycle accident on the evening of the 2nd February. L/Sergt Ward was attached to this unit with a detachment from A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, for the demonstration mentioned earlier in these notes and for the period of unit camp. The deepest sympathy of all ranks of this unit is extended to the friends and relatives of both the deceased.

The Journey's End.

A brief resume of the late C.Q.M.S. Small's military career is appended. He was in the Territorial Force prior to the outbreak of the last war, and was then automatically absorbed into the Regular Forces. Serving in the Royal Artillery, he took his discharge in the field in 1919, but re-enlisted again almost at once (in Waziristan). He was employed on Signal work and later became I.U.L. Signals, was posted to F Divl Signals, Dera Ismail Khan, and remained there until 1921, when he proceeded with the unit to Jubbulpore, remaining there until he went on leave to U.K. in 1924. During this leave the unit moved to Kohat, and he joined it there in March 1925 and remained with the unit until his death, so that in all he served in one unit for seventeen years.



The Scene at the Graveside.

C.Q.M.S. Small was the recipient of the British war, Victory, Territorial war service, Indian general service with five clasps (Afghanistan and N.W.F.P. 1919, Mahsud 1919—20, Waziristan 1919—21, Waziristan 1921—24, and N.W.F.P. 1930—31), King's Silver Jubilee, and the L.S. and G.C. medals.

And so the unit mourns the passing of its oldest member, who was a pal to all.

Arrivals.—L/Sergeants Sharples and Starling and Corporals Ray and Shove arrived from U.K. furlough on the 8th January and have settled down to normal routine.

Departures.—L/Sergt Starling and Sigmn Richmond to Cavsigs, Risalpur, and Sigmn Leach (our dance band crooner) to Cavsigs, Sialkot (his new theme song is "Learn to groom"). On Tuesday 25th Feb. we said goodbye to C.Q.M.S. Molyneux and L/Corpl Langley, who have completed their tour in India and have gone to a better land. The best wishes of the unit go with them for every success in their new units.

Congratulations.—To Sergt Sharples on his promotion to that rank, and also to U/L/Corporal Price on getting his foot on the bottom rung of the ladder and having successfully bluffed the examiners on the last test for the special.

Epilogue.—Still raining. ROBO.

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

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

No. 1 Company.

Wednesday 4th March.

General.—Nothing of startling importance has happened within the Company since our last notes were published. We are, however, still functioning merrily, most of our time being spent in the technical school.

During the month volunteers were asked for to proceed to Quetta for W/T reliefs. No one seemed anxious to visit the earthquake area. We wonder why ?

Training.—A recently held line scheme passed off quite successfully. The fact that there were no disconnections enabled us to clear lots of traffic. The message originators were highly amused when they were informed that their foreign language messages led one duplex receiving operator to declare that his sounder was missing.

Arrivals: Drafts.—The unit was blessed with the arrival of two drafts per H.T.s *Dilwara* and *Somersetshire*. Their arrival coinciding with the temporary departure of the Indian Construction Section, they were dumped in stables *en bloc*: quite a Blighty idea. Many of them will, no doubt, be posted to No. 1 Company, and therefore we take this opportunity of welcoming them.

Departures: Drafts.—The *Dilwara* and *Somersetshire* take with them members of five years standing. We bid them bon voyage and hope that each of them will always be in a position to say "Goodbye to all that."

Musick.—"Noises off" indicate the great struggles that are going on in the formation of a unit dance band. We wish the several instrumentalists all success. Even now they are making us sit up and listen. Their efforts are bound to bear fruit.

No. 2 W/T Company.

General.—A couple of weeks ago the whole Company travelled to Tatta and Hyderabad for a wireless scheme. Leaving on the Monday, the two destinations were reached and communication established by about 6 p.m. For the next two days, working was carried on in the best (?) traditions of the Signals, and at the end of the scheme all announced their satisfaction at the successful way in which the work had been done. It was really a very nice break from the usual routine of life, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part in it. We are now sweating on another as soon as we get over all the forthcoming inspections.

Departures.—Our popular Company sergeant-major (C.S.M. Lydamore) has now unfortunately left us for Waziristan District Signals. This is undoubtedly a loss for us and a gain for Waziristan ; and this is not a mere platitude. At any rate, we have to make the best of a bad job, so we take this opportunity of wishing you the best of luck in your new unit, sir. May we have the luck of seeing you again and having you with us in an official capacity.

The next batch of names for this heading is too large to be put in individually, as it is none other than that of the last draft to U.K. per the *Dilwara* and the *Somersetshire*. There is one point, however, which must be brought to notice. The latter boat is taking home all the leave details ; and as we rather suspect that Basil Breeze will try to lead everyone to believe that he is going on the home establishment, we are forestalling him by announcing to all and sundry that he will be back again in six months time.

Arrivals.—From U.K. two new drafts to swell our ranks, although I'm afraid that their numbers are so small that they will make little or no difference. We hope that they will enjoy their sojourn here as much as we have.

Our Information Bureau.—This is our very latest innovation, instituted with the idea of assisting the poor and needy with information of all kinds. This information need not be asked for ; if we hear of anyone whom we think is in need of it, he will get it.

Our initial effort in this direction is to assist the signalman in our sister Company who (we hear on very good authority) asked for the loan of a D.iii. on signature whilst on U.K. leave, so that he could brush up his Morse and so keep in touch with his trade. (Topper, I'm surprised at you.) We suggest that he takes over one of Slim Denison's 120-watts for the duration of his leave, and works back to Karachi from the boat. If this doesn't keep his hand in, then I don't know Slim.

G.G.R.: or More Wireless Worries.

" Now list to me (the Sergeant said) the while I do explain
The mysteries of C.G.R., whereby we should obtain
In any wireless output stage, with very small deficit,
A signal which is rectified—or, to be more explicit,
Cut down from radio frequency until it is made audible—
A process which you must admit is really quite applaudable.
Get out your notebooks and your pens ; pay very close attention
To every single thing I say and every fact I mention."
He started off with diagrams of curves called characteristics,
With grid leaks and condensers, and quite a few statistics ;
He spoke about the current that collects upon the grid ;
And when he mentioned milli-amps, that quite put on the lid.
The class was scribbling furiously, although they understood not,
Nor did they stop to question him—you see, they really could not.
He carried on for hours and hours, or so at least it seemed ;
He spoke of wireless mysteries of which no one had dreamed ;
But when at last the " Dismiss " blew, and he came to an end,
A chap said " Look here, Sergeant Blank, is all this anode bend?"
The sarge collapsed ; the class laughed loud ; the O. i/c walked in
To seek an explanation of this unseemly din.
One chap explained. The officer was seen to grimly smile ;
Then, turning to the class, he said " Now list to me a while.
Now, Sergeant Blank has lectured you for minutes fifty-six,
And how much have you learned from him ?" The class all answered " Nix."

Sergeants Mess.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our midst C.S.M. Price G. R. and family from Jubbulpore. May their stay be a pleasant one.

Departures.—R.S.M. Trapmore B. and family to Jubbulpore. We hope he liked his send-off on the *Valera*. We shall not forget it in a hurry.

C.Q.M.S. (Pony) Moore, of Maresfield, Scarborough and Pindi fame, has left us with his family, per the *Dilwara*, for civil life after twenty-two years service. We take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck in his retirement. At a small social C.Q.M.S. Moore was presented with a clock by R.S.M. Trapmore on behalf of the few members of the Mess.

C.Q.M.S. (Busty) Baker has also left us on pension. Another of our stalwarts, who also received a clock from the members of the Mess. We wish him the best of luck, and hope he will soon settle to a non-provost job.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Conway on his Aussy terrier Tichborne winning the first prize for Aussy terriers and first prize for the best of breed at the recent Sind Dog Show.

To C.Q.M.S. Blunden (back of the Blue Book) on his recent promotion to that rank.

To Tubby Minns of 2nd Divl Signals (or is it B Corps Signals ?) on the arrival of twins: Buller and Beryl. (Will the Quetta correspondent please observe that this serious item was omitted in his notes.)

General.—To Agony of Hall Green: The three mentioned are doing very well. Bless yer soul, didn't you know Bill had an addition ? Will write when the Villa can play fitba'. J.M.L.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Sunday 8th March.

An Apology.—Owing to the previous scribe taking over a full time job, we the undersigned do humbly beseech the reader's indulgence for any commissions or omissions in these notes. (How am I doin' ?)

Arrivals.—Two drafts have arrived in the unit this month. The first consisted of only two men, but it does show that Records have not forgotten that Quetta is still on the map, even though the " irresistible processes of the geological evolution " (hot dog) have attempted to remove us. To H.Q. we welcome Sigmn Last (wise crack: " The first will be last," etc.) We also welcome back R.S.M. Shenton from Blighty leave. We hope your enjoyed your holiday, sir.

N.B.: We had a couple of tremors, but they were not so welcome!

Departures.—We have lost our Eric, alias Caruso (when you sing at Covent Garden, Eric, remember your former fans) and Peter Wills, a sportsman whom we shall miss, especially in the unit football team (is Blighty a good show, Peter ?).

L/Cpl Dixon and Sigmn McCallum left on six months privilege leave, preparatory to doing another five years. (Question: Is six months Blighty leave worth another five years in this country ?)

Sergt Waldron left on six months rest cure, while C.Q.M.S. (F-of-S) Gerrish and L/Corporal Clayton departed for the home establishment and a course at Shorncliffe as a prospective schoolie respectively.

Inspections.—The District commander carried out his annual inspection of the unit on the 3rd March and, as usual, " every egg was a bird " (Homer).

Departmental Ditties.—

EN PASSANT.

Bang the banjo, beat the drum,
Punch the lyre, on jew's harp strum.
(Someone's spilt the gravy.)

But, Seaman Gunner, do not faint—
It wasn't you who pinched the paint.
(Thank heaven we have a Navy!)

Sport.—The unit football team are to be congratulated on winning the Pellier memorial cup, and by so doing entering the semi-final of the Western Command football cup. The unit rugby team have won the Baluchistan District rugby tournament, and so it would seem that we aren't doing so badly.

Finale.—We know they're punk (the notes, we mean).

PIP AND SHORTY.

No. 1 Company.

Permit us to introduce ourselves as Onecoy's new scribes, scandal mongers, can carriers, and keen perusers of Part II.s. Typing, Larry O'Hooligan ; on his left, dictating, Trunky, alias Schnoz. Having been nominated by a snooping schnurge whose name is a cross between adverts for a famous sauce and a still more famous chewing gum, without any chance of escape, we graciously accepted under the motto of " Honi soit qui mal y pense."

As Trunky remarked, " the widest gapes we've ever seen ": the mouths of the new draft (fairies excepted) when they viewed that well-known health resort, Quetta. Poor chaps! " Roll on, '41." Still, work hard and play hard ; time will fly, and that boat of yours will be built before you've time to realise that your tour is finished. We only hope that you have as good a time as we have had, and then you won't have much to complain about.

Fine show! Oh yes, it was. What was ? The G.O.C.'s inspection, of course. Tips! what else could you expect with all the temporary acting, unpaid, unwanted spare appointments which various n.c.o.s and even signalmen took unto themselves ? Still, a jolly fine show, Lamb—particularly those curtains of yours. Shake hands, Schnoz ; even we did our bit. Congratulations to one and all.

Probably some sporting man or other will tell you how we won, etc. (we sincerely hope it won't be Gripper Zack). However, as a

pair of shouting, screaming and yelling spectators, it's up to us to say our bit. Believe it or not, the Div. have at long last broken a long spell of bad luck and have won not only one but two cups. Furthermore, we have high hopes of polishing one or two more this year. When we say polishing, we mean it, in every sense of the word.

The Baluchistan District rugby cup has travelled its round of messes and canteens and now lies securely tucked away in our officers mess. No. 1 Company supplied nine of the winning team, and each player gave a good account of himself. In the semi-final versus the 11th Light Battery R.A., all proved themselves fit and tough. Some attribute this being in good condition to the continual training in shifting and whitewashing bricks, stones, and anything else that happened to be in the way. In the final versus the R.T.C. the 2nd Div. showed them how it should be done, winning by 16—0 points. We might mention that One Company did all the scoring in this game. During the presentation of the medals by Major-General H. J. Huddleston, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C., commander of the Baluchistan District, Chesty was seen to smile when Zack collected his medal, and a rude spectator shouted "Well played, Will Power!"

The Pelliers football cup final ended in a well deserved win, and the spectators certainly did their stuff by encouraging the team to greater efforts. Our left back came in for a lot of advice. His main object was to break all known records for high kicking. On one occasion much time might have been lost but for a half-mile sprint by Zack (Will Power) who returned the ball from the wrecked picture house with commendable speed. Loud shouts of "Keep it in Baluchistan!" damped R.C.D.'s ardour somewhat, and he subsequently tried hard to at least keep the goli in Quetta. On two occasions he managed to keep the ball on the pitch, and spectators were so surprised that they forgot to applaud. Frequent cries of "Well played, Tom!" (goalkeeper) were rather misleading, since they occurred when we scored as well as when he saved. In fact, any brilliant play evoked a shout of "Well played, Tom!" He certainly earned the applause when our goal was in danger. At the conclusion of the game a very handsome cup was presented amidst loud applause, and the occasion was celebrated during the evening in the time-honoured manner.

We look at a new moon, turn over our money (if any) and wish. What happens? Kuch nahin! We wish there were no sergeants in the Army, without looking at any moon, and what happens? Wonder of wonders! there are no sergeants.

Section training is going down fine, so *we* think. If we keep it up much longer, someone will be getting the Indian X.Y.Z. for saving the Government lakhs of rupees by showing that a Div. Signals can be run with a few men and a couple of corporals.

It has definitely been proved that A Section is up to establishment. Where are they all? One half on Blighty leave; the other half at Jubb. or going there. It is rumoured that Nobbie is off there on a scrounge. However, he says that he has so much to do now that he works till 8 p.m. daily, even on holidays and Sundays. Comrades, don't believe him. Paddy Burke (to his friends, Tashy) is also for Jubb. Our heartfelt sympathies to all at Jubb. For your own sakes, don't let him grip you.

D Section—the whole six of them—are doing their stuff under their able leader Zack. The other twenty prefer Garrison fatigues to operating (not that they get any choice in the matter).

Those whose five year wish has at long last been granted are far too numerous to mention by number, rank and name. All at home will soon know them. You're sure to hear detailed reports on the Quetta quake. We wish all ex-Onecoyites a good billet at home, and to those adopting the bowler hat we wish the best of luck.

Records seem to think that Quetta was wiped out last May, judging by the small number of promotions that have come our way. However, the War Office knows better. Congratulations to Lieut. E. B. Elliott on his promotion to that rank.

This month's honours go to the C.S.M. without argument, doubt or prejudice. He carries out at one and the same time the duties of C.S.M., C.Q.M.S., R.O.S., Sick and Canteen, Kot Naik, Company orderly corporal, and office boy. You're a better man than us, Bernie boy.

There is no Scotsman's Corner in these notes. If we were to open one, the notes would be in the corner and the Scotsmen all over the page.

HOOLIGAN—TRUNKY.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Hindubagh Detachment.

Friday 28th February.

Treating.—The weather treated us to a few falls of snow and occasional showers during the month; but as we notice almond blossom in the Officers Mess compound, we hope the weather is changing for the better.

The O.C. treated us to a visit, accompanied by the No. 1 set demonstration party returning to Quetta after a tour of the Zhob. The latter we treated to some good messing. At least, we like to think our messing is better than they have been getting, especially as we heard one of them remark "It's quite a change."

On the 2nd February B.O.W.O. paid us a visit and treated us to some wireless on our own Phillips set. Although it was working well when he left, we notice that he brought his own set on a return visit later in the month. We wonder why?

Congratulations to Mr. Davey, I.A.O.C., on giving us the treat of seeing him as a full-blown conductor.

Education.—When interviewed, Jim stated that he was feeling fit and expected to completely baffle the examiners at the next first class examination. Next month he will tell us how he did it (?).

Absent Friends.—To Bert: How the old order changeth (note all the treating business). One of the halyards on the Hertz has broken, and only you know the combination. Please let us into this wireless mystery.

EASTERN COMMAND.. ....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Tuesday 11th February.

General.—Meerut now shows signs of the approaching summer and the nippy, though healthy, mornings of winter are giving way to more acceptable and warmer days. The R.E. and Signal exercise, from which we gained useful experience, ended (thankfully!) on the 7th inst. Returning in the dark, the I.B. Sections plumbed the depths of sand and pot holes on the local roads.

Departures.—Since the last notes appeared, the personnel of the unit has vastly changed, and the arrival of the February drafts is eagerly awaited to replace those who have left us for fog and snow: Sergeants Crummey, Norcup and Wiggins, and Sigmn Brider, and families. To our close neighbours, the 3rd Cavalry Troop, have gone C.Q.M.S. Gavey, Sergt Child, Corpl Swan A., L/Corporals Rudd and Marsh, Signalmen Hills, Rainbird and Strong. C.Q.M.S. Batchelor departs for Peshawar on the 20th, and C.S.M. Gradden (at present A/R.S.M.) leaves for home—rather unexpectedly, but as compensation for being deprived of India's joys he and his family will journey on the *Viceroy of India*. We wish all of them all that they wish for themselves in their new stations.

Returns.—F and G Sections from Babina Practice Camp on the 1st February. L Section from Lucknow on the 23rd January. The detachment of A Section which returned with L Section told some awful tales of hardships undergone. The day following, the Company offices looked like a Quetta snowdrift, so many were the applications for posting to Lucknow. There *must* be something in the place after all.

Arrivals.—Lieut. Barker, from Kohat, has taken over K Section vice 2/Lieut. Johnson, who has assumed the work of officiating Quartermaster. Privates Cotterill, Picken and Pickles on probation from the Loyal Regiment.

Ceremonial.—A memorial service in memory of our late beloved King was held in St. John's Church on the 28th January. A simple and moving service impressed upon each one of us the magnitude of the Empire's loss.

Social.—Owing to the death of our late King, the social side of the unit comprises only weekly whist drives. Not until after the 1st March will our fortnightly dances be restarted.

Promotions.—The Quetta earthquake has now reached far-off Records and disclosed the existence of the 3rd Indian Divl Signals.

As a result, the following promotions have occurred: C.Q.M.S.s Gavey and Gould, Corpl West, L/Cpl Hoar ; and Sigmn Gartery receives the first part of the baton, having already been issued with the haversack.

Course.—Signalman Ellis to the British Refrigerating Company, Calcutta. One way of keeping cool during the summer.

Birth.—To Lieut. Morris, a daughter (Diana Leslie) on 4/12/35 at Agra.

L.S. and G.C. Medals.—C.Q.M.S. Gavey, Sergeant Barber and L/Cpl Fletcher. "My dear Watson, the solution is on the chest."

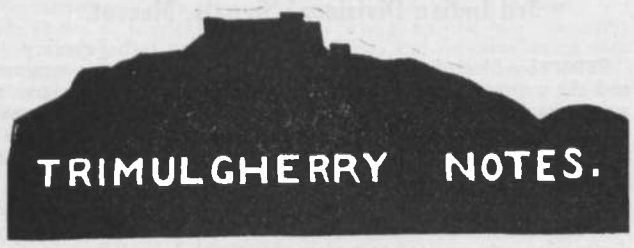
Education.—Part qualifications for special certificate: Signalmen Thomas, Welsh ("D"), Fox T. (British history). Awarded first class certificates: Signalmen Bowen and Brown J., L/Corpl Peart. Partly qualified towards first class: Corporal Hunter, Signalmen Bould and McGawley. To date the unit has 27 per cent. in possession of first class certificates.

Visits.—Major-General Powell inspected the unit at work and afterwards, in a talk to the British ranks, remarked that although the Royal Signals and the Indian Signal Corps are separate Corps, this fact is not apparent when one sees them working so amicably together.

Pie Crusts.—It is hoped, with the Editor's permission, to give in next month's WIRE a short description of Meerut, mainly for the benefit of those who may come here. Now, Quetta, what about it ?

Conclusion.—Until next month, au revoir. BILLWUM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY



4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Friday 28th February.

[Scene: Corporals Room. "What about you ?" That is how I became THE WIRE reporter.]

General.—Rumour had it that all manœuvres had finished, but on my return from Blighty leave I was met with ground sheet, topi band, cholera precautions, etc., and informed that I was due to embus for a friendly battle at Ahmednagar.

The commanding officer and A (W/T) Section embussed on the 6th January, arriving at Ahmednagar Fort on the 10th without any serious mishap. Cooking arrangements were ably carried out by Corpl Watts, whose recipes in book form are likely to run into many editions. (Note: the limes did their stuff!) The battle was fought and won, as usual, the warriors returning to Ahmednagar on the 23rd January.

The same day we proceeded to Bombay for the annual R.A. Coastal Defence shoot, returning to Trimulgherry on the 12th February.

Plans are now being prepared for the individual training season. Likely instructors are being instructed by instructors on how to instruct. At the time of going to press, we are in the midst of dummies (not tailors, nor babies), eye discs, tripods, targets and, naturally, rifles. From the above, you may or may not have surmised that the annual musketry is now in progress. Sergeant Baker, our instructor, has informed us that his expectations are high. We hope to live up to them.

Visits.—On the 15th February Major-General H. S. Powell, C.B., Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, paid a short visit to the unit for the purpose of conveying the congratulations of the Royal Corps of Signals at home to the Indian Signal Corps on the attainment of its Silver Jubilee,

Inspection.—The unit was inspected by the G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command on the 19th February, the total British ranks on parade being nineteen. This will give some idea of the rate of Indianisation of the unit (when *are* we getting that promised draft?). The secret service branch being up to its usual standard, we have to presume that everything was most satisfactory.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Parker S., Corporal Watts S., L/Corpl Holt and U/L/Corpl Green R. on attaining those ranks. To Sergeant Farr F. on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal (some of us *know* how it is done ; others can only wonder).

Education.—Congratulations are extended to L/Cpl McQuire J. (special), Sigmn Jones R. (first class), Sergt Peerless W. and Sigmn Taylor C. (British Service Urdu), and L/Corporal Holt J. (lower standard Urdu).

Arrival.—Sergeant Baker L. from Quetta. More next month, we hope.

Memories Linger On.—Sergeants Palmer S. and Kelsey E., L/Sergt Grocott J., Corporal Hawkes W. and L/Corpl Jones E., with families, also Corpl Broom R. (as yet unattached ?) left for Blighty on the 7th February per H.T. *Cameronia*. To all of them we say "Good luck and mon repos."

C.Q.M.S. Meredith and family and Corpl Brown C. have also depleted our numbers—the former to Kohat and the latter to F Signal Section, Jubbulpore.

Partnerships.—The undermentioned have formed limited companies or, in other words, been and gone and done it. Sergeant Fairman J. married Miss S. E. Lewis at Bristol whilst on leave in U.K. L/Corporal Mitchell A. married Miss C. H. Norris at Secunderabad. May all their troubles be very very small ones.

Wanted.—Urgent posting to this unit of a small Tich to settle finally and definitely the question of who *is* the littlest Tich.

Queries.—How will you get into it, sir ? Will they cancel our boat ? What job am I on ? Where are the British ranks ?

Things To Come.—(With apologies to H. G. Wells). Courses, drafts, training, and ice issues.

Conclusion.—Sanctions re grey matter having been applied, this will have to suffice for the present ; and if I live to tell the tale (after these notes have appeared) more may appear next month. CHARMINAR.

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

Monday 17th February.

Introduction.—The 5th Divl Signal Company reports arrival. As is very well known, we marched out of Canterbury in the early hours of the morning, thinking bitterly of what Shakespeare said about St. Crispin's Day and " gentlemen in England now abed." We had a fine and luxurious voyage, but a mysterious epidemic swept the ranks of our soldiery and laid the bravest of them low: this is believed to have been due to the rolling motion of the vessel when breasting the waves.

On arrival at our first station, we tasted at once the joys of sleeping on sand and made the acquaintance of those friendly insects. For our entertainment during the day, and in an effort to break the monotony of existence, a " big dig " was organised and heartily enjoyed. In the evenings we were busily employed in absorbing local colour and taking stock of our surroundings.

Since moving here, both those joys have been taken from us—sand stopped play. " Sand between the toes " would be a welcome relief from sand in the eyes, sand in the hair, sand on the bed, seeing sand, breathing sand, and eating, drinking and washing in it. The second-in-command has taken to giving orders, to be completed " within two sandstorms date from now." The C.Q.M.S., on the other hand, felt the call of the desert so strongly that he pulled down his store tent to let the fresh sand in—and I, wanting a cake of sea-water soap, looked for the Quarter's tent and found only an M.T. park and a dump of stores covered by a tarpaulin.

In between these episodes, however, we filch time to show flashes of the " Certa Cito " spirit. Cable reels spin, sounders rattle, gear-boxes grind (or shouldn't they ?) and appropriate Army Forms are rendered in thick packages. Then, when the labourer's task is o'er, he finds a modicum of recreation provided, that the game of " house " (sometimes spelt " hoose ") is run in the canteen at week-ends for the benefit of the messing and the entertainments fund, or that in the same place the sergeant-major is prepared to sing songs of Egypt to any who will listen to him.

There is, of course, no other news from this place, where check parade is the chief excitement of the day (unless you are parading at a quarter of an hour after reveille, carrying water bottle, haversack, and pull-through, single, mark iv.b.), so I will proceed (dress, marching order less pull-through) to . . . . . .

Sport.—Football is the safest, because you can head the ball and keep it in the air. You can still play hockey if you are prepared to wait now and again for the sand to settle, so that you can see where the ball has gone ; but golf is absolutely fatal. The conscientious reader will find fixtures and results elsewhere in these pages.

Missing Letters.—2319650 ; 5107144 ; 2323509 ; 2322488 ; and 2568950.

Novelette.—(Sub-title : " The Frogs of Aristophanes.") Skeets, hitherto known as the Wogs' White Chief, has now been discovered as a natural history addict. The ice-cream vendor told me that he was going into the interior of the desert to find a man-eating lizard. " God prosper him," I breathed, as piously as my dissipated features would allow. " How large will it be ?" " Four-foot-six," he told me. Professor Freud's interpretation of this omen is not yet known—but " Un revolto " croaked the ice-cream vendor.

Note For The War Office.—It will not be necessary for sandbags to be filled before being shipped to Egypt. This work can be performed locally.

Untying The Gordian Knot.—We have been asked (by one of the victims) to correct the statement in 4th Divl Signal notes in the February WIRE that L/Corpl Cotton married Elizabeth Ann Watson at the Church of St. Mary, Colchester, on 22/12/35. The stern fact is that Miss Watson married L/Corpl Holland, and in proof of this we publish a photograph of the happy pair. L/Corpl Cotton had the good fortune to marry Emma Fanny Nash at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Lyndhurst, Southampton, on 4/12/35.



L/Corporal and Mrs. Holland.

Convulsive Writhe.—Is it to become a habit for men to wake up " smoking a cigarette outside a hospital where they spent the night," or was this a singular case ?

Final Wriggle.—Are there any others who, like the writer, come from seaside resorts and will, the first thing on arrival home, see some *more* sand ?

LEACKO.

No. 2 A.A. Cable Section, H.M.S. " President IV."

Alexandria, 28th February.

General.—Still in residence by the seaside—sometimes on the rocks and sometimes in the sand (or salt)—our second chapter of notes is forwarded to cheer up numerous readers who might envy our location. Not having the net sales of THE WIRE on hand does not lessen our enthusiasm, because we feel assured that such a medium will broadcast our chronicles to all our clientele.

Our varied tasks are never ending, and with maintenance, diversions, improvements, and the laying of an occasional new line, the linemen still have plenty of work to do. They have just completed a new four-way route which, with the use of 16 ft. air-line poles, rubber bobbins and solid 3 inch screws, is neat, easy to maintain, and out of the reach of interfering hands.

Reference to never-ending duties is also applicable to the M.T. Section, whose performances have been a credit to them. Their mileage over difficult country, besides ordinary road work, is quite noteworthy, and it was not until these notes had been written that one of the lorries simply had to pack in and spoil the story.

The D.R.s, too, must be mentioned. Their D.R.L.S. run is no mean performance for them to maintain so well. In summing up, we are fortunate in having an M.T. staff so efficiently capable of dealing with all their business.

As everyone is pulling his weight, I must also mention the indoor staff. Having at last obtained the necessary stores and various multi-core cables, they are now rewiring the exchange as a show model for all who care to inspect it.

Last, but not least, a paragraph dedicated to our clerk-cum-D.R.L.S. clerk-cum-storeman-cum-sports manager. He is standing the pace very well (he's been here before) in spite of being pestered with, or for, chits and packages from dawn to dusk, in addition to his normal routine work.

Having mentioned everybody, it should be an easy task to collect the subscriptions next month, although it must be said that some members have been paying but have not yet received their copy of THE WIRE.

Being a force to make note of, the Camp Commandant's staff list us as a Duty Company every three days. We religiously take our share in night guards and fire picquets whenever our turn is due.

This business of being a Company has got everyone wondering why it is that the Corps Roster has only just started to give hope to ambitions. Why, in a matter of a few weeks we appear to have a C.S.M., a Staff-Sergeant, a Foreman-of-Signals, and a Foreman-of-Signals' mate (a new rating this). This is not so progressive as the man who was announced as the C.O. of another unit by the actual C.O. himself.

Sport.—Our sporting activities continue, and although not yet up to the standard of Chelsea or the City, we have not lost any money so far. We have had some enjoyable games with the 12th Infantry Brigade Signals, including a very exciting hockey match. So far, honours are in their favour, but there is always another day to see if we can turn the tables.

Departures.—Maybe the beginning of the end, for all we know. Sigmn Fellows R. has sailed for cooller regions after only a Cook's tour this time. Having already wished him all he wishes himself (we news correspondents have to be so " previous " nowadays) I will conclude by repeating those wishes all over again.

Congratulations.—To Sgt Hodgson H., promoted to parental rank with the responsibility for a daughter to puzzle him. However, should he need any fatherly advice, he should just pop in and see me.

Agony.—Con, Blackdown: T/W.H. is still awaiting your reply.

SANDY.

R.A. Signal Section.

Attached 20th Field Brigade, R.A., Egypt.

Obituary.—We regret the passing of His late Majesty King George V. As in most other stations throughout our glorious Empire, a memorial service was held at Kasr-el-Nil Barracks, Cairo, the Section being represented by our O.C., Lieut. H. C. Daniel.

General.—The Section disembarked at Alexandria on the 9th January under the command of Lieut. H. C. Daniel, R.Signals. We eventually entrained in company with the 20th Field Brigade R.A. On arrival at our destination, we found our desert oasis to consist of nothing more than sand—and more sand. Blackpool, Ryde, Herne Bay and Scarborough are just painful memories: names that only pass the lips of the inane or imbecile. The romance of that beautiful old song " When the sands of the desert grow cold " we have also discovered in our chilled bones when the trumpeter sounds reveille.

Camouflage.—L/Sergt Stone J. and his pro-artistes Macklin and Wild are endeavouring to transform all and sundry into veritable sand dunes, with a useful application of red and yellow paint. Oh, for a spot of grazing!

M.T. Instruction.—Our D.R.s and M.T. drivers have been receiving tuition in desert driving from Egypt Signals. Their practical knowledge and experience, I am pleased to say, has been of great assistance on the Brigade scheme, when Signals were to the fore—not one case of failure. To men who drove their first car only a month ago: a great achievement. To Egypt Signals: our congratulations and thanks.

Section Outing.—On the 19th January we had a trip to the Pyramids, and on the 2nd February an outing to the Barrage. Both were a great success and appreciated by all.

Agony.—To Finn, of Malta: The Welsh Finn is gravel scratching in Egypt. What about a line? D.D.D. 475.

To Jubbulpore, India: Still waiting for a reply. Tom (ex 4th Div.)

To Harry, Hong Kong: Not long enough to do. Jo-Jo and Mac, Egypt.

To Blanco, Canterbury: There are no Brooke Bond's medals here. Jo-Jo.

To M.T. Section, Catterick: You don't know what driving is. Haggis.

RASS.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Headquarters.

Having been asked to fill in a gap, I submit these notes concerning a Section which rarely gets in the news. Maybe, we owe our lack of notice to the fact that we are the people behind the scenes (and I think you will agree with me that seldom do really great men get in the news). However, having let you know that this Section really exists, we will proceed. Let me introduce to you some of our H.Q. notables.

Foremost on the list is a Scotsman whose hobby is hiking (at least, he seems to be an ardent follower of Johnny Walker). Testimony to this gentleman's ability can be obtained (free of obligation) from Sigmn Metcalfe of the C.I.D. A good second is " our Mary," whose prowess in the art of cattle talk is well known in this unit (and others: was it A Corps ?) We also have among our number a racing cyclist who carries a bag on his handle-bar. I have never discovered what the bag is for, but Johnson (of C.I.D. fame) was once seen looking in it for a voltmeter. In conclusion, we *must* mention the little man with the black moustache (Ross, the height specialist, is no relation) who escaped matrimony at Scarborough but appears to have found a life partner in Cairo.

News.—It is noticed that the man of the " mere pittance " has been able to purchase a very expensive wireless set.

" Our Mary " has left us heart-broken, and now we have no one to tell us good-night stories; but we hope that by the time this appears in print, he will be back in the fold.

Enquiries.—Will some resident of Derby kindly forward to this Section particulars as to the progress of the local football team, as a certain person among us, who hails from that fair county, shirks his duty in that respect. Thanks!

Tailpiece.—See " Jacko."

COXMITH.

No. 1 Company Headquarters.

The Company is now looking less like a depleted Section, thanks to Mr. Records and the gentleman responsible for the jump in shipping shares.

Sergeant Little has been placed behind the bar and, instead of serving out iron rations and field dressings, is handing out beer. L/Corpl Boffy, now at Alexandria, can be heard singing " A sailor's life for me." Mind the cake offers, Boff. Sigmn Hicks R. E. posted to No. 1 Company. Hurrah!

The barrack rooms are now adorned with wardrobes (civilian pattern) and full length mirrors. The only things not supplied are the suits, and even those can be obtained on the " It may be for years and it may be for ever " system.

This month's biscuit goes to the super-optimist (no civilian, no hopes of getting a pass, and due home) who wanted to know if he could hang up a dust coat as well as a suit in the wardrobe.

We Want to Know.—Which occupant of a bunk said " You can't do that there 'ere " to the man sent to clean the bunk windows? Why has Mitch joined forces with McCl——? If these notes are read? When the boat goes? Did they enjoy the parade?

[*Later*]

Nothing of note has happened this month, except that the eating championship of the Company has been won by a little clerk with a dark moustache.

No. 3 Company beat us in the second round of the C. of E. cup. We wish them luck in the semi-final, and hope they keep the cup in the unit.

Somewhere I read of No. 1 Company following No. 3's example in making gardens. Take a look at No. 4 hut, and never mention it again.

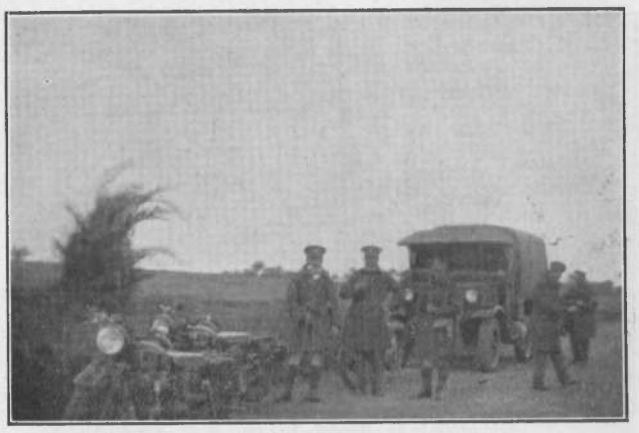
A very enjoyable W/T scheme to the Gulf of Suez, via the desert, enabled us to get a few hours in the water, and the older inhabitants to return without red necks and knees. On the return journey we picked up a native Camel Corps man who was joyfully hiking about twenty miles to get a train at Suez for three days leave in Cairo. We got him aboard and saved his train fare.

The annual spring clean for the big parade is about to commence, and excuses for exemptions are many and varied.

News of the boat is still awaited, but everyone is talking about the 13th April.



The Visual Station on Toussoum Jetty.



M.T. Homeward Bound.

I nearly forgot to mention the kind offer of Sergt Wintermere to conduct a climbing party over the mountain at Bir Sukhna.

This month's tall story: Derby have a football team.

Command Signal Section : No. 1 Company.

This is our first appearance in THE WIRE, and our first piece of news is the great achievement of the Signal Troop's gigolo in wangling his way to *the* Section, where he soon assumed the role of Section snooper. One of his first actions was to stand outside the Section officer's office and declaim to the Section storeman in a loud voice on his sporting abilities. [Was this overheard by the Section officer ? No, it wasn't.]

Agony.—Tep Costigane's crooning, Snorter's wireless, Beardall's garden, and my sending.

Queries.—McClenaghan wishes to know if he can compete in the old soldiers' race, and why t'old Leyland Meek calls him the Great McGonagle. He also wonders what R.A. after his name means.

Who was the Leaguer found "nicely, thank you," at Christmas, with his league badge pinned on his back ?

How did the G.O.M. (Dicks) wangle into the Section ? A certain member of the Section wonders why he now refrains from buying him tea and wads.

Where did Costigane get his Dan Leno coat ?

What does Boylett carry in his little black bag ?

Sports.—At present we are going very well in the Pritchard cup, having won at tennis, cricket, cross-country and football, and losing at hockey and swimming.

Champs.—The " Believe it or not " cup has been won outright by that great Indian Frontier warrior, Sigmn Bill Bailey. Previous holders refused to compete after hearing a couple of Bailey's believe it or nots.

" K " Section : No. 3 Company.

Arrivals.—We welcome some reinforcements in Signalmen Douglas, Mann, Payne and Gorfin ; and as old Kay-ites realise, we can do with some spares, so we offer the usual Egyptian hand.

Many old faces are to be seen in these parts—among them L/Corpl Porky Edwards and Badgy Chambers, though we have not been favoured with their company this time.

Training.—At present we are Section training, testing No. 1 sets installed in civvy cars (Austin Tens), and everyone has been trying to smash them up on driving instruction. Local schemes and training the newcomers in helio sending and reading make up the spare time prior to proceeding to Moascar on Brigade training. Everyone is straining to keep the red below the black line on the traffic graph.

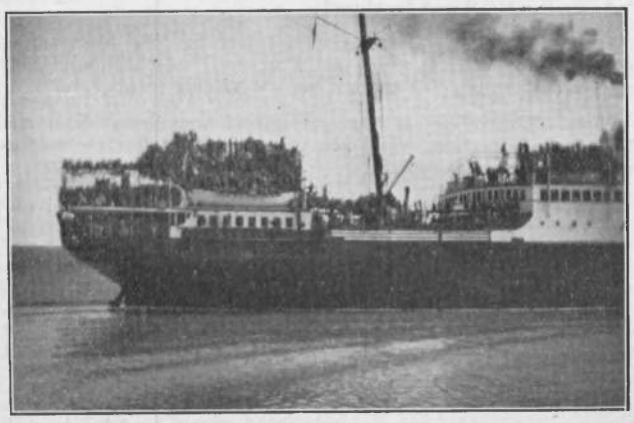
Agriculture.—Our example has been followed by No. 1 Company, who are planting gardens in front of the barrack rooms. In fact, the slogan " Come to Egypt in summer " will soon be universal, and " Drink in the N.A.A.F.I. Gardens " will be common to all.

Latest cries in this unit are at present about the boat, and the draft to Blighty are wondering if it will stop here this year. We wonder! SCHOOLIE.

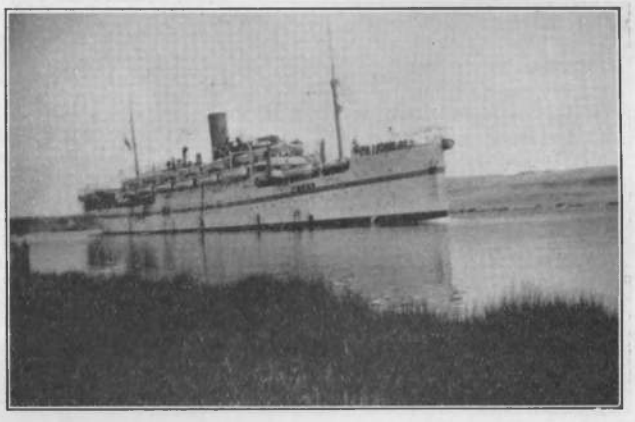
[*Later*]

Brigade Training.—The Section moved to Moascar for Brigade training on the 15th February—some by road and others by rail.

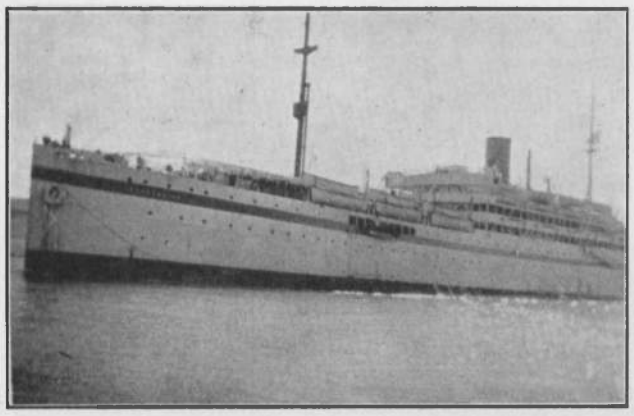
The defence of the Suez Canal from hostile Arab tribes was the main idea of the scheme, and we had some perfect " Arabs " in the Royal Scots Fusiliers. We established Brigade H.Q. at Toussoum on the side of the canal on Monday 17th February, and



An Italian Trooper passing through Suez Canal.



H.T. " Nevasa " Outward Bound.



H.T. "Dorsetshire" Homeward Bound.

communication by different methods to the Battalions. Night raids on our line by the Arabs, after we had securely dug it under, made everybody lose some sleep, especially our lineman Jimmy. The W/T No. 1 sets were utilised to establish communication within Battalion areas, and many can now say "east of Suez." What a holiday we had! Swimming and sun-bathing during off hours; and our Camera Club took full advantage of the time, snapping the "ships that pass," including troopers of well known names and memories. The new fatigue hats were in prominence (photos next issue) and everyone looked like clansmen.

We arrived back to guards and duties on the 24th February and are just settling down to local schemes and drill parades in the offing.

Agony.—Flossie and Johnny (B Corps): Are you still alive? Pedro.

We Should Like To Know.—Who thought he could speak through a telescope and see through a telephone? Who stood upside down to use a tele. 110? Why Tubby King did voluntary night watch on the jetty at Toussoum? Is "Spit it out" R/T procedure for "Pass your message"?

Heard Over The Radio.—S.O.S.: Will the anti-cyclones, last heard of over central Europe, please return to Greenland, where their mother is lying dangerously ill. SCHOOLIE.

"B" Cable Section: No. 3 Company.

General.—Once more I am trying to get into communication with you. This time, I hope I succeed; somehow, the notes for the past few months went astray.

The new year still finds us happy and content. Although we keep a few horses (as pets) we have hopes of losing them; but the drivers cannot decide whether to take on the job of Section commander, pay bloke or Mess orderly. In the past few weeks the linemen had a little instruction on permanent line, but whether it had the desired effect remains to be seen.



Our "Good Holiday."

Gardens are sprouting up in various parts of the unit. Ex-Egypt men who are contemplating a return to this most wonderful land, watch your steps when entering by the stable gates. You may think it is Ezbekieh Gardens; but, no! it is the transformation brought about by Farrier/Corporal Newman, ably assisted by L/Corpl Perree, with a few barrels and a good knowledge of the noble art of scrounging. What is the object of your labour, Shoey? Shufti! my gorgonzolas are taking root.

Congratulations to Driver Jarvis on being awarded his second class certificate of education, and also on his promotion to O.C. Section's groom. It is said that his head still aches.

[*Later*]

General.—The fore part of February was fairly active for the linemen. On the 10th and 11th two Cable Detachments were out to take part in schemes at Maadi. They went off in high spirits, equipped with nice new Primus stoves, a dinky little set of aluminium cooking utensils, and bags of grub.

The lines were put out and communication established in good time, "A" sub doing most of the laying; but they were well rewarded with posh grub, sergeant-major's tea, and a bonfire prepared by cooks Brown H. and Seymour. "B" sub did not fare so well, being in the danger area where no lights were allowed. Although a very appetising menu was planned, they did not sample the effort of Corpl Watson and Sigmn Dean, as the Primus stove had to be packed away before dark. They did, however, manage a stew which was voted "tahmam" by those who tasted it.

Then followed the days of running through the sixteen miles of cable used; and now, that being completed, we are looking forward to the next trip, if any. Drivers Lamb and Hughes, complete with limbers, horses and leg irons, were loaned to K Section, and from what we hear they had a very good time at Moascar. The Austin car, which some of us learned to love so well, has been returned to No. 1 Company, thus ending the career of our budding Malcolm Campbells.

Congratulations.—To Sigmn Longhurst (Waxie) on taking on for his pontoon. Well done, Joe! Who said you couldn't take it?—or is it the old spotted frock that holds the attractions?

A Record.—It was stated in some paper or other that a certain regiment claimed to have the tallest soldier in the British Army. I beg to differ, for he is here in the Cable Section according to this month's kit indent. Still, judge for yourselves. One pair of boots, size 8 ft. 6 in.; one boiler suit, size 56 ft. I sincerely hope the quarterbloke has no trouble with Pimlico. No wonder we are down on head ropes; he must have run out of lanyards.

Beat This.—A certain driver, about to transfer, received a letter from a girl friend in Australia. Having read it, he was heard to say "Do yer know, this girl couldn't speak English till I taught her." Chorus: "What language did she speak?" Answer: "Australian." (Loud laughter!)

Sport.—Our team is in strict training for the forthcoming athletics which decide the winners of the "best all-round Section" competition. At present we are holding third place.

Finis.—The office cat has just purred something about the Brigadier's inspection. Tell you more about it after the excitement. Cheerio, everybody! SPIDER.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Thursday 6th February.

General.—Greetings from the sun-kissed lads of Pulau Brani, with which we include similar felicitations (albeit reluctantly, but fired by their appalling lack of notes) from the sloths of Fort Canning and Changi.

Enterprise.—We think it quite possible that many old established matrimonial agencies in the land of our birth might well profit if they pause to ponder over the result of a poignant appeal

recently inserted in one of the local papers, couched (more or less) in the following terms: " Would-be suitors in Malaya. Planters bemoan their lonely lives. (By our Special Confidant.) Planters and such-like settlers in Malaya, after many years of stoic resistance, have at last acknowledged the necessity of having the fair sex within their pale. Why, they ask, should not some of England's teeming surplus come and make our lives less lonely ?"

Of course, there were yards and yards about the life and such forth, but that is beside the point. Apparently, the appeal was taken up by a sympathetic public further afield from our little State, with the result that some two dozen Australian " never say die " beauties came to this " for men only " land in joyous anticipation. We cannot definitely say whether or not they were successful, and it is more rumour than fact that Highlands (a popular health resort of the idle rich of Malaya) is at present inundated with honeymooning clerics. However, the scheme was undoubtedly original and its appeal irresistible, and it is to be hoped that any knots recently tied will remain secure. In passing, we would like to say that the said beauties entirely overlooked this little isle where forlorn dejecteds anxiously await them at Ordnance Pier. Cheer up, lads. Remember the next draft.

Arrivals.—Mr. Victor Solley per M.L. *Theodore Frazer* on 20/1/36. We hope he finds this emerald isle to his liking. He has arrived to relieve Sergt Watmore of some of his numerous clerical duties in the Section office.

It is expected that Sergt Finney will shortly be relieving Sergt Watmore, who in turn will go to Fort Canning to wrestle with the intricacies of M.T. accounting. Accordingly we welcome Sgt Finney with open arms and empty pockets, reminding him that one of his duties is to ensure our pockets never getting empty again. Of course, it's hardly his fault that we get only 8.57 dollars for £1, but we know he will do his best.

The Flowers of The " Florist."—And so they've departed (for better or for worse) for the better 'ole. Corpl (Taffy) Ellis and Signalmen Barnes, Davis, Riley and Smith per H.T. *Dorsetshire* on 1/2/36. We wish them bon voyage (five weeks and two days of it) and trust they will be happy in their new stations. Will those who are fortunate (?) enough to receive Signalman Barnes enquire whether he took Nell Gwynn ? L/Corpl Pearson, too (smiling bravely) and Signalmen Blunt, Mottershead and Parker collected their beloved C sets and struck out north-by-north-east for Changi—the " snip " station, so they tell me. Sigmn Holmes left a week previously, to prepare the Changi lads for the worst. And, lastly, Mr. (Jock) Currie trotted away to Fort Canning to gain more knowledge and to be able to venture further afield. Good luck to you all in your various spheres. P.B. can still hold 'em back.

Aux Armes! Aux Armes!—When the call went up, the old lags were all present—but they were not there to kill. No, sir! just to learn how to kill, under the able instruction of Corporal Walker (late of 2nd Div., Shanghai, and the Depot—don't we know it!) Three times a week for the next few weeks. Roll on, 24/2/36.

Seen and Heard.—Sergt Collins, snooping around, gathering bits here and there for his faithful " never let you down " C mk. 1 sets. Corpl Walker has developed the habit, too, for that concoction of wire he's building (he says it's a short wave set—Pioneer Walker's tropical equatorial ether searcher, two valves, one flash-light battery).

Malaya Calling 2nd Divl Signals ('Shot).—With reference to your " passing of a great warrior," Corporal Hiram K. replies: Thanks very much, Corpl Smith, for the compliments, etc. ; but I'm afraid that, owing to the festive season being held immediately on our arrival, I simply *had* to entertain the old lags with a few of my tales fresh from England.

On the trip out, Signals held a very important twenty-four hour watch from Southampton to Singapore: sweepers. Sergt Collins and Corporals Walker and Durand, sweepers three. Sergt Collins, by the way, was known on board as Chief Broom No. 1.

Conclusion.—Cheerio, everybody. X.314 next month.

T.B.C.



Tientsin Signal Section.

During the last month we took a fond farewell of the maskee draft—yes, another maskee draft. It seems they are all maskee drafts which leave Tientsin for Blighty.

The following is a list of Signal ex-Tinsinners: Corporals McLaren and Lauriere, L/Corpl Metcalf, Signalmen Allen, Eastwood, Fill, Griffiths, Lewin, Newton, Powell and Terry. We hope they find a congenial Div. at home, but think they will miss the lights o' Tientsin.

A smoking concert was held in the junior staff mess, and thanks are extended to those who contributed songs and ditties—especially Eastwood for his rendering of " Land of hope and glory." (What a singer! Home Divs., please note: get him to sing it some time. You will then know what I mean.) The refreshments disappeared with amazing rapidity, and at 12.30 a.m. "Auld Lang Syne " was more or less tunefully sung—and so to bed.

We also lost Sigmn Blackett, posted to Shanghai, and Sigmn Harden, posted to Hong Kong. To each of them, we wish the best of luck in their new stations.

After the old hands left, it was a case of all hands to the wheel for a time until the new men arrived. The Tientsin Detachment was reduced to six men, and the Peking Detachment to seven. Double duties were the order of the day until the 25th January. On that day we came up to strength again with the arrival of Sergt Atkinson, wife and child ; Corpl Hall ; L/Corpl Govey ; Signalmen Bloom, Davies, Harrop, Keene, Little, McGinley, Songhurst, Welchman and Verlander from England, and Sigmn Armstrong from Shanghai. To each of them, we extend a hearty greeting. We hope their stay in Tientsin or Peking will be a pleasant one.

Sports.—A few sportsmen arrived with the last draft, and so hopes are high with regard to hockey and soccer. We have played only two League matches at hockey, and in each case were well and truly trounced by the Tientsin Club (home 5—0, away 12—0). In the Capstan soccer cup we were knocked out by 3—0 ; but in the last soccer match, played against G.U.F.C., we were successful by 3—1. It's quite a change to have a win. The encouragement is certainly needed here.

The weather is still cold, but nothing like so severe as it has been. One day the thermometer registered one degree above zero, the maximum temperature being less than ten degrees. We know now why they issue fur caps here. Now, however, we are all waiting for summer and the tennis season.

Indoor sports are still popular, ping pong predominating. Old hands will be pleased to know that a few good players came out in the last draft—one of them being exceptionally good. The old duels for drinks and fags have been revived, showing a slight increase in the rebate. Darts and shove-ha'penny hold second place, while skittles vie with knock-out whist for third place. The rattle of the dice over the ludo board is seldom heard now, but wait until the matloes come up to see us. The last whist drive held in the mess was a huge success—the best we have held this season, both for attendance and good fun.

There is only one agony this month, and that is to Jock Morris from Blanchard: Heard about your bad luck from Harrop. Please write and send address.

Cheerio, everybody! TICH.

[*Continued at foot of col 2 page 170*]

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

56 Regency Street, S.W.1.

News of the annual training camp is already circulating, and we are glad to find Manston scheduled as our home for the period of 9th to 23rd August. Although the place is unchanged, this year's camp will be entirely different as we shall be under canvas. It is some years since we were last under canvas, and many of our members will find it a new experience ; we hope it will also be enjoyable. Rumour has it that our scheme at camp will also be unique, and although no details are available we can look forward to a particularly interesting camp.

We hope to have a good attendance at Easter camp, which will be held at Blackdown with our good friends the 1st A.A. Defence Brigade Signals. To the enthusiasts who regularly attend Easter camp, no further comment is necessary ; but we should like to suggest that our recruits would find this camp a very good breaking-in ground for the more strenuous summer camp. It is essentially a training camp in every respect, particularly in those small points which can only be learned from actual experience. A number of recruits have started their Territorial career with an Easter camp, and they still come. We can think of no better recommendation to the others.

Captain E. Boggis, M.B.E., has recently left us to join the Royal Engineers (Searchlights). Although we shall miss him, we are glad to know that he is still concerned with Air Defence. We wish him good luck.

Congratulations to Captain A. H. Croucher and Lieut. H. Scarborough on their recent achievement in passing their promotion examinations. Perhaps they will now resume their normal expression and cease wandering round headquarters with a look of intense concentration on their faces. But we hear so many rumours, however, of new ideas to be introduced at headquarters that we fear this super-intelligent attitude is bound to spread.

A very successful reunion of old comrades took place on Wednesday 26th February, when the annual general meeting of the Westminster Branch was held, followed by a smoking concert. The General Secretary gave the Branch a short outline of the work of the Signals Association during the past year, and indicated that opportunities of employment for skilled men had improved.

H.S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

H.Q., Norton St., Brooks's Bar, Manchester 16.

There is very little to tell this month. The unit scribe is away on a fifteen days attachment to the 1st Divl Signals, and it has fallen to me to tell the tale. If it had not been for others sending in reports of other events, I'm afraid there would be nowt to say.

Unit Hot Pot Supper.—This was held on Saturday 22nd Feb., and a real good " do " it was. Mr. Jones provided a first class supper, and this was followed by an entertainment, arranged by Lieutenant McVittie, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. During the evening our commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. S. Ashley, told us what he expected of us during the coming year, and we feel sure he will not be disappointed.

Old Comrades Reunion.—From London and distant parts of the country came old comrades of the Great War to the annual reunion and supper of the 42nd (E.L.) Divisional Signal Old Comrades Association on Saturday 29th February at the Carlton Restaurant, Manchester.

Prior to hot pot, beer and conviviality, the annual business meeting was held, when a satisfactory report and balance sheet were presented by the chairman of committee (Mr. H. Willcock, D.C.M.) and secretary (Mr. P. E. Parker). Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., D.L., A.M.I.E.E., was re-elected president, and Major A. Roberts, M.C., Lieut.-Colonel G. N. Robinson, T.D., Major P. C. Fletcher, M.C., T.D., J.P., and Capt T. G. Halsall, vice-presidents.

On assembling at the festive board, the president recited the names of " our fallen comrades " of the 42nd Divisional Company R.E., and a silent tribute was paid to their memory.



Illustration used on the Menu Card for the Unit Hot Pot Supper.

Mr. J. A. Hill eloquently proposed the health of the president, congratulating him on his recent honour in being appointed Deputy-Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster.

In reply, Colonel Newton said that the large attendance that evening showed that the spirit of friendship and loyalty of the old Signal Company still existed, and he trusted that it would long continue. As years rolled on, associations of the past and old friendships became more and more valuable, and he was particularly glad to see those old members who had travelled from far afield. It had been a great privilege to have served throughout the war in the old Signal Company, and he appreciated being president of the Association very deeply.

The guests of the evening included Lieut.-Col. W. S. Ashley, Major C. B. Delaney, Captain T. A. H. Lea, M.M., Lieut.-Q.M. J. McVittie, R.S.M. Brooks A. E., and Sergeant Etheridge H. O. (representing 42nd Divisional Signals T.A.).

In reply to the toast proposed by Captain T. G. Halsall, Lieut.-Colonel Ashley said that the present Signal unit was up to strength and had a waiting list, and that under his command it was endeavouring in every way to maintain the high traditions and fine spirit of the war-time Company. He gave an interesting description of the development in instruments since the war, except for his cable wagons, which he thought must have been used on the Gallipoli Peninsula. Colonel Ashley cordially invited old members to attend the annual prize distribution at Royal Signal headquarters.

Later in the evening Colonel Ashley showed some interesting cinematograph films of his unit in camp at Kinmel Park in 1930 and at Caernarvon in 1935.

In submitting the toast of the old Company, Major Delaney expressed his admiration of its record and the inspiring effect which it had on the young Territorial soldiers of to-day. This was acknowledged by Mr. J. E. Campbell, late R.E., who was the first sergeant-instructor to the Company in 1908. Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Manley, T.D., commanding the 54th (East Anglian) Divl Signals, T.A., and a former sergeant of the old Company, also spoke.

Messrs. Roscoe, Costell and Racle, of the old Blue Birds concert party, contributed to the harmony, and many old stories were

told during the evening, which was undoubtedly an entirely successful reunion.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

Editorial.—The atmosphere in our various drill halls during the past month has been somewhat tense, in that those taking part in the paid classes for operators were putting the finishing touches to their efforts to wrest more pence from the Treasury by passing the trade test for operators. The tests have been carried out in the three Companies, and the results are awaited.

No noticeable increase in the numbers taking part in the classes and submitting themselves has been observed, but it is hoped that the next individual training period will produce an enlarged attendance. The monotony of learning Morse in the early stages is well recognised, and every effort is being made to produce a still more varied programme.

The paid classes for linemen and other trades are now in full swing, and attendances appear to be equal to previous occasions. Here, again, one hopes to see greater numbers coming forward in future.

Section training will follow the cessation of these latter classes at the end of the month.

Officers.—A second successful S.E.W.T. was held in the Seaton area during the week-end 22nd/23rd Feb. A good attendance was recorded, and the adjutant produced an interesting exercise.

Colonel X, who commanded the force with which we had to deal during the week-end, came in for considerable criticism from some of the younger element, which indicates that the lessons intended to be taught were being learnt, although the method of learning might appear superficially to be somewhat unorthodox. We were accommodated within sight and sound of the Channel waves, but no one was sufficiently venturesome to avail himself of the opportunity offered in Orders for optional bathing at 07.00 hrs. on the Sunday!

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Training.—The trade test for operators was held on the 5th March. Linemen and other trade paid classes are now in full swing, and so far show keen attendances.

Social.—The main item to record this month is that the long awaited Men's Institute came into being a few weeks ago. The Company commander officially opened the room, which was filled to capacity: twelve men. Extremely small though it is, we look forward hopefully to securing better accommodation in the future.

Departures.—We are sorry to learn that we are losing Corpl Dear, who is going to London shortly. He is to be congratulated, however, on passing his examination in the Post Office, which has led to his promotion. He is one of our oldest members, having joined in 1928, and will certainly be missed by everybody. He was one of our leading boxers, and in this sphere we cannot afford to lose anyone. We are sorry, too, to lose Sigmn Hedley, who has also succumbed to the lure of the Metropolis. We wish them both good luck. Sigmn Pike R. A. has also departed, but in this case it is to join the R.A.F., and we wish him all success.

Football.—The team lost to Plymouth Y.M.C.A. on the 12th February after a hard game, in which they gave the Y.M.C.A. defence an anxious time in the second half. They finally went down, with colours flying, to the tune of 1—4 goals. They played Western National on the 26th February, winning by 5—0, but lost by 0—3 to Devonport Y.M.C.A. on the 4th March.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Training.—When these notes are in the hands of the printer, the operators test will have been held. The lads are all as keen as mustard, and judging from a cursory glance at the progress made, the test should produce some good results.

Section commanders are formulating their outdoor programme of training for their Sections. The light evenings having arrived, we are becoming al fresco minded and looking forward to the week-end outings.

Linemen and D.R.s are making satisfactory progress. Weapon training, the writer understands, has certainly produced some good material, and we sincerely hope the standard of efficiency will be maintained by these members.

The recruits recently enrolled are exceptionally enthusiastic. We are agreeably surprised at the attendance and zeal displayed since the commencement of the training season. The social side is developing rapidly; the members fully appreciate the facilities afforded for their recreation. One cannot but notice the desire to remain for recreation immediately upon completion of drill.

It is a real pleasure to see old and new members turning up regularly once again.



No. 2 Company N.C.O.s T.E.W.T., 1st March.

N.C.O.s Outdoor Exercise.—Despite the touch of wintry weather, there was an excellent muster of n.c.o.s on our first outdoor exercise, which was tactical without troops. The exercise was very instructive and appreciated by all concerned. It afforded the n.c.o.s an opportunity of solving the various problems that would probably confront them while in charge of their respective Sections. All concerned received immense benefit from the criticisms and observations made. The district of Winchester was chosen for the exercise, which was described to the writer as training de luxe—the lads travelling in streamline coaches to the war area. The atmosphere set us reminiscing until we were all brought back to earth again on meeting a miniature snowstorm at Hursley. The members of the party were rather apprehensive as to reaching home in adequate time to listen to His Majesty's speech, but, thanks to the landlord of an hotel at Kingsworthy, we were all enabled to listen in comfort prior to departing for home. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.



A Difference of Opinion at the N.C.O.s T.E.W.T.



Solving the Problem at the N.C.O.s T.E.W.T.

Children's New Year Party.—The party was voted a big success. It is a question as to who enjoyed this most: the parents or the kiddies. The excitement of the children amply rewarded all concerned for all their hard work. The function was fixed to take place during January, but was postponed owing to the death of King George.

The hall was gaily decorated, and the huge Christmas tree, brilliantly illuminated with nearly a hundred coloured lamps (arranged by ex-Sergt Cleverly G. of this Company—better known as George) added to the excitement of the children. Captain and Mrs. A. F. S. Fane welcomed the Company.

The guests had a bountiful tea. No effort was spared in making the party a success. After tea there were games, led by C.S.M.s Barraclough J. and Baker Z. A trumpet call heralded the great and eagerly awaited event of the evening: the arrival of Father Christmas—that role being filled by our esteemed C.S.M. Zack Baker. He certainly made an excellent Father Christmas.

Immediately upon the sonorous trumpet call of L/Corpl Owens, the lights were subdued and the room transformed into Fairyland. Excitement was now running high. Father Christmas could be discerned. Cheers!—and more cheers! With a wan smile, the old man related his arduous task in trying to reach the place. The children were intrigued and amazed—until (until!) a tiny tot exclaimed " That's my daddy, that is." Ooo-err!

However, Zack survived the ideal and did wonderfully well. Lights up, and all was well. His fatherly influence and his bag of presents soon changed the situation and compelled the attention of the tots. Well done, everybody!—not forgetting our P.S.I. C.Q.M.S. These two shared the duties of father to the party. We thank all concerned for the splendid time, especially the C.S.M.'s good lady.

There was an excellent programme of entertainment. There was a surprise item by Miss Joan Purseglove (the daughter of a former P.S.I.) who delighted the company with the music of her piano-accordion.

The families eagerly look forward to the event—not forgetting our old friends. BEGBIE.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals

Stamford Brook Lodge, W.6, 15/3/36.

Editorial.—The decision to increase the financial advantages which a Terrier enjoys is indeed a pleasant one, and will certainly assist in some measure in the difficult task of recruiting.

The possibility of men obtaining additional holidays with pay in order to attend annual camp is, I think, the chief point on which one should work. Many men at present attend training as their only holiday from the year's labour. If a man is married, this is sometimes not regarded with favour by his good spouse. There is plenty of scope for the improvement of T.A. conditions. Acting on this one line of thought alone might prove no waste of labour.

Officers' Dinner.—On the 29th February, the officers, in full force, attended a dinner held at H.Q. This date was originally allotted to their annual ball, which was subsequently cancelled. The dinner was limited to Mess members, and opportunity was taken during the evening to welcome the new C.O. The function was of a most pleasant nature, the menu perfect, the wine good; in fact, only words of praise can be spoken of the whole of the arrangements.

There is to be a Mess dinner held on the first Wednesday of every month. This is a welcome idea and will meet with strong approval.

Sunday Training.—Things happen, and happen with cheerfulness, when a day's training is in progress. Sunday 8th March proved no exception to the rule. It had been arranged for No. 1 Company to carry out a simple communication scheme. A very pleasing muster was recorded, and soon the countryside was alive with Signal activity. Everyone enjoyed the day's outing, and pleasing reports were made of the work carried out.

Recruiting.—Whilst the subject of recruits is so much to the fore in present conversation, it is pleasing to note that this unit is practically 100 per cent. strong. Several of our number are ex-Regulars. Such members are a distinct asset, and any man who may wish to continue his Army connections will always receive a warm welcome from the 44th Divl Signals.

Tit-Bits.—A Scotsman who obtained a post as a night watchman promptly sold his pyjamas.

It is quite untrue that the wireless lorry found heading for Oxford was endeavouring to obtain inside information on the boat race prospects. 0020.

D.R.s Meet Again.—The following article appeared in " Motor Cycle " of 12/3/36 and is reproduced here by kind permission.

POST-WAR DESPATCH RIDERS TO BE
INVITED TO JOIN THE ASSOCIATION.

Recently members of the Association of R.E. Despatch Riders met once again in London; it was the occasion of the sixth annual reunion dinner. Over four hundred D.R.s from all over the British Isles attended, and Lord Sandhurst, O.B.E., took the chair.

An important decision regarding the future of the Association was made following Lord Sandhurst's speech. He pointed out that it was inevitable, as time went by, that the numbers of those who were despatch riders in 1914—1918 would decrease. But they must keep the old spirit of the D.R.s alive. The suggestion, therefore, was that despatch riders who had served in the Royal Corps of Signals since the war should be invited to become members on leaving the Service. Also, those D.R.s now serving in the Territorial Forces, attached to Signal Companies, should be afforded similar facilities. The assembly approved this proposal by a huge majority.

This abstract will, I feel sure, prove of much interest to all D.R.s. The suggestion that T.A. members should be asked to join the Association is a very generous one and most worthy of acceptance. In my opinion, the movement should be encouraged.

Unit Activities.—In spite of the weather, which is still decidedly wintry, things are commencing to move at H.Q. The symptoms heralding the approach of summer are beginning to be audible. On Sunday 8th March, No. 1 Company had a gratifying muster for the first scheme of the season. At Southgate, L Section supported the good cause and paraded for a similar reason. K Section are to give a further exhibition of energy on the 15th March.

Bon Sante.—I have just listened to Mr. A. Duff-Cooper speaking over the radio on the recruiting problem. The re-introduction of the old scale of bonus is most encouraging.

One of the greatest problems in connection with recruiting is linked with the employers. If it were possible for men to be given time (with pay) to attend annual training, quite apart from their routine holidays—as has been mooted—the T.A. might easily have waiting lists with as many names as they now have vacancies. One realises that the loss to a small employer might probably be prohibitive, but a form of compensation might be suggested in these circumstances. Many men who attend annual camp are called upon to make sacrifices, and naturally such obstacles do not tend to bolster up recruiting.

Tough.—Paying excess postage on literature in connection with a scheme.

Agony.—Jock, Sialkot: Have now saved a penny, and only want another halfpenny before I am able to write. Jim.

POLYH.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Phœnix Street, Derby, 10/3/36.

Our Notes.—Some considerable time has elapsed since any notes were submitted by this unit for publication in our Corps Journal. It is now our intention, however—with the co-operation of all concerned—to submit for inclusion in THE WIRE items which will be of interest to all readers.

The Unit.—Perhaps it would be better to begin by stating what's what and who's who.

The Headquarters of the unit and No. 1 Company are at Derby. No. 2 Company is at Chesterfield, as is also the 236th Field Artillery Signal Section. No. 3 Company is at Nottingham.

The commanding officer is Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood, the adjutant is Captain E. Levett, and the quartermaster is Lieut. W. O'Brien. The permanent staff includes R.S.M. Jackson J. and Sergeant Field E. G. at Derby, C.S.M. Pronger W. G. at Chesterfield, and Sergt Ellis J. H. at Nottingham.

Annual Camp, 1936.—Once more we are going to Redcar. The 236th Field Artillery Signal Section will accompany us. We were at this salubrious spot last year with the 49th (West Riding) Divl Signals. We shall miss them badly this year, as they are training at Catterick Camp; but we have no doubt that we shall still have a very enjoyable and successful camp, and all are looking forward to it.

Training.—Since January commenced, we have been in the throes of winter training. The officers have been undergoing a strenuous course of lectures, and the w.o.s and n.c.o.s have been polishing up their drill on a course held for that purpose; all of which, we hope, will show at camp to have been worth while. All other ranks are now busy on a technical training course, and looking forward to the trade ratings they hope to obtain at the end of it.

Conclusion.—Having got this down, it doesn't look too grand; but it is a start and is something attempted. We hope by practice to improve, and intend to try to make a monthly contribution.

L.S.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and affiliated No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals.

Fulham House, High St., Fulham, S.W.6, 13/3/36.

General.—Nothing of much importance has happened since we penned our last notes. The pre-Easter training is drawing to a close, and the Trade Board to be held on the 22nd March will show how many have made good in consequence of the tuition given so painstakingly by the instructors during the past three months.

We are very pleased to report that recruits are steadily coming along. Furthermore, they are attending parades very regularly and, judging by their keenness and performance, appear to be shaping into excellent soldiers.

Oh! we mustn't forget to tell you a little piece of news that trickled through recently. We have been informed (officially) that we are to become Corps Signals. So far, good! We are now eagerly awaiting the next item on the menu.

Officers.—It is with much regret that we have to report the resignation of our hon. colonel, Colonel J. G. Fleming, C.B.E., D.S.O. At the same time we welcome Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., as our new hon. colonel. He commanded this unit from 1928 to 1931, after which he was appointed D.C.S.O. London District. His vast experience and extensive knowledge of all matters pertaining to the Corps and its work will be of the greatest benefit to this unit in his new appointment.

The following officers of the T.A. Reserve of Officers have retired: Captains C. W. Hume, M.C., and A. P. Rice-Jones, D.S.O. (age limit), and L. J. Clarke, M.C. (business reasons). We hope these officers will still pay frequent visits to this unit.

Sergeants Mess.—Here, too, nothing of very great import has occurred lately. We are pleased to welcome L/Sergt Kelly F. back to the fold again, and hope he will settle down now and remain with us for a long time to come.

Promotions.—Congratulations to L/Corporals Harmes, Catt, Gutteridge, Ramsey and Chivers on being promoted Corporals. We hope the additional stripe will fill them with extra zeal.

Social.—We had a most enjoyable Leap Year carnival dance on the 29th February. A very large number of dancers attended and spent a really hectic evening. Whether any "poor fish" was hooked by a "leap-lady" we cannot say, but we shouldn't be at all surprised.

Football.—A team from the 1st Divl Signals is coming up from Aldershot on the 28th March to play our fellows on our ground at Old Deer Park, Richmond. We will tell you all about it next month.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham 11.

Despatch Riders.—The winter season closed with a treasure hunt which took place on Sunday 16th February. The course had been cunningly laid by 2/Lieut. Fellowes, assisted by C.S.M. Bardoe, in the area approximately between Stratford and Warwick. The first pair to get away from Cateswell House were Sergt Goffe and Sigmn Hadnett, the remainder following closely in pairs. The first clue presented no difficulty and the second was not far away. On the way to the third, our leading syndicate appeared travelling at great speed in the wrong direction. Evidently someone had blundered. The water splash was voted great fun, especially by Sigmn Piece, who had to get out and push. A little later he was observed by the roadside, finding out how his engine worked (or didn't). About three syndicates eventually found the treasure, although on the whole I think they were disappointed with it. The final rendezvous for lunch was at "The Four Alls," Welford-on-Avon.

For the return journey, Captain Simpson decided to practise convoy patrols, but as the convoy (with Mr. Fellowes' sports model in the lead) insisted upon a modest 45 m.p.h. the escort found some difficulty in keeping it in sight in the fog, so that when Mr. Fellowes did really lose his way he found the escort wasn't playing.

The D.R. Club give two items on the programme for the next few weeks. First, there is to be a small trial, which is still being considered; and secondly, there will be a carnival dance on Easter Tuesday.

The Club is now prepared to accept as associate members any other motor cyclists in the unit, who will be entitled to most of the privileges open to D.R. members and will be allowed to carry a badge.

Sergeants Mess.—It was decided that the dance arranged for last month should be abandoned owing to the Royal bereavement. There will be two dances this month: a carnival on the 14th and another on the 28th.

Members of the Mess tender their grateful thanks to the commanding officer for his kind gift of the signed photograph of H.R.H. Princess Royal.

The most popular event of the year for the Mess, the officers' invitation to supper, took place on the 29th February and, as usual, absentees among either the officers or sergeants were very few.

Following the toasts of "The King" and "The Princess Royal," R.S.M. Newman rose to thank the C.O. and officers for their excellent hospitality. He referred also to the inevitable parting with two great friends of the unit, which would have to take place within the next twelve months, in the persons of the C.O. and the adjutant. He hoped that Colonel Holdsworth would not forget us when his tour of duty came to an end, and to Major Totterdell he wished success in his new sphere of action as the "uncrowned king of Runswick Bay."

In response, Colonel Holdsworth made an apt and witty speech in which he affirmed that the officers got quite as much kick out of the event as did the sergeants. In recalling the events of the year, he said it had been a most successful one. At the Jubilee parade, the unit was able to give the infantry units a lesson in marching which they had not yet forgotten. The unit had gone to camp in greater strength than ever before in its history, and had also taken in a greater number of recruits. Referring to the

twenty-four hour scheme, he recalled how Major P. H. Jones, who had planned it all, had thoughtfully established the main strategic point at " The King's Arms," which everyone was determined to hold to the last round. The Cable Section had their line through in time for the opening, and they were ready for it. The D.R. strength had increased from four to twenty-four, which went to show that the Signals move with the times. Even the adjutant had bought a car. In many things we were actually twelve months ahead of the Army. The instructors courses, which we originated years ago, had now become standardised by the War Office. The unit had earned an excellent report, which laid stress on the great keenness and spoke of us as a really good unit.

In noting the unavoidable absence of Captain F. E. B. Jones, he was pleased to inform us that Captain Jones recently sat for his examination for promotion to Major and had distinguished himself by coming out on top. His only weakness, curiously enough, lay in the writing of a m . . . . (but, no, perhaps we'd better not say).

The Colonel then went on to say a word or two about the C.S.M.s. He was very sorry to note that we were about to lose the services of C.S.M. Realf, who had reached the age limit. He had been a member of the unit since its inception in 1908, and we owe him a debt of gratitude for loyal and distinguished service. C.S.M. Langham, he was pleased to observe, was sitting pretty, and C.S.M. Ryder was still capable of taking his evening glass of milk.

The C.O. then presented to the Mess a signed photograph of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, neatly framed. He also presented efficiency medals to Sergeants Simpson and Tapper (of the S.R.), Woolleston and Stevens.

C.Q.M.S. Galpin, on behalf of the Mess, presented Major Totterdell with a case of pipes as a memento. The Major, blushing to the roots of his hair, thanked the sergeants for their gift, which he would enjoy as he sat by the fire " in the old bowler hat." He also thanked the sergeants for the co-operation which they had given him in the past, saying that for such praise as had come his way he had to thank the n.c.o.s in large measure. He made special reference to Sergt Bromhall. Finally he appealed to the n.c.o.s to give the same, or even greater, assistance to his successor.

The remainder of the evening was taken up by a freak whist drive which caused great amusement. When the score cards were collected, it was found that most of them were illegible, so the winners were selected at random and suitable prizes presented.

The central figure of the evening was, of course, Major Totterdell, who was given a great ovation which pointed the esteem and affection in which he is held by everyone.

Comment: " The loud laugh that speaks the vacant mind " (No. 13 table).

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—Anticipation of an increased bounty has already had its effect, and a lot of really useful lads are eager to join. It is gratifying to know this Company has reached " full house " and instituted a waiting list which already contains several names. We can assure these men that vacancies will be found for them very shortly.

Training.—Obligatory training is in full swing, and the attendance, although not one hundred per cent, has increased over that of last year for the same period. We hope this excellent effort will be maintained throughout the season. There are a few good lads taxing their grey matter to the limit, and we wish them the best of luck in the preliminary trade tests.

Shooting.—The competition for the P.S. shield is causing great fun, and the fight between Snake Eye "A" and Dead Eye " B " Sections is very keen. I am not prepared to forecast the result or who will eventually represent the Company, but, judging by their efforts *and* remarks, both of them will do so.

Badminton.—We should like some definite information from Headquarters. Is it true that they have enlisted the services of a professional player to teach them the " finer arts " before they meet the respective Companies? and are they getting in some private practice during these dark dismal nights?

" Birds that flutter, birds that fly ;
Good '*evans*! how that man does try."
—(*With apologies to G.B.S.*)

D'TON.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

Training.—The n.c.o.s course finished on Tuesday 3rd March. They were passed out by Major Sheffield and congratulated on their smartness and efficiency.

Pre-camp training commenced on Thursday 5th March. There was quite a good number on parade, and after doing a spot of buzzer reading and running through cable, we were given the usual pre-camp welcome and words of advice by the O.C.

The annual camp which was arranged for Whitby has been changed. The site will now be at Redcar—the dates, of course, remaining the same: 14/6/36 to 28/6/36.

A week-end training course is to be held in the drill hall on the 14th and 15th March.

Boxing.—We congratulate our boxing team on the fine display they put up at Darlington for the Dent cup, which this year goes to No. 3 (Gateshead) Company, to whom we offer our heartiest congratulations.

The unit team made a very good effort in the Divisional boxing cup tournament and only lost by a narrow margin of points.

Shooting.—The shooting is attracting quite a number to come and practise on Friday nights, and by the time we have to fire for the P.S. shield, we will have a really good team together—so good, in fact, that we have already marked the spot on which to hang the shield.

We entertained the R.E.s team on Friday night, 6th March, and although we were well beaten, we had a really good time.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death of Victor, the son of Sigmn Harriss E. R., to whom we extend our sincere sympathy. MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Training.—The n.c.o.s drill and duties course came to an end on the 4th March. Excellent progress has been made, and the n.c.o.s have responded well, the energies of the P.S.I. being taxed to the limit. We sincerely hope that all concerned will maintain this effort throughout the drill season.

Week-End Exercise.—The senior n.c.o.s finished up their drill and duties course with a week-end at Darlington. We thoroughly enjoyed this, and hasten to thank Headquarters for providing such an excellent and well balanced period of work.

Drills.—The drill season commenced on the 9th March, and true to tradition, we had a good turn out. The n.c.o.s put plenty of backbone into their work to get everyone ready for an early camp.

Boxing.—All members of the Company congratulate the unit boxing team on putting up an excellent show and gaining second place in the 50th Divisional boxing tournament. Keep it up, lads ; we'll have that cup back again next year.

Discharges.—Sergeant Watts took his discharge from the Company on the 20th February after completing fifteen years service. We all wish him the very best and hope to see him at Elmgrove Terrace occasionally. FIFTEEN TWO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks.

During the past month we have been continuing winter training with a course for cadre n.c.o.s, linemen and D.R.s, and an operators course. A sixty hour course is still running and will continue until the end of March, when we hope to be able to record the results of our labours with extra coloured discs on the establishment board. By way of enlightenment: the trades are shown on the board in question with different coloured discs, normal rates being shown with white ones.

Individual training commences on the first Tuesday in April. We are all looking forward to a very successful training year, which the winter preparation promises.

The recruits commenced their training on the 10th March, under an instructor who has just completed a successful course in drill and weapon training with the Depot, The Gordon Highlanders.

Entertainments.—The Company held a smoking concert on the 21st February. The services of the strathspey and reel orchestra were procured, and their rendering of reels and other music was very much appreciated. Songsters and performers were also not lacking in talent, and the affair went off with a swing. The excellent programme was not strictly adhered to. (Is a smoking concert programme ever ?) Nevertheless, there was a good variety, and looking at the performers one would think that auditions were a part of their daily business. The commanding officer, the O.C. Company and officers and a good muster of the Company attended.

The warrant officers and sergeants also held a dance on the 28th February. It was a very successful evening, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The C.O. and the officers were present, but we regret that it was not possible for our hon. colonel to attend.

Exercises.—The Company provided the communications for a war game which was held by the 153rd Infantry Brigade Headquarters at the 4th Gordons' drill hall. It was excellent practice for all branches of the Service who attended. An amusing incident occurred when Captain Reid (in the role of a Tommy, complete with steel helmet and rifle, who was supposed to have gone " balmy " under the strain of war) forced his way past the sentry and burst into Brigade H.Q., intent on shedding the blood of the Brigadier. He was immediately pounced on by the Brigade clerk and the sergeant of the guard. The three of them subsided in a heap on the floor amid the loud laughter of all present. At this moment, however, the scheme ended and we were deprived of any further entertainment from the trio. ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—The courses for operators and linemen have now finished, and candidates for the Trade Board have been through the O.C. Company's test and await with some confidence the Trade Board on the 10th March.

The special trips made by the telephone wagon detachment and linemen on Sundays have been very popular. See your own county first!

A despatch riders course will be starting in the near future, when our new motor cycles are delivered. The list of volunteers for D.R. training was soon closed.

Recruiting.—The Company is now only two under strength, and a waiting list is being prepared to fill vacancies with selected men.

Sport.—The Company team gave a good account of themselves in the first shoot for the inter-Company cup, and await the publication of the results with interest.

It is rumoured that H.Q. are sending a badminton team to visit us. We assure them of a welcome.

Comings and Goings.—We bade farewell to Sergt Pendergast (from Scottish Command) this month. He has given us much help in the Company's winter training. We welcome Corpl Hair (Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) who is to be in charge of the drill instructors course. Our C.S.M. is shortly leaving for a ccurse with the 1st Divl Signals. It is rumoured that he has been requested to take with him his " steps " (Highland fling, assorted) that helped so much to brighten recent mornings at Aberdeen.

Footnote.—Since writing the above, news has been received that we obtained 100 per cent. passes at the recent Trade Board. Well done, all! TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Winter courses have ended, and recruit training will commence on the 16th March. We still require a few recruits to bring us up to strength, but as we are getting one or two enlisted each week, we hope to proceed to camp 100 per cent. strong.

Rifle Club.—The Club will close at the end of this month after a very successful first season. It is now well established, and with continued support ought to run for many years.

The last Company medal competition is still in progress, and as there are already three cards for re-shoot a keen struggle is assured.

Entertainments.—On Thursday 20th February we held our annual smoking concert, which had been postponed on account of the death of His Majesty King George V. Each member of the Company was invited to bring two friends, and judging by the applause received by the performers, everyone enjoyed it.

The programme was very varied, including songs, recitations, jazz band, ventriloquist, conjurer, and community singing. Special mention must be made of the ventriloquist, who reminded us of our friends of No. 1 Company: he had a strong Aberdeen accent. Another star turn was the conjurer who did many weird and wonderful tricks.

The *piece de resistance*, however, was Professor Drinkwater (it's a libel) alias S.M. Swatton and his No. 3 Company jazz band, who gave us several popular songs in which everyone joined. The professor was smartly attired in a natty frock coat and bowler hat of unknown vintage.

At the conclusion Capt. Wood said a few words and emphasised the many advantages of joining the 51st (H.) Divl Signals.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

George Terry.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of George Terry, who retired from the position of R.S.M. of our units in 1929. George had seen much service in his day. He served in the Royal Engineers and, of course, in our own Corps, terminating his service with the Lowland Signal units. He will long be remembered at Jardine Street because of his cheerful and generous nature. On leaving the Army, George took up a good post at Mearnskirk Hospital under the Glasgow Corporation, and there were many of us who hoped for a long and successful civil career for one who had served us so well. This was not to be. George Terry was laid to rest in Newton-mears Cemetery on the 6th March.

Film Fun.—There is no limit to the efforts being made to provide suitable entertainment for our lads during the winter months. We have had two film shows recently. There was a special exhibition of Post Office films, and an all round talkie show provided the bill of fare on the 4th March. The shows were well attended and greatly appreciated. We are grateful to those who devised this form of entertainment for our benefit.

Major Giblin.—The promotion of our good friend to the rank of Major has given much satisfaction at Jardine Street. Major Giblin's work as adjutant of the Lowland Signal units has indeed been praiseworthy, and their present efficient state is due in no small measure to his influence. We believe that we are one of the largest organisations of our kind in the Corps, and it can be well said that the post of adjutant is no sinecure. It is one requiring a man of personality, experience and enterprise, and Major Giblin is possessed of all those qualities. Many a good deed has he done. He has not been slow with the helping hand. It is no small wonder that we rejoice at his well-earned promotion.

Bumper Badminton.—We have high hopes for our Badminton Club this season. This is probably its best year on record. Recent encounters with Glasgow Tramways and Royal Engineers S.R. resulted in decisive wins for the Lowland Signals. The match with the Royal Engineers on the 18th February was a strenuous affair and was one of the best games ever witnessed at Jardine Street. The great game played by Signalmen McNicol and Provan against the Sappers cannot be overlooked. In those two lads we possess players of the first order. In our match with the 5th Cameronians we were not so successful. After a hard fought struggle we had to admit one of the few defeats of the season. However, this defeat will not deter us. We go forward with the sanguine hope that 1936 will prove a bumper badminton year.

Davie's Dilemma.—The seven lean years have passed. There is high revelry and rejoicing in the house of Davie. Sigmn Davie

(No. 1 Company T.A.) is now the proud father of a stalwart son. Those who hibernate in the Men's Club room also rejoice, for this event is regarded as indicating many pints to be drunk to the health of Davie the Second. Here's luck to the little lad!

Cross-Country.—The cross-country team are putting in some good spade work. While there is nothing outstanding to record, the team's continuous training activities cannot but be productive of good results. Their ambition centres round the Divisional cross-country championship.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff, 17/3/36.

Training goes on in a quiet fashion, whilst the newspapers are full of the wonderful things which may happen to the T.A. We only hope that the much needed rearrangement, or perhaps rebuilding, of these headquarters will be one of the things to take place.

All the class rooms have now been rewired by C.S.M. Greenwood, and Section training this year should be more on the lines of the real thing.

Welcome Home.—To Sergt Llewellyn W. E., M.M. He was discharged last year owing to the age limit, but the discharge has now been cancelled by the War Office. We are glad to have him with us again, and the shooting team has one of its best shots restored to it. Unfortunately, he missed camp last year for the first time since—someone said the Crimea; well, since the Boer war, anyway. Old soldiers never die.

Congratulations.—To Lieut. P. Fletcher on reaching the final in the heavy weight class in the T.A. section of the Army boxing championships. Unfortunately, he broke a bone in his hand and was unable to compete in the final. Also to Sigmn Moore S. D., who represented the Division in the welter weight. Although he failed to win his bout, he was, however, congratulated by the referee as a good loser.

Transfer.—L/Sergeant Cox E. E. has been transferred from L Section to the D.R.s. We are glad that the Section has again obtained a sergeant whose enthusiasm should do much to help in putting it on the map again.

There are still a few vacancies in the Section for those who wish to get in before the recruiting boom fills up the ranks.

Social.—The other ranks dance held on the 4th March was another successful venture. THE LEEK.

City of London Divisional Signals.

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

London Divisional T.E.W.T. and Signal Exercise at Bulford.—Eight of our officers attended the T.E.W.T. on the 7th and 8th February, but the main work of the London Divl Signals did not commence until the 8th.

One Infantry Brigade Signal Section and one Artillery Brigade Signal Section paraded at Signal House at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon and proceeded to Bulford by motor coach. At Bulford a very warm welcome awaited us in the lines of our hosts, the 3rd Divl Signals, and after supper and pay we settled in for the night.

After an early breakfast on Sunday morning, the troops (with the modern equipment borrowed from the 3rd Divl Signals) met their Section officers on the ground at 8.30 a.m. and the day's work commenced. It was unfortunate that Sections had come out prepared for *all* eventualities, for the communications for the exercise demanded the use of wireless and visual only, and no opportunity was given for the use of cable in the Infantry Brigade Section. It was, however, our first experience of running the communications of an Infantry Brigade with modern equipment, and the use of the No. 1 set cars certainly made things very much easier. The Artillery Brigade Section, by contrast, had no wireless but had the use of what we think is called a cable layer No. 3. This admirable gadget is a great advance on anything we have so far seen for laying and reeling up light cable. It worked so well that the reeling up party, who had a good many miles out, reached barracks only twenty minutes after everyone else at the conclusion of the exercise.

Full of good food and gratitude to Colonel C. P. Prescot and the 3rd Divl Signals, we returned to London on Sunday evening.

More than a hundred senior officers of the Division witnessed the exercise, and we hope that the contacts made with some of the units who have only recently joined the Division will give them the necessary confidence in their Divisional Signals.

Trade Board.—As the season of paid trade courses draws to an end, all ranks are working hard to go up a rate by the time that Easter training is over. Thirteen linemen have already passed for upgrading, and we understand from those responsible for the training of the linemen that this is only a preliminary list. The operators, with a preliminary list of seventeen, will have to look to their laurels if they are to secure the greatest number of promotions.

Despatch Riders.—The D.R.s are holding another trial on the 29th March, a report of which will be included in our next WIRE notes.

Easter Training.—This year, again, the unit hopes to enjoy the hospitality of the 2nd Divl Signals at Aldershot.

Camps: Supplementary Reserve.—The full programme of S.R. training is now available. Line of Communication Signals Headquarters, Headquarters No. 1 Company, No. 22 Construction Section, and No. 4 Company, all go to Seaford from the 9th to the 23rd August. No. 21 Construction Section goes to the Tidworth portion of Salisbury Plain from the 10th to the 24th May. Nos. 21 and 22 Cable Sections go to the Regular Army at Aldershot from the 10th to the 24th May. This looks uncommonly like the War Office exercise. C.O.L.S.

[*Continued from page* 163]

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD: *Continued.*

Malta Signal Section.

Valletta, 5th March.

Part One.—This heading is usually reserved for notes appertaining to work; but as there appears to be no great variation in either the quantity or the quality of work undertaken by the Section, perhaps it is excusable for the following to be included. Signalmen Chantry and Glithro have *volunteered* for a fifty mile competition walk, which is to take place shortly. We hope to give results in the next publication. At any rate, our best wishes are extended—and a happy relief from all their afflictions! And that's enough about work for this month.

Part Two.—Here, also, news seems to be at a premium. The Malta Signal Section have just completed their annual musketry course, and the results are even better than might have been expected. Congratulations to Signalman Smith H. on becoming Section shot. We hope the ten bob doesn't burn a hole in his pocket. Congratulations to Signalmen Thornhill and Spinks on being awarded their second class certificates of education—long endeavour duly rewarded. Our best wishes to L/Sergt Lee on his repatriation to U.K. after a lengthy period in dock. To Sigmn Palfreyman, a safe recovery after a long and trying illness. And last, but not least, our best wishes to Captain D. R. Paterson, our C.S.O., in his endeavours for appendage "p.s.c."

Canteen Hours.—Radio diffusion is now installed in the barrack rooms, and although controversial subjects are usually barred from broadcast, that does not obviate the cross-talk in relation to switch "up," "down" or "off."

Talking of controversial subjects, here's a fishy tale (I nearly said "tail"). After a day's fishing, the anglers had adjourned to the village pub for refreshment. An old farmer was seated in his usual corner, and he listened attentively to the anglers' inevitable exaggerations. As the liquid flowed, so increased the size of the fish caught. Wending his way homeward in the dusk, the farmer (passing through his home field) espied an old scarecrow with arms outflung, and he could contain himself no longer: "Thou art a liar!"

Night Lights.—Bonzo: 44 out of 45, then 6 out of 50. What's the reason—and the average?

The Window Breaker: It's just as well that you have a good credit balance.

The Buyer of Eggs: We are wondering where they all go to, 'cos you don't look any better. NEMO.

SPORTS NOTES

F Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Training Battalion Cross-Country, 1935/36.—The detailed account of the Northern Command cross-country championships is left to the F Company correspondent, in view of the fact that the Battalion team consisted of ten F Company runners with four from E Company and one from D Company.

Everything has been against cross-country in Catterick this year. Two Garrison runs were held before Christmas, but the competition was later abandoned. The winter has been particularly hard for two months, and training was an impossibility. Frost had rendered the ground dangerous, and road work was out of the question because of the slippery surface. On one fine day a paper chase was arranged, but no sooner had the " hares " departed than a fog descended and a certain amount of anxiety was felt for a number of " hounds " who failed to return for some time.

A week before the Command championships, an inter-Company run—twelve runners, six to count, from each Company—was held, and on this result the Battalion team was chosen. The Command course was a stiff one, and the going heavy owing to snowdrifts and mud. Our runners were not strong enough for such conditions, and the K.S.L.I. had a comfortable win. Great credit is due to our runners for their performance. They were beaten by a stronger and fitter team: a team which would have given a good account of themselves against the best in like conditions.

Team placings—1st, K.S.L.I. 141 points ; 2nd, Training Battalion 283 ; 3rd, Essex Regiment 315 ; 4th Manchester Regt. 472.

Training Battalion individual placings—Boy Brewster (F Company) 8th, L/Corpl Blades (F) 9th, Sigmn Strutt (D) 14th, Sigmn Talbot (E) 16th, Boy Butler (F) 19th, Sigmn Armstrong (E) 20th, Boy Campion (F) 22nd, Sigmn Pitney (F) 23rd, Corpl Collins (E) 30th, Boy Earl (F) 36th, L/Corporal Boy Moore (F) 43rd, Boy Harrington (F) 44th, L/Corpl Boy Scott (F) 48th, Sigmn Head (E) 54th, Boy Cullen (F) 55th.

Northern Counties Cross-Country Championships. — The junior championships of the N.C. are considered the highest in England, and our team of boys left Catterick for Rotherham in the best of spirits, hoping to put the name of the Signals on one more trophy. But the opposition was too strong for us by the little bit of finish that the bad weather conditions at Catterick had robbed us of attaining.



F Company Boys Cross-Country Team with the Newbould Shield

Back row (*l. to r.*)—Boy Brewster, L/Corporal Boy Moore, Boys Roberts and Campion, L/Corpl Boy Scott.

Front—Boy Clover, C.S.M. Donaghy, Captain H. P. Hart, M.C., L/Corpl Blades, Boy Butler.

This race attracted twenty-one teams and fifteen individual competitors, and the boys ran extremely well to finish third. We were beaten by the Sheffield United Harriers and Hallamshire Harriers. Our team included Boys Clover, Butler, Roberts D., Campion and Brewster, and L/Corporal Boys Scott and Moore, who finished in the order shown. Our first four were 17th, 25th, 31st and 32nd—a total of 105 points, only six behind Hallamshire.

The team won a set of medals, and deserve a pat on the back for the fine show they put up. The course was hilly and the going very heavy, but it is to their credit that every one of them showed better time than they did when winning the North-Eastern Counties. This race wound up the most successful season the Company has ever had, but next year we shall be all out for the Northern.

A photograph of the team, with the Newbould shield won in the North-Eastern Counties and the medals won in these championships, is shown in the opposite column.

Rugby.—F Company have to record a glorious failure. The strain was too great. We met the Mounted Wing in the first round of the Mackworth trophy, knowing that we had only to surmount this obstacle and the trophy (all events) was ours. We were beaten by a splendid drop goal, scored in the closing moments of play. It was a good hard game, in which each side scored a try in the first half. Then both sides fought hard for supremacy, and the Mounted Wing were the lucky ones. I do not think they will moan when I say that the sides were as even as possible.

Football.—The Catterick weather is improving, and so our football programme became crowded. Boy's games or Company games—all alike, the month of February proved a very successful one ; but beware of " the Ides of March."

The Company side have qualified for the final of the Garrison cup. In the third round we defeated A Company Essex Regiment by 4—1 goals after a very hard and fast game. Once more the second half proved the turning point, for we were one goal down at the change, and then our forwards played like men possessed. O'Marah opened the scoring with one of the finest goals seen for a long time. We are still wondering how the ball found its way into the net when at least six players were standing practically on the goal line. O'Marah added another goal, and Deane and Tracey completed the score.

In the semi-final we met Q Battery Royal Artillery, and won by the odd goal in five after extra time. A strong wind was blowing down the field during the whole of the game, and we won the toss, so we elected to play with the wind behind us. Our policy was to score and then keep them out, but our system was very rudely shocked, for the R.A. were two up before the game was fifteen minutes old. Then we settled down and drew level through goals scored by O'Marah and Deane. Our wing forwards seemed to do nothing right, but full marks go to our defence, who managed to keep the Artillery forwards at bay during a hectic second half. Every man played himself to a standstill, and time arrived with the score still 2—2.

Imagine our feelings when the R.A. won the toss and decided to give us another quarter of an hour against the wind on starting extra time. We managed to resist their attack, however, and on change of ends we were still level. At last our outside men seemed to wake up, and a pass from L/Corpl Smith saw Tracey score the winning goal within three minutes of starting the second half. The R.A. refused to take this set-back lying down, but energy began to tell and the game fizzled into one of " run and try to kick it." By winning this game we meet the H.Q. Wing of the Essex Regiment on the Command Central Ground on Wednesday 18th March. Even should we lose, reaching the final will be an achievement of which we can be proud.

Boys' Garrison Knock-Out Shield.—An amusing mix-up has to be reported. Our favourites, " E " team, played the K.O.S.B. in the semi-final and won by 5—0 (Corney 2, Terrey, Allan, Lander). But—it wasn't the semi-final! for the K.O.S.B. had not then played their previous round against the Camerons ; and our elation at having two teams in the final was short-lived, for the Camerons were successful against the K.O.S.B. and then came

along to defeat our "E" team. As if this were not enough, they defeated another Signal team in the final and thus robbed us of a cup that had been in our possession for three years.

The first semi-final was a match between two Signal teams: "A" and "C." Both teams fought hard and well right up to the last minute. "A" team won by 3—1, but the score reflects well upon their defence only, for during the second half of the game "C" attacked without a stop and everyone is still wondering how they failed to get six or perhaps seven goals.

The second semi-final saw our "E" team play the Camerons and lose by 0—1. The better side won, and yet the I.M.s should not have allowed them to, for if they had played football instead of trying to be individualistic, they should have scored without difficulty.

The final was played on the Garrison Ground on Saturday 14th March, and again the Camerons showed us that team work is by far the best for getting goals. They won by 3—1, but we deny them the right of saying that it was a fair result. There was not more than one goal in it, though the Camerons deserved the odd one.

The first goal was scored by the Camerons with a shot from the left wing which was unluckily deflected by Campion past Clover and into the net. Half-time arrived without further score. After the change a chapter of accidents occurred that demoralised "A" team. A penalty awarded to them was missed. From the goal kick the Camerons rushed down the field and scored a doubtful goal, and in endeavouring to stem this rush Creed ("A" team's left back) was injured and had to leave the field. There was a re-shuffle of positions, and before they settled down the Camerons had scored again—a real well thought out goal which left our defence spreadeagled. This sudden setback seemed to rally "A" team, but their effort came too late. They only managed to score one goal, and that came from Barker.

Our hopes of reporting a "double" (as referred to in the Company notes) had fallen through. "A" team are now waiting for the other boys' teams to fall by the wayside and thus leave them the consolation of the league.

Boys' Garrison League.—The following matches have been played, with results and scorers as shown.

20/2/36 R.Signals "A" 4 (Ainsworth, Campion, Barr, Deane W.); R.Signals "D" 2 (Finnegan T., Evans)
20/2/36 R.Signals "B" 3 (O'Marah, Holness, Hockings); Essex 3
26/2/36 R.Signals "B" 9 (Harding 4, Holness 2, Maycock 2, Morrice); Cheshires 1
27/2/36 R.Signals "D" 1 (Pavey); K.O.S.B. nil
4/3/36 R.Signals "D" 3 (Murray, Finnegan, Evans); Lincolns nil
5/3/36 R.Signals "E" 3 (Rickards, Hawley, Lissetter); The Cheshires 2
5/3/36 R.Signals "C" 3 (Westbrook 2, Watson); Essex 1
11/3/36 R.Signals "A" 12 (Deane 9, Ainsworth 2, Barr); The Lincolns 1
12/3/36 R.Signals "C" 3 (Westbrook, Price and Verlander); K.O.S.B. nil
12/3/36 R.Signals "D" 9 (Pavey 3, Finnegan 3, Bowles 2, Murray); East Lancs 1

A Corps Signals, Aldershot.

General.—The main events in the sporting life of the barracks, just lately, have been the matches in the Inter-Unit Games League. Association football (first and second teams). rugger, hockey and cross-country running are the events in this league, and the three units play twice in each event against one another.

Altogether, A Corps Signals have so far won eight matches and lost three.

RUGGER.—Last year the rugger team won their event, and so are the holders of the Hitchens cup. Up to the time of writing they have played two games, winning one and losing the other; so, to retain the cup, they will have to win the remaining two games.

The first match, against 2nd Divl Signals, was lost by 3—11 points. We fielded a depleted team which never looked like combining effectively. Against the 1st Divl Signals the team showed marked improvement and won by the only try scored.

FOOTBALL (FIRST ELEVEN).—Both fixtures with the 1st Divisional Signals have been played and won by us, so it only remains for us to get two points out of the two fixtures with the 2nd Divl Signals to at least draw in this event—that is, allowing for the 2nd Div. beating the 1st Div. in each of their fixtures.

FOOTBALL (SECOND ELEVEN).—All the fixtures have been played in this event as follows:—

1st Divl Signals—Played 4, won 4; 8 points.
A Corps Signals—Played 4, won 2, lost 2; 4 points.
2nd Divl Signals—Played 4, lost 4; no points.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.—The 1st Divl Signals have won each of the cross-country runs so far, and A Corps have been second, leaving the 2nd Divl Signals holding the wooden spoon.

HOCKEY.—A Corps Signals have so far played three games and won them all. The 2nd Divl Signals have played two, won one, and lost one. The 1st Divl Signals have played three and lost them all. They were the winners last year. This year, A Corps are prime favourites for the honour.

A Corps Signal hockey team are at the present time on the crest of a winning wave, only one match having been lost since the 27th November. Another interesting fact is that this team beat R.E. Aldershot, who play in the final of the Army hockey cup on 13/3/36, by 3—1 goals. The last seven games played, including three League fixtures, have all been won.

On 26/2/36 the officers of the unit played the sergeants of the unit at hockey, and although the sergeants had four corporals playing for them, the officers emerged winners by 5—2 goals. The merit of this win is tempered by the fact that the officers had R.S.M. Wray in goal for them—and a good show he put up, too. A replay is due some time this month, when anything might happen.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Cross-Country Running.—Our last run of the season was the Southern Command. It was rather a stiff course, and the position of the team this year was not so good as on previous occasions; but with plenty of training next year, I am sure they will do better. The team places were: 1st Sigmn Truscott, 2nd Sigmn Seaman, 3rd Sigmn Bunting.

Our first run of the season was against King Alfred's College at Winchester. It was mostly road work. We came away the winners.

The next big run was the South of the Thames championship held at Dartford, Kent. We were unsuccessful there.

Then came the Bulford Garrison. We won that, with L/Corpl Hastings coming home first, Sigmn Truscott fourth, and Sigmn Smithers sixth.

The team was second in the S.P.A. run at Tidworth on the 8th March.

We are all sorry to lose L/Corpl Hastings, who is leaving us for service overseas. Good luck, Jack.

We hope that Lieut. W. B. Rowett (officer i/c running) and Sergt Ayres (trainer) will both be with us next year.

Well, lads, now that running is over, you can all relax; but I hear they are looking for some three milers, so I'll switch over now. Cheerio!

Football.—Results since our last report.

24/2/36 v. 33rd Medium Brigade R.A., home.....won by 3—1
26/2/36 v. R.A.S.C., home .....lost by 3—4
2/3/36 v. 5th Battalion Tank Corps, home.....drew at 2—2

Difficulty is still being experienced in filling the places of so many of our players who have left for overseas, but we are looking forward hopefully to the arrival of fresh talent. Nevertheless, our team must be congratulated on their efforts this month.

We finished worthy winners in the game against the 33rd Medium Brigade R.A. On the heavy ground against the R.A.S.C. we were unfortunate in losing by the odd goal. Owing to the slippery condition of the ground, many good scoring chances were missed. A splendid game was played against the Tanks. After we had led by two goals during most of the game, our opponents applied heavy pressure and we conceded two goals in the final stages.

We welcome the assistance of Sigmn Terry (centre half) and Sigmn Patrick (left half) from Tidworth. Both players gave a good account of themselves. In Sigmn Terry we appear to have solved the centre half problem. He shows excellent ball control and is a full ninety minute man.

Hockey.—Since our last notes we have only played two unit matches, but we have managed to maintain our unbeaten record in friendly games. Results were: v. 33rd Field Battery R.A. won by 5—1, and v. R.A.F. Boscombe Down won by 2—1.

The Bulford Garrison hockey tournament is in full swing. No. 3 Company surprised the critics by defeating the 113th Field Battery R.A. by 6—2 goals in the first round, and in the second round succeeded in forcing a draw, after extra time, against the 19th Field Battery R.A. at 2—2. Let's hear from you in the replay, Three Company. No. 1 Company, the present holders—having drawn a bye in the first round—met the 28th Battery R.A. in the second and defeated them by 8—0. There are still hopes of its being an all-Signals final.

Rugby.—There has been only one match played of late, owing to shortage of men in the units in the neighbourhood. However, we had one very good game against the 21st Y.O.s Course at Larkhill, in which we were beaten by 19—12 points.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Football and Hockey.—So far, the Company has been very successful in hockey and football. In spite of our lack of numbers—the men available for these games numbering only about thirty—we are able to field teams that can do more than just hold their own.

Although the trooping season robbed us of a number of useful players, we were fortunate in getting a few in return. Among these were Corporals Wood and Oliver, L/Corporal Edwards and Sigmn Oliver. Wood and Edwards are outstanding at hockey, while all of them are good footballers.

We play in the Garrison Soccer League, which comprises (besides ourselves) the R.A.S.C. and the four Companies and H.Q. of the Welch Regiment. At hockey we have a team entered for the N.I.D. cup. Besides these competitions, we play friendly games with local clubs. Results of matches to date are as follows.

Football.

14/1/36	v. R.U.C. (friendly)	lost by 5—6
20/2/36	v. R.A.S.C. (League)	won by 6—0
25/2/36	v. Woolworths (friendly)	won by 7—0
10/3/36	v. R.U.C. (friendly)	won by 3—2

Hockey.

10/2/36	v. R.A.S.C. (N.I.D. cup)	drew at 2—2
24/2/36	v. East Antrim (friendly)	won by 3—2
25/2/36	v. R.A.S.C. (N.I.D. cup, replay)	won by 3—2

The following have represented the Company in the above games. Football: Corporals Wood and Oliver, Lance-Corporals Edwards, Thompson, Pilkington (captain) and Ryan, Signalmen Oliver, Blount and Ward, Driver Scoffin, Sgt Watson (R.A.M.C.), Cpl Bardswell (M.F.P.) and Private Dougan (R.A.M.C.). Hockey: Sergt Washford, Corpl Wood, L/Corporals Edwards, Thompson (captain), Turner, Ryan and Pilkington, Signalmen Smith, Jones, Blount, Twiddy and Holland, and Driver Yates.

Garrison Hockey Cup—Replay, First Round. From the bully-off the Signal forwards raced up the field and scored through Twiddy. The R.A.S.C. then pressed, and only good work by Smith (goalkeeper) saved the situation for us. A good run by the R.A.S.C. forwards resulted in a goal by McCullough. A few minutes later Smurthwaite sent the R.A.S.C. ahead, following a clever passing movement. Half-time: Signals 1, R.A.S.C. 2. In the second half the play became very fast and exciting, both sides playing hard. Five minutes before time the Company equalised, Jones scoring from a pass from Twiddy. Almost immediately after this, Turner decided the issue by a good goal scored from a goalmouth melee. Result: Signals 3, R.A.S.C. 2. Edwards, Twiddy, Turner and Holland deserve special mention for their good play. Congratulations!

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

A Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Tennis.—The annual all ranks tennis tournament was held during January. The entries were fewer than in previous years, but this, however, did not lessen the interest taken in the tournament, and the standard of play was good.

Two matches worthy of special mention in the open singles event were played by Captain L. C. Boyd and Sigmn Nelson in the semi-final, and by Captain Boyd and Sigmn Tyler in the final. These games were exciting from start to finish, and were two of the best in the tournament. Captain Boyd, being the more experienced player, had just that bit too much for his opponents and came out the winner of this event.

Sigmn Nelson confounded quite a number of the critics, even the handicap committee, by winning the handicap singles event with a handicap of minus 30. Great credit is due to him for his very steady play.

An innovation this year was the introduction of an open mixed doubles event. This provided a great deal of interest. Mrs. Jones and L/Corpl Talbot put up a very plucky fight against a more experienced pair in Mrs. Boyd and L/Corporal Marshall. Many of us gained valuable hints by watching the play of Mrs. Boyd, the wife of our popular O.C.

The old brigade was well represented by Major L. B. Nicholls and Q.M.S. King, and, as usual, they upset quite a number of formidable opponents. Q.M.S. King was a stumbling block in the handicap singles as well, and accounted for a few strong opponents.

A word of thanks is due to our secretary, L/Corpl Marshall, for the very efficient way in which he performed his arduous duty. He made the tournament a real success.

At the conclusion of the open events on Sunday 19/1/36, Mrs. Hawke very kindly presented the prizes to the lucky winners. The results are given below.

Handicap Singles—Sigmn Nelson (— 30) beat Sigmn Davidson (scratch) by 6—1, 6—3.

Handicap Doubles—Signalmen Tyler and Henrick (— 15) beat Major Nicholls and Q.M.S. King (— 3 and 6) by 6—1, 1—6, 6—3.

Mixed Handicap Doubles—Mrs. Jones and L/Corporal Talbot (— 15 and 2) beat Mrs. Greed and Sigmn Henrick (—2 and 6) by 3—6, 6—4, 6—1.

Open Singles—Captain L. C. Boyd beat Sigmn Tyler by 6—3, 6—2.

Open Doubles—Captain Boyd and Signalman Tyler beat Major Murray and Sergt Humphrey by 6—3, 6—3.

Open Mixed Doubles—Mrs. Boyd and L/Corpl Marshall beat Mrs. Jones and L/Corpl Talbot by 6—1, 6—4.

A Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Every branch of sport found us very prominent this month. A very heavy programme had to be filled, and we congratulate the teams, managers and trainers on the high standard maintained throughout. Although not quite reaching the peak, very creditable results were attained. R.S.M. Bayliss had charge of the running team, R.S.M. Bayliss and Sergt Clark the football, and Sergt McFarlane, assisted by Cpl Harbury, the boxing team.

Rawalpindi District Football Tournament.—Against very formidable opponents (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) our first match provided a large crowd of spectators with plenty of thrills. Both teams played a very determined game, which was keenly contested to the final whistle. Clever moves on the part of our halves enabled Sigmn Matthews to net our first goal: a nice low ground shot which was a winner all the way. Our opponents grimly settled down to it and, during a melee near the goal-mouth, managed to equalise. A smart bit of football by Sigmn Keenlyside, culminating in a pass to Sigmn Abbiss, enabled the latter to score a lovely goal (the goalie never had a chance). Now a real ding-dong struggle ensued, and stalwart work by both of our backs, Sigmn Edwards and L/Cpl Cordner, was witnessed. Time after time they dispersed the very determined attacks of our opponents, and L/Corporal Cordner well earned the name of "Safety Catch." We eventually ran out the winners by the odd goal in three.

Playing next against the 1st Indian Divl Signals, we met a very stern opposition, and after a gruelling thirty-five minutes we were one goal down. After the change over, we took command of the game and a very clever goal by Sigmn Matthews put us on equal terms. It was a real good shot from the left wing. A concerted movement by our halves and forwards left Signalman Keenlyside in front of goal, but well covered. He punted across the goal-mouth and with amazing speed caught the ball and turned it into the net: a really creditable goal. Another break-away by the same player and a pass to the outside right (Sigmn

Abbiss) put us further ahead. So we passed into the final by 3—1 goals.

A very large crowd witnessed the final against the R.A. Quickly settling down, we dominated the game for the first ten minutes. The R.A. goalkeeper was repeatedly called upon to clear his charge. A smart break-away by the R.A. and some clever work by their centre forward put them one ahead. Sigmn Matthews, receiving a pass from one of the halves, made a solo run down the wing and from an almost impossible angle put in a very high shot which beat the goalkeeper: a really marvellous goal. Very scrappy play ensued for a while; neither team seemed able to settle down again. From a corner the R.A. scored again, and although strenuous efforts were made by our team, we were unable to equalise and eventually lost by the odd goal in three.

Running.—Over a very stiff course, and against some extraordinarily good teams, we managed to obtain third place in the Rawalpindi District cross-country run.

Rawalpindi District Boxing Team Championships.—A very stiff programme, in which we came out very well. Some really good fights and very close decisions. L/Corpl Rymer and Sigmn Warburton, as usual, put their men quickly away in each session.

First Session: v. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Bantam—Sigmn Veame won on points.
Feather—Sigmn Warburton won by a knock out in the first round.
Light—First string, Corpl McKenzie lost on points; second string, Sigmn Waugh won on points; third string, L/Corporal Payne lost (fight stopped).
Welter—Second string, Signalman Richmond won by a technical knock-out; third string, Corpl Brassfield lost by a technical knock-out.
Middle—First string, Signalman Delaney won on points; second string, Sigmn Cox lost on points.
Heavy—L/Corpl Rymer won by a knock-out in the first round.
Welter—First string, L/Corpl Sokell won by a knock-out in the third round.

Won by 18—15 points.

Semi-Final: v. The Hampshire Regiment.

Bantam—Sigmn Neame won on points.
Feather—Signalman Warburton won by a knock-out in the first round.
Light—First string, Corpl McKenzie lost on points; second string, Sigmn Waugh lost on points; third string, L/Corpl Payne lost by a technical knock-out.
Welter—Second string, Sigmn Richmond lost on points; third string, Corpl Brassfield lost by a technical knock-out.
Middle—First string, Signalman Delaney won on points; second string, Sigmn Cox lost on points.
Heavy—L/Corpl Rymer won by a knock-out in the first round.
Welter—First string, L/Corpl Sokell lost on points.

Lost by 15—18 points.

Hockey.—Against the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, in the Rawalpindi District hockey tournament, we lost by the odd goal in three. Not a good game: a real scrappy affair, with a lot of carrying and knocks-on which rather spoilt it. Sergeant Brown scored our only goal.

B Corps Signals, Karachi.

No. 1 Company.

Football.—In the semi-final of the Y.M.C.A. challenge cup we met A Squadron R.A.F. and drew at two all. We really should have won, as our defence played a great game and kept the opposing forwards in absolute check. Our forwards were dithery, with the exception of Hoare at outside right. He played a good game and scored two opportunist goals. Sigmn Fleming, at right back, also played well. As he was a member of the Durand team and has left this unit for the home establishment, some unit in England has now got a good back. In the replay we went down rather tamely, losing by 1—2 after L/Corpl Jarvis had missed a penalty.

I doubt whether a footballer of a standard higher than that of an average second team player has come our way during the past four trooping seasons. I do not know where flies go in the winter time, but I do know where footballers do *not* go in the trooping seasons.

Rugby.—During the past few weeks this game has afforded its followers no small amount of pleasure. Victory has rarely been on our side, but that has in no way damped the ardour of the players.

Signalmen Glynn, Attrill and Brannan and L/Corporal Atkins were selected to play for Karachi v. the R.A.F. They played very well and were warmly thanked by the selectors.

Cricket.—The "How was he?" season is drawing near. This year the arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. Worrall and Corpl Mohrstadt, and we confidently expect to field a stronger team than that of last year.

Tennis.—Little or nothing in this line. It is not the season for it.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Football.—The unit and the Cavalry Troop are aspiring to win the Vizianagram cup, a trophy played for by units in and about Delhi; therefore a Combined Signal team has been created. By amalgamating in this way, the team is supported by such old stalwarts as Robson of Colchester fame, Jacobs and others. The results to date do not give the truth about the team's possibilities, for although they have lost twice and drawn twice, it is not very often that the complete team can play together. Our worst beating was 4—1 by the 17/21st Lancers. The Lancers are past masters of the offside game, and our forwards had only to step over the half-way line to be offside. We hope to publish more heartening news in the next issue.

The unit team has kept its end up: won, drawn and lost twice in the six games played.

The final of the Section tourney resulted in a win by 5—2 goals for K against A. You should have seen the sick parade the next morning!

A match between men for repatriation this month and the rest of the unit was played on the 3rd February, resulting in a draw of 3—3. This explodes the fallacy that India ruins its visitors (or perhaps the thought of the boat gave them added zest). A photo of the repatriation team is appended.



The "Repatriates" Football Team.

Standing (*l. to r.*)—Newman, Halstead, Whayman, Johnson, Sgt Heasman, Hodgson, Ross, Styan.

Sitting—Corpl Teal, Brown (301), Poulton.

Hockey.—Results are even: won, drawn and lost once in three games. To-day (please get your hankies ready!) we lost the first round of the Keelen cup to the Punjab Regiment by 0—1. A very good game was played by all.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Cross-Country.—The Command cross-country team championship, 1935, was decided on the 17th December and was run over the usual five and a half miles course. Followers of this sport will be pleased to hear that once again we were the winners, getting twelve men home out of the first twenty-eight, and gaining two individual places: Sergt Cotterell second and Corpl Dargan third. The 1st Battn Royal Scots Fusiliers, who last year forced us into second place, occupied that position on this occasion. Great credit is due to Sergt Cotterell, who devoted a good deal of time to the training of the team. They are to be congratulated on such a splendid show, and it is to be hoped that the cup will be retained in the unit next year.



Egypt Signal Team, Winners of the Command Cross-Country Championship, 1935.

Back row (l. to r.)—Signalmen Marshall G. and Palmer H., Sergt Cotterell W., Sigmn Hammond H., Driver Wiggin A.
Centre—Corpl Beale B., Sigmn James J., Corpl Dargan G., Corpl Broadley J., Sigmn Farrow F.
Front—Signalmen Barlow C. and Dick J., Lieut. E. R. N.-W. Nanney-Wynn, Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Mansergh, M.C., Colonel FitzA. Drayson, M.C. (C.S.O.), Sigmn Anderson P., L/Corporal Walker A.



Sigmn Farrow



Sergt Cotterell receiving the Team Cup



Sigmn Taft

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

Soccer.—The initial game of this newly-formed Company was played against 5th Division Headquarters on Mustapha Barracks ground, Alexandria, on 16/1/36. The Company proved much too strong for the opposition and ran out winners, scoring seven goals without reply—Sedgwick (6) and L/Corpl Adcock.

On the 21st January a game was played at Ramleh in which A Section drew with the rest at three goals each.

A friendly game was played on 23/1/36 on Mustapha ground between two teams from within the Company. Sedgwick was again prominent, scoring six goals for his side out of a total of seven. There was no reply.

Company v. 13th Infantry Brigade. This game on 8/2/36 proved very good, and the score of 4—3 in our favour was a fair reflection of the play. Sigmn Adcock (13th Infantry Brigade) and L/Corpl Adcock (Company) played well for their respective sides.

Company v. Division Headquarters. Fielding a weak side on 14/2/36, we were given a good game. Our defence played well to keep the Division forwards at bay in the second half. Carter looks promising and played a good game ; he had a hand in each of our three goals, one being scored by himself. Hughes scored the other two. We won by 3—1 goals.

Hockey.—We have had only three games since landing in Egypt—all against Division Headquarters. The first we won by 3—2, L/Corpl McAuliffe doing the hat trick. The second was a challenge from the G.O.C. to the officers of the Signals. The General himself played back and kept us out well, the match ending in a draw of 2—2. The ground was by the shore and consequently wet, but perfectly level, and everyone enjoyed the game. Our third game was a victory of 2—1.

As we share a ground with Headquarters, we should have quite a number of games each week, and next month we hope to record a few more victories.

R.A. Signal Section

Attached 20th Field Brigade, R.A., Egypt.

Sport.—It has been very difficult to indulge in games to any extent, owing to lack of gear, but thanks are again due to Egypt Signals for the manner in which they have assisted with the loan of hockey sticks, shorts, etc.

Hockey.—v. No. 3 Company Egypt Signals lost by 1—4 ; v. K Section Egypt Signals drew at 0—0 ; v. H.Q. 20th Field Brigade R.A. lost by 0—1. Considering the total strength of the Section is only twenty-six and that facilities for practice are nil, I think we are certainly holding our end up.

Honours.—Sergt Boon F., L/Sergt Stone J., Corpl Scratcher J., L/Cpl Ebbage, and Signalmen Chambers, Sutherland and Winter were selected to play in a Brigade trial match. Corpl Scratcher, L/Corporal Ebbage and Sigmn Chambers obtained their places. Well done, lads!

Malta Signal Section.

Owing to our small numbers, we have to enter competitions as Staff and Departments. This is an arrangement unsatisfactory both to ourselves and the rest of the Staff and Departments, and but little success has crowned our efforts. However, we have had numerous friendly games in which we have taken part as purely Royal Signal teams, and have met with more success.

Corpl Brunton-Douglas and Sigmn Williams F. C. were given a trial for the Army team. Corpl Brunton-Douglas had an off day, but Williams was picked as right wing for the Army.

Billiards.—We have entered for one or two competitions, and once came back with a cup.

Walking.—Signalmen Chantry and Glithro entered for a fifty mile race. They only had forty-eight hours notice, and so were untrained. Chantry, however, finished third.

Shooting.—At the annual classification we scored an average of 63.86 points. Sigmn Smith H. F. won first prize with a score of 81 points.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals, Manchester.

Boxing.—Our last notes concluded on the eve of our boxing team's departure for Bury and the Divisional competition, and we are taking up the narrative from that point.

Our original nine entrants had, by the 13th February—the first day of the competition—been reduced to five owing to injury and over-weight, so we started under a handicap, since a man scores a point for appearing in the ring, irrespective of the result ; and in some cases, other teams numbered a dozen or more men. We finished sixth out of eight, however, having three winners and a runner-up. 2/Lieut. R. H. Clegg, the heavy weight and team captain, was awarded a walk-over, but was unable to take over the captaincy of the Divisional team in London owing to an injury to his foot. Had officers' points counted, we would have been higher up the list. The team comprised 2/Lieut. R. H. Clegg (heavy), 2/Lieut. P. Yates (welter), L/Corpl Ineson (novices light weight), Sigmn Woodworth (open light weight), L/Corpl Gray (feather weight) and Sigmn Jarvis (open bantam weight).

As has been stated, 2/Lieut. Clegg did not box. 2/Lieutenant Yates beat 2/Lieut. Andrew (5th Lancashire Fusiliers) by a knock out. Sigmn Jarvis also won his weight after two very good fights. Sigmn Woodworth knocked his man out in the semi-final, but was himself knocked out in the final. He did very well to become runner-up, as he was fighting under the disadvantage of a damaged hand. L/Corporals Gray and Ineson lost their respective fights—Gray by a knock-out and Ineson on points over a three round contest. Neither of them boxed up to his best form.

Some doubt has arisen as to the meaning of the Latin quotation included in our last article. Most surmises were incorrect, and one was improper. Actually, it was Cæsar's boast after conquering Gaul ; and although we have not lived up to it, we shall probably do better in future.

2/Lieut. Yates and Sigmn Jarvis went to London with the 42nd Divisional team for the Territorial Army championships. 2/Lieut. Yates was the captain of the team and runner-up for the officers' welter weight in the final. Sigmn Jarvis was, however, unlucky enough to meet one of the very best men at his weight in his first fight and lost. All the same, the margin was very small indeed. Jarvis fought exceedingly well, and if he had not lost ground during the second round he would have won.

That finishes our boxing season until this year's camp. The University offered us another match, but we had to turn it down as the date coincided with the T.A. championships.

In closing, we would like to voice our appreciation of the efforts of Sergt Matthews on our behalf. He is a qualified P.T. instructor, and his all-round athletic experience has been as valuable to us in training as his advice at the ringside. He was responsible for the fitness of the team, and has shown the greatest keenness throughout. Signal members of the 42nd Division team missed him in London.

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 130. The subscription is only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1,
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VOL. XVII.—No. 195 MAY, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Birthday Greetings to H.R.H. The Princess Royal, G.B.E., Colonel-in-Chief, R.Signals.—The following telegrams were sent and received on that occasion:—

To H.R.H. The Princess Royal.

"All ranks R.Signals join in offering their respectful greetings on the occasion of the birthday of your Royal Highness and in wishing you a rapid recovery from your present indisposition.

COLONEL-COMMANDANT."

Colonel-Commandant, R.Signals.

"I deeply appreciate the message received from all ranks R.Signals and send my very sincere thanks.

MARY."

Visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, G.B.E., to Aldershot, 1936.—Although the exact date on which H.R.H. The Princess Royal will make her first official visit to Mons Barracks, Aldershot, as Colonel-in-Chief of R.Signals, is not yet definitely known, it will in all probability take place at an early date.

The Corps Committee have very kindly extended an invitation to not more than sixty R.Signals Old Comrades to attend as spectators, and those wishing to participate are asked to submit their names to this office as quickly as possible. Communications should be addressed to the General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Further particulars indicating date, time and place of assembly will be notified in due course.

Felicitations: The new R.Signals Commissions.—For several years past, continued efforts have been made by the authorities to obtain sanction for the introduction and creation of an entirely new grade of Officer for the Corps, of the Quartermaster class, designated "Inspector of Permanent Communications"; the purpose of such Inspectors being to provide continuity of tenure for Officers responsible for Fortress and other "Command" communications.

The advantages resulting from such appointments are, firstly, higher efficiency, as changes in office will occur far less frequently; and, secondly, the creation of so many new Quartermasterships will greatly enhance the prospect of promotion for other ranks.

In the 1936 Estimates, eight new Inspectors of Permanent Communications were approved for appointment with effect from 1st April, 1936, one each for Aldershot, Northern, Southern, Western and Scottish Commands, also Northern Ireland, and two for Eastern Command.

Lieutenants W. Clark and H. S. Shave were selected to fill two of the vacancies, leaving six Inspectors of Permanent Communications and two Quartermasters to be promoted from the ranks.

Those vacancies were filled by the following:—

W.O. Class i A. H. Beattie to he I.P.C.
,, ,, G. Wray ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, S. C. McGregor ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, A. H. Britton ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, R. A. McIntosh ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, C. S. Roberts ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, J. Burgess ,, ,, Lieut.-Quartermaster.
,, ,, G. Kneebone ,, ,, ,, ,,

To those Officers we extend our very cordial congratulations and wish them every success in their new sphere. Our felicitations are especially sincere to those who, by reason of this change in Establishment, find that instead of being defeated by *Anno Domini* they are now able to reap the full reward of their long, honourable and efficient service.

(And the echo floats back from the youngest A/U/L/C:—"Whoopee! Another eight up the roll.")

"Plain Tales."—We regret the absence of "Plain Tales" in this issue and have been asked to convey the apologies of our esteemed contributor for the unavoidable break in the continuity of his monthly articles.

There is every reason to hope that they will be resumed, commencing with the June publication.

R.Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Corps Dinner, which was to have been held on Friday, 8th May, will now be held at the Junior United Services Club, 11 Charles Street, London, S.W.1, on Friday, 9th October, 1936.

Corps Cricket Matches.—The following fixtures have been arranged for 1936:—

R.Signals v. The R.M.A., at Woolwich, 6th June.
R.Signals v. R.A.S.C., at Aldershot, 1st and 2nd July.
R.Signals v. R.E., at Aldershot, 6th and 7th July.
R.Signals v. R.A.O.C., at Aldershot, 8th July.
R.Signals v. Catterick Garrison, at Catterick, 13th and 14th July.

Sixth Annual Reunion of R.Signals Old Comrades at Mons Barracks, Aldershot.—It is notified for general information that the above function is scheduled to take place at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, on Saturday and Sunday, 23rd and 24th May, and we are asked to extend a very cordial invitation to all Old Comrades of the Corps who may be able to attend.

In order that our Aldershot friends who are organising the event may have some idea of the number they will be called upon to cater for, will those who contemplate attending kindly send a postcard *as soon as possible* to the Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, Mons Barracks, Aldershot, stating:

1. Whether they intend being present on both days, or
2. Whether they are attending the Church Parade on 24th May only.

Accommodation can be arranged in barracks for those who make *early* application, but as this is limited it cannot be guaranteed to those who do not send in notification quickly.

Further particulars are given under "Signals Association Notes" heading.

R.Signals Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display.—It is notified for general information that the R.Signals Display Party are again performing at this year's Royal Military Tournament at Olympia from 7th to 23rd May, both dates inclusive. The Officer in Charge of the Party cordially invites past and present members of the Corps to visit the stables before and after each performance.

April 29th & 30th.—Ayrshire Agricultural Show, Ayr.
May 7th-23rd.—ROYAL TOURNAMENT, OLYMPIA, London.
May 27th.—R.Signals (Aldershot) Sports, Aldershot.
June 10th & 11th.—Essex Agricultural Show, Saffron Walden.
June 17th-19th.—Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Louth.
June 20th.—Harden Moss Sheep Dog Trials, Huddersfield.
June 22nd.—Scarborough Townsmen's Association, Scarborough.
June 24th & 25th.—Peterborough Agricultural Show, Peterborough.
June 27th.—Coventry Hospital Carnival, Coventry.
June 28th.—Civil Service Motoring Association, Castle Donington.
July 4th-11th.—NORTHERN COMMAND TATTOO, Ravensworth Castle.
July 15th.—Royal Northern Agricultural Show, Aberdeen.
July 18th.—West Riding National Playing Fields Association Fete, Bretton Park, Wakefield.
July 22nd-24th.—Royal Welsh Agricultural Show, Abergele.
July 25th.—Dumfries Agricultural Show, Dumfries.
August 1st.—Crewe Carnival and Fete, Crewe.
August 3rd.—Brewood and District Agricultural Show, Brewood, Nr. Stafford.
August 4th.—Lutterworth Agricultural Show, Lutterworth, Nr. Rugby.
August 6th.—Bakewell Agricultural Show, Bakewell.
August 19th & 20th.—Shrewsbury Floral Fete, Shrewsbury.
September 10th.—Montgomeryshire Agricultural Show, Welshpool.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Aldershot Branch.

Signals Week, 1936.—Signals Week will be held at Mons Barracks, Aldershot, from Friday, the 22nd, to Thursday, the 28th May, both dates inclusive. A full programme for that week has been arranged as follows:

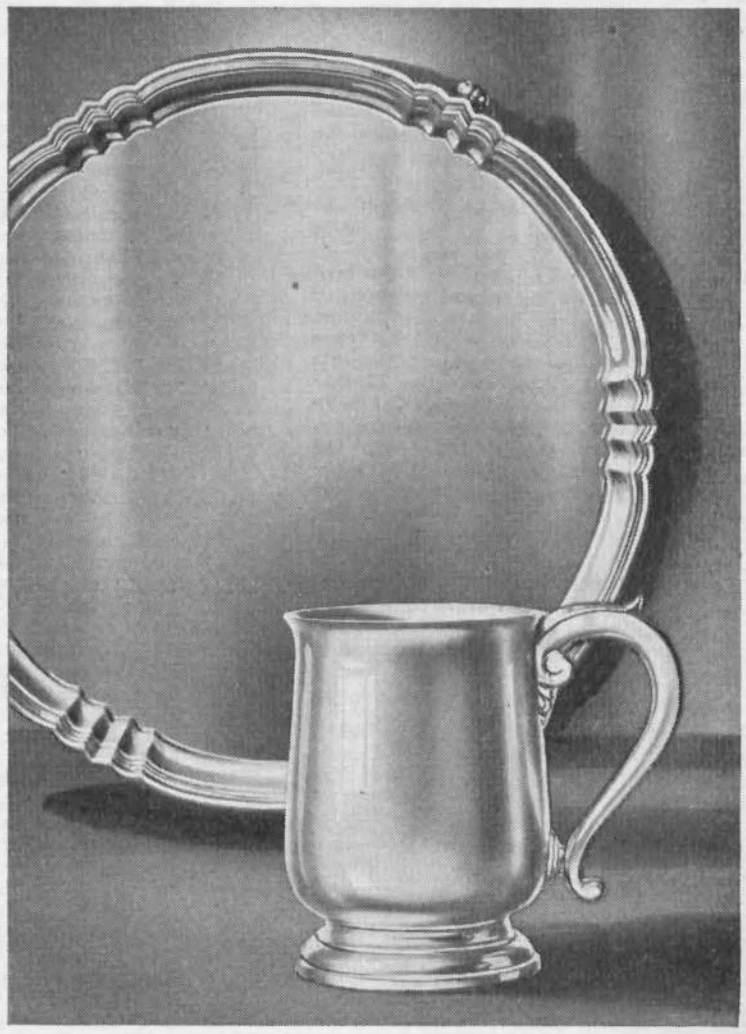
Friday, 22nd May.—Band arrives.
Saturday, 23rd May.—Old Comrades arrive after lunch. Some form of entertainment will be provided during the afternoon and a smoking concert during the evening. (Full accommodation in barracks will be provided for those wishing to remain.)
Sunday, 24th May.—Church Parade under Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C. Photograph. Band performance at noon. Luncheon for Old Comrade visitors and their respective families.
Monday, 25th May.—Cricket Match, Band versus Corporals. Concert in N.A.A.F.I. for all ranks and their respective families. Officers' Guest Night.
Tuesday, 26th May.—Cricket Match, Officers versus Sergeants. All Ranks' Dance in Marlborough Lines Gymnasium, Corps Dance Orchestra.
Wednesday, 27th May.—Band plays at Rawlinson Married Quarters in the afternoon.
Thursday, 28th May.—R.Signals Display Team and Mons Barracks Sports. Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Dance.

All ex-R.Signals and Royal Engineer (Signal Service) members are cordially invited. Personal invitations have already been circulated to those Old Comrades whose addresses are recorded. To any who have been missed, the Aldershot Branch Committee tenders full apology and invites their participation.

Where accommodation for the night, 23rd, 24th, 25th May, is required, please make written application to the Hon. Secretary, Signals Association, Mons Barracks, Aldershot, at the earliest possible moment.

Bulford and District Branch.—By kind permission of the Officer Commanding 3rd Divisional Signals, the annual reunion gathering of Old Comrades will take place at Bulford on Sunday, 17th May, at 10 a.m., to which all Old Comrades of the Corps are cordially invited. Accommodation will be provided in barracks on Saturday, 16th May, for those attending from long distances.

BY APPOINTMENT



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The above Advertisers support our Magazine. Will our Readers please support them in return ?

Exeter and District Branch.

First Annual General Meeting.—The necessity for acquainting young ex-Soldiers with the fact that the R.Signal; Old Comrades' Association was not an old men's association was stressed by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, at the first annual general meeting of the Exeter branch of the Association, held at the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals Headquarters, Exeter, on Saturday, 21st March.

Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., presided.

The Association, said Colonel Bradley, was not merely composed of men who went through the war and wished to talk over their experiences. If the Association was to be kept in existence they must have young members, and he appealed to those present to encourage the younger generation to join. Quite recently the Government had declared their defence policy, but it was one thing for the Government to state that certain things were going to be done and quite another to carry them out. There was no doubt, however, that large demands would be made of the civilian population, and he was certain that the Association would be able to help the recruiting authorities, both through the Territorial and the Regular Armies. Colonel Bradley concluded by expressing his gratitude to Colonel Michelmore and Major J. W. Western (Hon. Secretary), through whose efforts the Association had rapidly become one of the most successful branches in the Old Comrades Association.

In presenting the annual report, Major Western stated that the Exeter branch, which had been in existence for a year, had a membership of 89, with every prospect of an increase during the ensuing year.

The Hon. Treasurer (Captain C. W. Knight) presented the financial report, which was considered satisfactory.

The officers and committee were re-elected *en bloc*.

It was decided that the Association should be represented in the parade on Armistice Day, Colonel Bradley remarking that the presence of the branch must become known in the city.

Major Western read a letter from the General Secretary stating that the Association's efforts with regard to employment had met with great success during the preceding year. Previously the Association had more men than they could find jobs for. Now, however, the position was reversed, and they had more vacancies than they could fill. Last year they accommodated 509 members with good employment—a record —and the fact that 175 men had been placed satisfactorily since 1st January this year indicated that the progress was being maintained.

The meeting closed after Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O., had proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Leeds Branch.

Though little has been heard of the Leeds Branch this last few months, it has by no means passed out of existence and, with its 150 members, it is now functioning again, thanks largely to the efforts of Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D., who has been elected President of the Branch. At a meeting on 20th February, Lieutenant-Colonel C. Campbell, M.B.E., was elected Vice-President, and a Committee appointed, consisting of: R.Q.M.S. Wood S., Sergeant Armitage A., Signalman Johnson W. T., Lance Corporal Spencer S., and Mr. A. Pearson. Member, R.S.M. Pillinger. Secretary, Mr. L. W. Green.

A further meeting was held at Gibraltar Barracks on 6th April, over which R.S.M. Pillinger presided, when suggestions for organising social activities in the Branch were put forward.

Mr. Green said he understood this year's Northern Command re-union would be held at Catterick, and it was decided that a holiday fund be commenced.

It was also decided to hold an impromptu smoking concert in the Canteen on the first Monday in May, at which arrangements for the future would be settled. The first Monday of each month was fixed as the meeting night.

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.	Vehicle Cleaner, P.O.
2	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Labourer
3	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Postman
4	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Bricklayer
7	Ex-N.C.O., Newcastle	P.T. Instructor
8	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	P.O. Lineman
10	Ex-W.O., Chisledon	Clerk
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Wireman
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Telephone Operator
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Packer-Sorter
15	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman or Sorter
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
17	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Clerk
18	Ex-Signalman, Yorks.	Porter
19	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Bus Conductor
20	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
21	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, Lincoln	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Barman
25	Ex-N.C.O., Scarborough	P.O. Lineman
26	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Wireless Operator
27	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Officer's Batman
28	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Officers' Mess Waiter
29	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	M.T. Driver
30	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Wireless Operator
31	Ex-N.C.O., Middlesex	Postman
32	Ex-W.O., Middlesex	Postman
33	Ex-Signalman, Yorks.	Labourer
34	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
35	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
36	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
37	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Wireless Operator
39	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Waiter
40	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
41	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Garage Hand
43	Ex-Signalman, Yorks.	Porter
44	Ex-Signalman, London	Instrument Maker
45	Ex-Signalman, Exeter	P.O. Lineman (Exeter Branch)
46	Ex-Signalman, Bournemouth	Lineman, P.O.
47	Ex-Signalman, Andover	Labourer
48	Ex-Signalman, Chiseldon	Wireless Operator
49	Ex-N.C.O., Bulford	Lineman
50	Ex-N.C.O., Bournemouth	Lineman

(46 to 50, Salisbury and District Branch)

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

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Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. R. Neale from London to Aldershot.
Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. von S. Thorne from Egypt to London.
Major C. Wheeler from London to Scarborough.
Major G. C. Winckley, M.C., from Scarborough to London.
Major E. H. du Cros from India to Catterick.
Major V. J. E. Westropp from War Office to Headquarters 1st Division, Aldershot.
Major W. U. Tyrrell from Eastern Command to War Office.
Captain G. St. J. Martin from Headquarters 1st Division to 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.
Captain F. C. Curtis from War Office to Aldershot.
Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., from India to War Office.
Captain A. J. Keddie from King's African Rifles to Aldershot.
Captain V. C. Holland from Catterick to India.
Captain W. D. Weir from Scarborough to India.
Captain N. H. Edes from Aldershot to Egypt.
Captain H. Bartlett from Aldershot to Adjutant 48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals (T.A.).
Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper from Egypt to Catterick.
Lieutenant J. D. L. Morris from India to Catterick.
Lieutenant R. N. Seddon from Tidworth to Bovington (W/T Instructor, Tank School).
2nd Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde from Catterick to Aldershot.
Lieutenant-Quartermaster G. Kneebone to Canterbury.
Lieutenant-Quartermaster J. Burgess to Aldershot.
Lieutenant W. Clarke, I.P.C., to York.
Lieutenant H. S. Shave, I.P.C., to Chatham.
Lieutenant R. A. McIntosh, I.P.C., to Salisbury.
Lieutenant S. C. McGregor, I.P.C., to Dover.
Lieutenant G. Wray, I.P.C., to Chester.
Lieutenant A. H. Britton, I.P.C., to Edinburgh.
Lieutenant A. H. Beattie, I.P.C., to Aldershot.
Lieutenant C. S. Roberts, I.P.C., to Belfast.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following:—

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
2nd Lieutenant O. B. G. Shoubridge.
2nd Lieutenant N. D. Shaw.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from:—
"B" Corps Signals, India.
Tank Brigade Signals.
School of Signals, Catterick.
R.Signals Officers' Mess, Catterick.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from:—
Major R. G. L. Giblin.

APPEALS dealt with:—

1	Ex-Signalman, Darlington	Grant	£3	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	1	0	0
3	Ex-N.C.O., Hants	Grant	1	10	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., Liverpool	Grant	2	10	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Grant	3	0	0
6	Ex-Driver, Darlington	Grant	3	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Grant	2	9	6
8	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Loan	1	0	10
9	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Loan	5	0	0
10	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Loan	6	0	0
11	Signalman, Ireland	Grant	1	5	0
12	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Loan	3	0	0
13	Ex-Signalman, Londonderry	Grant	3	0	0

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15	Widow of Signalman (deceased), Catterick	Grant	5	0	0
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	3	0	0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] R.Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
Saturday, 18th April.

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.

2310602	Sergeant R. T. Gatford	4/10/31
2309334	Sergeant S. J. Murphy	12/12/31
2311099	Sergeant P. J. Hammond	2/ 1/32
*2309327	Sergeant S. Lewis	19/ 1 32
5664462	Sergeant R. V. J. Crouch	1/ 2/32
*2309814	Sergeant W. J. Cornish	4/ 2/32

HOME AND ABROAD, 5%. INDIA, 4%. RANK AND FILE. Class 15.

393601	Lance Sergeant H. Kenny	2/ 7 30
2310679	Corporal J. Choulerton	9/ 7/30
2310622	Lance Sergeant G. W. Weeks	10/ 7/30
41233	Signalman L. J. Andrews	19/ 7/30
2201233	Corporal C. F. Ransom	30/ 7/30
2313772	Lance Sergeant D. Copp	2/ 8/30

* To be absorbed into 50% establishment from 5% on promotion.

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

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,

I have just returned from a visit to the Indian Signal Corps.

I had the honour to be the bearer of a message from the Royal Corps of Signals congratulating the Indian Signal Corps on the record which it has built up in the twenty-five years since it was established, and conveying the good wishes of all ranks for the future.

I think that all readers of THE WIRE would like to hear quite unofficially how this message was delivered to the various Signal Units in India, and of the great pleasure with which it was received there by all ranks, British and Indian.

Mrs. Powell and I arrived at Karachi on the 4th January, and received a most hearty welcome from Brigadier Le Cornu, Signal Officer-in-Chief, India, and from Colonel Vyvyan, C.S.O. Western Command, and their staffs, and also from "B" Corps Signals and a section of the 2nd Indian Division Signals from Quetta.



Silhouette photograph of the reading of the message at the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, 11th February, 1936.

Here was started a series of events which were more or less followed in each station and will not require repetition. Let me say that we enjoyed the very warmest of welcomes everywhere.

The most important item was always the delivery on parade of the message. After going round the ranks and giving my congratulations (always well deserved) on the all-round smartness of the turn out, I produced the message signed by Brigadiers Clementi Smith and Willan, Colonels-Commandant of Royal Signals, and read it first in English and then in Hindustani. I may say that in preparing the latter version I had the help of an Indian officer of a literary turn of mind, and his elegant oriental phrasing was highly appreciated and, as they always told me, understood by all. After the parade I used to meet all the officers and received the formal salutations of the Indian officers, who present the hilt of the half-drawn sword on which the officer honoured by the greeting places his hand.

As far as time permitted I went round the lines, saw the barracks and technical equipment, the horses and the mechanical transport, and we were entertained at the Officers' Mess and at the Sergeants' Mess and by the Indian Officers. Mrs. Powell was able, to her great pleasure, as a rule to visit the British families, and in several cases she visited the Indian officers' families. She was greatly touched by the kindness with which her visits were welcomed and appreciated.

From Karachi we went on to Dera Ismail Khan, and paid a most enjoyable visit to the Waziristan Signals, omitting Razmak, which was under deep snow.

Quetta, which had suffered so terribly, was also deep in snow, but was for other reasons out of the scope of the tour.

After taking us out to the tribal frontier line Major Roberts drove us in his "Straight Eight" through Bannu to Kohat, and I visited the Signal units at both places. At Kohat, Lieutenant-Colonel Miller met us and drove us over the pass to Peshawar. He took me on the next day to see the Brigade Section at Landi Kotal working with its brigade on a tactical scheme. Here was to me a wonderful change; in the Frontier hills where Signals used to work by helio from the hill tops after a long climb and with a much-needed escort, now the Brigade and Battalion Headquarters were through by wireless to each other, on the move, even though a rocky hill range intervened. After pleasant days in Peshawar I visited the Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop at Risalpur, and was struck here, as in all the other cases, by their smartness.

Rawalpindi was reached on the 18th January. Here we found Colonel Phillips, C.S.O., the "A" Corps Signals, and the 1st Indian Division Signals. When the 1st Division Signals paraded on the Maidan North of the Rawalpindi Fort, the Fort flag was flying at the flagstaff head. As I was going down the ranks the flag was hauled down to half-mast, telling the garrison of the death of His Majesty the King-Emperor. The rest of our tour was in the time of National mourning, and the programme no longer contained items of social jollification, but the parades and all "regimental" items held good, and the tour continued as arranged, the next visit being to the troop at Sialkot.

At Delhi we paid our respects to His Excellency the Viceroy, and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and I was glad to be able to tell the "Chief" how well the various General Officers Commanding spoke of their Signals.

After my visit to the 3rd Divisional Signals at Meerut, we went on with the Signal Officer-in-Chief to Jubbulpore, where on the 25th anniversary of the formation of the first Units of the Indian Signal Corps there were held at the Signal Training Centre a conference and a Jubilee Signals Week, with a reunion of veterans to celebrate the occasion. Large numbers of the old Indian officers and soldiers of the Corps were present, many coming from the Punjab, and they thoroughly enjoyed the meetings and the chance of seeing their successors with their strange new methods.

The parade was the strongest of the tour, and the message was read to a "mounted man's microphone" as Mrs. Powell's fortunate snapshot shows. The by-now famous message can be seen in my hand. Nearest the camera is Brigadier Charles Le Cornu, Signal Officer-in-Chief, and beyond him his staff officer, Captain W. Scott.

I deposited the message with the Commandant of the Signal Training Centre and, with it, individual messages which I had brought out from the Commanding Officers of the original units formed in 1911, from Major-General Lionel Bond, Commandant School of Military Engineering (one of the first subalterns), and from Major-General Sir John Headlam, who was Director of Staff Duties when the scheme of forming the Corps was worked out in his Directorate. Many other cables and letters of greeting were received.

The week's programme included sports and technical displays, and was a great success, for which many thanks were due to the Commandant and all ranks of the Signal Training Centre.

I was especially pleased to see the keenness, smartness, and technical efficiency of the boys' company, an experiment unique in the Indian Army, and one which I feel sure will guarantee that the Indian ranks will in the future bring to their Corps even more credit than in the past.

In conclusion, we went on the 15th February to Trimulgherry (Deccan) to visit the Signal Unit of the 4th Indian Division and the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. This is the Division that is being Indianized, but the Signal Units still have their British officers. Here all went well as elsewhere,

and the Subadar Major spoke an eloquent farewell after the parade. We were invited to the Sergeants' Mess on our way to the railway station, and when the time came to leave, all the members of the mess, with their families, were there around the car to wish us good-bye, and the road was lined by the Indian ranks who had turned out in their white "Hindustani clothing," to cheer us on our way. At the station were the British officers and the Indian officers with the garlands of flowers that their picturesque farewell customs prescribe. It was a wonderful good-bye.

That our kind friends appreciated our visit and wished us a happy voyage home was conveyed to us by seventeen telegrams and many letters which awaited us on board our ship.

On our way home we broke our journey in Egypt and enjoyed the hospitality of Colonel Drayson and Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Mansergh, and I was greatly interested in seeing the Egypt Signals.

Yours very truly,

S. H. POWELL,
Major-General (Retired.)
Colonel-Commandant Indian Signal Corps.

7th April, 1936.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.
24th March.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Sir,—Having read with considerable interest the article entitled "Be Prepared" in the March issue of the Corps Magazine, I beg to submit the following criticism for favour of publication:

It is possible that the author of that article can put forward some additional suggestions which may be of value to those who, like myself, were sent abroad late in their Service, with the result that we shall be virtually "time expired" before sailing home for final discharge.

In such circumstances one has few opportunities of preparing oneself for civilian life as "R.R." suggests, as it will probably be a case of landing in England one day and "job hunting" the next.

"R.R." may possibly advocate a correspondence course, but that suggests the Civil Service and entails not only entrance examinations but competitive ones. Such examinations, moreover, can only be taken in England, and there is usually an age limit which would disqualify the majority of us.

The motive which prompted "R.R's" contribution, however, is greatly appreciated, and we in India would be still further grateful to him if he could put forward a few practical suggestions calculated to assist time-ex wallahs who dread the prospect of being unemployed.

Your own monthly notes on Civil employment are also very helpful, and are thoroughly digested with the greatest interest.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully, G. TROTTER, Signalman.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[A new 1936 Edition of the Corps Promotion Roster, Pocket Edition, is now in course of preparation and will be available for distribution at an early date.

Page references for the following information in the 1934 publication have therefore been omitted.]

Commissioned.

2306228	R.S.M. Beattie A.	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.
1856293	R.S.M. Wray G.	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.
2306292	Supt. Clerk Burgess J.	1/ 4/36	Lieut. (Q.M.)
2306249	R.S.M. McGregor S.	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.
2307665	R.S.M. Kneebone G.	1/ 4/36	Lieut. (Q.M.)
2306968	R.S.M. Britton A.	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.
2306193	Supt. Clerk McIntosh R.	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.
1853091	S.M. Roberts C. (F. of S.)	1/ 4/36	†I.P.C.

† *Inspector of Permanent Communications.*

Appointed Superintending Clerk

2306358	R.S.M. Harrison T.	1/ 4/36
*6335626	R.S.M. Wills A. G.	1/ 4/36

To be W.O. i (R.S.M.)

2307579	R.Q.M.S. Spindler E.	1/ 4/36
2306354	R.Q.M.S. Noonan M.	1/ 4/36
2306508	R.Q.M.S. Kingman G.	1/ 4/36
2306488	R.Q.M.S. Herbert A.	1/ 4/36
2307440	R.Q.M.S. Mitchell J.	1/ 4/36
*1038895	R.Q.M.S. Day C. E.	1/ 4/36
*1850271	C.S.M. Bew G.	1/ 4/36

To be W.O. i. (S.M. Foreman of Signals.)

2306425	Q.M.S. King V.	1/ 4/36

To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.)

2311719	C.Q.M.S. Hillman J.	27/ 1/36

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2311441	Sergeant Finney W.	7/12/35
*6076650	Sergeant Blunden E.	18/12/35

To be Sergeant.

2310949	L/Sergeant Sharples H.	15/11/35
2313446	L/Sergeant Brown F.	5/12/35
1856964	L/Sergeant Watt N.	24/ 1/36

Appointed Lance Sergeant

2554732	Corporal Gandey G.	5/12/35
2314586	Corporal Meldrum G.	18/12/35
2310687	Corporal Brunton W.	21/ 1/36
3949468	Corporal Rees T.	24/ 1/36

To be Corporal.

2317312	L/Corporal Hollands E.	1/12/35
2318982	L/Corporal Cuthbertson J.	5/12/35
2318206	L/Corporal Lennon W.	19/12/35
2318219	L/Corporal Galbraith A.	21/ 1/36

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2320367	Signalman Holland S.	3/10/35
1850231	Signalman O'Donnell L.	5/10/35
2320088	Signalman Brown R.	5/10/35
2320310	Signalman Evans D.	5/10/35
2319020	Signalman Beeby K.	6/10/35
2319924	Signalman Stilwell R.	6/10/35
2320326	Signalman Middleton A.	11/10/35
5722979	Signalman Crouch L.	12/10/35
2321069	Signalman Mills J.	15/10/35
2321054	Signalman Young F.	22/10/35
2716118	Signalman Ferguson H.	29/10/35
2318069	Signalman Brown C.	29/10/35

Discharges.

2311602	Sergeant Moss P.	7/ 3/36
1860365	Sergeant Grant A.	18/ 3/36
1855586	Sergeant Connelly J.	16/ 3/36
6452042	Sergeant Levy D.	16/ 3/36
393482	Sergeant White A.	21/ 3/36
1856412	Sergeant Fahey W.	25/ 3/36
2315423	Corporal McKenzie L.	21/ 3/36
6842619	L/Corporal Bailey W.	1/ 2/36
31889	L/Corporal Barter E.	11/ 3/36
2315844	L/Corporal Thomas G.	14/ 3/36
2303360	F/Corporal Hawthorne W.	31/ 3/36

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2319117	L/Corporal Barnett G.	13/ 3/36
2319118	Corporal Chapman E.	13/ 3/36

Deceased.

*1860284	Sergeant Galtress T.	29/ 3/36

* *Special Roster (India).*

Corps Athletics, 1936.

Corps Fixture.—A fixture has been arranged, to take place at Durham, between a Corps team and teams from Durham University and Northumberland and Durham. The meeting will be on 23rd May, and it is hoped that last year's success may be repeated, when a Corps team defeated Durham University in a similar fixture.

This year the team will necessarily be weakened by the absence of many of the Corps' best performers who are serving abroad. However, Units have already given their assurance that they will do their best to allow such athletes who remain to come up and represent the Corps.

Army Athletics.—It is hoped that all Units will do their best to support the new events which have been arranged for this year's Army Championships. These are as follows:—

Young Soldiers' Events (age to be under 20 years on the first day of the meeting): 100 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards, throwing the discus and javelin.

Boys' Events (age to be under 18 years on the first day of the meeting): Putting the weight, throwing the discus.

The alteration in the definition of the "Young Soldier" now makes it possible for ex-boys to take part in the new events, and it is hoped that full advantage will be taken of this development.

A.A.A. Summer School, 1936.—As a pupil at last year's school, I should like to recommend that a representative should be sent from every Unit this year to learn the latest methods of teaching and coaching in field events.

Last year's school was attended by a large number of officers and other ranks from many regiments, members of the Police Force and other Services, and games masters from schools. Everyone who attended left with the feeling that he had been given a unique insight into the mysteries of field event technique.

The school was organised by the A.A.A., under the supervision of Captain F. A. M. Webster, and the coaches were of International calibre. These included Jaakko Mikkola, the Finnish-American coach, from Harvard University, U.S.A.; Charles Hoff, of Norway, a former world's record holder in the pole vault; and M. C. Nokes, R. St. G. Harper, and others who have represented Britain in Olympic Games.

If it is possible, those who attend the school should have some previous knowledge of the technique of the various events, but it is by no means essential. If a complete novice attended the first and second weeks' instruction he would come away with a considerable amount of ability to teach. The second and third weeks are, in my opinion, the best for one who has a certain amount of previous experience. The fees are reasonable; £6 10s. covers the cost of accommodation, feeding, and instruction for two weeks. The accommodation is excellent, every pupil having a separate room and living under most comfortable conditions.

I personally felt that my money was well spent, as I not only derived an enormous amount of benefit out of the course but also spent a most enjoyable fortnight.

When the details of this year's school are available I will see that they are published in THE WIRE for the information of all Units.

(*Signed*) T. W. BOILEAU, Captain, R.Signals,
Officer i/c. Athletics, S.T.C.

Golf.

The annual golf match between Officers of R.Signals and Royal Army Service Corps took place at the Bramshot Club on Wednesday, 8th April, 1936.

Four-ball foursomes were played both morning and afternoon, and a most enjoyable day's golf resulted in a win for the Royal Army Service Corps by one match.

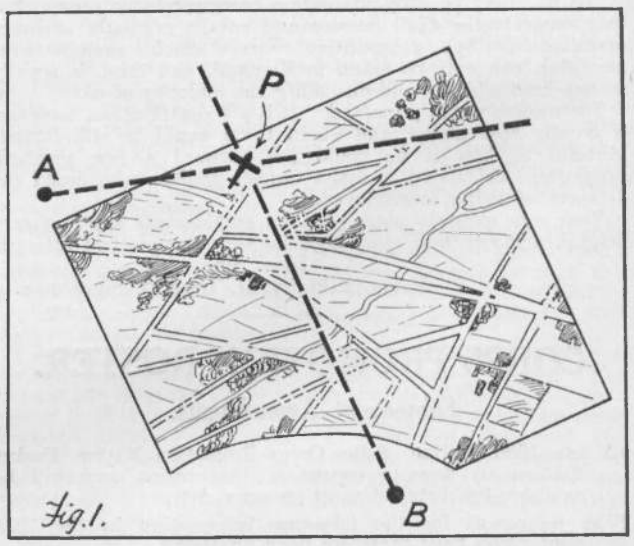
Results as under:

R.Signals.		R.A.S.C.	
Lieuenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons and Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay ...	0	Lieutenant M. R. Gardner and Lieutenant R. H. Burrell	1
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham and Lieutenant J. F. Longfield	0	Major A. R. Smith and Captain G. B. McDonald	1
Captain M. Duke and Lieutenant E. S. Cole	1	Major F. S. Clover and Captain H. T. Walsh	0
Major J. C. McDonald and Captain A. E. Morrison	0	Captain C. B. Robertson and Captain J. Witt	1
Major Thursby-Pelham and Captain Lewis-Barclay	0	Lieutenant Gardner and Lieutenant Burrell ...	0
Lieutenant-Colonel Parsons and Lieutenant Longfield	0	Major Smith and Captain McDonald	1
Captain Duke and Lieutenant Cole	1	Major Clover and Captain Walsh	0
Major McDonald and Captain Morrison	1	Captain Robertson and Captain Witt	0
	3		4

"Plane" Sailing.

By W. T. LOWE.

Flying blind above a sea of fog, the pilot of an aeroplane depends upon the wireless direction finding station on the ground for his bearings. But even though this system is appreciated by the airman, it has one drawback which tends to counteract exactitude. Although carried out with the utmost rapidity, so much ground work is involved in the process that the position transmitted to the plane can never be quite correct.



[*Reproduced by the courtesy of "Popular Wireless."*]

Compared with the movement of a ship, the speed of aircraft is of course much faster; and by the time bearings have been found, the machine has perhaps travelled many miles from the position where the pilot made his "call." So that the exact position will immediately and automatically be made known at any time during flight, an ingenious scheme—based on the use of cathode ray tubes—has been developed.

Over a cathode ray tube screen, a transparent map is fitted on to the dashboard of the aeroplane. Two fixed beacon stations on land send out signals to two frame aerials mounted on the machine. On receiving the signals, the tube (acting in

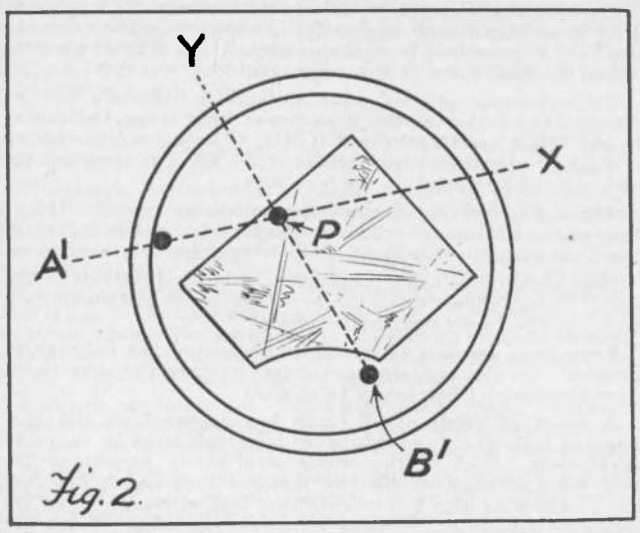


Fig. 2.

[*Reproduced by the courtesy of "Popular Wireless."*]

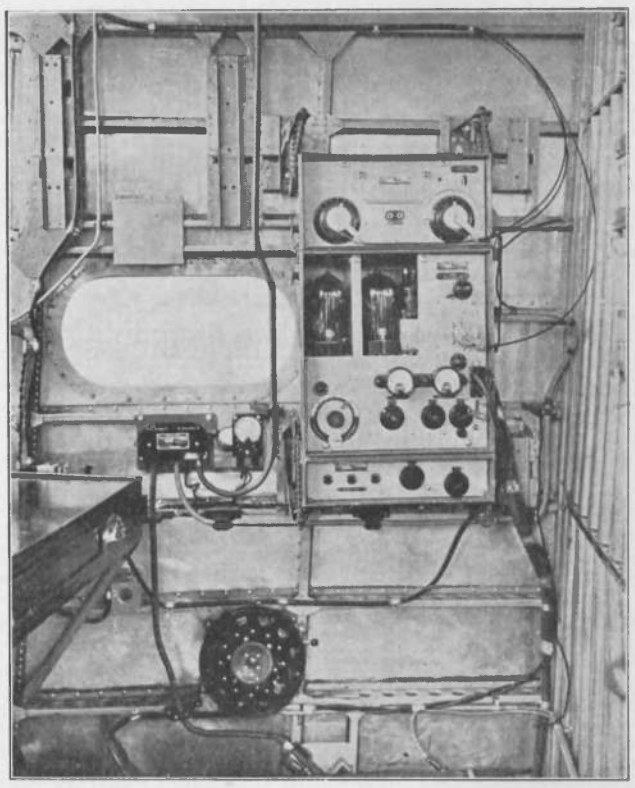
the same way as in television) produces two lines of "light," each representing the direction of the respective land beacon stations. Persisting on the screen, these lines intersect and, where they meet, show the pilot (through the transparent map) his exact position.

The Editor of "Popular Wireless" has kindly allowed me to make use of the two reproduced diagrams and the following explanatory paragraphs:—

The electron stream in the cathode ray indicator is so controlled that at one moment it is zeroised at the point A′ and the next moment at B′. Although it is being continually changed over from one point to the other, during the short time it is zeroised at A′ it is subjected to the incoming signals from beacon A (Fig. 1). These deflect it along a line A′—X, which indicates the 'bearing' of beacon A relative to the aeroplane. Similarly, when the spot is zeroised at the point B′, it is subjected to signals from the second land station B, which deflect it along a second line B′—Y, corresponding with the 'cross bearing' of that station relative to the plane.

"The pilot sees both lines A′—X and B′—Y simultaneously (Fig. 2) and therefore knows that his position is at the point P, where they cross on the map."

It occurs to the present writer that the basis of this idea could also be applied on land and sea during foggy weather. Surely, ships (at least large liners) might use it with advantage, and



New Marconi Combined Wireless Transmitting and Receiving Equipment, type A.D.41/42, installed in the Four-Engined Short "Scylla" Air Liner.

[*Reproduced by the courtesy of Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd.*]

with a little ingenuity and co-operation road transport could be made much safer. It might eventually be the means of preventing railroad accidents. Certainly it help to make air travel "plane" sailing.

This Marconi installation is suitable for telephony and C.W. or I.C.W. telegraphy, covering the waveband of 500—1000 metres. The power of the transmitter, which is fitted with an independent valve drive to ensure stability of the transmitted



The New Four-Engined Short "Scylla" Imperial Airways Liner, fitted with Marconi Aircraft Equipment, type A.D.41/42.

[*Reproduced by the courtesy of Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd.*]

frequency, is 160 watts input to the magnifier valves. The receiver is a three-valve instrument with one screen grid high frequency stage, a detector and pentode output. The bottom section of the installation comprises a wave-switching unit, which makes it possible to select quickly any one of four different wavelengths. Another switching unit, fitted to the left of the aerial ammeter on the side of the transmitter, connects either a fixed aerial or a trailing aerial let out from the aerial winch (visible in the bottom of the picture) to the wireless installation. The A.D.41/42 can be operated from the pilot's seat by remote control or by an operator in the wireless compartment. An operating table with Morse key is on the left of the photograph.

Britain's Wireless Watchers.

[*Reproduced by kind permission of "Wireless and Television Review."*]

By W. T. LOWE
In collaboration with ARTHUR TOMLINSON (G 2 Q N).

Bolt Head, in Devonshire, was the site chosen for the first Post Office coast wireless station. Opened in 1908, it was the forerunner of the system which now extends around the coasts of the British Isles. Every important etheric shipping lane is now covered by these marine watchdogs.

Erected for short distant coastal work, the present eleven stations have a range of three to four hundred miles. But reception of their signals is a nightly event far out across the Atlantic and in the Mediterranean.

Originally equipped with spark apparatus, all the stations have now been brought up to date with valve gear. In effect, this reduces much of the old interference with broadcast listeners, in addition to considerably increasing the effective range of the stations.

In the days of spark, intercepting any kind of signal on, say, Merseyside when Cullercoats (GCC) was working, presented considerable difficulty. Now, all that is changed. A few degrees movement of the tuning control on selective receivers cuts out this powerful Northern station.

For commercial reception, directional receivers are employed. They have been found very useful in overcoming the excessive jamming encountered in coastal waters. It is a great pleasure indeed to handle one of these fine yard-long receivers!

But apparatus at the coast stations is naturally not so conspicuous as that at the high power long range stations at Rugby (GBR) and Portishead (GKU). The super transmitters at Rugby, with their plate voltage of 20,000, can communicate with ships at any point on the high seas.

Although telephony channels are now being concentrated at Rugby, the station was originally intended to provide a twenty-four hour system of worldwide radio-telegraphic communication.

Most powerful of valve telegraph transmitting stations in the world, Rugby claims to be the first high power station to have been equipped with thermionic valves.

From here, news is broadcast to ships and the outposts of Empire. On the high seas, navigators welcome the time signal from Greenwich Observatory twice daily.

A forest of masts of all kinds has appeared on the nine hundred acre site, from miniature telegraph poles to imposing skyscrapers. Each of the twelve steel masts supporting the long wave antennæ weighs two hundred tons and is 820 feet high. Carrying over 150 miles of overhead wires, the masts are securely stayed to porcelain insulators mounted on granite blocks. Capable of withstanding a wind velocity of 140 miles per hour, it is estimated that each mast top has a 7 feet sway in a moderate breeze!

Electric lifts large enough to hold three people are provided on these slender masts. For Rugby's colossal signal, an enormous pressure is provided on the aerials, so nobody is allowed to ascend in those lifts unless accompanied by an experienced engineer.

Records indicate that few stations can compare favourably with Rugby in the number of short wave experimental and commercial channels in use. This world-famous station's telegraph and telephone signals are thus very conspicuous on all waves.

In radio telephony, it is a matter of great importance to prevent inter-action between the outgoing and incoming speech



The Direction Finding Apparatus at the Land's End Radio Station.
[*Reproduced by the courtesy of the Postmaster-General.*]

channels. To obviate this difficulty, the transmission and reception points are isolated. The short wave receivers used in conjunction with the Rugby transmitters are concentrated at Baldock, Herts, whilst the long wave telephony reception point is located at Cupar, Fife.

It is estimated that the annual electrical consumption for the valves, generators, etc., at this wonder station is five and a half million units. Calculate this at your house lighting rates !

Wheatstone transmission at hand speeds is usual through Rugby. The actual operating is carried out from the Central Radio Office, Central Telegraph Office, London. Messages are transmitted over land lines and relayed automatically through the radio station. Unfortunately, not all the three thousand ships which can be reached can give direct acknowledgment. This is due to the long wavelengths used and the extreme range. To guard against the possibility of the distant operator missing a word or a figure group, however, arrangements are made to permit of each message being transmitted twice.

A series of important continuous watch traffic exchange services are conducted from Portishead. With ships suitably equipped, the 36 metre transmissions have a world wide range.

There is a 600 metre coast station point replacing Fishguard Radio (GRL), and several channels in the 2000—2500 metre band are used for working the more important liners. The long wave transmitters have an effective range of about 3,000 miles. Under the call sign GKU they handle a large amount of commericial traffic.

Perhaps the most spectacular service is that radiated on the short waves. Using a 36 metre night wave and a still shorter day wave, Portishead (with the call sign GKC) may be heard exchanging telegrams with shipping at surprising distances. Vessels may be contacted with equal readiness in the English Channel or near the South Pole. The long and short wave transmitters at Portishead are remotely controlled from the Burnham Radio Station, where ships' transmissions are intercepted.

The transmitter H.T. supply of 8000 volts. is only partially smoothed. This permits of an I.C.W. wave being radiated with excellent characteristics for short wave long distance work. Protective switching devices are fitted to all the apparatus enclosures. Any gear adjustment being made with open gates automatically interrupts the H.T. leads, making the equipment safe to handle. Facilities are also provided for rapid wave-change.

Vertical aerials were originally employed. These consisted of copper tubes mounted on porcelain insulators attached to stayed poles. Energy was fed to the centre of the tubes by twin non-radiating feeder lines. The deflections of the aerial ammeter were read from the station windows with a telescope! Now, however, directional transmitting and receiving antennæ have been erected.

For reception purposes, a new type of super-het set evolved by the P.O. Research Section at the Dollis Hill laboratories has been installed—a masterpiece of modern commercial receiver design, 7 ft. long, 7 ft. high and 1 ft. wide.

To obtain maximum efficiency, the world has been divided into several zones. At pre-arranged times each zone is explored and specially covered so as to permit of most favourable operating conditions. In this manner, it is anticipated that every shipping route—even the more distant—will be traversed twice daily.

From my own observations, it would appear that Portishead is the most important station of its kind in the world, messages flowing into it like water running from a tap. These telegrams are re-transmitted with the least possible delay to the Central Radio Office, London, by means of the latest high speed Creed teleprinters.

So much for the ocean spanners. Now let us go back to have a final look at the coast stations. Not the least important of the operator's duties is to keep a continuous watch on the international 600 metre band for maritime casualties. You can imagine a little of what he does on intercepting an S.O.S. Since distress signalling takes precedence over all traffic, he entirely suspends commercial working, if necessary taking sole charge of the situation. A second operator maintains close touch with the nearest coastguard. In general, the latter man deals with the matter on the land side, informing all parties concerned.

Present day aircraft activity tends to add considerably to the operator's responsibilities. Arrangements recently have been made whereby radio telegrams, routed through the appropriate station, may be delivered to passengers on board trans-continental or local air liners.

In addition to traffic exchange, medical advice, navigation warnings and weather reports add to the important duties of these efficient marine policemen.

Certain stations, suitably situated, are calibrated and equipped with direction finding gear. Reliable bearings may be given to vessels within the station's service area. This service, for which a nominal charge is made, is in increasing demand by navigators.

Operators are recruited from the Inland Telegraph Service. Their qualifications and the undoubted reliability of the stations. make the British shore service the envy of other nations.

Hospital Days.

[*By kind permission of "The Royal Canadian Signals Bulletin."*]

During a somewhat chequered military career it has been our fortune—or misfortune—to stay for various periods and for various complaints in hospitals of one sort or another.

In pre-war days our visits were short and infrequent, and invariably in those small station hospitals where " bed " meant " bed," and " up " meant performing probably more fatigues than would fall to our lot if we were doing ordinary duty. During the war the various hospitals we entered were a queer mixture of military and civilian. The administration may have been military, but the discipline was certainly civilian, and taking everything into consideration we had an enjoyable time. Of course, there were certain doctors (usually the very young or the very old) with an exaggerated idea of their military importance, and occasionally a nursing sister of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. who seemed to think it was her bounden duty to inject a little discipline into the hospital—which, to our untutored minds, seemed to be running very smoothly and happily under the capable though perhaps less strict hands of her non-military sister.

Lately, however, we have had another experience. This time it was a large and entirely up-to-date civilian hospital. Our interior had not been behaving at all well, so after several attendances at sick parades we were ordered to a hospital where our military medical officers had no jurisdiction, and we were handed over, body and soul, to the civilian staff.

Our first impression, after being shown to a very nice bright single room and having our temperature taken and our pulse counted, was the extraordinary number of females of varying degrees of pulchritude cluttering up the place, and the extraordinary variety of uniforms they wore. Women in white, in pink, in blue and in grey; with caps and aprons, and without; in black shoes and stockings, and in white ditto. We imagined, and rightly so as matters turned out, that these various costumes served as badges of rank, and later on we found that the " all whites " were graduates or supervisors; the " pinks " were nurses in training; the " blues with caps " were students in their first year; and the " blues without caps " were probationers. Those in grey were the domestic staff. Incidentally, we also found that if we addressed any of these damsels as " Sister "—the normal form of salutation in a military hospital—they thought we were trying to get familiar.

In our younger days we did not think we were really sick unless we were pounded and pummelled about, made to hop on each foot, say " 99," and cough. Up to the present we have not been mauled in any way, nor have we been made to say " 99." It is all done by machinery. When our doctor (who more resembled a somewhat prosperous stockbroker than our conception of a doctor) saw us, he merely remarked to the woman in white who accompanied him " G.I. series—Ewald test meal " and some other jargon; then he left us. Unfortunately he saw us before lunch, and this appeared to him a good opportunity to get in his dirty work right away, so we got no lunch. About 3 p.m. we were feeling decidedly peckish, and when a damsel entered with a small tray containing four

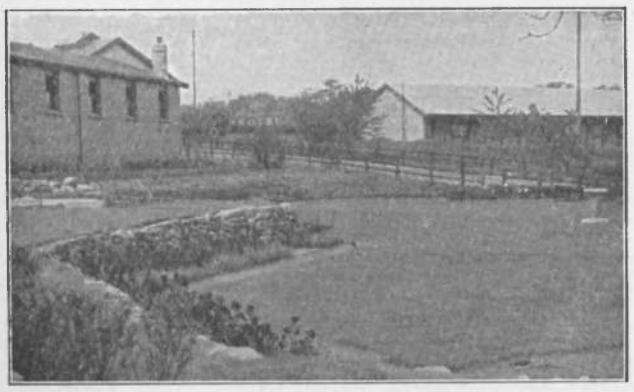
[*Continued in second column on page* 224]

HOME STATIONS



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

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES



The Reception Room ..... *Depot Battalion*

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Once more unto the pad, dear friends; once more to fill it up with the office ink. We seem to have lost touch completely with the atmosphere of life in Catterick, the exigencies of the Service having required the presence of the scribe elsewhere for the past month. Hence it is quite an effort delving into archives for events of note during that period. However, we feel sure that you will overlook the fact that this is not an eye-witness account; not even the item of the Corporals' trip to the Grand National—although we joined the unhappy legion of those who did go, in the matter of also selecting the losers. After so many excuses it seems time for a spot of news, so here goes.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Major G. P. Pavey from India, who assumed command of the Mounted Wing; 2nd Lieutenant E. D. Darricote and 2nd Lieutenant G. G. Graley, who are attached for a course of training; C.Q.M.S. Molineaux, from Kohat District Signals; Sergeant Allston, from 1st Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Bailey, ex India; Sergeant Percy, from Cavalry Troop, Meerut; C.S.M. Gradden, posted from Meerut, at present busy taking over as R.Q.M.S.

Departures.—Our contingent for the big boat, amid much sorrow, left on 16th March, for the mango cantonment. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new units: Lance Sergeant Tom Cooley, the Sirloin King; Farrier Corporal Archer F. (Rags) and his wife; Farrier Corporal Sharvell and wife (he was getting so tricky with his steps, too); Corporal Bennett E., the Drill Merchant; Corporal Johnny Bull, the Wisecrack Chief; Lance Corporals Poole D. and White R., our Shooting Experts.

On 30th March we lose Lance Sergeant Carnegie and Signalman Porter P., en route for Egypt. We wish them both a pleasant voyage.

Sergeants' Mess Social.—On Saturday, 7th March, a very enjoyable dance was held, and, from reports, was voted a huge success. Everyone is wondering when the next outburst is coming off.

Esprit de Corps.—The Mess has recently received a letter of appreciation from Mrs. A. M. Shirley, wife of the late Sergeant H. Shirley, thanking the members for kindly thoughts and actions of the past. It has been the custom on Mess nights to make subscriptions towards the purchase of National Savings Certificates for the benefit of Mrs. Shirley's two children, until now (the time when there is no necessity to continue with the scheme) they have collected a total of fourteen certificates, which are in the children's possession. It was a splendid idea on the part of the one who started the plan, and it makes one feel, after all, what real family affairs the Services are.

Promotions.—Acting Corporal Wood W. G.; Unpaid Lance Corporal Ballard J. on the S.T.C. Roster. Congratulations to both on the attainment of ranks as shown.

Sporting Achievements.—Hats off to the Depot Miniature Rifle Shooting Team, who have won the Yorkshire Division I Winter League Competition. Hats off again, and we also give the belt to the Depot Billiards Team, who, under the expert massage treatment given by Lance Corporal Boyland J., managed to win by two or three fences the Garrison Junior Knock-out Competition. We give no cheers, however, to the "he-man" who discovered that the cups which the winners received unscrewed, made a mistake, and unscrewed one the wrong way. He is on the free transfer list for the "awkward squad."

Agony and Things We Would Like to Know.—Why a member of this Wing finds so much thrill in a bacon machine in Richmond. Buying tins of milk is so unromantic, and, besides, buying two tins at a time is not a sign of wealth; it is a sign of heathen taste. Still, a man with his personality is bound to make an impression.

More Woe.—Is it true that a certain Orderly N.C.O. had the audacity to awaken the King's Company at fifteen minutes prior to Reveille? A crying shame!

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

It was with regret that all ranks of this Unit bade farewell to our deservedly popular Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, on Saturday, 28th March, 1936.

Colonel Tillard has commanded the Battalion since 1932, and during his tenure of command has always done his utmost for the welfare of the troops. His unflagging interest in the sports side of the Unit has contributed greatly to the successes we have achieved.

The boys of "F" Company have been helped in many ways by Colonel Tillard, and all their activities have had his warmest support and assistance.

An informal tour of the Battalion was carried out by Colonel Tillard prior to his departure, during which he personally thanked the Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s for their assistance, and wished them the best of luck.

Colonel and Mrs. Tillard drove slowly through the Unit lines en route to London (where the Colonel was to take up his new appointment at the War Office). Cheering troops lined the roads and shouted good wishes to a Commanding Officer whose departure is regretted by all.

Good luck to you, sir, in your new appointment, and au revoir from all ranks of the Training Battalion.

Since writing the above, news has been received of the promotion of Colonel Tillard, and all ranks tender their heartiest congratulations.

Colonel Tillard is presenting a Cup to the Battalion, to be competed for by six a side soccer teams. Many thanks are due for this addition to the trophies of the Unit, which will do much to encourage sport.

On Thursday, 26th March, the married families of the Training Battalion assembled in Newbigging Hall to wish the wife of our Commanding Officer, Mrs. Tillard, au revoir on leaving the station.

On behalf of the married families, R.S.M. Butcher E. S. presented Mrs. Tillard with a silver inkstand as a mark of appreciation for the great interest shown by her in her untiring work for the welfare of the families. Mrs. Tillard was also presented with a beautiful bouquet of pink carnations.

In his speech, the R.S.M. thanked Mrs. Tillard on behalf of the families for the way in which she had helped and encouraged the social life of the Battalion.

In reply, Mrs. Tillard expressed her very deep and heartfelt thanks to all for their very kind thoughts in presenting her with such a very useful gift, and especially for the beautiful bouquet of carnations. Mrs. Tillard also said that without the great assistance she had received from the R.S.M. and Mrs. Butcher she was certain she could not have made the social life of the Battalion the success it had been. So with many protestations of regret we bade Adieu.

During the afternoon selections were played by the Corps Band, under the direction of Mr. R. R. Rickets, who came in for a special word of appreciation and thanks from Mrs. Tillard.

Sergeants' Mess, Training Battalion.

On Friday night, 27th March, a Games Tournament was held in the Mess with the Officers of the Battalion as our guests, this taking the form of a farewell to our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C.

The skill of our guests at Billiards, Kameroon, Darts and Tippet called forth many and varied remarks, making the whole a very enjoyable and merry evening.

During the course of the evening Colonel Tillard was spotted playing Kameroon on the " carpet " with other Mess members, and was thoroughly enjoying it.

The farewell speech by the Mess President, R.S.M. Butcher, was thoroughly appreciated by all present, such remarks as " Hear, hear ! " being frequently heard coupled with R.S.M. Butcher's remarks as to the untiring work done by the Commanding Officer to make our work so much more pleasant and amicable.

At the end of the speech Colonel Tillard was presented with a large framed photograph of the Mess members, suitably inscribed, as a mark of their deep appreciation.

Colonel Tillard, in reply, said : " Words cannot express my very deep appreciation of the untiring co-operation I have had from you all, and I hope that should we meet again you will not hesitate to make yourselves known to me. It has been a very great pleasure to me to be able to meet you all here and accept from you this framed photograph, which will always bring back to me very pleasant memories of my stay at Catterick.

" Some of you will no doubt have noticed that I played Kameroon on the ' carpet ' this evening. The first time I came into your Mess I was most happy to play the same game under the same conditions, so that I felt I should like to finish my course as it had started, that is, on the ' carpet,' and I thoroughly enjoyed doing so.

" Once again I thank you all for your keen interest and the help you have given me during my term of appointment as O.C. Training Battalion."

Three rousing cheers were called for and were very heartily given, Colonel Tillard being chaired and carried round the Mess to the tune of " He's a jolly good fellow," and so we said adieu to another comrade.

ONLOOKER.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

15th March.

General.—During the month we bade farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., who relinquished command of the Training Battalion to take up an appointment at the War Office. Our best wishes go with you, sir, and we hope you enjoy your new surroundings. All available officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Battalion lined the road as Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Tillard drove past while the band played " Auld Lang Syne."

Arrivals.—The following have joined us from overseas: Sergeant Parsons J. T., Corporals Wood J. and Alexander, and Lance Corporal Costen. They are enjoying a spot of furlough prior to settling down for " Spring Drills."

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Curtis B. G., has joined 49th Divisional Signals (T.A.), and we wish him success in his new capacity. He will be missed for his sporting abilities, as he was an all-round sportsman. The Battalion football and hockey teams will miss him.

Sport and Social.—On Saturday, 14th March, our friends from Bishop Auckland Social Centre paid us a visit, and in the afternoon a football match was arranged, at which we were the victors by five goals to two. After the match tea was served in the canteen and the N.A.A.F.I. girls proved themselves excellent waitresses. Tea was followed by a Games Tournament, and then the evening was brought to a close by a " Sing Song." Everyone had an enjoyable time, and a liberal amount of refreshment was available. The success of the entertainments was a credit to the organisers, C.Q.M.S. Wheeler and Sergeant Miles.

Promotions.—Amendments to the " Blue Book " are increasing and we congratulate the following personnel of the Company on attaining the ranks shown: R.Q.M.S. Cutler J., Lance Sergeant Fletcher, Corporal Cottingham, and Unpaid Lance Corporal Urquhart D.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to announce the death of No. 400164, Signalman Fearnley W., as the result of a tragic accident. Whilst cycling from his home in Richmond on the morning of the 26th March, 1936, he collided with a motor van, and received injuries from which he succumbed on 28th March at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp.

He will be remembered as a keen sportsman and an excellent runner, representing the Training Battalion and Signal Training Centre in several cross-country and long distance runs.

All available Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Company formed a guard of honour as the coffin was borne from the mortuary of the Hospital to the waiting lorry which conveyed it to Richmond Station, where it was entrained for Sheffield.

Bill was very popular and his tragic death came as a great shock to us all. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow and father.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

Command.—Our best wishes go out to Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, who relinquished the command of the Training Battalion on 28th March, 1936.

Judging by the numbers of all ranks who turned out to witness his departure, there could be no doubt as to his popularity. His farewell message told us all how much he had enjoyed his tenure of command.

We therefore take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude for all he has done for the Battalion, and wish him every success in his new appointment.

We welcome to the fold Major H. D. Beadon, M.C., R.Signals, and trust he finds everything to his liking and that his stay will be long and happy.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we note the death of No. 400164, Signalman Fearnley W., of "D" Company, on 28th March, 1936, in the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp. The Corps has lost a sportsman in the true sense of the word. Our condolences are tendered to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

Easter Leave.—Scenes of great activity took place in the lines on Wednesday, 8th April, 1936, when about 90 per cent. of our clientele took advantage of the generous leave grant. Unfortunately, the Clerk of the Weather was rather unkind but, judging by the happy faces which greeted one on their return, the spot of rest had done some good and their spirits had by no means been dampened.

Believe It or Not.—A certain Signalman journeyed forth to the Company Stores and stated that he wished to procure certain items of clothing and necessaries. A.F.H. 1181 was presented to him for signature. The C.Q.M.S. told him to sign in a blank space. This he did, signing his name "Blank Space." It is needless to relate that the C.Q.M.S. was not unduly perturbed.

Arrivals and Departures.—To the new arrivals we say "Welcome," and to those who have recently left us "Good luck."

Whilst on this subject, by the time these notes appear in print our Chief Clerk, Sergeant Waight T., will have left the Company for duty in the Training Battalion Orderly Room. We are indeed sorry to lose you, but we enjoy a small measure of consolation in the thought that you will still be serving in the same Battalion.

Spring Drills.—Those of you who have served in Catterick Camp will no doubt recall with pleasure the invigorating effect of spring drills. These are now in full swing on three days per week, and already the personnel of the Company look sprightly.

Finale.—Cheerio, till next month.

"F" Company Training Battalion.

Introductory.—Greetings—not from the sun-kissed lads of . . . . but from the frost-bitten boys of "F" Company. Not the call of the East, but the call of the wilds. There's nothing romantic about Catterick.

Departures.—Yes, we have lost some more. R.S.M. Freemantle has left us for the School of Signals, where he is going to show them the way to play billiards and snooker. They need it. You were very lucky, sir, in not having to pack your bag. The boys thank you for the great interest you showed in our sports.

Our best wishes accompany yet another ex-Boy who has gone out into the world away from mother's arms. Signalman Neatham T.E. left us for Aldershot, although we expect him to be returning to America in the near future. Don't forget. "Spuds," it's the stuff that makes the grass grow green in Texas.

Congratulatory.—To R.S.M. Freemantle on reaching the top rung of the O.R.s ladder, and to Corporal Fearnley in managing to climb yet another rung.

Obituary.—We offer our deepest sympathy to the wife and relations of Signalman Fearnley W., of "D" Company, who died at the Military Hospital, Catterick, on 28th March, 1936, as the result of injuries received in an accident.

Arrivals.—We welcome to our fold: Corporal Kirby E. B., who arrived from India.

General.—Precautions are still being taken against cerebro spinal meningitis, although up to the present "F" Company have been very lucky.

A six-a-side football competition has just been completed in the Battalion, and "F" Company proved their superiority against the men by having two teams in the final (Huts Nos. 5 and 7). No. 5 Hut eventually won the competition. The Cadre Hut were represented, but owing to the fact that some of them were indisposed they could only field a very weak team. At the commencement of the competition they were strong favourites, having had the best of training.

Our best wishes go with Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. S. Tillard, O.B.E., M.C., R.Signals, on his departure from the Battalion. "F" Company, above all, will miss him. He always took the greatest interest in the Boys' Company, especially as regards sport. No matter how severe the weather he was always there, whether it was for cross-country running or cricket. Again, sir, we wish you the best of luck.

Conclusion.—Things we would like to know: Who was the boy who thought that Hyde Park was Arsenal's football ground. Things we like you to know: The bloke who types these notes has decided to put a finish to Aldershot Joe.

Stop Press.—The following has been received from Captain V. C. Holland, on board the *Dorsetshire*, en route for India:

It may be of interest to present and past members of the Company to know that the following ex-Boys are on board for the stations in India as below:

C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) McCulloch, from 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, to S.T.C., Jubbulpore.

Lance Corporal White, from Depot Battalion to Waziristan Signals, Dera Ismail Khan.

Signalman McKillop, from 5th Divisional Signals to "B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Signalman McDermott, from 5th Divisional Signals to 1st Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Signalman Beenham, from "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot, to "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Signalman Crockett, from 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, to 1st Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Signalman Lennon, from Tank Brigade Signals to "B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

Signalman Roake, from 4th Divisional Signals to 3rd Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Further news concerning the welfare of the draft is contained in a special bulletin published elsewhere in THE WIRE.

School of Signals.

This is the beginning of what it is hoped will be a series of regular monthly contributions to THE WIRE. We make our bow.

Courses.—At the present time we have three "Q" Courses under instruction, Nos. 31, 32 and 33. No. 31 is due to finish in June of this year.

No. 11 Foreman of Signals Course is well on its way, and working very hard, judging by the extra time put in by its members. The N.C.O.s on this course are: Warrant Officer Small D. W., Australian Instruction Corps; Lance Sergeant Homan F. G., Depot Battalion R.Signals; Corporal Kavanagh J., Depot Battalion R.Signals; Corporal Rickard R. E., Training Battalion R.Signals; Corporal Harris P., S.T.C., India; Corporal Funnell H. J., China Command Signals; Corporal Watterton L., S.T.C., India; Corporal Dale G. H., 2nd Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Lafford E. S., 3rd Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Spafford J., S.T.C., India; Lance Corporal Smith G. H., 2nd Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Sutcliffe, W. H., 3rd Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Whalebelly L., S.T.C., India; Lance Corporal Bucke C. E., 3rd Divisional Signals.

No. 117 Regimental Signalling Instructors' Course for Officers and N.C.O.s of Cavalry R.A. and Infantry Units has just dispersed, and has been replaced by No. 77 Territorial Army Signalling Course, at which those attending are braving the Catterick breezes.

No. 118 Regimental Signalling Instructors' Course join us on 7th May.

An innovation this year has been the introduction of a Course for Territorial Army Captains and another for Supplementary Reserve Officers. These courses are being run by the Signal Training Centre, but a certain amount of time is being put in at the School of Signals.

Congratulations.—Our best wishes go to Lieutenant (I.P.C.) A. H. Britton, who has been promoted to that rank.

We welcome in his place as our R.S.M., J. B. Freemantle, from the Training Battalion.

Promotions are in the air these days. We congratulate C.S.M. A. E. Bawden on reaching that rank, and are glad to know he is staying with us for another tour of duty.

Signalman Beck R. also has been appointed Unpaid Lance Corporal.

Higher trade ratings have been obtained by Signalman Lee A., Fitter A.ii; Signalman Beswick H., Clerk C.ii; Signalman Hallett H., Clerk C.ii; Signalman Wilson S. H., Clerk C.ii; Signalman Boaks W., Carpenter B.i.

General.—We are at the end of the "Mackworth Trophy" year, and are very pleased to see that the School has been placed third, tying for that place with "D" Company. Everyone is to be congratulated on their great efforts in all spheres of sport, and the great enthusiasm they showed. Details of sports activities are shown separately in the sports notices.

Much of our success in the sports line can be attributed to our spectators—small in numbers but enormous in volume.

Athletics and cricket are beginning to show signs of life, and we are going to do our best to show the other Companies the way.

We are very glad to see ex-C.Q.M.S. Todd back again with us in the capacity of civilian clerk in our Quartermaster's Department.

Arrivals and Departures.—Space only permits us to show arrivals and departures over the last month, but here they are. Our best wishes go to them all.

Postings from the School of Signals.—Sergeant Cockings P. V., to 3rd Divisional Signals on 5th March, 1936; Corporal Kavanagh J., to Depot Battalion on 10th February, 1936, while attending No. 11 Foreman of Signals Course; Lance Corporal Reat M., to "G" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt, on 31st March, 1936; Corporal Smith E. A., to "A" Corps Signals on 27th March, 1936; Temporary C.Q.M.S. McLoughlin P. N., also left the School on the 2nd April, to return to civil life, where he has our best wishes.

Postings to the School of Signals.—Corporal Lauriere J., from North China (Tientsin) on 9th March, 1936; Corporal Marsh, from "A" Corps Signals on 9th March, 1936; Signalman Potts S. A., from "L" Company R.Signals, India, on 22nd March, 1936; Signalman Healey, from "L" Company R.Signals, India, on 26th March, 1936; R.S.M. J. B. Freemantle, from Training Battalion on 1st April, 1936; Corporal Bush W. J., from 3rd Divisional Signals on 5th March, 1936; Sergeant Finn V. L., from 54th Divisional Signals (T.A.), on 14th April, 1936; Driver Helliwell W., from Depot Battalion on 6th April, 1936.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Pressure of work is the excuse for the non-appearance of notes in the last two issues, and it is hoped that our apologies tendered herewith will be accepted.

General.—Best wishes in his future sphere are accorded to Lieutenant G. Wray, R.Signals, on his being gazetted to that rank.

As R.S.M. of "A" Corps, he was popular with Officers, rank and file alike, and everybody regrets his going, but at the same time we all are well aware how much he deserved his promotion. Apropos to the above, we have to welcome to the Unit R.S.M. Mitchell, and we all hope that his tour of duty with us will be a happy one. He comes to us from the 1st Divisional Signals—their loss being our gain.

Training and more training, and so the year speeds on. New Sections are formed and even M.T. allotted, whilst preparations are still going ahead for our summer vacation. Shades of Royalty, too, are gathering round us, and we rest contented after a hard day's work—or perhaps "youth" calls us to the "talkies," and we don our "glad rags" and "float" to enjoy the social side of life.

The Annual Musketry has been fired and "Pokey Die" has taken the place of "Pokey Drill" (results not published in both cases !).

Marriages.—Signalmen Beardmore, Dean, and Dowthwaite, of No. 1 Company, have taken the fatal (?) plunge. However, they all seem to be thriving. Presumably all went well at the marriage ceremonies because only the bare facts have come to light. However, the best wishes of the whole Unit go with them, and we hope that the remainder of their troubles will be little ones !

Arrivals.—These are too numerous to mention, but we welcome with the "glad mit," amongst others, Drivers (I.C.) Campbell and Booth, Signalmen Wislon, Sharp, Hand, Dowell, Hesketh, Capper, and Barron. We hope that their stay with us will be a pleasant one, and that when they leave us perhaps for "sunnier climes" they will be well and truly fitted for any task which may beset them.

Departures.—There are many, and to them goes the old wish, "Bon voyage !"

Jew's Mail.—Copsey, of "A" Corps Signals, is still waiting for a line from "Duke" (Earl of Pindi). What about it, Duke ?

Au revoir ! J.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Junior N.C.O.s Drill and Duties Course has concluded and the "victors" eagerly await the results. Musketry has also concluded, and although the results have not been finally worked out, the Company appears to have done very well.

Section training starts on 6th April, but under difficulties owing to shortage of personnel.

Arrivals.—We welcome our new R.S.M. (Mr. Spindler), although he has not yet taken over. He is not quite a stranger to us. We also welcome two drafts from India, and hope that they will soon settle down to work. At present they are enjoying a well-earned furlough.

Departures.—We bid farewell with regret to R.S.M. Kneebone, but as he is rising in the world our regret is tempered with good wishes for his future. C.Q.M.S. Leath and Signalman Baillie have left for foreign climes, and we hope that they will soon settle down in their new stations. The best of luck, "Chicko."

Promotions.—None as yet, but the little blue book is getting well fingered, and hopes are high. We hope that none will be disappointed.

Conclusion.—This paragraph is always the best to me as it allows my grey matter to settle after vainly thinking of news for our notes. Come along and give some help; I am sure that many in the Company must have something of interest to all.

PIP.

No. 3 Company.

General.—There seems to be a movement afoot for the purpose of stimulating recruiting in the Services. I have my own ideas as to what treatment should be meted out to

prospective recruits, but it is best always to bear in mind that Section 40 A.A. covers a multitude of sins. So in lieu of the aforementioned ideas, I proffer the following for the use of the powers that be:

(1) Every man be served with a cup of coffee (plus rum) by the C.S.M. at 8.30 a.m. daily.

(2) That we have a one-hour working day, and that said day be devoted to the relating of the latest stories.

(3) That uniform be completely abolished.

(4) That one pair of dancing pumps be issued to the N.A.A.F.I. Soldiers' Entertainment Committee every Friday evening.

(5) Grand manœuvres be done in the area Blackpool, Brighton, or Southsea.

(6) Terms of enlistment to be amended to read: "Six months with Colours and indefinite time with the local Bureau." (ON FULL PAY).

Talking of recruiting reminds me of the old days. When I first joined up I was brought up before my Commanding Officer many times, and on the last occasion he said to me: "Really, I cannot understand you at all. You made a complaint about your C.S.M.; I had him posted. Then you complained that the cooking did not suit you; I had a new range put in the Cookhouse. You followed this by stating that Kit Inspections did not agree with you; I had them abolished. Truth to tell, you almost make me believe that you do not like the Army."

"That is exactly the case," I replied rather shamefacedly.

He obtained for me my discharge, and I learnt soon after that the Regiment had returned to normal routine.

Promotions.—Many are called but few are chosen. There is a-sighing and a-sobbing in the Company at present, due to the fact that overseas Units have claimed a few of the "Upper Ten." Consequently one or two young men, with their hearts in their work (Hank and Jock), are working hard to sell their birthright for a "Mess of Corporals." Remember, both of you, that to get on in the Service you have to get *under* a good influence.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that I have to report the death of numerous hopes held by owners of sweepstake tickets a few weeks ago. The said holders averred that their chances were as strong as dynamite. That may account for the fact that all they have left now are some blasted hopes.

Words of the Wise From "L" Section.—Tubby: "It is easier to raise a laugh than a loan."

Charlie: "I am always buoyed up with false hops."

Jock: "I want to be a loan."

Hank: "I have the gift of the grab."

Pat: "Bismuth as usual."

Taxi: "I am never canned; only airtight."

Spence: "The referee is the man who counts."

Buck: "They say that I am a budding genius, but a blooming nuisance" (wonder what they mean).

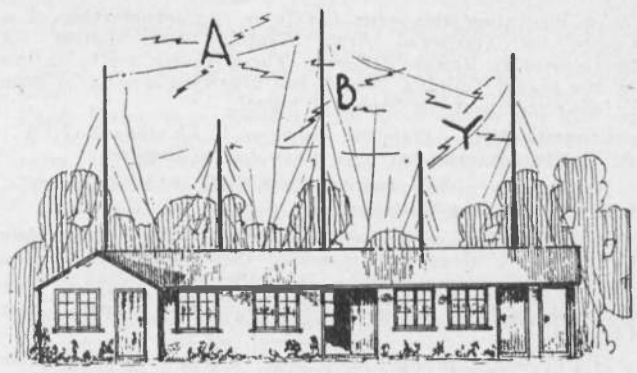
The Poets' Corner.—There was a young lady from Hull . . . sorry, Editor.

RED SAILS IN THE SUNSET

A few weeks at Thursley are coming, I know;
The Q.M.s are busy preparing the blow.
We go out this June for a vacation there,
But this is the last one, so what do I care?
Swift wings I shall borrow, make straight for the Inn,
I'll drown my sorrows in whisky and gin.
A few weeks at Thursley are coming, I know;
My only worry is, Will I have to go?

And so till next month I bid you a farewell, hoping to see a few old friends in Addis Ababa at a future date.

MOLESKIN.



Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS

Calling All Cads.—I've been threatened with the sack if I do not get some notes compiled this month, so rather than lose this job I'll get going. It is three months since last I did my stuff, and yet I cannot think of much to write about now. Something is always happening here, and yet nothing seems to happen, if you know what I mean. I don't.

Changes.—Another change in Officer Commanding has taken place. Lieutenant N. G. Newell has left us for the wilds of Tidworth, and we sincerely hope that he was sorry to leave us. He may be pleased to know that "Billy the Cat" is progressing favourably but cannot understand why she has not been "snapped" lately. Major G. Rooker is our new O.C., and we hope that his stay is going to be enjoyable. It is rumoured that we are to have another officer on the establishment, but nothing official is known yet.

Comes and Goes.—One bit of cheery news comes from the old pen this month. Our cricket team has been greatly strengthened by the departure to "A" Corps Signals of Lance Sergeant Ronnie ("Asleep in the Deep") Stanley. His classic remark, "Where's the ball?", uttered during the course of a Trophy match last year, will long be remembered by those playing in that game. Some people will remember him better by his other cricket *nom-de-plume*, "The living statue." In the "comes" section of this paragraph we have Corporal Hart S. F., and Lance Corporal Patrick F. J., both clerks, who have been posted to us from "A" Corps Signals. Signalman W. (Bing) Mitchell has now been remustered as a civilian, and we hope that he will soon be raking in £1,000 a year.

Additions.—Although rather late, we must congratulate Lance Corporal Willie and Mrs. Abbott on the birth of another son, Peter John.

Courses.—Signalman Lord J. W. has gone on a course to the Army School of Education at Shorncliffe, with a view to his transfer to the A.E.C. We hope he is successful.

Society News.—According to latest reports and a perusal of pass-forms, two more of the Cads will soon be wanted for a job in church. Signalman Frank (Stinker) Bates visits Egham at least four times a week, and Abdul Hamp Ka Butch has a date at Reading every night. In the case of the Stinker there must be something in it; a bloke doesn't take two hours to dress for a trip to the pictures.

The situation on the Eversley front remains the same. Mahatma Ji would have us believe that an eighteen-mile cycle ride four times a week is platonic friendship. I wonder what he would do for love?

Mahatma cannot explain why he went to see "Love on the Dole" twice—he's still got three years to do—or why he is very interested in such things as marriage allowance and rations. Lance Corporal Cyril (Jackie) Robertson has lost his title of Gripper Number One; Sergeant Guy Rodwell Bishop returned to the fold last Monday. As a matter of fact, Jackie is very definitely an "also ran" these days. Running Guy Rodwell very close for G.1 is our latest drawback from Wazirdist, Corporal Frank Dymond; can he grip, he'll be undisputed world's champion when he gets in a bit more service. Just to

prove to you what a colossal nerve he has, he had the awful neck to challenge me to a game of crib. As a newcomer to the Company, it was his duty to play first the lesser lights of the game, such as Willie Abbott or Bill Williams, but no, he came straight to me. I let him win to give him a bit of encouragement. He wasn't satisfied with that. He had to pinch six of my boxes and swear that we agreed to play only 101 up—he was leading by one point then.

" Billy the Cat " is expecting an addition to the family soon.

Trumpeting.—If anyone would care to see the best garden in this district (bar none), visit the Wireless Station (outside the railings) at the end of June.

Dear, Dear.—There is a certain D.R., the bane of my life, whose friends, if any, call him Bob; his surname is given elsewhere in these notes. This D.R. spent many, many terrible years in Wazirdist and has a medal for it. Unluckily, he has left Waziristan and now works down here, this morning turning up as usual to take our stuff away. He then found he couldn't go because he had forgotten to fill up. It sounds unbelievable, but it is true.

Au Revoir.—C.S.M. Hartley came down to see us before he left for " Civvy " Street, and on behalf of all those who served under him when he was Superintendent down here, I wish him the best of luck with a capital L.

Sport.—We have been reduced to such a low state in numbers that we have been unable to turn out a team of our own and have had to borrow men from other Units to get a game. Therefore, it is hardly possible to send in any Sports Notes as they were not Unit games. To those of other Units who have turned out and made it possible for us to get a game, we tender our thanks.

Great Thought.—If you fire a bullet through a piece of wood, which is first, the bullet or the hole ?

Another Great Thought.—Corporal Frankie has had a tough week.

AUSTIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks.
Saturday, 11th April.

General.—We have done it again for the second year in succession. What ? Why, won the Powell Miniature Rifle Competition with an average score of 86.12. A record score, I think. This is the third time we have won this cup, having gained the highest score in 1929, when the first competition for the cup was held. Congratulations to the Unit team on a well-deserved win. I think that the keenness shown in this competition by the Unit seems to make our chances even more secure. Many thanks are due to C.S.M. F. J. Dowie and C.Q.M.S. L. E. C. Mears on the interest they have shown in developing the team. The Commanding Officer (Major H. M. Sylvester, M.C., R.Signals) presented each member of the team with a plaque, suitably engraved. The second place in the competition was taken by No. 3 Company, 1st Divisional Signals, with an average score of 80.74, so it can be seen we won by a good margin.

Night A.A. Training commenced with effect from 1st April in the Blackdown area, so we are beginning to get on the busy side of things again. Watchet A.A. Practice Camp will, no doubt, be starting in the near future, and our small numbers will be more depleted than ever.

Arrivals.—Quite a number, and we wish them a pleasant stay at Blackdown: Lieutenant T. J. F. Fuller, R.Signals from " A " Corps Signals, Aldershot; Signalman Robertson W. from 5th Divisional Signals; Lance Corporal Marchant W. from 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut; Lance Corporal Howard N. from 4th Indian Divisional Signals; Signalman Dewhurst H. from Waziristan District Signals; Signalman Bedford H. from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals; Signalman Fears W. from 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

T.A. Easter Camp.—The 1st A.A. Divisional Signals, T.A., better known as the Air Defence Formation Signals, T.A., have been with us again for Easter Camp. We trust they had a pleasant stay at Blackdown. One or two old faces were there again. Our annual football match with them resulted in a win for us, 6—1. The weather was none too good to them, as it was a proper Nor'-Easter. C.S.M. Shergold was not with the detachment this year. I think he must have heard about the " star " football team we had for this Easter.

We Want To Know.—Who visits the Parisienne Cafe ? The person concerned serves with No. 2 Cable Section, Base Defences.

JAY EM GEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

28th April.

General.—The departure of R.S.M. T. W. Harrison to Catterick and the arrival of R.S.M. A. F. Herbert from Scarborough are the main items of interest this month, and have been aptly dealt with under Sergeants' Mess Notes.

Colonel R. F. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., very kindly managed to pay the Unit a fleeting visit one evening while attending a Higher Commander's Course at Netheravon. We can always be sure that we shall see him if he is anywhere near the Plain.

Hockey.—We have now completed our list of friendly fixtures and have emerged unbeaten for the season. There have been no more games since those reported in the last issue.

In the Garrison Knockout Competition, No. 3 Company were unsuccessful in their replay versus 19th Battery R.A., losing 1—2.

Responsibility for retaining the Cup in the Unit for the fourth year running rested with No. 1 Company (the holders). They had a walk-over in the semi-final and met a very strong side from the 56th Company R.E. This game was hard throughout. At half-time the score was 0—1, but Corporal Burrell equalised in the second half to make the score 1—1.

During the first half of extra time (ten minutes each way), Lance Corporal Mitchell gave us the lead, which was lost during the second half, leaving the score 2—2.

Again extra time (five minutes each way) was played, and Signalman Harris scored to give us the match by 3—2.

This competition has been going since 1920. The Cup has been held by one or another of the Companies of this Unit from 1927-1930 inclusive, and from 1933-1936 inclusive; that is, for eight years out of the past ten.

Sergeants' Mess.—Our big front page story this month concerns the departure to Catterick of R.S.M. T. Harrison. In the short time they had with us, R.S.M. and Mrs. Harrison and their two charming daughters made many friends in the Garrison. We are indeed sorry to lose them. We trust that they will retain some pleasant memories of Bulford and the 3rd Divisional Signals. The best of luck from all, not forgetting little George, who, by the way, is still wearing black for his mother.

Alas! Poor Minnie. We regret to record that she went for her last long swim on 1st April. She will reflect no more, which fact will probably cramp the Barleux style.

In relief of Mr. Harrison, we are fortunate in getting R.S.M. A. Herbert. We offer him a hearty welcome, and hope that both Mr. and Mrs. Herbert will take kindly to this part of the world.

So that was Easter ! If I hadn't the most childlike faith in my N.A.A.F.I. calendar I should be inclined to check up on it. Rain, hail, sleet, and a hearty snowstorm tend to shake one's confidence in the Meteorological Office. What do we pay taxes for ?

The following have arrived to swell our depleted membership. Welcome, brothers, and, shall we say, sisters. Send us a stamped-addressed envelope and we will warn you against selected single members. However, welcome, Sergeants Baldock, Cockings, and Redworth. Also Mrs. Jones, wife of our one and only " Jonah " (Watchmakers and Jewellers).

As nearly predicted in our last issue, Sergeant White A. donned gent's natty suiting and severed his connection with active military life. We wish " Blanco " the best of luck in the great big world.

We often wonder how it is that correspondents find difficulty in producing notes. We could do another couple of pages, devils that we are, but it is just on opening time.

Arrivals.—From India on 2nd December, 1935, Lance Corporal Johns H.; on 3rd December, 1935, Signalmen Brown W., Browne R., and Jordan J.; on 12th February, 1936, Signalman Rockall G.; on 29th February, 1936, Corporal Broom R., Lance Corporal Golding A.; on 10th March, 1936, R.S.M. McIntosh R. A.; on 21st March, 1936, Corporal Pullen H., Lance Corporal Wright V., Signalmen Ball G., Clayton S., Armstrong W., Devlin R., Hadfield T., Irving R., Jones C., Mullin A., and Pearson P.; on 26th March, 1936, Lance Sergeant Heasman B., Corporal Teal L., Lance Corporal Hill H., Signalmen Coleman W., Marshall J., Corporal Cummings C., Signalmen Harcus R., Cripps C., Gilpin H., Johnson H., Robson W., Whayman M., Bell A., Gerguson F., Gooch W., Phillips W., Spence J., Cummings F., Maltman R., Newman S., Spencer W., Bell J., Johnson H., Matthews J., Ratcliff W., Styan A.; (for attachment to "E" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Tidworth), Lance Corporal Bundy C., Signalmen Courtney P., Evans W., Poulton J., Thorpe G., Chisnall C., Edwards T., Pauline F., Richardson H., Adam A., Holt J., Juniper A., Bennett K., Jones R., Scrivener J., Rostron T., Allnut D., Wright B., and Howell J.

From China on 12th February, 1936, Corporal Rafferty H.; on 9th March, 1936, Lance Corporal Metcalf L.

From "E" Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals on 14th December, 1935, Lance Corporal Lafford E., Signalmen Fraser T., Wills A., and Robertson W.

From Training Battalion on 3rd December, 1936, Signalmen Radcliffe M., Thompson E., and Wright W.; on 5th December, 1935, Signalman Kilbey A.; on 19th December, 1936, Signalmen Brooker W., and Havard H.; on 7th January, 1936, Lance Sergeant Bevis M., Signalman Wood A.; on 9th January, 1936, Signalmen Walker A., Taylor T., and Wallace P.; on 14th January, 1936, Signalman Powell H.; on 21st January, 1936, Signalman Holtby L.; on 12th March, 1936, Driver (I.C.) Legge E. and Benham T.; on 31st March, 1936, Driver (I.C.) Birkett R., and Signalman Wood S.; on 2nd April, 1936, Signalmen Moore G., O'Brien H.

From Depot Battalion on 5th February, 1936, Lance Sergeant Moore J.; and on 6th February, 1936, Lance Sergeant Bainbridge S.

From 5th Divisional Signals on 24th March, 1936, Sergeant Redworth F., and Signalman Bates I.

From No. 2 Company L. of C. Signals, Manchester, on 31st March, 1936, Sergeant Baldock G.

From School of Signals on 2nd April, 1936, Sergeant Cockings P.

Departures.—To Hongkong Signal Section on 12th December, 1935, Lance Sergeant Gibson G., and Signalman Folks R.

To Shanghai Signal Section on 12th December, 1935, Signalmen Abel G., Dannan S., and McCann M.

To India on 27th January, 1936, Corporal Hipwood S., Lance Corporals Fox A., Fenton G., Signalmen Black E., Davenport H., Erby W., Hodgson W., Powell A., Hughes F., and Sellers E.; on 4th February, 1936, Lance Sergeants Policella J., Butcher A., Brown H., Lance Corporal McKenzie D., Signalmen Bullimore C., McKie S., Bowman J., Moon T., Clarke P., Balls W., Cook R., Carlton W., Davies B., Davy L., Harvey W., McCord A., Mills A., Pluquet J., Till R., Packman D.; on 18th March, 1936, Sergeants Vignaux S., Kemlo J., M.M., Bevis M., McIntosh W., Pickering E., Lance Sergeants Wilson H., Lacey L., Williams A., Corporals Johnson J., McDonald T., Waite N., August R., Lance Corporals Clayton E., Palmer A., Mills F., Signalmen Porter V., Stokes A., Walker F., Oliver J., Styrin G., Verschelde G., Morgan R., Taylor E., Egerton T., Turner J., and Sinclair A.

To Egypt on 9th January, 1936, Sergeant Little V., Corporal Roberts C., Lance Corporals Richardson F., Edwards W., Boffy J., Signalmen Barber D., Glanville C., Goff N., Payne E., Perkins J., Whichelow J., White J., Clarke R., Green J., Hudson A., Pledger G., Pearsall E., Vaughan S., Wilde G., Gorfin J., Hall W., Mann H., Woodward F., Gibson J., Havard H., and Sims L.; on 31st March, 1936, Sergeant Ivison R., Signalmen Beresford J., Parsons A., Maile A., Brown O., Byron H., Crerar D., Galbraith J., McLoughlin E., Wills A., Fraser J., and Driver Eccles J.

To Malta on 17th January, 1936, Lance Corporal Craig J., Signalmen Ford J., Newsham H., and Julyan W.

To Aden on 4th February, 1936, Signalman Beard E.

To Malaya Signal Section on 6th March, 1936, Signalmen Godwin E., and Hopcraft J.

To China on 13th March, 1936, Sergeant Brundell W.

To Training Battalion on 7th January, 1936, Lance Sergeant Ashford W., and Corporal Jones J.; on 21st January, 1936, Signalman Dawson W.

To Depot Battalion on 4th January, 1936, Signalman Fox R.; on 14th December, 1935, Signalman Warr A.; on 27th February, 1936, Corporal Chidgey E.

To School of Signals on No. 11 Foreman of Signals Course on 5th January, 1936, Lance Corporals Bucke C., Lafford E., and Sutcliffe W.

To Tank Brigade Signals on 23rd January, 1936, Sergeant Brooke J.

Promotions and Appointments.—To be Lance Corporals on the Corps Roster: Unpaid Lance Corporal Middleton A., on 11th October, 1935; Unpaid Lance Corporal Hastings J., on 14th March, 1936; Unpaid Lance Corporal Whitelaw D., on 2nd February, 1936; Unpaid Lance Corporal Turnham, on 12th March, 1936.

To be Corporal with effect from 28th February, 1936, Lance Corporal Darby A. L.

Appointed Lance Sergeant with effect from 4th November, 1935, Corporal Brown H.; with effect from 5th November, 1935, Corporal Chappell W.

To be Sergeant with effect from 24th January, 1936, Lance Sergeant Watt N.; with effect from 4th February, 1936, Lance Sergeants Baldock J., and Bailey G.

R.S.M. Harrison T. W. appointed Superintending Clerk with effect from 1st April, 1936.

R.Q.M.S. Herbert A. F. to be Warrant Officer Class i (Regimental Sergeant Major), with effect from 1st April, 1936.

Signalman R. F. Smither appointed Unpaid Lance Corporal, with effect from 16th March, 1936.

Discharges.—Signalman Jerram C. discharged with effect from 7th December, 1935.

Signalman Sherwood E. discharged and re-enlisted in the R.A.O.C. with effect from 20th December, 1935.

Marriages.—Lance Corporal Boffy J. to Iris Vera Love at Salisbury on 26th December, 1935.

Corporal Hipwood S. to Edith Maud Sellwood at Winchester on 24th December, 1935.

Lance Corporal Sutcliffe W. to Phyllis May Hope at Southampton on 28th December, 1935.

Lance Sergeant Brown H. to Beatrice Warman at Kensington on 18th January, 1936.

Births.—Signalman and Mrs. A. Robinson, a son, Albert Peter, on 11th December, 1935.

Signalman and Mrs. W. Stead, a daughter, Peggy Anne, on 16th January, 1936.

Driver and Mrs. W. Morris, a son, William Trevor, on 10th March, 1936.

Driver and Mrs. W. Phillips, a son, Eric Ronald, on 28th March, 1936.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

Headquarters.—Firstly, let us congratulate Lieutenant (I.P.C.) S. McGregor on attaining that rank, and also wish both he and Mrs. McGregor the best of luck in their new abode. We are also losing Lieutenant-Quartermaster Shave and Mrs. Shave, who are going to Chatham. We are sure that the Wives' Social Club will join us in conveying our good wishes to them in their new station.

We welcome Lieutenant-Quartermaster Kneebone and R.S.M. Noonan to our midst, and hope their stay will be a happy one.

During the Easter "break" we entertained the 44th Divisional Signals, T.A., for their annual camp. Several "old faces" struck a new note.

Toc.

No. 2 Company.

May.

General.—We extend a belated but most hearty welcome to our new Officer Commanding, Captain J. J. Duvivier, and

hope his sojourn in this Company will be a long and pleasant one.

The Territorials are visiting Canterbury for training during the Easter period, and are being accommodated in our Barracks, which have not now that deserted appearance.

Easter Leave.—About 50 per cent. of the Unit have proceeded on Easter leave, just sufficient unlucky individuals remaining behind to look after the horses.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Farnden and Jones on attaining their promotion. Sweat on.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Fegan, Corporal Strickson and Signalman Clayton from abroad.

Departures.—Sergeant Pearce and family to Egypt Signals on 30th March. Eleven beautiful horses to 27th Field Brigade R.A., Colchester, on 30th March (including our old friend "Biff"). Eleven more horses are being attached to the 22nd Field Brigade, R.A., on 27th April. It is very touching to see the Drivers taking leave of their four-legged friends. Foot shaking all round, handkerchiefs brought out to wipe a few tears away—but cheer up, my lads, they have not gone for ever.

Marriages.—Quite a few in the offing, but no details yet to hand.

Apologies.—To Lance Corporal Holland and Lance Corporal Cotton, 5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt. Will take your word for it without the photograph; please accept my sincere apologies.

Personal.—To "Chuck," 5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt. Have been told to inform you that the "Stork" is due to visit Lexden this month and your "Buddy" expects to be a proud father.

HAPPY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.
Tuesday, 31st March.

March, 1936, is gone beyond recall and, after due consideration of the happenings of the month, perhaps it is as well.

Leap Year, 1936, has claimed its first victim, and from that home of wily birds, too—the Corporals' Room. Congratulations to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Barlow.

All spare time is now spent in the Unit allotments, where, by the way, I was rather surprised to see a certain W.O.ii digging with his spurs on. However, as he was planting horse-radish I suppose it is the correct thing. Whilst on the subject, the best method of preventing mice from eating your peas is either to eat them yourself or to plant beans.

From vegetables to the cookhouse is but a short step, which probably accounts for a certain N.C.O. i/c Fire Piquet dashing in the direction of the vegetable gardens when the alarm "Fire in the cookhouse" was raised. Or perhaps he had heard the "Fire in the cookhouse" story before. Still, there was no excuse for episode two, when he attempted to connect the hose to the gas main instead of the water supply.

Part of the Unit will be leaving us for Bulford on the 14th April, which on being translated reads: R.S.M. Herbert is posted to 3rd Divisional Signals and will leave us on 14th April, 1936. Cheerio and congratulations, sir.

The efforts of the whist fiends now provide a very social evening each Wednesday, when gatherings of 120 or more people assemble in the Gymnasium and trump one another's aces to their hearts' content.

As a farewell gesture to Major and Mrs. Winckley, the Tennis Club held a dance in the Gymnasium on 30th March. The event was well attended and proved a great success, due in no small measure to the organisers—Sergeant and Mrs. Carnell, Corporal Webb, and the Brewers' Apostle, Corporal Farley.

Badminton is now firmly established, and a full quota of fixtures with outside social clubs keeps interest high.

Tennis, too (weather permitting), will soon be in full swing, the new courts having now been officially opened.

In conclusion, I am sure that on the departure of Major and Mrs. Winckley all ranks will join in thanking them for their many activities for the welfare of the Unit, particularly the social side, and wish them every success in their new surroundings.

W.

A Salute to Appetite



MILITARY PICKLE

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With MILITARY PICKLE as a standing order, the whole company will fall into line on the cold meat question.

There is no other pickle which appeals to such a wide range of palates. It is crisp without being hard, small without being too "mashy," neither too sweet nor too sharp.



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HAYWARD BROS. LTD.
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W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—We welcome C.S.M. Brandon, who rejoined us on 9th April, 1936, from the 52nd Lowland Divisional Signals, T.A., presumably for another long stay in a " strange " station.

Promotions.—All members unite in congratulating R.Q.M.S. Herbert on his promotion to the rank of Warrant Officer Class i, and wish him the best of luck in his new Unit.

We welcome to the Mess, Lance Sergeant Welsby on his appointment to that rank.

Departures.—On Saturday, 11th April, a social evening was arranged to say farewell to R.S.M. and Mrs. Herbert on leaving us for the 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford; and a very successful evening was enjoyed.

In a few well-chosen words our President wished them the best of luck and health at their new station, to which R.S.M. Herbert replied in his own cheery manner. We hope he will not forget all we have taught him about rugger and snooker, and that he will get " Younger every day."

Lance Sergeant Coaten leaves us for " E " Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, on 23rd April, 1936. Our remarks above re snooker also apply in this case. His departure will make us a 100 per cent. married Mess. Is this a record for a Divisional Signals ?

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Todd has been posted to us from 55th Divisional Signals, T.A., and we are still waiting to welcome him on his arrival.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

April.

The furlough season has now been completed, and stations are once more restored to their full strength.

Easter brought us an entire change of plans, for the weather proved very cold, and only a few were able to take advantage of the holiday. The Line Section, returning from their cable work, proceeded on a week's leave, and returned looking very fit. There was, of course, the usual debate between W/T operators and linemen as to their relative capacity for work; the latter won on facts, claiming to have laid 4,500 yards of cable varying between one and twenty core, and to have travelled some 1,200 miles in the district in order to achieve it.

The winter sports season has finished and we are preparing for cricket. We have found some enthusiastic tennis players.

Promotions.—One perspires.

Sport.—The Sports Correspondent has written something of our prowess, and this will be found in the Sports Section.

Out-Station News.

Londonderry.—We congratulate Lance Sergeant Wardley on his marriage, and wish him every success.

Lenan (From their own Correspondent).—" Spring," the wrecker of " bachelor " homes . . . good intentions . . . so forth and do forth . . . arrived at Lenan with unusual greatness, making all ranks dive into their kits for tennis racquets, etc., etc.

It is rumoured that the Signals have the table tennis champion in their midst, but the competitions taking place next week will prove this. Everybody is looking forward to Sports Day, which takes place on Sunday, 19th April—but more about this next month. In the recent football competitions, the " great " Sidney kept up his reputation by scoring four goals, and when representing Lenan against Dunree, he " put in " another six goals—all by himself—so that Dunree lost by 8—1.

Signalman Gray returned from his honeymoon, but after staying only a week-end returned to Belfast, where we are sure his presence will be felt.

Another visit of the chain gang is expected this week-end. The fair colleens are now hoping that their crooner has another repertoire by now . . . Hear, hear !

Humour.—Lost between Lenan and Dunree, one 100/125 battery. Who was the operator who thought by signing the watch book he was automatically in charge of the W/T cabin ?

Our Section Hero.—The lad with the five bob socks.

Jew's Corner.—Dick AZJ.: Wot abaht it.—Ginger.

We are shortly to lose Signalman Dove, who is attending a vocational course at Chiseldon, after many years at Lenan. The good wishes of the Section will go with him.

Tail-piece.—That's all till next month (Isegone).

Conclusion.—Since a recent piece of good fortune arrived in the Company, there seems to be an increase in those little bits of paper from Dublin. If it continues we should have more interesting notes next month.

HEC MEM.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island.
Tuesday, 7th April.

Hello, folks, this is the S.I.C.D.S.S. giving all stations another pleasant (or otherwise) surprise. We sincerely hope that the shock of the reappearance of this Section's notes will not prove fatal to anyone. All members of the Section are full of the joys of Spring, and once again there are no casualties to report, except our latest capture, Corporal (Darkie) Francis, who proceeded to Queenstown and was *enticed* into the Oval (Signals' Retreat). He took one long, lingering look at the Barmaid, and fell for her—just fancy, after steering clear for twenty years and eight months. On the way home he threw himself off the jetty into the sea. Of course, he said he slipped, but you all know what rajahs are.

Our linemen are doing a lot of work just now replacing old cables and overhauling the network of routes in and around the Forts, under the supervision of our Foreman of Signals, C.Q.M.S. Tilford C. Someone has drawn Nobbi a diagram, so he is getting on famously.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Who was the Signalman who was sent all round Queenstown in search of a mythical barber ? Was his face red ? She ought to have told you that it was the first of April before sending you on the tramp, Steve.

Arrivals.—The glad hand is extended to Corporal Stevens, late of Shanghai Signal Section. We hope he will enjoy his stay in the South Irish Coast Defences.

Leave.—Corporal Stevens is still on leave and has managed to wangle a few days' extension on top of his overseas furlough. The " oscillating pay sheet," commonly called by common people " Babs," on account of his sweet face and amazing capacity in the eating stakes, has proceeded on what he calls a well-earned rest, but we all say that he will do more work on his leave than he ever did on Spike, even if he stays in bed all day at home. The only time the Pay Sergeant can smile is when the same " Babs " is on leave.

Red Heels.—And now the magic carpet takes us to Egypt, where we say " What oh ! " to Sparrow, who is in the Gypo Aviary. What did " Skiff " say to you Sparrow ? Also, who was the operator who sent out the extra amps from Paa on 31st March, and had O.K. G straining his ears all night for some more music ?

Odes from Regimental Signallers Class.—" What frequency are you on now ?"—" 2,300 metres, sir." " What is a valve ?"—" A valve is something enclosed in a glass case that is not used in a crystal set or in a D.3, and can sometimes be used for a reading lamp when the lights fail in the Wireless Station." " What is an aerial mast ?—define clearly."—" An aerial mast is a long piece of tubing, painted the colour of the surrounding district for camouflage, which is stuck in the ground and stands up in the air, and is a bit higher than the aerial wires which are suspended from it and another aerial mast, etc., etc." No wonder our Foreman of Signals is going prematurely grey.

Sport.—Sport here is on the ebb at present. We won the Hockey Cup and our nearest rivals, the Royal Engineers, were only one point behind us. The Defences here are making a new sports ground. This should be finished within the next two months, and then we will proceed to win the Cricket Shield. The detachment at Bere Island are keeping the name of the Corps burnished by finding the three captains for the Staff and Departmentals Hockey, Rugby, and Football teams. The rest of the Detachment consider themselves too old.

WINGNUT.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Tuesday, 17th March.

General.—Well, another Trooping Season is drawing to a close, and many are now lucky enough to be looking forward to the next one—some have even already decided to go in October. We'll wait and see!

This morning the "Ice Chest" was once more installed in the Bungalow—just a reminder that a spot of summer is creeping along. Some of the cads are already crying out for the fans to start. The temperature should reach the three figures in a few days.

The Annual Indoor Games Tournament was held at the beginning of the month in the Corporals' Room, between the Signalmen and the Junior N.C.O.s. This annual event is always looked forward to by all of us. During the evening we were all kept pretty well supplied with the necessary for such strenuous games as billiards, table tennis, pokey die, darts and dominoes—BEER and lemonades. Who can throw five kings without such beverage? Rowlet can't.

Our noted i/c (Corporal Bert Lambird) cookhouse gave us a good supply of sandwiches. The tournament ended in a draw, and then the above-mentioned Bert pulled the Mess through when he threw the dice with Signalman Nelson to decide the winners.

R.S.M. Trapmore very kindly attended and presented the shield to the winners.

The rest of the evening was then spent in songs, recitations and a few good old yarns. Our late A/C.S.M., Sergeant Palmer, gave us a song, and Sergeant Wall, who also attended, gave us a few "Parlour Room Stories"—real good 'uns.

Promotion and Appointments.—Congratulations to Sergeant Matthew on losing the Lance before his name, and to Lance Sergeant Edge on gaining that third one.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to the following who have just arrived from the U.K., and may those who have never visited this resort before soon become accustomed to their new sphere of life out here: Sergeant Page; Lance Sergeant Henshaw; Corporal Deegan; Lance Corporal Pike; and Signalmen Bliss, Cockell, Davies, Jones, Keymer, Lines, and Williams.

Departures.—Signalman Rowley has now left us for his original Unit in India—1st Indian Divisional Signals at Rawalpindi. We are all sorry to lose him, as besides being a most useful athlete to the Unit, he was always good company and cheerful to all. Let us hope 1st Divisional give him an easier time in sport than he has had here—what about a 110, 220, 440, 880, and a mile in one sports meeting. Anyway, he came through with one first and four seconds.

R.P.

Sergeants' Mess.

What an eventful month to write about! We wish that it had not been quite so full of *such* events, for it seems we have been continually saying "Goodbye" to old friends and faces, and welcoming new ones.

In mid-February everyone was very busy with the Indian Signal Corps Jubilee Week, though it was much quieter than it was intended to be owing to the official mourning for the late King. The Mess members, however, thoroughly enjoyed the "at home" in the Indian Officers' Club; the Mounted Sports; and the Impromptu Social Evening in our own Mess which wound up the week. The Mounted Sports were repeated on 4th March, when the Mess was "at home" to invited friends. A very pleasant afternoon passed and we were delighted to see Sergeant "Pip" Green again take a first in the B.O.R.s Jumping on "Bill."

We saw the old month out with a Medley Social, which was the occasion of a farewell and a presentation to R.S.M. A. H. Beattie and family. That the incoming R.S.M. (to whom be many hearty welcomes) should win the gents' ankle competition and the incoming Caterer (O landlord, have you a daughter fair?) should have his ankle festooned with a bouquet, was certainly a great "feet"! This social was voted a good show.

R.S.M. Beattie and family, and Sergeant Palmer and family, have left us for England. R.Q.M.S. Brown and family, together with Lance Sergeant Meldrum, have gone for a long spell on home leave. C.S.M. Evelyn and family, and Sergeants Page and Henshaw, have all joined us recently. Glad you have come, and we hope that you will like us. We await the arrival of the "S" Course now to bring more new blood.

We have had to change the Caterer at last. Methinks it was positively too, too funny to see our late mighty landlord in deep consultation with Mr. Trapmore, our new R.S.M., and so Nobby, of chaplis and hosetops fame, takes over.

Congratulations to Sergeant Matthew and to Lance Sergeant Edge on such a mighty leap up the roll of fame—but beware, ye men, it is a long way from the Mess to Quarters, and on a dark night—well, who's coming home, anyway?

The Mouth Organ Band has been revived and is booked to appear before all the crowned heads of ————. But not this week.

Many thrilling matches were witnessed in the Mess Open Tennis (Singles) Tournament, which was won by Sergeant (T.A.B.) Humphrey, who beat Sergeant (ICHBG) Ellerton-Long in the final.

And so until April—the "Oh, to be in England month."

AUF WIEDERSEHEN.

Stop Press.—Sergeant Bramji Singh is getting married, and on Sunday morning, 15th March, all members gathered in the Mess to witness the presentation of a clock to the doomed man. We can only hope that this will provide the only ticking ever heard in the House of Bramwell.

The occasion also marked our farewells to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Prebble. C.Q.M.S. Prebble, who has recently recovered from a serious operation, has been transferred to "A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Corporals' Room.

Tuesday, 17th March

General.—The other week we entertained the Signalmen in the Mess, when the Annual Indoor Games Tournament was held. Everyone, I'm sure, enjoyed themselves that night. Of course, there was a steady flow of b——r, followed by loads of Bert's good old sandwiches. The games played were billiards, table tennis, pokey die, dominoes and darts. All the games were entered with a fine spirit. It was very surprising, but after all the games points were totalled up, the result came to a draw. So, as per usual, it was decided upon by throwing the dice. This was where Bert Lambird came forward with that "Fulham" throw and pulled the Mess through when he threw against Signalman Nelson.

R.S.M. Trapmore came and spent the latter part of the evening with us and presented the shield. The R.S.M. also had another shield to present. Many of you, no doubt, know what a "Gripper" is. Well, it was a foregone conclusion when Percy Marshall was called upon to accept the "Grippers' Shield"—he has well deserved it for a long time. Bert 's an ex-holder of this shield, and if he is not too careful he'll be getting it again before he leaves for Blighty next Trooper—next October, eh Bert?

Congratulations.—To Tommy Edge on getting that third one up. We are pleased to hear that Unpaid Lance Corporal Hampton passed satisfactorily through his Cook's Course at Poona, coming away with a "Very Good."

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to Corporal Deegan and Lance Corporal Pike from the U.K. and hope that they will

soon be at home in our small mess. However, Corporal Deegan has only stayed with us for a few days after all; he has now left us for the northern climes.

Sport.—We have recently played the Sergeants' Mess at football. To make up a team nearly everyone in the Mess played. However, after a most enjoyable game, and, of course, the refreshments at the finish, the result was: Sergeants, 2; Corporals, 0.

R.P.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

General.—A series of inspections, culminating in the G.O.C.'s visit to this Unit, kept us very busy this month. Everything passed off satisfactorily, and the G.O.C.'s remarks as to the standard of the Unit were very gratifying. He expressed himself well pleased with everything he saw.

Trade Tests.—Again we are in the midst of Trade Tests. Many serious looks and much studying of notebooks occupy our attentions these days. Results so far are quite up to standard.

Arrivals.—C.S.M. Price and family; C.Q.M.S. Prebble (M.M.) and family; Signalman Hooker. To all we extend a hearty welcome.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Pout and family; Signalman Harvey R. and family, to the United Kingdom. May everything best be their lot.

Obituary.—We deeply regret to record the death of Sergeant Galtress T., and also of Mrs. Ratcliffe, the wife of Sergeant Ratcliffe. The deceased were members of a party returning from a dance by car when the car overturned. Both were killed instantly, but the other members of the party escaped with minor injuries. Our condolences to their relatives.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergeant Stanley, Lance Sergeant Lloyd, and Corporal Gill on attaining their respective ranks.

Gardening.—Many helpful hints could be obtained by would-be gardeners (including B.A.R.L.O.W.) by just strolling round our Lines. Some very nicely laid-out hedges are looking very well, and our chubbery (sorry) shubbery—no—shrubbery is in wonderful bloom—a real galaxy of flowers.

Palestine Post.—To Wilbur, Jimmie C. and rest of "J" Section: I brought my boots and pads out with me (note "A" Corps Sports Notes M.K.I.Y.E. regarding the tomato season). Will meet George and Dragon, 1938—Kitna Din. Doctor Abdul Foster. You're telling us.

W.E.B.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Rawalpindi,
Thursday, 2nd April.

General.—The Collective Training Season being at an end, we now have the joys (?) of summer before us.

On 14th March, we said goodbye to Major F. W. S. Jourdain who left to take over the Command of Waziristan District Signals.

On 23rd March, the Unit was inspected on parade by Major-General R. C. Wilson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C. Rawalpindi District, who, we are told, was very pleased with all he saw.

Anti-gas training has been carried out by all ranks of the Unit—to the accompaniment of much "eye-watering"—and now we all have gas masks of our own which, we are given to understand, are to be regarded as our "best friend." We hope the rifles who have so long held this capacity will not feel jealous.

Horse Show.—The Unit had several representatives in the Great North of India Horse Show which was held at Rawalpindi, 25th-27th March. The following represented the Unit:—Troop Horses, I.O.R.s, Lance Naik Kirpal Singh on Horse No. 63; Jumping, B.O.R.s, Lance Sergeant Bishop on No. 160 and No. 126; Team Jumping, B.O.s, Lieutenant Charlton on No. 128; Indian Officers' Chargers, Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah on No. 70; I.O.s and I.O.R.s Jumping, Jemadar Ali Hussain Shah on No. 70 and No. 106, Lance Naik Kirpal Singh on No. 63; Cable Wagon Team, I.O.R.s, Lieutenant E. J. F. Heap i/c; Signal Pack Mules, two strings of three,



Captain R. W. Morgan receiving his prize from H.E. the Governor of the Punjab, Great North of India Horse Show



The Misses Mary and Sarah Penney, prize-winners Great North of India Horse Show

Lieutenant Heap i/c. Competition was very keen, and having to compete against Cavalry and Artillery we were unplaced. But the cable wagon team, which was a very serviceable turn-out, only missed second place by a small margin, and our mules were fourth out of thirteen. A great deal of very hard work had been put in and we have learnt something for next year. However, we did have some representatives at the prize table.



Cable Wagon Team, 1st Indian Divisional Signals, Great North of India Horse Show

Captain R. W. Morgan's " Ahmedzada " was third in the Polo Ponies (Heavyweight) Class, whilst Miss Mary Penney's " Buttercup " took first prize in the Children's Pony Competition (attended), and Miss Sarah Penney was second in the Best Child Rider Competition. We offer our congratulations to the prize-winners.

Northern Command Football.—For the first time in history a Royal Signals' team has won the Northern Command Football Cup. The team entered this year was a combination of



The Captain receiving the Cup from Major-General MacMahon, G.O.C., Northern Command

players of " A " Corps Signals and 1st Indian Divisional Signals—there being six representatives of " A " Corps and five of 1st Divisional. Judging by the result this was a wise plan, and we all feel proud to think the Royal Signals are the Command Champions—no small feat. A description of the matches appears in the Sports Notes, but we may say here that all the matches were well played, and good team spirit was shown all through. There was no lack of supporters at any of the matches and the games were full of thrills, giving



The Team lining up prior to receiving the Trophy

the spectators full value for their money. The final was a great match in which we met the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and until the final whistle blew the enthusiasm was great. The 1st Divisional players were Corporal Moody, Lance Corporal Cleveland, and Signalmen Bourton, Mobberley and Hunns, and we congratulate them all on their play throughout the competition.

Indian Ranks Football.—The India Ranks of the 1st Indian Divisional Signals also have been doing well on the football field, and were runners-up in the Indian Ranks District Football Championship. They played in the final at Abbottabad on 30th March, 1936, and lost to the 2/5th Royal Gurkhas, who have an old and experienced team.

Obituary.—A particularly distressing car accident recently resulted in the deaths of Sergeant Galtress T. of " A " Corps Signals, and Mrs. Ratcliffe, wife of Sergeant Ratcliffe, also of " A " Corps Signals. In addition to this, Sergeant Ratcliffe himself suffered from cuts and bruises, C.Q.M.S. Heyward from shock, and Sergeant Frawley was also injured. The funeral of Sergeant Galtress and Mrs. Ratcliffe took place the same day at 5.30 p.m., and was attended by representatives of all regiments in the station. We offer our sincere condolences to Sergeant Ratcliffe and Mrs. Galtress, and to all ranks of " A " Corps Signals on their sad loss.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of Major E. G. Sinnott to the Unit and hope he will settle down and like Pindi. We also welcome back to the Unit Signalman Rowley H. from S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore.

Departures.—Signalman Potts L. to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur. Sergeant Collins R. and family to Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat. We wish them both the best of luck. C.Q.M.S. Young E. and wife and C.Q.M.S. Bradbury E. and family sailed for United Kingdom per s.s *Tuscania* on 26th March, 1936. We hope they settle down once again in England, and hope the *Tuscania* was to their liking.

Births.—To Mrs. Eastes, wife of C.S.M. Eastes, a daughter, Mary, on 12th March, 1936.

Trade Qualifications.—We congratulate Lance Sergeant Policella J. on getting his O/V Class i at Bulford on 23rd November, 1935, and Signalman Whitfield on getting his O/S Class ii at Aldershot on 23rd January, 1936.

Extension of Service.—Lance Corporal Thompsett S. has decided he likes the Army and has extended his service to complete twelve years.

Attached.—To Sergeant Oakes: One set of false teeth !

Courses.—Corporal Swinson L. and Signalman Horder C. have both decided to spend the summer at Jubbulpore—the former on an " S " course and the latter on an " I.M." upgrading course. We wish them both the best of luck.

Frontier News.—Sergeant Hoyland V. having nearly completed his tour out here without winning the I.G.S.M. decided he must see the Khyber Pass, so he went up to Peshawar last week-end. Mrs. Hoyland, not to be out-done, accompanied him. They are both now studying the " Honours and Awards " lists.

Things We Want to Know.—Have the two ladies who used to walk round Topi Park every morning noticed any appreciable reduction of " avoirdupois " yet ?

Hill Season.—The families of the Unit are leaving for Upper Topa on 20th April, so by the time these notes appear they will be settled down there (if that expression can be used for so high an altitude). Already the weather is warming up in Pindi and it seems as though we are in for a warm summer, but no doubt several of the Unit will get a spell of nice cool breezes at Topa—either on courses or leave—so we shall make the best of it.

So until next month we wish all our readers " Adieu."

ONEDIV.

Thursday, 5th March.

General.—Happenings in the Unit for this time of the year are unusually quiet, and in consequence there is not a lot that may be stated under this heading.

The 2nd Cavalry Brigade held an Exercise from 7th to 15th February, in which personnel of " A," " D," " G " and " J " Sections took part. This exercise took place in the Hassan Abdal-Haripur District, and, as always happens with us, we obtained a good " chitti."

During February our annual musketry training has taken place, and many days have been spent on the range one way and another—for both the British and Indian ranks of No. 1 and No. 2 Companies have had to fire their annual Rifle Course —whilst the people armed with revolvers have also had to show their skill!

We are glad to say results on the whole are very good.

At the time of writing, practically the whole of "A" Section are scattered about the countryside on a civil disturbance stunt—but it is good experience for them and gives them some practical work to do, which is most useful training.

We continue to keep fit by our regular weekly route marches, which we hear are to continue all through the summer months.

We are entering several animals of the Unit in the Great North of India Horse Show, to be held in Rawalpindi this month, but more of this anon.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is extended to the following, who arrived during the month: Signalman Bourton A. from the S.T.C. (I), who was quickly whipped in for footer and hockey.

2nd Lieutenant D. C. Lyall arrived after a tempestuous voyage on the H.T. *Dilwara*, and with him he brought Corporal Ravenhall E.; Lance Corporal Tant A.; Signalmen Bailey S., Redhouse A., Little E., Hutchins A., Williams F., Whitehead M., Nash J., Round W., Wemyss W., Anderson J., Carter A., Miller W., Craddock S., Crowe R., Williams H., Kippin A., Coleman W., Duncan W., Earl A., Whitfield I., Swift A., Morgan J., Wells S., Noble J., and Fox P.

The following arrived the next day after a more pleasant voyage on the H.T. *Somersetshire*: Lieutenant J. M. S. Tulloch; Lance Sergeant Policella J.; Corporal Moody R.; Signalmen Carlton W.; and Sorfleet H.

We also extend a welcome to Mrs. Davis and son, and Mrs. Powles and daughter, who have come out to see what this mysterious East is like—and also to Sergeant Collins R. and family, who have returned from leave. Signalman Bancroft has returned from his Cookery Course, but up to going to press we haven't let him practise on us.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck in their new spheres to: Major F. W. S. Jourdain, who leaves us very shortly to take over O.C. Waziristan District Signals. Major Jourdain has been with us now nearly four years and therefore knows us well. That he will be sadly missed goes without saying, and particularly so by the Indian Ranks, to whom he was the proverbial "Dutch uncle." Best of luck to you, sir, in your new command.

Lance Corporal Honeyborne H. has left us to join the staff of the Army Signal School, Poona. One misses his small figure on the P.T. Parade.

Mrs. Stevens, wife of "Tocco," and her trio of sturdy sons, left for the United Kingdom on 1st March to make room for her "hubby," who follows next trooper. This lady has "soldiered" in this country for over ten years, a feat in itself.

Signalman Thomas J. and Allen R. depart to the Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat, on 15th March. We hope they will do well.

We wish a good leave to Lieutenant (Q.M.) P. E. Nolan and family, who have departed on seven months' leave to the United Kingdom.

Lieutenant A. T. Sladen also went on eight months' leave to the United Kingdom. Watch out, sir, remember the terrible happening to Mr. Steward on his leave!

Congratulations.—To the following: Lieutenant and Mrs. E. J. F. Heap on the arrival of a son, Simon Robin Fortrey, on 17th February, 1936. Sergeant Brown F., Corporals Hollands E. and Cuthbertson J. on promotion to their respective ranks, and to Lance Corporals Faircloth and West A. on getting paid rank.

Obituary.—We extend our deepest sympathy to "A" Corps Signals on the death of Lance Sergeant D. Ward, M.C., in an unfortunate motor cycle accident at Kohat; also to Kohat District Signals on the death of C.Q.M.S. Small. Many of us knew them well, and we offer our condolences to their relatives.

This Unit was also unfortunate in the death of an Indian Rank M.T. Driver, Signalman Mohd. Hayat, of "A" Section, due to an accident whilst on the present Civil Disturbances.

We are glad, however, to hear that Sergeant Sprunt, of Kohat District Signals, who was also involved in the accident with Lance Sergeant Ward, is well on the way to recovery again.

Heavy Bullion.—We are shortly "writing off" three C.Q.M.S.s to the United Kingdom. C.Q.M.S.s Dempsey, Young and Bradbury are all leaving us about the same time. The departure of three rich men all in one slap is undoubtedly a rare happening. Well, good luck to you all—and, as Freddie says, "We'll carry the can when you've gone!"

Humour.—Heard on the Sports Field: "Has Sergeant So-and-So been out here long?" "Yes, he was out here before Clive."

Heard in another Unit's office: Adjutant: "You should have been here at 8 o'clock." Clerk: "Why, what happened, sir?"

ONEDIV.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

8th April.

General.—After a couple of months of silence due to our old scribe leaving for the United Kingdom, it has fallen to my lot to try and bridge the gap, and keep the flag flying in future. We have had a fairly busy training season and now are looking forward to a quiet summer. According to the law of averages, this should materialise, as it appears that even number years are quiet.

A word of warning to all lovers of Murree. The Unit now holds its own individual training classes at Landi Kotal, instead of, as has been the case in the past, sending personnel to Upper Topa.

Training.—The annual musketry and anti-gas training has been completed, and the results, I believe, were up to the usual standard.

Inspections.—On 4th March the District Commander, Major-General S. F. Muspratt, C.B., C.S.I., C.I.E., D.S.O., held his annual inspection of this Unit, and everything went off satisfactorily as usual.

Arrivals and Departures.—As is usually the case at this time of the year, we have more than a few arrivals and departures to report. Here are some of them:

Departures: Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Miller, M.C., R.Signals, after commanding the Unit since January, 1932, has left us for Jubbulpore.

Captain L. R. Hall, M.C., after a brief but nevertheless busy stay, has gone to find comparative peace in Lucknow District H.Q., as G.S.O. 3, and Lieutenant W. A. Purser left us in February for the United Kingdom for three months' leave and then on to 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot. Departures amongst other ranks are too numerous to mention. Our hockey team has suffered a heavy blow in Lance Corporal Roberts being posted to 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Trimulgherry.

We wish all the above the best of luck in their new spheres.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., arrived from "B" Corps Signals on 28th March, 1936, and took over command of the Unit on 1st April, 1936.

Lieutenant D. J. Goldsmith and twenty-four B.O.R.s arrived from the United Kingdom at the end of February, included in their midst being several old warriors, such as Corporals Webber, Gibbons, Hipwood, and Dobson, who could remember these barracks when they were stables, or something like that. We hope that they all will enjoy their tour of duty in the Unit.

Condolences.—Our sincerest condolences are extended to "Curly," who found that after being sustained on the boat by the thoughts of "The Roof," found on his arrival that his allusions were not understood.

To one who said: "They can't post me." What about it, "Kocker"?

To "Champ"—Twins. 'Nuff said.

Sport.—On 26th March we played 2nd Battalion Highland Light Infantry in the final of the Peshawar District Cold Weather Tournament. After we had led by one goal to nil for about two-thirds of the match, the H.L.I. ran out winners by three goals to one.

Point-to-Point.—Congratulations to Corporals Worthington and Brassfield and Signalmen Griffiths G. and Hale on winning the Peshawar B.O.R.s point-to-point for this Unit.

Sergeants' Mess.—Minnie or any of her relations do not find a good home here, hence reflections and inspirations from that source are blank. However, a couple of entertainments in the shape of indoor games against the junior N.C.O.s, and a tennis at-home followed by a similar diversion against the R.A. station mess, have given us confidence to try our hand on this page. The juniors have sent out their " Alex James " scouting for talent; the R.A. likewise, though we admit the latter suffered a slight handicap by one of their ladies " having never pushed a push-halfpenny before." The myth about committee, however, has this time been exploded, so we are promised more.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop paid us an appreciated visit a week or two ago, and had hard lines in the Peshawar B.O.R.s point-to-point race. Better luck next time, especially to the two mess members who went in for the new mud treatment. Congratulations to the winning team.

During the last month a few changes around have taken place: Sergeants Moore and Berriff have wandered up the Khyber to help with individual training; Sergeant Cheesman also has departed thereto, changing a Mohmand for an Afridi; Sergeant Wilson has exchanged the Khyber Railway for lower levels; Sergeants Barry and Dadswell have come home to roost for awhile; Staff Sergeant Agar and Sergeant Ryan have crossed the pond for a spot of leave.

Waziristan District Signals.

Fort Akalgarh.
March.

Our regular scribe has left us for a six months' sojourn in England, so in his absence I have been asked to take up the reins.



Subedar D. Narayansami, Bahadur and Jagirdar
Indian Signal Corps.

We are very sorry that we are losing our Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, M.C., R.Signals), who is leaving us for " B " Corps Signals, Karachi, this month. Our loss will be their gain. We wish him and Mrs. Roberts a very pleasant journey and an enjoyable stay at Karachi.

Our best wishes go with Lieutenant J. M. C. Hoblyn, R.Signals, and Lieutenant R. M. Adams, R.Signals, who have left us for S.T.C. (I.), Jubbulpore, and " A " Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, respectively. Our C.S.M. (C.S.M. Bew) also left us this month to join 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. We hope that he and his family will be happy in their new station.

We welcome to our midst, Lieutenant W. A. K. Stodart, R.Signals, and Lieutenant E. J. C. Harrison, R.Signals, who have recently joined us from S.T.C. (I.), Jubbulpore, and " A " Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, respectively, and also C.S.M. Lydamore and family from " B " Corps, Karachi. We hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

Two drafts have joined us from England during last month, and we hope that they will settle down and enjoy their stay with the Unit. We are receiving a further draft from England just prior to our move to Razmak, so their stay in Dera Ismail Khan will be short and sweet.

The Section moved out to Mirali for a training exercise on 4th March, returning to Dera Ismail Khan on 7th March. The scheme was very successful and some members of the new drafts took part in the scheme.

Social functions have lapsed of late owing to the band being without a pianist, but it is hoped that one will soon join us and that the usual enjoyable evenings will be our share again.

The families will be leaving us in a month's time for the hills, and Unit Headquarters will once again be making tracks for Razmak for the hot weather season.

There were strong rumours of our remaining in Dera Ismail Khan this hot weather season, but these were without foundation and everyone breathes more freely now.

The Unit gave a hearty send-off to Subedar D. Narayansami, Bahadur and Jagirdar, Indian Signal Corps, on 17th November, 1935, when he proceeded on leave pending retirement, having completed twenty-eight years' service.

On the day previous to his departure a tea party was held in his honour in the Indian Ranks' Lines, and all British officers, Indian officers, senior British N.C.O.s, Indian N.C.O.s and men in Headquarters Section were present. During tea a farewell address was read out.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, M.C., R.Signals, the Officer Commanding the Unit, in the course of his speech, dwelt on the distinguished career of this Indian officer, and explained how he has set an excellent example for the serving soldiers. After tea, a group photograph was taken.

This Indian officer first enlisted in the Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners in 1908 and was transferred to the Signal Service in 1911. During the Great War he served with distinction in the war zone in Mesopotamia during 1916 to 1919. He also served with the Waziristan Frontier Force from 1921 to 1924. He was mentioned in despatches once and awarded the Force Commander's Certificate. Later, he was granted the title " Bahadur," and thus became a Jagirdar.

During his service he was most popular with the British officers and other ranks. With the Indian ranks he has left behind a lasting memory, due to his kindness and justice, and all ranks wish him a prosperous and happy life in his retirement.

WAZIR.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Saturday, 4th April.

General.—Summer routine has commenced, and, of course, that having given the Clerk of the Weather an idea, April showers have been our lot for the last few days. However, they only tend to freshen up the place and keep the gardens (which are almost as numerous in Kohat as the sands of the seashore) all a-blowing and a-growing, not to mention bloomin'-

well blooming. They also serve the purpose of causing postponement of quite a few Unit games, thereby causing a congestion in the fixture list for this week. This is only one of the many little trials with which we who dwell in the land of " perpetual sunshine (?)" have to contend.

The early part of the month saw us wildly whitewashing, busily burnishing, and silently sighing. Yes, you are quite right; it was in preparation for the G.O.C.'s inspection, but from the chit the Unit received it was obviously worth while. I might mention here that this was Major-General D. I. Shuttleworth's farewell inspection of this Unit, as he left for the United Kingdom on retirement on 1st April after serving in India for forty-one years.

Courses of all descriptions are now in full swing, and one can hear muttered " throw the rifle smartly up the right side " from worried-looking juniors, and " what is anode bend rectification " from still more worried-looking people who are hoping to swell the income tax returns in the near future.

Soon, so soon, will the trek to the hills begin for those who desire a spot of well-earned (?) leave. This year, however, no other ranks will proceed to Topa for upgrading courses, these being held within the Unit. This is causing much gratification among those who are already in possession of their top rate, and would have had to spend the summer here, with the prospect of " two on and four off " with the temperature at something like 110. Hence the chuckles.

Departures.—Corporal Bishop and family to Karachi; Signalman Hobden E. to W.E.S., Cherat; and Corporal McLean to Jubbulpore for an " S " Course. The best wishes of all go with them.

Arrivals.—Major L. B. Nicholls from Jubbulpore; C.Q.M.S. Meredith and family posted from Trimulgherry, but actually coming here ex the boat from Blighty leave; C.Q.M.S. Steed from Dera Ismail Khan; Lance Corporal Page from Meerut; and Chota Talbot from a course in Jubbulpore. The latter says that he had an enormous time there, and from what we can see we are prepared to believe him. Anyhow, a hearty welcome is extended to all new arrivals, and we hope that they will never have cause to curse a fate that brought them to Kohat.

In Light(er) Vein.—Came one, a conjurer; he tarried but a while and moved on. Then 'twas found that that which had been was not; hence the following: " I wish to report that until Wednesday, the 19th instant, there was an electric bulb on the verandah of the School. It has gone, and its disappearance coincided with that of the departure of Mr. So-and-So, the illusionist.—I am, etc."

To which the aforementioned replied: " Dear Sir,—With reference to the mass attack on my front by your intelligent department, I beg to admit that the ground gained has fallen into the enemy's hands again, and herewith I desire to hand over the prisoner intact, trusting that it will be able to carry out its duties, and so allow those who have lived in darkness to see the light all the days of their lives.—Yours, etc."

Sport.—The inter-section athletics this year resulted in a win for " A " Section with 57½ points, Unit H.Q. being runners-up with 50, and so 'Appy Ack gathered a few points towards the Murray Cup. On Thursday, 2nd April, we held the cross-country run, which was won by " D " Section, who finished their scoring five in the first fourteen, and so gained a fairly easy victory.

Being finalists last year in the Jamasjee Cricket Cup, and with practically the same team available, we were hopeful of going better this year and win it. Unfortunately our old rivals, the Royal Air Force, had different ideas, and after we had obtained a lead of fifty-three on the first innings, we suffered a collapse in our second venture, being dismissed for the poor total of fifty-three, thus setting our opponents 106 runs to get to win. This they did with a loss of only four wickets, thereby winning the match by six wickets, and so we made our exit this year in the district final. We must await another year to try our luck again.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal McMahon on obtaining the price for his pound of tripe. Well, well, we shall probably get some orders for the " Blue Book " after all.

Tail Piece.—And so to bed. ROBO.

MOTOR CARS

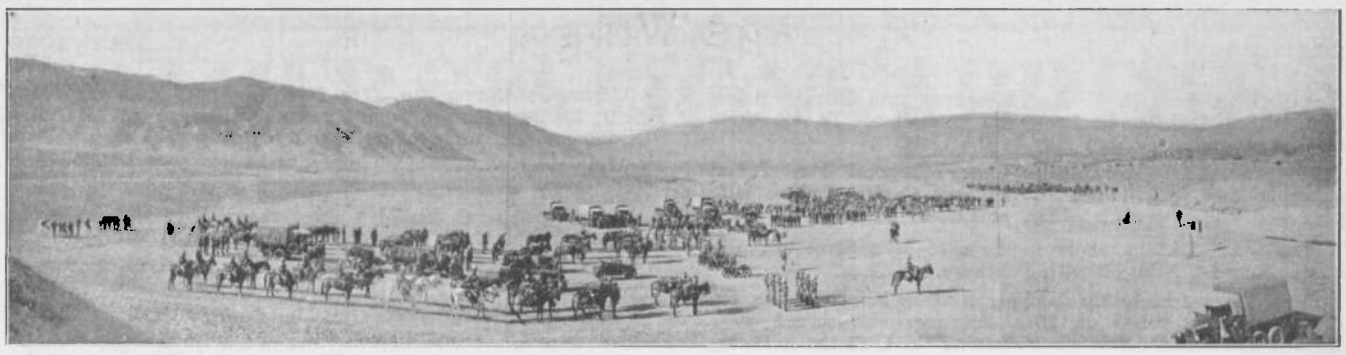
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2nd Indian Divisional Signals—Staff College Demonstration of "A" Divisional Signals.

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarters Company.

Wednesday, 1st April.

General.—Within a week's time the Unit will be at camp once again. Bostan still remains the favourite "holiday resort."

The Staff College demonstration was the usual success, judging by the complimentary letter received from the Commandant of the Staff College. The Staff College exercise does not take place until next month. We are confident that the various Sections will once again uphold the good name that they have earned in previous exercises.

Arrivals.—Corporal P. Hothersall from Meerut. We wish him a happy time in this delectable spot. We also welcome Signalman Hall C. from England (we seem to have heard of that place, but at the moment it is not too fresh in our memory).

Departures.—Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., has left us for England, where he will take up an appointment at the War Office. Au revoir, and good luck, sir !

Sergeant C. Taplin, our worthy Orderly Room Sergeant, and Signalman L. Kane, to Meerut. Lucky blighters. We hope to be following them in a few months' time.

Finale.—Here's to the next time. Cheerio, everyone.

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

It's no use apologising for the absence of WIRE notes, since all past journalists of this Company apologised and then forgot the following month's WIRE. However, *Ars Gratia Artis*, I will sacrifice a little time for the sake of 2nd Divisional fans.

Arrivals.—His Vocal Eminence, our respected R.S.M. His Blighty leave has not taken from him that verve and loquacity that was always his. We hope you enjoyed yourself, sir !

Two new drafts—oh, boy ! oh, boy ! A thousand welcomes, *mes amis.*

Various sergeants and other what-nots have returned from a prolonged leave in England: It's no use welcoming them—they'll probably misunderstand us. Also the Sibbites, Hyderbadarians and the all-important "K" Section, who have been manœuvring near Karachi.

Departures.—Captain (Producer) Dimoline to England. If we had nothing else for which to thank him, we could still say "Thanks for the concert party," and that means a lot. You fellows at home who go in evening dress to N.A.A.F.I. concerts don't know how much we appreciated Captain Dimoline's effort to supply a diversion after the 'quake. What a revue ! Rorking ! Our sincere wishes to you, sir.

By the way, I wonder what's become of Sadie ?

General.—In March, the Unit gave the annual Staff College Demonstration. It was, as usual, very successful, and was complimented by the officers of the Staff College.

The Commanding Officer used a microphone and power amplifier for the benefit of the crowd of Officers watching the miniature war. The Barryesque remark "Quetta B.B.C." apparently had its origin in the name of the people in charge of the amplifier and appendages—Blake, Blow and Clarke. Blow, by the way, is experimenting—picking up telephathic waves—or whatever they are—with a wireless set. He will be seeing things next.

Social and Very Personal.—The only social activities nowadays occur in the wet bar, and need no description. A new dance hall has been erected in Quetta, so there will probably be something to report in the near future. *Vous moi dites !*

"The Three Queens" are doing well, piscatorially speaking.

Prunella Williams finds Ponds too, too delightful. It's no use, my dear. You can't compete with the titled ladies in the advertisements.

Finis.—We are off to camp on 16th April, but we might manage a few notes for our readers next month. Cheerio.

NOBBY.

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

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

No. 1 Company.

Wednesday, 11th March.

General.—Very little of general interest has happened during the last month, except the departure of our last draft, and this is enlarged upon in later notes. The Unit is preparing for our Unit Sports, which commence to-morrow, the 12th of March. Trainers are in great demand, as there are very few men who are not partaking in at least one event. Trials that have been run during the last week promise some very exciting events, and I hope to be able to uphold this statement in our next issue.

Repatriation.—Twenty-four B.O.R.s left India per the *Somersetshire* on 4th March for Home Establishment. There are too many for me to give their names in detail, but to all of them we wish the best of luck in their new stations. Corporal Ross, Lance Corporal Gartery, and Signalman Brown R. 401 proceeded on six months leave in the United Kingdom on the same boat. Signalman Davis G. and Signalman Bratt R. were posted home on medical grounds. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Sergeants Gibbs and Morgan have also left for England. We lose a very good schoolmaster and cartoonist in the latter, and we hope that the Labour Exchange will not hold him as did Army exchanges.

Postings.—Lieutenant Humphreys to Kohat and Corporal Hothersall to Quetta (from where he has promised to clear away the snow in preparation of our move.)

Arrivals.—2nd Lieutenant C. T. Honeybourne and 2nd Lieutenant P. C. Williams from England; C.S.M. Bew from Waziristan, to take over the duty as Assistant R.S.M.; twenty-

four B.O.R.s from the United Kingdom, and Private Balnis from the K.O.S.B., Lucknow, on probation. To all these we wish a long and happy stay in the Unit.

Congratulations.—To Unpaid Lance Corporal Fox T. on attaining that rank. Also to Sergeant Carfrae, whose wife presented him with a daughter, at Lewes, Sussex.

Marriages.—Lieutenant Humphreys to Miss Strother-Smith at St. John's Church on 24th February.

Social.—The fortnightly dances are again being held in the canteen. The dance on 29th February also served as a farewell dance to those who were leaving the Unit the following day.

Jew's Mail.—To Lofty Wayman, don't forget to send your address.—Gunner.

Conclusion.—I apologise for the briefness of these notes, but as this is the season when hardly anything occurs I am not given much material to write about.

BILL WUM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY***

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—Notes (both WIRE and Bank) are, and I am afraid will be, very scarce this month, although the—best—possible—will—be—done—to—spread—them—out. (Note to Editor: Apologies for waste of paper.)

Writing of the " spreading out " process coincides with the present fashion; weeds seem to be revelling in it; rupees are doing four times their original work; instruments (mostly LINE) are also very much under the spell. Then, of course, there is the " spreading chestnut tree," or, should I say, " banana grove ?" which brings me to prose. (Shouts of " Shame!")

ODE TO OUR DEPARTED FARRIER.

Under the spreading banana trees,
Our Shoey once did stand;
But now he's gone across the seas,
To a far, far better land.

For all that, Busty says he is " out to corner the fruit market," and will sell at " Anna for two, sahib." So Shoey, your life's work will not have been in vain.

In order to congest as many of the Unit as possible (a very tough proposition), a whist drive and dance was held on Monday, 2nd March, as a farewell to our last Blighty draft of this tomato season.

Everything (liquid included) went down exceptionally well, thanks to the presence of 99 per cent. of the Unit. (Sorry, Tich—I didn't notice you were there; that *would* make it 100 per cent.)

Inspections.—On the 16th March, the Unit was inspected by Major-General O. H. L. Nicholson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander, Deccan District, kits being laid for the occasion, and all ranks carrying on with their respective work during the tour of inspection.

This time, I am sure, everything was 100 per cent., and I can safely say "sure" (despite our " silent Service "), because after the inspection was concluded there were approximately three of us at work, the remainder having the day off to visit Blacksea, or Southpool, or wherever they did go (?).

Æsop's Fables.—During the first quarter of 1937 the Unit will not be favoured with inspections.

Come Into The Office.—The glad hand is extended to the following N.C.O.s and men who arrived, ex Blighty, on 1st March: Lance Corporals Green J. J., and Ready; Signalmen Harvey, Mills, Balls, and Kilburn.

To most of the above, the following should be taken to heart: " Where there's a SPILL, there is generally a STAY." It is up to you!

Memories Linger On.—On 9th March, Captain and Mrs. S. J. Fielder returned from three months leave in the United Kingdom, but, unfortunately, did not stay with us for long, Captain Fielder leaving on the 18th to take over Command of Zhob Signal Section.

Lieutenant R. C. Yule has also " ridden " (figure of speech) away from the Unit, having been posted to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur, on 6th March. (We would like to know if you have yet found the way in, sir ?).

Both the present respective Units win, and naturally, we lose.

On 3rd March we said au revoir to the following N.C.Os and men, who sailed for the United Kingdom per the *Nevasa* on 7th March: Sergeant Peerless and family (nine months leave); Lance Sergeant Copp (six months leave); Lance Sergeant Field, " K " Signal Section (nine months leave); Farrier Corporal Welch; Corporals Alexander, Knowles and Peake; Lance Corporals Missen, Howard, Holt, and Small; Signalmen Adams, Clutton, Jamieson, Jones, Juniper, Bennett, and Scrivener.

Appointments.—Congratulations to Unpaid Lance Corporal Taylor C., who " rose to the above occasion " during the present month. " A tape on the arm is worth two on the typewriter."

Outposts.—" F " Signal Section, Jubbulpore. Outgoing males (and females): Sergeant Penfold and family returned to the above Section on 14th March. Incoming males: Signalmen Wright and Hezseltine arrived with a view to an increment of pay, *vide* Higher Trade Rating. Both are confident of success.

" G " Signal Section, Mhow. Outgoing males: Two of our new arrivals, namely Lance Corporal Ready and Signalman Kilburn, had a very short stay at Unit headquarters, leaving for the above Section on 9th March. Sergeant Parker, I am sure, will welcome them with open arms.

" K " Signal Section, Ahmednagar. Sergeant Farr and Lance Corporal Green are still " holding the fort."

CHARMINAR.

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

Location Report.—We again write from the same place that we wrote from the last time we wrote (whenever that was, for time has no wings in the place from which we write—and the brewers send us no calendars).

Weather Report.—Sand now only drizzles, and for four days once there was no sand at all. General outlook: Unsettled, and the day you open your tent flap there's sure to be a sandstorm.

Movement of Troops.—All rumours are rumoured to have originated from the Unit clerk (he knows, because he works in the office, see, and sees all the General's stuff), but the only time he originated one (the infamous one about going home next week) nobody would believe him. But in spite of the Unit clerk, Topsy continues to speculate, and only the morbid ones declaim that our bones shall whiten peaceably on the Orient sand. Some of us, however, have applied for a five years' tour on the a/m sand—and the rest, after twenty days' recuperation at Alexandria and a conducted tour of Cairo and the Pyramids, are going home in the *Queen Mary*, via Sicily and Majorca (oh, any time now).



"Come, tell thy tale; what hast thou?"

Sport.—Of this, at least, there is definite news—football, hockey, basket ball (the nets are up, anyway), deck tennis (the posts are up), water-polo (h. and c.), and all modern conveniences and recreations. Unlike a certain topical war in which, whenever a battle is fought, both sides vehemently claim the victory, we know perfectly well who wins and are ably proudly to publish a fixture list with indisputable results.

What Shakespeare Thought of the Cost of Living in Egypt.—Con.: Lo, all our ranks are broke. (Hen. V).

Dress.—The hair of the chin and under lip will be shaved. Whiskers, if worn, will be moderate. (Note by the Author: Moustaches, if waxed and curled up, will not be waxed and curled up in so militaristic a manner as to terrify the enemy. This is unsporting.)

Memorandum on Trade Relations with the United Kingdom.—There has come into this Unit a yellow shirt from Lancashire. The Unit wishes to know exactly how this shirt evaded the Customs—and why?

Motto for the Corps.—*Coronam saluta* (salute the crown).

The Unit's Agonies.—0281 Foster R.: See you in Folly C. at Goose Week.—Kissmone. 0293 Denholm, from 0294: What abaht it. Egypt's the address now. Huggett, "A" Corps: A line should be forthcoming.—Ted, Egypt. Signalman Hoare to Canterbury: It will soon be "How are you, Nelly?" Please convey to George and Dragon. Jonah White, one-time disciple of Rev. Leslie Burgess: How are you, and what about line?—H.E.H.



"What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?"

Home Hints.—A rumour, not without foundation, is that somewhere in the Lines there is a bathroom attached to a tent: the local connection with Cleopatra's bath is misleading. Many young adventurers, out to see the local sights, have gone to the wrong bath. But the rest of the Unit is content with introducing mats into the tents; gaily coloured lions or donkeys may be seen in most of them, but elephants (along with Bedouin dogs) are not allowed inside.

Discipline.—An order has been published, by a certain "higher formation," that no unauthorised digging will be



"Would I were in an alehouse in London."

undertaken. We, the people of England, assure this higher formation that we are not as fond of the pastime as all that.

Bed-Time Story.—Once upon a time there was a corporal of His Majesty's land force, who, being under the necessity of delivering rations beyond a stretch of water, espied a boat to hand, and, thinking no evil of his thought, launched this craft across the sea. But certain malicious men, the owners of this boat, plied another craft in the rear of him, and when this gallant corporal had landed on the far shore they unmoored his boat and hitched it to the one in which they sate, making again for the mainland. Even the wise know not whether that corporal is still on the island; but the group has come to be called "Islands of the Blest," or, alternatively, "Treasure Island" (because it is thought that he may still have the "unexpired portion" of the rations with him). . . . Oh, but a much better story is the one about Leeming, when he bestrode this narrow world like a Colossus—one foot on the shore and one foot in the boat, which was drifting farther and farther away. He's going about with his neck bandaged now.

How They Brought the Good News from Ghent to Aix.—(See next month's thrilling instalment.)

LEACKO.

Football Notes.—Since last writing, we have played eight matches, all of which we have won, at an average score of 3.25 to 1.125. Sedgwick, Zimmer, Mason and Hughes seem to have scored all the goals, and Lance Corporal Galbraith has played an equally good game in his region, at full-back.

Hockey Notes.—The Unit has acquired a new pitch, and ten games have been played on it since last writing—one of which was lost, one drawn, and the rest won. The team appear to combine well and enjoy their games.

"F" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

April.

General.—I am not going to apologise for the absence of notes last month because no one cares whether they read about we poor unfortunates or not, and even if I did apologise you would only say it was because everyone else does the same. So, having cleared the air, we will carry on with the good work. (No, Ben, I don't want a game of chess.)

The Troop, less No. 2 Detachment, left Helmieh on 28th January and, battling through blinding sandstorms, proceeded to erect tents, fill sandbags, dig trenches, etcetera, etcetera. Sandstorms are as common here as rain is in Bulford, but we don't believe that Paddy Coates lost his way whilst going to the Messroom. Eventually everyone settled down, more or less, and went on schemes with smiles on their faces and songs in their hearts (or was it murder ?).

No. 2 Detachment arrived from Helmieh on 23rd March and were soon learning about "How we do it here." (NO, Ben, I DON'T want a game of chess !)

The Collective Training Season was brought to a fighting finish by a four days "war" from 25th March to 29th March. The fact that we travelled over two hundred miles of camel scrub to fight a battle did not in any way lessen our enjoyment. "The morale of the troops was excellent." (Ben, you know what to do with your chessmen, don't you ?)

Sport.—The swimming here is excellent, and it is quite possible that we shall all be sprouting fins shortly. We possess a fine harbour, and a water polo pitch has been roped off for Unit matches.

The "Boat Club," too, is a great success, in spite of the fact that everyone wants to be a Captain

Congratulations.—To Unpaid Lance Corporal (Mick) Addis (who said those "A" Sets won't work) and to Unpaid Lance Corporal (Paddy) Coates on reaching that exalted position.

SWEATING ?

If you can laugh at life and never moan
  When Sergeant Majors give you extra drills;
If you can lay your kit whilst others groan,
  And not "go sick" with several faked-up ills;
If you can do your job when out on scheme
  And never curse the chap the "other end";
If you can treat your seniors with esteem
  When on them your future may depend;
If you will always bend to Army Law,
  And never answer back with sharp retorts;
If you can take hard knocks upon the jaw,
  And play the game when taking part in sports;
Then later, when your pontoon's nearly ended,
  And if you've always steered clear of C.B.,
The luck may change, and you'll be recommended,
  And then, my son, you'll be a U/L-C.

Departures.—It is with regret we say "farewell" to Signalman Bill Mays, who has been posted to "H" Troop. We presume he will be making new acquaintances and quaffing a new brand of "Troop Spirit." Good luck, Bill !

More Departures.—Ben. in search of a victim.

Arrivals.—Signalman Walsh from "II" Troop.

Funny Story.—Andy: "Most of these Egyptians have fine teeth, haven't they ?"

Wally: "Yes. That's because they don't wear boots."

(Long pause whilst Andy tries to work it out.)

Andy: "I can't see that. What effect does no boots have on a bloke's teeth ?"

Wally: "Teeth ? I thought you said feet."

Agonies.—Pippin and Swede—What about a reply? Judge. Bob—Ou es tu ? Drop a line to Hec.

In Conclusion.—R.O.T.B. Who said May? S.E.B.

R.A. Signal Section Attached 20th Field Brigade, R.A. Egypt.

Saturday, 7th March.

General.—A desert reconnaissance and Mobile W/T Scheme was undertaken by the Section under the command of Lieutenant H. C. Daniel, R.Signals, our Section Officer. This proved very interesting, despite the fact that the whole Section became severely ditched in treacherous sands, which are all too frequent in the Libyan Desert. The effect of this was sadly to decrease our petrol average, necessitating a night on the desert, for which we were unprepared. The morale of the troops throughout this ordeal was excellent, which thus enabled the Section to return to camp the following day under its own steam, none the worse for the experience.

Humour.—"The wrong end of the stick." Who was the Driver, on removing his dipstick, complained that he was unable to oil his engine as the funnel would not fit ?

RASS.

Sport.—Hockey is the only game in which we have been able to indulge, owing to difficulties with kit, etcetera. We thank 41 Battery for their much appreciated assistance in this capacity. Now that we are more definitely settled, and become to all intents and purposes a self-contained Unit, we are applying the same principle to sport, and, with the co-operation of members, we hope to be self-supporting in a very short time, and the proud possessors of our very own kit. We have a hockey record in this country of which we are justly proud. Though only a Section of twenty-six, we have developed a fine team, as the undermentioned results well indicate.

Versus 99th Field Battery, R.A.	Won	3—2
Versus No. 3 Company, Egypt Signals	Lost	1—4
Versus H.Q. 20th Field Brigade, R.A.	Won	3—1
Versus No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals	Lost	1—2
Versus H.Q. 20th Field Brigade, R.A.	Won	7—2
Versus 67th Field Battery, R.A.	Won	6—0
Versus 20th Field Brigade, R.A.	Drew	1—1

Total Goals: For, 22; Against, 12.

Sharpshooters.—Lance Corporal Ebbage F. and Signalman Chambers, seven each; Lance Corporal Driscoll D., three; Signalman Malley H., two; Corporal Scratcher J., Signalmen Moore M. and Winter F., one each. This match, played against a Brigade side, was very closely fought throughout, the Section taking the lead through Lance Corporal Driscoll D. after twenty minutes play, the R.A. equalising in the last few minutes. Well played, Signals. "A." "D" and "B" Cable please note.

RASS.

Aboard the "Dorsetshire," Port Said.

Saturday, 28th March.

Royal Signals Draft.—Oh, to be in England now that April's nearly there! Yet all aboard seem to be happy and contented enough as we plough through this sea, which would be a wonderful advertisement for Reckitt's Blue.

The ship carries 84 officers, 1,355 other ranks, 95 wives and 96 children. Royal Signals are well represented, as we have three officers (Captains V. C. Holland, W. Weir, and J. H. Brown), 171 other ranks, and, as far as I can gather, thirteen families. The Royal Signals draft is drawn from no less than fourteen home stations, and also includes details returning from Blighty leave.

The names of the families might interest married readers. They are the wives and children, if any, of Sergeants Wilkins, McIntosh, Betts, Gudgeon, Ward, Savage and Wilson, and Farrier Corporals Archer and Sharvell—all bound for India. To-morrow we lose the families of Sergeants Gladwell, Richardson and Mottram, and Farrier Corporal Newman, who are joining their husbands in Egypt.

All three Services are represented on the *Dorsetshire*, and the troops gave a mighty cheer when one of the members of the Senior Service was seen leaning over the side feeding the fishes.

The trip so far has been very uneventful. We left Southampton on March 18th with the sun shining brilliantly. We were given a splendid send-off, and were very pleased to see the contingent from the Sergeants' Mess at Bulford.

The Bay of Biscay was comparatively calm, but we ran into heavy weather soon afterwards. It was then that the good sailors came into their own, and for their less fortunate comrades' grub as well. I think Jim Kemlo should be mentioned here. He was fairy godmother to about twelve other sergeants and to about the same number of women and children.

We passed Gibraltar about midnight on 22nd March, and consequently saw nothing. Malta was passed low on the horizon on the morning of the 26th. We had just time to say a prayer for John Garroni, and Malta disappeared.

Since then we have seen nothing but passing ships, and most of us feel than Blanco White should have come. He could have reassured us as to the ship's course, for we have only the Captain's word for it that we shall reach Port Said to-morrow.

We were disappointed in that no Signals entered for the boxing contest on board, but we would have won the tug-of-war easily if somebody had not noticed we had eleven men on the rope instead of the ten allowed. Signals have won most of the prizes at the whist drives; Mrs. Gladwell, Mrs. Wilkins, Sergeants Pickering, Savage, Wilkins and Wilson having won six out of the ten prizes given so far.

The families are having a few hours shore leave to-morrow at Port Said, and we take this opportunity of wishing those for Egypt the very best of luck.

Staff-Sergeant Dale, of the R.A.O.C., sends his "salaams" to all old friends of the Signals.

Malta Signal Section.

Thursday, 8th April.

Inaugural Ceremony.—The first broadcast from Radio Capuccini took place last month for no reason at all. Radiating on any old wavelength, G.S.B. for fertiliser launched its initial programme. As only the barrack square was available as a studio, broadcasting was only possible under great difficulties. As it was, passers-by were not too polite when confronted with an apparently crazy crooner wandering round the barrack square hugging a microphone to his breast. It is unlikely that the attendants will release the participants for a further effort.

Spring Cleaning.—An otherwise somnolent branch of the Section sprang into a state of feverish activity, with the result that stores and offices were shaken to their very foundations. Order came out of chaos and offices sprang up where none had been before. To those who may find them necessary, explanatory diagrams may be had on application—via the box.

Entertainments.—Anxious eyes scan the notice board towards the week-ends. Faces visibly brighten when it is observed that the Section will parade, etc., etc., in drill order. Results are amazing and it is confidently anticipated that more than one Hollywood contract will result.

Social Events.—It is with regret that we have to announce that the daily tea party will not be allowed to flourish as heretofore. This marks the passing of a great event but our sorrows are somewhat tempered by a suggestion from the high places that the Vernon opens at 11 a.m.

Vendetta.—With a flourish of trumpets and a brandishing of dry-scrubbers, a challenge from our contemporary Section—"K"—was accepted, and an all-in games tournament commenced. Shovers of a nifty clod may be observed huddled over the board, and our javelin experts mutter among themselves about that nifty double top. Although Malta Section drew first blood, we temper our remarks with modesty—just in case.

Answers to Correspondents.—Anxious: No, the noble edifice portrayed at the head of these notes is not our Signal Office.

Men's Corner.—An advice bureau for those with sartorial difficulties will be in the more or less capable hands of the Big Shot. Success is not anticipated.

Telephone Tremors.—"Gimme the Barracks, I want to see a bloke."

Hands Across.—From Corporal Huggins to the T.B. Corporals' Mess: Salaams to the gang.

Does Corporal Worsley still traverse the Phantom Circuit?

Kohat.—G.B. 351: What about it? A.W. 978.

Gibraltar.—F. Sumner is invited to communicate with Jock.

Bulford.—You don't get away with it, John. That card was a fine letter.—Bobbie.

Spike Island.—Congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Boldison. Was it Chris, Jack? Should be delighted to hear from you.—Nutty Burrows.

Congratulations to Sergeant Pip Wheeler on winning the Army "Middles." Keep on trying, and you will soon be like your big brother.

1st Divisional: What about a line, Joe?

In Conclusion.—Ugh! G-r-r-r. Still on. SKIP.

No. 2 "A.A." Cable Section, H.M.S. "President IV."

c/o G.P.O., London.

March has always been a month during which the breeziest of breezes blow, but this particular month of 1936 must surely be a record-breaker regarding the number of breezes, buzzes, and winds.

In this case though, it is not Nature to be blamed, unless of course we can devolve the blame on human nature.

Howbeit, it is amazing to see the effects of any fresh breeze or buzz which blows through the camp.

Splendid specimens of manhood—if I may be pardoned for saying so—can be seen leaning right over when a "Have you heard the latest" breeze is whispered around. Even old stalwarts who have "been places" before are dithering around with kitbags, suitcases, etc., wondering whether to stick on "Not wanted on voyage" labels or not.

Maybe the fact that we are in an ideal camp, right on the beach, with a fine perspective of the ocean, and so the outgoing liners, stirs that Raleigh spirit in them, giving them the want to "go places" ambition, although it must be said an equal number are willing to stay just as long as they can.

I doubt if there is a genuine moan as far as the camp and Section are concerned, and it is not often one can write that.

Not knowing to which side of this much-discussed topic to listen, it will be a grand speculation as to where we shall be reading these notes when they are published. Meanwhile, the work of the Section continues merrily along and the last of our lines have now been poled. The result of poled cable has affected a wholesale reduction in the number of faults because the rubber bobbins obliterate any possibility of a short at

tiebacks or holdfasts, and the poles effect a safe state of being for the lines, being out of reach of mischievous fingers.

On one particular line we pegged it down every two yards for half a mile and then buried it, but regularly every day it was dis. From the day it was poled it has had a hundred per cent. efficiency record.

For this work we were fortunate in being able to draw so many stores from the Royal Marine Signals, because for coast defence work it has been proved that field cable drill must be forgotten and a more permanent method of cable laying adopted.

For the departure of Admiral Sir William Fisher, R.N., from the Mediterranean Fleet, the Section featured in traditional Naval ceremony, his majestic ironclad steaming slowly past the numerous Naval Units, all of which were an impressive sight with all officers and men lined on the decks cheering their late chief.

Incidentally, we got in the last cheer, being on the breakwater from which we also had an admirable vantage point for the fly-past of the Fleet Air Arm.

Philately.—Some queer hobbies have been adopted. the most humorous being that of a certain "Busty" with his "Nestle's Stamp Album." Any man who dares to buy any chocolate of another brand is automatically branded as a cad.

Arrivals.—Our first: Signalman Baines E., from Scarborough, who has soon settled down both at work and sport. Maybe he will only be with us for a short time, but who knows ?

Wanted.—"Al" Blackdown. Please forward your book entitled "The Secret of My Success," as it is requested by many here.

Sport.—With the arrival of the warm weather, most of the dash-around sports are neglected for the swimming craze, which has stricken many here. Football, however, is still favoured, while a hockey match on all too rare occasions is always welcomed.

After the game with the 11th Hussars Detachment, our team also won the scoffing contest at the tea table which the Hussars so generously arranged.

Indoor sports feature more prominently than ever, and thrilling combats of Chess, Draughts, Lexicon, Sorry and Push 'em are always on show during the evenings. These are almost United Services Championships, having the Naval Ratings and Marine Signallers on hand always willing to partake in any game, a fact which has considerable interest.

Agony.—Badgie Manton, somewhere in India. What about a line. I've lost your address. Badgie Walsh.

Robbo (Ginger), Scarborough, and Sergeant Carnell, of same address. Have seen nearly all the 5th lads and Ginger Baines has joined us. I hear the missus has also been up to see you Bill Hodge.

Conclusion.—"Swede" deserves a paragraph for this outstanding metaphor: "All I want to do is to set foot in Southampton Water." Well—if he must put his foot in it ————.

Stop Press.—Another of "Swede's" specials: "Sergeant, I have been thinking !" (Topper collapsed.)

Till next time— SANDY.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Changi Detachment.

Saturday, 7th March.

Greetings, everybody ! Please accept my apologies for failing to supply news of this remote outpost for the past three months, but what with the amount of work on hand and our being so far from civilisation, we are apt to turn native for a while, lose track of time, and forget our duties to the rest of the Corps and THE WIRE. Nevertheless, here we are endeavouring to make up for lost time.

General.—During the past three months we have had several "do's"—Christmas, New Year, new draft arriving and the old one departing. It is the mode here to celebrate all these affairs with much ceremony and wine, with, I'm afraid, sad consequences the following morning. The N.A.A.F.I. generally does a roaring trade in stomach powders after these affairs. They like it and call it "good bizz," whereas we regret it.

We are now back to normal routine and work goes on apace. Our past two years of rapid construction and installation of F.E.C. is now beginning to bear fruit in the shape of Night Schemes, Day Schemes, R.A. Shooting Practices and Combined Manœuvres, all to such an extent that we wish that we had not been so quick and thorough, but then "We just can't help being that way, I guess," said he, blasting loudly on his trumpet.

Amusements.—No Entertainment Tax. Every Saturday, in the early hours of the morning, the nearby married families awake to the stentorian shouts of budding D.I.s, giving the local lads the "works" in arms movements and marching drill. This has now been the vogue for the past six weeks, and we are just coming to the conclusion that we are soldiers as well as tradesmen. The first two efforts had to be seen to be believed. Rifles were seen to perform weird and wonderful evolutions on the word "Go," but now we consider the Guards are not in it.

Consternation reigned in the Detachment when the foul words "Kit Inspection" appeared in Orders. Kit arrived uncannily from the four corners of the globe, but many were found wanting, their deficiencies outweighing their sufficiencies, and short pay is now the order of the day. There were one or two "blue-eyes" with a full kit, who are likened unto Quarter-Blokes; they are still on the gold standard. *Nil desperandum.*

Arrivals.—We welcomed Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson from Catterick, and numerous other ranks whose names and old stations are too many to mention and who have been distributed throughout the Malaya Command. Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson was posted direct to Changi and is to take over the line side of communications of this Command. We trust that his stay will be a long and happy one. We also welcomed four Linemen direct to Changi, Signalmen Lambert, Goldfinch, Dickson and Back, all who have now settled down and are diligently learning the intricacies of Fortress F.E.C.—Go to it, lads !

Lance Corporal Pearson and four Wireless Operators arrived at Changi last month for permanent duty. They are doubly welcome as they are all footballers and will further augment our football team which is in the making.

Departures.—Signalman (Tich) Barnes, our tame artist, to Blighty per the *Dorsetshire* on 2nd February. To whatever station he was posted we recommend him to that station's THE WIRE correspondent for amusing sketches. Signalmen Brown and Chetwynd to Fort Canning to fill the breach left by the old draft. Signalman (Bill) Foster to Blakang Mati. Since his posting we have received an S.O.S. from Lance Corporal (Taff) Williams, of Blakang Mati, wanting to know how we manage for a Lineman now that our Bill has left. We have come to the conclusion that Foster has not been "hiding his light 'neath a bushel," but had it framed in a searchlight projector. "Californian Poppy" seems to be lapped up over there !

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) A. R. Chimes on being presented with his L.S. and G.C. Medal by the G.O.C. on 2nd February. When is the launching ceremony, "Q" ? To Lance Corporal French on his appointment to that rank with dowries. Unfortunately, the Regimental Tailor claimed all the back pay, so there was no bathing parade—Slump !

THE FROG.

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 180.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Our congratulations to Captain H. Scarborough, who has recently been promoted, and good wishes for the future.

In spite of the cold weather, Easter camp at Blackdown was much enjoyed, and we should like to express our appreciation of the assistance and hospitality given by the 1st Air Defence Brigade Signals. The programme of training included a signal scheme operated over new ground. The Unit took part in the Easter Sunday church parade.

The football match against the Regular Signals was full of thrills, but the Territorial score is going to be increased next time.

We are again honoured by being selected to take part in the Air Defence Display at the Royal Tournament, Olympia, from the 7th to 23rd May. Rehearsals are now in full swing, and the participants are looking forward to this interesting and popular event.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks' Bar, Manchester.
Wednesday, 15th April.

Notes this month will be somewhat scrappy on account of the great " to do " going on in the drill hall; everyone appears to have a job of work to do, and the goings and comings of Officers, N.C.O.s and men get bewildering at times. Some of our learned professors are holding secret conferences in odd corners of the place, and secretly uncovering weird contraptions fastened together by hundreds of bits and pieces of wire. Then these contraptions are placed in beautifully-painted green boxes with loving care, and finally a huge padlock is placed thereon. The professors then rub their hands together gleefully and whisper to all who are inclined to be nosey: " Wait and see," so we shall have to " wait " until Whit-week to " see " if these contraptions will do their stuff. All this bustle is caused through the period drawing near of our " going to camp."

Whit Sunday, 31st May, is the great day, and we shall leave all our business worries behind in Manchester and emigrate to that wild and hilly country known as North Wales, the actual spot being Kinmel Park, near Rhyl. This will be, at least for most of the older members of the Unit, their third camp at Kinmel, and everyone is looking forward to spending two glorious weeks under canvas.

In preparation for this, the Sections have been working at top pressure, week-end schemes being the order of the day. The pre-camp training will come to an end with an all-night scheme for the whole Unit on Saturday and Sunday, the 16th and 17th May, in the Prestbury, Cheshire, area.

Sergeants' Mess.—The annual Sergeants' Mess dinner was held at Headquarters on 7th March, when sixty sergeants and guests sat down to an excellent dinner. The following officers were present:—Colonel W. S. Ashley (Commanding), Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., D.L., A.M.I.E.E. (our former Commanding Officer), Major C. B. Delaney, Captains Sutton and Woodham, and Lieutenant-Quartermaster J. McVittie. After the speeches, all adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess for a very enjoyable concert. The wee sma' hours were reached before this very successful function came to an end; the dinner being voted one of the best ever held.

The Sergeants' Mess Committee wish to thank the Commanding Officer and Officers for very kindly allowing them the use of the Officers' dining-room, where the dinner was held.

Gongs.—The following W.O.s and Sergeants are to be heartily congratulated on being awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal and the Efficiency Medal Territorial:—

C.Q.M.S. Smith H. P., Territorial Efficiency Medal and Efficiency Medal (Territorial).
C.S.M. Dalby G., " " "
Sergeant Barber H., " " "
Sergeant Redfern A., " " "

C.Q.M.S. Smith H. P. has now served for twenty-four years with the Territorial Army and is one of the Unit stalwarts, and, like " Johnnie Walker," is still going strong. Do you think there will be room for another Efficiency Medal at the end of the string, Quarter? I am looking forward to wetting these gongs in the approved manner when we get to camp, you fellows!

T.A.H L.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.
April.

Editorial.—The final trade testing of linemen, despatch riders, and trades other than operators is now practically completed, and results are awaited. The number of applicants for test has increased this year, and it is pleasing to note that in one or two cases recruits of only a few weeks' service have come forward to be tested. This speaks well for their keenness, and we trust it will continue, and that next year numbers will greatly increase in all trades.

All ranks welcome the increased financial benefits recently made known.

Now that Sectional training has commenced, Section Commanders are busy organising, etc., in preparation for the Sunday Section exercises, some of which take place almost at once.

Our heartiest congratulations to 2nd Lieutenants F. H. Reeks and G. K. S. Edwards on successfully passing the Captain's promotion examination recently held in the Exeter district.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

General.—The final trade tests have been held here, and Section Commanders are now busy getting Sections into shape. Each Section has produced its training programme, and Sunday exercises are due to commence shortly.

We have had a steady intake of recruits, including quite a number of boys, and all seem keen to get on with the job.

During the past few months we have lost some of our best operators and linemen to various arms of the Regular Forces. We naturally regret their departure in one way, but we wish them the best of luck.

We continue to receive visits from previous members of the Company, all looking very fit and happy with their jobs, whether it be Royal Navy, Army, or Royal Air Force.

Congratulations.—Our warmest congratulations to Mr. F. H. Reeks, of No. 3, and Mr. G. K. S. Edwards, of ours, on their success at the recent promotion examination.

Sport.—Through the absence of our sports scribe, the usual account of football results, etc., must be held over until next month.

Tailpiece. — 1914. Scene — Quartermaster's Dug-out. 'Boom! Crash! Whoomph! Br-r-r-r-r-r-r! " That you, 43rd? How many tins of raspberry jam did you receive last Thursday?"

1936. Scene—Quartermaster's Dug-out. " I have been thinking very hard, but the only solution I can find is an egg box to keep your cells in."

Query. We have searched the vocabulary sections A to Z in vain for the following: " Boxes, egg, hen or duck, cells, carrying, for the use of." Can any Quartermaster help, please ?

We understand that 1936-37 provides some novel innovations to make the Territorial Army life brighter. They are said to include: Tin trunks to carry cable bodies. Soap boxes to carry washers, rubber. Hat boxes to carry hammers, head. Pin cushions to carry earth pins. Orange boxes to carry raspberries. Kit bags to carry troubles. Cans to carry back. Egg boxes are, of course, to carry cells in.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

General.—Another month, full of activity, has come and gone. Our trade training, which has been going at " full speed ahead," will near completion upon publication of these notes; members have maintained a very high degree of attendance—thus indicating their zeal and enthusiasm. It is pleasant to record that the instructors, who have had an arduous task in carrying out their renowned work, glowingly testify to the way the recruits have put their shoulders to the " wheel of essentials." Our young friends have certainly shown an exceptionally keen interest in the elementary instruction imported, ther wants having been fully met by the respective vigilant instructors.

Marked success, up to the moment of writing, has attended the first stage of the 1936 programme.

The results of the first Trade Board, which have been announced, are very encouraging, and have produced some gratifying results in view of the short and intensive training, especially among the younger members, who have worked very hard. We congratulate them and their instructors.

At the conclusion of the Operators' Course, our Officer Commanding, prior to his departure for Catterick, expressed his appreciation and satisfaction with the results, and, congratulating the younger members who made excellent progress, remarked upon the benefit derived by attending drills regularly.

The subsequent Section exercises which have been arranged will exemplify the advantages of the courses, irrespective of the ultimate tests. The lads are eager to put their knowledge to practical use, and naturally are looking forward to their particular Section scheme.

Despite the Arctic conditions of late, " E " Section, commanded by 2nd Lieutenant G. Fleming, commenced the series of Section exercises with a scheme in the Pitt Down Area, Winchester, Hants. The exercise proved a success, new members expressing their appreciation of the change from the ordinary civilian routine.

Musketry.—Progressing very satisfactorily. Those on the range are finding their work rather interesting. The surprise packets produced by newcomers are beginning to make us wonder what is going to turn up next.

Congratulations.—Our heartiest congratulations to Captain and Mrs. S. E. Bridgewater on the arrival of an heir. We wish them every success.

Recruiting.—The wave having hit us at full force, we have become recruit-minded of the first order. Every effort is being made by the Permanent Staff, and the members of the Company, to have the Company at full strength at camp. Our C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. have just whispered their " brain waves " to the writer; we trust these will bear fruit—prolific, we hope. The employers are responding splendidly to the recent appeal to release their employees. We are making a special drive, which is showing signs of success. There is every indication of the right type of potential recruit coming our way. We are in the happy position of being able to state that we are nearing completion of our total strength.

We have just learned, upon completion of these notes, that a recruiting effort on a large scale has been arranged for this area.

The Mayor of Southampton, Alderman T. H. Sanders, will attend a combined Recruiting Parade of the T.A. Units in Southampton. The bands of the Hampshire Heavy Brigade, and 5/7th Hants., will be in attendance.

BEGBIE.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Editorial.—During a holiday period, notes must naturally suffer from inattention. It is a bit hard on the scribe to enforce on him the responsibility of a full contribution. Anyway, I find it most difficult to retain efficiency at these periods. As no one can contradict me until these words are published, I shall carry on with an easy mind, relying on the strength of my own convictions. " Even a worm will turn," so there—I think this proves my case conclusively.

Easter Training.—The Unit proceeded to Canterbury at Easter and were accommodated at the Cavalry Barracks. Although the weather was very unfavourable, training was carried out with practically 100 per cent. success. The 4th Divisional Signals always appear ready to help us through whenever we become attached to their fold. This occasion proved no exception to the rule, and all ranks thoroughly enjoyed their holiday in a military atmosphere.

Musketry.—Serious attention must now be paid to the art of scoring bulls. The Unit is most anxious to retain possession of the Sheriff's Shield. This will not be an easy task as competition is severe.

The will to succeed is in most young soldiers' hearts, but constant practice is the chief aid to victory. Every facility is being given to this cause, and it now remains for the team to stick in hard at their efforts to increase proficiency. This being done, we may again cover ourselves in glory. Come on, you sharpshooters, rally round and back up those who are striving so hard for your success.

Agony.—It is feared that eye-strain and shock have left their mark on the gentleman who sought to rid himself of an irksome task. Can a Ford really do more than 20 m.p.h. ?

Sport.—203 Section attacked the supremacy of 4th Division on the soccer field. Fortunately, I cannot remember the final score, though 203 Section suffered defeat, fighting to the last.

0020.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals Headquarters.

Phœnix Street, Derby.
Wednesday, 15th April.

General.—(a) The main item of interest, as reported in the press, is the reorganisation of the 46th (North Midland) Division. How far this will affect our Unit we do not know. Anyway, all we can do is wait and hope for the best.

(b) The increase in bounty, and other concessions that have been granted, will, we feel sure, bring recruits along.

Examinations for Promotion and Promotion (Officers).—2nd Lieutenants R. W. Plowright and R. A. Waldron passed promotion examinations at Lichfield on 29th February, 1936. The first-mentioned and 2nd Lieutenant D. Mucklow were promoted Lieutenants on 24th March, 1936.

The Regular Army.—We were very much interested in the LONDON GAZETTE of the other day, when a number of Warrant Officers, whom we all know, reached Commissioned Rank. We take this opportunity of congratulating all concerned. They are old friends, and although we are T.A., we are still very much interested in the Regular Army.

Administration.—The T.A. Associations who look after our welfare, have given us a full-time civilian clerk from 30th March, 1936. Prior to this the employment was part-time.

Training.—(1) The Technical Courses for Other Ranks have ended. The individuals who attended have taken away and, I suppose, spent the pay they received, and are now battling with Trade Testing Boards with a view to higher ratings and more pay.

(2) For our Whitsun Camp we go once more to Trent, and will be under canvas from 30th May to 1st June, 1936.

No. 1 (Derby) Company.

Forty-eight other Ranks attended the Technical Course which has just been completed. Fifteen higher ratings have just been obtained.

We are now looking forward to Sunday schemes and our annual Whitsun week-end at Trent. The only thing necessary to make these a success is warmer weather.

No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company.

The Technical Paid Course was attended by 50 per cent. of our strength. The attendance and interest were well maintained up to the final date. The course has resulted in notable improvement in operating speed and knowledge of elementary procedure. The outstanding success is Signalman Henstock, who has achieved the speed of 12 words per minute with 98 per cent. accuracy. Four linemen will collect extra rents at camp. Summer training commences immediately after Easter, and strong support is promised.

Signalmen Pashley and Wagstaff have fallen to the new bounty bait and signed on.



Photograph (Reproduced by courtesy of the "Nottingham Guardian") shows Top Table at No. 3 Company Dinner held on Saturday, 28th March.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Annual Dinner.—This function, postponed from its normal date in January, was held on Saturday, 28th March, at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham. All who attended unhesitatingly voted both the dinner and the entertainment which followed a complete success, and from the many remarks which have since been passed, everyone undoubtedly enjoyed themselves. Following the loyal toast, "The Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Mary," and the Silent toast, proposed by the Chairman (Captain R. J. de C. Barber), our Commanding Officer, Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood, submitted "No. 3 Company," and expressed his regret that the 7th Battalion The Sherwood Foresters (Robin Hoods) were to be transferred to the Royal Engineers, as an anti-aircraft Unit. Our own Unit will not be greatly affected, but our Commanding Officer hoped that as many as possible would attend the Whitsun camp, when more details might be available.

Our O.C., Captain R. J. de C. Barber, responded, thanking the Commanding Officer for his nice remarks and assuring him of our continued efforts to maintain our standards. Past achievements were mentioned, including "How we licked the 49th (W.R.) Division Signals at Sports," etc., and remarks regarding our training and camp this year were made.

Lieutenant J. E. J. Perkins proposed the toast of "Our Guests," which was responded to by Lieutenant-Colonel A. A. Walton (C.O. 7th Foresters), who very kindly remarked on our efficiency and our efforts to help his Battalion on many occasions in the past.

Amongst our guests we were very pleased to see Colonel T. E. A. Carr, our old M.O.; Major A. L. Ashwell, the secretary of the Notts. T.A. Association; the number of Officers of our neighbouring Units, and also our own Officers of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies. The lesser lights were considerably brightened by the attendance of such old stalwarts as Joe Johnson, ex-Sergeant H. Pilgrim, Messrs. Brown and Rippon, and Tommy Jones and company, whilst we could hardly have been complete if our old friend "C.W.H." had absented himself.

It's a long way to come to a dinner, from Aldershot, but many a cove would like to, and besides, there's always the epilogue.

We wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Haswell for the excellent photograph he so kindly presented to us, and would mention that a place of honour has been allotted to it in the Company office.

Reference must be made to the artists who so nobly kept us both amused and amazed. Professor Gazecka and Mr. H. Oman certainly did their stuff. In fact, we have already been asked whether we may take the professor to camp so that he can provide the lads with cakes, and also help 'em at pontoon.

All ranks are looking forward very eagerly now to the next annual dinner.

Echoes.—H.C. (ex P.S. at Ashburnham Road), now at Singapore, came up for mention between J.H.E. and Willum from Ceylon.

Bramjee, and others, might like to know that a certain Collingwood Sahib is *settled*, in Nottingham.

L.S.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals

and affiliated No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
Tuesday, 14th April.

General.—The pre-Easter training has terminated, and the Trade Board held to discover the extent to which the participants had profited by it showed some really excellent results. The pre-camp Section training and some more special paid courses will commence shortly, and it is sincerely hoped that the attendance both on drill nights and at the courses will be as good as, or even better than, at those just finished. With the better weather coming along, all companies shortly will indulge in week-end trainings.

We are still maintaining a good influx of recruits. Those who have almost finished their recruit's training will soon be posted to their Sections and become " full blown " Terriers, ready and well prepared to do their stuff at camp this year.

We are still to be Corps Signals (this is on the strict q.t., of course), but we haven't been christened yet. Still, we've waited so long, so ———!

Officers.—The Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D.) has returned from his trip to the Near East, and has recommenced duty with this Unit.

We were very glad to see our late Adjutant, Major C. A. Oliver, when he paid us a visit the other day. He certainly knows the secret of obtaining leave!

On 2nd April a new innovation in the shape of a ladies' guest night was held in the Mess. This is the first time we have been honoured by the presence of the ladies at dinner, and we trust it will become an annual fixture in the future. It was a great success from every point of view, and will, it is hoped, encourage " T.A. widows " to bear the frequent week-ends and other periods of temporary widowhood with good grace.

Sergeants' Mess.—On Saturday, 4th April, we held our last dance of the season. There was a good attendance and a most enjoyable time was spent by all. The band was in good form, and the dancers demanded, and got, plenty of work out of them.

Shooting.—We had our return shoot with the 7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, at their headquarters on Friday, 13th March. They managed to beat us again. Perhaps, for us, at any rate, there is something after all about Friday and the 13th being an unlucky day and date—especially when they happen together. However, nil desper-what's-its-name, we are arranging to meet our worthy opponents on the open range at Rainham during the coming summer (oh, yes, it's coming!) and will see how we get on with the big stuff. Perhaps it will be a case of the " big stiffs " being shown where they " get off." Time and the markers will tell.

Social.—On the 17th March our hall was thronged with a merry party on the occasion of the St. Patrick's Carnival Dance. Somebody once wrote that St. Patrick's Day festivities were mostly occasions for Englishmen to speak Irish and drink Scotch. Perhaps the writer is correct, but so far as our dance was concerned he was entirely wrong. Not a word of Irish was heard, and as for drinking Scotch, goodness, what a thing to suggest ! The Dug-Ups Concert Party gave us a very enjoyable evening on the 21st. A large number of members of the Unit and their friends attended, and were entertained with a long programme full of merriment, clean and exciting wit and boundless humour. Some of the jokes dug up by the party were screamingly funny. A spot of exceptionally graceful step dancing was rendered by a very, oh very, charming lady member.

Football.—On 28th March we played our annual " home " fixture with our opposite numbers from Mons Barracks, Aldershot. The game opened with good fast football, and, with more spectators than usual to urge us on, we showed promise of avenging last year's defeat. Youth, speed and stamina, however, soon asserted themselves, and gradually our opponents gained the upper hand, eventually running off winners to the tune of 5—1. The game was played in a fine sporting spirit, and we trust our opponents enjoyed it as much as we did. Tea was served at Fulham House and a dance was held in the Drill Hall during the evening. Various rumours are in circulation regarding the takings in the Canteen, but they don't matter. What really does count is that we had a wonderful time and are looking forward to next year's fixture with our " Regular " friends.

On Good Friday, ninety-six members of the Unit and friends, together with our team, travelled down to Mons Barracks in three coaches for the return match. Although there was a decided nip in the air, it was, nevertheless, ideal weather for football. The ground was just right and what little wind there was made no difference to the game for either side. We kicked-off at 15.00 hours under the very able refereeing of C.S.M. Dormon, and play was pretty ding-dong from the start. At half-time history looked as though it was going to repeat itself for the Regulars, who were three goals up to our none. Soon after play was resumed, the Terriers managed to bang one in the net. The Regulars quickly retaliated, however, and raised their score to four. Then something seemed to come over the visiting team. They became really Terrier-like, and in the space of fifteen minutes added three more goals to their score, thus bringing things level. And that's where it remained to the end of the game. When we come to think of it, history *did* repeat itself, for we drew with the home team on Easter Monday, 1935, with a score of two goals each. All the visitors were given an excellent high tea, during which C.S.M. Gates said a few words of thanks on our behalf for the very good game and pleasant time our Regular comrades had given and were giving us. Everyone was afterwards invited to a concert, where a most enjoyable time was spent by all. We should like to take this opportunity of placing on record our thanks and appreciation for a very sporty game and a most enjoyable day.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.

Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C.—It is with a feeling of great regret that we have to record the retirement of our Adjutant, Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C.



Captain (Brevet-Major) J. L. Totterdell, M.C.

The figure of Major Totterdell has grown so familiar to everyone associated with the Unit during the past ten years or so that even among the youngest recruits there can be found many who will cherish an intimate recollection of him. They will remember the bark which has made many a recruit and young subaltern squirm on parade or in the riding school, though always behind the sharp word there lurked a humorous twinkle which quickly relieved the sting. Invariably they would discover that the bark was far worse than the bite, and that in any kind of trouble Major Totterdell would be the friend to whom to turn.

The mark of his service in the Unit will endure for many years to come. Each of the three Commanding Officers under whom he has served always placed implicit reliance in his advice, always knowing that their plans and wishes would be carried out with thoroughness and efficiency. The institution of the men's canteen and the enormous improvement in messing are notable examples of his activity.

Major Totterdell is a splendid horseman, and what he does not know about horseflesh would not fill many pages. Consequently, the change-over to mechanisation, although it must have relieved him of a great deal of extra work, never appealed to him in the least, and it was not until very recently that he overcame his prejudice to the " stinking things " and bought himself a Morris. Now he is an enthusiastic motorist.

His interest in the Unit always extended far beyond his ordinary duties and he always cheerfully undertook any extra work which came his way in consequence. He knows practically every man in the Unit by name. Affectionately and with all respect, he is universally thought of as " Tot," an abbreviation which he likes and which somehow suits him exactly.

A stolid Yorkshireman, he is spending his retirement at Nunswick Bay, a beauty spot in his native county. May he long continue to enjoy his well-earned ease and rest, on Ilkla Moor baht t'at.

Finally, sir, " Look, we want for you " to keep a place in your recollections for your days with the 48th Divisional Signals.

General.—Company training has now commenced and everyone is looking forward to the light nights, when it will be possible to get to work in earnest out of doors.

There is a good number of recruits already " on the square," and it is the Commanding Officer's aim that the Unit should, for the first time in its history, go to camp up to strength.

Congratulations to Sergeant Bright upon his appointment to A/C.Q.M.S.

Agony.—J.M.L., Karachi. Och ay. Glad to hear you are still " going strong." Item re Havildar is news. Perhaps this accounts for silence since January. Can you hear me, Aldershot ?

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

Expiration of Leave.—Feeling rather like an old lag going " in " for another stretch of penal, the regular WIRE scribe returns once more to his chains of office. Gone is the glorious carefree feeling of the past three months, giving place to the old spectre that raises its unwelcome head towards the middle of each month.

General.—With the coming of April we leave behind the individual training period and its closing Trade Board tests, and turn once again to questions of Section work.

The three-months' classes have turned out some really good material, and when July comes round and the intensive Section training programme is completed there is little doubt that we shall go into this year's Divisional Camp at Catterick quite capable of efficiently carrying out our onerous duties. A course for the Knights of the Stamps, Army Dating (counter clerks, to the uninitiated), is at present running, and the new simplified system should be a great help, particularly to that unhappy creature at Division who has the world's worst job. (The Voice of Experience speaking.)

We shall be sallying forth soon to the rural beauties of our week-end camping site at Arthington, but if the weather keeps on at its present rate it looks as though we shall be tasting the joys of manœuvres afloat.

Promotions and Appointments. — The Unit has been particularly fortunate in the appointment of Sergeant (T/C.S.M.) Pillinger H. to be Acting R.S.M. as from 10th February. R.S.M. Pillinger has, during his tour of duty with us as one of our P.S.I.s, made himself very popular with all ranks, and, in giving him congratulations, may we express the hope that he will continue to reign in his new capacity, happily, and with the success he fully deserves.

Congratulations are also due to another of our worthy P.S.I.s, Sergeant Gatford R. T., on his promotion to that rank with effect from 17th February.

Sergeants' Mess Annual Dinner.—It was truly a happy throng of over eighty that gathered in the Mess on Saturday, 21st March, for the Mess annual dinner. After an excellent " six-courser " the company was afforded a splendid programme of entertainment by Mr. G. Logan and Mr. E. Harrison, not forgetting the " harmony as time permits."

In the absence of Lieutenant-Colonel McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., who was out of England, and Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., Captain J. M. May, T.D., responded to the toast of " The Unit," which had been proposed by C.S.M. Allen R., D.C.M. Captain May paid tribute to the *esprit de corps* which exists in the Unit. Every Officer and man pulled his full weight, and on every parade the numbers approached 100 per cent. It was very gratifying that the Government at last had decided to pay some recognition to the T.A., for after all it was the least selfish public-spirited work a man could do. He gave of his time and leisure, and of his hard-earned money in the maintenance of his uniform and his body, so that he might defend the Empire if necessary, and it was only right that he should receive some reward.

C.Q.M.S. Dobson proposed the toast of " Our Guests," and, in reply, Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., our Hon. Colonel, reminded them that the function was being held on an historic date, for it was on 21st March, 1861, that authority was given in the *London Gazette* for the formation of the first Company of three Officers and about 100 other ranks of what was to be the 2nd W.Y.V.R.E., the forerunner of the 49th Divisional Signals. The spirit of those old days still remained. On 21st March eighteen years ago the 5th Army received what proved to be its death blow.

Colonel Boyle presented to Sergeant Webb R. J. S. the Mess Billiards Cup; to Sergeant Theobald W. the " J. Boyle " Shooting Cup; and to Sergeant Speight E. the " John Brown " Shooting Cup. To mark his retirement from the S.R. side, ex-C.S.M. Burnett was presented with a gold watch, and to commemorate his appointment as Acting R.S.M. a clock was presented to R.S.M. Pillinger.

Amongst Those Present.—We were pleased to welcome in our midst our great friend Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D., who drew attention to the fact that our M.O., Major Haddow, R.D., has been promoted Lieutenant-Colonel, and led the singing of " For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Another welcome visitor was Captain Demaine, while further old memories were revived by the broad smile of C.Q.M.S. Wilson, who came over to see us from Scarborough. Ex-R.S.M. Coffin E. G. was there, complete with flying flea. He still wears uniform, but his old Signals shoulder titles have given place to two pairs of wings of which any angel might be proud —he belongs now to the Legion of Frontiersmen's Air Squadron.

Among other familiarly welcome faces was that of the inevitable ex-C.S.M. Donald Cundall, without whom no Mess function would be complete. He was in the Sergeants' Mess years and years before many of its present members were even born—the thick end of fifty years.

That's That.—And so, heaving a sigh of relief as the old typewriter rattles towards the closing lines, from Gibraltar Barracks we say: " Salaams to all, not forgetting those old members of our throng who now are serving the Corps seven days a week in distant lands."

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

March.

General.—With training now in full swing, we are all looking forward to a good time in camp. Our recruits are shaping well, and we sincerely hope that their efforts will be rewarded by bringing the Jennings Cup back to Darlington.

Boxing.—On 6th April we were the guests of the S.T.C. at Catterick, where an excellent evening's entertainment was provided. I am sure everyone is unanimous that the fights were all clean and sporting, and particular credit must be given to this Company, who have only a limited number from which to select. The fitness of the men was very marked, and considering that, without exception, these men had come straight from their day's work with practically little or no training, their efforts in forcing a draw were very commendable.

The results in brief are as follows, the first-named being No. 1 Company:

Signalman Tweedy v. Corporal Stirk.

Corporal Stirk, an experienced and stylish boxer, easily beat Tweedy, the fight being stopped in the second round.

Signalman McNiff v. Signalman Sutton.

Sutton was very aggressive and had a hard punch, but this had little effect on McNiff, who has an excellent guard. Sutton's experience told and he won on points by a close margin.

Signalman Heathwaite v. Signalman Scott.

Scott seemed a much heavier man and won on the referee's deciding vote. It was a good clean fight and the congratulations of the referee to the loser were much appreciated.

Signalman Wedge v. Signalman Roberts.

Roberts had a good left which seemed to tie up Wedge during the first round. Wedge, however, soon got his measure and fought well to win our first fight on points.

Signalman Milne v. Signalman Tower.

The fight started in a whirlwind of exchanges, but Milne's lack of training and Tower's lefts gave the latter a good knock-out in the first round.

Signalman Degnan v. Signalman Lloyd.

Degnan used to be one of the company's great hopes, and being out of the game for three years surprised everyone with his good straight left, rather punishing his man. He showed that he has not lost any of the art and he won a good fight easily on points.

Signalman Hughes v. Signalman Nelson.

This was an evenly matched fight. Hughes seemed to be the more experienced man and easily won the first round, but superior training told on him and Nelson ran out a good winner.

Signalman D. Longstaff v. Signalman Reid.

Longstaff, a "welter," was fighting a "middle," and it seemed that this would prove too much for him. Reid had him down for a count of seven in the first round, but he recovered and finally won in the last round on a knock-out.

Signalman Peart v. Signalman Mackenzie.

This was a catchweight fight very much to our disadvantage, Peart giving away 1 stone 2 lbs. However, Peart soon found the measure of his man and his left was very wicked, this finding its mark on numerous occasions. The conclusion came by a beautiful straight to the point which won him the most entertaining fight of the night by a clean knockout.

Signalman R. Longstaff v. Signalman Cook.

There were very few exchanges in the first round. Longstaff realised that fighting was necessary. During the last two rounds he went for his man and, hitting hard, won the fight by a good margin.

Badminton.—The rumour that Headquarters had employed the services of a professional player seem well founded. They have not denied this and their practice under this talented player still continues in secrecy.

Only those who have been privileged to witness his light and graceful movements can fully appreciate how fortunate Headquarters are in securing him.

In his flannels grey and his silken shirt
He stood and I saw him sway;
But when he clutched his "bat" with his taloned hands,
There's no doubt that man could play.

Agonies.—Heard at the Regimental dinner:—

Corporal to Recruit.—What are the three rules of aiming?

Recruit.—(1) Close the dislocated eye. (Collapse of corporal.)

D'TON.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—To head the article, and in case we forget, let us say how delighted we are at the increase in bounty. This increase, we feel sure, has been a great asset to recruiting.

Training is progressing in a very satisfactory manner, and the boys are looking forward to the light nights when they can get out into the open and do some practical work.

"F" Section are having a week-end scheme on 26th April, with the 73rd Field Brigade, R.A. May they all have a good time.

Shooting.—Hearty congratulations to "E" Section on their splendid performance in winning the P.S. Shield. Keep it up and keep the shield.

Additions to Strength.—Our hearty congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Harris on the birth of a daughter.

Promotions.—Before closing these notes we must offer our congratulations and best wishes to ex-Corporal Craggs, T.A., on his promotion to Lance Corporal, Regulars (R.Signals). May he continue from success to success. What about a line, "John"?

MIDBRO.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Fonthill Barracks has once more resumed its military aspect. Although we do not go into hibernation during the winter months, the building does not completely wake up until training parades in uniform commence.

Winter training concluded with a Trade Board on 30th March, and individual training commenced on 7th April. Parades are being well attended, and recruits are continuing to roll along—we hope they will continue, so that we can get the Company up to establishment in the near future.

Trade Board.—All candidates for trade ratings who attended the Trade Board are to be congratulated on their success. Don't forget that there is another Trade Board in May—we want to see as many candidates again.

Badminton.—Badminton enthusiasts have laid aside again their rackets for the season. A successful winter's play was brought to a close with a tournament, when the following were winners: Men's singles, Corporal Lovie; runner-up, Signalman Munro. Ladies' singles, Mrs. Mathieson; runner-up, Mrs. Lovie. Mixed doubles, Mrs. Grant and Corporal Lovie. Men's doubles, Sergeant Patterson and Signalman Munro. The club prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. E. Birnie Reid at our first annual dance, when a company of 180 sat down to supper under the chairmanship of Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid. Accompanying Lieutenant-Colonel Reid, the principal guests were: Colonel Snatt, C.S.O.; Major Murray; Captain Dryland; Captain Levack; and Mr. G. Conn, Secretary of the Aberdeen and District Badminton League. Presentations were also made to Mrs. Patterson, ladies' captain, and to the secretary, Sergeant Beattie.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—The March Trade Board left the Company with a legacy of 100% passes to its credit. Those who attended the winter courses for operators and linemen have now reaped the benefit of their work, in either the attainment of a rating or a move to a higher rating.

The despatch riders' course is making good progress, and we hope to be able to go to camp with a full complement of trained despatch riders.

Recruits training under the charge of Corporal Hair, of the Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, is proving very popular, and full attendances are the order of the day. At the same time, Sergeants Harper and Ging are taking their Drill Instructor's Course, and hope to pass out in May.

The lectures for officers on the new Unit Handbook are now finished, and have been most instructive and much appreciated.

The second shoot for the Inter-Company Cup was held on 13th March. The results were not quite so good as usual, owing to a rather disastrous start, but it is hoped to bring up the average in the final shoot.

A special linemen's course, restricted to recruits, has been instituted on evenings other than recruits' training nights. The keenness shown is most encouraging, and if the men selected to attend this course obtain ratings at the May Trade Board the Company will be up to strength in qualified linemen.

We wish Captain A. H. Lennie, M.M., our old O.C. Company, success in his majority examination, for which he sits this month.

C.S.M. Todd has returned from his course at Aldershot with 1st Divisional Signals, bringing with him greetings from many friends of the Unit there, particularly from our former Adjutant, Captain B. House.

TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkaldy) Company.

General.—Training is now in full swing, and, with the raising of bounties, the issue of more travelling allowance, etc., all ranks seem to be taking a greater interest in their particular branch of the Signals. Recruits are rolling along, and at last we are able to pick and choose our men. Classes are proceeding under the Cadre Instructors, who, in time, will prove of great assistance in the training of the T.A.

We are now the proud possessors of a drum cable carrier (on wheels), which should be a great improvement on the old hand-laying method. How useful it will prove we have yet to find out by experience.

Rifle Club.—The rifle club was closed at the end of March after a very close shoot for the last Company Competition Medal. Signalman Halkett R. was the winner after three cards had to be marked with the aid of the gauge.

Congratulations.—To 2nd Lieutenants A. Fraser, T. A. Stewart, W. G. Mitchell, and D. L. Campbell on passing examination for Certificate "A" Practical.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

New Brooms.—Changes are lightsome! Perhaps no change could be more lightsome to us than the elevation of C.S.M. Murphy W., of our permanent staff, to the rank of R.S.M. R.S.M. Murphy brings with him to his new responsible position the fruits of several years' experience as Permanent Staff Instructor with the Supplementary Reserve at Glasgow. A master of all the arts which go to make the successful P.S. man, R.S.M. Murphy is well worthy of his promotion. Shrewd, capable, and possessed of a wide understanding of human nature, he is undoubtedly the man for the job. We confidently predict a happy tenure of office for R.S.M. Murphy as the guiding light at Jardine Street. If we may be permitted to say so, the choice of "the powers that be" is a wise one, and we congratulate them on selecting for this important post a man who has already been tried and not found wanting. C.S.M. Murray now becomes our S.R. instructor in charge, and in Bob's capable hands things are bound to go well.

Lieutenant J. D. Rankin.—It is a long time now since Lieutenant J. D. Rankin ambled around Backhouse Post, out Gallipoli way. We remember him well as a sapper with the 155th Infantry Brigade Signal Section. Lieutenant Rankin served for ten good years with our S.R. Units in post-war times. A talented artist in the realm of the entertainment and social world, Lieutenant Rankin will be missed badly at many a function. He was willing at all times to cheer us with song and story. We will long associate his name with many a happy occasion around the festive board, and with many a good going sing-song.

Manchester Move.—Lieutenant Gee, S.R., has left us to take up his abode in Manchester. We trust, however, that Lieutenant Gee will not have to cease his connection with our Units. Likeable and courteous, Lieutenant Gee has done much for the Motor Cycle Club, and his enthusiasm did much to put the club on a sound basis.

Goodbye, Brandon!—We would say, Goodbye to A/R.S.M. Brandon, who has left us for Scarborough. We wish him well on his return to duty with the Regular Army, and we trust that his remaining years of service may be paved with success.

The Radio Club.—We have to record something entirely new in the Unit's organisations, namely, The Radio Club. The response to the appeal for membership has been most encouraging, and C.S.M. Baldwin deserves our best thanks for his enterprise and spade work which were attendant upon the formation of the club. The radio fans have been extremely fortunate in enlisting the services of Lieutenant Peter McGaw, S.R., in connection with the club's work. An outstanding authority on all matters pertaining to wireless, Lieutenant McGaw has expressed his willingness to place his long and unique experience at the disposal of the club. The "High Heid Yins" have smiled on the venture, and there is some prospect of short wave and other apparatus being purchased. The Radio Club project deserves the support of every serving member of the Units.

Merited Medal.—Major Victor Warren's name is not unfamiliar to THE WIRE readers. A "lad o' pairts," Major Warren has distinguished himself in sporting, military, and civic affairs. We are pleased now to mention that Major Warren's work in connection with the Special Constabulary has been recognised. He has been awarded the Long Service Special Constabulary Medal.

Gailesward.—We go to camp at Gailes, Ayrshire, in July. Gailes is going to be the camp of camps. There are great things afoot. After a break of several years, the entire Territorial and S.R. Units will train together. The old associations will be renewed. There will be the re-union of the Officers' and the Sergeants' Messes. There will be training schemes and grand sports carnivals. There are projects in hand for our enjoyment and benefit. Nothing that will add to our comfort is being overlooked. Here's to a gay Gailes!

Savage and Tracy.—If this should catch the eye of C.S.M. Tracy J., Aldershot, and Sergeant Savage W., now in India, we would inform them that a few old friends at Jardine Street toasted the two absent ones. We were indeed glad to hear of the promotion of our two old Permanent Staff comrades.

Westlands Walks.—Yet another of the old stalwarts has left us. R.Q.M.S. Westlands R. takes with him our good wishes on leaving the Units after twenty-seven years' service. Goodbye! Bob, and good luck.

Sassenach Sagacity.—It is said of one Murray with the right to wear the crown of authority on each lower arm that on several occasions he has deliberately up-rolled his tunic sleeves in order to obscure his crown emblems of authority. It has even been suggested that this action by the meritorious Murray

might well be taken as an evasion of the beer-purchasing laws, whereby the promoted one signifies his pleasure at his advancement by the allocation of alcohol at his own expense.

Wembley Wail.—The patriarchs of the Men's Club are in sore distress. They weep, wail, and wonder. "What happened to the merry men of Wembley?" quoth the wise ones. There had been great pow-wows for many a day in connection with the expedition to Wembley. Not a single tam-o'-shantered signalman was there. Small wonder that the wise men of the Men's Club have donned sackcloth and are crawling in ashes.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.
17th April.

General.—Individual training has come to its termination, and Sections are now busy arranging matters for their own particular endeavours.

Three very successful courses were held simultaneously on Sunday, 22nd March. The Senior Officers' T.E.W.T. was marred in the morning by the inclement weather. The Junior Officers, attired in dungarees, employed themselves with a Cable Wagon under the direction of Lieutenant A. W. Bartholomew. It was a new experience for them, and they appeared to thoroughly enjoy it. With a little more practice they will be able to hit the "jumper" every time. The N.C.O.s and Senior Signalmen's Course consisted of a traffic scheme over the newly wired system throughout the Headquarters. This latter course was so successful that it was repeated on the following Sunday.

Congratulations to the undermentioned on the award of Efficiency Medals (T):

Sergeant Lehane G. A., Corporal Haberfield W. F., Corporal Poole P. B., Corporal Steel A. D., Lance Corporal Frampton E. G., Signalman Griffiths R., Signalman Hicks E. F., Signalman Turner R., Signalman Harding W. H., and we look forward to seeing another big bunch going up to receive their "gongs" during camp.

Social.—The Canteen dances are still going strong. A very enjoyable evening was spent on Wednesday, 25th March, when the members of the N.C.O.s' Mess were entertained by the Officers of the Unit to a games tournament. There was a good muster on both sides, and the usual result in points was declared a draw. Some are still wondering who it was that kept moving the bull on the Air Rifle Target; others think it was the Brewer.

Physical Training.—Actuated no doubt by the sight of the unemployed who are using our Drill Hall for Physical Training, the spasmodic craze for cycling to reduce the avoirdupois has again broken out in these Headquarters.

A member of the Unit, accompanied by a friend, decided to visit the hunting country during Easter, and to use their bicycles for the journey. It is said that Leicestershire was reached in due course—by train. It is also said that some difficulty was experienced for some time afterwards in sitting down, but not in moving the Quartermaster's car with the brakes on.

A suggestion has been put forward that these enthusiasts would do well to keep up the exercise and that, clad in shorts and Corps blazers, they should lead the Unit Cycling Club every Sunday morning. Advantage could be taken en route to point out the important features of the country in map reading lectures or dissertations on tactical subjects.

Congratulations to Sergeant Greenwood E. W., P.S.I., of No. 2 Company, on his promotion.

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The individual training season wound up with a Trade Board on 7th April. Results are not yet to hand, so comment, favourable or otherwise, cannot be made at present.

Company training is now about to commence, and we hope the Clerk of the Weather will make a special note of the dates upon which we hope to have week-end camps.

Company Dinner.—The Annual Company Dinner was held at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, on 20th March, and proved very enjoyable.

After dinner, vocal and liquid entertainment held sway. The Concert Party was excellent, but nevertheless the voluntary effort by Lieutenant Nettleship, during which he extolled the virtues of "Old Father Thames" in no mean style, was undoubtedly the high spot.

We do not think the sight of the trophies would really have annoyed No. 3 Company.

Discharge.—It was with deep regret that we had to strike off the strength during the past month one of the Company stalwarts, C.S.M. Simpson H.

C.S.M. Simpson joined us ten years ago, after completing twenty-one years in the Regular Army, and his ripe experience has been of inestimable value to us. It is not an exaggeration to say that the present efficiency of the Company, "A" Section in particular, is due to his untiring efforts.

We shall miss you, Jock.

Enlistments.—Amongst recent new members to the Company we welcome Sergeant Gale C., late 4th Divisional Signals. He returned to civvy life only a short while ago, but *esprit de corps* proved too strong for him to sever his connection with Signals altogether. "Erbs" of "B" Cable, 4th Divisional Signals, should note.

P.S.—Our best wishes go with Sergeant Finn V. on his return to Regular Army duty. He left No. 3 Company for School of Signals on 14th instant. How did you manage it, Vic?

As relief to Sergeant Finn, we extend a hearty mitt to Sergeant Palmer S., and hope he will not find the Southend climate so very trying after Indian conditions.

No. 2 Company.

General.—No doubt you have all been wondering whether we have been disbanded, but we seem to have been rather busy. (44th please note!)

Training.—A Trade Board was held on Tuesday, 7th April, and a few of the entries are still sweating on the result.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad mitt to Sergeant Palmer. We hope his stay will be long and pleasant.

Departures.—Sergeant Finn left us for the Hills of Catterick. (Don't forget the fur-lined gloves I told you about.) I will also send you a "108" for the trophies when we win them (?) this year. Anyway, we wish you (and the wife and kiddies) all the best in your new job.

Musketry.—Should you wish to know anything about this, ask your P.S.I.s

The Lecture Room.—Who was the man who mistook the 120-watt Set for a 110 Telephone?

Jewish Mail.—What about a tin of crab, Norman?

BLACK DOG.

The London Divisional Signals.
(City of London Signals.)

20, Atkins Road, S.W.12.
8th April, 1936.

Annual Dinner—Line of Communication Signals, Supplementary Reserve.—This function was held at Signal House on Saturday, 21st March, and was attended by 135 officers and other ranks. The Commanding Officer, Adjutant, and Company Commanders of the London Divisional Signals were amongst the guests.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Allan, Commanding L. of C. Signals, presided, and had beside him Colonel J. Waley Cohen, the Honorary Colonel of the L. of C. Signals.

In his speech, Colonel Allan mentioned the pleasure it gave him to announce that the bulk of the Unit would enjoy a seaside camp this year at Seaford from 9th-23rd August. All ranks had, by their hard work in past years, deserved a little relaxation.

He mentioned that, at last, L. of C. Signals was to have its own Regular Adjutant, and also the possibility that within the next year or two they might have their own headquarters.

Lieutenant-Colonel Allan, on behalf of the Unit, thanked Colonel Waley Cohen for his kindness in presenting a trophy to be competed for under arrangements made by the Commanding Officer. Rules for the competition would be drawn up in due course.

Colonel Waley Cohen proposed the health of the guests, which was responded to by Colonel A. J. Lee, O.B.E., M.C., Engineer-in-Chief of the Post Office.

Colonel Waley Cohen said that the Post Office was the greatest benefactor of the Unit, as practically the whole of the personnel was employed by the Post Office.

Colonel Lee, responding to the toast of the guests, said he blamed much of the difficulty of the Auxiliary Forces in keeping up to strength on lack of publicity. He added that he had never seen a paper giving news of a T.A. or S.R. Unit on the notice board at any Post Office.

Despatch Riders' Trial at Chesham.—Sunday, 29th March, was, despite the weather forecast of "bright periods later," exceedingly wet all over the portion of Buckinghamshire occupied by this event.

The trial itself followed accepted lines. At 11 a.m. the D.R. Section assembled at Hockley Farm. They filled up with beer and petrol from the Unit lorry, and were given maps, and cards stating the map references, necessary to cover the route.

One run took place at 11.30 a.m., and, after an interval for internal refreshment, another run was started at 2 p.m.

As has been said, it rained heavily. The watersplash was very full and occasioned much bathing by the competitors and amusement to those observers stationed at that point.

At the conclusion of the second run, tea was taken at Hockley Farm and Mr. R. E. Denison Pender, having performed extensive mathematical calculations, announced that Recruit Gasson (Velocette) was the winner and Signalman Garton (Lee Enfield) the runner-up.

There must be something very curious about the D.R. Section. This is the second time they have had a "trial," and the second time it has been won by the last joined member. The D.R.s themselves retort that another curious thing about the D.R. Section of the London Divisional Signals is that they are ten over establishment, and that they are preparing a super display on the lines of the R.Signals Regular Army displays.

Facts, however, cannot alter facts.

It *is* curious that their competitions are always won by the last joined recruit. This undoubtedly simplifies the compilation of "form-at-a-glance," but must be very galling to older members who can remember the good days when there were only six D.R.s in the Unit and practically no competition.

Annual Dinner of the Sergeants' Mess, London Divisional Signals.—Forty-one members and ninety-nine guests (including thirteen officers) sat down to dinner at Signal House on Saturday, 28th March. The considerable excess of guests over members is occasioned by the fact that this is one of the few Sergeants' Mess annual dinners to which ladies are invited.

Proposing the health of the guests, C.S.M. S. Peddlesden referred to the fact that so far as he was aware this was the only Mess in London which invited ladies to its annual dinner. Judging by the applause which greeted this statement the practice is one which might, with advantage, be followed by other Units.

C.S.M. Peddlesden referred to the pleasure it gave members of the Mess to have as guests no less than three past Commanding Officers of the Unit, and also to welcome Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway as their guest for the first time since he assumed command.

The Mess were also delighted to see amongst them Major E. H. du Cros, R.Signals, who was Adjutant of the Unit from 1926 to 1930.

They had amongst the guests representatives of "A" Corps Signals, and 2nd Divisional Signals from Aldershot, to whom all ranks of the T.A. and S.R. were so beholden for their invariable kindness and hospitality.

Other guests included representatives of the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals T.A., The Honourable Artillery Company, and the Metropolitan Police, "W" Division.

There were also present fourteen members of the 29th (1st London) Divisional Signal Company R.E., T.F. Old Comrades Association.

At the conclusion of his speech, C.S.M. Peddlesden read telegrams regretting their absence from R.S.M. A. G. Hales, late R.S.M. London Divisional Signals, and from R.Q.M.S. J. Adcock, of the 3rd Divisional Signals.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, Commanding the London Divisional Signals, responding, mentioned the pleasure it gave him to speak, not only on his own behalf, but also on behalf of three of his predecessors in command. They all took great pleasure in this annual dinner and in being the guests of the Sergeants' Mess.

He took this opportunity of congratulating the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals on having Colonel Vigers as their Honorary Colonel.

It was difficult for the Unit to realise that Colonel Ozanne, his (Colonel Willway's) predecessor in command, was not still the Commanding Officer. He hoped that his audience appreciated how much Colonel Ozanne had done for the Unit and that the very building in which they were had been built during his tenure of command.

Passing to more serious topics, Colonel Willway reminded us of the very difficult time through which the Territorial Army had passed. It had appeared as if the Government had discouraged the Territorial Army. His older listeners would remember the cutting down of the bounty; the starvation in the matter of equipment; the lack of general interest. The result of this was that the T.A. was at the present time about 50,000 under strength. The fundamental reason for this was the great feeling in the country against militarism. For that reason he welcomed the presence of ladies at this annual dinner. It gave him an opportunity of stating the Territorial Army point of view to them. He, and other war-time soldiers, were very definitely pacifists. They at least did not want another war. They took the view, however, that if the people of this country wished to serve the cause of peace they must prepare and be strong against any foreign nation which might either attack them directly or perpetrate some infamy against smaller nations who could not defend themselves.

Militarism of this nature has been confused in the public mind with the different form of militarism for which the Territorial Army stood.

His audience would normally keep a candle in the house against a possible failure of gas or electric light. As taxpayers and ratepayers they willingly contributed to the cost of the police. It was a form of insurance.

No unprejudiced person can review the state of Europe during the past year and say that there is no possibility of our being attacked if we are not prepared to stand up for ourselves. If we are not prepared, peace cannot last for long.

This has now permeated the minds of the Government and the country, and the feeling is now more favourable towards the Territorial Army.

Throughout the time of discouragement and depression in the T.A., this Unit may be justly proud of the fact that not only has it held its own, but has actually increased in numbers. On arrival at this headquarters the Unit was only 148 strong; at the end of March last year the strength was 198; to-day it is 290, and it will be over 300 very early next month.

This has happened mainly because the Unit is blessed with a good headquarters situated in a good recruiting area.

A factor which has contributed greatly has been the generosity of the local press, which has always gone out of its way to give the best kind of publicity to the T.A. movement. The lead of the local press is now being followed by the national press.

Colonel Willway added that he was lucky to assume command at this time, and he was very proud of the efforts made by officers, N.C.O.s and men, who had been so whole-hearted in their co-operation with his predecessor.

He regretted that this dinner was held too late in the year for R.S.M. A. G. Hales to be present. Members of the Mess would recollect the old days when drill was not a matter at which either the T.A. or the S.R. Units were expert.

The drill of both Units on the parades, both for the Jubilee and the Royal Funeral, had shown a very marked improvement. This smart appearance and good drill of the Units had been the subject of much favourable comment by those in authority. The credit of this was due in the main to R.S.M. A. G. Hales. His influence still remained and could be noticed in the smartness and keenness of all ranks at all times.

It was possible, said Colonel Willway, that when the next annual dinner was held, Line of Communication Signals S.R. might have moved from Signal House to their own head-quarters. If this should prove the last occasion on which the Sergeants' Messes of both units should dine together he would like to say how sorry the T.A. Unit would be to see the S.R. go. They did not grudge them the benefits of a headquarters of their own, but he would like to say how much the conduct and co-operation of the S.R. had been appreciated.

In conclusion, the Commanding Officer mentioned the pleasure that it gave him to find that on the first occasion that it fell to his lot to respond to the toast of the guests, the toast should have been proposed by his old C.S.M. in No. 2 Company, C.S.M. Peddlesden.

R.Q.M.S. E. T. Waite then proposed the health of R.S.M. and Mrs. Strange, and welcomed R.S.M. Strange to the Mess on his appointment.

He also mentioned the impending departure to a "soft job in the Post Office" of Sergeant J. Dunphy.

Amongst the guests were: Colonel F. Fox, T.D., who commanded from 1926 to 1931; Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., who commanded from 1920 to 1926, and is now in the Artists Rifles; Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., who commanded from 1931 to 1935, and is now Deputy Chief Signal Officer for T.A. Duties, London District; Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., who is Honorary Colonel 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals; Major E. H. du Cros, R.Signals, who was Adjutant from 1926-1930; Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Allan, Commanding L. of C. Signals S.R.; Sergeants Appleby, Harvey, and Elkins, representing "A" Corps Signals; R.Q.M.S. Wensley and Sergeant C. Wheeler, representing 2nd Divisional Signals.

After dinner the Centenna Dance Orchestra provided music for dancing, which continued until midnight.

Easter Training.—Despite the very cold weather, ten officers and 126 other ranks spent Friday, 10th April, to Monday, 13th April, as guests of 2nd Divisional Signals in Mons Barracks, Aldershot. Individual training was the order of the day.

Linemen: Two draught cable and two telephone wagon detachments were formed, and after three days' hard work became really very efficient. This was all the more remarkable as for many of the younger linemen the business of doing Nos. 6 and 7 on a horse was entirely novel.

Operators: Experienced operators worked with four "C" Sets and four No. 1 Sets, and the less experienced learnt the Morse code with lamp and flag.

A telegraph school kindly provided by the 2nd Divisional Signals was well patronised during the colder and wetter periods.

Despatch Riders: Friday was spent practising for their display, which included jumping by most of the team. The Display Team have, through the generosity of Messrs. Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd., acquired three motor cycles for jumping, and judging by the way the one machine, which was taken to Aldershot, behaved, we shall see some very fine jumping during displays this summer.

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Proceedings were marred by an accident to a brand new combination outfit belonging to Signalman Lee Smith, which, escaping from its rider, went off on its own at a high speed and leapt a 4ft. 6in. embankment. Fortunately the damage was very slight.

Map reading and rough riding was the order of the day for Saturday and Sunday, and on Monday the D.R.s took part in a treasure hunt, the clues for which were published in verse.

Workshops Trades: These, as usual, had the best of it in the wintry weather, and thanks to the 2nd Divisional Signals had any amount of interesting work to do, most of which could be done indoors by a nice fire.

The re-wiring of the aerials of "C" Set lorries, though technically most interesting, was unpopular, as perforce it was done in the open, rather high up, in a bitter wind.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals Football Team came to Aldershot on Friday for their annual match against R.Signals, Aldershot; the game ended in a draw. We were delighted to meet many friends in both teams.

Visit of the Commanding Officer.—Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, the Commanding Officer, visited the Unit at training on Saturday and Monday, and we hope he was pleased with all he saw. He was accompanied on Saturday by our late Commanding Officer, Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., now Deputy Chief Signal Officer, T.A. London District.

The Unit was visited on Saturday, 11th March, by a photographer of the Sporting and General Press Agency, and a gratifying number of photographs appeared in the press on Sunday and Monday.

In concluding these notes it is only right to place on record our great gratitude to all ranks of the 2nd Divisional Signals. As usual, all arrangements were made with a complete disregard to their convenience and a complete regard for ours. To those N.C.O.s and Signalmen, and especially the drivers, who gave up Easter leave to help us, we owe a very deep debt of gratitude.

C.O.L.S.

SPORTS NOTES

"F" Company, Training Battalion, Catterick.

Final Garrison Company League Competition. — This competition was run as a knock-out competition during the past season, and, as reported previously, this Company managed to reach the finals. But, what a shock ! The Company team met their masters. We lost to the tune of 4—0, and if Lance Sergeant Harrison had not had an on-day the score might have been ten. We were defeated by a far better team—a team who played as a team, with an excellent forward line that shot on the slightest provocation. The team that beat us was the H.Q. Wing of the Essex Regiment.

Boys' Competitions.—We have already reported our failure to win the Knock-Out Cup once more, but our " E " Section managed to resist the challenge of the other Sections and topped the Boys' League.

The following shows how the Company fared in the Garrison Competitions:

Enlisted Boys' League Table.

Unit.	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
R.Signals " E "	9	8	1	0	38	4	17
R.Signals " A "	9	7	1	1	34	9	15
1st Battalion Camerons ...	9	7	1	1	24	12	15
R.Signals " C "	9	5	2	2	27	17	12
R.Signals " D "	9	5	0	4	24	11	10
R.Signals " B "	9	4	1	4	28	15	9
2nd Bn. Cheshire Regiment	9	3	0	6	16	31	6
2nd Battalion Lincolns	9	0	2	7	10	37	2
1st Bn. Essex Regiment	9	0	2	7	8	34	2
1st Battalion East Lancs.	9	0	2	7	5	45	2

1st Battalion K.O.S.B. unable to complete fixtures. Results not reckoned in table.



R.Signals "E" Team—Winners Boys' Garrison League.

The following are the results of the games played during last month:

Boys' Garrison League

R.Signals " B " Team (Harding, D'Hooghe) 2—Lincolns 0.

R.Signals " E " Team (Hawley 4, Pritchard 2, Cornish 1) 7 Essex 0.

R.Signals " D " Team (Finnigan, Bowles, Pavey) 3—R.Signals " B " Team (Maguire) 1.

R.Signals " E " Team (Hawley 4, Cornish 2) 6—Lincolns 1.

R.Signals " C " Team (Westbrook) 1—Camerons 1.

R.Signals " E " Team (Cornish) 1—R.Signals " D " Team 0.

R.Signals " E " Team (Hawley, Sheppard 2, Cornish) 4—R.Signals " C " Team (Webb) 1.

R.Signals " D " Team 0—Camerons 1.

The leading goal-scorers of the Company were: Deane W., 20; Cornish, 13; Hawley, 10; Barr, 9; Ainsworth, Creed, Lander, Gamble, 8 each.

Company League Competition.—This season, owing to the absence of many Units, the competition was run as a Knock-out Tournament. Winners: H.Q. Wing, 1st Battalion Essex Regiment. Runners-up: " F " Company, Training Battalion, R.Signals.

Enlisted Boys' League. — Winners: " E " Section (Instrument Mechanics), " F " Company, Training Battalion, R.Signals.

Enlisted Boys' Tournament.—Winners: 1st Battalion The Cameron Highlanders. Runners-up: " A " Section (Operators), " F " Company, Training Battalion, R.Signals.

School of Signals.

Rugby.—The School won the Rugby Shield in the Mackworth Trophy for the second year in succession. The final was between the School and Mounted Wing. It is interesting to note, in all the competition games played, that no score has been made against the School team.

Team: Signalmen Beck, Lutener, Captain T. W. Boileau, Lieutenant H. V. Ewbank, Signalmen Peck, Cooper, Lance Corporal Pearson, Signalmen Todd, Walters, Driver Marsden, Signalman Quinn, Lieutenant D. S. Smyth, Signalmen Hall, Williams, Lieutenant J. E. S. Sanders.

Soccer.—The School reached the semi-final of the Garrison Knock-Out Competition and were defeated by H.Q. Wing, Essex Regiment, the eventual winners.

The team also reached the semi final of the Mackworth Trophy Competition, but was defeated by Mounted Wing.

Team: Signalmen Kendall, Wilson S. H., Bell, Beck, Driver Marsden, Signalman McAvoy, Lance Corporal Lafford, Signalmen Kerr, Henry, Todd, and Wilson S. J.

Tennis.—The School entered for the Northern Command Doubles, and won; the pair being Sergeant Farmer and Lance Sergeant Cox. Sergeant Farmer also reached the semi-finals of the Singles, and Sergeant Cox the fourth round.

In the Catterick Garrison Competitions, Sergeant Farmer won the Singles Championship; Sergeant Cox reaching the semi-finals.

In the Officer and O.R. Doubles, Lieutenant R. G. Muir and Sergeant Farmer won.

The O.R. Doubles were won by Sergeant Farmer and Sergeant Cox. They also won the Handicap Doubles.

The School also won the S.T.C. Doubles Championship; the pair being Sergeant Creaton and Sergeant Cox.

Golf.—In the 5th Division Inter-Unit Golf Championship, the School team, consisting of Major F. S. Straight, M.C., R.Signals; Captain R. Sutton-Pratt, R.Signals; Lieutenant R. G. Muir, R.Signals; Lieutenant A. I. Buchanan-Dunlop, R.S.F.; Lieutenant E. R. Hanley, R.A.; Lieutenant P. G. Upcher, and Sergeant Cox, defeated Headquarters, 5th Division, in the final by four matches to two and one halved.

Cricket.—The School Cricket Team reached the semi-final of the Mackworth Trophy Competition, being beaten by "D" Company.

Team: Lieutenant Sanders, Lieutenant Hodgkinson, Lieutenant Muir, Signalmen Young, Chitty, Wilson S. H., Corporal Homan, Lance Corporal Reat, Signalmen Cooper, Beck, and Kendall.

Shooting.—The School Team finished fourth in the final table with 7,463 points against the winners' 7,578 points, and collected six points towards the Mackworth Trophy.

Billiards.—The School Billiards Team won the Inter-Company Billiards League by two points from Mounted Wing, the runners-up. This is the first occasion on which the School has been successful.

Team: Sergeant Farmer, Corporal Wink, Lance Corporal Spafford, Signalmen Young, Kerr, and Kendall.

Athletics.—The School Team were placed third in the Mackworth Trophy Competition, and also gained twenty points towards the Pinsent Cup, which was won by "F" Company.

Cross-Country.—A team was entered in the Mackworth Trophy for the first time. It was placed fourth in the final order. Signalman Craig received an S.T.C. "Jimmie."

Hockey.—The School reached the semi-final of the Mackworth Trophy Competition, and also the semi-final of the Garrison Inter-Unit Competition (Samuel-Smith Tournament), losing to the 4th Battalion, R.T.C., the eventual winners.

Team: Lieutenant Sanders, Lieutenant Smyth, Lieutenant Man, C.Q.M.S. Mitson, Lance Corporal Reat, Corporal Dale, Lance Corporal Lafford, Corporal Kavanagh, Corporal Watterton, Signalmen Young and Cooper.

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

General.—To commence, let me offer hearty congratulations to the Unit hockey and rugger teams on winning their respective sections of the Inter-Unit Games League for 1935-36. Also to the soccer team on a good effort to win their section which just failed. The Unit has acquitted itself well in all branches of sport this winter, the all-round improvement, especially in morale, being noticeable and encouraging to those whose efforts have been to improve the standard of sport in the Unit.

All ranks who have organised and played in the various sports are to be congratulated on this improvement.

Hockey.—The final game in the League proved to be as keen as anticipated. "A" Corps had only to draw the game to win the League, whereas 2nd Divisional Signals had to win, and then win their remaining game by a large margin, to have a chance of winning the league.

The game opened with some fast and dangerous exchanges, both goalies being tested. Defences were rather superior up to the interval. Just before the interval "A" Corps lost their left-half, who, being hit under the eye, had to go to hospital for treatment. This bad luck somewhat disorganised the attack as the inside-left dropped back to left-half, only to be laid out himself in a very few minutes by a hard knock on the knee-cap. This left "A" Corps with only nine men, who concentrated on defence and managed to play out time in a goalless draw, after an exciting game.

All ranks of the hockey team wish Signalman Gladwin, our inside-left, all the best of luck and health in civvy life. He finished the day after our game with 2nd Divisional Signals. We shall miss Gladwin next season, but hope that he manages to play some hockey in "Civvy" Street as he is too good a player to be lost to the game.

Rugger.—The last match of the League started with 2nd Divisional Signals having five points and "A" Corps four points, which meant that "A" Corps had to win to retain the "Hitchens" Cup, which we hold.

The game was very strenuously contested, and hard and keen were the knocks and tackles.

"A" Corps played against the slope in the first half and, except for one or two bad defensive slips by the full-back, were sound enough. The forwards of both sides were good and they had most of the play, the ball seldom going out to the threes.

In the second half "A" Corps had most of the game, and only valiant efforts on 2nd Divisional's part prevented them scoring on several occasions. Twice "A" Corps got over the line to the accompaniment of their supporters' frenzied yelling, but each time the referee ruled "no try."

With about three minutes to go, there was a scrum-down near the 2nd Divisional line, the ball coming out and going to Prescott, who, instead of passing, took one mighty dive between the feet of two defenders and scored a try. He must have dived about fifteen feet, and there was a hush until it was seen that the referee had allowed the points. Then the crowd yelled with relief. So ended a fine match which some people present described as the finest they had ever seen, with "A" Corps three points, 2nd Divisional nil. The cup stays with "A" Corps.

Soccer.—Having beaten 1st Divisional Signals twice, we needed only to get two points out of two games with 2nd Divisional Signals to at least draw for the League leadership. But 2nd Divisional beat us and drew with us, thus becoming the League leaders, and "A" Corps runners-up.

On Good Friday our old friends the 47th Divisional Signals, T.A., came down from London to play us at soccer. About one hundred friends and families cheered on the T.A., and a good game resulted in a draw 4—4. Sailor Gaines and Richy (ex-C.S.M.), late of "A" Corps, played well for the T.A. Tea in the Institute was followed by a social and musical evening, which completed an enjoyable day.

Water Polo.—The Water Polo season has started again, and owing to the fact that five members of last year's team have either finished or gone abroad, the selectors are uncertain as to what talent there is in the barracks. Unfortunately, we met the best team in the League in our first match and lost 6—0.

Results to date:

v.	2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps	Lost 6—0
v.	Royal Norfolk Regiment	Won 2—0
v.	Mechanised Experimental Establishment, Woolwich	Won 5—0
v.	Command Military Police	Draw 2—2

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Soccer.—This month has been one of triumph for the Company soccer team, for they have achieved no less a feat than winning the Northern Ireland Defence Garrision Soccer League Championship. Further, they have done this by winning all their matches and scoring 37 goals in reply to only seven against. Surely a meritorious feat for so small a Company as this. Results of these games in detail are as under:

v.	R.A.S.C.	Won	6—0
v.	H.Q., Welch Regiment	Won	4—2
v.	"C" Company, Welch Regiment	Won	7—1
v.	"A" Company, Welch Regiment	Won	4—2
v.	"B" Company, Welch Regiment	Won	12—2
v.	"D" Company, Welch Regiment	Won	4—0

Hockey.—Apart from one or two friendly matches, there is only one match of importance to record this month, and that is the semi-final of the Northern Ireland Defences Hockey Championship. We drew the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment in this round and lost to them by five goals to nil.

In the first half the Signals held them well, and they only managed to get one goal against us. However, in the second half the superior teamwork of the Leicesters began to tell, and, despite the stubborn resistance of the Signals, they brought the score up to five. The whole team is to be congratulated on their fine efforts against a more experienced team. A particular bouquet is due to Holland, Pilkington and Thompson, who played whole-heartedly throughout.

It would be only fair to the team to point out that this is only the third time that they have played on a grass pitch this season, and moreover a number of the players were brought in from out-stations and in consequence had no previous experience with each other. However, they were good losers, and by no means disgraced. Better luck next time.

The team was as follows: Corporal Wood, Lance Corporals Clarke, Turner, Thompson (captain), Edwards and Pilkington, Signalmen Smith, Holland, Jones, Spencer and Blount.

Boxing.—Our solitary boxer, Signalman Holland, was selected to box against Lance Corporal Stone, of the Welch Regiment, on the occasion of the Welch Regiment Boxing Championship. This fight was an exhibition bout, and our man was narrowly defeated on points after a very fine display. It was indeed an exhibition. Gratters, Dutchy.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Athletics.—The Brigade Athletic Meeting was held this month. In spite of the fact that two Infantry Battalion teams were competing, we entered a team from our small numbers, and our fellows put up a stern fight but they were outclassed by the Battalion teams.

The Fazal Din Trophy Sports have also just been held. The Trophy is competed for by all companies in the Unit, eight Indian teams and one British team. Again our team managed to bring the cup back to "A" Company. This year the three-mile team managed to carry off four points from the Indians, which is very rare. The Indian ranks are more at home on a long distance run, but we can generally show them the way home in the sprints.

Soccer.—The unit entered a team for the Porter Cup. In the first round we were knocked out by the Leicesters, losing 2—1. However, the game was well worth watching, and especially Signalman Whitehead, who was most outstanding in goal. He saved a lovely penalty, but through lack of support the Leicesters followed up and slipped the ball past him.

Tennis.—The B.O.R.s Club is at present holding a tournament for the Moti Ram Cup, competed for by handicap singles. Some of the matches so far have been rather interesting. The poor umpires, especially Signalman Scanlan, are having a sore time. Nearly every match is running to three sets, and long ones in the bargain. The match between Lance Corporal Paling and Signalman Davidson lasted 1 hr. 45 mins., the score being 6—8, 6—4, and 5—7. Then the match between Corporal Driver and Lance-Corporal Marshall lasted 1 hr. 40 mins., Driver winning the odd set. The hot favourite, Signalman Tyler, has now won through to the final, which is being played off this week-end. In spite of his heavy handicap, he is putting up a jolly good show. Everyone is keen on seeing him in the final against either Corporal Driver or Signalman Bourner. Keep it up, Ken.

R.P.

Northern Command Championship Tournament.

The R.Signals combined team eventually won this tournament. Some keen games were witnessed, and plenty of thrills pleased good crowds. In the first match, against the Royal Air Force, Kohat, we ran out easy winners, 6—1. Our second match, against the Royal Artillery, Rawalpindi, we won 2—1, and disposed of the King's Liverpool Regiment, 1—0, to enter the final against the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. This match proved a great attraction, and before a great crowd some very good football was played. The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders having played together for so long, quickly settled down, and our defence was called upon for strenuous work. The hero of the match was the Signals goalkeeper (Signalman Hunns). Time and again, although he was attacked from all sides, he stood as firm as a rock, and but for him the Argyles would have scored twice. As it was the teams changed ends with the score sheet blank. In the second half our opponents forced two quick corners, but again the goalie proved impregnable. Ultimately he was beaten by the inside-left, who scored with a high shot. We equalised soon afterwards, and when time was called the scored was one-all. Extra time was played and Signals dominated the play from then on. A pass intercepted by Signalman Keenlyside enabled him to run away and score the goal which gave us the Cup. Major-General McMahon, in presenting the Cup to the winners, remarked on the very creditable victory to new-comers to the station.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

Football.—Although the R.Signals combined team (football team) returned from Delhi without the Cup, they have a very creditable performance to their name. In their first match they disposed of the Royal Fusiliers to the tune of 2—1. In their second match they held the Staffordshire Regiment to a drawn game, 1—1, but in the replay had to retire, being beaten 4—1.

1st Indian Divisional Signals.

NORTHERN COMMAND FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

First Round: R.Signals v. Royal Air Force (Kohat).

We met very little opposition in this match and ran out winners by six goals to one. Our team combined splendidly, and the forwards found no difficulty in finding the net.

Second Round: R.Signals v. 5th Field Brigade, R.A.

Once again we met our old friends in the second round. This match was a ding-dong affair, with plenty of hard kicking on both sides. The teams did not seem to settle down—everyone seemed to be rather nervous. The R.A. opened the scoring in the first five minutes, half-time arriving with

the score 0—1. During the second half our team began to settle down. Passes were finding their men and the long-awaited equaliser soon arrived. This put new life into our players and the R.A. goal was subjected to heavy pressure. With eleven minutes to go our forwards launched an attack on the R.A. goal and were awarded a corner. The R.A. right-back came into the goalmouth for the kick and deflected the ball with his head to the centre-forward, who banged it into the net. The R.A. tried hard to get on level terms again, but our defence held out and we ran out winners by two goals to one.

Semi-Final: R.Signals v. The King's Regiment.

This match was fought out at a terrific pace—good football being played by both sides. Both defences were subjected to heavy pressure, but came through with flying colours. Our goalkeeper saved what seemed to be a certain goal when he stopped a penalty kick. Half-time arrived with the score 0—0. Both defences were being severely tested, and it looked as though the match was to result in a goalless draw. Our forwards then swept forward and both uprights of the King's goal were struck. From the rebound of one of these the ball went to our left-half, and he made no mistake with a great shot through a crowd of players. The King's then launched an attack on our goal, and it seemed certain that they must score, but our defence remained sound. Time after time shots were smothered and cleared by our defence and goalkeeper, and a sigh of relief went up when the final whistle blew with us leading 1—0, after a terrifically hard game.

Final: R.Signals v. 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The Signals were soon away, both wings being very dangerous. Play was very fast, the ball being quickly transferred from one end to the other. Good football was being played by both sides. The Highlanders played the short passing game, the Signals the more open game.

After an even first half, the score was 0—0. So far both defences had been on top, especially the Signals' defence, which had played brilliantly. The Highlanders were the first to draw blood. After a smart movement their inside-left fastened on to the ball and sent in a shot well wide of our goalkeeper, who had no chance of saving. The Signals then fought back splendidly, still keeping to their open play. The ball was snapped up and pushed forward to the left wing. In it came, and our inside-left made no mistake, crashing it into the net. About ten minutes remained for play, and both sides were fighting desperately for the deciding goal. Our right wing picked up a pass from our wing half, and put in a splendid centre which was met first time by our inside-left, giving the goalkeeper no chance of saving.

Everyone was cheering, but it was offside ! Full time arrived with the score 1—1.

Extra time was decided on, the teams playing ten minutes each way. The score was still 1—1 after the first half of extra time. A terrific struggle now ensued, both sides playing brilliant football, and the crowd was at fever pitch. The Signals' defence was now being subjected to very heavy pressure. During a bout of loose play, the ball was pushed down the middle to our centre-forward, and away he rushed, beating two men. Spectators were holding their breath—could he do it ? Steadying himself he smashed in a terrific shot, giving the goalkeeper no chance. What a cheer went up from our spectators. The question was now would our defence be able to withstand the brilliant attack of the Highlanders, whose halves were now all up with the forward line. Our defence, playing brilliantly, repulsed each attack, and we ran out worthy winners of a great game by two goals to one.

" Well played, Signals."

Team (Unchanged throughout the Tournament): Signalman Hunns; Corporal Moody, Lance Corporal Cordner; Signalman Bourton, Signalman Fowler, Lance Corporal Brackenbury; Signalman Mobberly, Lance Corporal Cleveland, Signalman Foster, Signalman Abbis, Signalman Keenlyside.

1st Indian Divisional Signals.

6th March.

Football.—In the District Football Competition we were just unlucky. 1st Round: We defeated the 1st Battalion The Hampshire Regiment by 2—1. Semi-Final: Lost very narrowly to " A " Corps Signals by 3—2. A keen fast game, " A " Corps had just that little bit extra that counts.

A Combined Signals team (" A " Corps and ourselves), under the able baton of Lance Sergeant Cosstick, has departed to Delhi to take part in the Vizianagram Tournament there. More anon.

Stop Press.—In the above we beat the Royal Fusiliers 2—1 in the first round, and then lost to the South Staffords by 4—0 after a drawn game, 1—1.

Hockey.—We have done better in the District Tournament in this connection than above. 1st Round: We beat the Royal Air Force by 5—2. Semi-Final: Saw the local Gunners (Vth Field Brigade) off by 1—0. Final: We met the 1st Battalion The Hampshire Regiment. They were, however, the toughest nut to crack in the Garrison. Unfortunately we lost 2—0, having been a man short for a large part of the game.

Field and Track Events.—Signalmen Combe, Cox F., and Barnes proceeded to Lahore recently to participate in the All-India Championships for Hammer-Throwing, Hurdles, and the Mile respectively. Combe became the All-India Champion with a throw of 120 ft. 11 inches. Cox had bad luck in developing some internal trouble and Barnes wasn't quite good enough. All three were up against some pretty stiff propositions. Mr. Lyall, who has just arrived, has been very busy training on the Athletic Ground. We hope to let you know more about him in the next issue.

Boxing.—" A " Corps and ourselves put in a combined team for the Garrison Tournament, and managed to reach the semi-final stage—a no mean feat. We defeated the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders by 18 points to 15, the 1st Hampshire Regiment beating us with the same score. Appended below is a list of the fights:

Name of Boxer.	Weight.	Result. 1st Round.	Semi-Final.
Signalman Cox J.	Middle	Lost on points	Lost on points
Signalman Neame	Bantam	Won on points	Won on points
Corporal McKenzie	Light	Lost on points	Lost on points
Signalman Delaney	Light-Heavy	Won on points	Won on points
Signalman Warburton	Feather	Won on k.o.	Won on k.o.
Lance Corporal Payne	Light	Lost on points	Lost on points
Signalman Waugh	Light	Won on points	Lost on points
Signalman Richmond	Welter	Won on points	Lost on points
Lance Corporal Sokell	Welter	Won on k.o.	Lost on points
Corporal Brassfield	Welter	Lost on points	Lost on points
Lance Corporal Rymer	Heavy	Won on k.o.	Won on k.o.

ONEDIV.

No. 2 Company, 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

A RECORD YEAR

The year 1935-1936 has been an auspicious one in the annals of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals. To commence with, we were present during the great Quetta earthquake, when the whole Unit was employed on re-establishing communication in Quetta until the end of June. This period of strain having been successfully surmounted, we then turned our minds to less serious subjects and the " Quetta Quakes," a Unit concert party, under Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., came into being.

They ran to crowded houses for seven or eight performances, and the magnificent scenic effects were indeed worthy of Drury Lane at its best. Naturally we gave all performances out of doors, and it was only the approach of the cold weather that cried " Finis " to these activities.

Whilst these diversions were in progress our Unit Swimming Team were in the field (or water) under the direction of Lieutenant J. H. L. Crichton, with Sergeant Baker as the outstanding performer; the remainder of the team consisting

of: Sergeant Fleet; Corporal Brunton; Lance Corporals Lewis R., Leigh, Hatton, and Beevers; Signalmen Davis, Smith J., Scott, Eburne, Marson, Leyland, Holt, Price, Maslam, and Middleton, carrying off the Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Aquatic Sports and Water Polo Cup, and thus opened a series of successes in the field of sport of which we are indeed justly proud and which we venture to suggest will be hard to equal.

The finals of the Aquatic Sports were indeed exciting. After a stern struggle with the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales' Own) in the sports, we established a lead of one point, and the whole issue now lay in the final of the water polo. Amid scenes of frenzied enthusiasm we placed the issue beyond all doubt by a convincing win of three goals to two.

We enclose a photograph of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, showing football, rugger, and hockey teams, with the cups and trophies won by these teams during the year 1935-36. (Photograph not received.—ED.).

A brief summary of these successes is appended below:

(a) **Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Aquatic Sports and Water Polo.**—Won by three points to two. Runners-up: 1st Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment.

(b) **Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Football Competition (Pellier Cup)**, presented by Mr. Pellier.—Quetta. Other finalists: 11th Light Battery, R.A. Won by three-nil.

(c) **Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Rugby Football Tournament.**—Other finalists: 2nd Light Tank Company, R.T.C. Won by eighteen points to nil.

(d) **Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Hockey Tournament.**—Other finalists: 1st Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment. Won by four goals to three.

Winter now set in and the Unit was scattered to the four points of Sind and Baluchistan, and "leave" was the order of the day. The Commanding Officer set a very fine example by visiting Australia, whilst other members of the Unit visited Colombo and England.

Having safely negotiated Christmas and the New Year, we turned our thoughts to soccer. At the opening of the season, despite the disintegration of the Unit over Sind and Baluchistan, we managed to finish third in the District League. We felt we could do better, and with the return of leave parties, etc., we were able to field a stronger eleven and entered for the Western Command Inter-Unit Football Tournament.

After a shaky passage with the 1st Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment, whom we defeated by the odd goal after extra time, we worked our way to the District final, and after a masterly display of football at its best we came out victors against the 11th Light Battery, R.A., by the convincing margin of three goals to nil.

The team consisted of: Lance Corporal Johnson, Lance Sergeant Rawson, Lance Corporal Dixon, Signalman Hotchkiss, Lance Corporal Devlin, Signalman Marston, Signalman Taylor, Signalman Fenwick, Corporal Jarvis, Sergeant Eynott, Signalman Wills. Reserves: Signalmen Rae and Middleton. We duly acclaimed, and Mr. Pellier himself presented them with the Pellier Cup and medals.

The above win qualified the Unit team to enter the final of the Western Command Football Competition, which was played at Karachi on the 21st March, 1936, our opponents being the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment.

We make no excuses for the defeat of the team by three goals to one, but this was mainly due to 50% of our team being repatriated to the United Kingdom a few days earlier. Therefore, having to rely on the new talent from home they are to be congratulated on their narrow defeat. The goal was scored by Signalman Fenwick.

Football was now the order of the day. A most successful eight-a-side Section tournament was staged under the direction of our Sports Officer, Lieutenant H. Worrall.

Every B.O.R. in the Unit who was not a member of the successful Unit football team turned out, and we had some eighteen teams in the field. "A" Section No. 1 Team ran out winners by defeating Unit Headquarters No. 1 Team by three goals to one.

The Baluchistan Rugger ground was now in perfect condition, and we could not resist the call. The Unit Rugger team had to be selected for the forthcoming Inter-Unit Tournament, and some thirty stalwarts, led by Lieutenant H. Worrall, were removing lumps of Baluchistan (mittni) daily. Our most dangerous opponents in the forthcoming contest were the 11th Light Battery, R.A., against whom we were drawn in the first round.

The team consisted of: Signalmen Holt and Tyers, Lance Corporal McKenzie, Signalman Last, Corporal Cocks, Lance Sergeant Rawson, Signalman Kraft, Lieutenant H. Worrall, Corporal Baker, Signalman Scott, Lance Corporal Beevers, Signalman Slater, Lance Corporal Hatton, Lance Corporal Currie, Signalman Smith J. Reserves: Signalmen Marvel and Marson.

All roads led to the Gymkhana ground, as everyone realised that this match was a contest of giants. And so it indeed proved. Playing with fine dash, our forwards held a much heavier pack, hooking the ball eight times to the opponents two. The tackling on both sides was of the keenest.

At half-time the score stood at three points to nil for us. In the second half no quarter was given nor asked, the only addition to the score being a penalty goal taken by Sergeant Rawson. The final score—six points to nil—was a true indication of the game. We felt sorry to see such worthy opponents depart.

In the final, against the 2nd Light Tank Company, we again fielded the same team, and had a comfortable lead of sixteen points in the first half after a tense struggle.

In the second half the team played like men inspired, and space does not permit the recording of any individual feats. In all departments of the game we showed a marked superiority, and thus the Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Rugger Cup came to rest in the Officers' Mess alongside the Football and Swimming Cups.

The only remaining tournament was the Baluchistan District Inter-Unit Hockey. Owing to inclement weather our team, under the captaincy of Lieutenant H. Worrall, had to embark on their last venture without any practice since the final of the Inter-Company Tournament in December. The embarkation, however, took place under the motto "Never venture, never win."

In our first match, against the 2nd Light Tank Company, we proved irresistible. After a fast game, in which our forwards showed to advantage, we left the field winners by five goals to nil.

The final was played on Saturday, 14th March, when we met the 1st Battalion Queen's Royal Regiment.

The day dawned cold and clear, after raining over night, but a hot sun soon dried the ground, which, by the time the fatal hour arrived, was in excellent condition.

The Unit M.T. worked overtime, and not a man was absent from the arena seats.

After our convincing victory the team appeared to take things too easily, with the result that the Queen's established a very early lead of three goals, and we appeared to be in for a "dusting." But never were opponents more cruelly deceived. With great *elan* the team threw caution to the winds, and, taking a leaf out of F.S.R., decided that attack was the best form of defence. Attack after attack was therefore launched against the opposing goal. Two short corners were forced in rapid succession, from both of which Lance Sergeant Rawson scored with superb shots. Just before half-time our opponents conceded yet another short corner. Could Rawson achieve the impossible?

A tense hush settled over the ground. Both teams line up in their respective positions. The ball is hit. It is stopped. Rawson shoots. A magnificent save by the opposing

goalkeeper. The ball comes back into play, when lo ! our Adjutant, dashing forward at breakneck speed, lashes in a shot which gives the goalkeeper no chance.

Three—all ! ! ! Half-time.

The second half opened quietly. Play was up and down—the Queen's forwards meeting with a stubborn defence. Our forwards bombarded the opposing goal, but without success. Our forward line was not working so smoothly as usual owing to the fact that Lance Corporal Cullen, our centre-forward, had split his finger in a determined effort to rush a goal through. He, however, continued to play, but his accustomed accuracy was greatly impaired. It looked as if extra time was a certainty—but NO ! Five minutes before time, during a scrimmage in front of the Queen's goal, Signalman Middleton got possession of the ball and drove home a masterly shot between the uprights into the top corner of the net.

So ended a magnificent game, and the team are indeed to be congratulated upon extricating themselves from a very "sticky" position. Play on both sides was of a very high standard and a delight to watch.

The above victory also qualified the team to travel to Karachi to oppose the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales' Own) in the final of the Western Command Hockey Tournament. We met this team on the 28th March, 1936, and so had our revenge for our football defeat, winning by two goals to one. The goals were scored by Signalman Middleton and Signalman Huddlestone.

With this wonderful win, the Unit added another trophy to its collection, and we have now so many that if we win any more there will be no place to put them.

We feel we are conveying the opinion of the whole Unit when we offer to all these teams our very best congratulations.

Four Inter-Unit Trophies in under twelve months is indeed a fine record.

Never was the Corps motto (Swift and Sure) more worthily upheld—*VENI—VIDI—VICI.*

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Changi Detachment.

Football.—For the first time in Changi history the Signals are able to field a complete soccer team. As the present Detachment is only sixteen strong, this is an event. To date we have only played two friendlies, but we have entered the Garrison League, which starts its fixtures soon. The two friendlies played were against the 41st Company, R.E. The first resulted in a draw of one goal each, the R.E.s scoring their goal from a penalty in the first half. Signalman Holmes netted for us in the second half with a first-timer from outside the penalty area. The run of the play was in our favour and, as it was the team's first outing, it was a good show, the team as a whole showing excellent understanding. In the second game the R.E.s turned out a stronger side and we fully expected a trouncing, but the Signals played an inspired game and ran out winners by two goals to nil. In this game we were deprived of the services of Lance Corporal Pearson, who was injured, so we borrowed Private Swan, of the R.A.M.C., who played a sterling game and, through his excellent passes forward, kept the play in the R.E.s' half for two-thirds of the game. The R.E. team were handicapped by being black-legged by their supporters, who supported the Signal side throughout the game. Thank you, sappers ! We hope you will turn out your First Division team next time.

Yachting.—This is becoming a popular pastime with the Signals, and we now boast the ownership of three yachts and eight members in the Changi Garrison Yacht Club. A race is held every week, usually over a five or six miles triangular course. Lance Corporal French is our star performer in these races to date, he having an advantage of two years' knowledge of Changi waters but, judging by the progress made by the new members, it won't be long before he is shorn of his laurels, or at least has some serious contenders for them. Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson is the instigator of our yachting enthusiasm, he being a keen yachtsman himself. He has just become part-owner of an International Six-Metre Class yacht, so we hope to see him shine in the Royal Singapore Yacht Club's races, which cater for the bigger class yachts. Good luck, sir !

HOSPITAL DAYS (*continued*)

[*Continued from page* 187]

small squares of dry toast and a cup of tea, we thought it was a somewhat skimpy diet, but obeyed without demurring the instructions "to eat the toast and drink all the tea." It seemed a queer sort of meal, but "faute de mieux" we consumed it. Now for the sequel. Exactly an hour afterwards, the door opened and in came an interne in white, a fairy in pink, and another fairy in blue, the latter carrying a tray covered with a fair white cloth, which we fondly imagined contained an appetising meal; but no, on the removal of the cloth, we saw

(*a*) a kidney-shaped basin filled with cracked ice,

(*b*) a rubber pinafore,

(*c*) a medicine glass full of liquid paraffin,

(*d*) resting comfortably on the cracked ice in the basin, about six feet of rubber tubing with a small silver ball at the end,

(*e*) a glass syringe.

We thought we were in for a major operation, or at least a blood transfusion. However, one fairy decked us in the pinny, the other held our hand, and the interne picked up the tube and informed us we had to swallow it. We did. After a terrific struggle, during which we thought we were going to be choked to death, we swallowed so much of that tubing that we thought we must be sitting on the end of it. It felt like a football on the end of a fire hose. Then the interne, who up to that time had been merely taking an academic interest in the proceedings, started to work. He affixed the syringe to the free end of the tube and proceeded to remove our somewhat exiguous meal. When that had been completed to his satisfaction they assisted us to return the tube, which proved to be less of an ordeal than we expected. We got nothing to eat all that day. About 9 p.m. a fairy appeared with a tumbler which contained something that looked suspiciously like the ink we use on our duplicators. She dropped in some powder and stirred it until suddenly it turned white, whereupon she presented the goblet to us with the injunction "Swallow the lot." It was thick, sweetish, and entirely nauseating, but we managed it.

The usual routine of pulse and temperature taking completed the evening, and we retired. In the early hours of the morning a very efficient fairy in blue (without a cap) advanced on us with a wash bowl and the usual appurtenances, and tried to insist on washing us. Now we were not helpless; we were not even very sick, and this indignity was more than we could bear, so we debated the matter. The blue fairy, who (as will be observed) was a "proby," took her job very seriously indeed. She remained adamant; but we determined to take the matter into our own hands, so we got out of bed, reached for our dressing gown, and started in a more or less dejected manner for the bath room—followed by a confused and somewhat verbose "proby," who reminded us very much of the hen whose duckling had reverted to type and (like us) was seeking the water. Arrived at the bath room, we turned on both taps, shed our dressing gown, and addressed the damsel: "Now, young lady, we are going to take a bath. You can stay if you like; but whether you stay or go, please shut the door." Evidently her sense of modesty overcame her sense of duty, and she incontinently fled, whereupon we bathed in peace and solitude.

Breakfast time came around, but still there was no food for us; and at 9 o'clock we were sent down to the X-ray department. As we were presumed to be sick, and by this time we thought we must be, we were not allowed to walk downstairs but were borne along in a wheel chair.

Arrived at the X-ray department, a fresh set of damsels took us over, and we were assisted out of our chair and led into the chamber of horrors. We were commanded to stand up on a small platform, and the light was extinguished. Having been placed in a suitable position, a ghostly hand reached out and handed us a beaker of what looked like cream and tasted like nothing on earth. Something cold and hard was placed against our tummy; another ghostly voice said "Don't move and don't breathe." There was a crackling sound as the switch was pressed, and our photograph was taken. Another beaker of barium meal, another picture, and we were allowed to stand down and return to our room, with the strict injunction not to eat or drink until we were told we could do so.

[*To be Continued*]

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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- Editorial Notes -

Public Schools Exploration Society Proceeding to Norwegian Lapland and Finnish Lapland in August, 1936.—We have been asked to convey the following information to our Officer readers:

The above Society invites applications from two Royal Signals Officers to act as Assistant Leaders for the forthcoming expeditions of the Public Schools Exploring Society this summer, the Senior Expedition to Norwegian Lapland and the Junior to Finnish Lapland. Applicants should hold the rank of Senior Subaltern, Captain, or Junior Major, and should be physically fit in all respects.

One applicant should possess all essential qualifications as a Wireless man, capable of working and maintaining a Short Wave Transmitter Set, also reading and transmitting messages. Each Camp will have a transmitter set with motor generators, and capable of sending messages in Morse to parties out on the march, and to the other base Camp.

The second applicant is required as Navigating Officer with a good knowledge of direct compass marching, also the use of sextant and/or theodolite.

The expenses for the senior expedition are £35, and for the junior expedition £30, plus about five guineas for equipment in each case. The inclusive cost is from Hull and back to that port.

Both expeditions are scheduled to leave Hull on 5th August, and return on 20th September.

Prospective applicants are asked to communicate as quickly as possible with Surgeon-Commander Murray-Levick, White Barn, Old Oxted, Surrey, from whom further particulars may be obtained. They should also suggest a date when they could meet him for interview at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Special District Order, Peshawar District Signals, India. D.O.57 Complimentary.—The District Commander wishes to bring to notice the following example of devotion to duty. On the morning of the 13th December, 1934, No. 2320227 Signalman Phipps R. L. F., Peshawar District Signals, was detailed to convey an important package, in connection with the Peshawar Brigade Inter-Battalion Exercise, for delivery at D.A.G. Camp by 08.00 hours.

He left Peshawar at 06.45 hours and when nearing Pabbi at 07.10 hours, while it was still fairly dark, a stone, which either fell or was thrown from a loaded bullock cart which he was passing, struck the head lamp of his motor cycle. A second stone also struck his machine and he was thrown and injured his foot. The back tyre of the motor cycle burst, but in spite of this accident, Signalman Phipps managed to continue his journey to D.A.G. Camp by filling the tyre with grass, and he delivered his package as ordered at 08.00 hours.

The District Commander wishes to congratulate Signalman Phipps on his devotion to duty and directs that an entry with regard to this incident be made in his records.

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Annual Dinner of the Royal Signals Dinner Club will be held on the 9th October, 1936, at the Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W.1, at 7.30 p.m. for 8. Tickets may be obtained from Mr. S. Garland, c/o Lloyds Bank, Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

Royal Signals Band.—By special request, we publish hereunder particulars of the visits and engagements of Royal Signals Band during the forthcoming season :

May 15th—21st ..	3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.
May 22nd—28th ..	Signal Units, Aldershot.
May 30th—June 13th	Hastings.
June 21st—July 3rd	Scarborough.
July 4th—8th ..	5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.
July 12th	Dewsbury.
August 2nd—8th ..	Southend-on-Sea.
August 16th—22nd	Hastings.
August 23rd—September 6th	Torquay.
September 12th ..	Old Comrades' Reunion, Catterick.

North of England Old Comrades' Reunion, 1936.—By kind permission of The Commandant, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorks., the Northern Branch of Signals Association Old Comrades' Reunion, will be held at Catterick Camp on Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th September.

Will those who wish to be present on that occasion kindly notify Mr. T. Wilson, Honorary Secretary, North of England Branch Signals Association, Headquarters Northern Command, York, at their early convenience.

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition) 1936. Revised to date.—The 1936 revised edition of the Corps Promotion Roster is now on sale and can be obtained on application to this Office, price 1s. per copy, post free.

Exchange.—Captain, with three or four years to serve in the United Kingdom, is prepared to consider an exchange with any other posted to India. Those interested are asked to communicate with Captain X, c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Civil Employment. Linemen.—A number of vacancies for unestablished skilled workmen exist in the Post Office Engineering Department in the London area, for which applications are invited from those who are qualified for nomination, and eligible to apply.

The upper age limit is 40 (45 in the case of men with disability or long-service pensions), and the scale of pay is 48s. 6d. to 70s. per week, the commencing rate of pay being dependent upon the actual degree of skill of the individual.

Several of these vacancies are in the Radio Branch and involve the operation of receiving and transmitting equipment, also the construction of radio apparatus, etc. Applications, accompanied by qualifications in full detail, should be addressed to The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Annual Re-union of Old Comrades at Bulford and Aldershot.—A full account of both functions will be published in our next issue.

Salisbury and District Branch.

Membership.—The membership of this branch is now 70, which includes life, annual and affiliated members.

Since the organisation of various sub-branches in the Southern Command area, the Headquarters Section has suffered a little in numbers, but can still boast a slight increase over the preceding year.

Employments.—A record year. Eighty ex-members of the Corps have been accommodated with congenial situations, many of that number having been placed with the Post Office Engineering Department and gaining their certificates as unestablished skilled workmen.

There is also a constant demand for fully qualified I.C. Drivers, Fitters and Wireless Operators in the area, and to cope with the situation it has even been necessary to obtain particulars of potential candidates six months prior to their discharge from the Colours.

It may be of interest to our wireless operator readers to know that employment in that capacity with the various Royal Air Force centres carries a commencing wage of 56s. per week, rising by annual increments to £3 10s. 0d. in four years.

Social.—It has also been a most successful year for the social side of branch activities and the Entertainments Committee are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts.

General.—A very cordial invitation to support this branch of the Association is extended to all ex-N.C.O.s and men living in the Salisbury and District area. New members are assured of a welcome and the Committee are prepared to help each individual to the best of their ability.

Birmingham and District Branch.

Although only recently formed, this branch already boasts a total membership of 97.

No detailed information regarding branch activities is yet to hand, but all ex-N.C.O.s and men of the Corps residing in that area are invited to call on or communicate with the Honorary Branch Secretary at Cateswell House, Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 11, who will be pleased to afford them all the assistance at his command.

Exeter and District Branch.

This branch, which was formed in February last, has a membership of 87 with a good prospect of increasing its numbers during the ensuing year. Steady progress has been shown during the first year of its life, and the very successful Dinner held at Exeter in November last afforded good evidence of a fine spirit of comradeship. There was an attendance of 89, which included the General Secretary (Mr. W. Butler) and representatives from the 3rd Divisional Signals and the Birmingham and Salisbury branches.

The first general meeting of members took place at the Wessex Signals Headquarters, Exeter, on Saturday, 13th April last. Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., presided over a good attendance, which included Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., and Major E. H. Varwell, D.S.O. (the first O.C. of the Wessex Territorial Signal Company).

Colonel Bradley gave an interesting address, in which he outlined the aims and activities of the Royal Signals O.C.A.

It was unanimously decided to hold a re-union in the fall of the year and the following Officers and Committee were elected : Chairman, Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. ; Hon. Secretary, Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D. ; Hon. Treasurer, Captain J. R. Patten, M.C. (Adjutant 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals) ; Committee—Captain H. D. G. Foord, Lieutenant (Quartermaster) F. F. West, M.M., Sergeant Allen A. H., Messrs. L. J. Cousins, F. Dunn and G. H. Stoneman.

In July last a party attended the Bulford Re-union and were very appreciative of the kind hospitality extended to them by the 3rd Divisional Signals.

The finances of the Branch are sound, thanks to the decision to allow the retention of the full membership subscriptions during the first year.

In November, Captain J. R. Patten, M.C., Royal Signals, Honorary Treasurer, was succeeded by Captain C. W. Knight, Royal Signals.

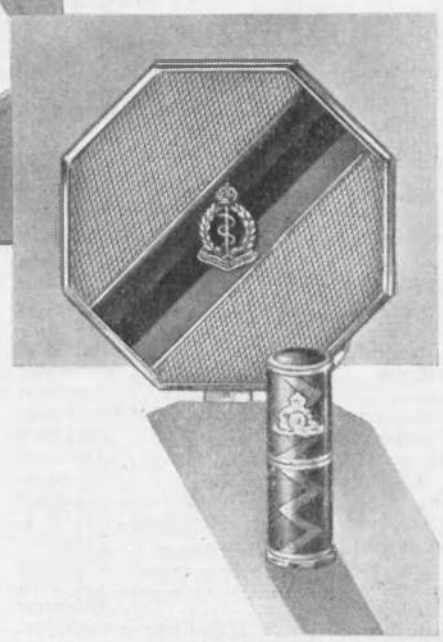
The first annual general meeting will be held during March, and it is hoped that arrangements may be made to spend a social evening at the Headquarters, 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A.

The branch is greatly indebted to Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., for his help and guidance during the first year of its existence.



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Southampton and Portsmouth Branch.

Officer Members	2
Other Rank. Life Members	Portsmouth 6
Other Rank. Life Members	Southampton Nil
Other Rank yearly subscribing Members	Portsmouth 43
Other Rank yearly subscribing Members	Southampton 21
Total All Ranks. Life and Yearly Subscribing Members	72

MEMBERS ASSISTED BY HEADQUARTERS BRANCH :

Ex-Signalman	Grant	£2 0 0
Ex-Signalman	(Repaid) Loan	£3 0 0
Ex-Signalman	Grant	£2 10 0
Ex-Signalman	Grant	£2 0 0
Total		£9 10 0

PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT FOUND :

Ex-Signalman	P.O. Engineering Dept.
Ex-Corporal	P.O. Engineering Dept.
Ex-Sergeant	T.S.B.O.
Ex-Sergeant	Car Driver
Ex-Sergeant	P.O. Engineering Dept.
Ex-Signalman	P.O. Engineering Dept.
Ex-Signalman	P.O. Engineering Dept.
Ex-Corporal	Milk Roundsman
Ex-C.S.M.	T.S.B.O.
*Ex-Signalman	W.T. Operator
*Ex-Signalman	Draughtsman
*Ex-Signalman	Groom
*Ex-Signalman	T.S.B.O.

* In conjunction with Salisbury Branch.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT FOUND :

Ex-Signalman	Electrical Fitter's Mate

H.Q. Office.

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, Carlisle	Lineman
2	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Sorter
3	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Labourer
4	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Decorator
7	Ex N.C.O., London	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Wolverhampton	Motor Driver
9	Ex-Signalman, Wolverhampton	Post Office
10	Ex-N.C.O., Portsmouth	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Barman
12	Ex-N.C.O., Hants	Chef
13	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Wet Bar Attendant N.A.A.F.I.
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Clerk
16	Ex-N.C.O., London	Clerk
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, Derby	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	P.O. Engineering Dept.
20	Ex-Signalman, Cardiff	Postman
21	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Postman
23	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
24	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Telephonist
25	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
26	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Plasterer
28	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Lineman
29	Ex-N.C.O., Bedford	Wireless Mechanic
30	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
32	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Instrument Mechanic
33	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Clerk-Typist
34	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Motor Driver
35	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Salesman
36	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Garage Hand
37	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Hotel Porter
38	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Wireless Operator
39	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Lineman
40	Ex-C.Q.M.S., Salisbury	Caretaker
41	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Wireless Operator
42	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	Wireless Operator
43	Ex-Signalman, Wilts	M.T. Driver

(40 to 43, Salisbury and District Branch)

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following :

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Lieutenant (I.P.C.) R. A. McIntosh.
Lieutenant-Quartermaster G. Kneebone.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, Training Battalion, S.T.C., Catterick.
Royal Signals Officers' Mess, Catterick.
Tank Brigade Signals.
Chester Branch, Signals Association.
Mr. E. G. Dawson.
Kohat District Signals.
3rd Divisional Signals.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Colonel J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Scotland	Grant	£1 0 0
2	Ex-N.C.O., Bristol	Grant	£4 0 0
3	Ex-Signalman, Scotland	Grant	£2 0 0
4	Ex-Signalman, South Wales	Grant	£2 0 0
5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Grant	£2 0 0
6	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£4 0 0
7	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Grant	£1 10 0
8	Ex-Signalman, London	Loan	£3 10 0
9	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Loan	£5 0 0
10	Ex-Signalman, Jersey	Grant	£2 0 0
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2 0 0
12	Ex-N.C.O., Staffs	Loan	£2 0 0
13	Ex-N.C.O., Hants	Loan	£2 0 0
14	Ex-Signalman, Southampton	Grant	£2 10 0
15	Ex-N.C.O., London	Loan	£3 0 0
16	Ex-Signalman, Aldershot	Loan	£5 0 0
17	Ex-Signalman, Oldham	Grant	£1 0 0
18	Ex-N.C.O., Bristol	Loan	£3 10 0
19	Ex-Signalman, Hants.	Loan	£3 0 0

(*Signed*) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O 496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
19th May.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Sir.—The following is notified for publication in the June 1936 WIRE.

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

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 4/10/1931.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 2/7/1930.

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

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Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieutenant H. L. B. Kealy, from India to Signal Training Centre, Catterick.

Lieutenant G. C. Nelson, from Bulford to India (2nd Indian Divisional Signals).

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 24/4/35]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF

Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., Royal Signals, to be G.S.O. 3rd Grade, War Office, 21/4/36.

ROYAL SIGNALS

The promotion of Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., is antedated to 1/10/35.

Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., is seconded for service on the Staff, 21/4/36.

2nd Lieutenant D. E. L. Gardiner, to be Lieutenant, 2/2/36.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant J. J. Craik to be Captain, 25/4/36.

H. A. Turner, to be 2nd Lieutenant, 25/4/36.

[War Office, 28/4/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., is restored to the Establishment, 2/4/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

The London Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant J. H. Morgan to be Lieutenant, 29/4/36.

[War Office, 1/5/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant F. H. Reeks to be Lieutenant, 28/4/36.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. A. L. Plackett to be 2nd Lieutenant, 2/5/36.

[War Office, 5/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY ESTABLISHMENTS

Royal Tank Corps Central Schools. Lieutenant R. N. Seddon, Royal Signals, to be Assistant Instructor, Tank Driving and Maintenance School, 1/4/36.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

2nd Lieutenant H. S. Wilson resigns his commission, 6/5/36.

[War Office, 8/5/36]

The names of the undermentioned have been brought to notice by H.E., the C.-in-C., India, for distinguished services rendered in connection with the Mohmand Operations, North-West Frontier of India, 15th/16th August to 15th/16th October, 1935 :

ROYAL SIGNALS

Major E. P. C. Collin, Peshawar District Signals.

Lieutenant N. M. Hay, " A " Corps Signals.

C.Q.M.S. Snook H., Sergeant Pattenden A. E., Peshawar District Signals.

Sergeant Deamon V. E., Lance Sergeant Clutterbuck C., " A " Corps Signals.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. G. P. Shepherd to be 2nd Lieutenant, 9/5/36.

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Captain H. Bartlett to be Adjutant, 24/4/36.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2306889	C.S.M. Cutler J.	19/12/35
2308122	C.S.M. Todd D.	1/ 4/36
2307828	C.S.M. Gradden E.	1/ 4/36
2306454	C.S.M. Hopkins C.	1/ 4/36
1850360	C.S.M. Hales A.	1/ 4/36

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To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.)

1860324	C.Q.M.S. Quick P.	27/ 1/36
2307520	C.Q.M.S. Bawden A.	27/ 1/36
4603777	C.Q.M.S. Johnson G.	1/ 4/36
1856959	C.Q.M.S. Shilton G.	1/ 4/36
1856944	C.Q.M.S. McEwan P.	1/ 4/36

Appointed C.Q.M.S.

2306510	Sergeant Callegari F.	1/ 4/36
2306457	Sergeant Collyer R.	1/ 4/36
2310350	Sergeant Brett L.	1/ 4/36
4680127	Sergeant Beverley E.	1/ 4/36
*3179138	Sergeant Russell J.	27/ 1/36

To be Farrier Staff Sergeant.

2314713	Farrier Sergeant Mains H.	30/ 3/36

To be Sergeant.

2310648	L/Sergeant Stanley R.	18/ 1/36
2310467	L/Sergeant Matthew F.	18/ 1/36
2315149	L/Sergeant Tudor E.	19/ 1/36
1854520	L/Sergeant Napier R.	27/ 1/36
2315883	L/Sergeant Skitt G.	1/ 2/36
2310470	L/Sergeant Baldock G.	4/ 2/36
2312809	L/Sergeant Bailey G.	4/ 2/36
2311325	L/Sergeant Southwell F.	17/ 2/36
2310602	L/Sergeant Gatford R.	17/ 2/36
2314300	L/Sergeant Bevis M.	17/ 2/36
2306014	L/Sergeant Duncan R.	23/ 2/36

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2315536	Corporal Page V.	19/12/35
2308527	Corporal Lloyd L.	18/ 1/36
2315548	Corporal Staerck E.	19/ 1/36
2308503	Corporal Edge T.	27/ 1/36

* *Special Roster Promotion.*

2312862	Corporal Smith H.	27/ 1/36
2309842	Corporal Millen G.	27/ 1/36
31078	Corporal Weir W.	2/ 2/36
2314450	Corporal Knowles J.	4/ 2/36
2315389	Corporal Fletcher E.	17/ 2/36
3850642	Corporal Welsby B.	22/ 2/36
2310961	Corporal Smith G.	23/ 2/36

To be Corporal.

2318099	L/Corporal Blanchard A.	20/12/35
2313832	L/Corporal Lister W.	3/ 1/36
2318528	L/Corporal Shirley F.	11/ 1/36
2311010	L/Corporal Gill A.	19/ 1/36
2318155	L/Corporal Evans R.	24/ 1/36
2310885	L/Corporal Hadland C.	27/ 1/36
2318741	L/Corporal Small N.	27/ 1/36
2312037	L/Corporal Cottingham A.	27/ 1/36
2317172	L/Corporal Farnden T.	1/ 2/36
2312718	L/Corporal Lawson W.	6/ 2/36
2309973	L/Corporal Jones E.	17/ 2/36
2558760	L/Corporal Fearnley C.	23/ 2/36
2318325	L/Corporal Darby A.	28/ 2/36

Appointed Lance Corporal.

6083406	Signalman Grace D.	18/ 9/35
2321665	Signalman Shaw T.	18/ 9/35
2312978	Signalman Burrows A.	18/ 9/35
769108	Signalman Bennett W.	2/11/35
6084677	Signalman Kennedy R.	3/11/35
2320097	Signalman Banks J.	4/11/35
2320468	Signalman Chadwick B.	4/11/35
1409862	Signalman Skinner W.	5/11/35
2320714	Signalman Schofield H.	6/11/35
2320660	Signalman Parker W.	14/11/35
5769250	Signalman Ebbage F.	15/11/35
2322196	Signalman Millett W.	23/11/35
2317322	Signalman Thom J.	23/11/35
4741996	Signalman French S.	23/11/35
2320315	Signalman Williams G.	23/11/35
2306849	Signalman Stowers G.	23/11/35
2321693	Signalman Bennington L.	25/11/35
2319725	Signalman Holt J.	26/11/35
2321370	Signalman Cotton A.	30/11/35
2320448	Signalman Hoar R.	1/12/35
2320149	Signalman Faircloth W.	1/12/35
2320203	Signalman Belton A.	2/12/35
1416007	Signalman Dollimore C.	3/12/35
2321971	Signalman Axson G.	4/12/35
2318467	Signalman Morley A.	5/12/35
2320917	Signalman Hearl W.	5/12/35
2320732	Signalman West A.	5/12/35
2319289	Signalman Smith C.	6/12/35
2322065	Signalman Partridge L.	6/12/35
2320043	Signalman Stringer A.	6/12/35
2322432	Signalman Lawrence R.	12/12/35
2317991	Signalman Butler C.	12/12/35

Discharges.

2306707	C.S.M. Pearce R.	28/ 4/36
2306557	C.Q.M.S. Moore W.	7/ 4/36
2314121	Sergeant Mackie A.	31/ 3/36
1857406	Sergeant Trayner V.	1/ 4/36
2307116	Sergeant Pye E.	6/ 4/36
2311566	Sergeant Overington L.	13/ 4/36
2307356	Sergeant Dunphy J.	28/ 4/36
2313832	Corporal Lister W.	30/ 3/36
2307766	L/Sergeant Tove I.	30/ 3/36
2316290	Corporal Strugnell R.	31/ 3/36
5486557	Corporal Bunn F.	7/ 4/36
2307185	Corporal McCreeth P.	17/ 4/36
2319020	L/Corporal Beeby K.	28/ 3/36

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318741	Corporal Small N.	12/ 4/36
2319257	Corporal Woods G.	16/ 4/36
2319254	L/Corporal Butler F.	15/ 4/36
2319498	L/Corporal Dangerfield W.	18/ 4/36

Corps Athletics, 1936.

Corps Athletics.—Full details of the Corps fixture versus Durham University and Northumberland and Durham will be given in the July WIRE.

A.A.A. Summer School, 17th August—5th September, 1936.—Pamphlets giving full details of this year's School are now available and may be obtained from :

The Hon. Sec., A.A.A.,
Crown Chambers,
118 Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

Any other details can be obtained from the Registrar, Loughborough College, Leicestershire.

The Course will be similar to last year.

The first two weeks will be devoted to the instruction of Sports Officers and N.C.O.s, Games Masters, etc., in Athletic Coaching. The third week will be for the instruction of " Active Athletes." Anyone having a knowledge of a field event, and who is over 17 years of age, may attend this final week.

The fees are :

	£	s.	d.
One week	3	15	0
Two weeks	6	15	0
Three weeks	9	15	0

These figures include board residence and gratuities.

Jaakko Mikkola (American Universities) and Charles Hoff (Norway) are again attending the School as coaches.

Captain F. A. M. Webster will be Chief Coach, assisted by M. C. Nokes.

Army Athletics.—It is likely that the javelin, weight and discus to be used by Young Soldiers and Boys in this year's Army Athletic Meeting will be the " Youths' " type.

Discus : 1.5 kilos.
Javelin : 7ft. 6ins. Weight 21½ ozs.
Weight : 12 lbs.

Confirmation of this is being published by the Army Sports Control Board.

(Signed) T. W. BOILEAU, Captain, Royal Signals,
Officer i/c Athletics, S.T.C.

Southern Command.

Tidworth Tattoo on Salisbury Plain.

1ST AND 3RD TO 8TH AUGUST, 1936.

The Royal Corps of Signals will be well to the fore at Tidworth this year as the accompanying illustration indicates. The Tattoo is being held all through August Bank Holiday Week as well as on the preceding Saturday. Probably no event of the whole display evokes more enthusiasm than that staged by the Despatch Riders of Royal Signals. It is in consideration of this and of the great work which the Despatch Riders have done at Tidworth in past years that the Committee have selected the Despatch Rider event to be the big picture in 1936. The event costs some £400 to produce as the hire of the motor cycles and insurance is comparatively heavy. This year Norton motor bicycles are being used. The Colonel-Commandant of Royal Signals, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., has been invited to attend on Thursday, 6th August, for the purpose of taking the salute at the end of the Motor Cyclists' Display. He will be accompanied by Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer of the Southern Command.

Owing to the spread of mechanization it is very probable that this year will be the last in which the usual horsed events can be staged. The 1936 Display will be up to standard in this connection, but there is every possibility that it will be the last occasion on which the customary number of mounted events can be put on. The 1935 Tattoo broke all records for attendance and it has been necessary during the winter to completely rearrange the seating accommodation in anticipation of an increase from 20,000 to nearly 30,000 spectators. This, in turn, has involved an alteration of prices and has done away with standing room. Reserved seats in the open can be purchased from 3s. 6d. to 5s., and reserved seats under cover at 6s., 7s. 6d. and 10s. There will also be several thousand seats at 2s. 6d., but these are unreserved. The purchase of tickets in advance guarantees a



[*With Acknowledgments to Gale and Polden Ltd., Aldershot.*]

seat somewhere in the block and spectators take their pick on arrival. Tickets can be purchased from the Box Office at Tidworth, also at the gates and from local agents. By a new arrangement 2s. 6d. tickets can be purchased at railway stations from which excursions are being run up to 24 hours before time of departure. Organisers of parties may have tickets at the reduced rate of 21 for the price of 20, on prepayment, by writing direct to the Box Office at Tidworth. Rail and road excursions at very cheap rates are being run from 32 counties, comprising London, South of England (Sussex to Cornwall inclusive), the Midlands and South Wales. Full particulars can be obtained by writing for Folder " K " Tidworth Tattoo Publicity Office, Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury.

Royal Signals Horse and Motor Cycle Display Olympia 1936.

Having received an invitation from the Royal Tournament to appear at Olympia in 1936, it was decided to run the Royal Signals Display for another season.

On the completion of the 1935 programme a large proportion of the performers were posted to other Units. After a short period of leave, those left behind started to organize the 1936 Display. Our numbers were made up to strength from squads just finished training and from drivers posted to the Permanent Cadre. The motor cycle side is made up entirely from " D " and " F " Companies, whilst the mounted party comes from " D " Company and the Mounted Wing Permanent Cadre.

Unlike previous years, nearly every man in the Display can ride either a horse or a motor cycle. During the winter it was found possible to run a ride for the Despatch Riders, whilst the mounted men did some practising on motor cycles in the evenings.

In October 1935 we got down to business for Olympia 1936. It was obvious that the Display had to be on similar lines to previous years, yet it must not contain too many of the same items. Bearing in mind that one is producing a military display as opposed to a circus, it is somewhat difficult to produce new items which are interesting and thrilling without overdoing the element of danger.

Undoubtedly one of the most thrilling parts of last year's display was the figure riding in which horses and motor cycles mingled together at speed in a series of figures. This year the figures have been made much more complicated and the speed increased. The now famous figure " 8 " has been improved by a " double figure of eight " or two figures of eight taking place in opposite directions at the same time. Many other new patterns have been evolved making a fast demonstration of " ordered confusion." These complicated figures can be made safe only by continual practice at slow paces. Numerous other new " turns " have been evolved and some of them have been included in the Royal Tournament programme, whilst others wait for the level space which is not available in Olympia.

Individual practice was kept up in the Riding School all the winter and in the Spring we started piecing our show together. Rehearsals were considerably hampered by a hard winter, and for weeks it was impossible to practice on a full sized arena owing to frost, snow, or both ! At one point we were so desperate that we copied the Football Clubs and covered a large area with straw. In January we had a great shock when the Triumph Company announced that they were going to give up manufacturing motor cycles. However, our fears were soon to be dispelled when the Triumph Engineering Company took over the motor cycle side of the business and supplied us with sixteen new 250 c.c. machines. We have always been staunch supporters of the Triumph machine and we should not like to have gone into our large 1936 programme with untried machines. The loss of some of our veteran horses also caused us anxiety. William, Jane, and Ruby were amongst those which left us, William at the ripe old age of twenty-five. The young replacements, however, came on well, and apart from a certain amount of nervousness during the first few performances at Olympia, have worthily replaced their predecessors

After a very successful press rehearsal at Catterick Camp we moved off to our first engagement of the season, which was Ayr Centenary Show. There we were pleasantly surprised by the warm reception accorded to our efforts. Having been there during 1935 we were pleased to find that the spectators considered our Display eclipsed that of the previous year. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Returning from Ayr on the evening of Friday, 1st May, we left Richmond again on the morning of the 2nd for London.

The following comprise the 1936 Display Party : Lieutenant H. N. Crawford, Lance Sergeant Hill H. T., Corporals Turner E., and Jones N., Lance Corporals Pescod, Johnson, O'Niel, and Tompkins, Signalmen Armstrong, Packman, Boddingron, Bridges Eshlin, Finnegan, Gowland, Keighley, Kyle, Lewis I. M., Lewis W. A., Moore, Nayler, Oglanby, Parker, Phillips, Pearce, Paterson, Smith F. W., Turner, Vitale, Walker, Ramsay, Drivers Norris, Pearce, Rhodes, Seilles, Westwood, Alvey, Hunter, Houghton, Jepson, Lowe, Myles and Marsland.

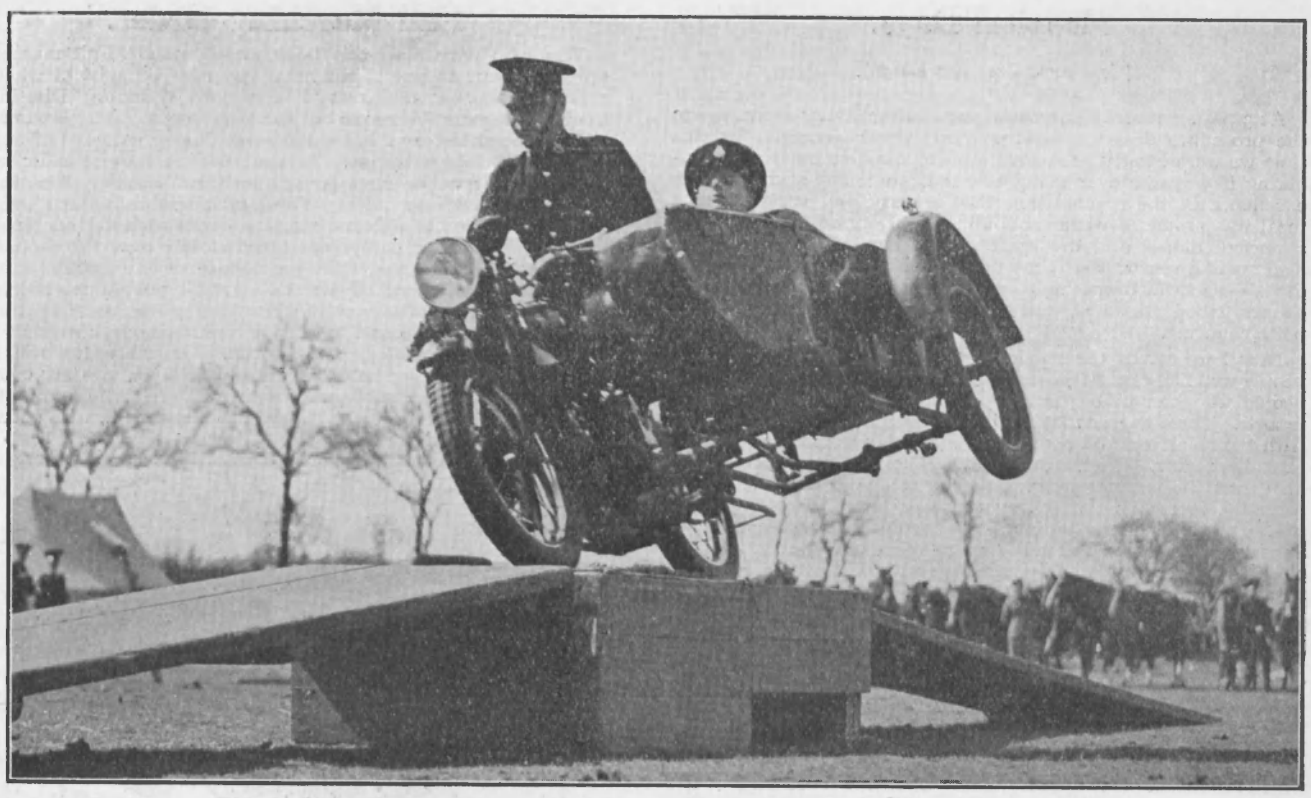
C.S.M. Young accompanied the Display to Olympia and Aldershot.

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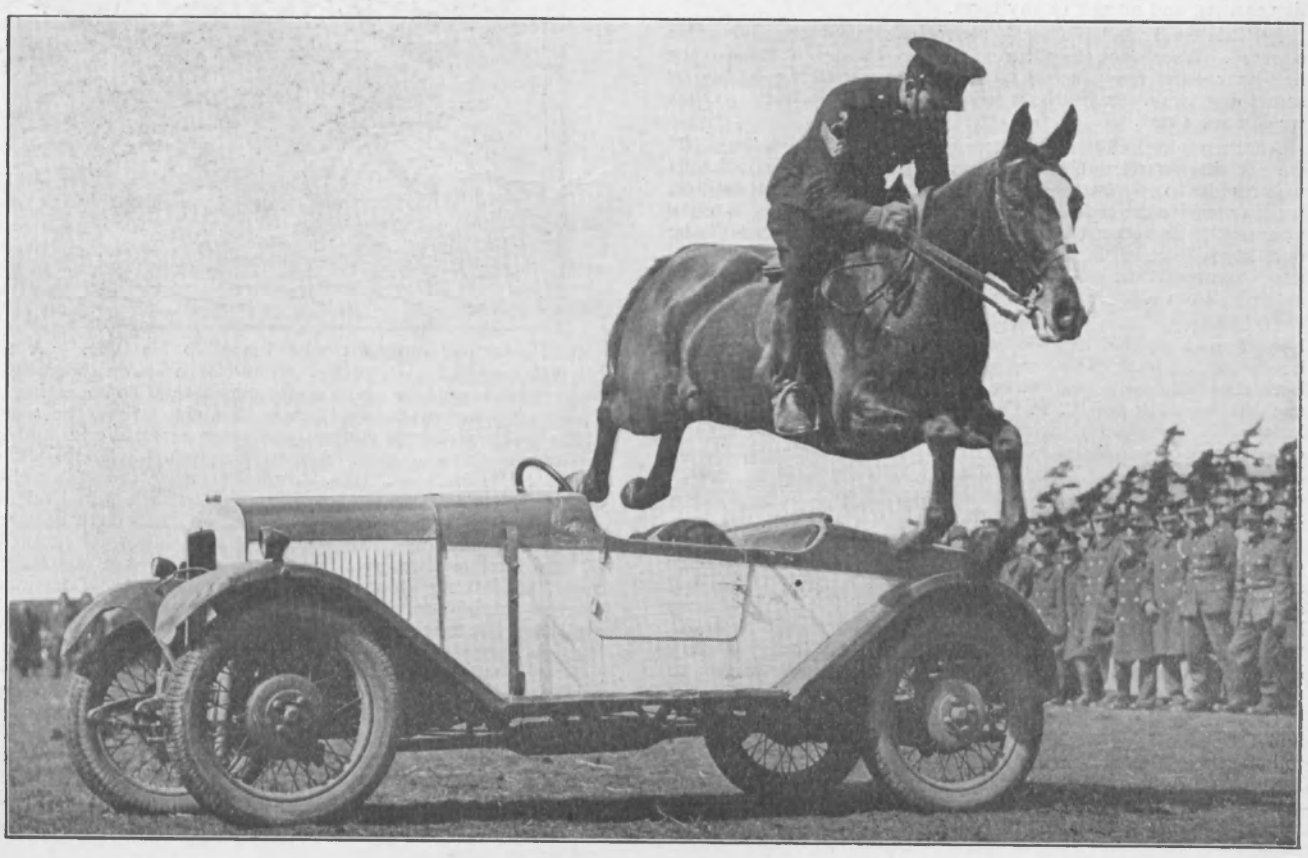
An UP-TO-DATE LAUNDRY, maintaining a Convenient Service at every Military and R.A.F. Station on Salisbury Plain.



Royal Signals Stables, Olympia, 1936. [*Photo by Sims, Ltd., London.*



[*Photo by Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd., London.*]



Over the Car, with Bertha.
[*Photo by Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd., London.*]

Hospital Days.

(Continued from last month).

At 3 p.m. we were again summoned to the X-ray room, where the procedure (less the flowing bowl) was repeated. By this time we were utterly exhausted, and repaired to our room wondering if we were ever going to eat again; but such was the excellence of the organisation that a tasty and very welcome meal was produced within five minutes of our return. We had a normal dinner and breakfast. At 9 a.m. the next day we again paid a visit to the X-ray department, after which we had a day's peace which was only interrupted by blood tests, blood counts, blood pressures, and the usual temperature taking and pulse counting.

Now here comes the magic of the machinery. The various people who had taken tests and samples of this and that, and the people who had taken pictures of our interior, rendered their reports. These were evidently thoroughly scanned by our doctor, with the result that on his next visit he merely remarked to the attendant fairy, " Bed, sippy diet." The first was understandable, but the second, well! we hope we never hear it again. Actually, it means that at every clock hour, commencing at 7 a.m., just when our vitality is particularly low, a pink fairy appears with an ounce of milk and an ounce of cream. At every clock half-hour another fairy appears with a nauseous powder, and stands over us while we consume it, in case the temptation to throw it out of the window becomes too strong. This goes on till 7 p.m. At 9 o'clock the interne appears with the attendant fairies and apparatus, and removes the undigested portion of the day's rations, and then—if we can—we sleep. This goes on for about fifteen days, except that after the fifth day our diet is gradually increased until we are getting soft boiled eggs without pepper or salt (very eggy), one bowl of tasteless and saltless cream soup, and two bowls of some weird kind of cereal, all of which are issued on temporary loan. The next seven days of the diet we get more eggs, baked potatoes, saltless butter, and certain vegetables, pushed through a machine which turns them into an unappetising mass and tends to make asparagus taste exactly like carrots, and no salt in any form.

All this time we have our temperature taken and our pulse counted. We cannot sleep during the day because at least every half-hour some fairy insists on giving us something or taking something away. It will be a relief to get back to work, so that we can get a rest.

Another thing is the deep secrecy of all these proceedings. If we ask what our trouble is, we are met with a blank look. If we presume to enquire what any of the medicine is composed of, we may receive the reply, " Never you mind; something to make you well." Even our doctor does not tell us much; whatever he does say is so veiled in the technical language peculiar to doctors and engineers that even now we don't know whether we are suffering from water on the brain or housemaid's knee.

Of course, we do a lot of reading, and an excellent institution here, known as the May Court Club, brings around a load of books twice a week, which we may and do borrow, and we have been able to renew acquaintance with a lot of our former friends, such as Ian Hay and E. P. Oppenheim. Incidentally, particularly with Oppenheim, nearly all these books contain several descriptions of wonderful feasts, usually held in a mythical hotel known as the " Milan," and it doesn't help much to be joining in that feast by proxy and to be interrupted by a fairy bringing a bowl of soup or a glass of cream.

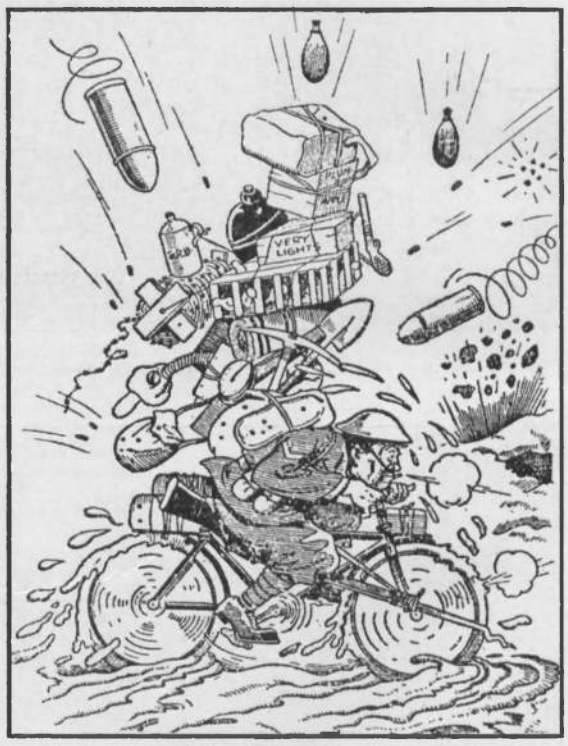
Towards the twentieth day we were allowed out of bed and occasionally repaired to the sun room, where there were usually several other patients with whom we could compare diseases and symptoms. This is all very well in its way, but by the time we have listened to the symptoms of several other people we begin to believe that we are developing them ourselves, and if we stay here much longer we shall suffer from every disease known to medical science.

However, all good things and all bad things come to an end, and in a few days' time we shall emerge with instructions to follow a dietary regime for at least one year. This regime forbids the use of so many things that make life worth living that we are beginning to wonder, after all, whether it was worth while getting cured.

"Full Marching Order."

You who may read this book know what " Full marching order " meant to you; but have you ever thought of what it meant to cyclist members of the 60th (London) Divisional Cyclist Company (later, part of the 18th Corps Cyclist Battalion, whose official history I have just read) during 1914-1918?

Consider what it meant. To start with, a Service tunic with smart turn-up collar threatening hourly suffocation. Nice thick undies from neck to ankle. Yards of inflexible binding tightly wound round each calf, and massive boots with half-inch soles. Leather or webbing equipment fitted closely over the shoulders and round the stomach, with 120 rounds of ammunition (at an ounce per round) attached thereto. Dangling over one's kidneys, the metal blade of an entrenching tool; on the left thigh, bayonet, tool handle and haversack containing iron ration; on the right thigh, a filled water bottle. On the space still left exposed, a gas mask; and crowning the whole, another couple of pounds or so in the shape of a tin hat. To a few supermen were added, wherever it was possible to hang them, wire cutters, field glasses and map case.



And now our mobile trooper loads up his bike. A thick blanket wrapped in a rubber ground sheet is strapped on the bow; an enormous pack containing great coat, eating kit, " hussif," spare socks, shirt, spare this, spare that, the remains of the last parcel from mother, and other personal odds and ends are balanced on the stern. Add to this, amidships, 8 lb. or thereabout of " hipe," i.e., rifle. And remember that the unladen cycle turned the scale at something like half a hundredweight.

Route rides on a bicycle in this get-up must have been most strenuous affairs, and it is really not surprising that at the end of one terrible trek over ice-bound roads, from morning till night, an entire platoon collapsed on reaching their destination (Pas-en-Artois)—so utterly " whacked " was every man. The cyclist on the extreme left staggered and fell against the man on his right. Immediately, the whole platoon seemed to lean to the right and collapsed like a row of dominoes.

" Please, Signalman Fitz-Cholmondeley, do you mind carrying this flag?" " Must I, Sergeant Barleux? I am already weighed down by this compass." But joking apart, the cyclists who had to push their bikes along the shell-pitted roads of Flanders must have been Spartans.

The amusing drawing shown above is the design on the dust cover of the book.

- Plain Tales -

Cries of "Shame."—We beg to inform you that we have decided to accept your apology for not reading our notes last month. It seems that this article was not published, and this is accounted for by the fact that it was not sent in. Further investigation revealed that it was not even written. We have spoken very severely to ourselves about this, but after half an hour we still flatly denied that we were to blame. We pointed out that even if we went away for Easter we should have kept one eye on the date, but all we got for our pains was a coarse but expressive noise that we made at ourselves. This made us go white with anger. Then we thought we might go purple with fury, so we did.

Our prestige has been lowered so much we have to kneel down to put flowers on it. We hardly even speak to ourselves, and as for buying ourselves a drink—well, perhaps that wouldn't be a bad idea.

Pull up here for a cuppertea, then read our remarkable instalment of Ukann.

Ukann Larfe Sees Daylight.—A thick mist hung over the hills to the east of the quaint old Highland village, though what that has to do with the story we are unable to say.

Ukann Larfe gazed down at the body lying half in the gutter and half on the pavement. A gendarme stood by making notes in a little black book. His brow was furrowed, or if it wasn't, it should have been. A gentle rain fell monotonously and a taxi hooted in the distance.

The detective turned the body over with the toe of his well-polished patent leather shoe, and shuddered. "One through the heart and two in the brain," he said.

The gendarme shut his book with a snap. "Alors, monsieur," il dit, "'e is 'ow you say, died, n'est ce pas?" Ukann looked up with interest. Here, surely, was an intelligent policeman. The man was tall and well set up. The detective looked again at the body. After a few seconds he became tired of looking at the body and transferred his gaze to the gendarme. What he saw froze the blood in his veins. The blood in his arteries continued to run fairly warm. Without more ado, or with only a very little ado, he flung himself at ——. Get the July WIRE and read how Ukann Larfe gets his man, and the author his girl.

Motor Note.—Dear Sir, When the engine of my eight horse power Sports Wonker is running I hear a terrific crunching and grinding. Quantities of crushed metal shoot our via the exhaust pipe, and the noise renders conversation in the car impossible. I have been so worried about this frightful clatter that on the advice of a friend I ran the car on the rims of the wheels to drown the noise of the engine. This seems to interfere with the speed. Am I using too much oil?

Yours truly,
Troubled.

Perhaps some of my expert readers can help our friend. Personally I cannot see that there is much to worry about, and the condition is about normal for cars owned by other ranks. I am reminded of an alleged pianist friend of mine at Catterick who had a car something—but I digress. The crushed metal is better out of the system, anyway. It might be as well to cut out oil altogether. The crunching noise will become intensified, thus facilitating the task of locating the trouble. Or not.

The Departure of Minnie.—With great regret we confirmed the sentence passed on the accused nearly two months ago. At 11 a.m. in April, the mother of countless Georges, Claudes and Bills, went for her last long swim. For some time past Minnie had been treading the downward path, and her orgies in the Mess at midnight had to be heard to be believed. By what secret method she and her numerous swains effected entrance to the Mess we never discovered, but that they had held high revel was only too evident.

George remains to carry on the family business of mice catching although the royalties from his mother's literary works continue to pour in. He has not inherited Minnie's skill with the pen, and it is difficult to get his views on anything unconnected with fish heads or liver.

We asked George if he was upset and whether he expected a last message from his mother. "I dunno," he said. "Did she say what she did with that bit of cod's roe she ——." We clipped him over the ear. Callous things, cats.

Our New Diary.—To-day as we write it is 21st April. Spring is well on its way and the countryside looks beautiful in its glittering mantle of white. A gentle nor'easter brings a promise of further snow as it cuts into the skin and whirls the slush into little crescents. It is said that a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of love about now, but it would surely be a he-man who could even think about meeting his lady-love along the lane this evening. Many a romance has been strangled because a youth has had to stop and blow his nose in the middle of an impassioned declaration.

Now we are writing again, and it is the 7th May. The sun is shining from a blue sky. A soft breeze brings the whirr of a lawn mower, and another soft breeze reveals that the troops have fish for tea. Gay flowers nod gently in the brilliant sunshine, and one would feel that it was a lovely day, especially as our lady friend arrived yesterday. But we shiver slightly despite the balmy air for our fiancee arrives tomorrow. A cyclone approaches from the east. This is known as "just one of those things."

12th May. Once more the sun shines and the birds sing, which may persuade you to believe that yet again we have crawled out from underneath the debris practically unscathed.

To be continued.

Daring Theft of Own Property.—Talking about making things up, which we were, only you weren't listening, reminds us of a peculiar thing that happened only a few days ago. You might think we made this up, but no, we just didn't think of it.

As you may know, the Despatch Riders' Display at the Tidworth Tattoo will be made on Nortons. One evening, two normal looking individuals drove off on a new Norton motor-cycle. They were seen by sundry and probably divers persons, who jumped to a conclusion. The rest was in headlines. A Tattoo bike has been swiped! Inform the A.P.M. and the civil police! Post a flying picquet to await the return (if any), of the culprits. Telephones buzzed, sergeants ran round in circles and sergeant-majors stood rooted to the ground. Men were dragged from their sausage and mash, and lance-corporals from their cream buns. The Tattoo bikes were checked and sure enough one was missing. A Man Who Knew strolled up and was told the awful news. "Have you counted the one under repair in the fitters shop?" asked the Man Who Knew. No, they hadn't. Was there one there? Yes, there was. Then whose Norton was that? A lad at last volunteered the information hat two of his pals from Aldershot had motor-cycled over to see him. Their machine was a new Norton. Why didn't he say so before? Well, who was he to spoil things, and nobody asked him, anyway.

More Diary.—Regular readers, registered readers and those who borrow copies, are advised to keep one eye on 4th July. This is Independence Day in America, but something tells us that we are not in America just now. Nor would we be there even if we could, all things considered.

Solution in the August WIRE.

BARLEUX.

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SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

The Annual Spring cleaning campaign is once again being carried out in earnest. Whitewash and paint are being scattered about in plenty, and one begins to understand why so many would-be painters gave up the occupation and joined the Army instead. However, glad to relate, no one has succumbed to painter's colic, and the whole outlook of the camp has taken a brighter aspect. The rooms look more cheerful and the gardens have a neat and pleasant appearance. Even the miniature range has caught the enthusiasm of the season, although one enthusiast carried out his job too well when told to soak the lawn. He soaked the lawn very well, but also converted the range into a miniature swimming bath. We are contemplating a sun-bathing park attached to the range to complete the picture, with perhaps a few practice fire alarms to keep our bath well filled up.

Arrivals.—We welcome Major A. J. Harris ex India.

We were also pleased to have the following Supplementary Reserve Officers a tached to us over the Easter period for a course of training, and hope that they enjoyed their stay with us: Lieutenant G. Franklin, Royal Signals; 2nd Lieutenants W. J. Clarke, R. J. Jordan, J. W. Woodward, K. J. Amos, J. M. McIntyre, M. Peachy, W. E. Bellamy, L. Hurley, W. G. Scott, Royal Signals.

From Overseas: Sergeants Shurer and Crumney; Lance Sergeant Dowie from Netley; Signalman Payne L., from 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Attachment.—Lance Sergeant Benson T., 49th (W.R. ?) Divisional Signals.

Departures.—We have lost many of our old and valued Senior members of the Depot Staff during the past month. We keenly regret their loss and we wish them every success in their new Units as shown: C.Q.M.S. Dillion. J. to 1st Divisional Signals; Farrier Staff Sergeant Mains. H. to 1st Divisional Signals; Sergeant Lemon. J. to 1st Divisional Signals; Sergeant Quinn. W. to 3rd Divisional Signals; Sergeant Salmon G.E. to Dover Signal Section; Lance Sergeant Lambert J. to 2nd Divisional Signals; Corporal Toye J., to civil life.

Promotions.—The 1940 rush seems to have almost started four years before time, and there has been a regular stampede to the tailor this month. We congratulate the following on attaining the rank shown: R.Q.M.S. Gradden E., Sergeant Dunn A., Sergeant Chadney V. F., Lance Sergeant Myddleton J., Lance Sergeant Toye J. (since discharged) (Hard luck, Paddy), Corporal Chadwick W., Corporal Fairweather E., Lance Corporal O'Neill H., Lance Corporal McGuigan J.

Extensions.—F.S.M. Harris G. W. re-engaged for a further period of 1 year 3 days.

Courses.—Major J. W. Bailey has had a brief sojourn at Winterbourne Gunner on a Senior Officer's Course and sampling the excellent mixtures they purvey.

Lance Sergeant Jones E. is at present learning the art of fistic warfare at the Army Boxing School. We feel sure that he will return a fully fledged member of the " bar-benders."

Social.—On the 25th of April a very enjoyable Whist Drive and Dance was held in the Sergeants' Mess. There was a full attendance; we didn't know so many people lived in the area, and the whole evening was a very jolly affair. We were glad to have the opportunity of welcoming Lieutenant (I.P.C.), Roberts and through this medium we offer him our congratulations on his appointment.

Sport.—We raise our bowlers to Lance Corporal Jenkins W., who, after various trips round the Garrison, followed by a trip to York, won the Final of the Northern Command Billiards Tournament, beating Sergeant Instructor Hamilton A. E. C. in the final Closing scores after two hours' play were: Lance Corporal Jenkins, 486; Sergeant Instructor Hamilton, 375.

Marriages.—The usual good wishes are given to Lance Corporal Puleston E. H. on his marriage to Miss Primrose Maud Smith, at St. Martin's Church, Catterick, on 4th April.

Births.—Sergeant Instructor Sylvester J. (A.P.T.S.), a daughter, Pamela, born at the Military Families Hospital, Scotton, on 7th Ap il.

Agony.—Who was the N.C.O. who said, " I was talking to a Corporal in the Navy," and on the said rank being questioned, replied, " Well I know he was a Corporal as he had two stripes on his arm."

Is it true that a certain N.C.O. (D.I.) has begun tearing out his hair in lumps since the following happened:

D.I. (to pivot man after explaining what his job was): " Now we will try that movement again." After about three complete failures D.I. asks of the man, " And what did I say your job in life was ? " Pivot man replied, " Fireplaces, Corporal."

M.D.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Catterick Camp,
Monday, 11th May.

General.—By the time this effort appears in print our annual inspection by the Commandant, Signal Training Centre, will be a thing of the past. At the present time the whole Wing is in a turmoil, and voices are heard crying for " paint—and yet more paint." Our amateur gardeners are giving full play to their ability and the Unit lines already are beginning to look a credit to their effrots.

Recruits.—Whether news of the special ration allowance for furlough has reached civilian ears, or the illuminating article written for the Press by Lance Corporal Wilson (our office boss) has already borne fruit, we cannot say, but the fact remains that we are receiving a steady flow of recruits and our barrack room accommodation is becoming a problem. We must also mention that twelve recruits were raised by personnel of this Wing during the Easter leave period.

Promotions.—This is the most exciting paragraph ! All the best to Sergeants Dunn and Chadney, Lance Sergeant Myddleton, Corporal Chadwick and U/Lance Corporal Ballard on attaining their respective ranks.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to C.Q.M.S. Gregory from the Mounted Wing, who has taken over the duties of Senior Drill Instructor, and C.Q.M.S. Carpenter (of cricketing fame) from Headquarter Wing to the Wing Stores.

Departures.—Firstly, C.Q.M.S. Dillon J. (Uncle Jimmie) to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, on 30th April. This Wing always seems to have a number of very junior N.C.O.s on the strength, and having a barrack room on one's " charge " for the first time is not always a pleasant experience ! C.Q.M.S. Dillon,

without departing from rules and regulations, was always willing to give the benefit of his valuable advice and co-operation towards keeping these rooms "as per inventory." All the very best in your new sphere, Quarter.

Secondly, we have lost a stalwart from the drill side—Sergeant Quinn W. to 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, on 9th May. A quiet mannered, perfectly turned-out N.C.O. who, by personal example was a model for recruits and drill instructors alike. That he was popular as well as efficient was proved by the presentation made to him from Junior N.C.O.s on his departure. It's your gain and our loss, 3rd Divisional Signals.

Thirdly, Lance Sergeant Lambert left us for 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot, after a short stay with the Wing.

Agony.—To Smith T. E., "A" Corps: "It is taking you a long time to save up for that stamp, Tommie."—Northampton.

Finis.—I always breathe a sigh of relief when I get to this paragraph. I should like to think of something brilliant with which to close, but as I am told that that is an impossibility—Cheerio!

EL PEE.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

15th May.

General.—We extend a welcome to Major E. H. Du Cros, Royal Signals, who relieves Major D. H. Cunynghame, Royal Signals, as our Company Commander. We hope his stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

By the time these notes appear in print the Commandant's Inspection will be over. Everyone is preparing to make this inspection the usual success.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold the following new arrivals: W.O.i (Supt. Clerk) Harrison from 3rd Divisional Signals, Sergeant Lawrie J. A., from Egypt Signals, and Signalman Stillyards from 5th Divisional Signals.

Departures.—The following have left the Company during the month, Lieutenant Quartermaster J. Burgess for 2nd Divisional Signals, C.Q.M.S. Beverley for the same unit, Lance Sergeant Onslow M. for 1st Divisional Signals, Corporal Booth for "A" Corps Signals, and Corporal Best for 3rd Divisional Signals.

C.Q.M.S. ("Uncle") Bond W. S. has left this Battalion after a prolonged tour of ten years. During this time he was employed in the Quartermaster's Office and his loss in this department will be felt greatly. He was very popular with all ranks and we wish him the best of luck for the future. He will be attached to Eastern Command Signal Company for the remaining six months of his service on his appointment to a post at the War Office.

Promotions.—We congratulate the following on their recent promotions: Lieutenant-Quartermaster J. Burgess, Lieutenant (I.P.C.) S. Roberts, Lance Sergeant Weir W., Lance Sergeant Stevenson, Corporals Furniss and Rose H., also to Lance Corporals Hales W. and Adamson on reaching "Paid Status."

The Ghost Train.—The Norstern Players, the male members being supplied by the Signals (Depot and Training Battalions), presented a play "The Ghost Train," in the Newbigging Hall, on Thursday and Friday, 7th and 8th May.

The cast was as follows: Saul Hodgkin (Signalman Handyside), Richard Winthrop (Signalman Towson J.), Elsie, his wife (Miss M. Twells), Charles Murdock (Corporal Ede), Peggy, his wife (Miss A. Williams), Miss Bourne (Miss B. Wallace), Teddy Deakin (Lance Corporal Urquhart D.), Julia Price (Mrs. M. Lloyd), Herbert Price (Signalman Goodwin), John Sterling (Signalman White), Jackson (Signalman Bowkett T.) and Smith (Signalman Mallins).

Space does not permit us to mention all the parts individually. Miss B. Wallace and Signalman Handyside gave brilliant performances, the former as the "Spinster" (who became intoxicated in the second act), and the latter as the Stationmaster. Lance Corporal Urquhart D. kept the audience amused by his antics in playing the part of the "Cad." Mrs. M. Lloyd also played her part extremely well.

Judging by the applause given by the large audiences on both evenings and the highly complimentary remarks in the local press, the Norstern Players have every reason to be deservedly proud of their first Amateur Theatrical adventure. Great credit is due to the producer, Signalman Hodgetts A., assisted by Sergeant Edwards, whose efforts were untiring in ensuring the success of the production.

The Unit electricians under Sergeant Low A., were responsible for the lighting arrangements and, needless to say, carried out their work most efficiently.

Editorial Moan.—The compilation of these notes is being rendered increasingly difficult by the efforts of our Office Crooner (and Great Lover), who persists in strolling around the office warbling "The return of Abdul-Abulbul-Amir" (Americanised).

Note.—His efforts are entirely wasted, as the N.A.A.F.I. girls have gone for their afternoon siesta, the weather being too wet for a stroll.

Social.—On the 18th April, a return trip was made to Bishop Auckland Social Club, and a very enjoyable day resulted. The weather was very cold, a strong wind springing up with driving rain, but this did not damp the enthusiasm of the supporters. In the first half of the football match we had the assistance of the wind and netted four good goals to our opponents' one. On the change-over we managed to score another three goals, thus being victorious. After the match hot baths were provided, followed by an excellent tea. The spectators enjoyed billiards and indoor games. After tea C.Q.M.S. Wheeler replied to Mr. Kirby's address and thanked the Club for the excellent manner in which we had been entertained and hoped this would continue to be one of the annual fixtures.

When the entertainment was over we dispersed and proceeded to paint the town red before returning at 11.30 p.m.

Impossible People.—The Ex-Guardsman (I.M.) who Stopped the Clock.

The Signalman who applied for posting to Ireland because he dislikes "Boat Crossings." We are still doubtful which "Boat" he means.

H.E.S.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

Catterick Camp,
14th May.

General.—Once again the time of the month comes round when WIRE notes should be written, even though they may not be read. So with reluctance I will put away this week's copy of the "Humorist" and commence my magnum opus.

Congratulations.—The heartiest congratulations to the following recent promotions: C.S.M. Johnson on obtaining a larger size in crowns. Only the anchor wanted now, sir! To Lance Sergeant Powell (avec chien) on becoming members of the Sergeants' Mess and to our Orderly Room Sergeant, Corporal Smith F. A., on his second one.

I must not forget to congratulate, on behalf of the Company (I think), the "ancients" who have commenced their service with the Colours on attaining the age of 18 years. Personally, I didn't think it was important enough to mention, but it's strange how some people like to see their name in print. The ex-Boys who will be leaving us shortly are numerous, but for the benefit of those who may be interested—here goes: Bowe J. H., Earl H. P., Hawley A., Morey G. D. H., Sheppard J., Cornish W., Nance R., Walker J., Fifield M. W., Scott G. H., Barrett R. and Creed A. J.

Departures.—Our best wishes go with C.S.M. Donaghy M. B. and family, who have left us for the "Terriers" at Liverpool, and we are unanimous in our thanks for the interest he took in us, both collectively and individually.

We have lost also two more "pillars" of the Company in Lance Sergeant Harrison J. and Corporal Holloway W. to 2nd and 3rd Divisional Signals respectively. It may interest Sergeant Harrison to know that we won the "Hammer" the day he left, but have had no luck since.

Arrivals.—Welcome to Corporal Johnson, from Aldershot, to take over the duties of D.I. and P.T.I. in place of Lance Sergeant Harrison, and to Boy Murray (incidentally the third Murray in the Company), from India, who has come to look after his elder brother.

News.—Preparations for the Commandant's Inspection are now progressing steadily and satisfactorily, but we still manage at least one paint stain per day despite the fact that there are numerous "Wet Paint" notices about.

Finis.—And so for the present.

EFF.

Sergeants' Mess.

Catterick Camp.

The usual monthly Mess Meeting of 17th April was followed by a welcome and a farewell to Lieutenant-Quartermaster J. A. Burgess and Lieutenant (I.P.C.) C. S. Roberts, on which occasion the President, R.S.M. Butcher, presented each of them with a silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, as a memento from the Mess members. In his speech prior to the presentation, R.S.M. Butcher, on behalf of the Mess, expressed his appreciation of the way in which both had helped on so many occasions to make the running of the Mess the success it undoubtedly had been, and followed up by wishing them every success in their future military career. Mr. Burgess and Mr. Roberts replied by thanking all for the very happy time they had had whilst Mess members and for the very kind thoughts which prompted the presentation.

This was followed by a Games Tournament, which was an undoubted success judging from the Caterer's remarks.

On the 29th of the month we once more assembled to say au revoir to our old friend C.Q.M.S. Bond, who has departed to take up a position in civil life. We all wish " Uncle " the best and trust he will find things to his advantage.

We take this opportunity of wishing all late members the very best in their new Units.

ONLOOKER.

School of Signals.

General.—The School is at present in the throes of the Annual Inspection, which takes place on the 22nd inst., and the usual general smartening up is the order of the day. In next issue's notes I will be able to say just how good a show was put up.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Callegari F. on his promotion to that rank, and to Lance Corporal Powell D. who has joined the ranks of the paid.

Departures.—Lieutenant (I.P.C.) A. H. Britton to Scottish Command Signal Company. Lieutenant Britton was our R.S.M. for a good many years and we were very sorry to lose him. Signalman Thornhill to 3rd Divisional Signals; Signalman Dobing to Depot Battalion, Signal Training Centre. We wish them the best of luck in their new Units.

Arrivals.—Lance Corporal Ackroyd from Egypt Signals. We hope his stay with us will be a long and pleasant one. He is at present on leave getting acclimatized, in preparation for Catterick's " summer."

Marriage.—Corporal P. Wink was married to Catherine McLaughlan at St. Wilfrid's Church, Bishop Auckland, on 18th April. We wish Corporal and Mrs. Wink all the very best.

Departures for Civil Life.—Signalman Adams F. was transferred to the Army Reserve on 14th inst. He is so fond of the Catterick air that he cannot leave it, and is now employed in the Officers' Mess here. He takes with him our best wishes.

Agony.—To Tom Golding, Gibraltar Signal Section. Drop a line and I will let you know requirements. G.Y.

Mackworth Athletics.—The School won the first meeting and only met defeat in the two following meetings by half a point in each case. Full details next month.

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Hildyard Row, Catterick Camp

ALDERSHOT NEWS

1st Divisional Signals.

General.—We are very busy people at this season of the year, including the bloke who is expected to " Do something about THE WIRE Notes," so don't, please, expect too much.

Section training is in full swing, and when we are not scheming schemes there isn't much time for dreaming dreams. However, everyone thoroughly enjoys the fun which such training brings, the change from barrack routine being enjoyed by all.

Arrivals.—We were going to say " Too numerous to mention," just to save the usual repetition of Part II Orders, but " Tubby " Minns, complete with twins, said, " Don't forget to stick me in THE WIRE, I can't write to everybody."

Like C.Q.M.S. Minns the following may appreciate a mention and perhaps for the same reason.

C.Q.M.S. Dempsey G. and Signalman Hunt J. from India. Lance Corporal Heald L., Signalmen Healy L., Leonard W. from Egypt. Farrier Staff Sergeant Mains H., C.Q.M.S. Dillon J. H., Sergeant Lemon J., Driver (I.C.) Cox K., Driver (I.C.) Smith F. E., Signalman Rice E., Driver (I.C.) Fanning E., Signalmen Rooks R., Robson P., Thorne W., Salmond W. from the Depot.

The Benedicks, on the strength, among the arrivals, have all been settled safely into quarters, and the bachelors have all got corner beds, we hope.

Departures.—The best of luck to the two old friends who have recently left the Unit to try their luck in "Civvy Street," Sergeant Pye E. (Old Crusty) and Sergeant Overington (Old Ovey). Their memory deserves poetry if we can reach it ! ! !

Farewell those wearisome exercises,
Along the long round to Devizes,
Farewell, in short, to Laffans Plain,
Let's hope we ne'er go there again.

After sitting back in the traces for the last six months of their service, on Aldershot Vokes (horrid word), both these Barrack Fixtures have obtained good jobs with the G.P.O. Engineering Branch, somewhere in middle England.

P.S.—Crusty has since written for a statement of accounts, he knows his stuff !

The Char Racket.—It's too late for anything to be done about this. Whenever a Section starts work the hum of the " primus " almost drowns signals !

Tea is available for all at all hours. It is marvellous the quantity disposed of during a day's scheme.

Shades of '98 ! Oh ! for a bucket of beer—neat.

LANKE MK.II.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

News from the Company appears to be very scarce, few changes having taken place since last month. Training proceeds, although under difficulties, fairly smoothly. Section Schemes have now merged into Unit Schemes, and soon we go to our annual nesting place at Thursley, in fact, by the time these notes appear we shall be very near to moving there and have our yearly space of freedom from Barracks.

We welcome to the Company C.Q.M.S. Bradbury and family. We hope he will soon settle down and like service here.

Judging by the sale of Corps Promotion Rosters in this Company, quite a number of N.C.O.s expect (?) getting a lift up in the near (?) future. We hope that their ambitions will be realised ! ! !

All Ranks are looking forward eagerly to " Signals Week," and to the visit shortly of our Colonel-in-Chief.

This appears to be all for this month, perhaps more will happen to enlarge these notes for next month.

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

1936 Season Commences.—The season for schemes, camps and other forms of collective training has opened with feverish activity. Under the encouraging supervision of the Sergeants, the cars, equipment, horses, harness, etc., etc., are being cleaned and prepared and this month, out of all the worrying, scurrying, trouble,

arguments, problems, hard work and the inevitable grousing, emerge the efficient and well turned out sections, ready for their jobs. It is denied in official circles that this Company will stay mounted for ever and the cheerful pessimism peculiar to T. Atkins is general in this direction. A rumour is current in some circles that full mechanisation will take place late this year; the rumour is neither denied nor confirmed officially, but a prominent authority (fifty-five round the waist) reminds us that sunshine always follows the rain (inspiration for amateur song-writers).

Overseas Column.—Special enquiries by our private investigator have led to the discovery of a grievance among certain members of the Company. It transpires that ex-members of the Company who have gone to guard the far-flung outposts of the British Empire have failed to write to the friends they left behind them. The writer is sure that this will be read by all ex-members of the Company abroad, and appeals on behalf of many to write (by special and numerous requests).

Welcome to Arrivals.—Several newcomers have arrived to swell the sadly diminished ranks of our Company; to all our heartiest greetings. For those in the "modernised" sections we say "Good Luck," for those in the stables the best of luck, a hoof-pick, and our condolences.

Departures.—It was with sincere regret that Lance Sergeant Elmes left us to go to 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. They say that Felix has gone right off her "grub."

Marriages.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to Signalman Thorpe, Signalman Gardner and Driver Elwell, who have just taken the plunge. No further comment needed.

Congratulations.—To U/Lance Corporals Bowling, Rider and Paynter on being appointed to that rank, shades of "pontoon."

Conclusion.—Owing to the fact that we have several sections away on holiday until September, the notes for the next few months will be rather scanty, but we will endeavour to give our confederates the "low down" of any unusual happenings. There may be plenty.

ARTESIAN.

No. 3 Company.

Aldershot.

General.—It has been brought to my notice that the WIRE notes should be taken seriously. This may be true, but at the same time I should like my informer and any other persons having the same idea to take notice of the following quotation:

The gravest beast is an Ass,
The gravest bird is an Owl,
The gravest fish is an Oyster,
The gravest man is a fool.

Having got rid of my grievance, let us proceed with what news we have to impart.

The Company are, at the time of writing, engaged in passing their annual athletic test. There appears to be quite a number of men who are desirous of changing their material forms from 96-lb. weaklings to world's strongest developed men. As an afterthought, it seems that the men are rapidly turning into menaces rather than men. One point is definite, judging from the remarks on their return to the barrack room. That is, there are far more "Willies" than "Jimmies" attached to this form of recreation.

Which reminds me (though there is no earthly reason why it should), as I shall unfortunately (?) not be participating in the Highland (and Lowland) games, more commonly known as manœuvres, this year, I should appreciate it if anyone hearing or seeing anything that they consider fit for republication in the WIRE would forward same to me. All I ask is that correspondents try to be original.

There are two important events taking place this month. One is the Old Comrades' Re-union, the other is Signals Week. Perhaps I should have said three, as you will note in the departures that Signalman Withers is leaving this life of ease and modern conveniences (?) for the cold and comfortless Embankment. Anyway, there should be plenty of copy for next month's notes.

We are hoping to see some of the one-time No. 3 Company personnel amongst the visitors.

En passant (happy thought), I should suggest that we invite a number of unemployed to visit us, too, as a stimulation to that much-talked-about "recruiting." It would be also advisable to await the completion of the usual fatigues ere doing so as the noise made by the fatigue party may give them an erroneous impression regarding the life of ease I mentioned just now. I know there was a noise made last year, because I made it.

Arrivals.—Summer, grey flannels, and last, but not least, Bertram Mills' Circus. The latter caused quite a commotion in the town indirectly, because one day there was a scare about an escaped gorilla, which turned out to be nothing more than a certain Q.M. Storeman in a new suit. (I have since been informed that the suit was only borrowed.)

Departures.—Up to the time of these notes being sent in there is only one move recorded, that is Signalman Withers C. to "Civvy Street." Ah, well, fools step out where angels fear to tread. Don't take these words to heart, Busty, because I, too, will be a fool in a few months. Remember, though, that whatever other temptation you give in to, don't stick on sixteen. It isn't healthy.

I have just been told that Lance Corporal Spencer A. is going on a Boxing Course this week, and he says that there is no cause for alarm as his motto has always been (in the ring), "It is far better to give than receive."

Heard in the N.A.A.F.I.—Jock: "Kiss me, Lottie, I am charged with electricity."

Lottie: "If you don't go away I'll be charged with assault and battery."

Bob: "They say that a Greek lady can sit and listen to a lyre for hours."

Ethel: "That's nothing. I have been listening to you for weeks."

Heard in School.—Instructor: "Now, Taylor, if I take 39 from 78, what's the difference?"

Taylor: "That's what I say, sir. Who cares, anyway?"

Things We Should Like to Know.—I apologise for the stereotyped heading, but it is essential for us to find out:

Is it true, Jock, that the happy event has turned out a "howling success," and are you going to let Dionne monopolise the wholesale manufacturing business?

And now I must perforce let the Company poet have his word in:

When heard in the Unit the other day
That Moleskin Joe had passed away,
Why then what said the Company?
The tenth part sadly shook their heads,
And shaking sighed, and sighing said,
"Pity, 'tis indeed a pity."

But when the said report was found
To be a rumour without ground,
Why then what said the Company?
The other ten parts shook their heads,
And shaking sighed, and sighing said,
"Pity, 'tis indeed a pity."

Before coming to the final number I want to thank the N.A.A.F.I. girls of Mons Barracks for the following:

DON'TS FOR N.A.A.F.I. GIRLS.

1. Don't tell a man you will go to the dance with him unless you are sure that he has plenty of the stuff that talks but doesn't give itself away.
2. Don't give him your right name and address.
3. Don't bother to ask him if he is married.
4. Don't walk—ride.
5. Don't feel too comfortable in a bus; tell him that you prefer a taxi.
6. Don't neglect to allow someone else to bring you home after the dance.
7. Don't forget to be attracted by a new hat; it *might* give him ideas.
8. Don't forget to keep him waiting for at least an hour whilst you prepare; he likes it.
9. Don't recognise him if you ever see him again.

That brings me to the closing item. Before the last news to-night we have three S.O.S.s, or:

Agonies.—Will Signalman Sims E., last heard of touring India in a "sweat" and believed to be at present in Karachi, please communicate with Lance Corporal Cant R., telephone No. 3 Company, 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot?

The second is for Signalman Cassidy on the Rock(s). Will Signalman Cassidy please write at once to Signalman Cameron, whose writing pad (6d.) is lying dangerously idle ?

The last is for Signalman Davis Harry, who is asked to remain patient just a little longer, as letter follows. (Jim.)

And now, folks, don't forget if you want a free sample of life in the 2nd Divisional Signals just drop your name and address on a postcard to Uncle and Aunt, c/o Records, Chatham, and you will receive free a generous sample on your return from abroad.

Till next month, best wishes to serving and one-time serving members near and far. What's this coming in ? Ah, it is another S.O.S. Just in time. Would Dan Hassett, last heard of somewhere in Egypt, drop a line to " Wink," No. 3 Company, 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot ?

That's all, Editor. MOLESKIN.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS

Calling All Cads.—There is an old Swiss saying that if a dog bites a man, " No News," but if a man bites a dog, " Hot Dog," or words to that effect, likewise if a man uses the telephone naturally, speaking into the " mike " and clapping the earpiece to his ear " No News," the " Hot Dog " occurs when a man claps the " mike " to his ear and speaks into the receiver. We never suspected that even a Burra flat spin would cause Guy Rodwell to do a thing like that.

Whilst on the subject of telephones I do not think it quite correct, even if he had just got through a tough day, for Corporal (What do you think of this Bullet) Frankie to answer the 'phone by saying " City Editor speaking."

Faux Pas.—The great thing about purloining is to understand the thing you covet. If you do not know what garden fertilizer looks like, make tentative enquiries. We are now anxiously waiting to see what results the gardener will have with his flowers after dusting them with powdered cement.

Welcome.—From this Company to Lieutenant A. H. Beattie as Inspector of Permanent Communications for this Command. We hope his stay will be long and enjoyable.

We are also pleased to welcome Signalmen Carver C., Gillis R., Hurley T., and Jordan B., from Egypt. By the time these notes appear we hope that they will all be initiated fully into the arts and mysteries of scrubbing the rubber, polishing the floor and cleaning windows. " Ben " Hurley has been here before so he should not take too much initiating.

Promotions and Appointments.—Lance Corporal Patrick F. J., promoted Corporal, 1st April. Only another decade to go.

Signalman (Toe Grip Mahatma Ji) Macken W., I.G.S.M., appointed Lance Corporal, 4th April.

Many congratulations to them both. Whilst dealing with the little Blue Book, " Bill " Williams would like to congratulate " Mick " Addis on his appointment.

Pop Eye.—The returns for our annual " Grouse " shoot are just in, everyone obtained a first class shot, which is something to be thankful for. Corporal (Dead Eye) Chamberlain popped in with a snappy 84, Lance Corporal Cyril (One Eye) Robertson and Signalman (Sheik) Goldsby, tied with 72 for next place. There is no truth in the rumour that Sergeant Guy Bishop claimed exemption under the old soldiers act, so that he wouldn't have to compete with Austin.

Cricket.—We are now the proud possessors of our own Cricket Net and Mat. Having lost half of our successful team of the last two seasons we are making determined efforts to keep the Cricket Shield for the third season and so create a record. If practice makes perfect we've won it already. STUN.AI

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks.
15th May.

General.—The " remains " of the Unit at Blackdown is gradually increasing, but we have been depleted again temporarily by a detachment of one officer and twelve other ranks proceeding to Watchet A.A. Practice Camp, in Somerset, on 15th May. Another party of one officer and twelve other ranks proceeds to A.A. Practice Camp, Weybourne, Norfolk, on 29th May. Night training with the 6th A.A. Brigade, Royal Artillery, and 1st A.A. S/L Gp., Royal Engineers, keeps those left behind at Blackdown very busy. Every man to the helm these days.

The Unit Sports were held on 14th May, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. Tea was served to the troops and families in the Regimental Institute of the 1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry, where several members excelled themselves. Yes, your right, " Con," " Nobby," " Taffy " and " Flycatcher " were among the culprits.

A photograph of the Unit team who won the Powell Cup Rifle Competition is published on this page.



AIR DEFENCE BRIGADE SIGNALS—Winners Powell Cup Miniature Rifle Competition, 1936.
Standing : Signalman Knight K., C.Q.M.S. Mears L., Signalman Hughes E., Corporal Glass, I.
Sitting : Sergeant Devey H., R.Q.M.S. Bale H., Major H. M. Sylvester, M.C., C.S.M. Dowie F. J., Corporal Webb A
Inset—Left : Lance Corporal Conolly L. ; Right : Corporal Joyce R.

Arrivals.—The under-mentioned have arrived in this Unit and we extend to them the glad mitt, and trust that their stay at Blackdown will be an enjoyable one. 2323218 Signalman Smith R. D. from "F" Company Training Battalion, on 21st April; 2323838 Signalman Cullen P. from Training Battalion; 2323612 Signalman Dysart W., 2323890 Signalman Ford W. H., Royal Signals, on 28th April; 2320773 Signalman Barsley G. H. and 2320026 Signalman Barker G. H., from Aden Signal Section on 12th May.

Departures.—The cold weather, and now for some cricket. The result of our various games will, I hope, be given in my next notes.

'Nuff said.

JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Cachy Barracks, Perham Down, Nr. Ludgershall, Wilts.
May.

Chatter.—The long heralded move of this Unit from Tidworth to Perham Down is now an accomplished fact. We are comfortably installed in our nice new barracks with the tall tin lockers. For those inquisitive souls who wish to know something about Perham we would state that there is nothing much here except a prevailing wind—it is safe to call it prevailing, because it blows from all four points of the compass at the same time. Incidentally if, when you go to school, the Sergeant tells you that there are only two Poles, the North and South, you can politely correct him, referring him to us for proof of the existence of the other two. Frankly, hibernation seems the only possible thing for the winter.

Evidently we have still plenty to learn. For instance, the Tanks have shown us a new method of keeping the grass short. It is comparatively simple, all one has to do is to turn a large number of sheep upon the selected spot, whereupon the grass quickly assumes the likeness of a well-trained lawn. This system though has certain natural disadvantages. Young soldiers and sunstroke victims who cannot understand this are advised to ponder deeply on the word "natural." While on the subject of sheep it is interesting to note that people have been seen wandering around with the flocks, imitating the cries of the animals. We plead in extenuation that we have lately had two drafts from abroad, to whom, by the way, we extend the glad mitt. We would like to welcome also Lieutenants Newell and Deakin, and hope that those who contrive to post people all over the place will allow them to stay with us a long time.

Congratulations.—To R.S.M. Noonan, R.Q.M.S. Hopkins, C.Q.M.S. Collyer, Corporals Wilson N. and Adkins on their recent Appointments and Promotions (we never know which is which). Our congratulations to R.S.M. Noonan are tempered, however, with regret, in that this promotion was the cause of his leaving us for Canterbury. Anyway we wish him the very best of luck.

Anyone else qualified to be mentioned under this heading should report the matter immediately to the scribe when it will be faithfully forgotten.

Births.—Perhaps we are a little premature in this. Anyway, Boxer (a cat, but also a Unit institution), is expecting a happy event.

Sport.—We would like to place on record the recent victory of the Unit Athletic Team over the Company teams of 3rd Divisional Signals. It was an all-round good effort, particularly as hardly any training had been attempted. Especially would we like to congratulate those hardy souls who gathered sufficient energy to run. This has always appealed to us as a sport to be witnessed, never attempted. Our admiration automatically doubles for every lap run. Perhaps with this information, aspiring mathematicians will make us a graph for future use.

Our Information Bureau.—"BIBULOUS", BOVINGTON. Andover is a small town, having an apparently inexhaustible supply of females and a preponderance of pubs. Buses run every half-hour.

"DESERTED," DURRINGTON. It is not possible to answer you in these columns.

Oh Reservoir,

UVE ADDIT.

Visit to Pirelli Cable Works, Eastleigh.—A convoy of three lorries manned by personnel of the Unit, left Perham Down on the morning of 4th May, to visit the Pirelli Cable Works at Eastleigh.

We had a fine, if a little cold, day for our trip and the run down, except for the usual little thrills and heart-to-mouth driving, was uneventful.

We reached the Works round about 11 a.m., and were split up into three parties, each with a guide. My party started by looking over the rolling mills, where by a very ingenious system of rollers and slides, operated as far as I could see, by only six men, copper ingots, measuring approximately 3 feet by 6 inches by 6 inches, and weighing about 2½ cwts., were rolled down to ¼ inch rod in coils. The copper, from furnace to stacking outside, was only touched once by hand—or rather by tongs—and although water was played on it the whole time, it was still hot enough to light one's cigarette after the final operation.

From the rolling mills we went to the drawing sheds, where by machinery the copper rod was drawn through dies gradually decreasing in size, until gleaming copper wire of all gauges was reeled ready for use for power cable, telephone and telegraph work. The finer gauge machines looked like so many spinning wheels as the wire, continually lubricated by a mixture of soft soap, pumice and tallow, was drawn down at great speed.

One very interesting gadget that took my eye was an electric welder, with which succeeding copper rod coils were welded together to give continuity through the drawing machines. The welder was just a small stand with a cleft slot in the top—similar to a vice. The two ends to be joined were cleaned and clamped in the cleft top, a handle was pulled—a spark—and presto! the ends were securely welded together.

One department tinned certain gauges of the wire for use as binding wire, flex, etc., and a well-thought out process was used. The wire was run straight off the drawing down machine through acid, which acted as a cleaner as well as a flux, through a tank containing molten tin with a scum of flux on the surface, through silken pads which wiped off the surplus tinning, thence to roller wheels set high above the machine, so that the tinned wire cooled before winding on reels.

The next shed we visited was the cable section, truly a marvellous system of winding, papering, pitching and the dozen or more processes to which the wire is subjected before it is born as cable. Nothing is left to chance, and it was a source of wonder to a layman like myself why the men working there did not lose themselves completely in a maze of twisting, whirling wire. Cables from single core to 1,300 pairs were being made for telephone and submarine cable routes.

There were two ways of covering the finished cable with lead. One was by pressing soft lead round the cable which gave the cable an almost invisible seam, and the other was by pushing the cable through lead to give a seamless lead cover.

The multiple core cable was a marvel of forethought. The main core was pulled through the vast machine with a twisting motion, through presses and twisters which gave the core a three-cornered shape, this enabled the main core to take in succession the other wires which were wound round the main core by reels on a frame which whirled round in alternate and opposite directions like so many giant cartwheels. This was for power cables. The process for telephone and telegraph cables was similar, except that the smaller wires were wound with distinctive coloured papers, chemi-

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cally treated paper, in some cases steel tape and metallized paper. Some cables were oil filled afterwards or treated with different kinds of preservatives. Believe me, the whole process of the cable's evolution was truly a marvel of science.

Then we proceeded to view, from some little distance, the testing shop. The power cable is subjected to a 250,000 volt test before it leaves the works, although in actual use only 84,000 volts are put through it. Pirelli's certainly leave nothing to chance.

When the tour was over we were conducted to the Works Sports Pavilion and Club House—and very nice, too.

On the return journey to Perham Down we carried out a Map Reading Exercise, which I believe was quite successful. Yes, the trip was well worth the Map Reading Test.

Visit to the Morris Car Works at Cowley, Oxford.—On Tuesday, 12th May, another scheme was organised which included a trip to the Morris Car Works at Cowley, Oxford, and a W/T Scheme carried out en route. Again we had very nice weather until we were half-way home, when it rained somewhat. We left the Unit lines at intervals from 8.30 p.m., one lorry with MB Set being in advance and working back to another lorry with MB Set. A third lorry brought up the rear.

We reached the Cowley Works at 12.30 p.m., and were conducted to their Sports Ground and Club House. As they employ about 6,000 people, you can guess the size of their Club. Morris's believe in keeping their workpeople contented. We were given a very nice luncheon and we all did justice to the very full menu presented to us. The Morris Works representative addressed us with a few words and gave a few of the salient points of their works at Cowley. He told us that these works were purely assembling plants. The radiators and wings came from their works to the north of Oxford, engines and magnetos from Coventry, and the chassis parts from Birmingham—these were mostly brought by road. He hoped that we would see a lot that would interest us. We did.

Again we were split up into parties and my party started their tour in the stripping and upholstering department. Here the work was on piece-work rates, so you can see the tendency for speed. The gadgets used to save time were both numerous and ingenious. For instance, the method of tacking leather cloth, etc., to seats and cushions. The workman put a few sterilized tacks into his mouth, worked each tack in turn with his tongue so that the head protruded from his mouth, and with the aid of a magnetized hammer could tack a leather cover to a seat or cushion in a matter of seconds, the speed was uncanny. Special machines that could sew very thick leather and padding together at high speed was another feature. Another was an electric cutting machine which cut out with the minimum of waste a hundred thicknesses of cloth at a time. The method of padding fluted upholstery was also speedy and accurate. This gadget consisted of a hollow tube, shaped somewhat like the nozzle of a fire hose, through which passed flock padding stuck on to a strip of stout paper. This strip padding was fed through the tube from a container. The tube was pushed through the seam that was to be padded, the end of the padded strip protruded through the seam in the leather, this was grasped and the tube as it was withdrawn left the required amount of padding in the seam. This method also saved much time and was very effective. Another interesting machine was one that measured leather skins, no matter the shape, in square feet. The skin was simply fed into the machine, where it passed under a series of rollers and a dial indicator showed accurately the number of square feet the skin measured. The cutting out bench showed us, too, that not much of that same skin was wasted. Two and a half skins of approximately 14 square feet went in upholstering a normal Morris car.

Next we visited the shop where the coachwork of the cars was assembled. Special fumed ash was used for all woodwork and steel sheet for the rest. Here we saw the meaning of system.

The shop consisted of a series of lines of workmen, positioned each side of a slowly moving endless chain. The body of the car started with the actual body being put together piece by piece, welded, doors covered, locks fitted, paint was sprayed on it and it was passed through a drying oven. The body of a car was subjected to no fewer than seven coats of paint and cellulose, and each time it was sprayed so it was dried to a hard finish in a drying oven and in between each process it was polished by gangs of men.

Everything was on the move in one endless chain, and as each body passed slowly so the various parts were fitted to it, the parts being supplied by an overhead chain which carried the parts all round the shed from the stores.

We passed in succession through the painting and cellulose plants, baking ovens, tyre fitting departments (the average time to fit up wheels with rubber band and outer cover being 2½ seconds), and so on down the slowly moving chain of car bodies. The coach work takes three and a half times longer than the chassis and yet the body and the chassis that are to be mated—and different models are done at the same time—arrive side by side at the end of the chain. The body is then lifted onto the chassis and they always fit like a glove, bolted, etc., and thence to the testing department. Every car is subjected to a rigorous test and different machines are used to produce effects that test the car very severely. When the testers are satisfied, and not before, the cars go out on the road.

Morris's turn out a car every three quarters of a minute and they have never made a car that has not been ordered beforehand. Their record time was the week before Easter when they turned out over 3,000 cars in one week. I was simply staggered by the number of cars there, and asked the guide who bought them all. There were all sorts of cars, trade vans, saloons, roadsters, tourers, cars with left-hand drive for export and special models. The guide told me that they had just completed an order for 2,000 cars for New Zealand, and that people were still ordering their last year's model.

I also asked him if they gave away samples, say a small car or so, but he told me that I had called on the wrong day, as they only gave away samples every other day, funny how unlucky I am.

After our walk round the 84 acre works we were sorely in need of a cup of tea, and we got it. And very nice, too, wasn't it, Lofty ?

When the tour was over, Captain E. H. C. Harris, who commanded our party, addressed a few words of thanks to Morris's, and so ended a very enjoyable, if tiring, day.

Our thanks are due to Morris's who made our trip possible, and who gave us a very delightful and instructive afternoon. The old recruiting slogan of " Join the Army and see the World " has nothing on us. It's true !

RUSTY.

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MAPS

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Tank Brigade Signals Individual Athletics held on Friday, 24th April, on the Royal Tank Corps Ground.—Results :

100 Yards.—1st, Lance Corporals Potts and Belton, dead heat. Time, 11⅗s. 2nd, Corporal Saunders.

High Jump.—1st, Lieutenant Deakin. Height 5ft. 4in. 2nd, Corporal Moore.

1 Mile.—1st, Johnson. Time 5m. 45s. 2nd, Guile.

220 Yards.—1st, Corporal Warman. Time 24⅘s. 2nd, Lance Corporal Belton.

Discus.—1st, Lance Sergeant Jerram. Distance 87ft. 6in. 2nd, Corporal Connaghton.

Long Jump.—1st, Bromley. Distance 17ft. 6in. 2nd, Corporal Connaghton.

880 Yards.—1st, Bromley. Time 3m. 42s. 2nd, Griffiths.

Hammer.—1st, Lance Corporal Wilson T. Distance 72ft. 4in. 2nd, Corporal Connaghton.

120 Yards Hurdles.—1st, Corporal Moore. Time 20s. 2nd, Lieutenant Deakin.

440 Yards.—1st, Corporal Warman. Time 59⅘s. 2nd, Lance Corporal Potts.

Shot.—1st, Lance Sergeant Jerram. Distance 32ft. 2nd, Lieutenant Crawford.

Javelin.—1st, Corporal Galbraith. Distance 112ft. 3m. 2nd, Corporal Saunders.

3 Miles.—1st, Johnson. Time 19m. 39s. 2nd, Lander.

Pole Vault.—1st, Terry A. Height 7ft. 6in. 2nd, Rousseau.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—The Unit now is only just over 100 short of personnel.

We are, therefore, not weak enough to sit back and take no part in Collective Training and yet too weak to take our full share. The policy, therefore, has been to skin No. 1 Company and form the Brigade Sections, a rather unsatisfactory state of affairs when the country is supposed to be re-arming.

The Royal Signals Band will arrive by the time these notes go to press and that, no doubt, will help to raise our morale and fill us with esprit de corps.

Arrivals.—From 5th Divisional Signals on 14th April, 1936, R.S.M. Herbert A. F.

From Training Battalion on 14th April, 1936, Signalman Toole W. ; on 22nd April, 1936, Signalman McDermott E. ; on 28th April, 1936, Signalmen Baker G., Bastin A., Beswick E., Betts H., Brydon J., Bunn A., Carter W. ; on 7th May, 1936, Signalmen Hudson H., Taylor R., Talbot D., Tyrie D., Yates L., Young S., Colbourne G., Hugill E., Harker G., King H., Langmaid R., McBurnie J., Pratt A., Potter J., Magee S., Winter K., Brown D., Berry G., Davidson H., Fleet A., Furtado R., Griffiths J., Irvine W., Morgan B., Bent D., Chapman W., and Smith A.

From Egypt on 24th April, 1936, Sergeant Walker H., Lance Sergeants Dawson S., Neale G., Corporal Barnett W., Signalmen Caveney J., Delicate W., Farrow F., Field L., Swale T., Lobb W., Hicks R.

From Depot Battalion on 5th May, 1936, Signalmen Brookfield J. and Warr A.

Departures.—To Depot Battalion on 14th April, 1936, Driver Hinton J. ; on 5th May, 1936, Signalman Payne L.

To Headquarters, Signal Training Centre, on 20th April, 1936, Warrant Officer i (Superintending Clerk) Harrison T. W.

To A.V.T.C., Hounslow, on 24th April, 1936, Corporal Broom R.

Appointments.—U/Lance Corporal King A, appointed Lance Corporal on the Corps Roster with effect from 28th February, 1936.

Education.—Awarded First-Class Certificate of Education at March, 1936, examination : U/Lance Corporal Pearse W. and Signalman Smith E.

Marriages.—Signalman Hadfield T. to Nellie Brooks at Oldham on 1st April, 1936.

Signalman Irving R. to Ellen May Laing at Sunderland on 13th April, 1936.

Births.—To Signalman and Mrs. W. H. Taylor, a son, Colin William, on 2nd April, 1936.

To Signalman and Mrs. T. G. Murphy, a son, James Kevin, on 7th April, 1936.

Deaths.—Signalman Rose C. A. T., at Romsey Hospital on 18th April, 1936, as a result of accidentally falling from a motor-cycle.

Sergeants' Mess.—Nothing gives us a happier feeling than a combination of good things taken wisely. The arrival of some very reasonable weather, the visit of the Corps Band and the welcome appearance of new Mess members are things that warm our hearts.

Of the change in the weather we will say little, except that our continued protests have perhaps influenced the authorities in Iceland to reconsider their output of depressions and things.

The Royal Signals Band, with our old friend Mr. R. R. Ricketts, will arrive as our notes go to press. If our arrangements work out as planned, a very enjoyable week is certain. They know that a hearty welcome awaits them.

The following are now with us either on paper or in the flesh. Some we have seen, others we hope to see very soon. The sooner the better, in fact. We like them. Sergeants Redworth F., Quinn W., Walker H. (Ginger) ; Lance Sergeants Elmes A., Tennant R., Neale G., Dawson S. and Heasman E. (Tom Mix).

With great regret we learned of the death of Signalman Rose C. from injuries received in a motor-cycle accident near Romsey. Our very sincere condolences to his parents and relatives. A likeable lad and one whom we could ill afford to lose.

We are sorry to see Lance Corporal (Jock) Whitelaw laid low. He sustained a broken thigh whilst practising for the Tidworth Tattoo motor-cycle display. Believing that a job worth doing is worth doing well (if we may coin a phrase), Jock broke the thigh in two places. It is, of course, a serious accident and we all wish him a good recovery and the best of luck, hoping to see him back on the piano with Barleux and his Band in due course. Aren't we selfish ?

The only other item of news for the moment is that C.Q.M.S. Tebby C. is now allowed to drive all Government vehicles. Which doesn't amuse you at all until you learn that Teb has been driving motor vehicles since the Middle Ages.

The Musketry season is in full swing, but that, as the girl said, is another story.

R. F. B.

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4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—During the past month, though very little has happened, we have collected quite an amount of news.

Captain J. J. Duvivier, Royal Signals, has relieved Lieutenant L. de M. Thuillier, Royal Signals, as Adjutant for a short period, the latter Officer proceeding to Dover on Staff attachment.

Several Officers of the Supplementary Reserve are attending Canterbury for their "Annual Training." We hope that they will enjoy their "holiday."

Sports appear to be in the offing. A tennis club has been formed for Junior N.C.O.s and men. Coaching is being done by Corporal Hudson J., who is on the look-out for local talent. Cricket, too, has had a good send-off; the combined Royal Engineers and Royal Signals team should put up a good show this season.

Musketry is about to play an active part in our slack afternoons. Though there is no trek to Hythe, we shall be making full use of the Garrison Range.

Let us congratulate Lance Sergeant Hampton on attaining that rank. He has now taken over the duties of i/c Orderly Room, and all runs rhythmically. Units requiring tips on Orderly Room rhythm, come to Canterbury and see "Rastus and his Rascals."

I have been asked to proffer apologies on behalf of "Happy" and "Three Co." for absence of notes to this month's WIRE owing to lack of substance. They hope to make amends for the slump in the next issue.

And so for the present we leave you.

Toc.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

Just to break the monotony of things, and to emphasise the fact that we are no longer in the first flush of youth, the Annual Physical Efficiency Tests were sprung on us during the month. Achievements were below the usual standard owing to the absence (in India) of last year's star "performer," Lance Corporal Webber. However, the Unit Butcher almost stepped into the breach, "winning" the Long Jump with 19 no-jumps and a displacement of 2½ tons of sand in the jumping pit. Needless to say, he was also "runner-up" in the High Jump, that is, he was "running-up" all the afternoon without getting over.



The pen is mightier than the sword, as they used to say in Geneva and Addis Ababa. Still, congratulations to all those who wielded their pens to good effect in the First-Class Examinations, and to the lesser geniuses who have now received their "Seconds."

The marriage "cycle," "epidemic," "stakes," or whatever you like to call it, has broken out again. Leap Year 1936 claims victim No. 2. Hearty congratulations to Driver (Aubrey) and Mrs. Scholfield. Last month it was from the Corporals' Room, this month the men's side; who will be the next victim of this arch-criminal Cupid? Turn to this page next month for a further instalment of this "gripping" story. Anyhow, I can assure you that he won't be from the Sergeants' Mess—they're all victims now.

I am afraid I must apologise for my statement last month regarding a certain Warrant Officer ii gardening with his spurs on. It is not a question of being the correct dress for planting horseradish, but a new method of manuring the garden—by auto-suggestion.

A rather welcome change in postings has been in evidence of late. We have received someone. Welcome to R.Q.M.S. Todd, Corporal Macdonald, and Lance Corporals Ogden, Hartley and Fielding.

We also welcome to Scarborough Major C. Wheeler, our new Officer Commanding Company.

A short time ago we had in the Men's Mess 60 men and three cooks. Now the figures have changed and we have 33 men and four cooks. Slowly but surely we are approaching the ideal state when each man will have his own cook, and may the best man win.

W.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—A hearty welcome is extended to R.Q.M.S. Todd D., M.B.E., who has joined us from the T.A. We hope the health of his family quickly improves so that they are enabled to travel to this delightful health resort.

Sport.—It is understood that there are a few tennis players in the Mess and we hope shortly to see them filling the new court. I suppose that as soon as "Muscle Exercise No. 1" (dibbing) has been completed on the allotments tennis players will have to queue up for a game. Motto: "Make play while the dibbing's good." Dibbing always reminds me of roses. Romany, where art thou?

Departures.—The best of wishes go to Lance Sergeant Coaten, who has left us for the sunny South. Prior to his departure the quarterly dinner was held, at which function the health of Lance Sergeant Coaten was drunk in "ginger ale." As usual, the evening was voted a great success and many coloured balls were seen on the billiards table after dinner.

Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

14th May.

Once again there is little of importance since submitting our last notes; probably the strangest sight is to see the Company up to full strength after the furlough season.

On more than one occasion, we have referred to the work being carried out by the Line Section, perhaps boasting a little, but the training season should provide a good practical test.

The somewhat unusual and early summer weather has made many of us wish we were fortunate enough to be on an out-station, particularly Baronscourt or the Forts, where it should be almost as good as having a holiday; however, we have the famous "Bellevue" with the new additions for consolation.

We welcome the new C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. from overseas, but haven't seen much of the latter as he is on leave.

The camp season opened at the latter end of April and our usual detachment was despatched to Magilligan, bringing a little variety to the wireless staff.

We are all looking forward to a good summer and the arrival of some long-promised M.T.

Arrivals.—From overseas—C.Q.M.S. Rankin, C.Q.M.S. Young, Corporal McLaren and Corporal Barron. We wish them a pleasant stay.

Promotions.—We congratulate Sergeant Davies on his promotion to that rank.

Trade Board.—Our congratulations to Signalmen Hutchison, Gray, Watts and Faulkner on being successful at the recent Trade Board, and there are some more results awaited.

Out-Station News.

Londonderry.—Still in the same place.

Omagh, Armagh, Baronscourt and Ballykinler.—All quiet and peaceful.

Fort Dunree.—We apologise for the absence of notes in previous editions, but our scribe (Signalman Faulkner) has been posted to Company Headquarters.

During the Easter period we were unable to leave the Fort, but several social functions were organised in which we took part. There was a cross-country run. Signalman Faulkner did very well, but the others, Bill, our I.M. Lofty, and our newcomer Vince Wise, were "also rans." At the Whist Drive held afterwards Bill and Vince decided to play as ladies and completely surprised us by winning the first and second prizes respectively. There was also a treasure hunt, but the knees of our gallant Section did not allow them to take part, having previously used all energy in the cross-country run, especially when we were told of picks and shovels.

The dog of the Section N.C.O. (Sergeant Toogood) has been doing well at rat catching, so we are thinking of organising a rat week.

After a trip around the district, we welcome the return of Lance Corporal Clarke, who is our enthusiastic gardener, and we have several exhibitions of his work within the Fort. We are glad to have him back and understand we do not stand alone in this matter.

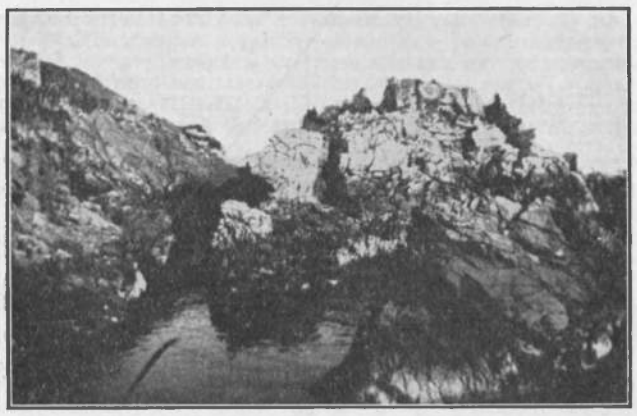
Signalmen Maddison and Seager have returned from annual furlough; we anticipate a marriage shortly.

Arrivals and Departures.—From Lenan, Signalman Slavin. Signalman Wise from Dunree to Lenan. Signalman Faulkner from Dunree to Belfast.

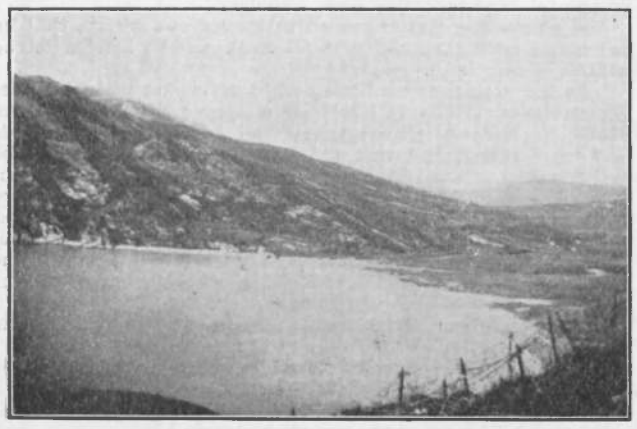
In response to appeals for snaps we enclose two well-known views of Dunree and hope the Editor will publish them.

Finis.—Until next month.

JORDI.



View from Dunree.



Our Bathing Rendezvous, Dunree.

Miscellaneous Humour.—The review of Eastern politics carefully censored by young bloods, during meal hours, and illustrated by American metaphors; did we hear "Ubique" never fails to keep us in good humour?

Notice.—Lance Corporal Thomson L. J. (late 4th Div., Colchester) would like to hear from Signalman Blackburn V., last heard of at Colchester.

Conclusion.—The absence of interesting news this month is deplored, but with a bit of luck we should be better in the next issue.

HEC ME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island,
Thursday, 7th May.

Congratulations to myself for having succeeded in being promoted to Big Chief WIRE correspondent. The hat trick is indicated.

The linemen are working very hard, as usual, encouraged by the thought of plenty to do no matter how hard they work. They have made quite a number of landscape changes already, much to the sorrow of the Royal Engineers.

The instrument mechanics have done the sets a "good" turn and repaired them. The aerial and masts are looking quite well, too; in fact, the whole has had a thorough clean up. C.Q. XXX de A.Z.L., O.K.G., has changed his call from "Bitter and Mild" to "Better or Worse." There's magic in the air here, no doubt. Congratulations, Georgie, old boy. Signalman Ansell E. G., is marrying Miss S. E. B. Sharpe, daughter of Sergeant Major, ... Royal Artillery, at Queenstown, on 8th May, 1936. The bride will have to be very sharp on the C.R.A., etc. Scarborough has nothing on us!

Signalman Hirt S. J. is now in possession of his First Class Certificate of Education. Now what about the "Special" congratulations, Steve?

Corporal Stevens B. J., HAS arrived and he DOES like Spike. 'Course he does, and so does everyone else. Ask Thomas ——, he should know.

Mr. Andrew Carey, of Wilmount, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, desires to thank the sender of photographs of Spike Island. Mr. Andrew Carey would like the pleasure of personally thanking the said person.

Jews Mail.—Harry, Hong Kong. Ink must be expensive these days. Still waiting, Bere.

If a centipede has eight legs would it be an octipede or a centipus?

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INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

15th April.

General.—Easter period is now dropping behind, holidays are over and the "Cogs of the Empire are once more moving." Most of us have made good use of the opportunity for the morning's lie-in.

Again our big game (?) hunters left us for the unknown territory. Corporals Connolly, Wright and Lambird and Signalman Whitehead have spent their Easter about 50 miles out. Tich Connolly and Tubby Wright have already got a nice spread of antlers above their bed space—what will it be now? However, they sent us a nice piece of pig in for Easter Sunday's dinner. Their bag this time included two small stags. The tale goes that they saw many signs of panther about—but not a chance to get one.

Our messing strength again has been increased by the inflow of lads from Field Units, who are now well down to it and hoping to have "A1" on their "Q" sheet before they leave us.

The other invaders into our treasured plot are the "S" Course, who are walking the Unit Lines with puckered brows and a stare of intelligence—well, that's what they call it. It would be a sin to omit that all the Unit "Grippers" have taken their hats off to Corporal Burke—"let him get up."

On Easter Sunday the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess invited the B.O.R.s Tennis Club to a tennis "at home." I'm sure that all B.O.R.s who attended had an enjoyable time. As usual at such functions, a jolly good supply of "Char and Wad Stakes" was provided. After tennis was over we were taken over on to the Mess lawn for a drop of the good old "Beer." Sergeant Jones kept the ball rolling as promoter of each set and made sure that we all had as many sets as possible.

Arrivals.—We extend the glad hand to C.S.M. and Mrs. Evelyn and hope that they will soon be at home in our little nest.

Promotions and Appointments.—Nil so far this month; however, I hear that one or two Junior N.C.O.s have a big "sweat" on—what little "birdie" has been whispering?

Things We Want to Know.—Do four pieces of ONE-amp. fuse wire form a substitute for a ½-amp. fuse wire? Ask Wagon Wheels. Who is the "Fittest" man in Jubbulpore?

Jews' Mail.—To Thrudge (080) last heard of in Peking—where are you now?—did you get the boat?—Tich (428).

RIP.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

As our scribe has departed to Calcutta for Easter leave, the writing of the notes devolves upon the less (?) brainy ones. However, here goes.

In the last month things have certainly brightened up and one wishes that it was possible to have the stamina, time and cash to go on like it for ever. It certainly has been a great pleasure to find one and all joining in to make everything worth while that has been undertaken to relieve the normal humdrum of daily life here. We are all grateful to our new R.S.M. for the untiring energy he has shown towards making things a success.

The usual Mess dinners have continued, followed by the usual tit-bit—the presentation of the "Gripper Spoon." Last month there was the usual "sweat" prior to the presentation, followed by a great sigh of relief and much "gloating" when "Mutt" was called on to take possession from Busty minor.

We had all anticipated a solid grip from the recipient, so he was not given the chance and amidst cries of "Sit down," etc., he retired a defeated man. If it is possible for him to lose it next month, the committee will have no difficulty in selecting the new owner.

Easter feelings grew apace and we all thought of 'Ampstead, so we decided to have a "'Appy 'Ampstead" Dance. This took place on 4th April and was a decided success. It was considered that it would be much cooler on the tennis courts, and so the scene was laid, complete with some of the usual side-shows ably run by various lads of the village—even the "barrer" was there, with Tommy Greig doing the shovin' (it seemed as if he'd done it before), and a "Stop me and buy one" outfit run by R.Q.M.S. Kingman, who has since left us for Karachi. Everyone had a jolly good time and we thank all those who made the dance a success.

It was certainly no joke using the hammer and jumper in the sun during the hottest part of the day.

Nobody who comes to Jubbulpore ever misses seeing the "Marble Rocks," so a moonlight picnic was arranged from the Mess (and boys, what a moon!). Forty-two members and their wives left the Mess in three charabancs at 11 p.m. and arrived at the Rocks at the witching hour of midnight. There the party divided into two; one party proceeded upstream to visit the Rocks and the other to prepare the "eats" (thank you, ladies) and dance to a gramophone in the moonlight. On the return of the sightseers the parties changed over.

The journey to and from the picnic place was very pleasant and we were entertained with much music from our Mouth Organ Band, with the remainder joining in some community singing.

The stay out of doors in the cool night air was made much more pleasant by Mr. and Mrs. Brierley, whom we thank very much for their kindness in making the hot coffee on an oil-cooker—of Mohmand fame (listen, all you frontier warriors).

All good things come to an end and the homeward journey commenced about 3.30 a.m. We certainly did not need much rocking to sleep—or any breakfast for that matter.

On Easter Sunday the Mess were "at home" to the B.O.R.s at tennis and a very enjoyable evening was spent. That same evening the whole of the members and families went to the Empire Picture Palace (where forty seats had been booked) to see Jessie Matthews in "First a Girl." The Manager put on an extra, in colour, for our benefit, as well as a good supporting programme.

A surprise was staged for our "Nuncers" and "Grippers," for someone had inveigled the Manager to expose a slide on the screen:

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It certainly caused some fun in the pictures and added to the fun of the evening. We returned to the Mess for a "nightcap," and so to bed.

On Easter Monday a party from the Mess attended a Dance at the Regal Dance Hall and although first appearances pointed to a slack evening it was not so, and everybody enjoyed himself. Wonderful what Symonds' does, Smudger!

And so another Easter passed with everyone certain that he had had a good time and grateful to those who had made the jollities so successful.

In the meantime we have been carrying on with the Mess Tournaments: Billiards (Open) and Tennis (Handicap). The Finals, Tennis between Sergeants Wall and Mills and Billiards between Sergeant Fishwick and Lance Sergeant Edge, will be well fought out and interesting to watch. The tennis handicappers, as shown by the results, overcame a difficult task very fairly, as their job involved handicapping many new and unknown players. A surprise in the billiards was the defeat of Lance Sergeant Kilford, our late landlord, who ran against some grand play from Lance Sergeant Edge, whose break of 51 was accompanied by several over the 20 mark.

In the semi-finals of the tennis Sergeants "Nobby" Keegan and Jones were beaten, but only after two excellent matches.

Does Bricky Wall ever get older?

What somebody else wants to know:

Who wanted to look nice at the "'Appy 'Ampstead" dance?

What did Nick see at the moonlight picnic?

Did everyone go to see "Marble Rocks" or the moon?

Are revolver targets suitable for practising dance steps with ?

Was the caddie really insulting when he asked for E. L.'s golf clubs buckshee ?

We offer our very hearty congratulations to Sergeant Bramwell, who was recently married to Miss M. Pitts, Q.A.S., at Dalhousie. They are honeymooning in Kashmir at present.

With great regret we said good-bye to R.Q.M.S. Kingman and Sergeant Humphrey early in April. Both these members have put in untold work to help Mess functions go with a swing. They leave us for Karachi, where we hope they will be as happy as they have helped to make us here.

NORTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY.***

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

30th April,

General.—With the approach of summer, Rawalpindi is beginning to get warm. Already the families have left for their summer residences in the hills and are now nicely settled down there. There are five of the N.C.O.s of the Unit going to Upper Topa as Instructors for Upgrading Courses (first half-season) and 35 British other ranks as students ; these fortunate people will have the advantage of enjoying cool breezes and delightful surroundings whilst the remainder of us frizzle in the heat, but as we are all at some time or other going to Topa for a month's leave I suppose we must not grumble.

Individual Training has already commenced and both the British and Indian ranks of the Unit are once again refreshing their memories on the mysteries of the Electron theory and Ohm's Law.

A British Ranks' Ride has also commenced, and several of us are tightening up our riding muscles once again, to say nothing of our grooming muscles, on the old circular motion.

We are gratified to note that the standard of operating has improved in the Unit to such an extent that the two hours' compulsory operating every week has been suspended.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following arrivals to the Unit and hope their stay will be long and pleasant : Captain W. D. Weir from the United Kingdom, R.S.M. Day C. from " A " Corps Signals. The undermentioned from the United Kingdom : Sergeant Bevis M., Lance Sergeant Cooley T., Lance Corporals Brown C., Butler T., Greenland A. and McGivern W., and Signalmen Gale C., McDermott G. and Verschelde G.

Promotions.—Records have been kind to us this month and we offer our congratulations to the following on their respective rises : R.Q.M.S. Day to be R.S.M., Sergeant Powles A. to be C.Q.M.S., Lance Sergeant Bevis M. to be Sergeant, Lance Corporal Christian W. to be Corporal, Signalman Handley L. appointed U/Lance Corporal.

Movements.—Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., our Commanding Officer, has proceeded on two months' leave in India, Major E. G. Sinnott officiating in his stead.

Lieutenant E. J. F. Heap has proceeded on five months' and 26 days' leave ex-India.

Lance Corporal Dixon has departed to the Army Signal School, Poona, on a Signalling Course, whilst Lance Corporal Millett has gone highbrow and gone on an Educational Course to the Army School of Education, Belgaum. Lance Corporal Woolls and Signalman Demellweek have departed on temporary duty with the 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Departures.—Another old soldier has left us in the shape of C.Q.M.S. Dempsey G., who sailed for the United Kingdom on the *Dorsetshire* on 21st April, 1936. No longer shall we hear his war cry, " Just a minute, brother ! " Signalman McConnell D. proceeded to the United Kingdom by the same boat, having purchased his discharge. We wish them both the best of luck in their new surroundings.

Extensions of Service.—The dotted line has been signed twice this month ; Sergeant Beckley A. to continue in the Service beyond 21 years to complete 21 years' pensionable service, and Lance Corporal Dickinson A. to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Trade Ratings.—At a recent Trade Testing Board the following qualified for higher ratings : Lance Sergeant Cosstick and Signalman Morey for Operator Signals, Class I. Signalmen

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Holland S. and Hawkes F. Linemen Group " C," Class I. Signalmen Munden A. and French A. Linemen, Group " C," Class II. Signalman Daffern qualified as Draughtsman Signals, Group " C," Class III, as an additional qualification, and Private Biggs and Private Perkins, of the Dorset Regiment, attached to us, passed the prescribed test for Operator Signals, Class III.

We hope the above hasn't seemed too much like a Part II Order, but we are sure all their friends will like to know of their success.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Valerie, infant daughter of Sergeant Instructor and Mrs. Richards, A.E.C. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the parents in their sad loss.

Officers v. Sergeants Annual Tournament.—During the month we have had the opportunity of completing this annual contest, and we must congratulate the Warrant Officers and Sergeants on being the victors, although the Officers gave them a close run for it.

On Thursday, 16th April, 1936, the Annual Cricket Match between the Officers and the Warrant Officers and Sergeants took place on the Club ground, and resulted in a win for the Officers by 22 runs, the actual scores being: Officers, 130; Warrant Officers and Sergeants, 108.

During the afternoon Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. H. Vulliamy and the Officers entertained the Warrant Officers and Sergeants and their wives to tea on the Club ground and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. As a matter of interest to readers the teams were as follows:

Officers' XI: Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., Major W. V. Smelt, Lieutenant F. C. Seeley, Lieutenant N. M. Hay, Lieutenant R. L. Carpenter, Lieutenant J. M. S. Tulloch, Lieutenant M. A. Charlton, Lieutenant S. J. Dagg, 2nd Lieutenant F. P. Johnson, and 2nd Lieutenant D. C. Lyall.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' XI: C.S.M. Eastes, Sergeant Askew, Sergeant Bygrave, Lance Sergeant Clutterbuck, Sergeants Peters, Murphy, Bloodworth, Warner, Stanley, Richards, and Ratcliffe.

Scorer: C.S.M. Price.

The deciding match of the tournament was the football match, which was played on Sunday, 26th April, 1936. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants here made a determined effort and the result was 3—0 in their favour. This gave them the trophy for another year. We must console with the Officers on their hard luck. Nil desperandum.

Move to the Hills.—On the night of 1st/2nd May, " A " Corps Signals (both of 'em !), plus attached Signal personnel for courses, commenced the annual march to Topa. We shall look forward in future years to hearing a certain Warrant Officer relating his experiences on " How he marched to Topa in A.D. 1936."

ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

24th April.

After many disappointing postponements, owing to bad weather, we were able to hold our Troop Mounted Sports, which our Commanding Officer has vowed shall be a hardy annual in future. For some unknown reason they have been lost sight of during the past two years. We managed to muster a fine array of trophies by saying " Thank you " to our leading tradespeople, by delving into Unit Funds, and by all competitors sportingly coming forward with a small entrance fee for each event.

For the purposes of the championship shield Troop Headquarters and the Wireless Troop opposed the Visual and M.P.U. Sections.

All events were very keenly contested and enjoyed and our Officiating Commanding Officer was very satisfied with the general performance of both men and animals. Here is a list of prize-winners:

Best Trained Troop Horse, B.O.R.s—1st, Corporal Nuttall; 2nd, Sergeant Madeley.

Best Trained Troop Horse, I.O.R.s—1st, Signalman Mohd Yakub; 2nd, Signalman Ali Bahadur.

Jumping, B.O.R.s—1st, Signalman James; 2nd, Signalman Drew.

Jumping, I.O.R.s—1st, Signalman Faiz Akbar; 2nd, Jemadar Sardar Khan.

Handy Hunter, B.O.R.s—1st, Signalman Drew; 2nd, Signalman Bennett.

Handy Hunter, I.O.R.s—1st, Lance Naik Fateh Khan; 2nd, Lance Naik Dadan Khan.

Whip Drivers' Competition—1st, Signalman Karam Illahi; 2nd, Signalman Rajwali and Signalman Mohd Yakub.

Tent Pegging—1st, T.S.M. Taylor; 2nd, Jamadar Sardar Khan.

" Lloyd Lindsay "—Visual Troop, B.O.R.s.

Old Soldiers' Race, B.O.R.s—1st, T.S.M. Taylor; 2nd, Lance Sergeant Longhurst.

Old Soldiers' Race, I.O.R.s—1st, Signalman Rajwali; 2nd, Naik Kalandar.

The " Moore " Trophy—1st, Lance Corporal Strong; 2nd, Sergeant Madeley.

Winners Troop Shield—Headquarters and Wireless Troop.

Mention must be made of a very sporting offer made by our Officiating Commanding Officer, Lieutenant R. C. Yule, who, after planning a stiff course for our Handy Hunter Competition, rode his Black Prince round the course in 3½ minutes, and then offered to give five rupees to every man who beat his time in the competition. No less than eight competitors (B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s) completed the course inside that time. Bad luck, sir, but your sporting offer was greatly appreciated. At the conclusion of the Sports, tea was provided for all ranks and families, and the prizes were presented by Mrs. Taylor, for whom there cheers were called by the Commanding Officer.

In the Peshawar District Sports Sergeant Madeley obtained a third prize in the Best Trained Troop Horse with his remount No. 25.

We also sent in a jumping team for the " I " Battery, R.H.A., Sports, but the opposition was too strong.

Once again our " Hoo-loo " team, " I " Battery, R.H.A., has beaten us in the final of the " Victory " Hockey Cup Tournament by the only goal scored, but we had partial revenge by beating them 4—0 in the Hot Weather League three days later.

The Unit Snooker Tournament has just been completed and won by Lance Corporal Sutherland and Signalman Gully, Lance Sergeant Starling and Lance Corporal Strong being runners-up.

At present we are in the throes of a Ping-Pong Tournament, with Signalman Drew as favourite.

It is with regret we have to say good-bye to our Brigade Commander, Brigadier D. K. McLeod, D.S.O., who has sailed for home. Having had considerable experience with Signals during the War, he always had a warm spot for the Troop, who, as he stated in his farewell address, " had served him well during the period he had commanded the Brigade." All the troops in the Station and Mardan turned out to line the roads and wish him God-speed.

We also regret to record the departure of the following tried and trusted servants of the Troop: T.Q.M.S. Lewis to Signal Training Centre (I.) Jubbulpore, Sergeant Hopkins to the Home Establishment, and Lance Corporal Snowball to 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Good luck to them all; they are a credit to the Corps.

At long last our Commanding Officer, Captain V. C. Holland, has arrived. We all bid you a hearty welcome, sir, and trust you will have good health and good luck in your new station.

This month we have had to bid good-bye to our Officiating Officer Commanding, Lieutenant G. S. Knox, who has left us to take up his duties as Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. Everybody was very sorry to see him go, and we wish him all the best in his new sphere as we do also the following members of the Troop, who have left us for the United Kingdom: Lance Corporals Cross and Ferguson, Signalmen Ball and Pearson. It gives us great pleasure to meet new arrivals to the Troop and a hearty welcome is extended to Lieutenant R. C. Yule, our new Officiating Commanding Officer, who has arrived, we hope, for a long stay. Others to whom we offer the glad hand of welcome are Lance Sergeant Farlow, Signalmen Potts and Bolton.

Recently members of the Troop have been training hard for the Peshawar Point-to-Point Meeting, which was held eventually on 16th March. Two teams of four were entered and after getting six home in the first nine we found, to our great disappointment, that neither team was complete, as one from each team had come

down and lost their horses. Lance Corporal Bale came in third, and T.S.M. Taylor, fourth. Our congratulations go to Peshawar District Signals who finished first. There were the usual hard luck tales to be told after the race and several riders would have finished first, IF ! ! !

At present nearly everyone in the Unit is training for the Troop Mounted Sports, and the results will be given in our next contribution.

Hockey has been well in the limelight recently, and in a Unit Triangular Tournament the Officers and Sergeants beat the Junior N.C.O.s by 2—1 and also the Signalmen by 2—0. The two latter teams then played off to decide the resting place for the wooden spoon for 1936, and the Junior N.C.O.s had that honour after losing to the Signalmen by 0—1. All the matches were keenly contested and, as the scores suggest, there was very little in it. In a game between the Unit and "I" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, we were successful by 3—1 which is contrary to most previous results with this team. It appears as though our luck has changed at last against this bogey team of ours.

Technical and Educational training are in full swing, and we have a class being prepared for the first course at Topa, and another one studying for the next First-Class Educational Examination. Just keep trying is our advice to all candidates. For the information of all ex-snooker players of the Troop we might add that another knockout tournament is being held. This has become an annual event and is always looked forward to by everyone interested in the game. There have been some remarkable flukes already, but so far nobody has succeeded in getting a ball off the table on to the floor and back on to the table again. Full results will be published in our next notes.

RISI.

(Received too late for inclusion in the May issue.—EDITOR).

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Monday, 4th May.

General.—Advent of warmer weather and new scribe.

Arrivals.—We welcome the following:

FROM UNITED KINGDOM: Farrier Staff Sergeant Marshall C.

FROM SIGNAL UNITS IN INDIA: Corporal Knight S. and Signalman Allen F. (Peshawar District Signals), Signalman Phipps L. (1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop), Signalman Meek F. (1st Indian Divisional Signals), Signalman Leach W. (Kohat District Signals), Signalmen Dexter J., Rawcliffe J.and Hallam R. (Waziristan District Signals), Signalman Riding H. ("A" Corps Signals).

Departures.—TO THE HOME ESTABLISHMENT: Sergeant Parsons J. and family, Lance Corporal (Boomer) Wright, Signalmen Flowers A., Clayton S., Marshall T., (Chota Kong) Mackie.

To SIGNAL UNITS IN INDIA: Corporal Rhodes B. (4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop), Signalman Hooker A. ("A" Corps Signals), Signalman Mitchell R. (Peshawar District Signals).

Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to the following: U/Lance Corporals Sims A. and Tomkinson J. on their appointment on 3rd March, 1936. U/Lance Corporal Holder W. on his appointment on 22nd April, 1936. Corporal Knight S. and Lance Corporal Roake J. on their promotion and appointment on 22nd February, 1936.

Agony.—To J. S. 44th: Believe 51st want you at Headquarters, Aberdeen. Have cabled you 1½d., so you have no excuse. JOCK.

2CAVSIGS.

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Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

Monday, 11th May.

There is little or nothing to report in the way of interest, save the arrival of our last draft this " trooper " and the awards for the Mohmand Operations of 1935.

Our heartiest congratulations are extended to the following : (1) for having their names brought to the Commander-in-Chief in India for meritorious services rendered during the Mohmand Operations, 1935 : Major E. P. C. Collin, Royal Signals, Officiating Officer Commanding during the operations, 6077517 C.Q.M.S. Snook H., 2312080 Sergeant Pattenden A., Jemadar Kehar Singh, Indian Signal Corps.

(2) to Signalman Sucha Singh on being awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal. This is the mule driver who was with Signalman Smith P. C., M.M., on the occasion when the latter was awarded the M.M.

Arrivals.—Sergeants Kemlo and Devey, who were originally bound for Jubbulpore, Corporal Johnson and family, Lance Corporals Forster and Mills, Signalmen Usher, Dowse, Hunt and Williams F. from the United Kingdom, Signalman Martin, plus half an orchestra, from Wazirdist Signals, Signalman Hood from Kohat District Signals.

Departures.—Signalman Lambert J. to Wazirdist and Signalman Rennie to join his big brother in Kohat.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the undermentioned on passing up another rung on the promotion ladder : Lieutenant A. V. Benton ; Sergeant Tudor E. on 19th January, 1936; Corporal Milligan A. on 4th February, 1936; Lance Corporal Blaikie R. on 4th February, 1936 ; And the following on making a start: U/Lance Corporal Horsman H. and U/Lance Corporal Mann W.

The families leave for Khanspur on Wednesday, taking with them C.Q.M.S. Batchelor, who has, we are glad to say, just pulled through after a severe attack of pneumonia. We hope that the change of air and rest will soon pull him round to his normal self once again.

Hockey.—We entered the Edwardes College Hockey Tournament, but passed out in the first round, losing to Peshawar Heroes by one goal (from a penalty bully) to nil. Hard luck, but we have hopes for better fortune to come in the forthcoming Peshawar District Hot Weather Tournament.

Sergeants' Mess.—He that writes and runs away lives to write another day, so here we are once more. Social life started splendidly with a tennis " at home " to the Officers on the first of the month, when we had an opportunity of saying au revoir to our late Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Miller, M.C., Royal Signals, and bon accueil to our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., Royal Signals.

Our next effort was on the 16th, when we staged another tennis " at home," followed by a games tournament against the I.A.C.C. ; the latter were handicapped by a shortage of team members and a lack of training, hence once again we claimed the laurels, that is, if there were any.

From time to time we have wondered where old " Dibby " Jones, " Smoky " Holmes and others were, so we have decided to start a " Who's Who " on a monthly basis, but give no prizes for all-correct solutions. We will start with the top of the roll.

Number 1.—Seen on Salisbury Plain for quite a time, gained proficiency as a mower of grass and a slayer of " Minnies " ?

Number 2.—A Stainer, but not of wood, windows or characters.

Number 3.—A Bachelor for many years.

Number 4.—Once a Buff, now a Snook, has recollections of paying a visit to Mons Barracks in '32.

Number 5.—Just arrived. Been propping up the Sappers and now the Signals for nigh on 25 years.

Number 6.—A past Head Constable of the Depot at home.

Number 7.—Shades of pay, can't get away, but hopes to get home next " trooper."

Number 8.—Was well known in Quetta, D.I.K. and 'Pindi—not by the police. Has been with us 12 months.

Number 9.—Has prior claims to conscience money for languages.

(Continued in our next.)

At the moment the married members are preparing to move their families to the " Bumps." Khanspur is our destination this year. We wonder if anyone envies them and would like to change hill stations next hot weather.

Waziristan District Signals.

Fort Akalgarh,

April.

Our new Commanding Officer, Major F. W. S. Jourdain, has been with us for nearly a month now and we sincerely hope his stay in Waziristan will leave pleasant and lasting memories.

The Unit as a whole has undergone a big change in personnel, but with the exception of Headquarters Section, all seem to be settled. Headquarters Section is under a cloud, or rather two clouds, " Chippy " Wood and Jock Grieve. At present the Section is busy watching where they settle.

With one more draft from the beloved United Kingdom to come the Unit will be up to A.P. Talking of the United Kingdom hardly had the wash of the last " trooper " died down in Karachi Harbour than our orders gave the trooping list for 1936-37. So once more the cry is taken up " Roll on October ! " To those who know him, " Marion " fosters a secret hope that his boat sails in August. " Chirpy," on the other hand, wears a worried frown and murmurs, " Six long years have I ! "

Just at present the weather in Dera Ismail Khan is wonderful. To put things in really good shape along comes Easter and a spot of holiday. With the weather playing the game the tennis courts and golf course have a large attendance. So far as can be recollected there has been no previous mention of our golf course at D.I. Khan. In the first place, District Headquarters very generously gave the course to the Signals when they moved down to the Cantonment " to plough fresh fields," and it was very much appreciated. With some hard work and study the course has been considerably improved and even the best of players find a bunker.

The best thing of all is the cheapness of golf around here. The local lads pay eight annas a month, own a few clubs and a " Kroflite," and tell big stories. Although not in good taste, some even find the game much cheaper, borrowing the clubs and balls and telling even bigger and brighter stories. To put us square with the golfing world, a member did the first hole in one, but he kept it a dark secret until there was no fear of us believing him. Yet we live in hope of hearing the call " drinks all round."

Social life in D.I. Khan has enlarged considerably and impromptu shows are very popular. The Sergeants' Mess in particular do themselves well. They invited the Junior N.C.O.s to a Dance and it proved a really grand show. Even the ice cream was a success. The Junior N.C.O.s held a " concert "—the music was very much appreciated, and the light refreshments nicely served up by " Grease " Martin and our Jackie. How all the empty bottles came on the floor is a mystery. Looking forward, on Easter Monday the local lads are being entertained by the Sergeants' Mess at tennis. Taking things very seriously, the boys are up and about before the lark, and the ball boys are worked to a standstill.

In two weeks' time Headquarters Section will be thinking of the move to the hills, and those who live in tents will think of shovels. Among the many stories heard in Waziristan is the one that it always rains from 2 to 4 in Razmak, and there is a certain amount of truth in it. However, compared with D.I. Khan heat, Razmak rain is the lesser evil. The detachment left in Dera Ismail Khan will be busy looking up the best fans and cool corners. A nice sound when on detachment in D.I. Khan is ice tinkling against the side of a glass filled with ——!

In the next issue of THE WIRE I hope to be publishing notes from our three out Sections, Razmak, Wana, and Bannu. The job has been handed over again and we start afresh. I apologise for the obvious D.I. Khan instalment this month.

Obituary.—We very much regret to announce the death of Mrs. Golder, wife of Sergeant Golder L., on 29th March.

All ranks of Waziristan District Signals extend their heartfelt sympathy to Sergeant Golder in his very sad bereavement.

WAZIR.

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

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

No. 2 W/T Company.

Karachi,
March.

General.—Early this month our hearts were broken or very nearly.

This month saw the departure of the last of the repatriations to the United Kingdom, per the *Dilwara* and *Somersetshire*.

We are very sorry to lose them and, as our football and hockey results—if published—would show, their going has been a great loss to us.

Altogether the month of March has been a very busy one for all of us.

We started with an Inspection by the Chief Signal Officer, Western Command (Colonel Vyvyan) and then followed this by a Signal Exercise in the Landhi-Dabheji-Tatta District.

Although we worked with skeleton personnel the whole show went through without a hitch, and having captured Tatta from the hordes of savage barbarians the powers-that-be decided that the war could end; so it was so.

Then came the Brigade Commander's Inspection, which again was accomplished successfully.

Arrivals.—We offer the proverbial "joyous mitt" to C.Q.M.S. Cooper, our new Company Sergeant-Major. He very quickly staked a claim at the Lido.

C.Q.M.S. Laing has returned to the fold after a short term with No. 1 Company.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Locke and Signalman Harrod to S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore, for E.F. and I.M. courses respectively; best of luck and hope you get that A.1.

Lance Corporal Taylor to Signal Section, Loralai. He did not stay long with us and we hope he will like Loralai.

Condolences.—We tender our sincere sympathy to Lance Sergeant Frampton and Mrs. Frampton on the death of their youngest son, at Karachi, on 20th March, 1936.

Queries.—It would be interesting to know who told ex-Corporal B. McCann that we had an "awkward squad" here.

Congratulations.—To 2nd Indian Divisional Signals hockey team on winning the Western Command Hockey Cup by the margin of 2 goals to 1 over the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment.

The game was very interesting to watch and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, there being plenty of thrills just before the final whistle went.

Photography.—Our Press photographer has been unusually busy this month and has provided two snaps:

(1) *Dilwara* leaving Karachi.
(2) The lads who went with her.

As the notes are going to press, it is with regret that we lose Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C., who has gone to Peshawar District Signals. We wish Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Hitchcock all good luck.

We welcome our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, M.C., from Waziristan District Signals and hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one. The families also welcome Mrs. Roberts, who soon got busy and has already visited the married quarters.

J. M. L.

Sergeants' Mess.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Baker of Busty fame has left the Unit and proceeded to England on a Vocational course. We all wish him good luck. His arduous duties of Unit Provost Sergeant have been taken over by Corporal Geere, who has already accounted for 40 "pie-hard" tails.

Sergeant Conway and wife, Sergeant Steele and family to United Kingdom for six months' leave and another five years to do on return. Make the best of it now Patrick and Pip as there are plenty of duties left for you on your return. Buck will see to it!

Arrivals.—Lance Sergeants Tant and Raymond from the United Kingdom. Just at the right time, too—for all the inspections and individual training. We hope they will like Karachi and note that Lance Sergeant Tant has already staked his claim at the Lido. Lance Sergeant Raymond has staked his claim as the man behind the bar for a start, anyway.

J. M. L.

Corporals' Mess.

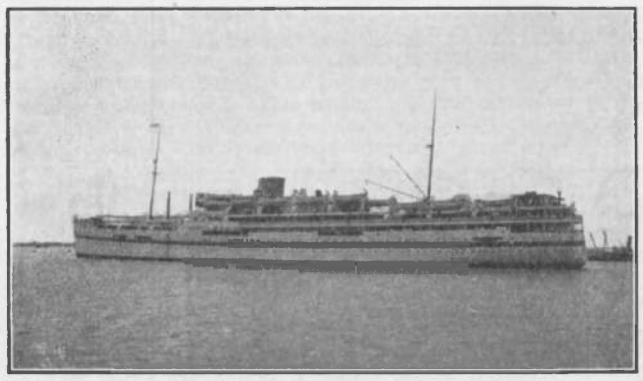
Yes—look at that with surprise. "B" Corps Signals still hold a few Junior N.C.O.s on their strength. I guess we will have to blame the recent Drill Course for our absence in these columns. Any conscientious person will agree with me that such functions call for any amount of spare time. In fact one or two are still reading their little red books.

Truth to tell, after three months' tuition we are able now to drill a squad. Sez me three times. Knowledge imparted by our Seniors has now got us to such a standard that the Guards Depot is clamouring for our services. Whether it is for our talent or else to put us on the correct track, I don't know. I'll leave you all wondering.

One can quite understand why Karachi has suddenly quietened when the departures of the following are recorded: Bert Mallett to Belgaum on an Educational Course. Taffy Locke to Jubbulpore on an Upgrading Course. Tubby Taylor has left us for Zhob Signal Section after having been with us only a matter of weeks, and, last but not least, Reggie Garnett has departed for 4th Divisional Signals. I wonder why Simmo can't go on another P.T. Course or Bill on a Grippers Course. Things would quieten down even more.

Nevertheless we are promised better times. Apparently the Gigolos have started moving again. Lent is almost over and the girls have all been presented with their P.P.s again and off we go with the shimmy shammers.

All members hope that the following are now settled down comfortably in Blighty, having left us last month: Corporal Hudson and family, Corporal Wood and family, Corporal Page, Lance Corporals Bailey, Hodgins and Costen. Their reliefs, Corporal Mohrstadt, Lance Corporals Stokoe, Stares and Bakes,



(1)



(2)

have all been welcomed to the fold and truly initiated into the rights of a true member.

Congratulations go to 2nd Divisional Signals on winning the Western Command Inter-Unit Hockey Championship. Good show, 2nd Div.

P.S.—Who would get married if he could only get Blighty leave next year ?

Why will Slim persist that he owns a dog ? Yes, Basil, it is still a musk rat. Yer little ——.

Why some Junior N.C.O.s don't know which is their left and right foot. Good Old Dalli.

When are some people going to be able to say " SWET OFF " ?

EMIL.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Saturday, 25th April.

General.—1st April marked the beginning of our warm season. " Mozzy " nets have been erected, and the dear little fellows are searching rapaciously for those suspiciously clean drapings. A buzz, a shriek of mortal agony, a terrible cry of " pinked egad," arising from the couch of the stricken victim tell yet another sordid story. Still we may not do too badly, as we are expecting one of our new arrivals to monopolise the entire society of the dear tiny things. Too perfectly foul, don't you think ? Ah, well ! Jolly, jolly !

Our equestrians are not much in evidence lately, but friend Tim is champing on the bit and soon we shall see him galloping wildly over the prairie to the most shattering and unlovely strains of " Oregan Trail " and " The Last Round Up." Absolutely too thrill-making, isn't it ?

Departures.—Our O.C., Lieutenant Burgess-Winn, left us on 5th April for the more hospitable shores of the Old Country, on six months' leave. He will undoubtedly be greatly missed in this Section as he was a great favourite. We must congratulate 4th Divisional Signals as they will probably be acquiring him on his return to duty. He will live in the memory of Zhobites as a " Stout Feller."

Signalman Attrill to " B " Corps Signals.

Sergeant and Mrs. Bosworth to England on nine months' furlough.

Corporal MacCann and Signalman Moad to England on six months' furlough.

Arrivals.—Ex-4th Divisional Signals Officer, Captain S. J. Fielder, took over the reins from Lieutenant Burgess-Winn. He has been with us only a few weeks but already has endeared himself to us. We hope his stay will be a long one. We know it will be a happy one.

Lance Corporal Taylor and Signalman Bradley from " B " Corps Signals. We extend the usual glad hand.

Entertainment.—We bade goodbye to Lieutenant Burgess-Winn by giving an all-ranks' dance. All the Officers and other ranks of the station were present and everyone passed a very pleasant evening.

Camps and Columns.—According to participants the Fort Sandeman column was a great success. At present Signalman Shields and Signalman Bradley are holding them back at Wahar. This is Bradley's first camp in Loralai and he is holding the job down well. Shields is an old and tried hand, so things should go with a swing. Nuff said.

Local Departures.—Lance Corporal Taylor to the alpine Hindubagh.

Promotions.—We sincerely congratulate C.Q.M.S. " Jock " Russell on his accession to that dizzy height. Sharbash, Jock ! The same congratulations are extended to our newly-made Corporal McCann.

From Tim to Jimmy (Now in Blighty).—" What about my cuff-links, Jim ? "

Obituary.—Those who are friends of Staff-Sergeant Jacobs will be sorry to hear of the untimely death of his stepson, Hugh Lobar, who was fatally injured when he was shot in the bazaar at Loralai. He was a frequent visitor to the Signals canteen and a pleasant member of our little community. He was laid to rest in the Loralai Cemetery, six of the Signals B.O.R.s acting as pall-bearers. We are sure that those who knew Lobar will sympathise with his family in their sad bereavement.

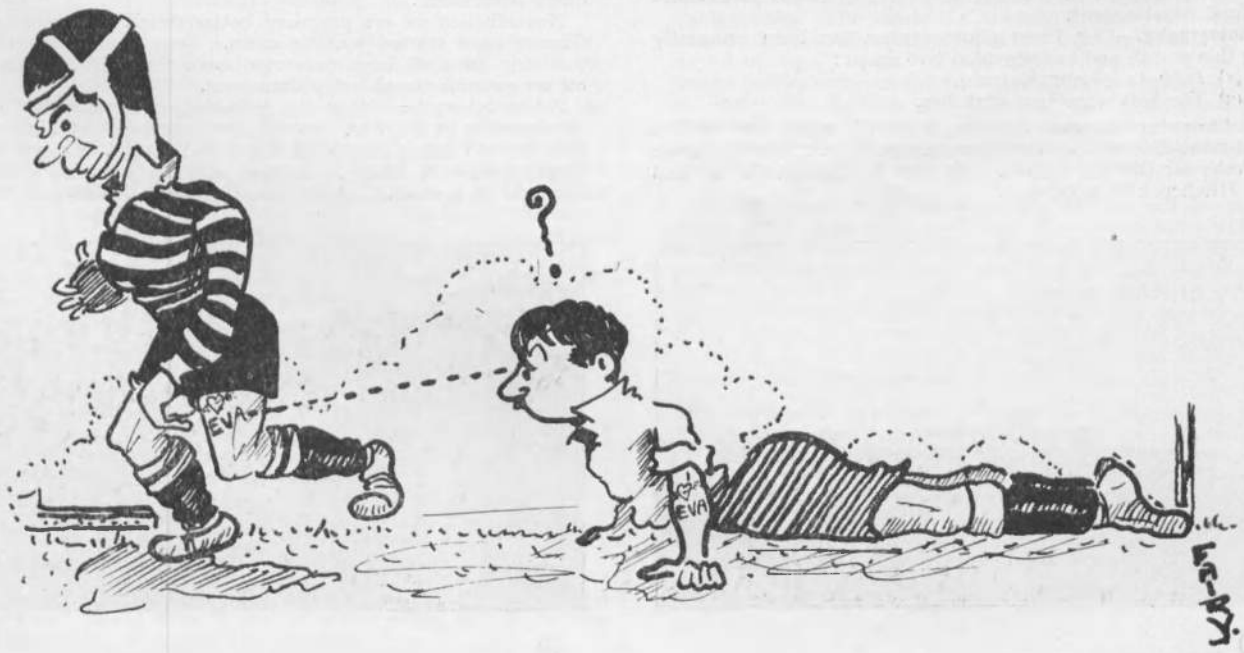
F.N.E.

Hindubagh.

Wednesday, 29th April.

General.—The weather at the time of writing is being very pleasant to all, and with the exception of one or two dust storms there is nothing of which to complain.

Our little garden is showing signs of sprouting forth with various good things for the table, and already the melons are putting a shy little tip out to the cold, cruel world, little knowing



what is in store for them when they become of suitable size. The grape vine, which, by the way, is not yet even planted, is hoped to be a success. The Mess caterer has been observed in the act of casting an eye, full of evil designs, upon the rabbits. In time, I suppose, they will go " the way of all flesh " ; but I, for one, don't object to seeing them on the table.

Quite a few changes have been made in the staff of " Marks and Spencers " since I was last here. The young girls, such sweet young things they were, have all gone. MacAra, please note.

Buck says that looking through the windows, amply protected by bars, reminds him of the time he was in clink for bigamy, but I have a strong idea that he is " guffing." Needless to say the scenery remains just the same : the same old khuds and the bit of wire surrounding the bungalow. I suppose it will be here twenty years hence, but, thank goodness, I shall not be here to see it.

The old-established firm of Fortes-Kinsey, photographers, are still doing quite well in the developing and printing trade, the only customers being themselves, so they don't mind if the films are spoilt.

The Easter recess was spent in a manner befitting any British heavy-weight champion. Charp pressing was the order of the week-end. Watching Pug calling home the pigeons is quite good exercise.

Arrivals.—Lance Corporal Taylor to command the " Unit," and Signalman Fortes to guff 'em. Fourth time to you.

Departures.—Sergeant Bosworth and Signalman Moad to Blighty leave via Loralai. Bet you Jim comes back tied up ! We wish them a happy six months and good hunting.

Having been in residence only a fortnight, news here is scarce. That is the worst of losing the toss for " honour " of being scribe, so we must say adios. Perhaps there will be another volunteer for next month.

O. C. K.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—It seems that this most faithful " Subject " is due for a rise. What about Kitchen-cum-Cook General ?

Writing of things in general reminds me of a certain Sergeant who dashed into the Messroom on 1st April at 08.45 hours, exclaiming " Do you know that there is a General Inspection on at 09.00 hours ? " The date being what it was, and this inspection having been held about three weeks previously, well—no names, but dough is needed to make bread !

Spring is now upon us ; the birds have returned from their sojourn in the South and others from their sojourn in the West —there being no truth in that proverb " East is East and West is West and ne'er the twain shall meet."

For the benefit of the out Sections, the colour scheme is now green. I am even using a green pencil to write these notes. Esprit de Unit, of course.

Everything in the garden is lovely, flowers are popping up where no flowers should and hornets are a thing of the past ; at least we hope so !

Needless to say we balanced our Budget (if WE didn't, then WE becomes MY, and not so much of the WE), but it is understood that no relief can be given to the poor Indian taxpayers (that's us) this Quarter. Our surplus was just two pice and the pay N.C.O. required that to purchase matches for the purpose of destroying all discriminating evidence.

A lot of prominence has been given lately to quins, quads, trips, and twins, but nothing has been said about our THREE sets of quins. Borne (on the establishment) on 1st April, 1936, the three sets belong respectively to Mrs. ACK, Mrs. KAY, and Mrs. JAY (Sections), all of whom are of British birth, and with the help of Raker Oats and Gow and Kates, will be fit and ready to help their respective " parents " during Manœuvres of 1936—1937.

Boating.—Cambridge has once again had a " row " with Oxford ; it is about time they made it up. The undermentioned have arrived from U.K. per the *Dorsetshire*. (A much larger boat.) Lance Sergeant Millen, Corporal Button, Farrier Corporal Archer and family, Lance Corporal Poole and Lance Corporal Webster, to all of whom the glad hand is outstretched.

Arrivals—Other than from U.K.—Lance Corporals Cox, Tweedley and Garnett ; to them we also extend a hearty welcome.

The following also have arrived, but are attached only for rations and accommodation, their manual labour being required by 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, which up to 1st April, 1936, was a completely Indianised Unit : Corporal Rhodes, Lance Corporals Roberts, Snowball and Mudie, Signalman Attrill.

Our bungalow has the " FULL " sign up, so anyone who is considering paying us a visit will have the sky for a roof and Nature's breeze for a punkah.

Departures.—Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.), left us for six months' leave in U.K. (Weather experts, please note.)

Lance Corporal Wood to Kasauli for a six-months' P.T. Course, whatever that may be ! Several pairs of " Shoes " accompanied him, so we presume it is something to do with " Horse " management !

Promotions.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Wood R., on attaining that rank. Gold braid will still be *la mode* for many years to come, so keep going.

Apologies.—" G " Section, Mhow, your notes arrived too late for inclusion in last month's Headquarters Notes. Certain items have been erased, these having been already submitted. Remainder of notes have been forwarded with these.

Complimentary.—I take it that the small son of one of the readers of these notes is not at all satisfied with my efforts, vide the following letter received last week :

> Deer Wire Korespondent, Sharminar,
> i'm evr so sori rytin 2 U alike this becos U dus tri ard wot i cant get ova is the crool way U dus make english all rong pleez tri 2 doo mutch beter necks time. My dad sez U are sufren from nite starvashun so tri sum morics milted balt Mum sez.
>
> Cincerelee yors,
> A chip of mi dads block (so he sez)
> Annonemus.

Flashes.—Move with the movies—Mae West is now established in all tombolo schools—88 ?

Spin with the spinsters.—Soon there will be one less, is that " Wright " ?

Grip with the Grippers.—" Stick-fast, Glue-ite and Freva-held " now on sale.

No Stamps Available.—(Posted at sea—the *Cameronia* ?) to Xerxes, Quetta, from Niku, congratulations on third, am still awaiting reply to mine of June 1933 !

To Mac, Palestine, from Jock.—Leaving here 1939, will drop you a line at Port Said !

Conclusion.—The Unit clock is regularly synchronised and now keeps good time with the trumpeter's watch ! So, till next month, tick tock, tick tock.

CHARMINAR.

"G" Signal Section.

Mhow,
23rd March.

General.—It seems so long since any notes were recorded from this Section that I thought it time that something was done about it. Things are very quiet here in Mhow at the time of writing, and there is only a small number of us to keep up the name of the Corps, which we manage to do, amongst our friends of the Royal Artillery.

Awards.—We are pleased to note that Horse No. 72 of this Section was awarded first prize for the best trained troop horse at the Central India Horse Show which was held at Mhow on 3rd and 5th March. This is a really excellent performance as the competitors included a Brigade of Artillery and various State Forces of Central India. The same horse was placed fourth in the judging for the best horse in the Show.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

No. 3 Company.

"B" Cable Section.

April.

General.—The usual routine is being carried out by the Section, i.e., Stables, wagon cleaning and stores, etc. The upgrading course that our prospective linemen were looking forward to did not come off.

We were very sorry to say good-bye to Sergeant Lewis, Corporal Mayer and Signalman Smith H., who left for the United Kingdom on 12th April (Easter Sunday) per the *Dilwara*; they will be missed greatly by "B" Cable Section, and we wish them the best of luck wherever they may go. (Did the Band play for you in Sparrow Street, Tommy?) The same boat brought us Lance Sergeant Carnegie, Lance Corporal Moxon, Signalman Russell and Driver (I.C.) Collie; to these we extend a hearty welcome and hope their stay with us will be long and happy.

Sport.—Congratulations to Command Signal Section on winning the Inter-Section Athletics, also to Driver Hughes on being picked in the Corps Relay Team (440).

SPIDER.

Corporals' Mess.

General.—Please excuse the lack of notes from this quarter during the last several months. I have been away and the rest of the members were either too busy or too shy to make an effort.

There have been many changes since the last notes were published. Many new faces have appeared and a few old ones have gone. Now that everyone is more or less settled down, a Brighter Mess Movement is on foot. We had a "Smoker" to cheer up our departing friends and this was enlivened considerably by some guests from the Highland Light Infantry Corporals' Mess. Whoever heard of a bonny Highlander singing old favourites with a Cockney accent? Well, we did. His prelude to the rendering of "Old County Down" was heartrending. To counteract this his antics were very funny, so we were torn between laughter and tears. As an encore he gave a screamingly funny song and maintained a Buster Keaton-like expression. Several other Highland Light Infantry guests gave turns and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all. One outcome was a challenge from the Highland Light Infantry to a cricket match. The losers were to have the privilege of paying for the tea provided. We lost this match, after a very amusing game, by several runs. Scores: Highland Light Infantry Corporals, 89; Egypt Signals Corporals, 82. Lance Corporal Ransom acted as our umpire, and it is whispered that he was in league with the "enemy." A return match is going to be arranged, and we hope to turn the tables. We have also challenged them to an indoor games tournament. I will report on this next month, so keep a sharp look-out. The great craze at the moment is "Mah Jong." Every evening one hears "Pongs" and "Chows" and other mysterious murmurings. For the benefit of those who find this game too strenuous, a chess set has been ordered. Capablanca had better be warned. A duty roster is to be made out concerning the "wallahds." Their duty will be to sweep carefully round contestants and arrest any spectator who approaches in boots, or any player who exceeds the speed limit of two moves per hour. We welcome the new arrivals, sympathise with the departures and congratulate the fortunate ones in the new Uplift Movement. There appear to have been several spare Field Marshal's batons just lately, and the lucky finders have soon fitted into the scheme of things. One and all congratulate Lance Corporal Mitcheson upon his performances in the Unit Athletic Championships, and sympathise with him deeply in having crocked his ankle on the eve of the Command Championships. It is a big blow to the Unit in the effort to annex the team championship.

The following incident occurred in the Corporals' Room and is absolutely true. A piece of string was required, about four yards in length to tie back a light for the evening. There was not a piece available among the members present, so the N.A.A.F.I. Chargehand was asked if he could produce a piece which would be returned at the close of the evening. He said he would produce a piece for us. After an absence of about fifteen minutes he returned and said that no string was available and he sent a note along to the Manageress:

"Please could you let the Corporals have about four yards of string which will be returned at the close of the evening."

The Manageress replied with the following:

"String is not available in yards, but is sold in balls at P.T.4 and is *not* returnable."

Tailpiece.—That's all folk; keep a look-out for next month's notes. Cheerio, all the best.

SOREFEET.

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

Thursday, 23rd April.

How They Brought the Good News from Ghent to Aix.—It hasn't arrived yet, but we still speculate. Consecutive rumours continue to postpone the date. Topsy sometimes gives up hope, though never for very long.

Weather Note.—Sand blows apace and sometimes the days are very hot; but if the days are hot the sea is warm and even the most obdurate amateurs can now swim with only one foot on the bottom.

Changes of Personnel.—The following R.E. fixtures have been returned as u/s and have subsequently taken up fresh appointments:

Skeets (ex-sanitary orderly—to supervise issue of bacon and stew).

Potts (ex-mess room—to be Wogs' White Chief).

Home Hints.—Mice, when tamed and domiciled in tents, make pleasant companions and can always be relied on to provide diversion during the night. Indeed, it is thought that the harmless and exhilarating pastime of leaping out of bed every twenty minutes during the night to chase a mouse is far superior to the debilitating and vicious habits of gaming rooms, night clubs and alehouses.

Et Sequitur.—And while on gaming rooms, night clubs and alehouses, let me tell you of the dissipated life we have been leading. We have once before had a picnic, which was so much enjoyed that during Easter we had another one. With Major Hurst again as fairy godmother, we acquired some lorries and steered a bumpy course six miles out of camp. Here we explored relics of ancient civilisation, bathed, had a "wopping" good lunch—and a "wopping" big one, too—went farther afield and explored some more relics of ancient civilisation, bathed again and then explored the wonders of nature—heads all stuck down in the ground and seats of the pants all pointing up at the sky. We were home in time for tea, wearing the radiantly dirty expressions of choirboys back from their annual Sunday School treat.

On the other days of the Easter holiday period we had swimming sports, sing-songs, competitions, whist drives, and the inevitable "House."

The Faithful are Rewarded.—On the great and glorious 17th April, twenty-one of us were "granted leave without R.A., 17-26.4.36. Attd. Egypt Signals w/e/f 17.4.36 incl." For the kindness, hospitality and good fellowship that they have extended to us, we should like here to tender to Egypt Signals a polite word of thanks backed by sincerity of feeling. Expedition and exploration have been the order of the day, and there has been a sound of revelry by night. In addition, there have been the renewals of old acquaintanceships and the boring of polite ears with the oft-repeated tale of our hardships and our heroism.

Thinly-Veiled Sarcasm.—To the many readers who have asked us the meaning of the "un revolto" that appeared in the April notes we apologise for this barbarous phrase. The spot of Greek with which we had hoped to outshine contemporary journalism has thus been printed.

Sport (Fictitious).—We refuse to believe that any Scotsman would spend three Egyptian pounds in two days on roller skating, even with roller skates at P.T.6, lemonades at P.T.3, the weather hot and his mate broke. He refuses to divulge where the money did go. Is this of any avail ?

Sport (of the Gods).—Some answers from our recent musketry examinations :

Q. : How do you clean a rifle after firing ?
A. : (1) Pullthrough until boiling point is reached.
(2) Boil it until hot, as when firing.
Q. : What would you do if your pullthrough stuck in the barrel ?
A. : Call out " Jam ! "

(These are bona fide answers. But we have a Navy.)

Sport.—Ssh ! As we may not give you the names of the teams that we have played, or where we played them, we refrain from giving you the scores alone. A stamped addressed envelope will bring you these, together with the Stock Exchange and fat stock prices, and the date (in confidence) that we are going home.

" J " Section.

Friday, 24th April.

Sez the senior to a junior,
" This 'ere's a ticklish job,
For all our pals at Scarborough
Have forgotten our little mob.
So scrounge a bit of paper
And borrow someone's ink,
Then write some pithy WIRE notes.
By ! That will cause a — — — ! "

Thus it comes that (the post and the Editor permitting) 13th Infantry Brigade Signal Section creep into the columns of THE WIRE. What ! Never heard of us ? Well, well, it just shows you what excessive modesty leads to. But we, to introduce ourselves, are " Jolly ' J,' " the Thrifty Thirteenth. First off the mark, right on the line, and the brains of the Desert Army.

Regimental Crest.—Issuing from a sea, azure, an arm dexter, mailed, the gauntlet grasping a flag, signalling, all proper and charged " Efficiency," the whole superscribed by a scroll bearing the motto " Primus in Cookus."

Battle Honours.—We'll have to put them off until THE WIRE is enlarged.

Howsumdever, as our friend Swede would say, we arrived in Egypt early last November. We saw, and welcomed, the arrivals of all those other Signal Units and Sections which flocked into this seaside resort later, and, it would appear, we shall wave to them as they leave us again.

Ah, well, first in and last out. ' Twas ever thus, and we can do it (again ! !).

Now for the Hatched, Matched, and Despatched.

Amongst those promoted to the substantive rank of Daddy, Class i, we have Signalmen Canham (Ginger of that ilk), Parker, Curtis (the bold Freddie), and Ted Voller, and to all these we have already offered our congratulations. But, for the assistance of all their friends to whom this is news, we may mention that the postage to Egypt is 1½d. only ! Incidentally, the Canteen Manager is now on the constant look-out for advance news of these very interesting affairs, for we understand that he ran out of food on the last occasion—possibly owing to a leak in the barrel !

Amongst the newly-born must be mentioned a small but quite acceptable " yard o' tripe " born to Signalman Howland, who, having received our good wishes, is now settling down well to the wait for inclusion in the L.B.B. All the best, Busty, and may your name crawl in the edition now under preparation.

It is perhaps to be regretted that since leaving England, home and beauty, this Section has not upheld the usual record of Scarborians for walks to the altar, although, if we were to be *very* indiscreet, we could mention people who, apparently, have had some narrow escapes in Alexandria. But we can well afford to rest on our laurels, for of our total of twenty-nine, sixteen have already taken the plunge (!), while the remainder seem to be waiting the next favourable opportunity.

Gladly, however, do we record that we have no names to mention under the third heading. True, there are some who are inclined to think this is a pity, but P. C. Wren has taught the world what " le cafard " is, and so we pity them—when we don't agree ! All that we can truthfully record as having been well and truly despatched (apart, of course, from our most voluminous S.O. traffic) is the little but significant " U/ " that used to affix itself to Lance Corporal Thom, but that we gladly hastened on its way with congratulations to Thommo and sundry gurglings.

Amongst those who are seeking to better themselves by higher or additional ratings we must mention Signalman Sargent and Driver (I.C.) Hurley. It was at first suspected that these two were practising for the entrance exam. for Kneller Hall ; their renderings of " Annie Laurie " (going up) and the National Anthem (going down) were, on occasion, masterly. Lately these familiar tunes have not been heard so often, so we surmise that, having thoroughly imbibed " Hints on Rapid Starting : 1, Turn the Petrol On," they are now 'midst the intricacies of double declutching.

In the realms of sport we not only hold our own, but anyone else's we can lay our hands on. We take it as an implied compliment that whenever a Section team turns out for either footer or hockey they find themselves against the most clever and burliest team their opponents can make up. So far, however, mishaps have been very few, a notable exception being that of our " Q," Signalman Pope, who was obliged to spend a few weeks in a hospital ward following the simultaneous occupation of a single space by his shin and a hockey stick. By the time these notes are in print we hope to have him back in the fold doing his stuff with " non-ledger " items and sundry returns.

Things We'd Like to Know.—Strength of 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough, end of October, about 60. Departures, November, 50. Departures, December, 50. Departures, January ? ? Yet in February and March they have dances ! Query : Was Euclid wrong ?

How does all the sand, blown from the desert, get back again in time for the next sandstorm ?

Whether the " Flit " with which a certain tent is daily drenched is really because of flies ? Or have a certain N.C.O.'s pedal extremities anything to do with it ?

Wenerwe goinome ?

Agonies.—Bill Hart, Cant. : I've got a corner in my tent just waiting for you. Or are you still asbestos ?—Jock Lout.

Daddy Gatford, Scarb. : Typewriter rubber is fine for getting names off inventory boards. So why not suggest it ?—As above.

Ginger, 099, Hardy Oak : Been QRL, QRT, also no QRA ; will ZPE first op.—88. J.

Tommo and Min : What about a line ?—Swede and Co.

Corthorne : Where are you ?—A. G. A.

M. H. W., 038 : QRA ?—J. M.

Opie : Line, tks.—Dan.

Laurence, Acor. : W.A.A.L. ?—Simmo.

Tomlinson, 460 : Sprig 1½ ?—Ging Canham.

Whew ! Looks like " The Times," doesn't it ? But observe the object lesson on human nature. We hold 'em back for you—and you don't even remember us !

There is one other " Agony " which would be signed by all the Section. But we're not allowed to correspond with higher authority except through the usual channels !

That concludes our first (and, being very optimistic, we hope our last !) contribution to THE WIRE as an independent Section.

As for the scribe—he's

HAI LEE.

"F" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

May.

General.—Weapon and Individual Training are in full swing. (Swing it if possible). Having found out which is their " master eye," most of the ex-Bulfordites feel confident of being able to draw their revolvers and hit a Battalion at fifteen paces, provided aforesaid is not marching on its stomach. We soon learnt that T.O.E.T. does not mean " Turn off extra training."

Recently we moved our camp site and everyone has been busy digging away soft sand and filling sandbags. The fact that we are now 150 yards further away from the messroom and canteen does not in any way deter that " Troop Spirit " from coming to the fore.

JOIN THE ARMY.

Good morning, Sir, it's a lovely day.
Oh ! You've come to join the Army, eh ?
Just put your hat down over there
And sit you down in that easy chair.
Comfortable ? Good ! Cigarette ?
Turkish this side, Virginia that.
You'll find the matches on that shelf.
Whiskey and soda ? Help yourself.
Everything here is free you know ;
Have what you like before you go.
And now for a cosy little chat,
Ere you, say " farewell " to your trilby hat.
You'll find the Sergeant like a brother,
As kind and gentle as a mother.
Of course, you'll have to do a bit
Of gyms and drill and lay your kit,
And frequently an all-night guard,
Which I hope you will not find very hard.
In spite of this the life is grand
(Provided you are " in the band.")

Odds and Ends.—A message despatched recently, contained the words " native tradesmen." As it was queried as " native tribesmen " one wonders if after all, we are living on a cannibal island.

An operator's pencil has been defined as one which writes down a message without asking for repetitions.

Maybe you've heard the story of the sailor who climbed up the rigging in a fog during the battle of Jutland, and came down on the wrong ship ? That's nothing. There was once a wireless operator who was receiving signals so fast that his pencil became red hot and he took down an illuminated address !

We congratulate Andy on obtaining two pen pals in U.S.A. Play the game, you thug !

In Reply.—Honi soit qui mal y pense. Be careful, George, or I may have to tell the story of how you got that black eye at Port Said.

Agony.—Plato requests news from Jonah.

Ye Olde Wedding Belles would like to hear from Mr. Records.

To W.E.J. 699. Drop a line to above inferno sometime. Streaky. S.E.B.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

General.—Hello, folks, here we are again. Thousands of apologies for our recent omissions but Paddy was too busy sorting out documents for the home countries. If these notes don't come up to the usual standard, please blame the typist and not the author. The Troop is now back in barracks after a long sojourn in the western desert. We were all glad to see the old white-washed ropes in place of the straight lines of stones and vast open spaces. Once again midst great cheers (beers), the old war-cry of " Maleesh the Condies," was blazed forth by Bottle and Hookey. Our cars now look like various shining objects exhibited in famous museums. To wit, we are taking off the sand, varnish and paint with the help of blow lamps, hammers, chisels and even nail-files.

Departures.---Yes, they do happen, but of course you've got to be lucky or else know that the office clerk drinks Pilsner.

Our O.C., Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper. The founder of this small Unit, he leaves behind a Unit with an irrefutable reputation. He carries with him our highest esteem and best of luck in his new Unit ; their gain is our loss.

Sergeant Onyett F. to swell the ranks of some new Sergeants' Mess, also to increase the sales of brown ale. Good luck, Ike, no sandbags in Blighty. Sergeant Neal G. to do some Unit's hockey team a lot of good. Watch him, he's a second Babe Ruth when he hits a ball.

Corporal Shaddick J., our Ohm's Law king and procedure queen. Bags of marching now, Shady.

Lance Corporal Fielding G. our fairy story teller. Liable to get Red Riding Hood mixed up with Tiger Lil. (Sorry, Eggy, I had to do it.)

Lance Corporal Hartley F. The Troop lineman (what about a ref.'s ticket this year ?).

Signalman Devlin. The Cribbage champion, and last but not least our one and only Paddy, Signalman Leonard J. W. D., who hopes to be posted to a Pigeon Unit. Drop us a pigeon sometime, Paddy.

To all we wish the best of luck in their new Units. We were sorry to lose you all, but I guess five years is long enough.

Arrivals.—To the land of Pharaoh per the *Dilwara*. Sergeant Bremner, Lance Corporal Reats, Signalmen Moore, Hetherington, Cray and Henderson. To all we extend the usual grimy paw and hope their stay will be long and happy.

Agonies.—There seem to be a lot of Jews in the Troop nowadays. Chicko. An operator was seen in the shops on Tuesday.—Macco.

Darky Lawson (Belfast). A new Egyptian stamp for a 1½d. one.—Nobby 632.

Treloar (somewhere in Egypt). Mail comes buckshee by M.P.O.—Conway.

Sellers (ex-3rd Div.). Write to Menty 1297.

Lofty (3rd Company, 3rd Div.). Stamps were 1d. when I left.—Monty.

Everard 052. Got my letter yet ?—Mac.

Russ (Shanghai). Try this address.—Pan.

Homer. Wot about a line ?.—Blacky.

Devlin. I didn't want Tiddles anyway.—Chas.

That's all at the moment. I must go now as Blacky wants to play trains.

4th May.

General.—Back again blaring forth the news that we have finished our yearly Part II inspection, and are now settling down to the usual yearly Individual Training. From to-day onwards everyone has that usual " Higher or Lower " feeling. Let's hope it's all higher.

A very enjoyable day was spent on Saturday, 2nd inst., at the 11th Hussars Regimental Sports. Many keen and thrilling events were witnessed by a large crowd. The most popular event was the winning of the Victor Ludorum by Bandsman Nash, this being the second time in two years. " C " Squadron, to whom we are attached for the year, were unfortunate in having nearly all their men in isolation, thereby not being able to participate in most events. Signalmen Samworth, Clarke, Conway and McGinn assisted them to gain a few points in the events in which teams from the Squadron were represented, Sammy winning the Long Jump and coming second in the Shot, and Nobby winning the High Jump.

Arrivals.—Corporal Adams from Egypt Signals. He knows all about the glad hand, etc., so we welcomed him with a batch of 11th Hussars to train as No. 1 set operators. Also Corporal Oughton on loan from Egypt Signals. Bags of " buckshee " Barrages, eh ?

Conclusion.—I've toiled away for hours at these notes, my brow is laden with sweat, so I'll turn them over to Jerry the Vet.

HOMER (1941).

Malta Signal Section.

Only at enormous expense has it become possible to enlist the services of our great double-touch typist—Two-thumb Ciantar. In spite of a muscle-bound trigger-finger and other infirmities, we are assured of his valued co-operation, and therefore, submit for your perusal :

Thought for the Month.—" Gone in the binder."

Telephone Tremors.—" I can know your voice but can't tell your face."

We wonder whether the tame humorist who answered : " Chief Fireman " realised how serious would be the reaction on the N.C.O. originating the call.

For Men Only.—Our fashion editor, having been smitten with that rare malady known as modesty, we can only repeat that which the local Tcheka has heard and seen. It seems that new suitings are available in many alarming shades of wallpaper, whilst shirts will be worn outside the trousers by those who presume to do so. Paper hats are correct wear for the Strada Reale. Prizes are offered for anyone submitting designs for a suitable " Wagon Wheel " uniform for those who burst into song in the " Premier." Straight jackets have been suggested and rejected.

The Cable Question.—Having selected a nice sweet tunnel in which to play, our chief mole led his gang of performing ferrets into the bowels of the earth with the intention of dragging

behind them a length of cable. This form of sport is enjoyed by all participants who relish the spices of the East which seem to reach Malta in concentrated form. After a lengthy struggle a dishevelled band of scarecrows emerged from the Palace Courtyard, but bolted hastily to cover on the arrival of H.E. The Governor. One of our more elongated Junior N.C.O.s still walks in the attitude suggestive of a jack-knife, but resents a suggestion that " age will tell."

Publications.—A weighty tome will shortly be released from the drawing office entitled " Prevention and Cure of Housemaid's Knee." We are promised also a pamphlet on " Gardening Under the Eye of the Better Half." These will be sent post free on application.

In and Out.—We are indebted to stations at home for the presence here of Lance Corporal Crouch, Signalmen Boulton and Shreeve. They will be looked after well during their stay in Malta. To compensate home stations we have reluctantly released from bondage Lance Corporal Russell and Signalman Summerfield. To the first we wish good hunting in his civvy jacket and may he soon prosper and get a new one. To the second we extend all good wishes and would request a few tips on how it is done.

Sport.—A three-cornered athletic contest promoted by this Section resulted in a win for the Signals. Also ran, R.A.S.C. and R.A.M.C. The manner of our conquest will be dealt with in the sports section, to which we commend our readers. An excellent tea was provided which also proved to be a contest. The winner was a shy individual who came through with a handsome margin of six doughnuts and a bunch of grass. Altogether the afternoon was highly successful, and thanks are accorded to the originators of this event, which it is intended to repeat annually.

Agony.—Robbie, 2nd Div. What's all this I hear ? Met Chicko and Ginger ?

RESULT OF THE INTER-UNITS ATHLETIC MEETING, MARSA, 2ND MAY.

Event.	Points. R.A.S.C.	Royal Signals.	R.A.M.C.
100 Yards ..	5	11	5
880 Yards ..	6	7	7
220 Yards ..	3	11	7
Long Jump	8	8	5
Mile	3	7	11
440 Yards ..	5	11	5
Shot	5	11	5
High Jump	7	9½	4½
Relay	10	12	8
Total ..	52	87½	57½

Event.	First.	Unit.	Second.	Unit.	Time or Distance.
100 Yards..	Parrish.	Royal Signals.	Williams.	Royal Signals.	11⅕s.
880 Yards..	Hewitt.	R.A.S.C.	Parsons.	Royal Signals.	2m. 17s.
220 Yards..	Parrish.	Royal Signals.	Williams.	Royal Signals.	24⅘s.
Long Jump	Bredburn.	R.A.S.C.	Williams.	Royal Signals.	18ft. 10ins.
Mile	Chapman.	R.A.M.C.	Morgan.	R.A.M.C.	5m. 20s.
440 Yards..	Williams.	Royal Signals.	Lt. Panton.	Royal Signals.	57s.
Shot	Parrish.	Royal Signals.	McTurnan.	Royal Signals.	33ft. 3ins.
High Jump	Williams.	Royal Signals.	Harvey.	R A.S.C.	5ft.
Relay	Williams. Parrish. Parsons. Beaumont.	Royal Signals.			4m. 15s.

No. 2 "A.A." Cable Section, H.M.S. "President IV."

Friday, 1st May.

Three months ago we wrote of being in residence beside the seaside, and in spite of all the predictions made by those who " knew something," we still remain here. For the summer season, we have decided to withhold our support from such notable events as the Derby, Ascot, Henley, and the Tattoo, and although regretting such a step, we claim exemption owing to the exigencies of the Service. One or two extremists are consulting " Pleasure Cruise " prospects, but we doubt whether anything will come of it.

Now that the gun and searchlight positions are almost settled —we say, almost, which leaves a margin for safety—we are left with only general maintenance on hand, this, allowing the introduction of a musketry period during the morning. In fact, by the time these notes appear in print, we shall, I hope, have followed all the rules of aiming and have an average to boast about.

Once again we have had the pleasure of meeting our ex-Blackdown fellow tourists who, judging by their I.M.T., look extremely fit and well. We hope that C.Q.M.S. Hawley (an exception to the last sentence), is by now discharged from hospital.

A break from the usual routine was provided by a trip to Cairo, thanks to the help of Egypt Signals, whom we recommend to all as worthy hosts. Many old cronies were met, including three from Blackdown, so needless to say, there was much to talk about. During the sight-seeing tours which followed some had guides, but even those without, apparently got round the entertainment centres all right. The following morning a trip to the Sphinx and the Pyramids was exceptionally interesting and so, after another tour in the afternoon, we concluded a most enjoyable week-end. Many have promised themselves another trip, so that speaks for itself. Once again we say to all those who contributed towards the success of the trip, " Thank you."

With the issue of a set of indoor games a tournament is in progress, and some thrilling encounters have been witnessed. Several dark horses have appeared and some " wicked " (?) darts have been slung. Out-door sport, with the exception of swimming, seems to have fallen off, although while on the subject, it appears that with the conclusion of the football season in England several cherished hopes were smashed.

" Fleet Mail."—Nobby (Blackdown). Cancel all bets. Digger. (Note. Agony handed in 14th March.)

Roger (Blackdown). What price a swop now ? Nobby.

Cheerio, SANDY.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

May.

First of all we must apologise whole-heartedly to THE WIRE for the regrettably long period which has elapsed since the last contribution of notes from the Gibraltar Signal Section. The reasons are various. Change of Commanding Officers, change of Foreman of Signals, the swift passing of the months, and other reasons too numerous to mention.

From now on we propose to make every effort to produce a quarterly bulletin.

For the benefit of those who have just left us, and those who were once with us, and may, we hope, still be interested, we will give a brief resume of the doings of the last year.

General.—Just a year ago Captain B. H. House handed over the Unit to Captain R. H. Gem and proceeded to Home Service with the good wishes of the Section. At the same time Foreman of Signals Q.M.S. Harris was relieved by Foreman of Signals C.Q.M.S. Diamond and left for civil life with a well earned Jubilee Medal.

This award was particularly appropriate as Q.M.S. Harris not only took part in the organisation of the Jubilee Tattoo communications in Gibraltar, but was also present, as a Boy, in the Royal Engineers, at His Late Majesty's coronation.

Hardly had the new regime settled comfortably in the saddle when the reorganisation of communications on the " Rock " received considerable impetus, which has continued to such a degree that, at times, it takes us all our time to keep pace with it.

Not only are our overhead routes rapidly disappearing, but sanction has been obtained for the installation of a more up to date new Exchange in the very near future, and our subscribers are being supplied as rapidly as possible with modern Post Office Telephones.

In Barracks we are being generously treated by the A.A. and Q.M.G. and the C.R.E. and the reconstruction of the Unit Bath House and the addition of a new boiler enables the men to get four hot baths and four hot showers an hour. An extra 5s. a month from the P.R.I. to the labourer who does odd jobs about Barracks to keep the boiler going is all that this luxury costs us.

In addition to this the roads in Barracks have recently been " tarmacced," a distinct advantage, and there are plans afoot to rebuild the cook-house and combine it with a new dining room in a two-storied building on the site of the old cook-house. It will then be possible to serve meals " straight off the ice " (sic), instead of via the edge of the Barrack Square under all weather conditions.

SIGNALMEN!!

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The Unit is passing rich on the takings of the Canteen which thrives on the prolonged stay, and well sustained support of the Royal Navy in Gibraltar.

Hence, we were able, during the year, to organise a very cheerful families' picnic by bus, to the sands at Tarifa ; an other ranks bachelor outing, also by bus, to Jerez and Cadiz ; the families' Christmas party, and Christmas dinners for the Unit which were voted quite " drinkable," and lastly the annual autumn supper party and smoking concert, inaugurated by Captain House, which went with a swing.

Sport.—The cricket and rowing season is upon us once more. Last summer the unit had twenty-eight cricket fixtures of which we won fourteen, lost twelve, and had to abandon two owing to rain.

Corporal (now Lance Sergeant) Parry was our most consistent and highest scorer, ably backed by Lance Corporal Carr and Signalman Harvey both of whom improved steadily. Fuller topped the bowling with sixty wickets to Parry's fifty-two and shows real promise as a bowler. Signalman Adams, quite new to it, did very well behind the stumps. Lance Sergeant Parry's best effort was 127 in a Garrison match for which he was presented with a bat by the Command Sports Club. In rowing we produced a very keen and hard working crew who are to be congratulated on winning the Small-Units' Trophy and also the Emergency Trophy—two out of the seven events held by the Command Rowing Club.

Lance Corporal Manning, who coxed and trained the crew, put in a lot of hard work and deserved his success.

During the winter we had to decide between entering the Football League with what would always have been a very weak team, and supporting the Staff and Department's Hockey XI and confining ourselves to " friendly " football matches. The latter course was finally adopted and four or five members of the Section turned out regularly for the Staff and Department's team. Three were eventually selected to play in the tournament and helped the XI into the Final of the Inter-Unit Garrison Cup in which we lost by one goal to the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

They were, Lance Sergeant Parry, centre-half ; Lance Corporal Carr, right-half ; and Signalman Adams in goal.

At the same time the remainder of the Section enjoyed many friendly football matches and were strongly represented in the Staff and Department's Junior League.

During the year the following Cups were competed for within the Unit :—

Shooting ..	Won by Signalman Goodanew.
Tennis Singles ..	Won by Lance Corporal Carr.
Tennis Doubles ..	Won by Lance Corporals Carr and Manning.
Swimming ..	Won by Signalman Fulford by a foot after a grand race.
Billiards	Won by Lance Corporal Carr.
Individual Dinghy Race	Won by Lance Corporal Carr.

The last was substituted for the Gig Race between two crews of the Section and aroused much enthusiasm and amusement.

Personal.—Long Service and Good Conduct Medals : C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Diamond, C.Q.M.S. Rankin, and Corporal Parry were rewarded for 18 years of undetected crime. Congratulations to them.

Promotions : Sergeant Rankin to C.Q.M.S. Corporal Parry to Lance Sergeant. Lance Corporal Poulton to Corporal. Again congratulations.

Valete.—It was with the greatest regret that we said farewell the other day, to C.Q.M.S. Rankin, promoted, tour expired, and posted to Belfast. For five strenuous years he has been C.S.M., C.Q.M.S., Pay and Orderly Room Sergeant to the Section and always gave untiringly of his best for its welfare. He left us on 24th April in the *California* with the best wishes of the Unit to himself and family. We have recently lost Corporal Hayden to Aldershot and Signalman Goodanew to civil life, both of whom will be sorely missed both at work and games.

Greetings.—To Sergeant Bowler and his family from Hong Kong. He has relieved C.Q.M.S. Rankin and we wish him luck and happiness in his new station. Also to Signalmen Golding, Downing, Cassidy, Perry and Barrett from the United Kingdom, Golding in relief of Goodanew and the others on increase of establishment. We only wish there were half-a-dozen more of them.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death of the wife of Signalman Etheridge and of the wife of Signalman Golding which occurred recently at the Military Families Hospital. The most sincere sympathy is extended to them on behalf of the Commanding Officer and all ranks.

R.H.G.

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

Shalom ! Sayida ! (Note the impartiality, you linguists.) For the benefit of those who have not been privileged to soldier in the Holy Land, this means " Bung-ho."

We're on the air again after a regrettable lapse. The golden pen used for these notes has changed hands, a new nasal organ is being assiduously applied to the grindstone, and there is a steersman at the helm at last.

Excitement !—From the newspapers and wireless news we gather that the Jews and Arabs have been having another little argument.

Great preparations were made when the news of the riots reached us, and all the first class shots vowed that no shot would be wasted. In fact, we all thought that our humdrum life was to be brightened at last. But alas, 'twas not to be. We defended our Camp nobly against no comers, and there our part ended. So if anyone is thinking of getting posted here to see some action, take my tip and don't, it's a swindle.

Of course, we were all under arms, just in case ; even the operators went on duty with rifle and bayonet. The armoury did a roaring trade the first day or so, and soon sold out. Now the ammo has all been handed back again, and, much to the Quarter-bloke's disgust, he's made nothing out of the deal.

We can only hope for better luck next time.

The Lighter Side of Strife.—Some local Arabs held up a lorry the other day, and were deciding what to do with it and its occupants, when along came our D.R. This happened just outside that favourite haunt of convivial Signals, the " Pic." The barmaids therein, being nervous, appealed to our dashing hero for protection, and who was he to say them nay ? So, spurring his trusty B.S.A., he fetched the police from Ramleh. On sight of these, the insurgents' leader denounced his merry men, but our hero, ever a wily lad, saw through the dodge, and denounced him in his turn.

That afternoon, apparently still concerned for the barmaids' safety, he returned to the scene of his earlier triumph, reinforced by a kindred spirit, to continue protecting them. What he did in the way of protection we don't quite know, but he returned to Camp late that evening in a decidedly " uplifted " condition, telling all and sundry that he had been " defending def-f-fenshlesh womensh."

Apparently he had been reaping the reward of valour.

Visitors.—We entertained the Senior Service when three cruisers put into Jaffa Harbour recently. We played them at soccer one day, and at hockey the next. After the games, of course, everyone adjourned to the Canteen, where sorrows were drowned in the approved style. Thanks to Corporal Trudgett, our very able M.C., the evenings went with a swing, and what with community singing and individual efforts, everybody had a darned good time.

Births.—To C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) and Mrs. Tate, a daughter, Dorothy Mary, at the Palestine General Hospital, Sarafand, on 25th March, 1936.

Marriages.—Lieutenant J. D. Haigh to Miss M. Geraghty, on 16th March, 1936. We wish them both the best of luck.

Arrivals.—Mrs. Brett and family arrived to join the Head of the House at this Station on 3rd March. More responsibility for the Orderly Uncle !

Departures.—Our yearly batch of fortunates left for repatriation on 24th February. They celebrated their departure in the usual manner, as the accompanying photographs will show. The





dog was not drunk ! They were given a hearty send-off by all ranks, and many a tear was shed, even by the " tough " guys. We hope that by now they have all settled down in their new surroundings, and that nobody knows anything about them yet.

We trust, by the way, having seen a certain photo, that the " Daily Mirror " photographer's camera is still serviceable, after its unfair wear and tear at Chiseldon !

The climate proved too much for Sergeant " Biff " Newmarch, and family, so he's left us for 1st Divisional Signals, where it is not so " warm " (we hope).

Our Commanding Officer, Major T. B. Gravely, has departed for the United Kingdom on a spot of well-earned leave. Once there he has promised to do great things for us. Our concrete swimming-pool should not be a dream much longer.

Challenge !—We defy anyone to cap this one.

A little bird whispered in the ear of the Orderly Sergeant that there was to be a practice fire alarm at 12 noon. Being a conscientious N.C.O., and wishing no one to be late on parade, he gave us all ample warning by sounding " quarters " on his whistle !

Thanks a lot, Bunker.

The Innocence of Youth.—Scene : The School Tender ready to depart, with children and escort already aboard.

A well-known rotund figure (that Whitbread corporation) rolls past.

Escort : " What-ho, Monkey."

Small Child : " Ooh, why do you call him ' Monkey ' ? Does he eat a lot of nuts ? "

Collapse of escort.

Agony.—Will M. I. Dawson, late of Hooton Park, now believed to be in China, please write to Karl of this Unit.

Jerry and Busty.—Addis Ababa ! Mac and Hetty.

ABE 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 228. The subscription is only 2/- per annum. Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Notification of our new establishment has been received, and we are able to announce that it involves a large increase. Two motor airline sections have been included. We have been able in the past to keep the Unit up to strength and we hope that the present deficiency due to the new establishment will soon be rectified. Our need for recruits offers a great opportunity for our members to render a special service to the Unit; we are confident that our hopes for early results will not be disappointed.

This year an Air Defence Display has been included again in the Royal Tournament, and we have been privileged to take part. As a result of the experience gained two years ago and the modern equipment now available, the display has been considerably improved. For our part, the provision of appropriate (?) costumes for the observers has lent an added interest, and a considerable amount of amusement. Our sympathies are with the young Signalman who had to appear in a false beard, and we appreciate his reluctance to parade with the beard in place! The Tournament will be added to the list of interesting and unusual events which form part of Territorial Army life.

The interior of our Headquarters is once again in the throes of considerable changes. The old apparatus in the Operators' Room has been demolished; part has been lost for ever, and the remainder has been rebuilt for temporary use until new equipment is available. We shall shortly bid farewell to the generating set which has occupied a small room adjacent to the Drill Hall. We understand that this room will in future serve a very different purpose, and will be a cleaner place thereby.

For our final word may we remind all concerned that camp this year will be held at Manston (or did you guess ?). The dates are 9th to 23rd August inclusive, and many new features are likely to be introduced into camp life.

H.S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

May.

Editorial.—The past month has seen much activity in all drill halls in the Unit. Section Commanders have been busy carrying out their various programmes, including the preliminary Sunday Section exercises. These latter have been well attended and are reported to have proved extremely interesting to the recruits. This being so, they should undoubtedly find the fortnight's camp a sound investment as a hobby. It is really unnecessary to say that the older members enjoy these Sunday exercises. The fact that they regularly appear on each occasion is sufficient proof of their popularity.

Recruiting continues steadily in each Company, and our complement of boys is almost complete.

Congratulations.—To Lieutenant F. H. Reeks we tender heartiest congratulations on his promotion.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

General.—Section training is in full swing and everyone is busy at his particular job. Our recruits have set-to in real earnest. It is a treat to watch members of the Cable Section overhauling their cable in readiness for their outdoor exercises, which commence next Sunday. This remark applies in equal terms to the other Sections' members in their own spheres. When one remembers that in most cases a normal day's work has been done beforehand, the efforts are all the more praiseworthy.

Our Company Commander's recent comment on the number who turn up on parade long before the normal time in order to get on with the job spurs us to continue, and we are pleased to do it. Our only regret is that all the Company members were not there to hear it.

Recruits continue to arrive steadily, and our strength is gradually increasing, despite the normal wastage through regular enlistments, and termination of engagements. On looking around we find at least two boys on the waiting list commencing to learn operating in readiness for the time when they can be accepted.

On enquiry at the Company Office recently we learnt that with one exception all our recruits had been recommended to join by existing members of the Company, and also that in most cases the new bounty conditions, etc., had not been heard of.

Congratulations.—To Mr. F. H. Reeks of No. 3 we offer our best wishes on his recent elevation.

In Lighter Vein.—Sunday the 19th April witnessed the birth of "Tweedle's Tea Room." What was at first treated by some as a joke turned out to be an excellent reality. After a long dry morning in the Signal Offices, our worthy R.W.T. (and A.S.R. as assistant) produced some first-class tea. The service was far superior to that of Lyons! Well done, Tweedle and Rendell.

Overheard.—"A" Section. We are doing our best in the cramped conditions in the Drill Hall. This, however, is somewhat relieved in these lighter evenings as we can get out once a week to a patch of green a quarter-mile away and put up a decent aerial. Thank you, Rendell, for such a smart lorry.

"B" and "C" Sections. We congratulate the Ordnance (and the P.S.I. for his excellent liaison with them) on the rapidity with which they collected, overhauled, repaired and returned our two wagons. They look like new, except for the brasswork, which is *our* job. Our fairy godfathers having produced paints and brushes, we are now changing old poles and ladders into new to match the wagons.

Someone whispers, "What about those overhauling the cable ?" Oh, yes! "Well done, Mack." We did not realize so much energy was contained in such a small compass.

"D" Section. We are still alive, although we have been placed skywards in the attics. Our baseboards and fullerphones really work, and our Counter Clerks are brimming over with knowledge. Lines are useless without offices at each end, and "C" Sets must have operators. We train operators.

"M" Section. Although we are usually found behind closed doors, we nevertheless exist. As camp approaches, so the casualties increase, but our number 9's work wonders!

(Voice from the Company Office. "And where do we and the C.Q.M.S. come in, Mr. Scribe ? The others simply wouldn't exist without us.") More anon.

ONECOY.

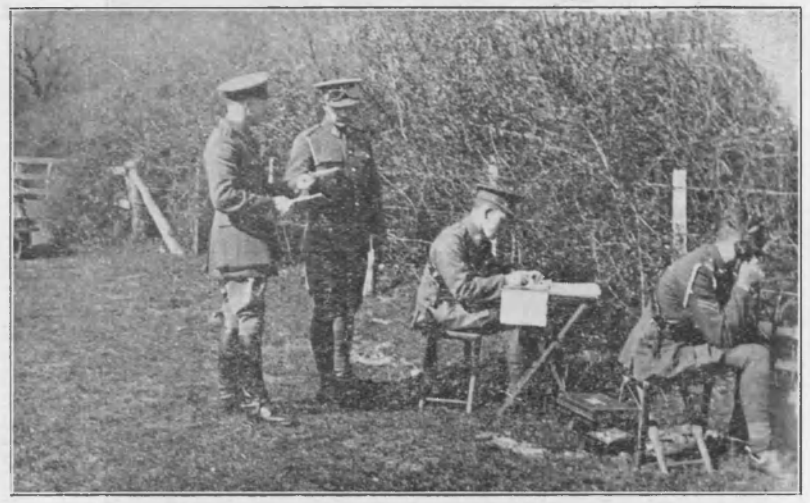
No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

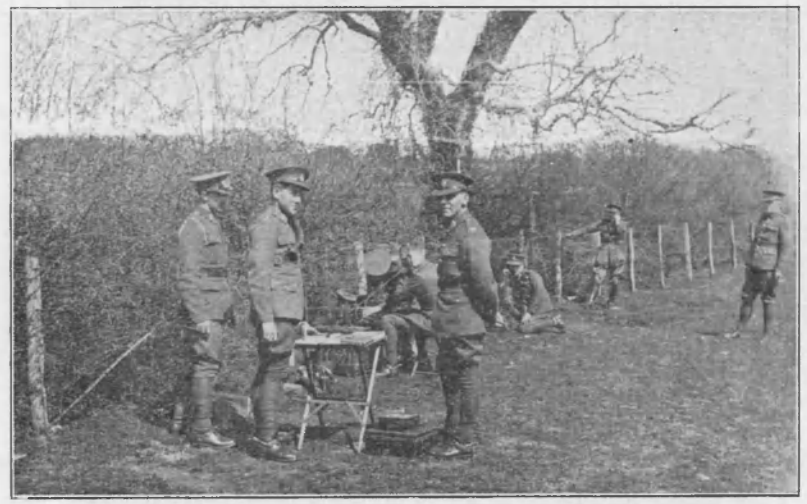
Training.—Excellent progress has been made with our Sectional field training; "E," "F," "G," and 224th Sections having completed their first stage of the 1936 programme of outdoor training. 225th Section, with a change of venue, will complete the first series of Sectional field training. The training was carried out in the Pitt Down Area, Winchester, Hants, and we were very pleased to have with us our Adjutant and R.S.M.

The exercises were full and interesting, and were considered highly successful from the points of view of efficiency and pleasure. Full advantage was taken of the fine weather.

The Sections mustered at Hamilton House, under the command of the Section Commanders, and proceeded to the rendezvous in the vicinity of Hursley where Brigade Headquarters was established, advance brigade, batteries, etc., being subsequently fixed according to schedule. The criticisms, etc., were thoroughly appreciated by all concerned. It was interesting to observe the steady progress made by the newly enrolled recruits in their first experience of laying cable and sending messages, etc., in connection with the respective traffic schemes in progress. The exercises were eagerly awaited, the members having made full attendance at the various courses which have been held at our Headquarters during the past two or three months. The Section's cable wagon, equipment, etc., added considerably to the interest of the villagers

"G" SECTION NO. 2 COMPANY, BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, PILT DOWN.







Captain E. R. Moore and 2nd Lieutenant Howarth.



Pole Crossing.



"F" SECTION, No. 2 COMPANY.



"F" SECTION, No. 2 COMPANY.

"THE END OF A PERFECT DAY."

who were intrigued at the arrival of khaki in this peaceful district. The lads are now looking forward to the second series, and, with special interest, to the Annual Training.

Recruiting.—Our big push still continues. The big effort made by all concerned is beginning to materialize. There is a definite sign of recruits coming in a little faster during the past few weeks than they have done for many months.

Despite the refusal of our old friends who are, unfortunately, over age, the increase is exceptionally progressive, some excellent material having sought the requisite information. We trust the present rate of progress will be maintained which, coupled with the efforts of those behind the scenes, who possess a unique art of eliminating those little irritating difficulties experienced by certain members when applying for their annual leave, should produce an excellent muster for camp. We congratulate all concerned on putting their shoulders to the wheel. IT IS THAT EXTRA LITTLE EFFORT THAT COUNTS.

Although Friday is an awkward day to the majority of our members, the lads put up a good show when they mustered for what was described as " Southampton's most impressive post-war Territorial Army Demonstration."

The parade, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel C. Elliot, T.D., Commanding 5/7th Battalion Hampshire Regiment, paraded in the forecourt of the Civic Centre, all local T.A. Units taking part. The Units paraded in ceremonial order. Thousands of people watched the demonstration and heard an urgent appeal by Major-General the Right Hon. Lord Mottistone, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, for recruits to join the Territorial Army.

The parade was inspected by Lord Mottistone and the Mayor. Afterwards his Lordship and the Mayor of Southampton (Alderman T. H. Sanders) made short speeches from the steps of the Civic Centre.

Before the parade proceeded on the recruiting march, three cheers were given for His Majesty, at the call of his Lordship.

Lord Mottistone took the salute as the Units marched past.

On their return to the forecourt, the troops assembled in their original formation, and the band played " Abide with Me " followed by the National Anthem. We would have liked to have embodied Lord Mottistone's and the Mayor's speeches in these notes, but in view of the space occupied, it is deemed impossible.

Stop Press.—Heartiest congratulations to our P.S.I. (Jim Barraclough), on the arrival of a daughter.

We cannot but note with pleasure the arrival of our old friend R.S.M. Herbert A. F.—do come up and see us sometimes at Bulford.

Many of them, Ernie, upon your promotion to R.Q.M.S. Well done !

BEGBIE.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.
15th May.

Editorial.—Summer is here—is it ? Anyway, from remarks one overhears holidays are being discussed and prepared for, so it is not unexpected that the Annual Camp should crop up in general conversation at Headquarters.

Many discuss this topic and express their various anticipations of the event. One hears of B III's and Group "E," 's mentioned with confidence or doubt, as the case may be. Also it is possible, if one listens intently, to glean some idea as to the value individuals derive from such events as Sports Day, Camp entertainments, expected visits to Folkestone, etc., etc. It is not advisable to listen intently to all conversations, however, particularly if the listener's conscience is liable to make him blush.

Social Happenings.—The last dance of the season held on 25th April was very poorly attended. The Committee put in a great deal of hard work in order to run these functions ; now, considering they do so only because the many desire them to, it would be encouraging to see a larger attendance in future.

Southgate.—The Southgate Supper held jointly by " L " and " J " Sections was quite a jolly little happening. The food was good, the wine better and the entertainment of a very high standard.

The usual routine of speech-making naturally ensued. Even so, these could not damp the general happiness of the evening.

Hard Luck.—It is most unfair to accuse a fellow of being intoxicated because he just sits tight.

Tell me, George.—Was it indigestion-er—or merely making a speech—er ?

You may tell me this also George.

Why is coal a tricky thing to buy ?

Because when bought it generally goes to the cellar.

Things I Want to Know.—Did the instructions misfire when Signalman Alexander got the cold water douche, or had it been overlooked that a more prominent target was also present ? If they had only asked me first.

Bad News.—We regret to announce that, no vacancy for Brigadier is available at the moment.

A Drama of Life.—" The Old Old Story." Act I : " Oh Boy ! " Act II : " Obey ! ! " Act III : " Oh, Baby ! ! ! "

0020.

Easter Training, Canterbury, 1936.—We heartily agree with the comforting " Johnny " who discovered that the Easter holiday period was the coldest for 35 years—the last 35 have been so painfully apparent to most of us, it lacks originality. In spite of this we did some good work, " A " Section hitting the high spots by achieving continual communication with Stamford Brook, a distance of 75 miles, thereby thoroughly disorganising our scheme—the spoilsports ! Most of the Sections, except " K," were well represented. Technical equipment was kindly lent by the 4th Divisional Signals, including No. 1 sets and cable wagons, while Mechanisation, Ltd., provided the " horses."

The barracks were practically deserted by Regular Troops, and we had it really all to ourselves, perhaps it would have been warmer with more inhabitants.

This month's problems and observations include :

Gravel Bashing—now really—was this to

(a) Keep the parade ground in trim ?
(b) Keep us cold ?
(c) Any other reason ?

Carpentry. Does the adornment to the craft who made my biscuits, need a new smoothing plane or a sharper axe ?

Early Rising. A nice rest before first parade was had by all troops who were up early enough.

Thanks—a ton !—Glad to see that the " approach " at Headquarters is being nicely covered in clean-looking concrete—did not do the tyres much good fiddling about on those nasty little stones and they must wear the wheels of the wagons.

What a sight for a traveller in hearth-stone !

What a contract !

Swee—eep !—Sam wants to see you—he had a terrible time with his chimney and they would all muck about.

Absentees.—Very few, indeed, when the Officers of the 48th South Midland Signals (whose Sergeants' Mess Notes appear opposite ours in the April WIRE), invited the Sergeants to supper—the most popular event of the year—good-bye.

Circingle and Blanket.—Hookey (whose other name, funnily enough, is Walker), got mixed up with these and a nag with a broken trot, or whose timing had slipped, on what may be his last basin of this fine sport.

The stir in the barrack room caused by the resultant invitation and explanation thereof was worth the trip to Canterbury. Serves him right for pushing his way to the front of the queue at 0655 hours.

New Books.—" Thoughts on a new rug," by Mons. de Bl——.

Query. Is there a file number for this and who is to have it from 26th July—August 9th ?

Thereby hangs a tale—or does it ?

Stocks and Shares.—Or the fruit goes round and round and it stops not here. I wish I had owned a few in fruit machines during Easter as they probably had a record turnover.

POLYH.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals Headquarters.

Phœnix Street, Derby.
14th May.

General.—Welcome to 2nd Lieutenant R. W. Peel, who was gazetted on 4th April, and goes to No. 3 Company. We feel sure that he will like the Unit and his Company.

Our Officers, last week-end, attended a T.E.W.T. at Harrogate. The Officers of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals were also there.

Recruiting is going apace, and, if the increase in bounty is not the reason, it seems remarkable. According to the press, about 2,000 more Recruits enlisted in the T.A. this April than last.

Two of our Permanent Staff (R.S.M. Jackson and Sergeant Field) have been permitted to stay with us for another year. India calling November, 1937.

By the time that these notes appear a few of us hope to have been to Aldershot for the Old Comrades' Re-union.

Sergeant Nokes and five of his stalwarts from 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, stayed with us for a short while on 3rd May en route to ——. It was very nice to see them and chat about old times and old friends.

No. 1 (Derby) Company.

Two Company Sunday Trainings have been carried out. The number who turned out for these Exercises has been very good. Both the trainings have been a success and the results most gratifying.

Our P.S.I. (Sergeant Field) is attending a course in Rifles No. 1 at the Military College of Science.

C.Q.M.S. Green and Signalman Gargaro are away at the School of Cookery, Aldershot.

The Football season left this Company's team undecided as to their skill. Won 12, lost 10, drawn 5. Anyway, we have unearthed one or two promising lads—so here's to next season.

L.S.

No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company.

Easter, last milestone on the road of winter training is now nicely forgotten—if not forgiven its hard weather—and summer training is going with a swing.

Summer time has given us some long evenings for cable training and the linemen "on paper" are fast becoming useful cable hands. Two Sunday Trainings have been well attended and given the new-comers a look at the job as it is done in the field.

The Officers have done two very interesting week-end TEWTS. Pity is that all these island spas are beyond the range of our Sunday Schemes; many of us could go a course of the "waters."

Belated congratulations to Lieutenants R. W. Plowright and D. Mucklow on the acquisition of a second pip—how they shine.

Recruiting goes steadily onward, the graph shows three spots above the establishment line now—may it go even higher.

Selected Group "E" linemen will assemble under Corporal Shaw after Whitsun and begin a two months' struggle with a Class III rating. All luck to them for a rate before Camp.

The Unit will camp at Trent Range for Whitsun again, and as these notes appear in June, readers of them will appreciate the prophecy—many attended and all enjoyed the week-end.

CROOKED SPIRE.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

General.—We tender first, our thanks and appreciation to the Editor and the Printers for reproducing the photograph taken at our recent Company Dinner.

Courses.—Corporals Coombes and Shaw attended the 77th (T.A.) Regimental Signallers Course at the School of Signals from the 6th to 25th April, 1936. Both produced note-books filled to capacity with many diagrams and cryptic signs, and we are pleased to be able to state that both N.C.O.s acquitted themselves well, and upheld the name of the Corps and the Unit.

Lance Corporal Fearn proceeded to the Army School of Hygiene, Aldershot, on the 10th May. We trust he will enjoy the course there and return full of knowledge which he will apply at future camps.

Training.—So far training is continuing fairly well to schedule, and though we would welcome the attendance of more Trained Men (N.C.O.s, please note), it is pleasing to report that the Recruits are very keen and are attending regularly.

Our first Sunday Training was held on the 3rd May, and due chiefly to the very adverse weather conditions, was not the success we hoped. We look forward to future dates for more sun, and plenty of it.

Congratulations.—And many of 'em to Bramji Singh on his marriage. Keep smiling Bram, I'll be with you soon.

To G.F.J. on his posting to H.E. We wonder if you can see the Kiko now Johnnie?

Echoes.—W.G.P. and J.H.E. are girding their loins now, visions of boats keep appearing and thoughts are long ones!

Now decided that epilogues are NOT such dry affairs.

J.H.E.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and affiliated No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
Wednesday, 13th May.

General.—Section and general recruits' training is in full swing preparatory to Annual Training and posting to Sections respectively. We said last month that those recruits nearing the completion of their training as such would soon be posted to their Sections. It has been decided, however, that this will be postponed pending our new establishment consequent upon our being made Corps Signals—whenever that may be! Patience is a virtue, we are told. How very virtuous we are! Recruits are still rolling in steadily but surely.

Week-end training at Chertsey is being carried out by this Unit and S.R. Sections throughout the Summer. Each S.R. Section and Company of the T.A., have been allotted three week-ends each so that the time that Annual Training in Camp arrives all Sections will have had plenty of opportunity to get together.

Special Paid Courses are continuing all through the year, and it is gratifying to see the large number of members who attend. This form of training is invaluable and is the very best way of improving the technical efficiency of the Unit.

On the 2nd May, thirty-eight Officers and N.C.O.s proceeded to Sevenoaks to participate in a week-end T.E.W.T. A really



T.E.W.T. Sevenoaks.
Words of wisdom from Major W. H. Lloyd, M.C.



T.E.W.T. Sevenoaks—Directing Staff.
Right to Left—Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphries, T.D., Captain F. H. Bury, Major W. H. Lloyd, M.C., and Captain A. McDonald.

nice little war had been arranged, thanks to a certain State, with a most up-to-date army, giving " the bird " to the League of Nations and carrying out an unprovoked attack on another League member's country. We, as another strong State and a member of the said League, had to fulfil our obligations, so we just got our things together and waded in to wipe up the bully aggressors. This apparently wasn't so easy as it looked, although on the 30th April, very much ack emma, we occupied a strong position without opposition. At midday, however, we were violently counter-attacked and forced back to our frontier. The General Officer Commanding then issued orders at tea-time for a withdrawal during the night to the line A.B.C. (nothing to do with tea-time !). There we dug-in for a stay having arrived without any serious interference. Early on Saturday morning the enemy attacked, heavily supported by tanks and, contrary to his solemn promise, he used mustard gas (thank goodness we had our little yellow training manuals " Defence against Gas, 1935 " with us !). This attack was repulsed, and a fierce battle raged throughout the day and night until 07.00 next morning when an extra heavy push shoved us back across the map. Later the General Officer Commanding issued more orders that we were to withdraw to another line C.O.D. This move was near enough completed about lunch time when " feed away " sounded and we got our nosebags out and packed up—war and all. Apart from the general set problems regarding the tactics, several very interesting groups of questions dealing with matters military, apart from Signals, were also set and proved most entertaining and enlightening. We learned among many other things that an Officer should be most painstakingly particular about his men's vitamins—when in rest billets, and that when sending a message reporting the death of a man one does not " regret it "—that's left for some else to do, or not, as the case may be. We certainly had one of the most enjoyable and instructive T.E.W.T.'s. this Unit ever staged.



Shoot against 7th Middlesex Regiment at Rainham.
Our team, with Lieutenant Tomlinson in charge.

Sergeants' Mess.—There is nothing to report from this quarter. Things have been pretty dull lately, but we hope that in the near future we shall have something to write about.

Shooting.—We met the 7th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment on the open range at Rainham, Essex, on the 28th April, but we didn't manage to beat 'em. Oh dear me, no ! ! These P.B.I. fellows certainly know how to shoot, especially on the " trot and flop " business. All the same they are a jolly fine crowd of chaps and they gave us a really enjoyable time. We sincerely hope we shall have the pleasure of meeting them again in the same place.

Social.—We are having our last dance of the season on the 16th May when we hope to see crowds of Unit members present.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Our New Adjutant.—We bid a hearty welcome to Captain Bartlett, who has taken over the duties of Adjutant. May his stay be a long and happy one.

No. 1 Company Sunday Training.—No. 1 Company carried out Sunday training on 3rd May. Ack and Don Sections remained in Barracks, where a Divisional Headquarters Office was laid out. " B " Cable proceeded to Earlswood with one detachment where recruits were initiated into the mysteries of pole crossings. The Drivers were, as usual, here, there and anywhere carrying messages. Two of them were attached to a Gunners' Brigade, who also happened to be engaged in Sunday training near Stratford-on-Avon.

Company training in barracks is beginning to take more definite shape as the evenings grow lighter and the attendances improve. The miniature range is kept very busy with potential marksmen determined to give a (more or less) good account of their extra allotment of S.A.A.

Despatch Riders' Club Dance.—A dance organised entirely by the Despatch Riders themselves took place in the Drill Hall on Easter Tuesday, 14th April.

The Commanding Officer, Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, as president of the club, attended accompanied by Mrs. Holdsworth, as did also Lieutenant P. M. Malins.

The distinctive " motoring " touch was given to the Hall by the addition of a number of " No Limit " signs, " Belisha " Beacons " and a working model traffic signal operated by the pianist.

A very pleasant evening resulted, and the Despatch Riders would like to thank particularly those members of the Unit who gave it their support. One is regretfully forced to remark that as an enterprise this effort was worthy of a great deal more support from within than was the case.

Correction.—We are afraid that by an error last month we referred to Major Totterdell as a Yorkshireman. We believe in point of fact that he hails from Sunny Devon. Zorry Zurr !

Congratulations.—A Leap Year " victim " is Sergeant Fellows H. We wish him and Mrs. Fellows all the very best.

In passing it is sad to note that the little " Bachelors' Club " in the Mess seems to be gradually but surely dwindling away. Now we are three !

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, 2.

General.—Once again while everyone enjoys his freedom in the spring sunshine, the WIRE scribe finds himself tied to his typewriter. Material is rather scarce this month, for while training goes on apace there is not a great deal outstanding to report, except a new batch of promotions and appointments.

A squad of 57 recruits is shaping well under the watchful eye of the R.S.M., and we have only 13 vacancies left before we have to report " House Full."

As for the general Section training, this follows its usual lines, with the first of the week-end camps beginning on Sunday, 17th May, with " K " Section taking a trip into the rural area round Arthington. The recruits will taste their first few days under canvas at Whitsuntide, when they will be taken to Arthington for a long week-end.

Arrivals.—We welcome Sergeant Curtis, from Training Battalion, Catterick, on attachment as one of our P.S.I.s, and trust his stay will be a long and happy one.

There have also arrived several dozen bentwood chairs (from Poland), and these have been posted to the Canteen.

The Late R.S.M. Keane.—Acknowledgment, with grateful thanks, is given for donations to the fund opened for the widow of the late R.S.M. Keane A., from the following : 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford ; 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough ; Ex-Warrant Officers and Sergeants who are residing at Keighley ; and also from members of the Air Contingent Signals and 49th Divisional Signals. A total of £58 17s. was raised, of which £37 16s. has been forwarded to Mrs. Keane, while the balance will be devoted to the erection of a tombstone. A photograph will be published in the WIRE at a later date.

Promotions and Appointments.—There has been another shower of stripes, and to the recipients we offer our heartiest congratulations. They are : Promoted Sergeant, Lance Sergeant Benson T. ; Appointed Lance Sergeants (Paid), Corporals Atkinson H., Plunkett J. P., Crossley H., Parker H. ; Lance Corporals Missett J. and Smith H. were promoted Corporals and appointed Lance Sergeants ; Promoted Corporals, Lance Corporals Allen H., Abbott H., Barnes A., Mitchell H. W. L., Appleyard G.,

Bower G. ; Appointed Lance Corporals, Signalmen Ledsham N., Buck J., Fothergill A., Belsham R., Martin A., Smith F. W., Kelly J., Nicholson J. L., Northgreaves H., and Botterill F. All are with effect from 14th April, 1936.

It doesn't seem long since we were rocking one or two of the above in their cradles.

G.O.C.-in-C's. Inspection.—General Sir Alexander Wardrop, K.C.B., C.M.G., A.D.C., will be visiting the Unit and inspecting it in training on 17th June.

Signals Association.—There was an attendance of about 60 at a Signals Association smoker in the Canteen, on 4th May. At a meeting prior to the excellent concert it was decided to start a trip fund immediately for the Reunion of the Northern Command Branch. The gathering was truly one of old comrades and it is hoped that more of the younger serving members of the Unit will attend the next entertainment which is to be held on the first Monday in June.

TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—The Company is training hard and eagerly waiting for the 14th June when we commence Annual Training. We have been told that King Sol intends to be on his best behaviour. We sincerely hope that this is so, and I am sure that a real holiday is in store for us.

Training.—Our Week-end Signal Exercises have been very successful and both " A " and " B " sections have proved themselves past masters in the art of communication.

I have been given to understand that " A " Section have, on each occasion, established communication with all of their wireless sets without aid. Whilst the Cable Section have laid lines for many miles and really got through.

Sport.—I am afraid little has been done in this respect as training has occupied much of our time. The challenge to Headquarters for a Badminton Match still remains unaccepted and we sincerely hope that the professional coach has not lost hope completely, because after all he came to train beginners not experts.

Agony.—Who was the N.C.O. who asked the P.S.I. to " send more clearly " ?

D'TON.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Training is now in full swing, and the boys are doing their utmost to reach 100 per cent. efficiency before going to Camp. We have been fortunate in getting hold of a good batch of recruits, who are doing remarkably well, and by the time we go to Camp they will be feeling like old soldiers. Their attendance at Drills has been excellent. May their reward be the Jennings Cup for Middlesbrough.

Section Signal Exercises have been held as follows : " F " Section, 26th April, 1936 ; " E " Section, 3rd May, 1936 ; " G " Section, 10th May, 1936.

These Exercises have been very well attended, and the Sections have thoroughly enjoyed them. One outstanding feature has been the fine weather they have been favoured with on each occasion. May it continue.

Paint Brushes and Pots are again busy working their six hours (or more). They are always in demand before we proceed to Camp, as they always help to make the old look new.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Introductory.—By the time these notes appear old friendships will be renewed, new friendships made and all the old camaraderie engendered by Camp life will be the order of the day.

We look forward to meeting you once more, No. 1 and No. 2. We look forward to the sporting rivalry with you ; but, somehow, we feel that once again we have no alternative to placing an extra large order for " Silvo." That is the only drawback to the bagging of the Trophies.

Personal.—We are indeed glad to note the return of Captain Percival to the North. (If Dame Rumour is to be believed, London would have liked him to transfer. Fortunately, " transfers " seem to be solely an Arsenal prerogative).

We are also glad that it has been possible for Captain Hopkins to return from abroad in time to be with us for Annual Training. Tempering our pleasure in the foregoing respects, however, is the possibility that, owing to business reasons, Mr. Marks may not be with us this year. But, Sir, what about the Long Jump this year?

We shall arrive in Camp this year under a new P.S.I.—C.S.M. Widgery—a product of the West Country. He has an opinion that our United stand some sort of a chance so long as there's an Argylle in Plymouth to show them how ! ! From India via Plymouth to Gateshead is a pleasant little stroll, but we are glad that Gateshead became his terminus.

Discharges.—Sergeant Watts, M.M. 'Twill be like the " Stilly Night " being thus bereft of your melodious voice this year, Jimmy.

Sergeant Williams. Looks as if we shall have to find another " Muffin Man," Darkie.

We shall miss these two personalities. Good luck to both ; but who knows but what they'll both turn up in Addis—now then!

Promotions.—Congratulations to the undermentioned on their advancement :

Lance Sergeant Campbell to be Sergeant.
Corporal Middlemiss to be Lance Sergeant.
Corporal Davies to be Lance Sergeant.
Lance Corporal McLaren to be Corporal.
Lance Corporal Stephenson to be Corporal.
Signalman Henry to be Lance Corporal.
Signalman Brown T. S., to be Lance Corporal.

To the triers whose names do not appear—nil desperandum.

Recruits.—We welcome this season's recruits. They have, of course, chosen the correct Corps, and it only remains for them to appreciate that they have been accepted for No. 3 Company. Verb. sap.

Last year's recruits put up a splendid show in Camp. To you falls the chance to do even better. Remember, you can be the stalwarts of No. 3 in the years to come and No. 3 has a proud record.

(Note). We DO have a definition of the word Modesty hereabouts so for reasons of self-preservation and the imminence of Camp, these notes on this occasion are forwarded by

A. NON.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—Fonthill Barracks is in the process of reconstruction. We have been invaded by workmen, who are tearing down, building up, and generally making the place barely habitable. However, despite the inconvenience thus caused, training is being carried on successfully.

Recruits are coming along much better this year, but we still require a few more to complete our establishment. We hope to make up our number by the end of May.

The Officers are holding a week-end exercise at Pitlochry on the 29th to 31st of May, and the Company week-end camp will be held later. The place has not yet been decided upon.

St Andrews is again to be the site of our Annual Training in camp this year. We are getting to know the " Home of Golf " fairly well, its familiar and pleasant environments make it an ideal place in which to hold Annual Training. It possesses the advantage of being neither too near Aberdeen nor too far away. It also possesses many facilities both for recreation and training. It is an old-world country town situated by the sea, which gives it an added attraction, and to which it owes its type of soil that produces the correct turf for its famous golf courses. These need no comment here. For those who are town-minded, its complete contrast—Dundee—is only a few miles away. I think I am stating an unanimous opinion when I remark " the familiarity of St. Andrews has not yet begun to pall." We shall all enjoy ourselves as much there this year as we have always done.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Individual training is now in operation and great keenness is being shown by many in the Company. Voluntary courses for Operators and Linemen have started in preparation for the Trade Board, which is due to take place on the 26th of this month.

The Despatch Riders and recruit Linemen are meeting for training on the non-official training nights of each week. The

Drivers are being issued with motor-cycles next week, and the practical side of their course will commence.

Promotions.—We extend our congratulations to Sergeants Harper and Lyon, and also to Lance Sergeants Given and Kay on their promotion to these respective ranks.

Cadre of T.A. Instructors.—Up to date the following have qualified: Sergeant Lyon as Instructor in Linemen's duties. Sergeants Ging and Harper as Instructors in Drill and Weapon Training. C.S.M. Todd and Lance Sergeant Given as Instructors Operator Signals.

Recruits.—The recruits are now all fully equipped and await Adjutant's inspection on 26th May. The Company is at full strength, and has a waiting list from which future recruits will be selected.

Sergeants' Mess.—The members of the Mess spent a most enjoyable day in Glasgow on 18th April, when an outing to the Scottish Cup Final was arranged by the Mess Committee. A full quota of members was present, and each member was allowed to invite one friend. Our R.S.M., Mr. Hillman from Aberdeen, and C.S.M. (Jack) Swatton, were able to accept an invitation extended to them, and their presence was greatly appreciated by all. Other old friends in the form of Sergeant Pendergast from Scottish Command Signal Company, and Mr. J. Ingram, late of this Company, rolled along completing a very happy party. Arrangements for our comfort made by the Committee went without a hitch, as in fact did their whole programme. The match over, tea was partaken in the Bank Restaurant, very welcome too, and the party reached Stirling at 8.30 p.m. After light refreshment, a real old-fashioned sing-song took place. The piano was in the hands of our P.S.I. Sergeant Law J., who complained of blisters for days afterwards. Altogether a very happy day, and one to be remembered. The Committee are to be congratulated on their arrangements, and the whole Mess look forward to their future ideas in the " brighter Stirling " movement.

TUCO.

No. 3 (Kirkaldy) Company.

General.—The trouble about having to write WIRE notes is the difficulty of saying the same thing every month in a different way. I have been looking back over the WIRES of the past few years and have come to the conclusion that much mental exercise and bad language could be saved if every contributor were furnished with form (A.F.000*) (Patent applied for). This form has been used by our scribe for many years and has enabled him to contribute notes of a brilliance and consistency which are at once the envy and example of his rivals in the Unit.

A copy of this form is annexed for information only. Note.—As this form is strictly copyright it may not be reproduced or communicated to the Press or to any persons not in His Majesty's Service. N.B.—Apparently convicts may use the form for their annual letter home providing they can produce satisfactory evidence that they are not merely " Guests " in the " Big Hoose."

A.F.000* Date.

WIRE NOTES.

In pads of 2.

I.—GENERAL.

I have { nothing* / a lot } to say.

II.—TRAINING.

We are a { better / much better } than any other * { Company* / Unit / Section } { Company* / Unit / Section }

III.—SPORT.

We have as usual { Won* / Lost } every competition which we have entered.

although the referee { did his best for the losers* / was most unfair }

IV.—CONGRATULATIONS TO { }

Note. This space may be used for any kind of publicity likely to create the impression that the statements contained in Paras. II are true.

* Cross out words not required.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Wilson Maxwell.—It is many a long day since Wilson Maxwell first passed beneath the portals of Jardine Street. Well over thirty years have passed since Wilson first donned the scarlet and blue of the Lowland Engineers. Our last remaining link with the old Volunteer Territorial days now becomes severed on the termination of the service of C.Q.M.S. Maxwell. A kenspeckle figure was Wilson. Few Unit or Sergeants' Mess functions were complete without him. A Territorial of the old school, Wilson was seen at his best when he appeared in full Mess regalia. He took an honest pride in maintaining the old-time traditions. He rendered much good service to the Lowland Signals and its organisations. C.Q.M.S. Maxwell was at all times a staunch supporter of any movement which had for its object the betterment of his comrades. His place will be hard to fill in the Sergeants' Mess. The Mess owes much of its status as one of the best of its kind in Scotland to Wilson Maxwell. It is good to learn that in this connection the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess is to mark his departure suitably. So we bid farewell to Wilson Maxwell with many regrets. It will be well if those of us who continue to serve follow in his footsteps. Wilson Maxwell's thirty years at Jardine Street might well be described as the best part of a lifetime consecrated to the Territorial cause. His name will go down in the annals of Jardine Street with the honour and respect so richly deserved.

Blossoming Bodys.—We have to congratulate Sergeants' Mess Treasurer Bodys on his promotion to R.Q.M.S. May he long remain undetected and unsuspected. The Bodys fellow certainly possesses every attribute which would qualify him as a " Rajah of the Rogues."

The Rifle Club.—The recently formed Rifle and Revolver Club has not been slow in showing its medals. The club has registered an unqualified success in securing second place in the novel postal competition organised by the 3rd Warwicks, Birmingham. The competition was run on a large scale under the able direction of ex-C.P.O. Morton, of Birmingham. The Jardine Street team did remarkably well to tie for first place with H.M.S. Caroline. On a re-shoot we had to be content with second place and bronze medals. However, our Rifle Club has every reason to be proud of its achievement. There are good grounds for believing that our success in the 3rd Warwicks' competition is but a prelude to bigger things.

No. 3 Company, T.A.—One of the most enterprising and enthusiastic of our Lowland Units, No. 3 Company, has lost no time in getting to work this season. The end of April saw the Company's programme in full swing. There is briskness about the Company's orderly room. The stores are busy. There is much parade ground work, and many technical confabs. The new radio-telephony sets are the subject of much speculation and discussion. These sets should fill a long-felt want in the Company's scheme of things. Arrangements for week-end camps are well in hand. Everything points to a successful climax for No. 3 Company at Gailes Camp in July.

Attention, Atkinson !—We have an enquiry for Sergeant Atkinson F., who is serving out China way. If this catches Fred's eye, we would remind him that a note from China Seas would be welcomed by the Jardine Street WIRE correspondent.

Stamp Collectors' Note.—We would be glad to hear from any member of the Corps who is interested in stamp collecting. Stamp collecting is a Jardine Street sideline which we have not previously mentioned. Our stamp fans are headed by Sergeant Roberts J., of our Permanent Staff, who is a noted West of Scotland collector. Sergeant Roberts would welcome any communications relating to this interesting hobby.

Sergeants' Mess.—The April meeting of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess disclosed a healthy state of affairs. The turnout of members was large and representative. Much important business was transacted in record time. Things have been going smoothly and profitably. There is reason to believe that with the full Mess at Gailes this summer there are even more prosperous times ahead.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

19th May.

General.—The members of the Unit Institute were " at home " to the members of the N.C.O.s' Mess on Thursday, 14th May. This was in return for the hospitality shown by the N.C.O.s to the men at an earlier date. The affair took the form of a games tournament, varying from miniature rifle shooting via ping pong to " pokey die." The evening was a great success, although it is felt that the result (a draw) was more of an imitation of other well-known Unit games tournaments than the strict truth.

Promotions.—Congratulations to the following on their recent promotion to the ranks shown. The hours of work on the N.C.O.s' promotion classes were not wasted.

Sergeant Cox E. E., Lance Sergeants Reed W. L., Frieze A. J., Whitfield F. E., Fenton B. G., King B. L., Spry W. J., Sergeant Smith H. N., Corporals Simpson L., Booth W. J., Rolls G. J., Connop H. P., James A. J., Stevens T. J. G., Lance Sergeant Dowers F. C., Corporals Chivers C. J., Garlick A. S., Dalziel E. F., Lance Corporals Gerrish L., Williams H. J., Phelan B., Howe W. A. J., Lewis W. G., Nelsen F. M., Richards W. R., Bunce G.

Query.—1. Is one of the Officers of the Unit going to be run in for libel by the Company Commanders' Trade Union ? Or will his body be discovered in a mangled condition ?

2. Who said " check " when he wanted the C.S.M. ?

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The Unit is getting more soldierly every day and should you care to visit The Green, Stratford, E.15, you will see recruits being licked into shape on the Square. Trained men are also having a refresher and liking it. Later on we hope (?) to have a little Arms Drill (of course, rifles are needed for this).

Training.—Sections are overhauling stores, etc., in readiness for week-end camps.

Sports.—Should any team care to challenge the Unit at Darts, please communicate with Signalman Butcher N. of No. 1 Company.

Heard on the Square?—Recruit : So that's how they are worn (Puttees) ? Just wrap them round your legs and put the green things on the bottom.

Sergeant : Yes, laddie.

Recruit : Why aren't you wearing yours ?

Sergeant : I haven't passed out yet. " Gertcha."

Jewish.—Have you changed your religion yet Norman ?

BLACK DOG.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool 7.

13th May.

These notes must be inclusive of three months' events, as owing to the strain imposed by Section Training the contributor has been mentally unbalanced.

March and April were apportioned for Section Training, which has been superseded by Company Training. Company Commanders have drawn up ambitious programmes, which will prepare the Unit for Annual Training. Halton, near Lancaster, is to be honoured by the Unit this year. Everyone is anticipating a very successful fortnight. Halton is a satisfactory spot for a camp. It is ideal for work and handy for bathing at Morecambe, and for walking and explorations to the Lakes.

It is the Commanding Officer's ambition to take to camp a Unit up to its full strength. At Liverpool, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies both need only a dozen between them, and soon should be able to boast " house full." At Prescot, a more limited recruiting ground, No. 2 Company is not in quite such a satisfactory position, but as anyone at Prescot will tell you, quality is preferable to quantity. We are out to win the " Daily Telegraph " Cup this year, and mean to have a jolly good try for it.

Whilst on the subject of recruits, I have met recently several men aged about 35 or 36, who have patriotic notions and would be only too pleased to render service and give the benefit of their service in the T.A., but they are too old to be accepted. Some of them have war experience and would undoubtedly exert a good influence in the ranks, and yet, although in their prime, no opportunity offers to take advantage of their willingness.

No. 3 Company entered the Inter-Division Small Bore Shooting Competition, and have every reason to be satisfied with the result of their first attempt. Although not qualifying for the final, the Company headed the list of non-finalists, being only two points behind two of the leaders. Indeed, the Company actually scored more points than some of the teams which qualified in the East Lancashire Division. Our very good friends, No. 3 Company S.R. Signals finished only one point behind the T.A. Team. The latter must ensure that the positions are not reversed next year. Perhaps on that occasion we will fire in our range at the new barracks. So far there is no sign of buildings, only a site with a board intimating that it is there our new barracks will be erected. I do not agree with those who say that the board is really a declaration that the site is to be preserved for all time as an open space. A suggestion that potatoes might successfully be grown on the site for the use of the Unit at camp was not successful.

On Thursday, 7th May, the Commanding Officer presented Efficiency Medals to the following : R.Q.M.S. Cassidy T. F., C.S.M. Vernon W. H. D.C.M., Sergeant Hancox L. C.

Others who have earned the Medal, but who were not present on the above date, are : Sergeant Lyon J., Corporal Ecclestone G., Signalman James J. B.

A very fine record, an envious record, and one to be emulated by the younger members of the Unit.

I am sorry to record the departure, to 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough, of R.S.M. Todd M.B.E. We extend to him, Mrs. Todd and family the Unit's warmest wishes for a happy and successful future. The Sergeants' Mess presented Mr. Todd with a handsome wristlet watch.

The Officers' Mess is the recipient of two gifts. The C.S.O. Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., has given us a very fine print, and Mr. Potter, who recently was gazetted to the King's Regiment, presented a silver tankard. Both gifts will help in the embellishment of the new Mess when we move in.

An affair which is now past history, but which lingers gratefully in the memory was the final Officers' Hot-Pot, held on 26th March. This date happily marked the birthday of Lieutenant-Colonel Cobb, and we resolved to present him with a cake worthy of the occasion. At an appropriate moment a slightly sombre procession wound itself through the Mess, to halt in front of the C.S.O. The Commanding Officer made the presentation, and Lieutenant-Colonel Cobb extinguished all the twenty-one candles with one puff. To any who might remark that twenty-one could hardly represent the age of a C.S.O., we would reply that age, in our opinion, is a condition of the heart and liver and not a matter of years.

Colonel Cobb, rather selfishly, declined to cut into his cake, explaining that on the morrow he would be having visitors to tea, whom he wished to regale with the confection.

It was a happy thought to buy a gramophone record of a dance hit called " Many happy returns of the day " ; this was switched on at the proper time and heartily accompanied.

A very senior member of the Mess assumed the onerous duty of Comptroller-of-the-Radio-Gramophone, and I declare that nobody could have performed the task in a more worthy and dignified manner. With what verve and elan did he release the spring, and yet few of those who could not stifle a gasp of admiration for his skill, realised the labour, the immense patience expended to make the performer word perfect. Only a small number was aware of the occasions on which he stole up to the Mess on non-parade nights and occupied himself practising, timing and bringing to the performance that mechanical perfection which evoked the involuntary tribute on the night itself. When it was all over and the Comptroller retired modestly to a corner to smoke and chew his scented plug, he wore the contented look of one who has fulfilled his duty to the uttermost.

Mr. T. J. Craig has recently achieved his second pip. Congratulations to him and may his third be not too far distant.

Here is a small batch of marriages and births that it is my pleasure to record.

Marriages.—Signalman Smith W., to Miss Harriet Aldridge. Lance Sergeant Greenall G. E., to Miss Nellie McNeil.

Births.—To Lance Corporal McCarthy and Mrs. McCarthy, a son. To Signalman Neal and Mrs. Neal, a son. To Signalman Forsyth T. M., and Mrs. Forsyth, a son. To Corporal Barry and Mrs. Barry, a son.

To all of these the Unit's congratulations and best wishes.

Finally may I extend to the S.R.s (No. 3 Company) good wishes for the success of their camp, which will be in progress early in June.

FIVE-FIVE.

City of London Signals.

" Signal House," 20 Atkins Road, London, S.W.12.

The London Divisional Signals Annual Dinner—18th April.—This function, postponed from January on account of the death of His late Majesty King George V, was the first of its kind. Previously each of the three Companies had organised its own entertainment.

The evening was a great success and proved the wisdom of the experiment.

A verbatim report of the speeches made is not available, but the following precis of reports which appeared in the local press are worthy of insertion in these notes.

The toast of " The City of London Signals " was proposed by Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., Commanding Officer 1930-5. He referred to the change in title of the Unit necessitated by the formation of the London Division. He spoke with pride of the progress made in recruiting during his period of command and of the even more rapid progress during the past few months. He pointed out that, out of a strength of 300, nearly 250 must have joined the Unit during the few years the Unit had been at Clapham. He prophesied that the London Divisional Signals would be the second of the larger Signal Units in London to be up to strength.

Colonel A. C. C. Willway, the Commanding Officer, replied to this toast.

He reminded his audience that the theme of all their gatherings for the past four or five years had been recruiting. Now that the goal for which they had striven so long was nearly achieved and the Unit was almost up to strength they must not relax their efforts. They must continue to strive for something more. Before coming to Clapham they had one of the worst Headquarters in London in an area where they could not get in touch with the type of men they wanted. Colonel Ozanne had made a very wise choice in selecting Clapham Park for his new Headquarters. There were few Territorial Army Headquarters in London which were as good as Signal House and certainly none better.

Colonel Ozanne must be very proud of his achievement in raising the strength of the Unit in the way that he had.

He (Colonel Willway) had taken over the command at a much more favourable time than had Colonel Ozanne.

Having so nearly got the Unit up to strength they must continue with recruiting and try still more to raise the standard of technical efficiency of the Unit. He knew that none of them were afraid of hard work.

R.Q.M.S. Waite proposed the toast of " Communications," and emphasised the importance of the work of the Royal Corps of Signals in providing the communications of the modern army. It was up to all members of the City of London Signals to fit themselves for this important task.

Colonel J. C. Denison Pender, the Honorary Colonel of the Unit, replied to the toast of " Communications." He referred to the provision of motor cycles for the Display, and assured Colonel Willway of his support of the Unit in all its activities. He referred to his pride in being Honorary Colonel of the City of London Signals.

After the dinner an excellent variety concert was provided by the Argylle Entertainers.

Reunion of the Old Comrades' Association of 38th Divisional Signals, " F " Divisional Signals and Kohat Divisional Signals.—This function was held at Signal House on Saturday, 25th April, when over 50 sat down to dinner.

Amongst those present were: Lieutenant-Colonel V. W. H. Duke, O.B.E., M.C., who is President of the Association, and Captain E. H. Jones, D.C.M., who is Vice-President.

Major G. P. Pavey, M.B.E., Major C. F. L. Ruck, Colonel G. D. Ozanne and Mrs. Ozanne were the guests of the Association.

Captain E. H. Jones, in his speech, referred to the absence of Mr. Saville and others who were unable, for one reason or another, to be present. The company then stood for one minute in silence as a mark of respect for the late C.Q.M.S. Small, who died recently at Kohat.

A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Springett and Cory for their work in organising the Association and this dinner and reunion.

All ex-Service members of Kohat District Signals are cordially invited to get into communication with the Secretary of the Old Comrades' Association of 38th and " F " Divisional Signals and Kohat District Signals.

The address of the Secretary is: Mr. F. Springett, 36, Geraldine Road, Wandsworth, S.W.18, or care of Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.

21st Anniversary of the Landing of the 29th Division at Gallipoli.—The origin of the City of London Signals was in the 1st London Divisional Signal Company, Royal Engineers, Territorial Force, who, in 1915, formed part of the famous 29th Division when they forced a landing on the shores of Gallipoli.

It was fitting, therefore, that The London Divisional Signals, City of London Signals, T.A., should take part in the celebrations of the 21st anniversary of that landing.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster W. J. Barnes, D.C.M., who served with the second line Unit raised from a Cadre of the 1st London Divisional Signal Company, R.E., T.F., attended the anniversary dinner of the 29th Division Association as the representative of this Unit.

On Sunday, 26th April, Lieutenant J. W. Morgan and seven other ranks attended the memorial parade on the Horse Guards' Parade Ground and at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

The following letter was received by the Commanding Officer from Lieutenant-General Sir Alymer Hunter-Weston of Hunterston, K.C.B., D.S.O., J.P., D.L., who commanded the 29th Division:

> " The Association very much appreciated having your detachment at the Parade on Sunday.
>
> " I thought their general bearing and turn-out was excellent and it was really delightful to see such a representative Cadre of the old Division."

The 29th Divisional Signal Company R.E., T.F., Old Comrades' Association also took part in the parade; amongst them were the following who are still serving in the City of London Signals: C.S.M. Tyrell F. of No. 3 Company, The London Divisional Signals, T.A., and Sergt. Harris G. of L. of C. Signals, S.R.

After the parade all ranks were entertained to lunch at Lyon's Corner House.

Royal Artillery, London Division T.A., Ceremonial Church Parade, 3rd May.—Over one thousand Officers and Other Ranks took part in this parade and the London Divisional Signals was represented by " E," " F " and " G " Artillery Brigade Signal Sections, each of which marched at the head of their respective Artillery Brigades.

The parade was commanded by Colonel C. F. Liardet, D.S.O., T.D., Commander, Royal Artillery, The London Division, and took the form of a Drum Head Service on the Horse Guards Parade. The parade then moved off via the Mall, Constitution Hill, R.A. Memorial, Apsley Gate to Hyde Park, where the Director General of the Territorial Army, Lieutenant-General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., took the salute as the troops marched past.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, was present at the parade.

Annual Training—Supplementary Reserve.—Nos. 21 and 22 Cable Sections S.R. and nearly all the D.R.s of No. 4 Company proceeded to Aldershot on the 10th May to take part in the War Office Exercise.

No. 21 Construction Section S.R. proceeded to Tidworth on 10th May to assist in the construction of an Air Line Route which is required for testing purposes.

A report of their activities will appear in next month's WIRE notes.

Despatch Riders' Display.—The Despatch Riders have started rehearsals, under Mr. R. E. Denison Pender and C.S.M. Angell E. J. Judging by the photographs which appear from time to time in the press they are preparing a Display which is well up to standard.

The Rudge Whitworth motor cycles are jumping really well and although being jumped hard and regularly they have so far shown no signs of any weakness. Owing to their capability for very rapid acceleration, it is possible to get a big jump with only a very short run up to the ramp, a very great advantage in display work. These machines are already jumping 30-35 feet. The height of the ramp used is at present lower than normal, so that the performers who are not yet accustomed to jumping can get used to it.

Medals.—All Ranks were very glad to read of the award of the Efficiency Medal (Territorial) to C.Q.M.S. Elliott A. E., No. 2 Company; Sergeant Rhodes A. F., No. 1 Company; and ex-C.Q.M.S. Mennie R. C.

The Unit congratulates them heartily, also R.Q.M.S. Smith of the Line of Communication Signals S.R. on his being awarded the Efficiency Medal (Militia).

C.O.L.S.

SPORTS NOTES

"D" Company Training Battalion.

General.—Now that the Football Season has terminated we are settling down to Cricket practice, and hope to turn out a strong team this season. If we do as well at Cricket as we did at Football (we won the Mackworth Trophy), we will be satisfied.

Boxing.—The Company Boxing Team were successful in winning the Inter-Company Boxing Shield. This year it was run on the " Knock-out " basis (in more ways than one), instead of Company's fighting each other and then taking the best average, as in recent years.

We met Mounted Wing first and defeated them by the small margin of two points. This was rather a " feat " as Mounted Wing boasted of a good team. In the final we defeated " E " Company (although they were an odds on chance), by the same small margin. The competition was contested very keenly, and the exhibition of good clean boxing was a credit to the competitors. A photograph of the members of the winning team is attached.

Three of our team (Signalmen Sutton, Cook and Trower), were selected to fight for the S.T.C. against 50th Divisional Signals (T.A.). An account of this meeting appeared in last month's edition of THE WIRE.

Athletics.—In spite of the Company's efforts in this respect, we were not in the running for the Mackworth Trophy this year. No doubt the winning team will give an account of the meetings, so there is no necessity for me to repeat it. We congratulate " F " on their success in carrying off the Mackworth Trophy and Pinsent Cup.

Hockey.—We have entered for the Garrison Summer Hockey League, but up to the time of going to press no matches have been played.

Swimming.—Now that Sandes' Home Baths have opened for the Summer Session, we are training our swimmers, so don't be surprised when you hear about the next Channel Swimmer, to read " He used to be in ' D ' Company (way back ?)".

H.E.S.

"F" Company Training Battalion.

Athletics.—Our sports notes this month are very short, but very sweet, having tasted the fruits of victory once more.

" Mackworth " Trophy.—" F " Company managed to retain the " Mackworth " Athletic Trophy after a very hard fight with the School of Signals. School won the first meeting by a margin of four points. The second meeting was a week afterwards, and we were able to reshuffle our team in such a manner that we pulled off a victory by half a point.

The all-important third meeting was fought out hardly and fairly right to the last ditch, and again " F " Company won by half a point.

Individual Meeting and " Pinsent " Trophy.—" F " Company again proved successful and scored many individual honours, School filling second place, but this time we made our victory a little more convincing, which was due primarily to the exceptionally good performances of 2nd Lieutenant Stonestreet, who won the Victor Ludorum with a very high number of successes.

Congratulations to all our runners on the fine show they have put up in all meetings, the results of which are being published elsewhere.

ONLOOKER.



"D" COMPANY BOXING TEAM, 1936.
Left to Right—Back Row : Signalmen McGee D., Cook T., Mason, Strype H. Walsh P.
Centre : Signalman Trower J., R.Q.M.S. Cutler J. A., Major D. H. Du Cros, Lance Sergeant Bigg E., Signalman Dawson.
Sitting : Signalmen Sutton and Richmond R.

Signal Training Centre Notes.

S.T.C. Athletics.—The three Mackworth Athletic Meetings have been held and resulted in a win for " F " Company for the third year in succession. The Boys are to be congratulated on a great performance. The runners-up this year were the School of Signals who, having won the first meeting, were defeated by half a point in each of the two following meetings. This very close result was the cause of some exciting racing, the issue being in doubt up to the very last race. Dismounted Wing came third, Mounted Wing fourth, " E " Company fifth and " D " Company sixth. It was again very noticeable that the three leading teams had adhered as far as possible to a schedule of training on the lines indicated by F. A. M. Webster. The results speak for themselves.

Individual Meeting.—The Individual Athletics were held on 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th May, and a list of the Individual winners is given below.

Event.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	Winner's Time, etc.
100 Yds. ..	Sgm. Barrett.	2/Lt. Stonestreet.	Capt. Boileau.	10 3/10s.
220 Yds. ..	Sgm. Barrett.	2/Lt. Stonestreet.	Capt. Boileau.	22 3/5s.
440 Yds. ..	2/Lt. Stonestreet.	L/Cpl. Bucke.	Sgm. Strutt.	53 2/5s.
880 Yds. ..	L/Cpl. Bucke.	2/Lt. Barnes.	Boy Roberts D.	2m. 8s.
1 Mile	2/Lt. Barnes.	Sgm. Craig.	Boy Roberts D.	4m. 56s.
3 Miles ..	Sgm. Mackinnon.	Sgm. Craig.	Boy Butler.	16m. 13s.
120 Yds. Hurdles	2/Lt. Atkinson.	Cpl. Smith.	Sgm. Hircoe.	17 4/5s.
High Jump ..	2/Lt. Atkinson.	Cpl. Gibson.	2/Lt. Stonestreet. Boy Barrett.	5ft. 3ins.
Long Jump ..	2/Lt. Stonestreet.	Lt. Whiteway-Wilkinson.	L/Cpl. Boy Player.	20ft. 8ins.
Pole Vault ..	Cpl. Gibson. Boy Harding.	Sgm. Sheppard. Boy Athow. Sgm. Beavan.		8ft. 9ins.
Weight ..	L/Cpl. Large.	Lt. Cole.	L/Cpl. Beck.	33ft. 2ins.
Hammer ..	Cpl. Routledge.	Lt. Smyth.	Lt. Ridley-Martin.	94ft. 8ins.
Discus ..	Sgm. Gibbons.	L/Cpl. McGuigan.	Capt. Boileau.	100ft. 2ins.
Javelin ..	Boy Adams	Cpl. Frazer	Dvr. Marsden.	152f. 1½ins.
Winners of Pinsent Cup		" F " Company.		
Individual Cup		2/Lt. Stonestreet.		

Full details will be given in next month's WIRE.

School of Signals.

Rugby.—The photograph is of the School Rugger Team, after winning the Mackworth Trophy Rugby Shield this year.

Reading left to right, the names are :

BACK ROW—Signalmen Walters, Williams, Peck, Driver Marsden, Signalmen Armitage, Nicholson and Quinn.

FRONT ROW—Lieutenant J. E. S. Sanders, Signalman Hall, Captain T. W. Boileau, Lieutenant D. M. Smyth, Signalmen Beck, Todd, Cooper, Lieutenant H. V. Ewbank.

SITTING—Signalman Lutener, Lance Corporal Pearson.

Cricket.—Our Cricket Season has now commenced in earnest and from the talent displayed we should have a good side together by the time the Mackworth Trophy Competition commences. " D " Company please note. The School has a great deal of leeway to make up in this branch of sport, and this year promises to be a most successful season.

We have played one match to date, against Scruton C.C., on our ground, which ended in a win for the School by 7 wickets. We were rather too strong for them, but the game enabled us to derive some practice. After tea the game continued, each side batting one hour. In the match itself Scruton batted first, but against good bowling by Chitty and Young found runs hard to get ; the last wicket fell at 39. Chitty took 3 wickets for 6 runs in 6 overs, 3 of which were maidens, while Young took 4 wickets for 9 runs in 9 overs, 2 of which were maidens.

The fielding of the School side was very good and no chances were wasted. Signalman Wilson threw down the wicket very smartly to run out No. 9 batsman. The School knocked off the runs with the loss of only three wickets, innings of 22 (not out), and 24 by Lieutenant Sanders and Corporal Watterton respectively being the best performances. In the later play Chitty had a bright knock which brought him 36 runs.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Athletics.—On 29th and 30th April, 3rd Divisional Signals held a sports meeting, in which Tank Brigade Signals and " E " Troop, Tidworth, and the three Companies from 3rd Divisional Signals took part.

Tank Brigade Signals won the meeting with 63 points, No. 1 Company being second and winning the Inter-Company Shield with 61 points.

It was a very good meeting and the competition very keen. The events were :

4 x 100 yds. Relay. 4 x 220 yds. Relay. 4 x 440 yds. Relay. 4 x 880 yds. Relay. One Mile Team. Three Miles Team. 4 x 120 yds. Hurdles. Putting the Shot (team of two). Throwing the Hammer (team of two). Throwing the Javelin (team of two). Throwing the Discus (team of two). High Jump (team of two). Long Jump (team of two). Pole Vault (team of two).

We have discovered a lot of new talent and have great hopes for later in the season.

Our individual championships are on 18th and 19th May.



SCHOOL OF SIGNALS RUGBY TEAM.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Football.—Once again the curtain has been rung down on another season of football in Scarborough—certainly not with honours in the form of cups and medals, but honours for the determined efforts of a team, the remnants of the 5th Divisional Signals, to keep the flag flying during the absence of its members taken on emergency drafts. Competing only in Second Division football and with barely a dozen players from whom to select a team, the Unit has battled its way through to finish runners-up in the League—a very creditable performance. In cup ties one semi-final stage was reached, the semi-final of the Scarborough Hospital Cup. With a spot of luck the final would have been reached. It so happened that victory went to the Scarborough Juniors F.C., our very close friends, the score being 4 goals to 2. This encounter stands out well above other games as the match of the season, neither side deserving to lose. Thus the Juniors had their revenge, as it was our good fortune to meet and defeat this club in the final of 1934-35. Incidentally, the Juniors were responsible for our exit from the Whitby Hospital Cup Competition, and so the second of our two cups passed out of our hands. Congratulations to the Juniors, who have equalised our record by winning both Hospital Cups in the same season.

Drawn against Pickering Town F.C. in the League Cup, Signals had to withdraw owing to inability to raise a team on the date the tie was arranged.

Turning to League activities, it will be noticed in the summary of results below Filey Town 2nd XI were trounced at the Barracks by 7 goals to 1 (Haughton 6); this was their biggest defeat in League history. Similarly, three points were secured from Scalby F.C., another record for Divisional Signals. Over a century of goals were scored; details of goal scorers are not to hand, but Sergeant Clarke is to be congratulated upon helping himself to at least 50 per cent. of the total scored. An individual performance by Signalman Haughton is worthy of mention. Playing at centre-forward (usual role goalkeeper), he scored six of the seven goals registered against Filey.

It may be of interest to record that, whilst staying in Scarborough on Easter furlough from Catterick, Boy Harding, eldest son of Lieutenant P. Harding, Royal Signals (Unit Lieutenant-Quartermaster), turned out at short notice for the Unit and played a remarkable game at centre-forward for his age (16½). He scored two fine goals. If this performance is any criterion, the Corps is going to have a ready-made centre-forward to join the ranks in a couple of years' time.

	Home.	Away.
v. Oriel	Won 1—0	Lost 4—3
v. Filey	Won 7—1	Lost 7—3
v. Scalby	Draw 0—0	Won 1—4
v. Y.M.C.A.	Won 4—1	Lost 7—5
v. Gristhorpe	Won 10—1	Lost 4—1
v. Junior Imps	Won 6—0	Won 0—11
v. Corporation	Won 4—1	Won 1—3
v. Ayton	Won 4—2	Lost 3—1
v. Electric	Won 14—1	Won 0—6
v. Cayton	Won 7—1	Won 1—8

SCARBOROUGH AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

DIVISION II.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
Filey II	20	16	2	2	96	30	34
Signals II	20	14	5	1	102	36	29
Scalby	19	10	2	7	58	18	27
Oriel	20	12	6	2	54	32	26
Gristhorpe	20	12	7	1	56	43	25
Y.M.C.A.	20	10	7	3	54	60	23
Ayton	20	7	8	5	72	52	19
Imps II	20	5	10	5	62	70	15
Corporation	20	5	12	3	50	62	13
Cayton	20	2	17	1	26	118	5
Electric	19	1	18	0	27	110	2

Note: Match Scalby v. Electric unplayed.

Finally, thanks are due to all who have given up their half-days either to play or support soccer in the Unit. It is also hoped that my successor as secretary-manager-cum-can-carrier (shades of the big boat) may be afforded the same support in the future as I have during the past five years. Adios!

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Hockey.—The Unit entered a team for the Garrison Hockey Cup (British) and without a doubt it was one of the best teams turned out by this Company for a long time.

In the first round we met the Headquarters Wing of the Leicesters. It was a great match, well worth watching from beginning to end—a clean and clever game. The first goal was scored by the Leicesters within the first few minutes, from a quick rush down the field by their right winger. Both teams then settled down to some really clever play, giving both goalies a busy time. Goals came in quick succession, the half-time score being 3—3. Mention must be made of the clever play of our forward line. Whitehead especially was a source of trouble to the other team. In the second half our goalie had a well-deserved rest while the play was in the other half. The result was a win for us by 5 goals to 3. (Whitehead 2, Locke 2, Durnam 1.)

In the next round, which was the semi-final, we met "B" Company of the Leicesters. This again was a very good match to watch, and, although we kept most of the play in the Leicesters' half of the field, we came away as spectators and not competitors in the final, losing to the Leicesters by 3 goals to 2. (Whitehead 2.)

Athletics.—On Easter Monday the Tabloid Sports were held between all Companies, nine teams competing. In spite of the very short notice given, "A" Company turned out a team of six, who, without any training, put up a jolly good show against the Indian teams. We finished second, "D" Company Right first, and "C" Company Right third. It is a long time since "A" Company have climbed so far up the ladder in such a sports meeting, and next time we are looking forward to an even better result. The team was Lance Corporal Price, Signalmen Scanlan, Traill, Henrick, Newell and Bourner.

They all had the following events to do: Long jump, discus, putting the shot, 440 yards and 100 yards. Scanlan won his 100 yards and Joe Price came second in his 100. Scanlan, Price, Bourner and Newell came in second in their respective runs of 440 yards. Henrick, although a bit slow on the track, showed us how to throw the discus—as a matter of fact he was nearly warned off the field for dangerous throwing. "How far was it, Baron Von?"

All those interested are pleased to hear that Bennett (late Jubb.) pulled himself to the front of the Signals in the "mile" during the 'Pindi Sports. Keep it up, Ben—don't forget the old G——s "D."

RIP.

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THE WIRE

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VOL. XVII.—No. 197 JULY, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, G.B.E., to Aldershot, 1936.—Apropos Editorial Notes in our May, 1936, issue. It is notified for the information of all concerned that the date on which Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal, will pay her first official visit to Mons Barracks, Aldershot, as Colonel - in - Chief of Royal Signals, has definitely been fixed for Monday, 5th October, 1936.

Details of the final arrangements will be published in these columns at a later date.

Presentation.—We are authorised to announce that the Officers of the Corps have presented swords to the following Inspectors of Permanent Communications, and Lieutenants-Quartermaster, on their recent promotion to Commissioned rank: Lieutenants (Inspectors of Permanent Communications) C. H. Beattie, G. Wray, M.M., S. C. McGregor, A. H. Britton, R. A. McIntosh, C. S. Roberts, M.B.E., and Lieutenants-Quartermaster J. A. Burgess and G. F. C. Kneebone.

REWARD! RECRUITING!

To all whom it may concern:

Do not read this unless you are proud of your Corps and think that the Army offers a good life.

The Royal Corps of Signals is in need of recruits, and it may not be known generally that all soldiers are potential recruiters and that a reward of 4s. and three days' extension of furlough is given to any soldier for each recruit he brings in who is attested by a recruiting officer.

When going on furlough apply to your Unit office for some of the Royal Signals' recruiting pamphlets which give information about the Corps to prospective recruits.

This is your chance to combine business and pleasure in a profitable manner.

Everest Expedition, 1936.—The following telegram, recently received from Lieutenant Smijth - Windham, with the Everest Expedition, is published hereunder for general information:

To Colonel Chenevix-Trench, War Office, London.

All equipment survived arduous journey main Stations Darjeeling Camp One working satisfactorily stop Gavin taking high altitude sets up glacier expect full system in operation by eighteenth—Signals Everest.

Our Readers are referred to Signals Association Notes on page 274 of this issue for an account of the recent Reunion gatherings of Royal Signals Old Comrades at Aldershot and Bulford.

General Sir Robert A. Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., A.D.C., Commander-in-Chief India, as Colonel-Commandant Indian Signal Corps.—The following telegrams to and from the Commander-in-Chief India, on his appointment as Colonel-Commandant Indian Signal Corps are published hereunder for general information :

Copy of telegram to Commander-in-Chief :

Colonels-Commandant and all ranks Royal Signals offer warmest congratulations on appointment of your Excellency to be Colonel-Commandant Indian Signal Corps.

Copy of telegram from Commander-in-Chief :

Grateful thanks for your message and my best wishes to yourself and all ranks of the Royal Signals.

North of England Old Comrades Reunion, 1936.—By kind permission of The Commandant, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, the Northern Branch of Signals Association, Old Comrades Reunion will be held at Catterick Camp on Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th September.

Will those who wish to be present on that occasion kindly notify Mr. T. Wilson, Honorary Secretary, North of England Branch Signals Association, Headquarters Northern Command, York, at their early convenience.

Royal Signals Band.—By special request we publish hereunder particulars of the visits and engagements of Royal Signals Band during the remainder of the forthcoming season :

21st June—3rd July ..	Scarborough.
4th—8th July ..	5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.
12th July	Dewsbury.
2nd—8th August ..	Southend-on-Sea.
16th—22nd August ..	Hastings.
23rd August—6th September	Torquay.
12th September ..	Old Comrades Reunion, Catterick.

Corps Promotion Roster (Pocket Edition), 1936. Revised to date.—The 1936 revised edition of the Corps Promotion Roster is now on sale and can be obtained on application to this office, price 1s. per copy, post free.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

Situations Vacant.—The 47th Divisional Signals (T.A.), stationed at Fulham, has a vacancy for a Civilian Storeman, the wages are £2 7s. 6d. per week. It is desired to employ a pensioned ex-soldier of the Corps, who has had experience in Quartermaster Store work and the successful candidate will be required to enlist in the Unit under a Territorial attestation. Applications, stating qualifications, should be addressed to The Adjutant, 47th Divisional Signals (T.A.), Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, London, S.W.6.

Situations Wanted.—In view of the difficulty which has been experienced during recent years in accommodating potential employers with suitably qualified candidates for domestic employment, it is notified for general information that now we have two Married Couples seeking situations of that description, the male applicant in each case being a fully qualified chauffeur. Further particulars can be obtained on application to this office.

Annual Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades, Aldershot, 1936.—The decision to hold this deservedly popular function earlier than usual this year, met with some criticism from those who doubted the wisdom of drastically rearranging a sequence of events with which Royal Signals Old Comrades are all now thoroughly familiar.

This departure from the accepted order of things resulted in visitors arriving at the beginning of Signals Week instead of the two concluding days, and they were consequently greeted by rows of deserted tents and piled-up seating accommodation in striking contrast to the animated scenes which they are accustomed to anticipate on the Sports Ground. An unpromising reception enough, and one that seemed to confirm the pessimists' initial impression that the function was doomed to failure, but this was dispelled quickly by the warm welcome and characteristic hospitality of our Aldershot hosts.

The state of the wicket on Saturday, 23rd May, necessitated the proposed cricket match between serving Officers and senior N.C.O.s versus Old Comrades being abandoned, and the latter were, therefore, received at the Sergeants' Mess, where they remained very happily entertaining themselves throughout the afternoon, welcoming old friends, resurrecting memories of other such happy days, and generally enjoying wholeheartedly the spontaneous reception accorded to them by their time-serving comrades.

Visitors continued to arrive without cessation throughout the afternoon, and the limited accommodation of the Sergeants' Mess was soon filled to capacity with guests from all over the country. The capable staff behind the bar dealt with orders fired at them from all angles with promptitude and despatch, until tea was served at 5 p.m. After an enjoyable and satisfying meal the Old Comrades evacuated the Mess in favour of the ladies and adjourned to the Men's Dining Hall where a Smoking Concert brought to an end a thoroughly pleasant day.

The young ladies Accordion Band, which opened the programme with a selection of popular melodies, was loudly applauded, and Lieutenant W. M. Ponsonby who followed them with an exhibition of conjuring, which would have done credit to a professional performer, met with an enthusiastic reception from a large and appreciative audience. No less well received were the intrepid voluntary artists who responded to the M.C.'s invitation to take the stage, and in whose choruses the assembly joined with, it must be said, more vigour than melody, but with infinite zest.

The parade on Sunday, 24th May, was exceptionally well attended, and the Old Comrades fell in for Church on the left flank of the Guard Room under the critical eye of a considerable crowd of spectators. Forming fours with a dexterity born of long practice, they were played on to the Parade Ground at the head of the Regular Units of Aldershot Command Signals, and en route to Church occupied their customary place of honour behind the Band. After Church the parade reassembled in similar formation, and Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant Royal Signals, supported by Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., Chief Signal Officer Aldershot Command, took the salute on the return journey to Barracks.

Reforming on the Parade Ground the Old Comrades stood fast when the Regular Units of Aldershot Command Signals were dismissed, and the Brigadier, accompanied by Colonel G. E. Sampson and Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., passed down the line greeting visitors. A group photograph was afterwards taken and is reproduced in this issue. Following this the visitors adjourned to the Institute where they were later joined by the Officers who, with customary tact, had deferred arrival sufficiently long to enable the guests to have their individual requirements attended to at the bar.

When the initial assault had been dealt with, and the assembly had sufficiently recovered from their exertions of the morning to take an intelligent interest in the proceedings, the Brigadier rose to speak. He addressed his remarks to " Old Comrades and Old Friends," and after describing his pleasure at being able to welcome them all again, took the opportunity to convey Colonel Sampson's apology for not being able to arrange the Annual Sports to coincide with their visit as in previous years.

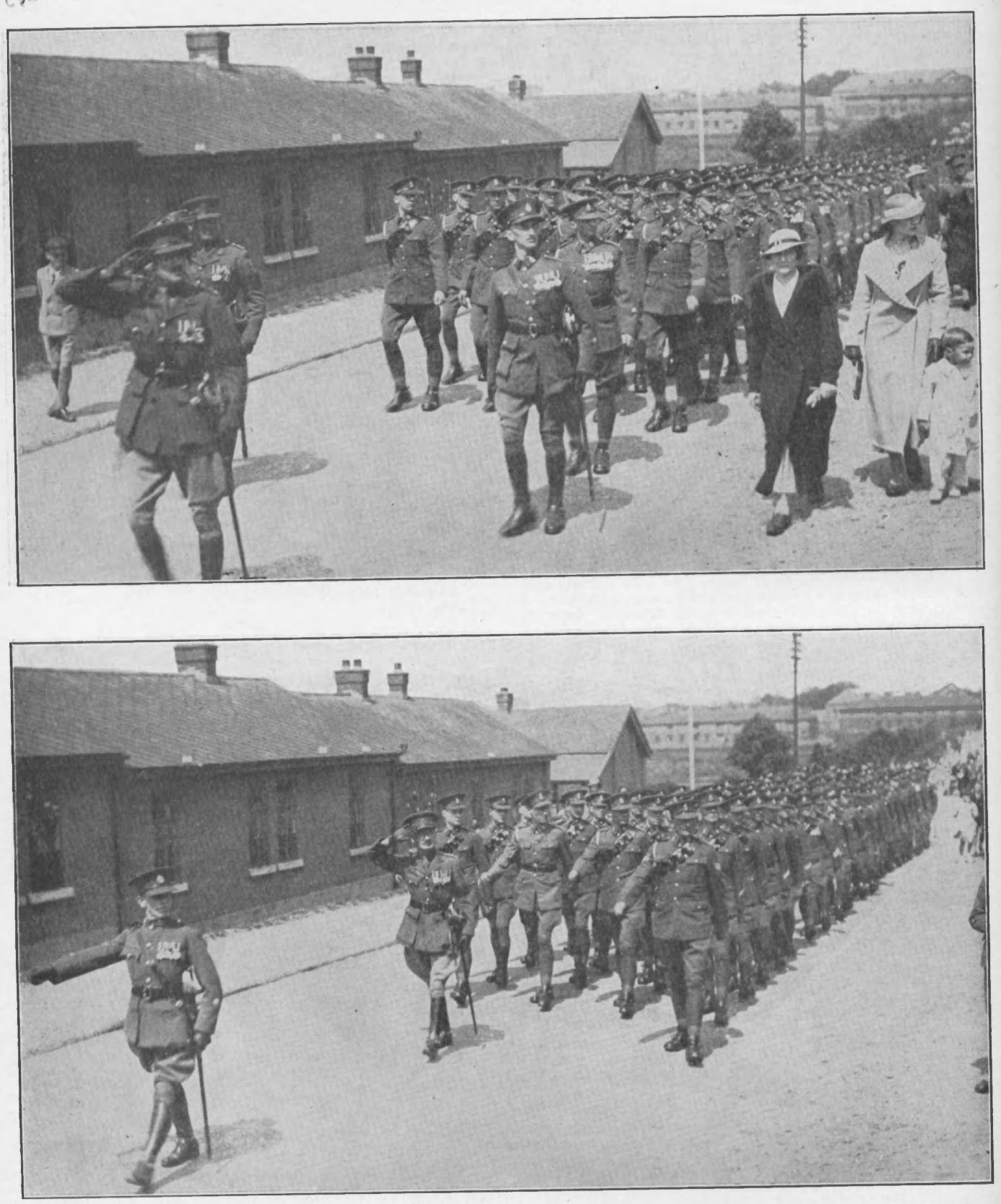
On behalf of Colonel G. E. Sampson, his Officers, and all other ranks in the Aldershot Command, he extended a cordial welcome to the Old Comrade visitors and trusted that they would have the pleasure of meeting again next year. He referred to the hard work necessary to ensure the success of such a function, and after expressing his appreciation of our hosts for their kind and generous hospitality, received a deafening response to his call for three cheers for Colonel G. E. Sampson, his Officers and all other ranks in the Aldershot Command.

Commenting upon the honour paid to the Corps by his late Majesty's appointment of H.R.H. The Princess Royal to be our Colonel-in-Chief, the Brigadier appealed to his listeners to demonstrate their continued interest in the welfare of the Corps by associating themselves actively with the question of Recruiting which, he said, was in a bad way. The Army as a whole was short of 11,000 men, but what was even more important from our point of view was the fact that Signals, too, were seriously below





[*Photos by Wm. May & Co., Ltd., Aldershot.*]



[Photos by Wm. May & Co., Ltd., Aldershot.]

establishment. He reminded Old Comrades that by virtue of their own service, no one was in a better position than they to know the type of man required, and asked that in future they would do all they could to obtain Recruits by stimulating interest in the Corps amongst likely men. In conclusion the Brigadier referred to his immense pleasure at seeing so many " young " Old Comrades present, and expressed the hope that not only would they all attend again for the 1937 Reunion, but on that occasion each would endeavour to induce a friend to accompany him.

Luncheon was then announced, and the guests sat down to a well-cooked and appetising meal, deftly served by members of the Sergeants' Mess, to whom every credit is due for the efficient manner in which they discharged their unaccustomed duties. An atmosphere of cordiality and good fellowship characterised the function throughout, and thanks to the services of a willing and enthusiastic staff of helpers under the able direction of R.S.M. Mitchell J., the 1936 Reunion of Old Comrades will be remembered by all who attended as a singularly enjoyable affair.

After lunch the Old Comrades commenced to disperse, and with signed Menu Cards as mementos of a thoroughly good time set off for their respective homes to pursue the even tenor of their ways for another year.

With many handshakes and expressions of goodwill they regretfully took their departure, not, however, without pausing to express appreciation for their warm welcome to the many who had combined to make their brief visit one to be looked back upon with pleasure during the ensuing twelve months.

So ended this Annual Reunion function, and on behalf of the many Old Comrade guests in attendance on that occasion we are asked to convey the grateful thanks of all for their kind reception and subsequent enjoyment, not only to R.S.M. Mitchell and those of his band of willing helpers with whom they came into personal contact during their stay, but to the many who, working unobtrusively behind the scenes, contributed in no small measure to the success of an exceptionally happy and enjoyable function.

Despite the fact that unforeseen circumstances prevented the Salisbury and District Branch from chartering a bus for its members, the twelve or so who made the journey under their own arrangements were amply repaid by the welcome that awaited them. Those who did not attend missed an outstandingly successful affair, and it is to be hoped that in future years it will be possible to make organised arrangements for their members to attend in strength. To those responsible for their reception, and subsequent enjoyment, we are asked to add the grateful thanks of the Salisbury and District Branch party.

Annual Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades, Bulford, 1936. —A cordial welcome and boisterous reception from their hosts of 3rd Divisional Signals awaited Royal Signals Old Comrade guests at the Sergeants' Mess when they commenced to arrive on Saturday, 16th May, 1936. From all parts of the country visitors attended in large numbers, and having got together spent the remainder of the afternoon in a typical Reunion atmosphere of good fellowship. During the evening they continued their afternoon's festivities at the All Ranks Dance where Old Comrades and serving members combined to make the occasion one to be remembered as an exceptionally enjoyable affair.

On Sunday morning the main contingent of Old Comrades arrived and at 10 a.m., when all were present, it was found that the 1936 muster constituted a record attendance to date. Many new faces were in evidence, some old some young, and the fact that the gathering included visitors from places as far apart as Exeter, Bristol, Parkstone, Marlborough, Devizes, Frome, Salisbury and various parts of " The Plain " is in itself a clear indication of the continued popularity of this function.

Among the Exeter Branch party of sixteen were Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (Chairman), Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., and Mr. Alf Wood who joined the Regular Army 40 years ago. He was wearing the two South African War Medals as well as those of the Great War. His bars to the former included Ladysmith and Tugela Heights, but despite his 62 years, was as young as the youngest of the party.

Before falling in for Church a group photograph of the Old Comrades was taken, after which they marched on to the Parade Ground where Regular Units of 3rd Divisional Signals were already drawn up awaiting their arrival. Following an inspection by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., (Colonel-Commandant Royal Signals), the parade marched to Church with the Old



[Photo by Fullers, Amesbury.

Lieutenant-General Sir John S. Fowler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. (retired) and Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Signal Officer Southern Command.

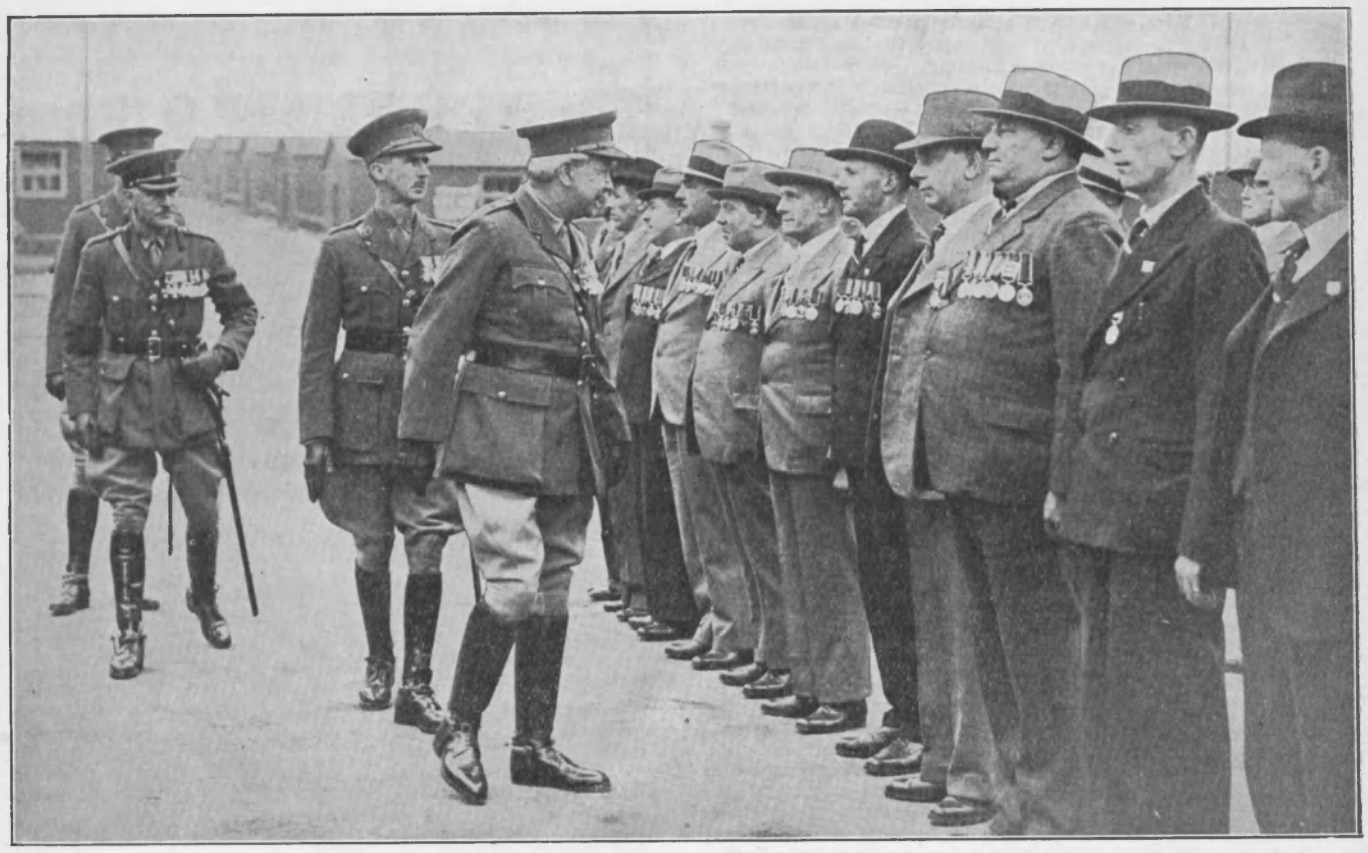
Comrade Company under the command of Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., in their customary position immediately behind the Band. The service at the Garrison Church was conducted by the Rev. J. J. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A., Assistant Chaplain General Southern Command, assisted by the Rev. H. W. Hutchings, M.C., M.A.

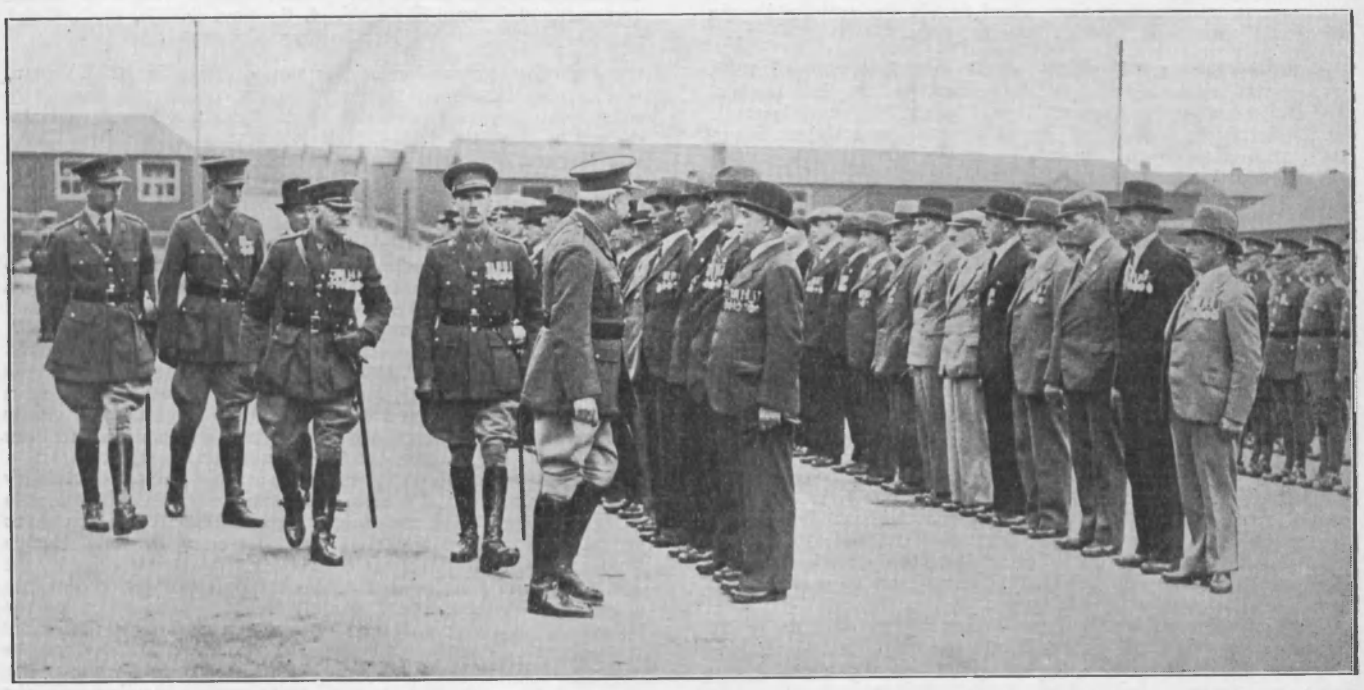
Before the parade was dismissed, Brigadier Clementi Smith addressed the Old Comrade visitors and Regular Units of 3rd Divisional Signals, in the course of which he mentioned that Royal Signals were under strength and urged those present to do all they could to remedy this state of affairs as quickly as possible by inducing likely young men to join the Corps, as and when they had the opportunity to do so.

On behalf of the Old Comrade visitors the Brigadier thanked Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot, his Officers, and all other ranks of 3rd Divisional Signals for their kind welcome and generous hospitality, after which the Parade dismissed and the guests reassembled in the Sergeants' Mess where a reception had been arranged by R.S.M. Herbert A. F. and his committee.

This brought to an end in the same atmosphere of conviviality that had characterised it throughout, an event which increases in popularity each year, and no greater compliment can be paid to the Organisation Committee, and its band of indefatigable helpers, on the success of the 1936 effort, than that implied by the visitors' unanimous verdict that they had had " a thoroughly good time—as usual." The care and attention given to the reception and comfort of the guests was typical of 3rd Divisional Signals, and all those connected with the preparations are to be warmly congratulated on the excellence of their arrangements.

In conclusion we are again asked to convey the thanks of the Old Comrade visitors to all ranks of 3rd Divisional Signals for an exceedingly pleasant Reunion gathering.





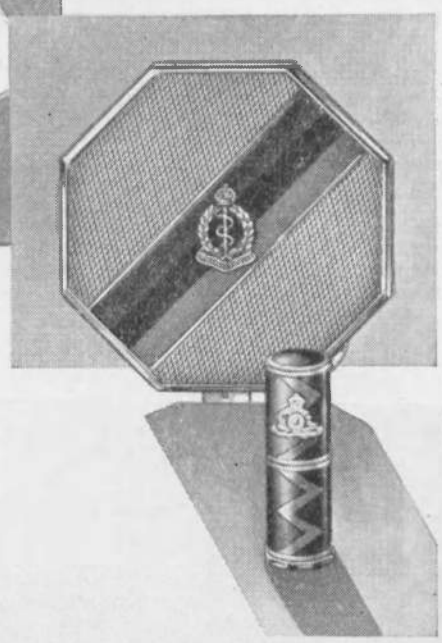
[Photos by Fuller's, Amesbury

Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant, Inspecting Old Comrades at Bulford, 17th May, 1936.



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Band Concert, Salisbury, 1936.—By kind permission of Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., and Officers of the Royal Corps of Signals, the Corps Band visited Salisbury again this year, and played to a large and appreciative audience of wives, friends and members of the Salisbury and District Branch in the Victoria Hall on the evening of Friday, 15th May.

Conducted by Mr. R. R. Ricketts, the Band rendered an excellent programme of music with its customary skill, and each item throughout the evening was loudly applauded by a large and appreciative audience. The Male Voice Choir was also enthusiastically received and Corporal Robinson was given a rousing ovation at the conclusion of his melodious xylophone solo.

Mr. Ricketts' versatility in preparing programmes is too well-known and widely appreciated to require commenting upon at any length here, but he excelled himself on this occasion and is to be complimented upon his arrangement of an admirably balanced combination of selections.

At the close of the performance the audience vigorously demonstrated their enjoyment by sustained applause and the Band's excellence was commented upon on all sides.

We are again indebted to Mr. F. Cole our indefatigable Association representative at Salisbury for his valuable assistance in supplying the necessary data for the above notes.

The following letter is considered to be of sufficient interest to our readers to warrant publication in this issue :

Aldershot.
25th May.

The General Secretary, Signals Association.

Dear Sir.—I enclose herewith my annual membership card for favour of endorsement as requested.

May I take this opportunity to add my wife's and my own appreciation of the wonderful reception given to us at the recent Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades at Aldershot, also the splendid luncheon provided for us after our Annual Church Parade on Sunday, 24th May.

All praise is due to those who contributed towards the preparations, and I wish the Old Comrades' Association, and yourself, every success in your undertakings.

Yours sincerely,

Ex. R.E. and Royal 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-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	P.O. Engineering Dept.
2	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	P.O. Engineering Dept.
3	Ex-N.C.O., Bedford	Motor Driver
4	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
6	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Postman
7	Ex-Signalman, Sussex	Carpenter
8	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	A.A. Patrol
9	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Clerk
10	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Motor Driver
11	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Attendant
12	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Wireless Operator
13	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
16	Ex-Signalman, Wolverhampton	Labourer
17	Ex-N.C.O., London	Gatekeeper
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter/Packer
19	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Motor Mechanic
20	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Mechanical Inspector
21	Ex-N.C.O., Bedford	Wireless Operator
22	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
23	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Wireman
25	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Postman
26	Ex-N.C.O., Liverpool	Customs Watcher
27	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
28	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Lineman
29	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Lineman
30	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
31	Ex-Signalman, Leith	Experimental Wireless Assistant
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
33	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
34	Ex-Signalman, London	Factory Storekeeper
35	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
36	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Fitter
37	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Labourer
38	Ex-Signalman, London	Motor Mechanic
39	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
40	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Labourer



[Photo by Fullers, Amesbury.

Royal Signals Old Comrades' Reunion at Bulford on Sunday, 17th May, 1936.



Names reading from left to right.]

Royal Signals Old Comrades' Reunion at Aldershot on Sunday, 24th May, 1936.

[Photo by W. May & Co., Ltd., Aldershot.

Back Row.—H. Fry, H. Harvey, G. Nicholls, R. G. Brooker, J. Annals, W. H. Weeks, H. Smith, B. Tidmarsh, A. W. Hoare, W. Bent, W. Johnson, D. Andrews, H. A. Armfield, R. C. Booth, W. H. Knellor, G. F. Booth, A. H. Green, H. D. L. Greaves.

Fourth Row.—J. Daw, W. Ritchings, F. Hayes, G. Purchase, W. Hodges, W. Peeke, C. E. Miles, C. Burgess, A. S. Jenner, W. H. Harding, H. Roper, W. Foot, V. Brown, F. Hollingsworth, F. Prior.

Third Row.—F. Cole, F. T. Pitt, J. A. North, W. H. Baker, H. C. Goodman, R. G. Sheale, N. J. Ferguson, J. Waller, F. Harrington, L. Strawbaum, W. H. Tyler, A. B. Jenkins, F. Say, R. Baker, J. Cadwell, F. J. Willis, E. R. Hole, A. Bates, T. Millgate, F. E. Smith, W. Balbey, A. Dickinson, W. Wish.

Second Row.—J. R. Cadwell, F. J. Early, A. H. Dimmer, W. Cayley, T. H. Evans, H. Kirby, F. H. Barnes. W. Butler, Lieutenant-Quartermaster C. J. Sharpe, D.C.M., H. L. Adams, G. Ruffle, F. C. Saunders, F. Hatherly, A. Doree, J. Collyer, C. L. Foot, G. Waterhouse, G. Gristwood, W. Ind, F. Thompson, W. Stevenson.

Front Row.—J. R. Brown, A. Muntzer, J. Nelson, W. Murfett, C. Hoskins, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., J. Campbell, Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., R. J. Jackson, Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., C. Mepham, W. C. Moore, G. Squibb, H. A. J. Foster, W. V. Clewley, H. P Cotton, A. E. Hall, F. Richards.

41	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Electric Light Inspector
42	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Radio Inspector
43	Ex-Signalman, Tidworth	Lineman
44	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Wireless Examiner
45	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Clerk
46	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Porter

(42 to 45, Salisbury and District Branch).

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following :

BANKER'S ORDER SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E.

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Royal Signals Officers' Mess, Catterick.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E.
Mr. S. G. Read.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Captain C. M. Welsford.
Captain F. H. Bury.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-N.C.O., Sheffield	Grant	£2	15	0
2	N.C.O., Hants.	Grant	£4	16	0
3	Ex-Signalman, Nottingham	Grant	£1	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., Hereford	Grant	£4	0	0
5	Ex-Signalman, Scarborough	Grant	£1	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Doncaster	Grant	£3	0	0
7	Ex-W.O., Yorks.	Grant	£3	0	0
8	Ex-N.C.O., London	Grant	£2	0	0
9	Mother of Ex-Signalman (deceased), London	Grant	£2	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Grant	£1	10	0
11	Ex-N.C.O., Scotland	Grant	£2	0	0
12	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Grant	£3	0	0
13	Ex-Driver, Cornwall	Grant	£4	0	0
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£3	0	0
15	Widow of Ex-N.C.O. (deceased), Hants.	Grant	£2	0	0

(Signed) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
19th June.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR.—The following is notified for publication in the July 1936 WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :—

(*a*) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 4/10/1931.
(*b*) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 2/7/1930.

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Wessex Area Signals, Government House, Portsmouth.
13th June.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

SIR.—I should be glad if you would make it known, through the medium of THE WIRE that there is a branch of the Royal Signals Association for Portsmouth and Southampton with its headquarters at Government House, Portsmouth.

We are always pleased to see anyone serving in the Corps or former members, especially those intending to settle in this area. They should ask for Sergeant Davis or myself and we will put them in touch with local members here. We hold regular quarterly meetings.

Government House is at the top of High Street, in Old Portsmouth, a few minutes' walk from the Guildhall.

Yours faithfully, C. T. HUGHES, Brevet-Major,
Royal Signals.

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Staffordshire. 26th May.

The General Secretary, Signals Association.

Dear Sir.—A line to thank you for your kindness in granting me financial assistance to help my family and myself through a difficult period.

I see now, more than ever, the good work that is carried on by the Association.

If each man in "Signals" could see it as clearly you would have 100 per cent. membership.

Again thanking you most sincerely,
Yours gratefully,

Ex-Corporal, Royal Signals.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Lieutenants G. B. D. McKean from Aldershot to Weedon (Equitation School).

No. 31 "Q" COURSE—

To "A" Corps Signals—2nd Lieutenant M. Stonestreet, 2nd Lieutenant J. D. Elliott.

To 1st Divisional Signals—2nd Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter, 2nd Lieutenant C. A. Henn-Collins.

To 2nd Divisional Signals—2nd Lieutenant C. W. M. Young, 2nd Lieutenant P. G. Curry, 2nd Lieutenant D. Mansel.

To 3rd Divisional Signals—Lieutenant A. L. Atkinson, 2nd Lieutenant B. H. P. Barnes, 2nd Lieutenant P. D. Gracey, 2nd Lieutenant M. D. Price, 2nd Lieutenant G. D. K. Woolrych.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 15/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. P. Mudge, O.B.E., on completion of 4 years' service as a Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel is placed on the h.p. list 15/5/36.

Major R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel 15/5/36.

ROYAL SIGNALS REGULAR R. OF O.

Lieutenant G. H. Mayne, from S.R., Royal Signals, to be Lieutenant 19/2/36, retaining his present seniority.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divisional Signals. Captain J. H. Cunningham resigns his commission and retains rank with permission to wear prescribed uniform, 18/4/36.

[War Office, 19/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain and Brevet-Major A. J. A. Schofield, is seconded for Service on the Staff in India, 20/4/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

48th (S.M.) Divisional Signals. Captain and Brevet-Major J. L. Totterdell, M.C., having attained the age limit retires and retains his rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform, 24/4/36.

54th (E.A.) Divisional Signals. The notification regarding 2nd Lieutenant A. L. Plackett which appeared in the Gazette of 1/5/36 is cancelled.

[War Office, 22/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain H. Bartlett is seconded for service with the T.A., 24/4/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant S. J. Williams to be Lieutenant, 3/5/36.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant D. de la P. Tate, from R.A.; T.A., to be Lieutenant with seniority 14/1/36, 23/5/36.

50th (N) Divisional Signals. R. S. Wight to be 2nd Lieutenant, 23/5/36.

[War Office, 26/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Captain W. F. Sugrue retires on Ret. pay, 26/5/36.

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 26/5/36: R. H. R. Steward, M.C., D. A. L. Wade, M.C., and remains seconded, Brevet-Major L. C. Bell, M.C., and remains seconded.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant H. B. Thompson relinquishes his commission on account of ill-health, 27/5/36.

[War Office, 29/5/36]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

Major H. C. Carey-Thomas is restored to the establishment, 1/4/36.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

The undermentioned to be 2nd Lieutenants, 30/5/36: C. G. Wardrop, A. H. W. Hammond.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

43rd (W) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant C. H. Howarth to be Lieutenant, 24/5/36.

49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals. 2nd Lieutenant C. F. Adams to be Lieutenant, 6/5/36, 2nd Lieutenant J. O. Crabtree to be Lieutenant, 13/5/36.

[War Office, 2/6/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

55th (W.L.) Divisional Signals. R. C. K. Baron to be 2nd Lieutenant, 22/4/36.

[War Office, 5/6/36]

REGULAR R. OF O.—ROYAL SIGNALS

Lieutenant A. G. Coates, from S.R., Royal Signals, to be Lieutenant, 8/5/36, retaining present seniority.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant A. W. Brown to be Captain, 13/5/36.

[India Office, 5/6/36]

INDIAN ARMY

General Sir Robert Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., A.D.C. is appointed Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, 1/6/36.

[War Office, 9/6/36]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS

Yarnell A. L. (late Lieutenant, T.A.), to be Lieutenant, 10/6/36.

Mathews M. G., to be 2nd Lieutenant, 10/6/36.

[War Office, 12/6/36]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS

52nd (L) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant R. A. Forsyth to be Captain, 13/5/36.

1st A.A. Divisional Signals. Captain and Brevet-Major A. Hemsley, T.D., to be Major, 2/5/36.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.)

2306851	C.Q.M.S. Minns C. B.	27 /1/36

To be C.Q.M.S.

*3902752	Sergeant Powles A.	4/ 2/36

To be Sergeant.

2316034	L/Sergeant Burgess C.	24/ 2/36
2315024	L/Sergeant Stibbs T.	17/ 3/36
2314824	L/Sergeant Dunn A.	22/ 3/36
2314112	L/Sergeant Brewster P.	25/ 3/36
2312331	L/Sergeant Minchin C.	26/ 3/36
2311327	L/Sergeant Jones W.	30/ 3/36
2314200	L/Sergeant Grocott A.	30/ 3/36
395576	L/Sergeant Davies R.	1/ 4/36
390252	L/Sergeant Saunders A.	1/ 4/36
2209234	L/Sergeant Champion W.	1/ 4/36
2309628	L/Sergeant Chadney V.	1/ 4/36
6132568	L/Sergeant Slater F.	1/ 4/36
6003199	L/Sergeant Greenwood E.	1/ 4/36
2316510	L/Sergeant Carnegie J.	1/ 4/36
2309329	L/Sergeant Tennant R.	1/ 4/36
*1038205	L/Sergeant Clarke R.	27/ 1/36

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2308424	Corporal Phillp P.	1/ 2/36
2307766	Corporal Toye J.	14/ 3/36
2316344	Corporal Lee A.	19/ 3/36
2316439	Corporal Powell G.	22/ 3/36
2313705	Corporal Leary F.	30/ 3/36
2315542	Corporal Myddleton J.	1/ 4/36
2316597	Corporal Badham A.	1/ 4/36
6279806	Corporal Parry C.	1/ 4/36
2316655	Corporal Beach C.	1/ 4/36
2317211	Corporal Pope F.	1/ 4/36
2315170	Corporal Hampton P.	1/ 4/36
2312024	Corporal Stevenson L.	1/ 4/36
2317256	Corporal McKowen G.	1/ 4/36

To be Corporal.

2319365	L/Corporal Milligan A.	4/ 2/36
2320422	L/Corporal Christian W.	6/ 2/36
2316214	L/Corporal Knight S.	22/ 2/36
2319817	L/Corporal Bow S.	24/ 2/36
796700	L/Corporal Chadwick W.	5/ 3/36
2316780	L/Corporal Trivass P.	14/ 3/36
2316938	L/Corporal McAuliffe J.	17/ 3/36
2318550	L/Corporal Robson J.	22/ 3/36
775199	L/Corporal Manson N.	24/ 3/36
2316408	L/Corporal Adkins J.	30/ 3/36
2312905	L/Corporal Rose H.	1/ 4/36
7876075	L/Corporal Bryan H.	1/ 4/36
2565371	L/Corporal Morris F.	1/ 4/36
2317495	L/Corporal Fairweather E.	1/ 4/36
2319427	L/Corporal Furniss S.	1/ 4/36
2315067	L/Corporal Pickett J.	1/ 4/36
2317149	L/Corporal Patrick F.	1/ 4/36
2201233	L/Corporal Ransom C.	1/ 4/36
2312715	L/Corporal Poulton G.	1/ 4/36
2316229	L/Corporal Wilson A.	1/ 4/36
2318659	L/Corporal Russell J.	1/ 4/36
2314363	L/Corporal Camp J.	1/ 4/36
2318142	L/Corporal Smith F.	1/ 4/36

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2322083	Signalman McMahon G.	23/11/35
2321729	Signalman Jordan J.	16/12/35
2322420	Signalman Glover E.	18/12/35
2322478	Signalman Milligan H.	18/12/35
2318534	Signalman Lundie R.	18/12/35
6396904	Signalman Pescod H.	18/12/35
2319441	Signalman Spiers C.	19/12/35
547228	Signalman White R.	19/12/35
2318333	Signalman Wilson T.	19/12/35
2318436	Signalman McCarthey E.	19/12/35

Farrier Roster (To be Farrier Corporal.)

2559582	Signalman Back S.	1/ 4/36

* *Special Roster* (*India*).

Discharges.

2307041	C.S.M. Hartley A.	23/ 4/36
2306594	C.Q.M.S. Gaffney W.	11/ 5/36
2311575	C.Q.M.S. Baker W.	26/ 5/36
2314271	Sergeant McLoughlin P.	16/ 4/36
2306806	Sergeant Catchpole E.	6/ 5/36
5721792	Corporal Nother G.	8/ 5/36
2316368	Corporal Henshaw A.	8/ 5/36
2317548	L/Corporal Brunning C.	20/ 5/36

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2318659	Corporal Russell J.	11/ 5/36
2319703	L/Corporal Smith C.	3/ 5/36
2319337	L/Corporal Young J.	9/ 5/36
2319357	Corporal Farley G.	20/ 5/36
2022546	L/Corporal Peacock F.	22/ 5/36

JIMMY—The Merry Guide.

A man may march to order,
  Or a man may march for fun,
But he likes a guide to lead him,
  And we've a merry one.

We may be hot and sweaty,
  Our feet may feel like lead,
But Jimmy goes a-tiptoe
  And he dances on ahead.

He doesn't change his fashions,
  His clothes aren't much to show,
But he wore that cap and feathers
  Two thousand years ago.

* * * * *

We don't much hold with boasting
  But we'd like the world to know
That where young Jimmy beckons
  The lads will somehow go.

LENS.

(Apologies to A. E. H.)

News from India or Should We Have a New Corps Badge?

This is a true story. Following the custom prevalent in India a certain respectable Field Officer had an excellent representation of our beloved " Jimmy " painted on his name board to hang by the front gate of his bungalow. He was considerably disconcerted, however, one day when a fair young bride, new to India and the Army, asked him sweetly: " Do tell me, Major ——, why do you have the picture of a naked pixie painted on the board by your gate ? "

When it comes to such embarrassing questions being asked of the more sober members of our Corps, surely the time is coming to consider the adoption of a new Badge ?

Army Golf Championships.

The 1936 Army Golf Championship meeting was played over the links of the Royal Lytham and St. Anne's Club during the week commencing 20th April. The Corps entered two teams. No. 1 Unit Team representing Catterick and No. 2 Unit Team representing the remainder of the Corps. The weather during the meeting was on the whole sunny and bright, but a bitterly cold wind blew strongly from the north every day, rendering the golf difficult and at times unpleasant. Many layers of woollies, windproof jackets, and trousers, scarves and mittens were the order of the day, but there is definitely no truth in the rumour that one player had to return to the Club house as a result of ice forming on his " Blaster " niblick.

On one afternoon we played through a heavy snowstorm, during which one of our Catterick members scored four " bogies " in a row, remarking that this was the first time he really had felt at home on the course. Lieutenant Gardner, R.A.S.C., retained his title as Army champion, and definitely showed himself to be the soundest golfer at the meeting. At the time of the year when the Army meeting is held the weather is usually unpleasant and boisterous, and the championship courses selected provide a very severe test of golf. It is interesting to note that the leading Army golfers nowadays are young players who have recently played in the inter-Varsity teams.

Our Corps representatives fared none too well in the Individual Championship, only two players (Captains Lewis-Barclay and Duke) returning cards for both rounds. Captain Lewis-Barclay, who came third in 1935, dropped back to sixth this year. In the team event, No. 1 Unit Team were beaten in the first round by the Grenadier Guards' 2nd Team by only 2 holes, Captain Duke nobly taking 3 holes off his opponent, whilst Lieutenants Cole and Paris made a promising first appearance in a Corps Team. No. 2 Unit Team comfortably defeated the Lancashire Fusiliers in the first round by 9 holes, with Major Thursby-Pelham, cunningly placed as whipper-in to the team, giving little quarter to his opponent. In the second round another comfortable win by 8 holes was recorded over the Seaforth Highlanders, but the third round brought the team up against the Grenadier Guards' 1st Team, eventual winners of the championship. The Grenadiers proved too strong and won by 10 holes, being led by two ex-Varsity players who were in good form. Lieutenant Marsham holed the course in 75 strokes and took 8 holes from Captain Lewis-Barclay, who went round in 82.

Performances of Corps representatives are shown below :

ARMY INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

	1st Round.	2nd Round.	Aggregate.
Capt. H. S. Lewis-Barclay	84	84	168
Capt. M. Duke	89	86	175
Lieut. J. F. Longfield	89	No return	—
Lieut.-Col. H. A. J. Parsons	90	,,	—
Lieut. E. S. Cole	92	,,	—
Lieut. R. G. Muir	93	,,	—
Major C. K. Thursby-Pelham	94	,,	—
Capt. R. C. Woodbridge	No return	95	—
Capt. C. A. H. Chadwick	,,	No return	—
Lieut. A. G. Paris	,,	,,	—

ARMY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

1ST ROUND.

ROYAL SIGNALS (No. 1 Unit)		GRENADIER GUARDS (2nd Team).	
Capt. Duke	3	Capt. J. B. G. Hennesey	0
Lieut. Cole	0	Major E. R. M. Fryer	0
Capt. Woodbridge	0	Lieut. P. H. A. Burke	4
Lieut. Paris	0	Lieut. C. G. V. Tryon	1
	3		5

ROYAL SIGNALS (No. 2 Unit).		LANCASHIRE FUSILIERS.	
Capt. Lewis-Barclay	2	Capt. K. J. M. Kerrick	0
Capt. J. E. S. Walford	0	Capt. E. G. Pullan	0
Lieut.-Col. Parsons	0	Major C. L. Rougier	1
Major Thursby-Pelham	8	Capt. C. C. Marks	0
	10		1

2ND ROUND.

ROYAL SIGNALS (No. 2 Unit).		SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.	
Capt. Lewis-Barclay	5	Capt. K. Mackessack	0
Capt. Walford	1	Lieut. J. D. K. Macrae	0
Lieut.-Col. Parsons	0	Capt. C. P. R. Johnstone	2
Major Thursby-Pelham	4	Lieut. J. A. Robertson	0
	10		2

3RD ROUND.

ROYAL SIGNALS (No. 2 Unit).		GRENADIER GUARDS (1st Team).	
Capt. Lewis-Barclay	0	Lieut. P. W. Marsham	8
Capt. Walford	0	Lieut. D. Fisher-Rowe	2
Lieut.-Col. Parsons	4	Lieut. J. E. Harrison	0
Major Thursby-Pelham	0	Lieut. D. E. Dixon	4
	4		14

Grenadier Guards (1st Team) were ultimate winners of the Championship.

Corps Athletics, 1936.

Corps Athletics.—A very successful meeting was held at Durham on Saturday, 23rd May, on the occasion of the Triangular Contest between Royal Signals, Durham University and Northumberland and Durham Counties. This year the Counties turned out a very strong team, which included several International runners, and although Royal Signals were able to defeat Durham University for the second year in succession, they were unable to gain enough points to overcome the Counties. Actually the Signals' Team won more events than the Counties, but scoring in second and third places gave the latter the victory.

Excellent performances were put up by Royal Signals' representatives and some good times were returned. Special mention should be made of Signalman Barrett of the Training Battalion, who won both the sprint races against experienced runners in very good times.

Sergeant-Instructor Harbin H. won both the Long Jump and the Pole Vault, but, owing to the fact that the jumping pits were inadequate, he was not able to show his true form. Ex-Lance Corporal Vaughan turned out against his old team and represented the Northumberland and Durham Counties in the Pole Vault. The Counties team included Potts, Burns and Wylie, all of whom are International runners.

A large number of spectators from Catterick very sportingly went over and gave valuable support to the team. The team was as follows :

100 Yards	..	Captain Boileau, Signalman Barrett.
220 Yards	..	Lieutenant Stonestreet, Signalman Barrett.
440 Yards	..	Lieutenants Gordon and Stonestreet.
880 Yards	..	Sergeant Shardlow, Lance Corporal Bucke.
Mile ..	..	Lieutenants Pringle and Barnes.
Three Miles	..	Signalmen Mackinnon and Craig.
Hurdles ..	..	Lieutenants Atkinson and Read.
Weight ..	..	Lieutenants Read and Gordon.
Discus ..	..	Lieutenant Read, Lance Corporal McGuigan.
Javelin ..	..	Corporal Frazer, Boy Adams.
Hammer	..	R.S.M. Herbert, Lance Corporal Routledge.
High Jump	..	Lieutenant Deakin, Corporal Moore.
Long Jump	..	Lieutenant Stonestreet, Sergeant Harbin.
Pole Vault	..	Sergeant Harbin, Signalman Haigh.
440 Yards Hurdles		Lieutenant Atkinson

Individual winners were as follows :

100 Yards	..	Signalman Barrett ..	10.6 secs.
220 Yards	..	Signalman Barrett.. ..	23.15 secs.
Long Jump	..	Sergeant Harbin	21 ft. 8¼ ins.
High Jump	..	Lieutenant Deakin ..	5 ft. 6 ins.
Hammer	..	Lance Corporal Routledge	97 ft. 4½ ins.
Pole Vault	..	Sergeant Harbin	9 ft. 6 ins.
Weight ..	..	Lieutenant Read	37 ft. 1¼ ins.

(Signed) T. W. BOILEAU, Captain, Royal Signals,
Officer i/c Corps Athletics.

Mounted Events at the Signal Training Centre (India), Jubbulpore.

Introduction.—The activities of the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, in mounted events during the last year will undoubtedly be of interest to other members of the Corps, both at home and abroad. The mounted successes of the Depot Battalion, Catterick, at the Military Tournament at Olympia and elsewhere, have aroused the enthusiasm of the Corps as a whole, and have gained a very high place for the Corps amongst mounted arms of the Service. This article will show how the good work is being carried on at Jubbulpore by the Indian counterpart of the Mounted Wing at Catterick.

Displays.—In February of each year the Signal Training Centre holds its Annual Mounted Sports, when the Officers are " At Home " to the Station. During the last few years the sports have concluded with a Tandem Driving Display by the Indian Ranks of the Mounted Company, which has always been very popular with the spectators.

It is hoped that in future years this Display may be made more spectacular by combining a Motor-cycle Trick Riding Display by the British Ranks of the Signal Training Centre, with the Tandem Drive. This combined Display will take the form of that given yearly at Olympia, and has been made possible by the fact that a very successful Motor-Cycle Ride was also given at the Sports this year. This Ride was all the more creditable, as only four members of the Team were Despatch Riders, and the cycles used were ordinary issue machines used daily on military duties.

Perhaps it may be possible within a few years for some display by the Corps in India to be given at the Imperial Delhi Horse Show, and such a display would be certain of as great a reception as that given to the annual display at Olympia.

Horse Shows.—Horse Shows in India are almost entirely confined to military stations, and the great distances of India preclude the entering of horses in any but local shows.

The two shows for which the Signal Training Centre can enter regularly, are the Jubbulpore Brigade Horse Show, held in November, and that at the Equitation School, Saugor, which takes place in March. In both of these shows during the Season 1935-6 the Mounted Company of the Signal Training Centre was highly successful.

The team of show jumpers consists of six horses, whose capabilities are fairly equal, and this fact has been a great boon in open competitions, when there has been more than one entry. Competitors have entered the ring with added confidence by knowing that there were others to follow should their mounts fail, and this advantage has helped in a large measure towards the Corps' successes. The team of jumpers, together with the names of their regular riders, is :

Ace of Clubs	Bay Aust. Mare	Hav. Kishore Singh.
Bill ..	Dun Aust. Gelding ..	Sergt. P. Green.
Blue Beard	Brown Aust. Gelding ..	Lieut. J. N. Barker.
Comrade ..	Dun Aust. Gelding ..	Major R. L. M. Rosenberg.
Kangaroo Baby ..	Dun Aust. Mare.. ..	Lieut. J. N. Barker.
Redstone ..	Roan Indian Gelding ..	C.H.M. Ganpat Rao.

The last named is also a really good handy hunter, and is ridden in competitions of this nature by Sergeant Green.

In the Jubbulpore Horse Show the Corps gained the first two places in both the Officers and Other Ranks Jumping Classes, and second place in the Open Handy Hunter Competition. The results were as follows :

OFFICERS' JUMPING.—1, Kangaroo Baby ; 2, Blue Beard.

OTHER RANKS JUMPING.—1, Bill (incidentally for the second year in succession) ; 2, Ace of Clubs.

OPEN HANDY HUNTERS.—2, Redstone.

These successes gave the team a very good start to the season, and it was felt that it might be possible to compete with credit at the show at the Equitation School later in the year, even though the class of opponents would be so much stronger.

Intermediate training included the Signal Training Centre Open Jumping and Other Ranks Jumping, which resulted as follows :

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE OPEN JUMPING.—1, Kangaroo Baby ; 2, Redstone ; 3, Comrade.

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE OTHER RANKS JUMPING.—1, Bill ; 2, Redstone.

It was a very promising sign to see a young horse, Comrade, performing so well in his first competition in public, and augurs well for the future.

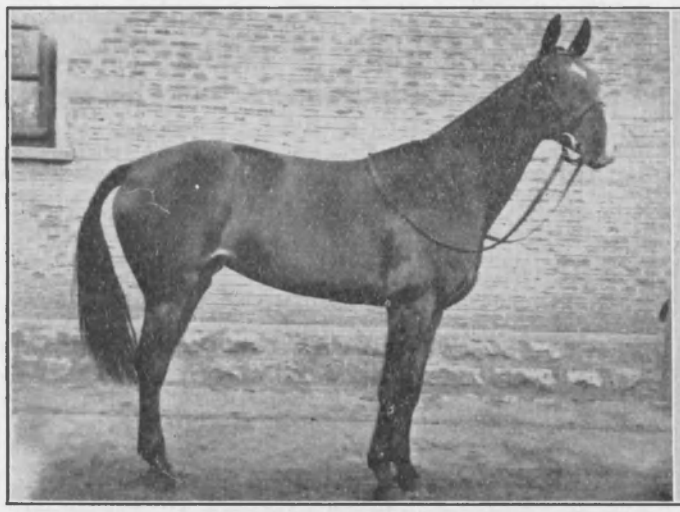
The results at Saugor far exceeded expectations. Three horses were taken over for the Show, two entries having been made for the Open Jumping for the Viceroy's Cup, and one for the Handy Hunter Competition for the Commander-in-Chief's Cup.

The Handy Hunter Competition was held first, and Redstone put up quite the best performance of the competition over entirely strange country, only to be disqualified for missing out a flag on the course. His jumping and cleverness were of a very high standard.

The two entries in the Open Jumping, Kangaroo Baby and Bill, were the only two horses to do clear rounds over the course, thus ensuring the first two places for the Corps. The jump-off, which was won by Kangaroo Baby, naturally came as rather an anti-climax to those members of the Corps who were present at the Show.

This complete success against the best horses and riders of the Equitation School was a very satisfactory finale to one of the most successful jumping seasons that the Mounted Company has ever experienced. There is no reason to suppose that these successes cannot be repeated, and the Signal Training Centre should have a jumping team capable of winning in any company for many years to come.

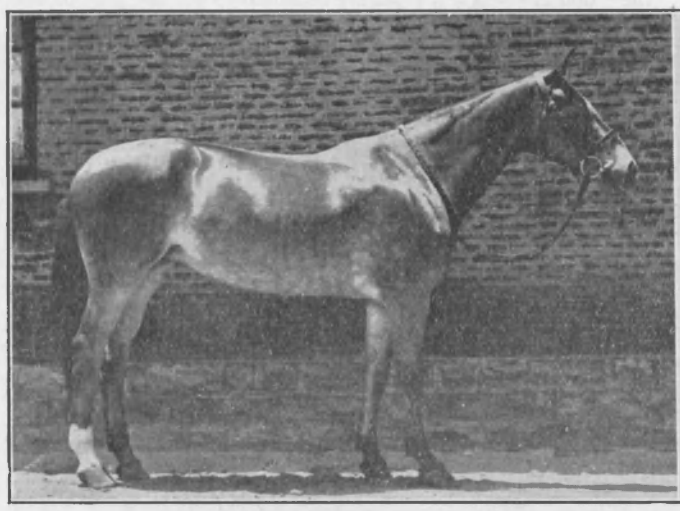
S.T.C. (India) Show Jumping Team, 1935-36.



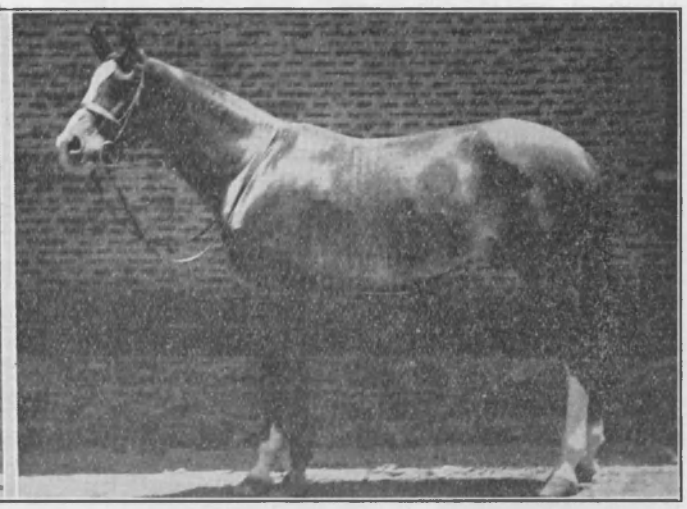
ACE OF CLUBS
Second, Other Ranks Jumping, Jubbulpore Horse Show ,1935.
(Hav. Kishor Singh).



BILL.
First Other Ranks Jumping, Jubbulpore Horse Show, 1935. Second Open Jumping Equitation School, Saugor, 1936.
(Sergeant P. Green).



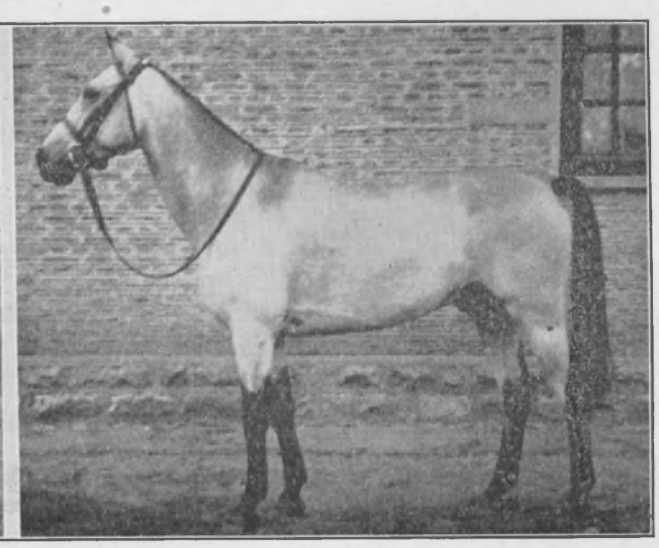
KANGAROO BABY.
First Officers' Jumping, Jubbulpore Horse Show, 1935. First S.T.C. Open Jumping, 1936. First The Viceroy's Cup, Open Jumping, Equitation School, Saugor, 1936.
(Lieutenant J. N. Barker).



REDSTONE.
Second Open Handy Hunters', Jubbulpore Horse Show, 1935.
(Sergeant P. Green).
Second S.T.C. Open Jumping, 1936.
(C.H.M. Ganpat Rao).



BLUE BEARD.
Second Officers' Jumping, Jubbulpore Horse Show, 1935.
(Lieutenant J. N. Barker).



COMRADE.
Third S.T.C. Open Jumping, 1936.
(Major R. L. M. Rosenberg).

Other Mounted Events.—The Nerbudda Vale Hunt continues to be well supported by the Corps, and Signal Training Centre entries have been able to hold their own in Open Point-to-Point Races during the last season. Sergeant Green was second in the Senior N.C.O.s' Race at the Drag Meeting in September on Gigolo, and won the equivalent race on the same horse at the main meeting, in February. Lieutenant Barker was second in the Members' Heavyweight Race in February on The Boar, one of the best known line horses at the Signal Training Centre, and who has been hunting with the N.V.H. for the last seven years.

The Regimental Race for the Hurst Trophy, held in February, open to Officers' private horses, resulted as follows: 1, Lieutenant P. J. Palmer's Peter (owner); 2, Lieutenant D. St. J. Hoysted's Petard (Lieutenant Barker).

The other Officers' event at the Signal Training Centre, the annual competition for the Kirian Dongo Trophy for the best trained Officers' charger, resulted as follows: 1, Lieutenant J. N. Barker's Playboy; 2 (equal), Major R. L. M. Rosenberg's Argent and Lieutenant P. J. Palmer's Peter.

At polo the Corps succeeded in winning the Barton Cup Subsidiary Tournament, in spite of the fact that a strong team could not be raised and that two of its members were playing in their first tournament. It is safe to predict that the Corps will continue to hold its own in local Jubbulpore polo.

Conclusion.—From the foregoing it will be seen that the past season has been a very successful one for the Corps in mounted events. At show jumping the Signal Training Centre has gained the first two places in the three open competitions for which entries have been made, and in other events has more than held its own. The show jumping team had the good fortune to remain unbeaten throughout the year, and there is every hope that they will do as well in the future.

The annual display at the Mounted Sports was the usual success, and its popularity should be further increased in the years to come by the inclusion of motor-cycles and the thrills that accompany them.

Is it too much to hope that these local successes will encourage more ambitious mounted programmes in other Signal Stations in India, and so keep up the prestige of the Corps in mounted events in the Army?

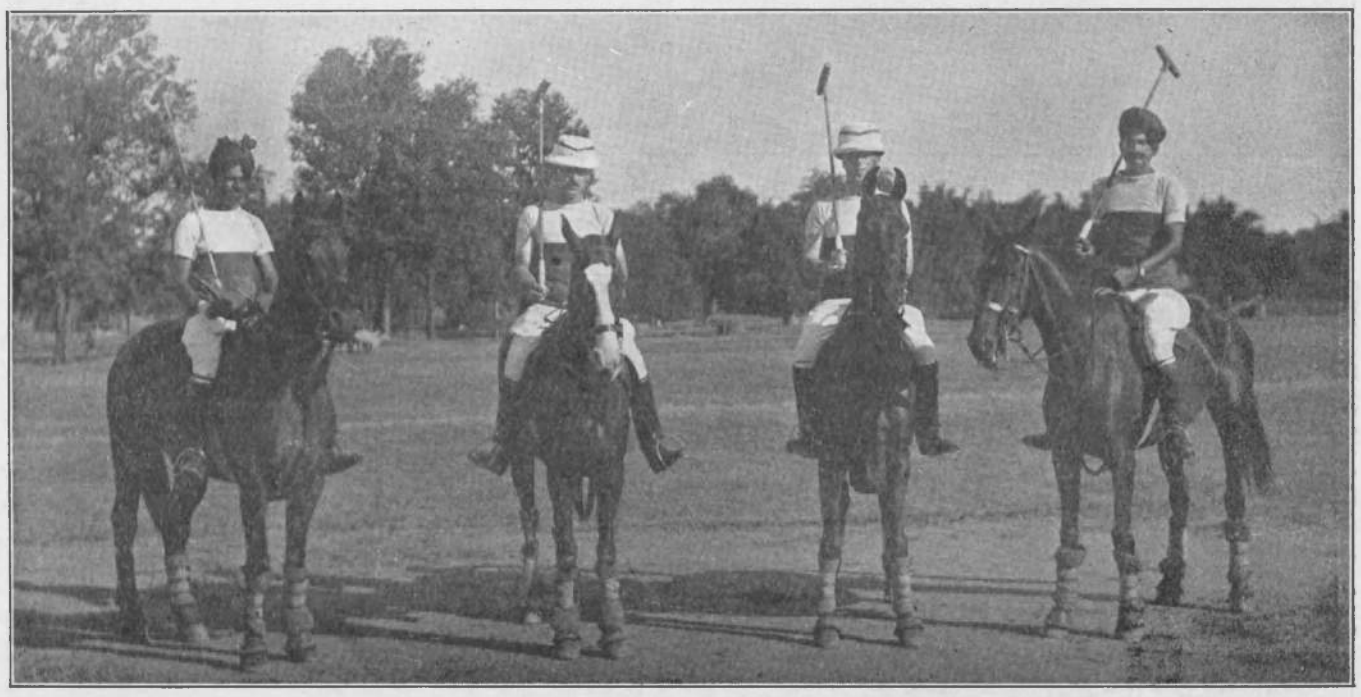
- Plain Tales -

Literary Aid.—There are many WIRE correspondents who must feel that to write a column for the magazine is just work. Some have confided to us that they sit with a pencil and paper for nearly an hour before writing even the first word. This is a sad state of affairs and one that we should try to remedy. In the first place, dear pupils, as we propose to call you, start writing at once. You may begin with "There is absolutely no news this month." After covering half a dozen pages with more or less intelligent ramblings, go over it with a blue pencil and delete the parts that strike you as being uninteresting. Our best friend suggested that Plain Tales suffered that fate in May. He was quite a nice lad and would have been 28 in August. Fill up your gaps with fiction. Who is to know whether you are telling the truth or lying? Avoid laying yourself open to thick ears and actions for defamation. Never drag the Fourth Service into your notes unless you have something nice to say about their meat pies. Remember that what you write will only be read by thousands if they are interested. It is a pity that we are not encouraged to report our local "orderly rooms." The intimate little chats that precede "seven pennyworth" are usually full of human appeal. One of these days we will make up some of our own, but not now, eh? By the time you have mastered all the "don'ts" you will probably decide to go out and play tennis.

As if we care.

Write to Your Uncle To-day.—Perhaps there are some specia circumstances that have escaped our notice, but it has always been a mystery to us that military units should have to take their letters in bulk to the Post Office and collect them from the Post Office. We are ready to learn, but let us dream.

Within the lines of every Unit there will be a large G.P.O. pillar box. This will be cleared by a G.P.O. van three times a day. Deliveries will be made at the Unit's Guard Room and handed over to the Post Orderly. In return for this generous concession the troops will, in future, pay the same postage as



S.T.C. POLO TEAM, 1935. Winners of the Barton Cup Subsidiary Tournament, Jubbulpore, 1935.
Left to Right—Havildar Mahboob Ali Khan, Lieutenant T. N. Barker, Captain H. D. Orr, Havildar Kishor Singh.

civilians. What ? They pay the same now ? And do people writing to the troops pay normal postage ? Well, well. Not to say Tck, Tck !

Don't tell us. We know. It is all in the same firm.

The Distinction.—Lady at the whist drive : " My dear, she was so rude to her partner, I naturally thought he was her husband."

Further Progress.—Ukann Larfe's fingers sank into the gendarme's throat and began to close in a vice-like grip. They swayed backwards and forwards across the greasy pavement in deadly silent combat. At last Ukann's phenomenal strength told and the gendarme collapsed in a heap on a nearby doorstep. The panting detective staggered back to the corpse in the gutter and sat down beside it.

" I nearly fell for that disguise," he mused. " What an escape. Petrified Pedro a gendarme. Huh ! Old Faceache will be jealous about this."

A taxi came to a standstill a few yards away with a screeching of brakes and the object of his thoughts fell rather than stepped out. Inspector Faceache rose from the mud and turned to remonstrate with Hermione who had assisted his exit with a large but shapely foot.

" Sorry, Facey old man," said Hermione. " You should get a move on."

" Why didn't you get out on your own side ? "

Mrs. Larfe thought for a minute. " My watch stopped," she said. " Oh ! That's different," laughed the Inspector, trying to look as though he understood. Ukann Larfe stood up and faced the newcomers. Petrified Pedro stirred gently and relapsed into a deep sleep. " You'll be interested to know—" began Ukann, when a piece of very damp turf struck him on the forehad. Hermione wiped her hands on the Inspector's collar and released peal after peal of silvery laughter. A bedroom window opened above her and a jug of cold water put a stop to her hilarity. The jug followed, and this, fortunately, struck Inspector Faceache on the back of the neck.

Hermione dashed the water from her eyes and shook her beautiful head angrily. " By Hannibal," she roared, " they can't do that to me and cart it." With one mighty punch she smashed the whole front of the house in ! The scene that followed was indescribable, so we may leave it to your imagination. Besides, we are just going to Dover for the week-end.

Seven Day Stomp.—Duke Ellington couldn't think of that but we'll sell it to him. Our " week " was a poem in snappiness and harmony, the latter ingredient being no whit disturbed even when we fell off the roof of the Mess. Don't be impatient. We're talking about Band week at Bulford. If you turn up last year's account of the All Ranks Dance in the Unit Institute it will save us a lot of space. Call it Saturday, 16th May. Add to that a few well-chosen words in praise of the N.A.A.F.I. (sensation), who prepared a really attractive buffet. We shuffle our feet and go ever so red, but we've got to hand it to Mr. Mellows and his staff this time.

Ooh ! We nearly forgot to say that the Corps Band arrived on the Thursday. What a good thing you know us. Mr. Ricketts and the Boys were very welcome. Ca va sans bolo. They played in the Victoria Hall, Salisbury, on Friday, 15th May, but you'll read about that elsewhere. This, by a process known only to a few, brings us to Sunday, 17th May. Quite seventy of the Old Brigade were present on parade. Mr. W. Butler just made it. Lord Hillingdon (travelling as Freddy Seymour) was on his feet part of the time. To mention all would run away with the WIRE, but we're sure you'd like to know that Mr. " Bert " Boulger brought a large party from Exeter.

Maestoso.—The Church Parade, under Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot, Commanding 3rd Divisional Signals, included parties from Tank Brigade Signals and " E " Troop Cavalry Divisional Signals. Heading the Band in his usual office of Drum Major was R.Q.M.S. Adcock J., who swings a pretty stick. We hope that a few photographs are available somewhere in this number. They will save us a lot of description.

At this point we pause to congratulate ourselves on the provision of an excellent lunch for approximately eighty guests. Alas, that modesty should be our great failing. Mr. " Joe " Sweeting contented himself with a biscuit as he found that lunch interfered with another occupation to which he was applying himself with some distinction.

Poco Rit.—Amongst the Officers we saw many old friends, and we were reminded once more that the Corps is just a big family. In the buzz of conversation one could hear, " Maresfield, Crowborough, Jubbulpore, 'Pindi, Karachi, Peshawar, Egypt." We certainly cover the water-front. An extra burst of sound from one corner indicated that R.Q.M.S. " Mick " Wensley had paid us a visit from Aldershot. With him was Sergeant " Joe " Cotterell (never 'eard of 'im) complete with family.

A Tempo.—But time presses. Monday was moderato. On Tuesday the Junior N.C.O.s held an invitation dance in the Garrison Institute. We hope they have something to say about it, for it was a good show. Wednesday found the Sergeants' Mess decorated, the Committee tired, sober but happy and ready for anything. Corporal Robinson and his Hotcha Boys played up nobly. Congratulations and lots of thanks boys. Colonel Prescot and all the Officers turned up and stayed until a late hour.

Cadenza.—At 1 a.m. four neat moustaches loomed on the horizon. The long moustache had one ambition and that was to blow a trombone. Amid deafening applause this vicious craving was gratified, whereat the wide moustache developed a drum complex which also had to be satisfied. There being no applause, the " fair clipped military " voted for taking over the whole show. A gurgling sound was heard. This proved to be the short moustache saying " carried unam—unamus—umanis." Came a Palais Glide and all four were caught up in a swirl of humanity and lived happily ever after.

Coda.—Thursday crescendo. Guest night at the Officers' Mess. We couldn't get away for this ourselves, apart from the fact that we were not invited, but if what we hear is true, and mark you, we have no reason to doubt our spies, the dinner was very successful. Sergeant Chappell and his staff must have put in some excellent work. On Friday morning, 22nd May, Mr. Ricketts and the Band left us for Aldershot. The weather was kind and we may write it down as a very enjoyable week.

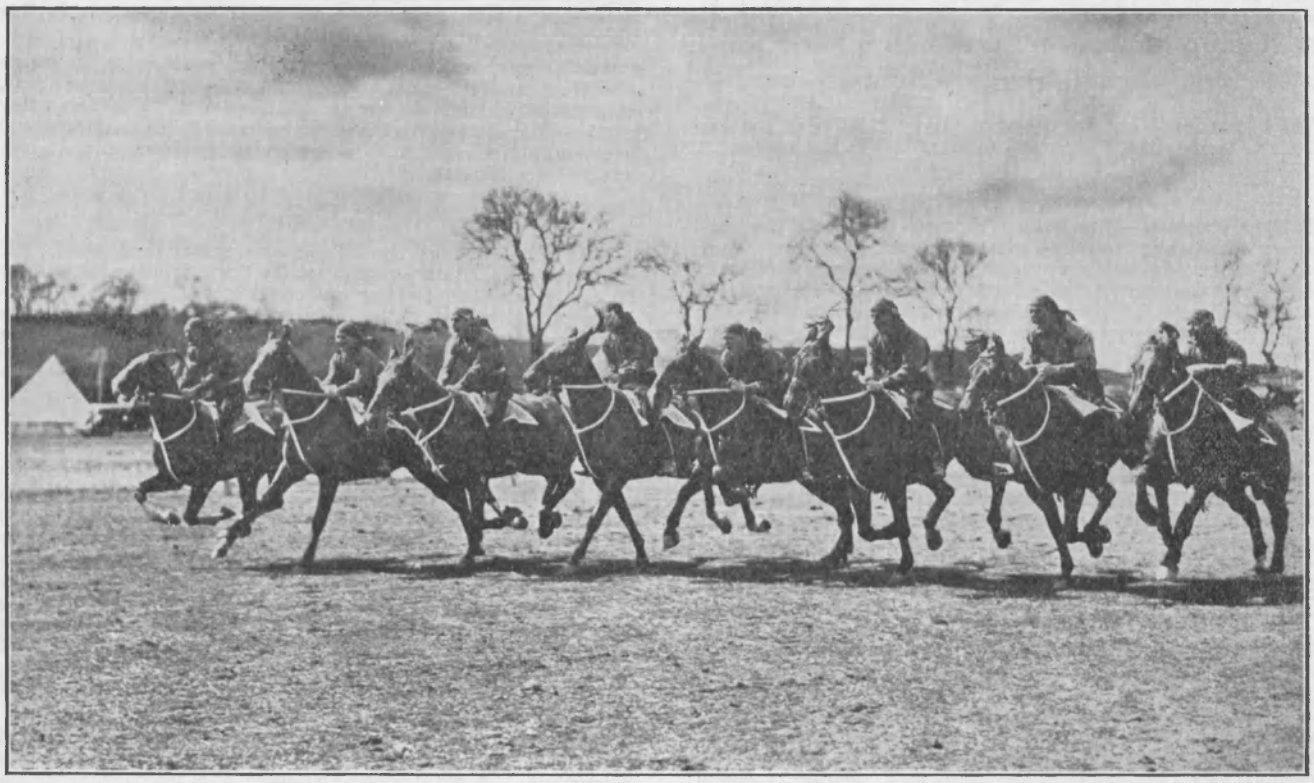
The Royal Signals Band consists of personal friends of every Unit they visit. It is, therefore, not surprising that they are always sure of a very hearty welcome.

What's all this ?—Scene, Officers' Married Quarters. Time, 2.30 a.m. Saloon car creeps quietly up the road and is run into garage with the minimum of noise. Doors are closed silently. Driver, by stroke of amazing good luck, finds keyhole at first attempt. Takes deep breath and slips inside, closing front door with as much clatter as a feather falling on a tombstone. Tiptoes across hall and falls headlong over sleeping dog. Hearty curses mingled with shrill barking of dog come to abrupt end as sweet voice from upstairs calls, " Is that you darling ? " Dog curls up and resumes interrupted slumber. Man gets brain working to deal with situation. Again, " Is that you, my love ? " Brainwave. " No, dear, I'm still at the Corporals' dance ! " Upstairs a door slams. Downstairs a dog snores and a syphon hisses.

Note.—You can't catch the Signals.

BARLEUX.

Royal Signals Horse and Motor Cycle Display Olympia, 1936.

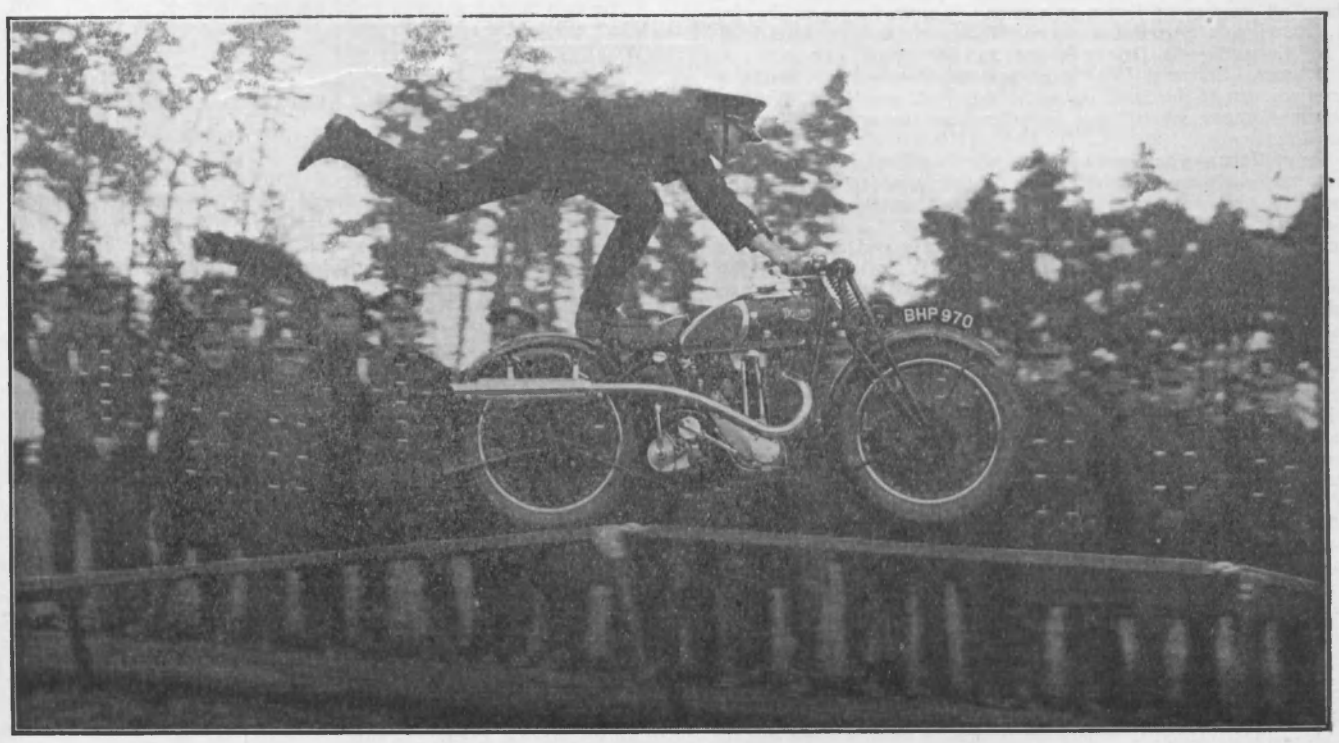




Through the Covered Wagon, and over Two Ponies.
[*Photos by Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd., London.*]



In through the door, out through the window.
[*Photo by Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd., London.*]



[*Photo by Fox Photos, Ltd., London.*]

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Flaming June has arrived, but the flame was almost extinguished after what must have been the wettest Whitsun on record. The Recruits here are tough, though, and those who did not go on Whitsun leave braved the elements and found their way in force to the Fair at Richmond. Many of them seem to have improved their marksmanship, for the barrack rooms were overflowing with coconuts afterwards. We hope that the Cadre will follow this example and also prove their marksman abilities by bringing back a collection of bulls from Bellerby in the near future.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant H. E. F. Middleton, who has rejoined the Unit from the Equitation School, Weedon, Lieutenant G. D. B. McKean, attached prior to proceeding to the Equitation School, Weedon, Reverend E. J. Green, R.C. Padre attached to Dismounted Wing, Signalman Dobing L., from School of Signals.

Departures.—Our best wishes go to the following and we wish them all success in Units as shown: Lance Sergeant Dowie, A.F.V. Signals, Signalmen Hoare, McIlvenny and Summerfield, "A" Corps Signals, Driver Stoker, 2nd Divisional Signals.

Courses.—Corporal Pike is at present enjoying (we hope) a brief sojourn at the Small Arms School, Anti-gas Wing, Winterbourne Gunner, where he is busy learning the arts of chemical warfare.

Promotions.—The flood of prosperity is still at its height and we offer hearty congratulations to the following on being on the crest of the wave and attaining ranks as shown: C.S.M. Gregory G., D.C.M., Corporals Puleston E. H. G., Vigurs A. A. and Voice W., and U/Lance Corporals Murray and Barks.

Congratulations.—We also tender these sentiments to the following N.C.O.s on being selected to represent the Garrison at cricket: C.Q.M.S. Carpenter A., Corporal Ferrier F., also the following W.O. and Senior N.C.O.s on being awarded the L.S. and G.C. Medal (which also includes bad stations, doesn't it, Paddy ?): F.S.M. Harris G. W., Sergeant Percy R. and Dunn A.

Agony.—Who was the Recruit on Sergeants' Mess Fatigue who, having knocked a very thirsty Sergeant's pint of beer over, then proceeded to demolish a cup and saucer ? The waiter, seeing his wages being mortgaged, offered the said Recruit a sledge-hammer—he was going to take it, too !

Will a certain Blanco, now believed in D.I.K., borrow a pen and ink and write a few of his memoirs, even if it is only on the back of a D.R.L.S. Register, as a Welshman confrere of his has saved up a 1½d. stamp as a present for him and is sending it on ?

"D" Company Training Battalion.

12th June.

General.—The Company have now returned from Whitsun leave and are hibernating during Catterick's "Monsoon" season. This weather will be beneficial to the competitors in the "Q" Lines Garden Competition (unless it washes their efforts away). As to the remainder of the Company I suppose we shall "Go to the Parade Ground in Ships."

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold C.Q.M.S. Paul from Hongkong Signal Section, Corporal Harbury from 1st Divisional Signals, Signalman Irving from 3rd Divisional Signals and numerous Recruits from the Depot Battalion.

Departures.—The following have left the Company for Field Units and we wish them success in their new stations: Lieutenant (I.P.C.) C. S. Roberts to Northern Ireland Signals Company, Belfast; Corporal Fox to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot; Signalman Small D. to Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth; Signalman Hewitt F., Drivers (I.C.) Fisher C., Duckering and Orchard to 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate the following on their recent appointments: C.Q.M.S. Limb F., Lance Sergeant Atkinson R., also Lance Corporal Trevethan on reaping the reward for his "Bar."

Marriage.—Congratulations are extended to Signalman Chapman W. on his indenting for the ration bag and accumulator. He was married to Miss N. Watkinson at Sheffield on 18th April.

Births.—We congratulate Sergeant and Mrs. Cook on the birth of a son at the Military Families' Hospital on 29th May.

Impossible People.—The Recruit Clerk who published in Orders: "Library will be open from 1 A.M. to 2 A.M. on Sundays." Perhaps he was interested in reading of the ghosts that walk the canteen at that unearthly hour.

The two Signalmen who indented for a "set of cutlery." We didn't think there were so many anticipating taking the plunge. (Wedding presents through your credits !)

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

General.—With the arrival of June the Company gardens have assumed quite a gay appearance; the blooming of spring flowers bring a welcome touch of colour after the long days of winter. There does seem, however, to be a glut of "London Pride" this year.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper, Royal Signals, from Egypt, and trust his stay with us will be long and pleasant. Sergeants Cornish, Nicholson and Onyett have also arrived from overseas and as they have met many old friends in this Company, they have already settled down. We wonder how they are enjoying our Catterick weather, which has been right on top of its form lately. We may have had a day or two without rain, but I could not be sure—a change from overseas anyway, perhaps they can see its good points. To all the Recruits who have arrived from the Depot Battalion we extend the usual welcome.

Departures.—Recent departures have been Sergeant Gresham H. to "A" Corps Signals, Sergeant McDonald W. to Northern Command Signal Company, York, Sergeant Jarvis to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, and Lance Sergeant Walsh M. S. to 2nd Divisional Signals.

As usual, it would take too long to enumerate all these individually, but we trust that they have all found their new stations to their liking.

Promotions and Appointments.—It affords us great pleasure to congratulate the following on their respective promotions and appointments after waiting many moons: C.Q.M.S. Renecle, Sergeant Saunders, Lance Sergeants Leary, Lee and Beach and Lance Corporal Lockey (Paid).

Extensions of Service.—Lance Sergeant Beach C. has decided to draw C.R.A. for a further period of nine years.

News.—After a short rest from early morning drill parades, we have again started preparing, this time for the King's Birthday, and we can console ourselves with the thought that there will be a day's holiday on the 23rd. Whilst on the subject of parades, etc., it will be redundant to state that we again received a fine report from the recent Commandant's Inspection.

On the 8th June over 50 per cent. of our Junior N.C.O.s assembled for the Annual Drill Course held under the auspices of the Regimental Sergeant Major. We trust that they will benefit considerably on the termination of the course.

Whitsun Leave.—Owing to the shortness of the holiday, not many availed themselves of the chance to get home. Those who did so certainly didn't seem to begrudge the expenditure and enjoyed their break.

Finale.—Au revoir until next month.

Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

The merry month of May, Catterick Camp, looking at its best, and nature in its lavish mood has turned the gardens of the S.T.C. into a veritable paradise. This being so, it was decided that the time was ripe for our annual Mess Outing. Scarborough was selected and arrangements made for Saturday, 13th June. Oh! the Optimists. Nature in all her glory decided that we needed rain, and rain it did, but, despite the dampness of the weather, it couldn't damp the spirits of the Mess members, and the majority of them, together with wives and nippers, left Catterick at 8 a.m. for Scarborough. With a barrel of ice cream on the buses, the nippers and the grown-ups fairly made things slip along in opposition to the rain outside. On arrival at Scarborough, it was still raining and it was truly amazing to see the cheerful faces of the party who, well equipped with macs and brollies, made whoopee and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Several old friends were found at Burniston Barracks, although this Unit is at the moment sadly depleted.

On the return journey to Catterick the children joined in community singing under the very able direction of our Mess President, and so ended, despite the rain, another well organised and thoroughly enjoyable Mess Outing.

This month we extend the glad hand to the following additions to the Mess: Sergeants Lawrie, Nicholson and Cornish from Egypt (Egypt's Bar losses are our gain), W.O.i (Foreman of Signals) King and Sergeant Hopkins from India, C.Q.M.S. Paul from Hongkong. We also wish the following au revoir and the best of luck in their new Units: Sergeant MacDonald to York, Sergeant Jarvis to Aldershot, Sergeant Gresham to Aldershot, Sergeant Taylor to Canterbury and Lance Sergeant Walsh to Aldershot.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Limb F., C.Q.M.S. Renecle W. and Sergeant Newman on their promotion to the ranks shown.

A hearty welcome is extended to the following on their elevation to the Mess: Lance Sergeants Barlow R., Harries T., Smith W. A. and Atkinson R. (Caterer to note.)

ONLOOKER.

School of Signals.

General.—The Unit has now settled down after the Commandant's Inspection, which took place on 22nd May. The Inspection went off splendidly and the Commandant was pleased with the excellent show that was put up. Everyone pulled together and are to be congratulated on their showing. One little point worth mentioning (it may be hard to believe), is that concerning the usual half-holiday following the Inspection. A certain individual, who was apparently "shaken" with the early rising and general bustle, betook himself to bed in the early afternoon. When awakened for tea his fellow room-ites were astonished to see a bed being "made-up"—but there was no check parade. Is that a Guards' habit we wonder?

Gardening.—This is a topic for which the School is famed—even if some call it a "bind" on certain occasions. The office verandah is now a picture, someone was heard to say it resembled the "Hanging Gardens of Babylon," but not having been far from the vicinity of Catterick I am unable to give any comparison. Still, it is a good show, even if the flowers cannot be used for buttonholes.

Our expert is very busy preparing for the Garrison Horticultural Show, in which he made his mark last year. From what I can see and hear, this year is going to bring him a few more firsts, etc. The School, seemingly, can teach other subjects than those connected with Signalling, and even this scribe has learned the difference between a weed and a wallflower. We live and learn!

Departures.—Our wishes go with C.Q.M.S. Bushnell who has left us for a "Voc." He was only loaned to us from 4th Divisional Signals for a short spell, but we will miss him. One of the School's most prominent members, Signalman McAvoy, also has departed to prepare himself for "Civvy Life," and he is now learning the mysteries of welding at the A.V.T.C., Hounslow. He was a very popular man, and everyone was very sorry to lose him. We wish him the very best of luck and hope he will have a very successful re-entry into civil life.

Promotions and Appointments.—Our congratulations go to C.Q.M.S. Farley on putting up the crown. That is the only one this month, I don't think we have anyone sweating now.

Sch. Sigs.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Mons Barracks.

General.—Schemes and more schemes, but we still survive. The Aldershot Tattoo has taken up quite a lot of time one way and another. Lance Sergeant McKowen and his stalwarts have, indeed, made an excellent job of the communications for this huge entertainment, which as I write is in full swing. It is hoped to publish a special article on the Tattoo very soon.

Obituary.—Perhaps some of the older hands will remember Jack Lambert the 2 ft. 10 in. dandy who used to visit the village pub (Crowborough). He passed away last week, and the following extract from a Sussex newspaper will, perhaps, be of interest.

Sussex newspaper heading: "Smallest Buffalo in the world: is not zoological." It refers to the death of 38 years old Jack Lambert, famous Crowborough character, member of Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes. He was 2 ft. 10 in. in height. A great dandy, he loved to put on his riding kit, spurs, whip and all, strutting into the local, calling for his drink, shoving a half-penny. During the War, being of military age, he was called up and startled the Military considerably by appearing in person to explain why he wasn't at the Front. He feared nothing except dogs and they were as big as lions to him.

William Hickey.

Signals Week.—More fully reported on elsewhere but a huge success.

No. 1 Company.

The greatest event of the year—The Tattoo—has certainly taken up a great deal of the Company's time, but the results are really worth it. The Tattoo is really a spectacle. In the Sporting World, too, the Company has been in the forefront. Corporal Manson as will be reported elsewhere, was in form during the Sports Meeting on 23rd May.

Arrivals.—The following new faces have been seen (sometimes) during the last few weeks: Signalmen Hart, Grint, Nicol, Martin and Williams H. They came from Catterick, while Corporal Manson and Sergeant Golder came from India. Signalman Lewis D. came from Catterick at the same time as those mentioned, but did not stay with us long, the Medical Officer deciding otherwise. Signalman Summerfield came to us from Malta after a short sojourn at Catterick en route.

Promotions.—The Promotion Roster is actually moving! Congratulations are extended to Corporal Manson, Farrier Corporal Back and Corporal King on their promotion to that rank, and Lance Corporal Vassila on being paid for his aid to F.M's. Baton.

Jew's Mail.—Signalman Beswick E. of 2nd Divisional Signals, Bulford, is requested to write to "Nick" of "A" Corps—a 1½d. stamp is required.

J.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Shakespeare once said that some are born great, others have greatness thrust upon them. The latter class now includes this scribe, the former having departed somewhat hurriedly a couple of days before these notes were due, so taking up my reins of office here goes. Quite a number of the Company

are sporting red badges and are officials at The Tattoo, getting home just in time to waken the Orderly Cook for breakfast. It's advisable not to mention massed bands and car parks to them until the English summer has gone ; and it's due any afternoon now.

Arrivals.—We welcome all the arrivals from other Stations and hope that their stay will be enjoyed.

Departures.—We have said farewell to Corporal Cockayne, Signalmen Ryan and Brett who swell the ranks of the Old Comrades and we wish them all they hope for. " Taffy " has obtained a post on the Cardiff Post Office, so look you, chaps, press button B and get your money back. Well I never !

Au revoir. BUNNY.

No. 4 W/T Company.

Apologia.—It is felt that some apology is necessary for the pathetic absence of notes in previous months. Brief notes of Part II Order type were hurriedly prepared last month, but on submission were found to be too late. In future it is hoped that notes from this Company will not be conspicuous by their absence, which does not mean that they will be very conspicuous by their presence and one can but try to make them interesting.

Arrivals.—Recent arrivals from overseas and elsewhere include the following : Sergeant Newmarsh from China, Sergeant Gresham from Catterick, Sergeant Grocett from India (Bombay and Poona), Lance Sergeant Chesters from Catterick, Corporal Osborne from India (Pindi and Wana). Corporal Barron, who was to have joined this Section, exchanged with Corporal Osborne and proceeded to N.I.S.C.

Departures.—Nil (unless you count Lance Corporal Millichip to join the ranks of the sleeping out wallas).

General.—Nothing very much of interest to those outside Sections. Lots of schemes, etc., and of course vile weather, but that I suppose is being experienced all over the country. Oh ! to be in Wana now that summer is here, we would at least be warm.

Signals Week will, undoubtedly, be reported in Sports Notes, so I will leave it to far more experienced hands than mine to express our pleasure and enjoyment of the fine show the Display team gave.

The age of miracles apparently has not passed, for David (Sinjun) has, of late, been studying " Sporting Life," and what is more strange actually did a stable piquet. There is a connection between the two and there's no knowing what inside information he got straight from the horse's mouth in the wee small hours of the morning for, as usual, he is clam like.

The Wrecker has been at it again. How that lad hates lorries, he always manages to fix 'em somehow. If he could fix his jaw like he fixed the aerial what tranquility there would be in 14 West.

Buckshee Post.—1. To the locals of Wana. How's things ? Have they changed from Revolver Brand yet, and is the new Babu jake ? Never know when we might return. Jacko and Ossie.

2. To Hetty and Jerry and Bob. Acknowledge Abyssinia ! Busty and the Frog.

Gardening.—Someone must have made a study of Barleux's Notes on Gardening in the past, for there is a decided improvement in the state of the garden round 14 East, and little somethings sprouting up all over the place which will need a lot of christening. Do you stock garden labels, Barleux, or what do you advise ?

Tailpiece.—Hasta la vista.

OSSIE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The Whitsun vacation having come to end last week, our thoughts once more turn towards the Camp at Thursley, that delectable little spot, where it is our usual practice to spend a fortnight each year. Unfortunately the holiday period this year was marred by the inclemency of the weather, and one was apt to think that it was Christmas leave they had proceeded on instead of Whitsun.

Signals Week.—Signals Week was held here during the latter part of May. Regrettably the Unit only managed to obtain second place in the Inter-Unit Sports, though those who competed did their very best and are worthy of our congrtaulations.

Arrivals.—We have recently been joined by twelve new arrivals from the Training Battalion : Signalmen Calderwood, Dent, Fifield, Hazard, McGraw, Owen, Paisley, Scott R., Scott G., Spence, Stanley and Weeks, and to these we extend the glad mitt of welcome, and hope that they will soon settle down in our midst and like it. The C.S.M. told the N.C.O. i/c of a certain Section, who had been struggling along with very few men, that he was to have nine of them ; his face lit up with joy, and he was heard muttering for hours after, " Nine men, good heavens, what shall I do when I get nine men." He is slowly recovering, and we hope that he will survive if he is offered a few more.

We welcome our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. R. Neale, who is already known to a number of us, and sincerely hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one. We also welcome Lieutenant L. D. M. Patterson from No. 3 Company, and it is with regret that we part with Lieutenant G. A. Dutton who has gone to No. 3 Company in relief.

Departures.—A number of the lads have left us for the Army Reserve recently, and I am pleased to relate have obtained employment, among them are Ossie Copeman (Wazdist please note), and Signalman Gower E. Signalman Dickens J. has left us on discharge (compassionate grounds), whilst a vast multitude can be heard muttering " Only six months more," " Roll on my Voc " and many such exclamations as are not here mentionable.

Training.—Training is now in full swing, and up to date we are putting up a good show, but the real thing will have to be got down to during our stay at Thursley. Our only hope is that " King Sol " will come out and give us shirt sleeve parades.

Congratulations.—We congratulate Corporal Hughes on being promoted to that rank, and Lance Corporal Bennett on being paid for his " yard of tape."

Questionnaire.—Does Taffy still belong to the Krinkle Krice League (ZKD Branch) ?

Is Earls Court Station the largest underground station in the world, if so, why ?

Has Tich bought a share in the Streatham Common Chair Co.?

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

There is nothing really exciting to report this month. No doubt Signals Week will have been reported elsewhere as this was the only event of note. Unfortunately our star athletes were not to be seen this year and it was not a brilliant affair for us. We hope that Catterick will send us some " good un's " next year.

The bloke that usually writes these notes is attending a function in connection with his recent coming of age so the news will be rather brief. He has promised to continue next month so I will leave it until then for all the scandal.

Obituary.—We regret to report that Corporal Peake's wife passed away on the 27th of last month, and we all extend our heartfelt sympathy to him in his great loss.

Marriages.—Signalman Riley decided that living out is better than doing a hut job and got married on 6th June. We hope you enjoy every success and happiness Jock.

General.—Those of you who had heard of Signalman Robertson's serious accident in March will be pleased to know that he is now progressing favourably and getting back to normal.

I am sorry I cannot stop for any more as I am being chased again for my part 2's, and business comes before pleasure.

292.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Before the usual monthly commentary, I have a story to tell you of a little incident that took place a couple of weeks ago. The scene is laid at Guildford Lido, where bathers were sporting themselves in the manner peculiar to bathers. From out of the blue, as it were, there strolled nonchalantly a hero of magnificent proportions. His sun-tanned body glistened in the noonday sun. Little did the watching multitude anticipate the thrill that was in store for them. With an unaffected air of indifference he ascended the steps leading up to the top diving board. The throng stood staring with mingled awe and wonderment as they realised that he intended to take a dive from this terror-inspiring height, especially as such a thing had not taken place before in all the annals of the Lido. On reaching his destination the Greek god poised, then tested the pliability of the board. With a contemptuous remark to his menials (?) he appeared to hesitate, then with the same unconcern as he ascended he also descended without accomplishing that which

the crowd waited for. The moral of this, Hum, is that pride comes before a fall, as I am informed that you found yourself paying for tea for three at Lyons' cafe afterwards. The next event was, of course, the Old Comrades' visit. We were extremely pleased to have them with us again and quite a number turned up. It is a well-known fact that a criminal always returns to the scene of his crime. As I have little doubt that quite a deal will be said about this in other parts of the WIRE, I think that I can be excused omitting reference to the Church Parade, etc. The All Ranks Dance that took place later on in the week was a great success, and amongst many items of amusement I think reference should be made to the following :

Signalman : " May I see you home, please ? "

Doris : " Certainly ; I'll send you a photo as soon as I arrive."

The display team also are worthy of extra commendation, and in view of the fact that the machines are not strengthened in any way it allows us to be really proud of them. I may also mention that a certain Lance Corporal was so impressed by their show that he needs must have a display of his own. Although it was private and was held in London, we nevertheless wonder if he has read the tenth commandment : Thou shalt not shove thy neighbour's car, nor his bumpers, nor his glass, nor anything that is his.

Promotions.—We hear that U/Lance Corporal Spencer has received the pay for his leadership and we congratulate him on the same. It is true, Pat, that " One man's mit is another man's poison."

Marriages.—I cannot give you the details of the one that has taken place this month, as the N.C.O. concerned evidently intended it to remain a secret, but it was no good, as he was watched. Again a motto serves, " Fools step in where angels fear to wed."

The Month's Selection from the Barrack Room.—

S.M. : " What shall we do about these men who have left to join a nudist colony ? "

C.O. : " Oh, just put them absent without leaves."

Ethel : " You remind me of a bullet."

Bob : " Do I ? "

Ethel : " Yes. Just Dum Dum."

The Poet comes into his own.—

DEDICATED TO MOLESKIN'S MARRIAGE.

I rise up early every morn,
Feed the cows and blow the horn.
I sometimes curse and shock the corn,
For I'm a farmer now.

I milk the milkweeds night and day,
I watch the eggplants lay and lay,
I punch the cows and hit the hay,
For I'm a farmer now.
I've got a scarecrow. Yes, sirree.
And when I'm standing near it, see,
The one that looks the worst is me,
For I'm a farmer now.

I've got a patch of weedy greens,
I've got a patch of weeds and greens,
I've got some patches on my jeans,
For I'm a farmer now.

I sow my oats, and whose to blame
If some are wild and some are tame ?
For tame or wild they look the same,
For I'm a farmer now.

There's poison ivy here and there ;
There's some beneath my underwear ;
It's in my shirt and everywhere,
For I'm a farmer now.

I trail the mower in zig-zag rows ;
I follow it where e'er it goes ;
But where it's going goodness knows,
For I'm a farmer now.

My life is full of weeds and woes,
And bugs and worms and thievin' crows,
And this and that, and these and those,
For I'm a farmer now.

As a closing item I forward the Signals' March music as played on the mouth organ by a well-known exponent of that instrument. The rendering is very flat in a Morris Minor and arranged by accident. Puff, blow blow, puff puff, blow puff puff, blow blow, blow, puff puff !

That is the last puff I have in me, so with apologies for the abbreviated notes this month I bid you adieu.

MOLESKIN.

Air Defence Brigade Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks,
13th June.

General.—Night training with the 1st A.A. S/L Group, Royal Engineers in the Blackdown Area has now come to an end, but this is only a lull before the storm. We have a number of commitments to carry out before the end of the training season. Summer leave with " Special Rate " ration allowance will take quite a number of the Company off on Friday, 19th June. On completion of summer leave the Cable Section move off to the Sussex Manoeuvre Area with the 1st A.A. S/L Group, Royal Engineers for a spot of training. We also have a big T.A. Camp to see to in the Aldershot Area during the month of August, and no doubt the " Toots " will be starting soon.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on their respective step up the ladder : Lance Corporal Rossiter P. to be Corporal with effect from 13th April, Lance Corporal Ellis G. to be Corporal with effect from 27th May, U/Lance Corporal Kirk R. to Paid Lance Corporal with effect from 13th April, Signalman Fisher R. to U/Lance Corporal with effect from 18th April, Signalmen Boughen L. and Grainger H. to U/Lance Corporal with effect from 27th April, Signalman Hodge W. to U/Lance Corporal with effect from 20th May.

Well, that's a mouthful.

Arrivals.—No. 394244 Sergeant Betts W. E. from Northern Ireland Signal Company, on 2nd June. 6456813 Signalman Mills R. C. from " A " Corps Signals with effect from 9th June. The eight other ranks who were attached to us from " A " Corps Signals to help us out in our shortage have now been posted to this Unit. They are : 2323683 U/Lance Corporal Grainger H., 4334331 Signalman Durack S., 2321264 Signalman Gorman W., 2321120 Signalman Hartley J., 2323022 Signalman Millington W., 2321995 Signalman Parsons F., 824316 Signalman Sherratt R., 2320078 Signalman Broomfield C. We trust their stay with Air Defence Brigade Signals will be a pleasant one. Sergeant Betts served in these climes way back in '25, so he should know his way about.

Departures.—No. 2323218 Signalman Smith R. D. to " A " Corps Signals on 9th June.

We Should Like To Know.—Who is the man with the plus-fours that the many enquiries were made after ?

Who or what is " TOOTS " ? Is it the name of a town or a new recreation of a certain Junior N.C.O. ?

Poet's Corner.—At the special request of a certain N.C.O. I have been asked to publish the following. Copies of this famous poem may be had on application to No. 3 Room, post free.

Leon's love light lingering lovingly,
" Toots " twirling twiddly toes,
Love lingers long lisped Leon lovingly
Too true, trilled tootling " Toots."

Tootsfellow.

I think I have said enough for one month.

JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals, Tidworth.

Cachy Barracks, Perham Down, Nr. Ludgershall, Wilts.
June.

Natter.—We are pleased to record that we have succeeded in getting rid of " B " and " C " Sections, the former to Farnborough, the latter to Lulworth. Our condolences to the 2nd and 3rd Battalions R.T.C. Incidentally, practically all that remains of the Unit is shortly due to spend a three months' holiday at Tilshead, camping out, similar to the Boy Scouts. This is a very popular move with the Unit, who think themselves very desperate dogs in a cap F.S.A.R. Probably, though, that's pure jealousy, as our cap, being only $7\frac{1}{8}$, is two sizes too small, giving the impression that we are all head.

The number of bicycles now in the Unit is extraordinary.

While admitting that we have a sceptical nature, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that the owners are necessarily in the pursuit of health. Andover and Salisbury, while excellent in their way, have the disadvantage of costing money to get at. Besides, there are many villages round here absolutely brimming over with rural charm. Ask our champion wurzel basher. Wrrrrrrrrr !

The Unit is getting all " Soup and Fish." One incorrigible has bought a car (perambulator variety), another has decorated a once excellent motor-bike with Latin tags, one of which, fronti nulla fides, is more applicable to the rider than the machine. Others are displaying a regrettable trend towards green hats and sports jackets with pleats all over the place. We have a crushing rejoinder, though—we have sent home for the old school tie.

Births.—On 15th May, to Boxer, a daughter, Kaiko.

Marriages.—Boxer to the black and white tom cat with the drooping ear.

Deaths.—It is with regret that we place on record the death of the brother of Kaiko, mentioned above. Requiescat in pace. N.B.—Her two sisters died, too, but our Latin is too rusty to include them in the obituary.

Our Playlet.—

" ORNITHOLOGIST JOE."

Scene I : Unit Office.

Sergeant B : " What's that bird out there—a Blackbird ? "

Self : " No, it's a Crow."

Sergeant B : " Never was very well up on my Horticulture."

Scene II : Wet Bar.

Barman : " You're looking rather pale. What's up ? "

Self : " Shurrup. Pint, please."

CURTAIN.

Wails.—Will Bill Bailey, now in Catterick, please look up this season's result of the Sussex v. Lancashire match ? " Don't seem right, some'ow." Woofy.

Bud, Aldershot. For the comparatively small sum of three halfpence one can buy a stamp. Thompson.

UVE ADDIT.

Tank Brigade Signals " At Home."—The Unit " At Home," which included " E " Troop Cavalry Signals, was held at Perham Down on Thursday, 21st May, 1936.

No. 21 Construction Section L. of C. Signals (S.R.) were attached to us at that time and, of course, were invited. They turned up in force and altogether about two hundred and seventy persons were entertained.

The weather turned out to be typical English May weather—dull and bright intervals—but we managed to dodge the showers, and the party was quite a success.

Corporal Warman performed valiantly with a portable loud-speaker apparatus, and Lance Corporal Wilson's imitation of a crooner on this same apparatus would, it is certain, have earned applause had there been an audience present—polite applause, at any rate.

The programme commenced with varied sports items, and these were continued until 4.15 p.m., when tea was served in the instructional block. Catering was carried out by the N.A.A.F.I. and proved to be very satisfactory—everybody came away with a very pleasant gorged feeling.

Tea was followed by a few more items in the sports line, and prizes were presented by Mrs. F. A. H. Mathew, who received three hearty cheers.

Our thanks are due to Major and Mrs. Mathew and the Officers for giving us a really enjoyable afternoon, and to Mr. R. R. Ricketts and the Corps Band, who put in some really excellent work in the way of entertainment.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—Officers.—Owing to our shortage of Officers, 2nd Lieutenant P. E. M. Bradley has been loaned to us from the 4th Divisional Signals for the Collective Training Season, and he is now commanding an Army Artillery Section. We also find him a valuable asset in athletics. Lieutenant W. J. Sims and 2nd Lieutenant C. Stagg of the Supplementary Reserve, are now undergoing their fortnightly annual attachment to the Unit.

Training.—In spite of our depleted numbers the Unit turned out and acquitted itself with credit on the 3rd Divisional Skeleton Force Exercise on the 3-5th June.

Royal Signals Band.—The Band left us for Aldershot on the 22nd May after a most enjoyable week as far as we were concerned. We hope the Band were not worked too hard and the Unit would like to thank Mr. Ricketts and his men for the excellent show they put up. The visit was rather early in the year, but as long as the weather is good it is a good time, as the Sections are all here and Collective Training has not started.

Arrivals.—From 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough, on 8th May, Driver Smeaton J. From the Depot Battalion on 9th May, Sergeant Quinn W. From the Signal Training Centre on 12th May, Signalman Smith A. From the Training Battalion on 30th April, Corporal Holloway W. ; on 19th May, Signalmen Hewitt F., Gray R., Grove N., Harding L., Hopcroft H., Pickford W., Walton C., Williams C., and Woodcock R. ; on 27th May, Drivers (I.C.) Duckering J., Fisher C. and Orchard R.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Wright V., to the A.V.T.C., Chisledon, on 4th May. Signalman Irving R., to the Training Battalion on 19th May.

Appointments and Promotions.—Appointed U/Lance Corporals on 9th May, Signalmen Ferguson F., Gilpin H., Burfield R., Lane C., Fulcher W., Stead W. and Balsom S. Lance Sergeant Tennant R. to be Sergeant with effect from 1st April. Lance Sergeant Ayres H., to be Sergeant with effect from 24th April. The following to be Corporals : Lance Corporal Wright V. with effect from 1st April, Lance Corporal Pape J. W. with effect from 8th April, Lance Corporal Bucke C. E. with effect from 14th April, Lance Corporal Kerr A. with effect from 24th April.

Education.—The following were awarded Second Class Certificates of Education on 2/3rd April : Drivers Scott W., Crook F., Sier R. and Lock V.

Marriages.—Signalman Robson W. to Zena Birell at Poole, Dorset, on 31st March.

Births.—To Lance Corporal and Mrs. G. West, a son, Peter, on 22nd May.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The Kent Agricultural Annual Show is being held at Canterbury from the 8th to 10th July. Several entries in the jumping competitions have been forwarded from the Unit and we hope to come away with a few of the cups. If " Topsy " had been home in time he could have entered his canaries, but I expect he is using them now for sending messages. They are probably a lot more useful than the pigeons he used to look after.

Marriages.—Driver Jarvis H. married to Kathleen Violet O'Sullivan at Canterbury on 18th May. Hearty congratulations from all No. 2 Company to the happy couple.

Discharges.—Signalman McDowell has left us for " Civvy Street," having been discharged on medical grounds. Signalman Holbrow also to " Civvy Street " on completion of a Vocational Training Course.

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

Apologies.—We apologise to all readers for not submitting any notes last month, and promise to do our best to avoid such a lapse in the future.

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Bushnell has left us to undergo a Vocational Training Course at Hounslow, and we wish him success both in his course and his search for work. Sergeant Catchpole was recently discharged on medical grounds. Hard luck, Sergeant Catchpole ! May you have a quick recovery!

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on their recent step up the ladder : Lance Sergeants Wellock and Varley, Corporals Evans and Camp, U/Lance Corporals Raymond and Field. We hope the last two will soon lose the U/.

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Wellock on being presented with a daughter (Diana), at the Helena Hospital, Shorncliffe, on 28th April, also to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Raymond on being presented with a son (Victor John), on the same date and at the same hospital.

Arrivals.—A hearty welcome is given to the following on being posted to this Company : C.S.M. McEwan from No. 2 Company, Lance Sergeant Varley from 5th Divisional Signal Company.

Attachments.—Twelve Privates from the 10th Infantry Brigade are attached for a course of training in Infantry Brigade Signal Section work. The Company is now at full stretch to cope with all the demands made upon it.

Finale.—Cheerio ! till next month. THREE COY.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

Having safely seen the month of May out and recovered from the shock of what the Driver told the Inspecting Officer on the Annual Horse Inspection, I can settle down to my monthly wanderings.

Annual Weapon Training commenced during the month, and the butts at Scalby are now well laden with expended .303. A proportion, of course, is, as usual, directly behind the targets, but judging from the unseemly waving of flags, the remaining proportion appears to have gone behind anything else it was possible for it to go.

It is very peculiar how nothing seems to behave properly on these occasions. Even the "bandoliers, 50 round," couldn't behave themselves and in one rapid practice I observed three deliberately go on the wearers, wrong end up and over the wrong shoulder. Naturally I am not going to single out the individuals wearing them, but I have no doubt we ourselves would have the same difficulty if asked to put on a Sam Browne. Regarding 4th Divisional Signals notes of last month, have you congratulated " Rastus and his Rascals ? " If you haven't, what about doing so. They have asked you to. Even more, they invite you to Canterbury to see them. Unfortunately we cannot spare the time, but never worry, " Rastus and Rascals," we have heard you—just a little too much trumpet.

Another riot of promotions. Congratulations to Corporals Weller and Farmer, and to Lance Corporals Barlow and Marshall, on joining the idle rich. Let us also congratulate Sergeant Carnell, M.M., on the addition of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to his already overladen chest. Some earn them and never get them, some get them and never earn them, others, the people we congratulate, both earn them and get them.

Gas instruction now heads the bill, and our Gas Instructor is endeavouring to fill our heads with very useful and essential knowledge, and at the same time fill our nostrils with very unpleasant smells, produced in real " Stinks " Master fashion from an array of pails I.G., bottles, phials, and other articles of his stock-in-trade. Shortly, we are to take to wearing gas masks as a regular routine, when they will become as important a part of our daily make-up as our trousers, as it were. However, as the respirator is the last item to be put on, there is very little danger of the absent-minded concentrating too much on their respirators and forgetting their trousers. And just think of the compensations, everyone will have an equal chance at the N.A.A.F.I. counter, all looking alike in respirators.

The N.A.A.F.I. counter (men's side) appears to be a bigger centre of attraction these days than the Marine Drive. This, probably, is due to the games provided in the Institute by the P.R.I.—and probably it isn't. May I add a word of warning. It is still Leap Year 1936. And now a prophecy, nobody will take the slightest notice. Anyhow, why should they. Better be caught in 1936 than 1963, that is, if you want a big family to keep you in luxury in your old age.

The Scarborough Home Week is to be held during June, and, as in previous years our personnel and horses will be taking part in the procession. The characters fortunately centre only round the history of Scarborough, and we are, therefore, rather relieved to find we shall not be called upon to find portrayals of " Lady Godiva," " Genesis," or the " Queen of Watering Places."

We note with pleasure the writings from the 5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt. It is regretted, however, that, although we 'ave hexplored hevery havenue, it would not be in the interests of the country to disclose the formulae under which our strength at Scarborough is arrived at, apart from the fact that I have no desire to participate in any of the " such less punishments as are in the Act mentioned."

Regarding this sort of " information " generally, I would like to conclude with the warning, that any information I may give pertaining to the disposition of troops, strength of the Cookhouse staff, etc., are as a rule not quite correct, and merely intended to deceive the enemy, and just in case he is wondering where everyone is, mislead the Devil.

W.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—The outstanding events of the month have been the Annual Shoot, Officers versus W.O.s and Sergeants, and the Snooker Tournament. The former took place on the usual Scalby Beck Range and was not such a one-sided affair as in previous years. In the past the W.O.s and Sergeants have beaten their opponents with ease, but this year the result was a draw, each side winning 5 matches and 1 halved, sorry, I should have said drawn. Half-time was spent in the usual manner, but I suggest that, in future, half-time is observed before we start.

The annual Sergeants' Mess Shoot for the Cup and Spoon was also incorporated in the above shooting match and according to remarks it is hard to say which result was the most interesting. Several members of the Mess tried hard for the Wooden Spoon and until the last exercise (rapid) was fired, five or six members fancied each others chances. Sergeant Clarke C. A. annexed the Cup at last, whilst R.Q.M.S. Todd, M.B.E., adds another Shield to the long handled spoon. Being his first time on the Range he can claim Territorial disadvantages.

The final of the Snooker Tournament was played the same evening as the Shooting Cup and Spoon were presented. C.S.M. Brandon versus C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Anderson were the Snooker finalists and the issue at the end of the game rested in favour of C.S.M. Brandon. The handicap did not alter matters and C.S.M. Brandon once more carried off the Mess Championship.

The prize for the highest break was won by the Caterer. I'll tell you his name in a minute. To all our members abroad, especially Nick, listen carefully while I inform you who scored the highest break—Sergeant Lambke (18). Having told you he was Caterer saves such a lot of queries, doesn't it ?

To the T.A. members who have just spent a fortnight with us we wish the best of luck. It's a pity we couldn't arrange that farewell " do, " but having spent a few months in Scarborough we understand.

The condolences of all Mess Members are offered to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Millross in the recent sad loss of their baby daughter.

Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

June.

There have been a few changes in Company Headquarters since submitting our last notes. We welcome our first I.P.C., Lieutenant Roberts, on appointment from Catterick, and hope he will like N.I.D.

The Annual Classification of Signallers has been completed and we are preparing for Battalion Exercises, as there is no concentration this year, in fact, our old pack Sections will shortly be retiring no longer to tramp the roads of Ballykinler, middle and other foreign stations.

We have now a C.S.M., our first for a number of years, and also a C.Q.M.S., so that with a new establishment we had to lose some Senior N.C.O.s. These were Sergeant Washford, our A/C.S.M. and Sergeant Betts, whom we were sorry to lose and hope they will like their new stations.

Another unusual event is about to happen. We have been invited to take part in an " At Home " to the public. Having accepted, we are providing various instruments and a small detachment to demonstrate Signal activity in the Army ; it is hoped to have more of this matter in our next issue.

" Time " has reached us and we are parting with our H.T. Section. To the old hands there is sentimental regret, mingled with " Utopia " in the form of no piquets. Just the same we will miss them.

The replacement will be light W/T Cars and our Fitter N.C.O. has visions of more work and is already instructing drivers, whilst " Q " seemed to have an endless number of vouchers and huge books.

The Line Section, comprising two, disappear after breakfast and return later in the evening looking very brown, and murmur something about communications. Frankly, we are still under reconstruction.

The Part II's (orders we mean), seem to be good this month, so we will look up past issues and repeat :

Promotions.—C.Q.M.S. Rankin J. to be C.S.M., Lance Corporal Stretch G. to be Corporal. Our congratulations to both.

Remusterings.—Signalman Yard to Operator Biii. Our congratulations to the Storeman.

Postings.—Sergeant Washford B. and Family to 1st Div. Aldershot, Sergeant Betts and Family to A.A. Signals, Blackdown Our best wishes to both.

Arrivals.—From Egypt—Corporal Dargan, Signalmen Smith A. D. and McCully. From T.B.—Signalmen Betley, Coomber and Cade. To all we extend a welcome and hope they like N.I.D.

Moves—Inter-Unit.—Corporal Barron from Belfast to Armagh, Corporal Shillitto from Armagh to Belfast, Signalman Hutchinson from Belfast to Armagh, Signalman Joint from Belfast to Ballykinler, Lance Corporal Turner from Baronscourt to Belfast, Signalman Roy from Derry to Baronscourt, Signalman Faulkner from Belfast to Derry.

Miscellaneous Humour.—Company awakening Monday morning—water cold—sarcastic Signalman raves of 8.15 and we found an amendment—not so humorous.

Sunday morning—awakening—fat head—big end resultant—minus several things.

Things we are trying to solve—The genuine interest of the Company in Woolworths'.

Out-Station News.—Quite a few of our out-station correspondents have sent in their notes; it is like old times to hear all stations oscillating. We have also had news from old hands, Corporal Wootton is now stationed at Quetta, Lance Corporal Thomson, Corporal Salmon and Signalman Cade at Meerut. Corporal King and Signalman Stevens are at Wazirdist. All wished to be remembered to the Company. Signalman Barker who left in 1934 for Aden is on his way, if not already, home, and wished to be remembered to the old hands.

Armagh.—This is our dramatic reappearance of notes from Armagh and the writer hopes to continue in the future.

The Section having concluded their course of pokey drill, have now fired their Annual Course, and, much to the astonishment of their instructors, kind members of the Depot Staff who gave us many hints and most of all the detachment, the results are extremely good.

Here, there is no Continental Cafe or Woolworths' Cafeteria, so we just have to be content with the more humble fare in less glamorous surroundings. Anyway, who goes up to either of the aforementioned Signals' haunts for bread alone?

Signalman McLuskie is much in the public eye these days, owing to the success of a dance number which he composed and wrote quite recently. It has only been played in Armagh as yet, but its quality suggests a much wider appeal in the future—which prompts me to remark 'tis much better to live with a composer than a crooner (with apologies to Cassidy).

The supt. of the station has been changed. Corporal Shillitto having gone to Headquarters we have Corporal Barron in his stead and with two Scotchmen on the Staff, the air is pretty rank with the clashing of accents.

That concludes the efforts this month. Cheerio.

JOCK H.

Dunree.—With the arrival of the W.D. Launch in readiness for the coming R.A. Shoot the work of our Section is becoming more acute.

Thanks to Sergeant Toogood's "staking his claim," we have recently become the proud possessors of another piece of ground, which having been thoroughly excavated (huge rocks, bones and scrap iron, etc.), is now transformed into a beautiful, well laid out garden. Although the entire Section lent a hand the chief honours go to Lance Corporal Clarke for its design. Without "Dad" Dutchy the big rocks would have stayed put. A certain few have also acquired the ambition to become "eddicated," and are attending school for their first. Algebra seems to be the pet subject and one bright person who was asking what X should equal was politely informed to look it up in the X number series. Strange noises similar to those made by American express trains have been heard just lately proceeding from the Signal's quarters. We expect our friends in Belfast know who is responsible and sympathise with us in our affliction. A trip on the launch is the special item for Whit-Monday, weather permitting. Never in the history of the fort has A.F.B. 295 been so much patronised as of late, "What's going on round here"?

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Davidson A. from Belfast in relief of Signalman Maddison.

Departures.—We mourn the departure of our dear Willy Maddison, of "Char Swindling Fame."

Queries.—"Who is Hatchet-face?"

Busty Derry: "Where did you get that hat?"

Knowledge.—"SILENCE." Something you don't hear when you listen hard for it. Subject to next month's issue—What is nothing?

Sport.—Tennis is extremely popular in this Section. Who knows, we may have another Perry in our midst. It also provides a means of slimming without the elimination of beer and other good things. At least we know a person who thinks so. On these sunny days, in one of the splendid bays around here, a good deal of swimming and sun bathing is indulged in. I am afraid, though our ideas are in common with those of the Nudists (so much in the limelight those days).

Hebrew Correspondence.—"Johnny," somewhere in Egypt, how about it? Slav and DS 2323789.

Chota. How's the Chicko? Uncle Zube.

So until next month, cheerio.

JORDI.

Magilligan.—Although there are only three of us we find life not so bad at present despite the weather.

Things we would like to know: Why a certain number of the detachment at Magilligan is so fond of the set that he has arranged a mirror in such a position that he can see it when his back is turned.

AZF.

Lenan.—News seems to be in the background but we feel sure that the training season will bring that long awaited "rush." Anyhow, here's the bit from AZJ.

The Call to Arms has been very frequent here of late, all of this culminating itself into a 24 hour manning parade. One Signalman wanted to know "Do you really think they could do without



Part of the Cliffs at Fort Lenan—Loch Swilly.

me if there's an alarm to-night, as I'm too awfully tired." Awfully awkward, eh, you bounders.

Two of our personnel having taken over the duties of dancing hosts to the fort, it is now possible to hear the gunners murmuring "Plain—One pearl two—One-two-three-Miss a stitch—Hold me tight—Round again, so on and come forth." But we really should mention that Sidney is making great headway with his concertina (piano-accordion to you), although this same instrument is very susceptible to atmospherics.

Arrivals.—Signalman Wise arrived here from Dunree. This potential runner is eagerly awaiting Sports Day.

Photography.—Among our personnel we have a Signalman who has a girl, who has an acquaintance, who knows a friend that goes with a chum that wears a green hat, who—anyhow, we arranged to get our snaps done on the cheap, and we are hoping to get one or two snaps published in this edition.

Suits.—Sidney has another one, this time for the great event sometime in September.

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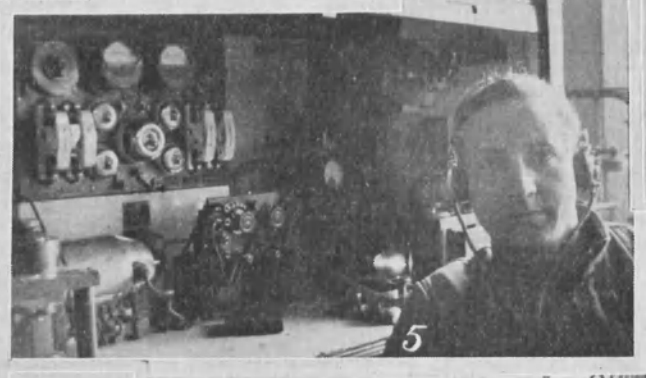
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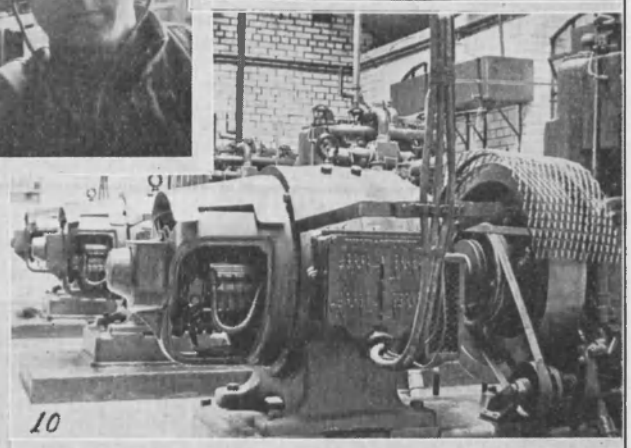

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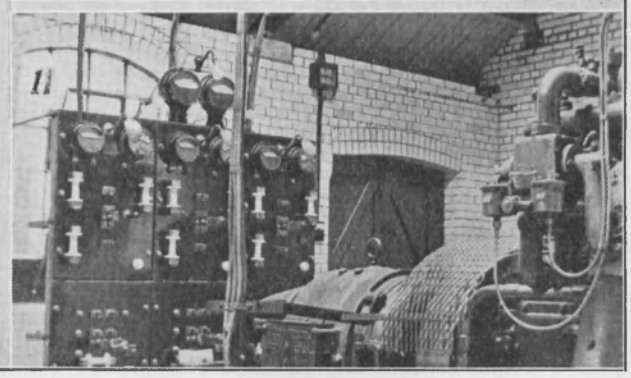

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(1) H.Q., S.I.C.D., Cricket Team.—*Left to right, back row* : Signalmen Pemberton and Bowler, Lance Corporal Richardson, Gunner Raymond R.A. *Left to right, centre row* : Bombardier Bayley, R.A., Captain Sudor, R.A.S.C., Lance Corporal McGivern, Signalman Wilmot. *Left to right, sitting* : Lance Sergeant Richardson, Doreen Richardson and Signalman Sant. Eleventh man, not in photograph, Sergeant Norris, R.A.M.C.

(2) Signalman Ansell E. G. and Mrs. Ansell.

(3) S.S. *Garthpool* on her last trip from Cork.

(4) Fort Camden Pier at mouth of Cork Harbour.

(5) Signalman Ansell E. G. on the 120-watt Set at Spike Island.

(6) S.S. *Passett*. Cork Harbour. Grain vessel from Australia.

(7) The Detachment at Bere Island : Lance Corporal Spong, Signalmen Morgan, Baker, Boldison and Healey.

(8) Signalman O'Sullivan and Mrs. O'Sullivan "on the rocks."

(9) The Irish Marvel in Architecture : St. Colman's Cathedral, Queenstown.

(10) and (11) The D.E.L. Power Station, Spike Island.

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65 Rosslyn Hill, London, N.W.3.

Who got a shake on when asked what " Q " meant ?

Who thought that S.I.D. was a Signalman at Lenan and took steps to re-direct the message.?

Jew's Corner.—F. Hughes " A " Corps, Aldershot. " How about a line ? " Sid.

" Nobby " 632 (Egypt) Ackd. Exchange in progress. Darky.

Tailpiece. So what ?

ISEGONE.

Mainly For.—Corporal Simmonds, Trimulgherry. " Congrats."

Conclusion.—Qrx July. HECME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island.
Tuesday, 9th June.

General.—The G.O.C.-in-C., Western Command, has recently paid his annual visit to these Defences, and as usual, was quite pleased with all he saw. He was particularly interested in the communications, especially wireless.

Things were very quiet here last month and are likely to be just as quiet next month. Half of the " Mad Twins " was on a brief holiday, and the other half goes this month for his " Annual" with " Special."

" Oscillations " are back to normal and the smile is now lost for another year.

The " Big Shake " list has been round again. The number of optimists is amazing. Fancy wanting to go to Jamaica. When is ambition going to creep into your system ? Ne'mind Nobby, it might work. I, personally, suggest another diagram.

Four dishevelled Signalmen have recently made an application to be placed in charge of pigeon lofts. I may ask and wonder why. Let me see—Ohms law states : Perhaps it is easier to find the angle of attack of a pigeon's beak at half speed after all. Better luck next time " us " guys. Just fancy, though, after counting all those names on the promotion roster.

" . . . the resistance of the earth must be taken into consideration. It is obvious that sandy country will have more resistance than country which has numerous lakes and iron mines, etc." (as was added on the bottom of test paper) " Hops in Kent." I wonder if this fellow had been studying propagation and dissipation of wireless waves too long ? I wonder—as the sparrow bird said one day, much to the delight of the Cannibal King—" Am I mortified " ?

These Defences have been somewhat " bucked " during the last week by the flying visit of the Royal Artillery Band from Portsmouth. The programmes were of various types and were suitable for all ears. The Officers had their " At Homes " and " Guest Nights " with music from the " Foundations." The other ranks had their dances and band concerts with an assortment of tunes. Great praise is due to the individual instrumentalists of the band, especially the bandsman with the Good Conduct Badges that finished where the epaulet started, who could play nine instruments at once. Teddy Brown had nothing on the xylophonist.

Next month's debate will be led by the " Duke," and the subject to be taken will be " Chief Authors.",

To someone somewhere in India. Who can't spell " Chabbie "? 'Tis said that allowances must be made for married men vide Pay List, viz. Marriage Allowance. It is also said that flies in winter go to Egypt. Is this correct, S.E.B., or is the Flit Pump incident all bunk ? Concentrate now ! Give us the low down on that black eye, S.E.B.

Last month's WIRE correspondent has resigned his post. The reason being his inability to " find " his efforts in last month's issue. Suggest you try looking in some part of the magazine other than the " Stations Abroad " old man.

Coming Attractions.—One wedding.

Postings.—Perspirations.

Transfers.—A.E.C. ?

Dental.—Big pull-over.

Bere Island are too busy for words ! G.M.O.M. C.U.L.

SHAMROCK.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

19th May.

General.—If the old saying be true " All naughty boys go to h——l " we in Jubbulpore are all well prepared for such a warm spot. For the summer months, this spot should be re-classified in the Empire as : Grease Spots—Soldiers for the use of—Mk. IV.

Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., has just left us for six months' Blighty leave. We hope you have a jolly good time, sir. Also our Company Commander, Captain L. C. Boyd and Mrs. Boyd have left us for two months for a trip to Japan. We hope you have a good time, sir. Some might say that your boat is going in the wrong direction.

Arrivals.—The last boat of the trooper brought us quite a few new faces, and, after such a world tour as they have, we welcome them and hope that they will soon be at home in their new sphere of life. They are : C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) McCulloch, Sergeants Napier and Wilkins, Lance Sergeants Williams, Wilson and Ward, Corporals Collins and Gavins, Signalmen Steward, White, Taylor, Levett, Dunlopp, Roberts, Glover, O'Brien, Garrad and Whatton.

From Field Units we welcome Sergeant Ivey from Kohat District Signals ; Sergeant Tucker from the 4th Indian Divisional Signals ; and Signalmen Trott and Osborne from 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

Departures.—Lance Sergeants Williams, Ward and Collins and Corporal Gavins did not stay with us long ; they have now left us for Field Units. In Lance Sergeant Collins we thought the Unit had a fine catch for the athletic team, but alas, 1st Divisional Signals, 'Pindi, will benefit instead.

Signalman Davidson has left us for Waziristan District Signals, and we take this opportunity of warning that Unit against " Poachers" and, perhaps the appearance of a certain player on the tennis courts with a chopper. Signalman Wood has also left us for 1st Indian Divisional Signals.

Amendments to the " Blue Book."—They have been rather heavy this month, and we are pleased to congratulate the following upon their further advance up the ladder of fame : R.Q.M.S. Evelyn G., C.S.M. Lewis H., C.Q.M.S. Ellerton-Long A., Lance Sergeant Collins E., Corporals Croucher W., Richardson W., and Shufflebotham T. It never rains but it pours.

Congratulations also to Lance Corporal Pratt L. upon losing that Unpaid before his name.

B.O.R.s Tennis Courts.—The other week we played the Sergeants' Mess at home, and the visitors went away with the result in their favour. The main item of the day to many of us was, of course, the tea, and for this many thanks are due to Mrs. Wheeler and her able assistant, our Secretary, Lance Corporal Marshall. However, I think that both teams enjoyed the games.

Unit Scandal.—" Quetta." Burke is still gripping.

To all cads of the Old Jubb' School. Ye Olde Chota Canteen " Beer Garden " is again in full swing.

RIP.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

May has turned out to be uncomfortably hot. Of course we are hearing the same old story, the " old soldiers " of the Station sav that it is the hottest year of the last five, and others say that " it ain't the 'eat wot gets yer down, it's the 'umidity." Meanwhile all we younger babes in the Station just stew in our own juice and get some satisfaction out of the fact that the " old soldiers " are perspiring just a little more than we are. We console ourselves with the fact that, with luck, next month's notes will be written 'midst the merry music of splashing rain.

We have spent a gay and happy month. The lawns and the lounges (ahem !) have been blessed with an unending stream of lizards ; the barrels have not been wanting in testers and tasters, and there have been so many soft drinks drunk as coolers that the price has come down with a bang to a penny. (Cheers feebly heard through the gargles).

Welcomes are extended to several who have come into the net. From home C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) McCulloch, Sergeants Wilkins, Wilson and Ward and families and Sergeants Napier and Williams. Of these Sergeants Ward and Williams have left us straight away for other Units, whilst the remainder are preparing to get dug in.

We also welcome Sergeant Ivey J. E. T., from Kohat and Sergeant Bramwell L. back from leave. The former fresh from a Frontier Station wears his hosetops and chaplies with an easy grace and talks of his last spell in the Depot in —— (to mention the date would be a Crim—ea). The latter is inexplicably restless and yearns to move from his old bachelor haunts to fresh climes (or climbs, at Dalhousie).

Greetings also to a brand new H.M.V. wireless set in which we have invested. Music potted, slotted and clotted now pours forth to delight the ears of all and sundry at all times.

We whisper weeping farewells to S.M. (Foreman of Signals) King and Mr. Mackie, who have left us during this month. Mr. King leaves us for England and Mr. Mackie to join the staff at the Gun Carriage Factory, which means that we shall not lose sight of him.

We are still glad to have various members with us from other Units who are on courses, and we hope they will continue to be happy amongst us.

A Mess Mascot in the shape of Mr. Wally Draper has at last left for England on retirement. Many of his old friends of the froth will realise what a loss this is to us. He was presented with a Super-Arch Grippers Spoon (in miniature) at our last Mess Dinner. He, in turn, presented us with a golf club which has been played for by members during the last three weeks. McCulloch (St. Andrews), seems the most likely lad to get it. The rumour that Wally's tiger skin was left to cover the barrels is QUITE wrong, else what would he have to talk about at home. (Brighton papers please copy ; Brighton pubs please gloat).

The crawling roster crawls and having crawled moves on, and in its train sweeps into more exalted positions the following : C.Q.M.S. Lewis to C.S.M. ; Sergeant Ellerton-Long (alias Quilp) to C.Q.M.S. ; C.S.M. Evelyn to R.Q.M.S., and R.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) King to S.M. (Foreman of Signals).

We are also glad to note that Lance Sergeant Scott is now unlanced and that Mutt (the Modest) is STILL a Sergeant. (I wonder what it feels like to be unpopular ?). Meanwhile there are S.S.S.—Some Still Sweatin'.

The Grippers of the Mess still grip ; it was proved at the last Mess Meeting ; we tremble as we anticipate an all-night sitting. Mutt proved in a very able speech that he could still successfully balance the Kan. One man gripped so long and successfully that his breakfast was taken from beneath his nose, and he, poor creature, on returning to earth after his grip, thought he had eaten breakfast and lit a fag.

Page, fresh from England, qualified last month as the Lawn-Leech. Behind bushes, alongside flower-beds or at the Goldfish Pond, all were alike to him as he hung on to his victims—his name is on the spoon in consequence.

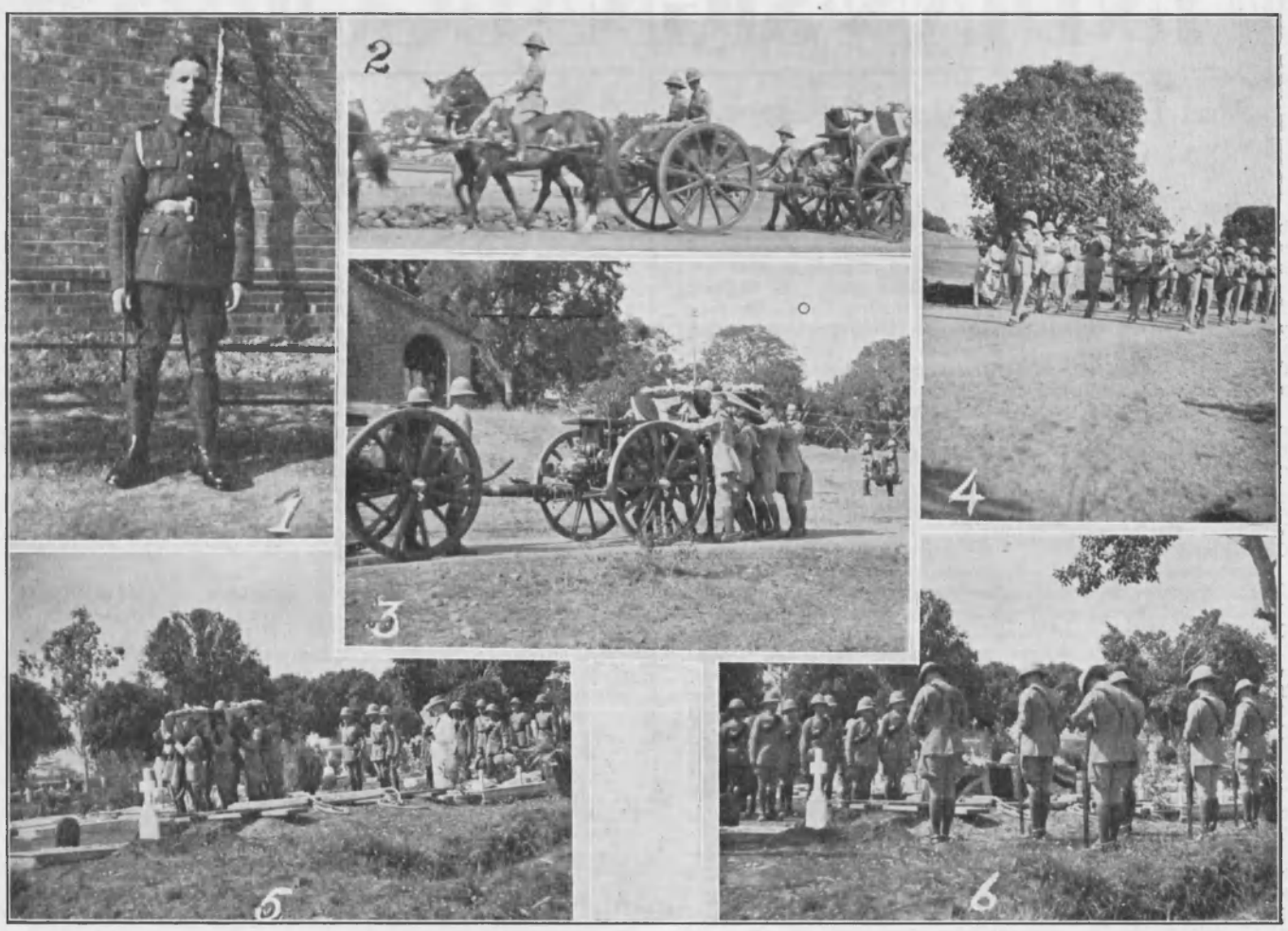
We had a most enjoyable and well-organised Games Night with the R.A. recently, when we managed to beat them on their own backyard. Evenings have passed happily ; one Sunday evening was merrily whiled away with a semi-impromptu concert. This was the opportunity for the debut of a Male Ballet Quartet (which was full of kick but not necessarily famous for its beauty of face or figure).

A Miniature Golf Course is being arranged circling the outside of the Tennis Courts ; maybe this is so that the ladies will be able to hear their husbands' fine flow of the English language !

Many of us are busy on concert rehearsals and much fun is evident in consequence ; there will be more of this anon but at present all you may know is that we are NOT sleeping in the afternoons, despite the 'umidity.

And what of the " Wallace " Cup, which has been won by the Depot after many years ? Did they not tell you that six of the team were Sergeants, which brought both the average age and service of the team up to unbelievable figures ? Good show, you veterans.

And did they not tell you also of the message from the hospital received by someone in the Signal Depot ? " Please send a draughtsman up to the hospital." The whole of the last Draft was duly paraded and waited for nearly two hours at the hospital until the joke (?) was discovered. Who wouldn't be a Drafty ?



1. Signalman Harvey. 2. The Gun Carriage and Coffin. 3. Lifting the Coffin off the Gun Carriage. 4. The Head of the Funeral Procession. 5. At the Graveside. 6. The Burial Service.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of No. 2323079 Signalman Harvey W., of 4th Indian Divisional Signals, from heart failure due to heat exhaustion. This unfortunate incident is rendered all the more poignant by the fact that Signalman Harvey only came out to India in the latter half of February. After a short stay at Unit Headquarters in Trimulgherry, he was posted for duty with " F " Signal Section at Jubbulpore, at the end of April.

He was admitted to the British Military Hospital, Jubbulpore, on 11th May, 1936, and on subsequent days he seemed to be progressing satisfactorily. He collapsed, however, about 11 a.m. on 14th May, and although every effort was made to revive him, he died at 5 p.m. that night.

Although Signalman Harvey had only been with the Unit for a short while he had impressed us with his personality and his will to do his best. The Unit is poorer by losing him.

The funeral took place at the Military Cemetery at Jubbulpore on the morning of 15th May. The chief mourners were Captain F. K. Morton, Royal Signals, Sergeant Penfold A. and Lance Sergeant Brown C., all members of his Section ; the firing party and pall-bearers were from the Section and the Signal Training Centre ; the gun carriage was provided by 15th Field Brigade, R.A., and the band of the 1st Battalion The Leicestershire Regiment led the funeral procession. The funeral was attended by members of Headquarters, " R," " S," and " U " Batteries, R.A., the Adjutant of 15th Field Brigade, R.A., an Officer representative from the Signal Training Centre and the Indian Ranks of his Section.

Wreaths were sent from his Section, the Unit, Signal Training Centre, 15th Field Brigade, R.A., the Sergeants' Mess of 15th Field Brigade, R.A., and " S " Battery, R.A.

A letter of condolence, expressing the deepest sympathy was sent to Signalman Harvey's parents by the Commanding Officer.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

Upper Topa.

General.—Our customary scribe has left us for a short (we hope) sojourn in the B.M.H. Bharian, and the powers that be, realising how efficient I am at most things, decided that I was the only man qualified to fill his shoes, so here I am.

We are all very busy at present owing to the training season having started. Everyone is trying to find the elusive electron, and we understand on good authority that Young's Modulus is still modulusing, but even that cannot upset our usual good spirits as the unusually long spell of warm, dry weather amply compensates for the mental and physical exhaustion caused by the training and " Khud " climbing.

Actually we are a very cosmopolitan crowd, the leave bungalow is full of leave wallahs and the Companies are composed of details from 1st Divisional Signals and the Cavalry Troops, all hoping to be experts in their respective trades by the time the courses finish.

Here's another item which should go in the births column but I'll put it here while I think of it. We've got a dance band, yes, a real one, it is only in its puppy stage yet, but plenty of practice should see outside bookings coming in. Lance Corporal Phillips is the leader and pianist (sit up and beg, Phil), but our greatest asset is Mrs. McIntosh on the piano-accordian, and everyone agrees that she is good, personally I think she ought to be, she comes from the same place as myself.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following are to be congratulated on attaining their respective ranks: C.S.M. Price to R.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S. Saul to C.S.M., Sergeant Paskins to C.Q.M.S., Lance Sergeant Bye to Sergeant, Lance Corporals Bell and Bellinger to Corporal, U/Lance Corporals Brookes, Payne, Maudsley, and Dix to Lance Corporal, Signalmen Baker (Doughy) Walker T., Greaves, Keenlyside, Townsend, Cook A. and Bradbury to U/Lance Corporals.

Departures.—We wish the best of luck to: Lance Sergeant Tennant, Lance Corporals Brakenbury and Jordan, and Signalman Williams, who embarked on the *Dorsetshire* for cooler climes (roll on my five).

Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Having moved to Topa, we have endeavoured to instil a little life in the Mess, and a weekly Whist Drive and Tennis " At Home " are items that show signs of flourishing. The teas, which are a feature of the latter, are voted a huge success, especially by the dining members. (Get 'em Back Box).

Promotions.—Promotion beer has duly been provided by the following, to whom we offer the best on their recent promotions: R.Q.M.S. Price, C.S.M. Saul, C.Q.M.S. Paskins and Sergeant Bye. Busty also gets admitted to the Married Quarters roll, but he says we must wait for his Memsahib to arrive before he'll wet that.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Geraldine, daughter of R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Price, who died in Murree after a short illness; also of Valerie, daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. Richards, to whom we extend our heartfelt and sincere condolences.

Jew's Mail or Palestine Post.—To 073, Jimmie C. Do you remember anyone by the name of Molly? Abdul F.

To 1404, Maxie Z. What's the price of beer in Canterbury? Don't forget Goose Week, will see you out here next tomato season.

Nellie, Oudham. Wot of the Sea Mail. Joe.

Buck, Bulford. Regards to all. Who said I couldn't take it? but even I have my limitations. Arthur.

Spud, Glesca. The bacon wallah was very excited on learning of your elevation to the peerage, what about some pork chops?

Jock. Saw your agony. Am writing.

Things We Want To Know.—Who are the two juniors who are taking a course in house furnishing, Class iii, and will there be a new " Q " sheet issued?

Does the tongue of a relay hang out when it is thirsty?

What is the prize for the largest butterfly collection in the Unit, and who will present it?

RENARD.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

28th May.

General.—Since the last issue of notes many of this Unit have made tracks for Upper Topa; some as instructors, others on courses, and the more fortunate ones to represent the Unit in football and boxing. The hockey team is still here training hard, reducing avoirdupois, and acquiring that lean, tanned appearance which speaks for itself. Although we are sadly depleted here at Pindi, the few die-hards that remain are keeping up the good name of the Unit, and the normal trend of routine still goes on. We wish our various teams much success in the forthcoming tournaments, and hope to be able to write glowing accounts of their efforts in our next month's notes. The teams started training in good time, and much good work has been done. An atmosphere of keenness and confidence prevails, a wholesome sign, which augurs well for more than ordinary success in each branch of sport for which we have entered teams.

The summer seems to have made a rapid advance, and there is every indication that we are in for a sweltering time, such as is only peculiar to the Punjab and the North West Frontier Provinces, with its hot dust-laden winds. Most of the families are up in the hills, and in consequence our messing strength has increased considerably, though each week-end there is a noticeable diminution in dining members of the Sergeants' Mess.

Arrivals.—Corporal Collins E. and Signalman Wood C. from S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore. Lieutenant C. D. Gardiner and Corporal Hopwood C. from Saugor, after a successful sojourn with the Equitation School.

Departures.—Signalmen Trott W. and Osborne A., to S.T.C., Jubbulpore.

Promotions and Appointments.—Heartiest congratulations to the following on attaining their respective ranks: Sergeants Bevis M., Stickley H., Lance Sergeant Collins E., Corporal Cleveland W., and Lance Corporals Woolls and Pollard on being paid.

Trade Boards.—Signalmen Allen N., Clarke R. and Daffern R., are to be congratulated on having obtained their Operator Signals Class I rating, and the extra that goes with them. Well done!

Night Route Marches.—Every Wednesday the Unit turns out for a Route March—this has been going on for the past five weeks. We have become so used to them now that were we to miss a night march things would not seem quite the same. One begins to think that they are becoming more popular than was at first anticipated. We march out from Barracks each Wednesday in the cool of the evening, and jaunt along with a steady swing. The Rivers have been our objectives during the past three weeks, where a quarter of an hour's dip makes a pleasant break as opposed to an " all-round " route march. I'm sure Unit Headquarters will back me up here.

As we have now a goodly supply of sand from the Sohan for sand baths, we shall, in all probability, explore new places.

Condolences.—We offer deepest sympathy to R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Price of " A " Corps in their sad bereavement.

Personal.—Our official scribe will be back from Topa in a few days and will be able to give you a galaxy of news in our next month's notes. He has an uncanny aptitude for snooping items of interest. So, till next month, we bid all our readers adieu.

ONEDIV.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

27th May.

Many fresh faces are to be seen in the Unit these days; in fact, we have almost a new Troop when comparison is made with that of a year ago. We are not yet mechanised, despite many whisperings from various sources, and nobody is looking forward to it. The only alteration expected is that No. 1 sets will take the place of visual terminals in the near future, and helio eyes will eventually disappear. This should ease the minds of Operators Signals, who have to learn V/T procedure for their ratings.

Recently the Troop attended the new Viceroy's Proclamation Parade on the Brigade Parade Ground. In contrast with former ceremonial parades the Brigade " ranked past " instead of going by in line. It was quite simple and the parade was very well carried out by all Units. A few days later a practice mobile column parade was ordered and inspected by the new Brigade Commander. Everything went off with a swing. At present we are down to the usual summer routine. The summers now are just about as hot as those of former years, although we have often heard, " What? fourteen years ago the temperature was twice as high as it is now." Our families have left Risalpur for the hills and are in Khanspur to spend the hot weather season. The journey this year was quite a treat as it was done by car all the way from Murree and completed within 24 hours. The usual stay at the Uniacke Club was cut out this time.

Dealing with entertainments, mention must be made of the Tennis " At Home " between the Senior N.C.O.s and the Unit Tennis Club and an outing to Upper Topa by the Junior N.C.O.s. Of the latter we shall have more to say next month. Our usual summer whist drives and socials are expected to commence in the near future.

Hockey has been to the fore and the Troop Team has reached the final of the Hot Weather Tournament. Other games played are Basket Ball events between British and Indian Ranks. So far, nobody has succeeded in throwing the Daff. Major into the net instead of the ball.

The following have left us and our good wishes accompany them, Lance Sergeants Farlow and Nuttall to Jubbulpore and Sialkot respectively, and Signalman Falkingham to Meerut. Arrivals are not so numerous but we wish the very best to Signalman Fox, who recently arrived from Meerut.

Promotions have been good considering the strength of the Unit, and the following are to be congratulated on attaining the ranks mentioned against their names, Lance Sergeants Manning, Nuttall and Andrews, Corporal Bale and Lance Corporals Sutherland and Wood.

This is the end of the news bulletin, and we can't switch over to fat stock prices as someone has thrown a piece of bread pudding into the loud speaker.

RISI.



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

1st June.

General.—There is very little to report. Sialkot does not give any scope for this column during the summer months. Interest is centred mainly on leave to the Hills and the breaking of the monsoon. Both are very welcome.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to Sergeant Scott H. J. on attaining that rank on 1st April. (Only four more steps ?).

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Shepherd W., from Waziristan District Signals.

Married Quarters Roll.—At last a couple of long awaited entries for this column. Sergeant Scott H. J. admitted on 1st March, and Sergeant Standen R. F. on 17th April.

Marriages.—Sergeant Standen R. F. to Miss May Florence Freathy on 17th April. Heartiest congratulations and very best wishes for the future.

Agony.—To Khana. Have you been round yet ? Oscar.

2CAVSIGS.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

8th June.

General.—Nothing untoward having occurred to rouse us from our usual summer lethargy, these notes will be, to say the least of it, brief. We have no matchings, hatchings or despatchings to announce, but one or two are in the pending state. Sergeant Bramwell from S.T.C. (I) in exchange for Lance Sergeant Dadswell on 16th June. Signalman Mason minus his A.J.S. to Quetta on 10th June. Congratulations to Corporal Thompson B. on his recent move to the Higher Circle.

We can now boast of every man in the Unit being in possession of at least a 2nd Class Certificate of Education. The following were successful in obtaining Firsts at the last examination : Corporal Sherrington, Lance Corporal Collett, Signalmen Rankin and Wood. Lance Corporal Dunville mastered URDU for the Special—no wonder he won't go home.

Jew's Mail.—If " Spud " has survived the rigours of the English climate and soldiering, " Mick " would be grateful for a line or two. Apologies are tendered to " Knocker " for the recent misprint.

Military Humour ?—As accommodation is scarce in the Khyber, the Landi Kotal Mortuary has been allotted to the Detachment of this Unit stationed there, for use as a Lecture Room. The brighter lads on the course are now praying for a few deaths to relieve the monotony.

Sport.—We are at present running an Inter-Section Hockey Tournament in the hope of unearthing a few " dark horses," but, apart from someone settling a grudge against the Pay Sergeant, there have been no casualties.

Sergeants' Mess.—" Whoops," we must be getting quite regular subscribers, this being the third occasion on which we hope to appear on this page. Having safely tucked our families away on that " Spur " prefixed " Khan," the Mess looks much brighter by the advent of so many extra smiling faces, either glorifying in the change or otherwise.

Who's Who.—Before entering on our " Who's Who," like most places in India, Peshawar is getting a trifle warm. It must be from the following :

(1) Seen—a gentleman fishing on a LAWN.

(2) Seen—when the sun was at its brightest, a British driver at the wheel of a car, with all his lights full on.

Continued from May " Who's Who." For the information of our competitors we give the following correction.

No. 4A. Good at cricket, shoeing, eating and sleeping but in the new category, lacks a thirst ?

No. 4. For " once a Buff " read " Once in the Queen's."

No. 10. A good liver, mends watches, watches accounts.

No. 11. A king at athletics, soccer and solitaire, lately from the North-East coast at home.

No. 12. A walker, but sometimes suffers from petrol feet.

No. 13. A grand rotund gentleman of the N.W.F. At the moment has a penchant for the " Afridis."

No. 14. Sibley, Soberly and Cheery.

No. 15. Meerut, Peshawar, now leave ex India. Cricket, Soccer, Hockey, Tennis, Billiards and Pay amongst achievements. Sometimes taken for an Indian gentleman.

No. 16. Wilson, will sing well sung, a partiality for the Khyber, recently gone to lower levels.

No. 17. A Blower, but not of gas or glass.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

5th May.

General.—The month that is popularly supposed to be instrumental in bringing forth May flowers having come and gone, it falls to my lot to chronicle the doings of this Unit during that period. Generally things have been quiet, nothing in the way of fires, alarums, excursions, disease, pestilence or floods, etc., occurring, and the weather having decided at last to more or less conform to the layman's idea of Indian weather, we have been going placidly along with normal summer routine. We are, at present, in the throes of Annual Weapon Training, and within the next few days we shall again be doing our best at popping 'em on.

The Junior N.C.O.s and selected Signalmen's Course mentioned last month has finished, and we understand that the results were very satisfactory to all concerned. Anyhow it is a significant fact that (as will be seen later in these notes), promotions have been flying around thick and heavy.

Musketry, Scissors Cup Competition.—Despite the efforts of our dead eyes, and finishing with a figure of merit of 98.42 we were again, as last year, beaten into third place, the competition being won by 1st Cavsigs, Risalpur, with a figure of merit 100 per cent. (shades of " Deadwood Dick "), " A " Corps being second with a figure of merit 99.25, Wazirdist Signals, Peshawar District Signals, 1st Divisional Signals and 2nd Cavsigs occupying the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th places respectively.

I am able here to deny the persistent rumour that the winners trained by shooting the pips out of playing cards. Anyhow, look to it ONE Cav, we start firing tomorrow and are fully determined that the Scissors Cup shall grace the old baronial hall next year.

Arrivals.—Corporals Birkett and Clackett (definite assets to our hockey and soccer teams), Signalmen Campbell, Johnson C. Hanson, and Burge, all from United Kingdom. Here's wishing them all the best during their stay in the land of dust and flies.

Captain J. H. Brown has also returned to the fold after a convalescence in Blighty, and all ranks hope that he will once again be able to entertain them with some brighter cricket during the hot weather when we compete in the Hot Weather League, and when runs have to be got quickly.

Departures.—Sergeant Beagley to United Kingdom for three months' leave pending discharge, and Sergeant Sprunt, who has recovered very well from his serious accident in February last, to Home Establishment, the Unit joins in wishing both the best of luck, and good health. Our Commanding Officer, Major J. E. F. Paton has left for a spot of well earned leave in United Kingdom. May you have a good trip and the best of weather, sir.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporals Johnson, Shannan, and Angus, who have managed to get their names in the Blue Book, and to U/Lance Corporals Moore, Bevan, Robson, and Turvey, on getting the first leg, and whilst on the subject, also to Corporal Bow (Jock), on his attaining that rank.

Sport.—" Appy " Ack have managed to get a still firmer grip on the Murray Cup, having won the Inter-Section Football League by beating " H.Q." 3—1, " J " 2—1, " D " 2—0, and drawing with " K " 2—2; they have also won the hockey by beating " C " 5—0, " H.Q. " 1—0, " D " 4—1, " K " 5—1, and losing to " J " 0—1.

ROBO.

5th June.

General.—Individual training is still going strong, and the second course for operators is rapidly nearing completion, only three more weeks and some of the students at least will be facing the terrors of a Trade Testing Board. The very least we can do is to wish them the very best of luck, and hope that the Income Tax returns will be swelled greatly as the result.

The first leave party has left for Upper Topa, and will spend a month away from the heat and dust of the plains. This year they have taken a few instruments with them to help pass a few hours away, and also to keep their hand in at manipulation. Each month will see a further party leaving for a month's relaxation in Upper Topa, and will, we hope, benefit from the change.

This summer, too, instructional tours are being run to Parachinar (this used to be the summer station for Kohat in years gone by). The lucky ones will leave Kohat Friday morning and return on Monday, thus spending a nice week-end in far more pleasant surroundings than they would in Kohat. Apart from the historical interest of the tour, it is intended, I believe, to visit the Peiwal Kotal, etc., during these week-ends.

Things We Would Like To Know.—Is it true that Little Alfie has become an ardent philatelist, and if several other members of the Unit are going to attend college in the future in order to collect some rare and hitherto unheard of specimens.

If our C.I.D. Department really did find the torch.

If the local police force is really going to stick to the water wagon throughout the summer as he threatens in order to have the wherewithal to become a hill parrot for a month.

If it is an old Frontier custom to go to bed with one's boots, etc., on, and to sleep out doors OUTSIDE the mosquito net.

Congratulations.—We offer our sincere congratulations to Lance Sergeants Ray and Robins, Corporals Froggatt and Page, Lance Corporals Price and Moore on their promotions and appointments to those ranks. The Blue Book does another wriggle, and it looks like a shipping order for the new edition.

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

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

General.—At the end of the month we say au revoir to Colonel Howe, who is leaving us for three months' leave. During his leave Colonel Howe is getting married, and all ranks of Unit Headquarter Company wish him and his future wife every happiness. Au revoir and best wishes, sir!

It is generally voted that this year's camp was a good one. We are indebted to the Sports Committee for providing us with pastimes such as football, rounders, volley ball, basket ball and miniature range shooting (congratulations to the Officers on winning the competition).

The Grand Prix de Bostan, competed for by the Officers, was an original form of entertainment and also a profitable one for those who backed the winner. The race was run over a gruelling course and won by Mr. J. B. Ellis in his Blue (Bird) Morris. (The strain was terrific, but Horlicks carried him through).

Considering the course and the cars, which were all standard models, some very good times were returned by the competitors. If this race becomes an annual affair I can see Freddie Dixon (not to be confused with our one and only R.C.D.) looking to his laurels.

Arrivals.—Another new draft from England. Unit Headquarters welcomes C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Brown, Signalmen Stratton, Coyle, Topping, Birrel, Turner and Moysey. They joined us at Bostan and fell in love with the place immediately. One lad at least said, " This is a —— fine place." Speaks for itself, doesn't it?

Departures.—Ask Nobby. He'll tell you how many days to go. Cheerio, everyone.

PIP.

No. 1 Company.

Wednesday, 5th May.

This year spring camp at Bostan was carried out under favourable weather conditions. It was anticipated that shortage of personnel would cause a deal of trouble on training, but things went down quite smoothly, and with the arrival of the new draft (roll on '41), and the return of N.C.O.s and men from a four months' Blighty rest cure, the situation was well in hand, with highly successful results from a six-day Unit scheme.

One of the official reasons for holding a spring camp is to give the men a rest and change of surroundings. Neither end was achieved this year, as we had to work hard and were accommodated in Tents I.P. Privates, in which we have been living for the last year (stop gripping).

One bright Sunday at camp, someone organised a handicap motor car race. " Everest Thomo " started favourite, but our experienced daredevil " Daddy Ellis " passed all other competitors amidst clouds of dust and won the race. The Tote operated by Captain Coryton and Draughtsman Lush, was a huge success (ask only those who backed the winner).

The return from camp completed, a thorough overhaul of stores was carried out, in preparation for the Staff College Exercise, which took place on the 11th, 12th and 13th of May. As usual the M.T. remained almost on the doorstep, whilst the packs, etc., covered half of Baluchistan on " quarter rations."

At the beginning of April we said " auf wiedersehen " to Captain W. A. Dimoline, M.C., who left us to take up the appointment of G.S.O. III at the War Office. We were all sorry to see him leave and wish him a long and pleasant tour in his new appointment. Lieutenant E. C. Thompson took over command of the Company, and ably assisted by Lieutenant H. Worrall (" D " Section), and Lieutenant D. L. Hyde (" A " Section when not hiking with " C " pack), led us to victory on schemes and exercises.

The new draft are far too numerous for individual treatment in these notes. All are welcome and may they have no Quakes before 1941.

Leap Year News.—Caught on the 29th of February, by Miss E. Stribling, the one and only S. J. Jenner. Best of luck to both.

Things to Come.—By Time Expired. 1, The Boat. 2, The next Boat. 3, The Boat after the next Boat.

Intercepted.—Section store check. New arrival gingerly inspecting a curry comb: " What's this for?" Old hand: " What do you think it's for? " New arrival: " It's what those guys use to climb telegraph poles."

" Blankety blank — — ?? — — ** — —, if I could catch hold of the blank blankety — — ?? — — ** — — " etc. (Lance Corporal Hoar letting off steam when his oil pump jambed at dusk).

" Yes, Sir, So and So is good at WIRE notes, Sir." (The Company Clerk shirking a job).

LAURENCE.

No. 2 Company.

General.—A month at spring camp has given the earlier draft the much desired sun-tan with which they could greet their friends arriving on the later boat. One dear fellow has been explaining that " achcha " means more or less the same as " hotcha-cha." I expect it was the same fellow who giving the degrees of promotion of Indian Ranks said: " Firstly they become Lance Naik, then Naik, Havildar and Khabadar." Manoeuvres went off exceedingly well with plenty of congratulations, raspberry jam and whitewash. Locally Bostan looks very picturesque and the inhabitants are probably still wondering about the strange habits of the white men.

We enjoyed a frightfully thrilling car race at camp, the Officers providing the thrills, especially Mr. Ellis, who nonchalantly

skidded round corners at a comparatively amazing speed. Incidentally, Mr. Ellis won, all honour to him. The other " buggies " and different coloured " perils " all managed to stay the course. They called this event " Grand Prix de Bostan."

There has been no blessed-eventing of late, and I'm afraid nothing can be done about it. Quetta will be known as the " Bachelor City of the East."

Sorry to have so little to say this month, but a little is better than none.

Before closing we must congratulate the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., Royal Signals, on his award of the Viceroy's certificate for work during the earthquake period.

We welcome Corporal Gavins. Laugh, clown, laugh ! Adios.

ROBBINIO.

SOUTHERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—The merry month of May descended upon us in the same way as any other month descends, but being May—well ! one has to specialise a little ; for one thing it is a five pay day month. (The word is specialise, not speculate).

Then, of course, there is the May Queen, and, although we have a few aspirants, it has not yet been decided whom to crown, everyone not being of the same opinion (not quite).

A further notable event is the arrival of the monsoon or, at least, a prelude to it. After trying hard for nearly a week, a deluge suddenly broke upon us during the afternoon siesta of 4th inst. The crashes and rumblings disturbed a few, but it would take a lot more than a mere downpour to awaken some Kipper Street Cup holders. There's one thing about the monsoon, it does give one some idea of the rainfall, especially if caught in Baths, G.I. from about eight square feet of roofing ! Then there are the malis and other gardeners who daily give thanks. Quadrupeds also are jubilant, as to them the monsoon's non-arrival means starvation ! or " A Rolling Bone—must be a Hoss ! "

(P.S.—Although a few further showers have come and gone, the monsoon proper has not yet arrived, but I can't see my way to erase this paragraph).

The mention of horses reminds me that a second ride is now in progress, and all aspirants to the silver spur (or is it crossed stirrups), are getting on marvellously.

Whether they are getting off correctly cannot be ascertained. Although if one believes all one hears in the Grippers' Paradise, i.e., the mess room—well, as the Boot said to the Puttee, " 'Ose top." Arguments (friendly, of course), with our brothers of the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop are frequent, and listening to these, it seems that we have quite a few who are fit, aye and qualified, to take over stables at a moment's notice.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of No. 2323079 Signalman Harvey W., whose sudden death occurred at Jubbulpore on the evening of Wednesday, 14th May. This distressing news was a shock to the Unit as a whole. Arriving in India as recently as March of this year, he was only with us for a short time, being posted to " F " Signal Section, Jubbulpore, on 25th April. Our deepest sympathy and condolences are offered to his bereaved parents and we sincerely hope that the knowledge of the popularity that he enjoyed whilst with us will help to lessen the sad loss which they have sustained.

An account and snaps of the funeral have been submitted separately.

Courses.—By the time these notes appear in print (Optimist), the upgrading course of O.S. II to I will be concluded, states our Weekly Heliograph " Horror "-espondent, and all pupils (both of them), are confident of attaining 100 per cent. pips, which will mean more chips.

A Water and a Sanitation and Hygiene course has recently been concluded. Examinations are not likely to be held for a considerable time, but we both hope (don't we, Dodo ?), that the personnel of the Unit will trust us to give them the benefit of our knowledge, if ever the occasion should arise. (We both hope not).

Another course which is in full swing is the Jewliet course. This looks like creating a record run. Sezjew !

Male Deliveries.—Sergeant Fairman to 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

The store of Ack
Hast seen thy back,
Alas ! Alack !
The Pack ! The Pack !

Sergeant Tucker and family (all right, Cinders, I didn't forget you), to S.T.C.

Everyone wishes you the best of luck and may the shadows of you all (to two decimal places), never grow less.

Male Collections.—For rations and accommodation only—their services being required by 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

From United Kingdom, Lance Sergeant Page and Corporal Hylands.

From 3rd Division, Meerut, Signalman Ewart.

All we can say is that we hope you will enjoy our 2/6 or, for non-dart players, " Bed and Breakfast."

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. Peerless, Lance Sergeant Brown C., Corporals Simmonds and Poole, Lance Corporals McQuire and Mitchell and U/Lance Corporal Wright, upon being promoted to their respective ranks.

Everything comes to him who waits and, please, do not cancel your orders for the little blue book.

Returns.—It is anticipated that this will make the " Q " branch raise their lashes.

Lieutenant-Quartermaster T. Jones returned from a three months' M.T. course at Chaklala and, by all accounts, was disappointed in the fact that we are still in possession of out-of-date vehicles. Since his arrival we have managed to exchange our two Albions. It is surprising what " Q " can do when they like.

Stocks and Shares.—Huge buying of London Cut and Guinea preferred stocks result in a sudden jump on exchange prices for the above, closing at 5-50.

Minahs, Flake and Redgirl dropped to a new low level, finishing at 2-100.

Raspberries, Bananas and Limes also show a loss whilst Cream Sodas advanced considerably.

We Wonder.—If Dyke Pearce will be posted abroad and, if so, what his account of a troop deck passage will be like.

If a word to the canned is worth two in the moosh ?

If a tick in a " gime " is worth a fine ?

If less waist means more speed ?

If some people have heard that SILENCE is golden ?

Ayr Mail.—To Olive Palm from Schoolgirl—No, Blackheads are not a native tribe.

To Signalman Ashley F., last known address 2nd Company 2nd Divisional Signals, Quetta, but may now be in United Kingdom. From Private Hill J. W., " D " Company, 1st Battalion North Staffs Regiment, Trimulgherry, " No communication from you since June, 1935. Please write giving reasons for silence."

Finis.—Hot air did someone say, well it's a hot country, ain't it ?

Meanwhile—Fervet opus.

CHARMINAR.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

20th May.

Introductory.—In the days when Jubbulpore was the caravanserai for the Corps in India, most of the older members will probably remember the mysterious " D " Troop which was stationed there on paper. The powers that be, however, decided that from being an imaginary Troop it should become the Signal Troop of the 4th Cavalry Brigade, stationed here, and would also be Indianized.

In 1934, Lieutenant E. J. F. Heap, Royal Signals, together with a few Indian Ranks, arrived in Trimulgherry and commenced the very strenuous job of getting the Troop going, the " Q " Branch of the 4th Indian Divisional Signals doing most of the indenting, also loaning various N.C.O.s to lend a hand. Corporal Varley, of that Unit, in particular, is never likely to forget this episode of his service, losing most of his golden locks in the process of indenting for stores, and trying to keep cool in a fanless bungalow.

Since those days, however, the Troop has altered considerably and under the command of Captain C. L. Morgan, ably assisted by Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler, it is hoped that in the future it will soon be able to take its place with the other Cavalry Troops as a first class Signal Unit.

Command.—Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler is at present

officiating, commanding the Unit, vice Captain C. L. Morgan, who is on two months' privilege leave ex India.

Establishment.—The Government of India authorised, with effect from 1st April, 1936, the provision of eleven British Other Ranks as instructors. So far nine have reported for duty. They are: Sergeant Fairman, Lance Sergeant Page, Corporal Hylands, Corporal Rhodes, Lance Corporal Mudie, Lance Corporal Snowball, Lance Corporal Roberts, Signalman Attrill, Signalman Ewart.

General.—At present the Unit is under establishment in I.O.R.s and horses. These are expected by September, also the W/T. sets and equipment.

Accommodation.—B.O.R.s are attached to 4th Indian Divisional Signals for rations and accommodation. It may be mentioned that the food is excellent. All the men have bicycles as the Troop lines are a mile from the 4th Indian Divisional Signals' bungalow. It is like a cycling club when going to and from barracks.

Marriages.—Heartiest congratulations and best wishes (better late than never), to Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler on his marriage to Miss Margaret Louise Michelette Welch, at Poona, on 1st February.

Courses.—Lance Corporal Snowball is teaching the gentle (?) art of riding to Lance Corporals Roberts and Mudie, and Signalmen Attrill and Ewart. Progress is swift, and it is hoped to "pass off" at the end of June.

Departures.—We have only just arrived!

Sport.—A Combined Signals team has been arranged for football and hockey. The Troop is always well represented in these games. A hockey team, composed of Troop players only, is doing very well in games with local opponents.

Scotsman's Mail.—To 248 Ginger Robinson, believed to be somewhere in China (lucky fellow), what about a few lines—Jock Mudie (ex Bulford).

Humour.—It's marvellous the difference in meaning one letter can make to a word: "Cantor" means happiness and laughter; "Canter" means heartache and pain (to the beginner).

Conclusion.—This is the first time notes have been submitted by this Unit, but it certainly will not be the last, so, cheerio till next month.

BONNIE DUNDEE.

"G" Signal Section (Attached VIII. Field Brigade, Royal Artillery).

Mhow,
15th May.

General.—Many moons have passed since last I appended any notes (lack of inspiration), so I decided to make another effort seeing that no fruit has been handed to me from last time. We have just passed over our period of annual inspections (notes of which appear below), and are now busy preparing stores, etc., for manoeuvres during the forthcoming training season. Our rough-riders are hard at it, too, and with about another three or four years' practice they should make really first class riders. Mention of first class reminds me that we also have a studious set of individuals who forsake coir pressing fatigues for the sanctum of the R.A. school to dust off the cobwebs, etc., etc., etc.

Inspections.—We have passed successfully through several important inspections during the past two months, and all reports were very satisfactory, indeed, in fact they were good. The inspections were carried out by: the Remount Officer, Southern Command, the Station Commander, the C.C.M.A., D.A.D.O.S. Bombay District, and the O.M.E. from Kirkee Arsenal.

Arrivals.—We are back now almost to normal strength of B.O.R.s, our most recent additions being Signalmen Mills A. and Balls W., to whom we have already extended the glad hand, and hope that their stay here will be long and pleasant. By the time these notes are in print we shall probably have with us Corporal Simmonds M. from Trimulgherry, to whom we say "We'll be seeing you."

To Ex-"G"-Ites.—We still exist in spite of the departure of several "big shots" and brains, etc., from the Section.

To Jungle: "Married yet?"

To Nobby: Congratulations on promotion.

To Herne: Feet still O.K.?

Sweats.—Boats one very shortly, soldiers for the use of.

GUESS WHO?

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OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Headquarter Company.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Company, Captain and Mrs. N. H. Edes and family, our new O.C., history repeating itself, for Captain Edes has already viewed the "Sands of the Desert." We also extend our welcome to the following: C.S.M. Hobbs, Sergeants Simmonds, Ivison and Napper, and Lance Sergeant Lynch and their families per the *Dilwara*, as well as numerous personnel who moved by column of route from Abbassia Military Siding to the famous Signal Barracks on 13th April, 1936. We wish them all a very pleasant sojourn in this land of sunshine.

Departures.—We were sorry to say goodbye to C.S.M. Deyermond, Sergeants Stibbs, Walker, Mottram, Lance Sergeants Dawson and Newberry and other members of "No. 1," who had served their "term," and hope that they are now settled in their respective Units.

General.—The Company is now well down to training, and all are expecting to upgrade on the technical and financial ladder in due course. Weapon Training at present is in vogue. What about some 1st Class shots for a change?

Swimming.—Intensive training is now being concentrated on swimming, under the able leadership of Lieutenant M. A. Lloyd, R.Q.M.S. Smart and C.Q.M.S. Kendall. All ranks are at least trying to secure the 100 yards swimming card "to put in their A.B. 64's."

No. 1 Company.

General.—Absence of notes for the past two months was due to circumstances beyond our control, therefore no apologies are being tendered. If records decree that our trusted scribe had to leave us for a better land, then what chance had we until the new draft got really dug in? But now that the new blokes have settled down and found their feet in their new jobs, we can hope for more consistent efforts in the future. At present great pains are being taken to make our lines look like home from home. Barrack Rooms are turning out men armed with picks and spades who seem eager to make the desert fertile and grow flowers.

Even the Company Stores has adopted the plan for a brighter Egypt, and now when we draw our rifles we have to step carefully between the flower beds. Woe betide anyone who should inadvertently put his foot in it.

Whilst having a break from gardening we have been putting in a spot of musketry practice, and everyone is (eagerly) looking forward to getting a first class shot in a few weeks' time. At the same time for those excused musketry, we have an energetic troup of dancing girls; sorry, I mean P.T. Class, led by Corporal Wagner. Those who are but sojourning amongst us continue to talk of that boat to Blighty in the near future; but a train to Palestine seems more likely. We have lately sent a few of our worthy comrades to that country of unrest.

Personal.—We want to know who was the D.R. S.O.B. who said: "I'll never get used to these new fangled revolvers, why didn't we stick to bows and arrows?"

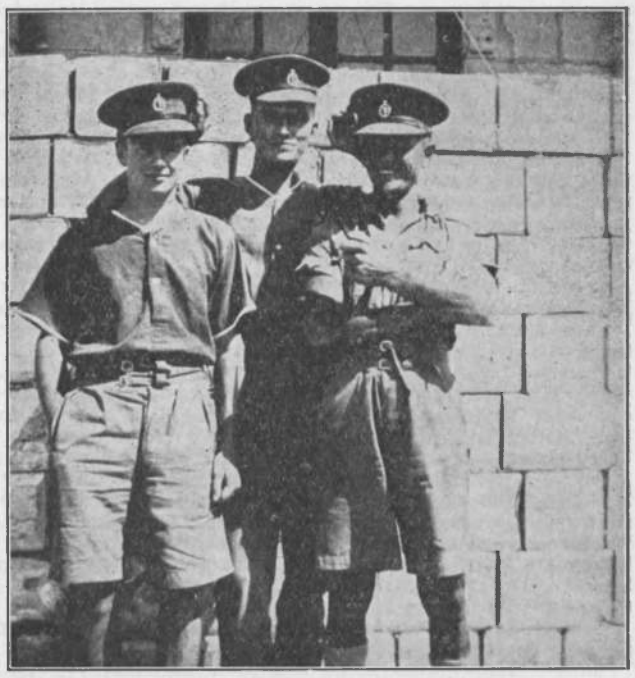
Who was the Tidmarsh who held a Film Pack Safety Cover in developer for No. 1 of the Film Pack?

Agony.—Arnold (835) Bulford: How about an answer? Have you got that "Brough Superior" yet?

Wireless Station, Amriya.—These are a few lines from one of the outposts to let those who promised so faithfully to write, know where we are.

The large staff here, three of us, are undergoing an enforced "tanning" process, sympathetic natives consoling us with "but it will get hot later." We get an occasional cool at a nearby (16 miles) bathing place, Agimi, which turns to agony when the sun strikes.

Being with the R.A.F. we naturally talk planish language and keep out of "flat spins." The local R/T chappie is quite serious when he tells us about a Sergeant who having just been made a "flight Sergeant" took a "kite" up solo. He was asked by R/T for his height and position. "Height five feet five, position, 'orrible, my wife's found out!" Again on a flight near Cairo he said



he was passing the Pyramids. The operator's reply will *not* be recorded.

The dust storms vary from three to four a week. We cannot grumble, it's so "fearfully jollay" to unearth or unsand one's boudoir and guess who is sitting next to one at meals.

"Richy" and I would like to be remembered to the "disbanded" "E" Section, Bulford, who are nearly all abroad. Cheer up, Bruno, what's wrong with Malta. "Mack" here is from Scarbro'."

We Might Like to Know.—Has "Crasher" found the missing coulombs in his A.J.S. yet?

Has a certain Sergeant bent any more mess-tins yet?

Enclosed: One photo of "Usthrea."

Hoping that one day these get printed, I crawl back to my sandpit and chuckle to think of the thousands who will waste time reading this.

VORN.

"K" Section: No. 3 Company.

Active Service.—The Section is sadly depleted owing to the exigencies of the Service, and naturally they came to "K" Section to do any holding back that was required. Admitted there are a few more troops up there, but they don't really need them, and I suppose we'll have a few more trophies to add to our collection. I know a couple of the lads are sweating on a gong, of course, they are only young yet!

Sport.—As I said before we are short of men, and they took quite a few of our celebrities and so we haven't much to say now. Billiards are in full swing, and after a great start, we crashed, and our table to date reads: played 3, won 1, lost 2; but wait till we get our team together again, we'll shake 'em.

Tennis.—The league hasn't started, but we can win that easily, so we are not worrying. The Corps knock-out competition has just finished and we congratulate Signalman Dransfield on getting two more cups; he was runner-up in the open singles to Mr. Tucker and Lance Corporal Harris and himself lost to Mr. Tucker and Mitcheson. We congratulate winners and losers.

Training.—As there is no I.T. up to date, we are having in lieu, some very interesting W/T Schemes, and the Section are improving rapidly in all branches of operating, so we should soon have all Class 1 readers and senders in "K" Section. "J"

Section are in the same state as we are, so we are going to let the hatchet drop for a while, and get together on training, it'll be a change anyhow, what say " J " ?

Promotions.—U/Lance Corporal Summers. Congratulations Geordie, keep it going and in twenty-one years you'll be able to tell the kiddies how you reached C.Q.M.S.

Correspondence.—Basttem Barlow, ex-mile champ., would like to hear from a lonely soldier interested in spirited horses, atcha.

Query.—Who was the man who got his king of hearts away and then went down on the bare four of hearts (what a player)—who is this limpet anyhow ?

Agony.—These re-inforcements.

WRAP UP.

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

25th May.

Weather.—Clear days for a fortnight, but on the day of the Aquatic Sports, a light balmy sandstorm (nothing much). Further outlook, promising and cool.

Dress.—Topees have been taken into wear by all ranks, so that those who hitherto have met us with a kindly remark about the weather now greet us with a nasty leer in the mornings, wagging their heads and saying : " Dr. Livingstone, I presume ? "

Home Hints.—The artistic levels of ancient Egypt have been regained ; our new mess room (sandproof), is full of the most beautiful railway posters, which tug horribly at our homing instincts and make us shed copious tears into the hors d'oeuvres. We suffer this gladly, however, and are very grateful for the pictures ; we wish you were here to see them (don't you ?).

Sedgwick.—It is with the utmost reluctance, with the greatest distress, and only in strict confidence, that we tell you of the distance along the downward path that this formerly respected member of our community has trodden. In the good old days the Unit turned out to watch him kick a lusty leg at football, or wield a massive hockey club. All that is over. Now, all day, he moons along the burning sand, his knees bent under him, his back crooked, and his glazed eyes staring fixedly at the ground. Shells have been his downfall, pink or green, spiky shells or scalloped, convolutes or radials, he gathers them all into a bag and takes them home. But, don't they stink ! He bears up under the gibes and taunts of the companions of his wild-oat-days with a serene fortitude that can only come of sublime faith in his new mission. Stand forth, Sedgwick, and receive our congratulations.

The Ladder of Fame.—Sergeant Skitt and Corporal McAuliffe have both lost their lances and been granted additional pay for this piece of carelessness. The Unpaids are preening their feathers and polishing their buttons. Following the admonition of the Vicar of Wakefield, we exhort the married men to temperance and the bachelors to matrimony. Additional pay is so unsettling!

Nation of Shopkeepers, Are We ?—Just you come into the little marquee behind the mess room. This is where we are doing Individual Training. All day long you may hear the threnody of the buzzer complaining to its mate. And outside we are digging trenches and pits, laying down cables and putting up air lines. Then, when we've all got our B.2's and C.2's, England expects that every man shall stand to attention when addressing us.

Entertainments.—We publish below some scenes from the amateur theatricals that we did not run but would like to have :



C.S.M. Norcross (Portia) :
" In terms of choice I am not solely led
By nice direction of a maiden's eyes."
Corporal Holsey (Morocco) :
" By this scimitar ! "



Sergeant Cowen (Puck—less fairy wings) :
" I'll put a girdle round round about the earth
In forty minutes."



Chorus of Night Operators :
" Malt does more than Milton can
To justify God's ways to man."

Promotions.—Even the Officers get promoted. And when there is promotion in the wind, even the Officers " get a sweat on." None of our Officers, as we know, is more deserving of promotion or decoration than Major Hurst. We are, therefore, sincerely pleased to know that he has just received a letter, addressed to

him as Mr. G. S. Hurst, but bearing his rank as Mayor of this locality. All ranks join in congratulating him on the attainment of this civic dignity, and the cooks are putting forth special efforts (Corporal Davies has just borrowed the Manual of Military Cooking and Dietary for this purpose)—special efforts, we repeat, towards the making of a turtle soup that shall adequately befit the occasion.

Unconscious Humour.—C.O.: "I'm off now, and you won't see me for a week." Clerk: "Very good, sir."

The Unit's Agonies.—Derrick 4 Div. Pushed? Usher'll help you. Twin.

Lexdon. Even three storks would be welcome. Wac.

Lofty B., Depot H.Q. Have you killed Bofles yet? Short-of-it.

Pete, ditto. Stop shaking. Olga.

Smudge, T.B. Speed limit removed. Scrounger.

Fanny. Is there a city called York? Kingham.

Seriously, Though.—Our Aquatic Sports are just over. We had a proportion of events open to the garrison, and keen interest was taken in the affair by the whole populace, the G.O.C. very kindly presenting the prizes. The day was marked by a mild sandstorm, but this, to us, is no deterrent; nobody minding it very much the sandstorm departed in disgust. The standard of swimming was high, rivalry was keen, enjoyment stalked rampant and unchecked; the P.R.I. (good, easy man), provided tickets for a free tea at the N.A.A.F.I. tent. And how can man die better? We hesitate to put Sergeant Skitt in the news again, and we would blush to record the achievement of Blackburn on the Greasy Pole; so we confine our list of winners to:

	Event.	Winner.	Runner-up.
1	Polo Ball	Signalman Oakey	Lance Sergeant Ball.
2	40 Yds. Breast Stroke	Signalman Lamb	Lance Corporal Newton.
3.	Blindfold Race	Signalman Baker	Lance Corporal Barron.
4.	40 Yds. Back Stroke	Signalman Willis	Signalman Cunningham.
5.	200 Yds. Free Style	Signalman Corder	Signalman Morgan.
6.	Unit Diving	Signalman Lamb	Signalman Baker.
7.	*40Yds. Free Style	Signalman Oakey	Signalman Hoare.
8.	Unit Greasy Pole	Signalman Blackburn	—
9.	120 Yds. Free Style	Lance Sergeant Ball	Sergeant Skitt.
10.	Victor Ludorum	Signalman Lamb	—
11.	Inter-Section Relay Race	"A" Section	—
12.	Section Championships	"A" Section	—
	OPEN EVENTS.		
1.	120 Yds. Free Style	Corporal Draine, R.T.C.	Gunner Norman, R.A.
2.	Diving	Private Broadbent R.A.M.C.	Pte. Whyman, 2/Glous.
3.	Greasy Pole	Corporal Rule, R.T.C.	—
	Boat Race	2nd Bn. Glous. Regt.	—
	Vanity Race	R.T.C.	—
	Open Relay Race	1/E. Lan. Regt.	—
	Garr. Unit Trophy	1/R.T.C.	—

* Won by Signalman Lamb. Prizes awarded to Signalman Oakey and Signalman Cunningham in view of Signalman Lamb's other depredations among the prizes.

Domestic Welfare.—St. Martin and St. Oswald have joined hands and put up a marquee for us. We use it as a reading room. Various Officers give us "The Sphere," "The Bystander," "The Field," the "Illustrated London News," "Blackwood's" and "Punch." One of our maiden aunts sends us the "Church Times," which we put in the reading room. Personnel deposit "John o' London's Weekly," and an Anonymous Donor presents THE WIRE. Why should we want to go home?

LFACKO.

[LATER].

6th June.

Overture.—We have turned aside more calumnies and aspersions than we can comfortably turn aside, and our position has grown untenable. It appears that the WIRE notes are two months behind with the news. It is no use protesting that we always were "pushed" (as Derrick knows), and that we always will be. We are reluctantly compelled, therefore, to serve out a double issue this month in the hope of catching up.

Picnic.—We've been and gone and done it again—Whit-Monday this time—and a jolly good show it was. This actually, and not as stated, is where Bill Main got in the bulrushes.

The Ladder of Fame.—The ladder is getting pretty rickety with the weight on it just now—Yates, Thorpe and Oakey, all U/Lance Corporals. We pat them gravely on the head and wish them well.

Congratulations.—To the above, and, from the Unit, to Howoft, Field and Raymond. Not that we're going to leave Nippo



out; we think he deserves it more than the rest, what with Howcroft's additions to the ration strength . . .

Our best wishes to Catchy and George Nother (Full Corporal Nother to you, anyway).

Hockey.—Our Sporting Correspondent writes: "Although out of season for the rest of Egypt, hockey is still played here, and besides a Unit team a Combined Signals team is also being run. The latter is to prevent some battalion teams getting too swelled-headed! If the Unit team is beaten we set the Corps team on to the victors. We now kid ourselves on being champions of the Western Desert. There is some talk of playing Egypt Signals at Cairo, and if we are here long enough we may even wipe up a few pots.

"The Unit team was only beaten once last month, 7—1 by the East Lancs. (The Corps team licked them 2—1 after a very fast game, Signalman Shewring scoring both goals, one from a short corner, with the help of Johnny McAuliffe.) The Corps team has played four games and won four. For the benefit of all Indian Wallahs the team consisted of Signalman Adcock; Signalman Pope and Corporal Cooke; Lance Corporals Galbraith, Dillon and Park; Signalman Poole, Mr. Stead, Signalman Shewring, Corporal McAuliffe, Mr. McIntosh or Signalman Brown.

"Our next match (we hope) is against the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. We are after that championship belt."

Marmalade.—Just go to Corporal Davies or Lance Corporal Nicklen and whisper gently in their ears "Marmalade." The effect will surprise you.

"Through."—You all know Spalding. He is not one of those who enlisted since the Certa Cito spirit has pervaded the Corps; he belongs to the old die-hard school who had "Through" engraved on their bedplates. Last Sunday afternoon, therefore, when all his friends went in pursuit of enjoyment, Spalding went on duty at one of the telephone exchanges. Grimly purposeful, he sat through that long, beautiful afternoon, thinking of all the things he would like to do if he were free, but never dreaming for an instant of leaving his post of duty. Nobody rang up, however, nobody wanted to be put through anywhere, to be told the time or to make a complaint. Ultimately, feeling lonely, he rang someone up himself to exchange society news, but received no reply . . . from nowhere could he get a reply. In the spirit of the men who made this Corps what it is, he set out to walk the distance to the Superintendent's Office to report that his exchange was dis. all over.

"Oh, yes," said the Superintendent, not unkindly, "that exchange has been closed down. There are no phones connected to it at all now. But thank you for calling."

Spalding looked at the Superintendent balefully and said, "Oh, you nasty man!" Knowing Spalding, you will believe that this is actually what he said.

Agonies.—To Corporal Moody, India. I didn't know India was so hard up for footballers. Custard.

General. People wanting big pays must give the Pay N.C.O. more information than their regimental numbers and the amounts and the date. No. 7583952 may or may not draw his big pay—depending on whether his name is discovered or not!

"F" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

June.

General.—Individual Training recently gave place to more "funk hole" digging. For those fortunate people who know not what a funk hole is, it is a long trench into which everyone disappears when hostile forces approach (and when the Sergeant-Major comes along we'll jump on him and say "Boo!").

The annual revolver course is in full swing, the Troop average score being 76 per cent. to date.

Arrivals.—Signalman Cappleman from 5th Divisional Signals. Flip the Frog on completion of a course in snake charming.

Departures.—Signalman Fox (Geordie) to 5th Divisional Signals.

Clothes Make the Man?—As can be seen from the accompanying photo, drill clothing has been taken into misuse. But why didn't you take your gas mask off, Squash?

Overheard.—"What's 13.45 hours?"
"Quarter to two."
"Thought so. —— these Roman figures."

Postman's Knock.—The mail still arrives from Plaistow (pronounced Plato), Saltash, Manchester and Southampton, although it is somewhat erratic. Bill Cole may often be seen wandering around with a painful expression on his face crying, "Cutch ney chittie Sahib."

Slough is now X257.

News has reached us that Jonah is contemplating the first step of an otherwise blameless career. Are the wedding bells going to be made from stainless Sheffield steel, Jack?

Unconscious Humour.—"Is that a refreshment bar?"
"No, that's the N.A.A.F.I."

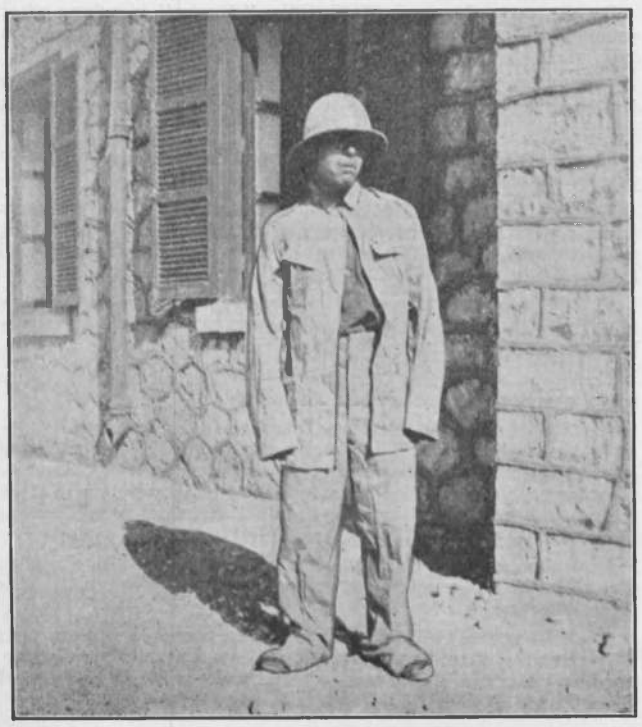
S. E. B.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signals, Egypt.

Cairo, Egypt.

General.—Births, Deaths, Marriages or other happy events never seem to happen in this part of the world. We have several candidates for M.P., Lawyer, Doctor or Nurse (now Goff'y), but still what use are they when Sammy is around?

We expect to have our Short Wave station working again very soon, and great thanks must be offered to Signalmen Knight and Slaymaker for their untiring efforts, so now, you Hams, what about getting the 'phones on and giving SU2GA a call? You'll find the call is nice and musical to listen to (of course, I meant when Bottle wasn't on).



Great anxiety is being felt in the Troop as to Speedy's welfare. Rumour has it that he is purchasing a tricycle to replace the racing model, which he finds too hard to balance.

We hear that there is to be a big move for us all soon, but hopeful reinforcements are still sticking to their story (despite the News of the World) and the old cry is still going round, "It won't be long now." What a hope, Monty.

Records.—Our Roving Camera reports that "92" recently attempted to break a world record on "Pink Palace" sands, but luckily no official times were taken. (Malcolm would be jealous!)

Cricket.—Strictly confidential. We have heard from a reliable source that Test Match Selectors have made an unofficial visit to Egypt. (We presume in search of talent.) It is to be hoped they were at our trial match, which surely would have caused consternation among the critics. We have a veritable Don Bradman in our midst. Lance Corporal Butler delighted the crowd (both of them) with his off drives to the boundary. A very promising youngster who should do well. Who was the man who could not grasp the Leg Theory, and how did Sammy get 2 for 0?

Requests.—I am requested to ask if anyone has any old bridge scoring cards; if so, would they kindly forward them to the Honorary Secretary, No. 13 Room's bridge club? It would save us a lot of trouble having to get the boxing ring ready every night to decide whether clubs are nine or ten and if it is possible to re-double a chap if he calls five spades.

Jew's Mail.—I hope you ex-"G" Troopites will notice who they are from:

Barnes ("A" Corps, Rawalpindi). Got your letter O.K., expect an answer any Mon Soon. The address you want is still 13 Marlborough Road. Mac.

POP 394. Wot aboot a line? Pip and Wee.

MacDonald ("A" Corps). Fish sends his greetings on the forthcoming happy event.

Cookie (somewhere in India). Wot abaht it? Smudge 038.

Redgrave. Want 1½d. for a stamp? Goffy.

Paddy. Why for no pigeons yet? Mac.

ALL ex-"G" Troopites. Notchy will be at home for August Bank Holiday. What about a "Cup of Char" at Bognor Regis? Notch.

Conclusion.—Once again we have to draw to a close and say au revoir, but Speedy will keep asking questions.

STANMUG.

Malta Signal Section.

Moan.—We are assured by older inhabitants that summer has arrived. If this proves to be true it may do a little towards restoring our faith in the tourist guide books which lead us to believe in the Mediterranean sun myth. Even after we invited the attendance of King Sol by taking to our daintiest shorts and dinkie shirt sleeves a few fleeting visits have been our only reward. Those who have tried to look dignified in shorts and gooseflesh may sympathise, whilst to those seeking a land of perpetual sunshine we suggest a trip further East—or stay at home.

The Social Whirl.—Taking advantage of a lull in the affairs of state we were able to bring our Inter-Section Tournament to a happy conclusion. A Smoking Concert proved to be a highly successful affair and fully justified our hopes of a very convivial evening. The Mess Room would not appear to be an ideal venue for such an occasion, but after receiving attention at the hands of the Senior Service it was a worthy palace for our doughty deeds. The wisdom of promoting a Treasure Hunt seemed to be doubtful, as those partaking displayed remarkable energy and enthusiasm, and at one stage it seemed that the barracks were to be torn down brick by brick. However, we are still in the happy position of having a roof over our heads and our fears unjustified. Those less energetic stalwarts played Whist at this time, and at the conclusion of these items the final struggle for the "Tipplers' Trophy" took place. As our talent proved equal in previous events, it remained the duty of the Tipper teams to decide who was to carry the "Kan." Even so, it ended as all such tournaments seem to do—on the toss of a coin, fortune favouring the Malta Section. At this stage the semi-serious business of the evening was concluded and jugs were charged and our impromptu concert party proceeded to entertain a not too critical audience.

The items were well received and some really good talent was unearthed. A short interlude for the presentation of the Trophy was quite an item in itself. The " Kan " was kindly presented by Colonel Airey, A.D.S.T., who took the opportunity of uttering some very kind words to the Signals. He further demonstrated that it is possible to drink " hands off " with ears at the " high port," a feat which received thunderous applause. The late appearance of the Section at breakfast was a certain indication of a highly successful evening.

Telephone Tremors.—We have a lineman amongst us with the remnants of a G.P.O. scrounge still hanging about his person. On asking for " London Trunks " he more than met his match when the operator murmured " Engaged."

Archery.—Probably due to the prowess gained during the struggle for the " Kan," a few of our dart experts braved the sea voyage across the Harbour in response to a challenge from a Naval side. As an archery squad they had to admit honourable defeat, but as entertainers definitely made their mark. Loud stampings from the Dockyard area denote Fleet Exercises instituted for the purpose of teaching our Naval friends one of our own numbers.

Exchange Mart.—Advertiser with a grouch and under a nom de plume which sounds very much like " cheesed " invites offers for a time-expired phrase: " Before you came on the island." Requires mechanised uke, old coupons, or what have you ?

SKIP.

No. 2 "A.A." Cable Section, H.M.S. "President IV."

c/o G.P.O., London.

Dear Editor: Strange as it may seem, although there are thirty-one days' activity (or otherwise) to ponder over, there appears to be a general slump in the press inspirations department. A genuine excuse to offer this particular week-end is the Whitsun holiday period, as visions of a trip up the " Smoke," or elsewhere are apt to cloud one's ideas. Not that we have not packed already for the scramble to get away, " Oh no."

Having nicely arranged all our Stores (and it is surprising the amount we have), in a room once allotted for that purpose, we have now, this week-end of all times, got to make a hurried exodus, so instead of kneeling down picnicking by the water's edge somewhere around Virginia Water, the lads will be kneeling down scrubbing out instead.

Any rich young lady—emphasise rich, please—seeking to make acquaintance with a thoroughly domesticated male impersonator with a view to anchoring him down, need not look any further once having noted our address.

Incidentally, we have one or two "Civilians" attached to us, although at present they wonder when they will actually be so. Still, " What is a Buckshee Year between friends " ?

We appear to be benefiting by the erection of the Semi-Permanent Cable Air lines, which, having given no trouble and only had one move by the Searchlight personnel, left us with only general maintenance on hand.

The Musketry period which was in evidence last month, has also filtered out owing to a change of dates in the allotment of the Ranges.

These incidents were just as well owing to the large percentage of casualties in the Section.

Congratulations.—To 1st A.D. Signals, Blackdown, for retaining the Powell Cup. " Bravo." To Mr. Rossiter (No. 1 Cable Section), on being promoted to Corporal. The news filtered through three days before his time expired day arrived. Incidentally will Lance Corporal Connolly please prepare the insurance cards, etc., for this honorary member. To U/Lance Corporal Hodge W. R. G. (Resolution is his middle name, too). It must be a rare event in the annals of the Corps for a Sergeant Major to make his first step on that exceptionally long ladder of promotion, however, we hope that his and Badgy's names will soon feature in the Blue Book.

Cricket.—We played a detachment of the 11th Hussars, the scores being 126—57 in our favour, this shows we have some talent on hand. Signalmen Hodgson and Baines figured prominently in the batting, whilst Signalmen Clarke, Baines, Rawlinson and Hodgson, scattered the wickets.

Indoor games and a Social Evening at the invitation of the Royal Marines at Ayana Fort, were exceptional successes, as far as the social side was concerned. At the games, although thoroughly enjoyed, we had to admit we were a poor second. The " Drink, Sing, Say or Do," accompanied by their Mouth Organ Orchestra (directed by Henry Tall) completed, I think I may say, the most pleasant evening yet recorded.

Jew's Post.—To Lance Corporal B.O.M., Blackdown. What price Blackburn ? Up t'United. I filled my money bags on the Winners of Div. II, also Mahmoud. Tell Con, if he wants any tips he will be welcome.

To Corporal Lane, Scarborough. Glad all O.K. Pompey, here's hoping, send your address. (Ress.).

" Swede Again."—Swede enters the office and here are his remarks to the Clerk. " Reference our conversation of the —— instantaneous. I am Fully Unconscious." (The Section are still awaiting his complete recovery).

All the best till next time.

SANDY.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Fort Canning Detachment.

13th May.

General.—For the information of other Detachments of this Section and to all the lads and lassies at Home that scan this regal " rag " for news of their better-halves, and the blokes that owe them money, I should like to say that everyone is flourishing and getting that " tarnished " look, even the latest arrival, the Foreman-of-Signals' cat, " Fifi " (Sorry " Q," I forgot that your moggy was a good swimmer).

Of course the Old Draft are looking forward to the next Trooping Season. It is not thought that they are really relishing being posted to Field Units, as remarks are often passed, such as, " How long has so-and-so been in Hongkong, if he is going home next year I'd put in to be posted there," and so on. I leave you to draw your own conclusions. However, I know that several of the lads would like to stay on in Singapore if it were allowed.

We are pleased to note that Signalman Smith J. (928), late of this Unit, clicked lucky and got posted to the Eastern Command Signal Company.

By the way, Corporal (Taff) Ellis, " Busty " is asking after your health and hopes that you won't peg out before he hears from you.

Well, " Mr." Riley, how are the A.A. Guns looking ? Now don't get " bored," although it might not be so interesting as F.E.C.

Here's luck to you three and may you have as good a time in your new stations as you had here.

From Information Received.—The following are extracts (facsimile) of letters received from some of the local lads seeking positions under the C.S.O., and are published to give the mournful faces a break :

1. " I have the honour to enquire whether you require any telephone operators at the Gillman Barracks, which will shortly be occupied by the new regiment— THE MIDDLE SEX."

Now then, no rushing to put in A.Fs B.241, or the War Office will disband this wonderful regiment.

2. " My application for the Telephone Operators work submitted in last week could not fetch a reply still. I have confessed grievances in the past few and regret much of my time of unemployment. Since entering various offices, unanswered in Malaya unfavourably. Therefore your need for entering in my need is eagerly asking."

If anyone can sort this out he should be awarded his " Rooty Gong," as he will probably have done his 18 by the time he gets it straightened.

3. " I beg most humbly to apply for a post as a peon in your Department if there be any vacancy. I am a Straits born Malay, aged 19 years old, and can speak and write a bit of English. I CAN PLAY FOOTBALL TOO."

See the wangle ! He wants to work his way into the wonderful Fort Canning Football Team (P.B. please note). I'm afraid if a job had been given to this applicant he would have worked overtime collecting paper balls that he had been using for secret practice.

4. " I most humbly and respectfully beg to offer myself as a candidate for an employment as an Apprentice Telephone Operator. I beseech you to be so generous as to grant me my request as I am in a lurch at present, therefore there is no objection of a liberal pay."

This budding S.B.O. has had the dirty played on him by the look of it and is trying to get his own back with the " liberal pay " business. There is nothing like asking.

5. " Being geven to understand that you require an apprantice telephone-operator in your service an I beg most respectufully to apply for the said post. I am a young Eurasian 21 years of age, I was employed the British Printing Works for the last 10 mounths as a bill collector. Herewith I inclose a copy of my testinamal to you."

Needless to say that this fellow didn't forward any reference from his Professor at Cambridge University, but his pluck for having a good try to write " English " is appreciated.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Stowers G. on his appointment to that rank. The boat was duly launched and all hands proceeded to The Straits Bar for a gorging (another mistake, I meant " gorgeous ") dinner.

BERT.

Changi Detachment.

15th May.

Apology.—Greetings everybody ! Before proceeding further I must tender my apologies for the non-appearance of notes from the outpost last month, but what with dodging parades and supplying sparrows for the Foreman of Signals' cat, my time has been fully booked up. However, I will endeavour to make up for lost time in this issue. Cheers !

General.—As Mabel Lucy Attwell says, " Wot a life !" Rain, rain and yet more rain, accompanied by violent electric storms has been our lot for the past two weeks. These storms have developed the bad habit of arriving round about 2 p.m., just when we are about to indulge in our hard earned (?) siesta. The lightning has been exceptionally violent and we are thankful that nine-tenths of our line communications are via buried cable, otherwise fuses, etc., would be at a premium. As it is, our Foreman is going grey, wondering if the Telephone Exchange has finally given up the ghost, and taken to the air. Bear up, " Q," won't be long now !

We welcomed a draft of Royal Engineers from England recently and owing to the large number of same, it was found necessary that the Signals find pastures new, so we are now living in " D " Bungalow, situated on the highest point in Changi. There is talk of forming us into an Alpine Troop as we certainly do have to climb plenty. I get cramp every time I look up from the N.A.A.F.I., which naturally would be situated just above mean sea-level. You know how it goes.

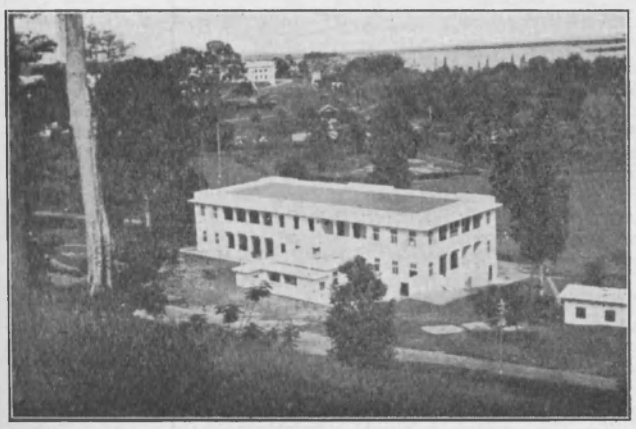
FROGGY.



View of Garrison Sergeants' Mess with playing fields and bathing enclosure in rear, from Royal Signals' Bungalow.



Signalman Goldfinch and Coolie Gang planting Signal (Monuments) Cable Route Markings.



View of the new N.A.A.F.I., with Royal Engineers Officers' Mess in the background, from Royal Signals' Bungalow.



Royal Engineers' and Royal Signals' Guard of Honour and Band formed up to welcome Royal Engineers' new draft from England.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

The new establishment has been authorised, and has resulted in the " Other Ranks " being practically doubled. The designations Air Defence Formation Signals T.A., and 26th and 27th Air Defence Brigade Signals T.A. disappear and are replaced by the 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals T.A., with Headquarters and No. 1 and No. 2 Companies. These Companies will serve the Inner and Outer Artillery Zones respectively.

Each Company consists of a Motor Airline Section and three Operating Sections. A variety of work is, therefore, possible, including airline construction, and several methods of operating. The operations room at these Headquarters has recently been cleared of the old apparatus, and rewired. In addition, an experimental installation based on a new system of signalling, which will be tried out at Marston Camp in August, is being constructed by Driver Hurt and the General Post Office.

We appeal to all members of the Unit to introduce Recruits at this interesting stage of our development, and once again bring the Unit to full strength.

Annual Training will take place at Marston Camp from the 9th to 23rd August inclusive, and there will be many activities in view of the recent reorganisation and the trial of the new experimental apparatus.

This Unit took part in the Combined Air Defence Display at the Royal Tournament, Olympia, with Major A. Hensley, T.D., in charge of the A.A. Signals. The display proved to be a great success and all ranks are to be congratulated on their efforts. We hope that they will have many pleasant recollections of the Royal Tournament.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.

June.

Editorial.—By the time these notes appear we should have commenced Annual Training at Saunton Sands Camp near Barnstaple. We reach there on the 5th proximo, and remain until the 19th. With the memories of our previous stay there, three years ago, still fresh in the minds of many of us, we look forward to as pleasant and fine a time as we experienced then.

Since last month's notes were written we have been busy, mainly in Section organisation, counting on those who are known to be certain of attending camp, checking through stores, and the many odd jobs that a Section can always find to do to improve its general efficiency. By no means the least of these jobs have been the various Sunday exercises which have been carried out by all Companies. It may be that, in some cases, the exercises have been a little too ambitious, with the result that they have not functioned with complete satisfaction to all concerned. However, we must always aim a little higher, and far from being disappointed with the results achieved, definite signs of improvement have been observed. Many useful lessons have been learnt, and it is hoped that such slips as were noticed and pointed out will not occur again.

In effect these Sunday exercises in the few months before camp provide excellent material for eliminating faults so that the miniature exercises held during the first week of camp may go with a swing and thus lead up to a successful show on the field day in the second week. Some of us have carried out our reconnaissances for this divisional exercise, and given good weather we ought to have an extremely interesting time.

Heartiest congratulations to Nos. 2 and 3 Companies on jointly securing the Gould Cup for open range musketry at Honiton. The weather could have been much kinder, but it did not greatly upset the competitors. Congratulations also to No. 3 Company on being top in the Unit shoot for the High Sheriff's Challenge Shield. The fine effort put up with a team of seven as against eight in each of No. 2 and No. 3 Companies deserves well-earned praise.

The Officers' Annual Dinner was held at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Exeter, on the 30th, and was as usual a great success. We missed a certain few faces from our gathering, but their absence was unavoidable. We were privileged to have with us our Divisional Commander, Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., our C.S.O., Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., our D.C.S.O., Brevet-Colonel W. Martineau, M.C., T.D., The Devon T.A.A. Secretary, Brigadier-General The Hon. L. J. P. Butler, C.M.G., D.S.O., D.L., Colonel W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., a previous C.O., and D.C.S.O., and Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., a previous No. 1 Company Commander.

A T.E.W.T. took place on the 31st in the Exeter area, and everybody enjoyed the exercise. The main problems struck a new note, and we ended the day with the feeling that we had learnt several points regarding signal tactics.

The lack of Company notes is no doubt accounted for by pressure of training, as we go to camp three weeks earlier than in previous years. To make up in part for this deficiency, we welcome a new scribe (S.T.I.), whose identity is at the moment shrouded in mystery. All we know is that he shelters in the vicinity of Headquarters, and having committed himself to paper we hope he will supply us with an article each month.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

General.—Time is our enemy this month. There have been so many things claiming our attention, that notes have had, unfortunately, to be relegated to a mere line or so.

We have had a few Sunday exercises since last writing, which though not completely successful in all respects, have proved of great value, in bringing to our notice points of tactics, etc., that needed overhaul. The exercises were ambitious, and we prefer them that way, as being one of the chief means to maintain progress. Our weak links in the various Section chains have been observed, and we hope to strengthen them before reaching Saunton Sands.

We still continue to lose members to the Regular Forces, two having left us this month for the Royal Navy and the R.A.S.C. In their place we welcome an equal number of Recruits, and hope they will enjoy the hobby they have taken up.

Congratulations to Nos. 2 and 3 Companies on their respective successes in the Gould Cup and High Sheriff's Challenge Shield competitions recently held.

To Sergeant Watt N., 3rd Divisional Signals (late of the Devon County Show). We also made contact recently with members of the bovine species. Unlike your acquaintances, ours refused to broadcast themselves, and prevented us from doing so. They, with malice aforethought, treated a span of our line as spearmint.

ONECOY.

From Our " Special " Correspondent.—At the Devon County Agricultural Show, which was held at Exeter from 20th to 22nd May, the Unit Headquarters, in conjunction with other Regular and T.A. Arms, were allotted a stall for Regular and Territorial Army Recruiting. The organisation of the exhibits was undertaken by the Adjutant. The stall was stocked with items of interest, such as rifles from the time of, I think, " Boadicea " to the present day, pistols, bombs, from the jam-tin variety to the latest effort, a 4.5 howitzer, Bren and other automatic guns, a range finder, sound-locator, gas and gas-masks throughout the ages, and lastly the Signals.

The Signals exhibits were a fitted up Brigade Signal Office, DX and SX Baseboards, all made to work, a telephone in the nude, and various other instruments used in V/T and L/T. The star turns of the Show, however, were two No. 1 Sets in cars, sent by 3rd Divisional Signals under Sergeant Watt N. These sets certainly caused some speculation amongst the locals. The personnel being in " Blues," the news got round—assisted, I believe by someone on the Headquarters Staff—that the Exeter Police were being equipped with wireless, and even the police believed it, and always held up the traffic for these cars. A

hoot from the car would reduce a motorist's speed through Exeter from 40 m.p.h. to 10 m.p.h.

Even the cattle were interested, and a broadcast was arranged from their pens. Unfortunately one cow got " mike shy " and to quote the announcer, Sergeant Watt, " wouldna spark at a' ". One car remained in the Show stall while the other toured around Exeter and suburbs. The operator in the Show stall had to be dug out from underneath layers of juvenile radio experts every now and again to get some air. They were thick. Weird and wonderful tales were told of the ability of the sound-locator, and one farm labourer spent two hours trying to detect the noise made by the flickering of the Bandmaster's eyelids.

As an advertisement of the Army it was given great praise. Many old-timers came to renew their acquaintance with war-time instruments. The writer met a man who claimed to have assisted in the making of a buzzer switch unit out of cartridge cases. As a Recruiting campaign, the results are in the future. At least it must have made the large rural population of Devon more " Defences conscious."

STI.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.
12th June.

Editorial.—I know what the cads will say as soon as they have read this article. " For three months now you have commenced with a remark about the weather or annual camp." Well, let them say so, anyway, it is a very difficult task to furnish sufficient really interesting notes without referring to such news. In the minds of all at Stamford Brook, camp has a very prominent place this year. The Unit is to provide the communication required during a Divisional exercise staged by 4th Divisional Signals. It boils down to these two very important factors :

1. The job means we work in conjunction with the Regular organisations.
2. We are working continuously for three days and three nights.

The excitement this means can best be imagined by those individuals who, like ourselves, crave for a change from the normal camp routine.



A Job for the Quartermaster.

Officers—Promotion and Appointments.—Congratulations to Mr. S. J. Williams on acquiring another pip towards his collection. We welcome Mr. George P. Shepherd on joining the Unit, and trust he will find No. 2 Company is a good home.

Message to No. 2 Company.—By the way, Tom, why not a few notes now and again, just to swell the publication ? Major C. H. Crisp, late Royal Warwicks, T.A., will be very pleased to hear from you after all these years.

Promotions and Appointments.—Lance Corporal Divall J. A. promoted Corporal, Lance Corporal Ripley W. promoted Corporal, Signalman Dunn D. appointed Lance Corporal (avec d'argent).

Bouquets.—This time to Signalman Coles J. E., of " L " Section, who represented the T.A. in the Inter-Services Small Bore Match and was the only one in the whole competition to score a possible. Well done soldier. Now you " rookies," what about following the good example.

Secretarial Hints !—1. It is normal procedure to notify all members of the meeting before you read the minutes of the last one. 2. It would be advisable to thoroughly confuse the minds of all present before asking them to adopt your resolution.

Tailpiece.—Section Sergeant : " Are you the Section Sergeant, my man ? "

Recruit : " No, Sergeant."

Section Sergeant : " Then stop talking like an idiot."

Recognition.—Thanks George, you're a pal.

0020.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.
15th June.

Editorial.—See all the busy bees at the Drill Hall on drill nights now ; everyone is slaving, from the lad who is just mastering the code in time for his last camp to the joint with a sadly dented piston for sale, cheap, as an ash tray.

Most of the last week at camp will be spent by the majority on a four-day Signal Exercise in the Maresfield Area, and we are endeavouring to eliminate all the little snags that crop up on the job by dealing with possible drawbacks now in the greater comfort and convenience of Headquarters.

" D " Section have made two charming little tables for fitting into their office lorries that might have come from Mr. Drage except for the bits of wire stuck all over them. Furthermore, we are now right up to strength, and if the training of new personnel can reach a sufficiently high standard by the appointed time we shall have the material to make a good effort.

Sergeants' Mess.—At a very pleasant evening on the 30th May we said goodbye to Sergeant Putlock, who has completed fifteen years with the Unit. Yes, a " Worthing soldier." Bert was presented with a clock to mark the occasion and the Police Concert Party provided the necessary musical background to drown the swallowing noises.

I note that Hookey has taken our words of last month to heart, as he is coming to camp after all.

POLYH.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals Headquarters.

Phœnix Street, Derby.
15th June.

Whitsun Camp, Trent.—The Unit was under canvas from Saturday, 30th May, to Tuesday, 2nd June. The weather was not good, but everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. This week-end camp has been held for a number of years and is a gathering place where most of the Unit see one another before going to annual camp towards the end of July and planning is done to make annual training enjoyable for all.

Our routine at Whitsun camp was not very strenuous, but enough work was done to make the show worth while. To give an idea, here is what happened on the Sunday. The first parade was at 7 a.m. and was a Unit Physical Training parade, and did the troops like it ? The P.T. went so well that it will, without doubt, be included in the programme at annual camp.

At 10 a.m. the Unit paraded again to witness eight old soldiers being presented with the Territorial Efficiency Medal by the C.O. (Colonel G. J. Underwood). To those unaware of the conditions which have to be fulfilled before being recommended for the medal, perhaps it would be as well to state that it is awarded to those who have completed 12 years' efficient service and attended 12 annual trainings. Anyway, congratulations to the " Old Sweats " mentioned : C.Q.M.S. Green E., No. 1 Company ; Sergeant Woolley G., No. 2 Company ; Sergeant Rhodes A., No. 2 Company ; Sergeant Madeley C., No. 2 Company ; Lance Sergeant Bradley W., No. 2 Company ; Sergeant Hardy E., No. 3 Company ; Lance Sergeant Henley W., No. 3 Company ; Signalman Tainton A., No. 3 Company.

At 10.45 a.m. a demonstration in " Setting up a Signal Office " (or HOW NOT to set up a Signal Office) was given by our Officers. This was very cleverly done and although instructive was also very amusing. Following this was an excellent demonstration by the C.S.M., P.S.I., and N.C.O.s of No. 3 Company in

the correct opening of an Office in accordance with the drill laid down. 11.30 a.m., training continued under Company arrangements by Section Commanders until dinner time. The 2 p.m. parade was as strong as possible, it being pay parade. No absentees were reported. At 3 p.m., or thereabouts, No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company decided to show the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters how football should be played to the tune of 9 goals to 2.

The whole of Monday morning was devoted to Section Training and some very useful results were obtained. Many, of course, were obliged to leave camp on Monday evening to return to their employment on Tuesday morning, but some 80 fortunates were able to spend one more night in camp and return to civilian life again on Tuesday.

So ended a very good Whitsun camp, despite the weather.

L. S.

No. 1 (Derby) Company.

C.Q.M.S. Green and Signalman Gargare have returned from the School of Cookery and our P.S.I. (Sergeant Field) is back from the Military College of Science. All obtained excellent reports, which is just as it should be.

Whitsun camp has come and gone. We managed, in spite of five degrees of frost on Whit-Sunday night and a P.T. parade, to have a good camp.

Our football team suffered defeat at the hands of No. 2 Company (our friendly enemies). Unfortunately our first team was on the Continent, otherwise the score would have been reversed.

We left camp and many broken hearts on the Tuesday and have resumed normal training.

A Company week-end was held at Ilkeston on the 13th and 14th June. It rained heavily on the Saturday, but not heavily enough to damp the enthusiastic youngsters of this Company who turned up in full force.

A Scheme was held on Sunday and with only a sprinkling of old hands we managed to get through by line and wireless to all brigades; do a shift and get through again.

E. G. F.

No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company.

Our correspondent has not found a huge pile of notes for this issue. Perhaps he has not thawed out his Whitsun chill! Very cold, windy and rather wet weather failed to keep the Company at home. Seventy-five per cent. of strength turned out for a much enjoyed week-end.

We were delighted to assist No. 1 Company in finding a strong solution to the football problem they aired in the June number. We hope to be able to confirm that solution at Redcar.

Recruiting goes well. We have filled our small establishment to a slight overflow and have had the good fortune to secure two splendid Despatch Riders.

A Group "E" to Class iii Linemen's Course is well in hand and rapidly developing "trade rate rash." A special Switchboard Operators' Course will end with the publication of these notes and fill a long-felt want in the Company economy.

Tailpiece.—No, we do not know when summer begins this year.

CROOKED SPIRE.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Courses.—Sergeant Harrison and Lance Corporal Fearn have both returned from their courses, the former from Scarborough and the latter from the 'Shot.

As was reported in last month's notes, Lance Corporal Fearn went to learn the mysteries of Hygiene and Sanitation, and we are glad to report that he gleaned much knowledge, and passed the course with success.

Results of Sergeant Harrison's endeavours are not yet to hand, but a wee birdie did whisper, when the course was at the half-way stage, that he was top-'o-the-league. We hope to be able to report that this state of affairs continued throughout.

Whitsun Camp.—This was a success, and would have been more so if the weather conditions had been better. Our Stores and Lecture Room has the look of a small edition of an Ordnance Department since our return. Tents, of all descriptions, are still hanging, almost dry, but very dismal-like.

Medals for 12 years' efficient service were awarded to Sergeant Hardy, Lance Sergeant Henley and Signalman Tainton; congratulations once more.

It fell to the lot of No. 3 Company to show just how a Signal Office should be erected and dismantled, and not even the most critical of critics could say the effort wasn't R 9s. (and NO Xs's).

Annual Camp.—To many of our members, if not all, this is the next item of major importance on our very full programme of training. Everyone is looking forward to our visit to Redcar, where we spent so pleasant a time last year. Some, we know, are making gallant efforts to cultivate moustaches and other forms of disguise. We wonder why?

Echoes.—Did G. F. J. see our reference in last month's notes? We now add, more congratulations on his recent promotion.

G. F. J. will be interested to know that the writer is hoping to spend some more Sundays (and Thursdays) in that bit of country on the left of the Kundam Road. Shades of Dhillah!

Will Bramjee Singh pine when he leaves his present station for the wilds of Peshawar?

Salaams.—To all P.S.I.s in their efforts too, many sympathies. To all old-timers.

J. H. E.

47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals
and affiliated No. 2 Company Air Contingent Signals.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
Monday, 15th June.

General.—At last we have received the official order for our conversion to Corps Signals. Our provisional title is to be "The London Corps Signals, T.A." This conversion will take effect forthwith, so that we have the distinction of becoming the first T.A. Corps Signals. A considerable reorganisation of this Unit will now become essential and we intend to carry out Section Training from a Corps Signals' point of view during our Annual Training. A large number of Officers will attend an exercise with "A" Corps Signals on 27th-28th June, at Andover, and thereby gain practical experience of how we are expected to function in our new role. Now that we definitely know our fate it is expected that the very pronounced feeling of uncertainty which has existed during the past winter will disappear and that we shall soon shake down to our new jobs and be as great a credit to the Corps as we were when we had the honour of being the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals.

We all feel the loss of our old Division and our title, the loss of which will take a long time to get over. All ranks, however, appreciate the necessity for the change and we will do our best to carry on in the splendid spirit which was so vividly obvious in in the 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals, T.A. Section and general Recruits' Training is still merrily on the go and more Recruits are coming in at a good steady rate. If we go on as we are we should be well on the way to full strength by the time we go to camp.

On the 16th-17th May No. 3 Company and the Despatch Riders, carried out a week-end training at Chertsey. The Despatch Riders Section sprayed the usual dust about the countryside endeavouring to find the "C" in Cobham. "J," "K" and "L" Sections performed the functions of Brigade Signal Offices with a good deal of success. A good amount of traffic was dealt with, especially by "K" Section, who are becoming a very useful section. With very fine weather prevailing a very enjoyable week-end was spent and we are looking forward to another opportunity of field work on the 20th-21st June.

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies performed their week-end training, also at Chertsey, on the 6th-7th June. Unfortunately June's flame, which poets rave about, was tragically doused by the continuous rain until nearly 14.00 hours on Sunday. The Cable and Gunner Sections were compelled to remain in their lorries and pass the time away making joints and listening to what the Sergeant had to say. However, after lunch (they close at 14.00 hours down Chertsey way), the rain had ceased, so we were able to have some hammer and jumping practice. Some of the hammers seemed to be enjoying themselves swinging the Recruits about! These Recruits, by the way, were experiencing their first taste of being in uniform and in spite of the rain during the morning they put up a very fine performance by marching nearly five miles in brand new boots and British Warms, and there was no grousing either. We must tell you of one of these Recruits. In replying to the Adjutant's enquiry as to whether or not he would be able to attend the week-end training, wrote the following: "I shall be very pleased to come to the outing on Saturday." What a beano this soldiering is!

The Despatch Riders had a week-end on their own at Aldershot on the 23rd-24th May, when they were attached to 1st Divisional Signals. Our thanks are due to 1st Divisional Signals for their co-operation and assistance.

Officers.—The monthly guest night was held on 4th June and a good number of Officers and their friends were present. We were very pleased to have our late Commanding Officer, Brevet-Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., T.D., who is now Second-in-Command of the Artists' Rifles, with us again.

We hear that our Adjutant, Captain F. H. Bury, is taking over the command of the Malta Signal Section during the coming winter and that Captain H. C. B. Rodgers is to be our new Adjutant.

Captain R. A. Meers, O.C. " A " Section of this Unit, has had the very interesting and responsible task of designing, installing and operating of the whole of the Voice Frequency, Radio Telephone, Broadcasting, Re-diffusion and Control Circuits for the *Queen Mary*. As can well be imagined this has been a stupendous undertaking and the results obtained reflect the greatest credit on Captain Meers. This Officer went on the *Queen Mary's* first voyage to America, and we are looking forward to a lecture from him in the near future on his experiences and also on the technical problems which were involved in his great and successful task.

Sergeants' Mess.—We regret that at the termination of his engagement Sergeant " Emmie " Emmerson has found it impossible to re-engage for a further period of service. We hope he will come and see us now and again. Things are still very quiet in the Mess, but we trust matters will buck up in the near future.

Agony.—We sometimes hear a grouse about one thing and another regarding things Territorial. Here is an item culled from an Australian newspaper which rather goes to prove we are not so badly off after all. A Victorian volunteer's testimony to the " efficiency " of the system :

> I have been in the 46th Battalion for about five months and yet have no uniform . . . Considering that after a long day's work we ride pushbikes 16 miles to attend it is not encouraging . . . If we want a shot at the range at Williamstown, we have to lose a half-day's pay and then pay our own train fare.

Still, the young man has only himself to blame. He should have become Minister for Defence, and then he would have had a gold pass, a Commonwealth car, a Corporal driver and a busby.

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Birmingham.

Annual Church Parade.—The Church Parade took place on Sunday, 24th May, as usual at St. Christopher's Church, Sparkhill. The Unit paraded about 300 strong in four companies. No. 4 Company being the Air Contingent Signals (S.R.) and No. 3 the Recruits. There was also for the first time a contingent of the Old Comrades. The band of the 8th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment played the Unit to and from Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Wilkinson, assisted by Rev. Campbell Orr, of St. Christopher's Church. After return to Barracks the Unit was inspected by the Honorary Colonel, Sir B. J. T. Ford, T.D., who afterwards presented the Efficiency Medal to Signalman Mayall H. Among the distinguished Officers present were Colonel W. H. Martineau, M.C., T.D., D.C.S.O., Southern Command, Colonel P. H. Keeling, M.C., and Lieutenant-Colonel A. Erskine-Murray, D.S.O., Secretary of the Warwickshire Territorial Army Association. After parade the troops and their friends were invited to tea in the Drill Hall.

General.—This month will be a busy one for everybody, as each Company is holding a week-end camp on the following dates : 6th-7th June, No. 2 Company ; 13th-14th June, No. 1 Company ; and 27th-28th June, No. 3 (Recruits) Company.

Recruiting is undergoing a last minute briskness. There has been a fair influx of Despatch Rider Recruits, but there is room for more. An imposing array of very nice looking machines is to be seen on the parking ground on drill nights.

No. 2 Company Week-end Camp.—By way of change of environment No. 2 Company betook themselves to the Clent Hills for their week-end camp. The spot chosen was pleasantly situated on a hillside, and was well protected on all sides by surrounding high ground. Fortunately, the weather relaxed just in time and, although it rained hard during the night, it cleared up in sufficient time for the training programme to be carried out according to plan on Sunday morning. The Visual Sections were, of course, in their element owing to the topography of the country, whilst the Gunner and Infantry Brigade Sections were also kept busy.

Star turn—Sergeant Bromhall and his performing sidecar—must have put the shackle on the wrong wheel.

Air Force Display.—A detachment from the Cable Section, assisted by members of the Permanent Staff, provided and maintained several lines for the Empire Air Display of 605 (County of Warwick) Bombing Squadron at their Royal Air Force Station at Castle Bromwich.

Despatch Riders' Concert.—The Despatch Riders' Club held a very enjoyable concert on the 5th June. A first-class accordionist, Mr. Morris Reno, entertained us with a number of very excellently rendered selections, the remainder of the time being filled up with " home " talent. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel M. E. Holdsworth, as President of the Club, was present, as were also Captain A. G. Simpson and Lieutenant P. M. Bowen (Vice-Presidents). The Commanding Officer announced the gift, through the kindness of Colonel O. Smallwood (Officer Commanding Troops, Birmingham), of a trophy for competition among the Despatch Riders, and called for suggestions as to the kind of competition they would prefer to have. He also referred to the interesting fact that Colonel O. Smallwood was at one time himself a Despatch Rider serving in the 48th Division.

Sergeants' Mess.—Members of the Mess football sweep set out one fine Saturday night to " blue " the savings of that thrifty body known as " kitty." A visit to the Birmingham Hippodrome was followed by an excellent steak supper in a nearby restaurant, after which a private bus was chartered to bring the party back to the Mess, where the remainder of the evening was spent as merrily as high spirits, music and an ample supply of " Ansells " could make it. Great credit is due to Sergeant Powell not only for running the sweep, but also for organising such an enjoyable outing.

Promotions.—Congratulations to the following : Lance Sergeants Bennett G. G. and Best E. D. to be Sergeants, 30th April ; Corporals Bowkett W. J., Parson J., Stephens H., Warrilow E. C. and Portman H. V. to be Lance Sergeants, 30th April ; Lance Corporals Smith G. E., Day W., Houghton G., Smith J., Redding E. A., Warrilow K. G., Butcher W. H., Perks W., Martin F., Young A. J., Hemmings T. A., Pickersgill G., Griffin E. C. and Signalman Flavvel J. N. to be Corporal, 30th April ; also to the fourteen Signalmen who have attained the dizzy heights of Lance Corporal.

GET'CHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Apart from the fact that Whitsuntide took a goodish slice out of last month to make news still more scarce for the WIRE historian, there is but little to report. Training, during the week, and in the country during the week-end, goes on apace, and most of the Recruits' squad of 57 had their first experience under canvas at Arthington over the holidays. No. 1 Company were deprived of their outing on 23rd-24th May when rain caused a cancellation of the week-end camp and the substitution of a camp scheme. There was better luck for " J " Section on 6th-7th June with the result that they had a very successful exercise. " E " Section followed on 13th-14th June when they got through an exercise set for them by the Officer Commanding 69th Field Brigade Royal Artillery. It seems ages since we went out in really bright sunshine, still, as my old Sergeant-Major used to say, " The worse the weather the better the training." " D " Section are making an interesting experiment in converting an old motor bus into a fully-equipped Signal Office, with upholstered seats and lights for everyone. It looks all right in the Drill Hall, but it will be fully tested on the roads (?) in the Gandale area some six weeks hence when we shall all rally round for a fortnight of Divisional work in camp.

The Sections of No. 3 Company may be seen gathering in small groups behind corners and casting furtive glances around. The reason is that O.C. Company has promised a monetary prize to the Section proving the smartest in a communication test on 30th June, and the air is full of hints and tips.

" London Gazette."—" Gazette " of 22nd May announced : " Lieutenant D. de la Peer Tate, from 63rd (6th London) Field Brigade, R.A., to be Lieutenant 14th May in 49th Divisional

Signals." Lieutenant Tate, to whom is extended the hearty hand of welcome, has been posted for duty with " J " Section.

Discharges.—The Canteen Brotherhood will be grieved to learn that Corporal Sanderson R. H. has taken his discharge on termination of his engagement. Thus we lose at one fell swoop Regimental carpenter and wheelwright, crossing poles painter and Canteen Committee Chairman. A distinguished batch of re-engagements includes R.Q.M.S. Whittaker and C.S.M. Brown.

Golf.—Three Officers from this Unit took part in the 49th Div. Golf Tournament for the Major-General Jackson Cup, at Starbeck, Harrogate, on 7th June, but the Cup went to our colleagues of the Royal Engineers, Sheffield, with a card of 68 nett. For the Signals, 2nd Lieutenant J. O. Crabtree returned 75 nett, to finish fifth, and 2nd Lieutenant A. D. McLaren and Captain J. M. May 76 and 83 respectively.

Officers' Mess.—A company of distinguished guests gathered in the Officers' Mess for dinner on 22nd May, including the Lord Mayor of Leeds (Alderman P. T. Leigh). Others present were: Major-General G. C. Kelly, G.O.C. 49th Division and members of his Staff; Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O. Northern Command; Colonel G. Bray, Deputy C.S.O.; Senior Officers from the Royal Signals, Catterick Camp; Colonel R. M. N. Forbes, C.R.A.; Colonel W. Tozer, Commanding the Hallamshire Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel H. G. Henderson, O.C. 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough; Colonel W. Boyle, Hon. Colonel, 49th Divisional Signals; and Mr. A. R. Bretherick, Leeds Corporation representative on the West Riding Territorial Association, as well as a full attendance of Regimental Officers.

TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

Officers' Exercises.—Outstanding events to be noted are General Brownrigg's exercise at Gleneagles during the week-end 15th-17th May, and our own Unit exercise at Pitlochry 29th-31st May. The first was attended by Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, Majors T. P. E. Murray and D. P. Levack, R.A.M.C. Captains J. W. Levack, A. H. Lennie, M.M., L. W. J. Dryland, A. T. Wood, and J. Cochran, and Lieutenant D. J. Bogie.

Apart from its value from a training point of view the Gleneagles exercise brought us in touch with Officers of the other arms within the Division, whom to know well, and to have their confidence, is to be plus that little something in efficiency which might well make the difference between success and failure at a vital moment.

Our own exercise was largely devoted to the fitting in of a Signal Plan to the tactical operations conducted by the Divisional Staff at Gleneagles, and we appreciate the honour the General did us by attending with his G.S.O.2 on the Saturday forenoon to hear how we would conform as Signals, to his plan of operations in the field.

We appreciate also the help derived from the C.S.O. Scottish Command, Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C., and the D.C.S.O., Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., who both remained with us throughout the exercise.

All Officers are agreed that the scenery in the Pitlochry district (though viewed through the bottom of a tumbler), is unsurpassed in any part of our native Highlands, and many showed a marked interest in bird life. We are informed by an Officer interested in the study of ornithology that some of the birds migrate from such far away parts as the Antipodes.

How hard to realise that people with tastes like these, so much to be commended, were to be found next day sweating blood, or was it beer, in a Cable Laying Competition, their subdued tones and picturesque language, mingling with the sound of the church bells, to give that feeling of peace so traditional to the Scottish Sabbath.

We are sure that the winners of this competition, No. 1 Company, are happy to know that they nearly lost to the other Companies. Each working number received a silver souvenir spoon as a hint to stir themselves in time for early morning P.T. at camp.

It will be seen from these remarks that we take our training as serious-minded soldiers should, but to prove that we relax occasionally we take pleasure in recording the results of the Golf Competition. Happy we were to have Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., the donor of the Cup, and one time Commander of the Unit, with us to see and take part in the event. The winners were Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, our Commanding Officer, and Lieutenant W. Muirhead, No. 2 Company; Colonel Forsyth and his partner, Commander Chalmers, whom we delight to welcome as an honorary member of the Mess, received special prizes for having holed in two at the fourth hole. We look forward to many visits from the " Bosun and his Mate," and are ready to stage an official " Piping Aboard " during our camp period.

Do You Know.—(1) What were the noises on the top landing? or must this remain " The Mystery of the Third Floor Back."

(2) What did the man who was employed at the brewery to put the corks in the beer bottles say? Same as the R.S.M. when sent out to cut the line, " It's so un-natural."

Fashion Notes.—The Gleneagles exercise brought out a charming ensemble in Gents' Slumber Wear. It consists not only of the pyjama suit in Oriental design and fabric, but a dressing gown to match. The luxury of the set leaves the impression that the owner must at some time have got his trousseau mixed up with that of some eastern potentate. The design should be selected with care, as at the times when such garments are worn it is not everyone who can look at dragons with equanimity.

Courses.—A course will be held at Aberdeen (time to be notified later) for ambitious young Officers of the 1st Divisional Signals who desire to study the language, and gain proficiency in the Eightsome.

General.—Recruiting for the Company has been going on steadily during the past six weeks. Twenty were enlisted in May and already this month (June), eleven have been attested making our total Recruits up to date this year 56. Tradesmen and selected men only are now being accepted and a waiting list is being kept from which to select future Recruits.

The results of the Trade Test Boards have been very promising this year, seven obtained Class ii ratings, 18 Class iii, and four Group " E." Eleven of the men who passed Class iii tests were last year's Recruits and they are to be congratulated on attaining such a standard in the time. It is hoped that this example will be followed next year by this year's Recruits and more especially by other men of the Unit.

The Company week-end camp will be held on 20th-21st June at Tollohill just south of Aberdeen. " D " Section is looking forward to trying out their new office boxes and the Despatch Riders, who have been doing extensive training, will have an opportunity of doing their stuff. Sergeant Grant of " B " Section will, no doubt, be glad to get on working terms again with his Section, which this occasion will offer, after his enforced absence from Aberdeen.

H.Q. AND ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—The final Trade Test for this year is past, and we have to record that out of a total of 17 candidates presented, 13 were successful in obtaining ratings.

On the same evening as the Trade Test Board, the annual inspection of Recruits was held by the Adjutant. The Recruits have completed firing their Empire Test, and fired their course on the open range on 8th and 9th June. They then joined their Sections and were initiated into the mysteries of Artillery Brigade Signal Section working. It is well worth recording that six of this year's Recruits have obtained both their Class iii and Group " E " ratings within six months of their joining the Company, and we offer congratulations to them.

Section training is now under way and all Sections have been issued with their complete stores. Evening schemes under Section Officers are being arranged. A Company week-end camp will be held on Saturday and Sunday, 28th-29th June, when a full turn out is practically assured.

Officers' Week-End Exercise.—This exercise was held this year at Pitlochry on 29th-30th May. Full details will, no doubt, appear from our Headquarters' scribe. We offer our congratulations to the Officers of No. 1 Company on being adjudged the winners of the cable laying and maintaining competition.

Annual Camp.—This, of course, is the main topic of conversation in the hall these days, and we are looking forward to our stay at St. Andrews.

TUCO,

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—All our new correspondents have let me down again so here I am pushing in a few lines at the last moment.

The Company's new quarters are taking shape at last and will probably be ready to take over within the next month. We haven't quite as much room as we thought we were going to get, but as we will still have the use of the main Drill Hall and lecture room, we will be much better off than we are at present.

We are now the proud possessors of one Morris Light Van (part worn). It goes, that's everything, and will prove a great boon to the Company. We will give it its preliminary trials at the week-end camp together with the experimental Drum Cable Carrier made for us in the 1st Divisional Signals' workshops at Aldershot.

Week-end Camp.—This year the week-end camp will be held on the Falkland Hills on 20th and 21st June. We hope the Weather Clerk will be kind to us.

Sport.—This Company's Sports Club entered a football team in the Raith Rovers tournament, and were drawn against Haig's Distillery. During the first half we looked like ending up on the right side, but our lads could not stand the pace in the second half and were well beaten after putting up a game struggle.

Congratulations.—To all successful candidates at the last Trade Board.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Church Parade.—The Divisional Church Parade on 31st May, was a big affair, with our contingent a strong one. Headed by our Band, and favoured with excellent weather, our T.A. and S.R. Units presented a fine spectacle as they marched through the city to St. Andrew's Halls. The Divisional Church Parade is an annual event which has proved increasingly popular amongst all ranks of recent years. An interesting feature of the parade was the attendance, in the vicinity of the saluting base, of old members of the Units. Outstanding among them was ex-Sergeant McQuarrie J. Old Mac is a worthy. He retired from the Service after the War, having completed over thirty years' service. Always merry and bright ex-Sergeant McQuarrie takes the liveliest interest in all that concerns the Lowland Units. The presence of old members on such an occasion is great encouragement to us, and we are indeed, grateful for their continued interest and support.

Ex-Sergeant Adams.—We regret to learn that ex-Sergeant Adams of our T.A. Units has been admitted to Erskine Hospital. An old war wound has laid him low. We wish our old comrade a lasting and speedy recovery.

Lance Corporal Osborne.—This old member of the S.R. met with a rather serious football accident recently and we are glad to see " Ossie " moving about again. It is characteristic of this erstwhile youth that he is busy again at Jardine Street, although his sole means of propulsion is a pair of crutches.

The Last Lap.—Soon we will be at Gailes. There is acute pre-camp activity and not much time lost on the S.R. parades. The precious hours are being put to practical use. Motor lorries are in waiting to carry out miniature cable and air line schemes. There are demonstrations and much sorting out of stores, while the Territorials are also busy. There has been no hitch in their training arrangements, and their week-end camps have been most successful. So everything is in readiness for the second fortnight in July.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Mess has big ideas for Gailes. There are to be several top-hole social functions, including a visit to Ayr for the Gaiety show. The Ayr affair will be rounded off by a dinner on returning to camp. The Mess Committee has taken time by the forelock. Gailes Mess should be one of the best in the Division.

The Officers.—We are missing one or two old friends among the Officers these days. The M.O., Major Macgreachin, has gone on a well-earned pleasure cruise and Major Cumming is now in Islay. Then there are the out station Officers whom we look forward to meeting once again at camp.

Pillinger of Leeds.—We learn from the WIRE that our Leeds comrades have had the good sense to honour R.S.M. Pillinger A. Well worthy of the compliment paid him is R.S.M. Pillinger. We have good cause to remember his kindness and help at Hornsea.

Sinclair's Sanctum.—We are informed that R.Q.M.S. Colin Sinclair has purchased an estate at Cardonald. It is learned, however, that the gardens are not yet in full swing as the erection of nurseries and vineries has not been completed. Colin's horticultural activities are, therefore, somewhat unstable for the time being.

Livingstone's Luck.—C.Q.M.S. Livingstone J. had the unique experience of being presented with two Territorial Efficiency Medals on 31st May. The issue of the first medal through some misunderstanding had been delayed for many years. Thus it came about that both medals were presented on the same day. This happening is without parallel at Jardine Street. We congratulate C.Q.M.S. Livingstone on his due reward for years of good work.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

We are beginning to count the weeks to camp, and although we look forward to a happy time we also realise that there will be changes following it, when some of those who have been with us on many such occasions will depart before another camp comes round.

The 231 Field Artillery Brigade Section are going to the Gower on the 18th to perform for the " Gunners," who are in camp at Pennard. The 212th Medium A.S.S. have already done one show there during the past month.

The N.C.O.s' Mess visited Aldershot on the 13th. It was rumoured that they set out to go to the Tattoo, but apparently there were a few casualties during their " approach march," and although someone said " beer " it's quite possible it was the excitement of being among the " soldiers."

They report, anyway, that whatever it was they did they had a good time, with many thanks to R.S.M. Spindler and his associates at Mons Barracks for the arrangements. The stay at Mons was short but pleasant.

Shooting.—All three Companies sent a representative team to compete at the Welsh Bisley at Porthcawl, on Whit-Sunday, for the Victory Shield. Our teams put up a good show but could not regain the Shield. They did have the satisfaction of keeping all the other possible winners on tenterhooks until No. 2 Company's team, the last, had gone down for the final run. In the individual shooting on Whit-Monday our crack shots fell, but we managed a dozen prizes between 18 entries.

Congratulations of the heartiest to R.S.M. McCormick R. R. and C.S.M. McLachlan P. on being awarded Long Service and Good Conduct Medals, and again to C.S.M. Maynard A. R. G., on attaining twenty-one years' service.

It's a long way back to El Arish, Maynard.

The following also on their promotions: C.Q.M.S. Cummings H., and Lance Corporal Frampton E. G., on attaining their respective ranks.

Sayings Past and Present.—" Is Captain —— in Sergeant-Major ? "

" No, Sir, he's away on classification."

" What again."

" Yes, Sir. You'll have to grab him when you can between now and September."

It is with regret we have to chronicle the departure of C.Q.M.S. Dickson E. L., M.S.M., one of the stalwarts who was with the Glamorgan Fortress, R.E. (T) before and during the War and has been with us since (date unknown, documents have fallen to pieces through old age).

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.
No. 1 Company.

General.—Company Training is now in full swing, two very successful week-end schemes having been held. The first was principally a W/T scheme between Stratford, Bedford and Southend, the second was at Whitsuntide in collaboration with Nos. 2 and 3 Companies, and in view of the fact that it was the first Unit Scheme of the year, the results obtained were gratifying. Annual Training at Colchester will soon be upon us and it is to be hoped that summer will have arrived by then. The

Annual Musketry Course has commenced and efforts to cut out the bull are meeting with varying success.

Promotion.—Congratulations to No. 2561281 Sergeant Aubrey Sunderland on his promotion to that rank. Several of the junior members of the Company have been scanning Orders eagerly lately; their patience will soon be rewarded.

Tailpiece.—In view of the fact that he was previously an Infantryman, we will excuse that certain exalted personage who, somehow or other, got his spurs on the wrong feet. We cannot, however, accept his explanation that it was done intentionally in order to impress upon the Recruits the correct manner of wearing.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—A great percentage of the Unit went to war at Whitsun, and as usual it was a draw. The lads had a really good time and they worked hard. Should anyone wish to keep in their good books do not mention "High Teas."

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporals Cook and Anderson on their promotion to Lance Sergeant. Keep it up, there is a Baton in everyone's haversack.

Heard on the Square.—"You have got your spurs on the wrong feet."

"So I have, do you know that is the first time that's happened for seventeen years." Gertcha.

Jewish Mail.—Norman, you once told me a story that sounded something like this:

"Having once tasted the waters of the Nile you shall surely return."

And now I have heard that it is not the place you thought it was. Also tell Jock I am sorry, it was a really nice place when I left.

BLACK DOG.

No. 3 (Southend) Company.

Training.—On the 16th May the Company held a week-end camp at Hullbridge, which is situated on the edge of a river. The only fault was the rain which came down in torrents during the night. The scheme, which was held on the 17th, was a success and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

The Whitsun Camp was held at North Ockenden. The Unit less Bedford and Ipswich detachments was present. I must say No. 3 Company were swift in erecting their tents. Stout fellows. Here again the rain was loath to leave us, but for all that high spirits was the slogan and everything went off well. I noticed when work was done the camp represented a " Ghost " camp. No, they were not in bed. Now we must get down to it, and prepare for the camp which is going to be held at Colchester.

What We Want To Know.—Why didn't the Singer Sing on its homeward run ? Was she pining for her Morris ?

The accompanying photographs might be of interest to past as well as to present members :

1, Lieutenants A. W. Bately and R. V. Pascoe. 2, Ready for Work. 3, Left to Right, Sergeant Bradbury, C.S.M. Cooley, C.Q.M.S. Smeeton, Corporal Dennison. 4, Returning Home.

THREECOY.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool 7.

Camp is now drawing very close, and we have entered the last phase of our training. As part of this we had, on the 6th-7th June, a week-end scheme in the Upholland area. It is very pleasant country, high up, and the fresh winds did everybody a lot of good. The troops, 180 and odd strong, were bivouacked overnight in a field adjoining the Prince William Hotel, and the Saturday evening, work finished, witnessed another of the extremely pleasant times we always manage to have on these schemes.

Officers obtained their natty new overalls before going on the scheme. They certainly needed something like that to keep their uniforms reasonably clean and these striking outfits will fulfil that need admirably. In a dark shade of black, bespoke tailored and fitting like gloves, these suits evoked the admiration of all who weren't on the scheme. In times of hostilities, too, they would prove signally useful in concealing the movements of our troops. A Brigade Signal Officer could move, concealing in the turn-ups of his overall-trousers, his Signal Office personnel, thus hoodwinking the enemy completely.

It is some years, I think, since the Unit has had such a satisfactory influx of Recruits. Many of these have qualified to be posted to Sections, to which they should, in a short time, prove acquisitions. Nos. 1 and 3 Companies are now in the happy position of being over strength. We will get that cup yet.

We have to welcome to the Unit Mr. R. C. K. Baron, who has served in his school's O.T.C., who should become a worthy member of the Mess.

City of London Signals.

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road,
Clapham Park, S.W.12.

Although May and June are perhaps the busiest months of the year in a Territorial Army Unit, little has happened sufficiently unusual to merit inclusion in the WIRE.

Despatch Riders' Display.—The display team opened their 1936 season with a most successful appearance at Wembley Stadium, where they gave a performance before the very critical speedway audience. Even the hardened speedway riders were eager in their congratulations.

A list of prospective bookings is given below :

27th June.—West Suffolk Hospital Gala, Bury St. Edmunds.

4th July.—Surrey Police Sports, Woking.

5th July.—North London Motor Club, Barnet Speedway.

15th and 17th July.—Wandsworth Tattoo, Wandsworth Greyhound Stadium.

18th July.—Belle Vue Speedway, Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester.

19th July.—Harringay and District Motor-Cycle Club, St. Albans.

25th July.—Walpole Park, Ealing.

Cable and Construction Sections S.R., Annual Training.—These Sections returned on 26th May after a pleasant and, by contrast with previous years, not too strenuous fifteen days at Aldershot and Tidworth. They appear, as usual, to have done all that was expected of them. Fifteen Despatch Riders of No. 4 Company S.R. accompanied the Cable Sections to Aldershot to assist in making up the shortage of Despatch Riders, which appears to be one of the great difficulties at present.

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Whitsun Training.—" E " Artillery Brigade Section travelled to Bordon to take part in a Signal Exercise with the 63rd (6th London) Field Brigade, pausing at Aldershot to pick up vehicles which were kindly lent by 2nd Divisional Signals. The Section had a very successful two days getting to know their new Artillery Brigade.

Week-end Training.—The two farms at Compton and Chesham have been well patronised each week-end by those keen members of the Unit who enjoy a week-end in the country.

Demonstration on Clapham Common.—The Unit is preparing a Signal Demonstration, to be held on Clapham Common on Saturday, 20th June, which we hope will apply the little final push necessary to bring our numbers up to establishment before camp.

London Territorial Dinner Club.—The Annual Dinner of the Club was held at the Mansion House on 19th May. The Lord Mayor presided and Mr. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P., Secretary of State for War, was the principal guest. Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, commanding the City of London Signals, proposed the health of the guests. Also amongst those present were : Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., M.I.E.E., Deputy C.S.O. London District, Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., Hon. Colonel, Line of Communication Signals S.R., Major J. E. McCartney, R.A.M.C., Medical Officer City of London Signals, Captain G. H. Walmisley, M.C., of the Reserve of Officers of this Unit, and five serving Officers of the Unit.

Promotions.—Lance Sergeant (T/Sgt.) Elkins E. V., P.S.I. No. 4 Company L. of C. Signals S.R., to be Sergeant on the Corps Roster with effect from 1st June. Congratulations.

Medals.—To Sergeant T. Armstrong, P.S.I. No. 1 Company City of London Signals, congratulations are tendered on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

C. O. L. S.

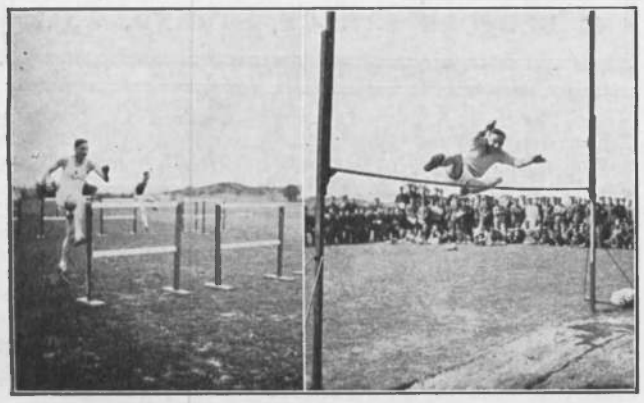
SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre Notes.

S.T.C. Athletics.—Photographs of some of the finishes in the S.T.C. Individual Sports are shown this month. The Depot Battalion team takes the field on 16th June in the Northern Command Team Championships—best of luck to them. On 20th June eight competitors go over to Liverpool to take part in the Northern Counties Athletic Championships. A full account of their efforts will be given next month. Durham University visit us on 24th June and we hope to repeat our victory over them.

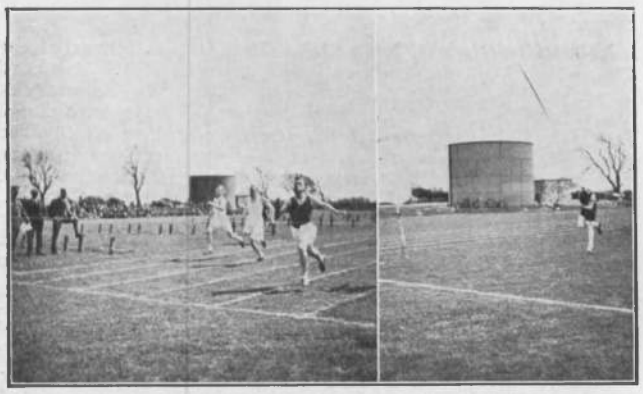
School of Signals.

Cricket.—The School side played " D " Company, Training Battalion in the 1st Round of the Mackworth Competition and won by 256 runs. The scores were: School of Signals 338 for 5 wickets (declared), " D " Company 82. For the School, Corporal Watterton made 118 and Lieutenant Sanders 71. These two put on 196 runs for the second wicket. Signalman Chitty then scored 74 runs quickly, and the innings was declared closed, having lasted 3 hours 10 minutes. " D " Company were all out for 82 runs in 2½ hours. Signalman Young bowled well for the School, taking 7 wickets for 40 runs. This win gave us great satisfaction, as " D " Company defeated us in the Semi-Final of this competition last season. We meet " E " Company in the Semi-Final, when we hope to wipe off a little more of the leeway. More about that next month.



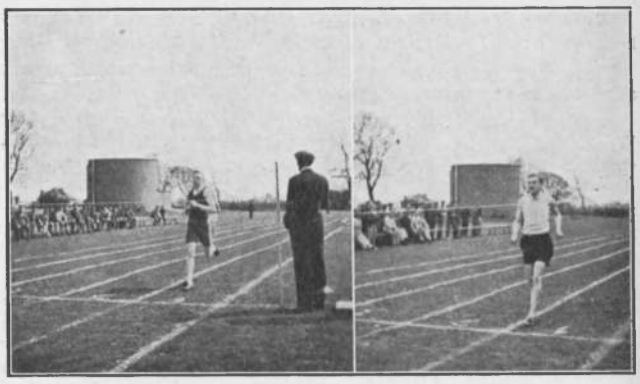
Lieutenant Atkinson wins the 120 Yards Hurdles.

Lieutenant Atkinson wins the High Jump.



Signalman Barrett winning the 100 Yards.

Boy Adams in the Javelin Throw.



2nd Lieutenant Stonestreet wins the 440 Yards.

Lance Corporal Bucke wins the 880 Yards.

Tennis.—Everyone is getting down to it at present, but taking care not to incur too great a handicap in view of the tournaments which take place in the near future. The Weather Clerk has other views than tennis—he must be a gardener—but we live hoping in Catterick.

Hockey.—Funny topic this time of the year, but the scribe has not been asleep. Thanks to the keenness of Lieutenant Sanders a Garrison Summer Hockey League is running this year, and interest is being sustained right throughout. The School has played two matches to date, having won one and lost one. The first game was against the Royal Artillery when we lost by 3—0. In the other we met and defeated " E " Company by 3—1. Scorers were Signalman Young, Sergeant Farmer and Corporal Watterton, in that order.

Athletics.—The School finished a successful season by being a good second in the Pinsent Cup. This, combined with gaining second place and only missing first place in the Mackworth Meetings by one point, can be said to be a great achievement. The Team showed great keenness and determination, and there was no lack of volunteers when necessity arose. Special mention must be made of the distance runners and their great performances. Congratulations to the whole team and may it be equally successful next year.

" A " Corps Signals, Aldershot.

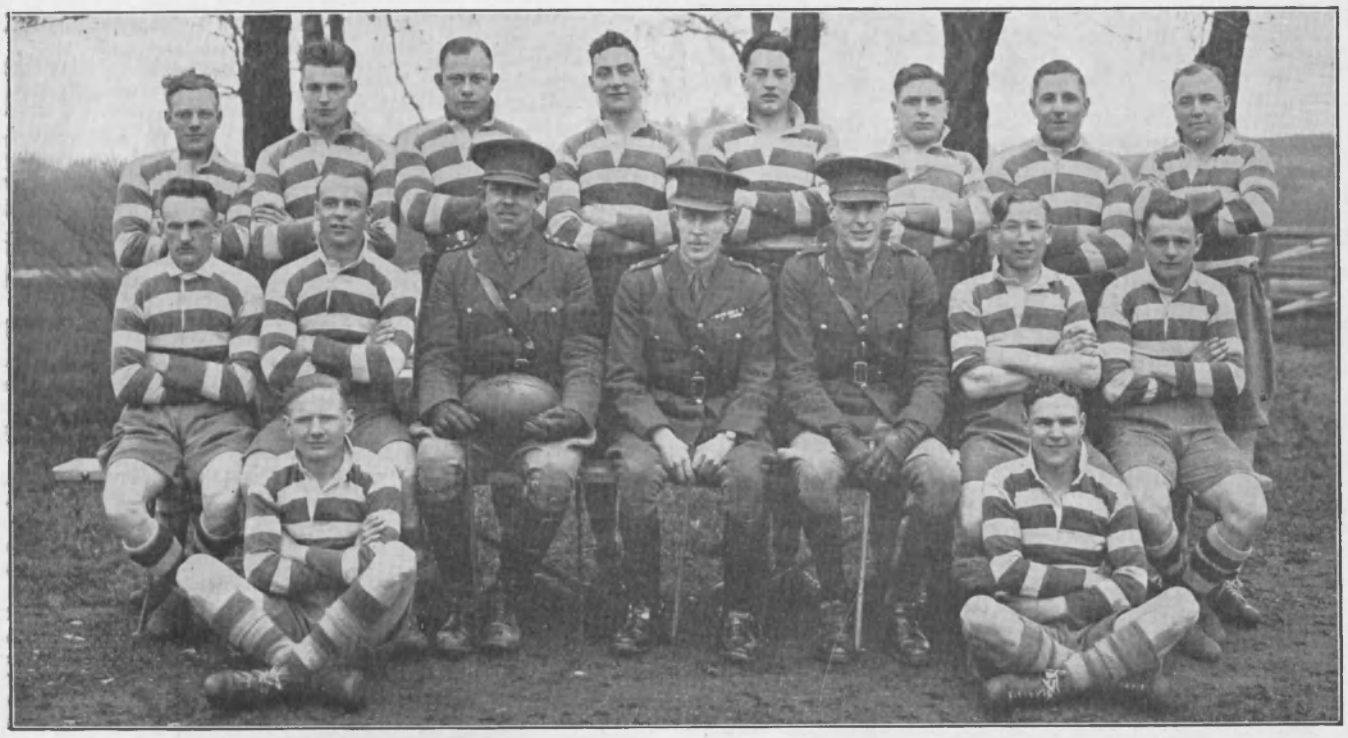
Regimental Sports.—The Regimental Sports were held on 27th and 28th May. The sports were different to previous years owing to the fact that the Old Comrades' Reunion was held on the previous Saturday and Sunday and not on the same day as the sports. This lessened the number of spectators, but at the same time a large crowd of friends and families were present. The Royal Signals Display Team, fresh from their enormous success at Olympia, were a very welcome addition to the programme. The final day, Thursday, 28th May, was cold and fine, and more fur coats than summery dresses were in evidence.

The main Sporting Trophy, " The Prickett Cup " was won easily by 1st Divisional Signals, who were supreme in the track events, 2nd Divisional Signals were runners-up with " A " Corps Signals close behind.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH MAY.

TWO MILES RELAY (4 x 880 Yards).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, " A " Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Lieutenants Maydon and Yearsley, Lance Corporal Griffin, Signalman Clasby. Time, 9 min. 14½ secs.



"A" CORPS SIGNALS—WINNERS OF "HITCHENS CUP" FOR 1935-36.
Standing: Lance Corporal Richardson, Signalman Oldroyd, Signalman Randle, Lance Corporal Harris, Signalman Henderson, Signalman Yates, Signalman Murrell, Corporal Cokayne.
Sitting: Signalman Breeze, Signalman Chadderton, Captain A. E. Morrison (captain), Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C. (C.O.), 2nd Lieutenant Watts (secretary), Lance Corporal Prescott, Signalman Plumb.
Seated in front: Signalman Ryan, Lance Corporal Adams.



"A" CORPS SIGNALS—WINNERS OF INTER-UNIT HOCKEY COMPETITION, 1935-36.
Standing: Signalman Greenwood, Sergeant Solly, Lance Corporal Westbrook, Signalman Huggett, Driver Smith, Signalman Baldwin.
Sitting: Lance Corporal Dean, Corporal Beardmore, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., Corporal Bunce, Signalman Miller.
[Photos by Wm. May & Co., Aldershot.

HIGH JUMP.—1, "A" Corps Signals, 3 points, 10 ft. 5 in.; 2, 1st Divisional Signals, 2 points, 10 ft. 3 in.; 3, 2nd Divisional Signals, 1 point, 9 ft. 9 in.

Winning team: Lieutenant Watts, 5 ft. 5 in.; Signalman Randle, 5 ft. 0 in.

PUTTING THE WEIGHT.—1, "A" Corps Signals, 3 points, 65 ft. 1 in.; 2, 1st Divisional Signals, 2 points, 60 ft. 2 in.; 3, 2nd Divisional Signals, 1 point, 56 ft. 8 in.

Winning team: Corporal Manson, 33 ft. 0 in.; Signalman Randle, 32 ft. 1 in.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' MILE TEAM RACE.—1, 1st Divisional Signals; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals; 3, "A" Corps Signals.

Winning team: Signalmen Verlander, King, Thorpe, Hearsey. Time, 5 min. 8 secs. 1, Signalman Verlander.

THROWING THE JAVELIN.—1, "A" Corps Signals, 3 points, 254 ft.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 2 points, 236 ft. 1½ in.; 3, 1st Divisional Signals, 1 point, 218 ft. 8 in.

Winning team: Corporal Manson, 128 ft. 5½ in.; Signalman Turner, 125 ft. 6½ in.

THROWING THE HAMMER.—1, "A" Corps Signals, 3 points, 165 ft.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 2 points, 159 ft. 1½ in.; 3, 1st Divisional Signals, 1 point, 134 ft. 2½ in.

Winning team: Signalman Finnegan, 83 ft. 11 in.; Signalman Rowles, 81 ft. 1 in.

POLE JUMP.—1, 2nd Divisional Signals, 3 points, 18 ft. 6 in.; 2, "A" Corps Signals and 1st Divisional Signals (tie), 1½ points, 16 ft. 6 in.

Winning team: Signalman Holmes, 9 ft. 6 in.; Signalman Haig, 9 ft.

THURSDAY, 28TH MAY.

THREE MILES TEAM RACE.—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points; 2, "A" Corps Signals, 4 points; 3, 2nd Divisional Signals, did not finish.

Winning team: Sergeant (Joe) Cotterell, Signalmen Hempshall, Wilmshurst, Wright. Time, 16 min. 20 secs.

Old Joe was the first man home, as was expected, although he is not as young as he was.

LONG JUMP.—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 3 points, 36 ft. 3½ in.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 2 points, 35 ft. 2 in.; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 1 point, 34 ft. 4 in.

Winning team: Lance Corporal Husband, Signalman Patience.

DISCUS.—1, "A" Corps Signals, 3 points, 192 ft. 10½ in.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 2 points, 173 ft. 3½ in.; 3, 1st Divisional Signals, 1 point, 159 ft. 4½ in.

Winning team: Signalman Smith, 103 ft. 9 in.; Signalman Macdonald, 89 ft. 1½ in.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' MILE RELAY (880-220-220-440).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, time, 4 min. 11 secs.; 2, "A" Corps Signals; 3, 2nd Divisional Signals.

Winning team: Lance Corporal Luscombe, Signalmen Piddington, Gamble, Verlander.

WHEELBARROW RACE.—1, Lance Corporal Paynter, Signalman Harrison, 2nd Divisional Signals; 2, Signalmen Fox and Mills, 2nd Divisional Signals; 3, Signalmen Morgan and Holmes, 2nd Divisional Signals.

440 YARDS RELAY (4 x 110).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points, time 47 2/5 secs.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Corporal Brice, Lance Corporals Husband, Alexander, Scarisbrick.

SACK RACE.—1, Signalman Buirski, 1st Divisional Signals; 2, Signalman Pettit, 1st Divisional Signals; 3, Signalman Shepherd, 2nd Divisional Signals.

480 YARDS HURDLES RELAY (4 x 120).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points, time 18 4/5 secs.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Lance Corporal Chapman, Signalmen Buirski, Offord, Healey.

OFFICERS' RACE.—1, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., "A" Corps Signals; 2, Major R. Jee, M.C., 1st Divisional Signals; 3, Lieutenant Gray, A.D.B. Signals.

880 YARDS RELAY (4 x 220).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points, time, 1 min. 40 1/5 secs.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Lieutenant Stephenson, Lance Corporals Husband, Alexander, Scarisbrick.

LADIES' RACE.—1, Mrs. Hornett; 2, Mrs. Brown; 3, Mrs. McFee.

CHILDREN UNDER 8.—1, Ivy Williams; 2, Margaret Joy; 3, Freddy Baker.

CHILDREN OVER 8.—1, William Smith; 2, Roy Elsmore; 3, Charlie Hope.

MILE RELAY (4 x 440).—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points, time 3 min. 52 secs.; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Lieutenant Stephenson, Signalmen Clutton, Dewdney, Smith.

ONE MILE TEAM RACE.—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 6 points; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 4 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 2 points.

Winning team: Lieutenant Maydon, Lance Corporals Griffin, Longman, Signalman Hempshall. Time 4 min. 43½ secs.

MUDGE CUP RACE—OFFICERS VERSUS SERGEANTS.—1, Sergeants; 2, Officers.

OPEN RELAY FINAL (440-220-220-440).—Winning team: Railway Training Centre R.E. Lieutenant Grant, Lance Corporals Weston, Street, Sapper Taylor. Time, 2 min. 23 4/5 secs.

BAND RACE.—1, Lance Corporal Skinner; 2, Bandsman Smith; 3, Bandsman Mason.

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE.—1, C.S.M. New "A" Corps Signals; 2, R.S.M. Elsmore, 1st Divisional Signals; 3, R.S.M. Mitchell, "A" Corps Signals.

Total points towards Prickett Cup.—1, 1st Divisional Signals, 53½ points; 2, 2nd Divisional Signals, 37 points; 3, "A" Corps Signals, 33½ points.

As will be seen from the above, 1st Divisional Signals won all the track events and the long jump, 2nd Divisional Signals won the pole jump, and "A" Corps Signals won the other five field events. The chaps who represented the Unit both in field and track events must be heartily congratulated on putting up such a good show when it is remembered that all the Unit had been out on the War Office Exercise and that No. 1 Company had been out in the blue for weeks getting ready for it. The lads certainly went on the field and did their best without any training or preparation. Next year we hope to be able to do some training and win a few track events and the "Cup"—we have the talent. Incidentally, our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., and C.S.M. No. 1 Company, C.S.M. New F. H., showed that we had some sprinters in the Unit by winning the Officers' Race and the Old Soldiers' Race respectively. Well done, Sirs!

"A" Corps Signals came back into the limelight at the prize presentation, when all the cups and trophies during the sporting year were presented. Once again congratulations to the teams who won the Rugger, Senior Boxing and Novices' Boxing Competitions.

PRIZE PRESENTATION.

PRICKETT CUP, 1936.

For all athletic events. Won by 1st Divisional Signals, 53½ points; runners-up, 2nd Divisional Signals, 37 points; "A" Corps Signals, 33½ points.

MUDGE CUP, 1935.

Competed for between Officers and Sergeants at Indoor and Outdoor Games and Shooting. Won by Officers, 11 points; runners-up, Sergeants, 7 points.

RAWSON SHIELD, 1935.

For Cricket, won by 2nd Divisional Signals.

WILLAN TROPHY.

For Novices' Boxing, won by "A" Corps Signals.

HITCHENS CUP.

For Rugby, won by "A" Corps Signals.

POWELL CUP.

For Miniature Range Shooting, won by Air Defence Brigade Signals.

CROSS-COUNTRY SHIELD.

Won by 1st Divisional Signals.

THE SWIMMING CUP.

.Won by 1st Divisional Signals.

BARKER CUP.

For Senior Boxing, won by "A" Corps Signals.

"A" Corps Signals also won the Inter-Unit Hockey Competition for 1935-36, but as there is no cup for the competition, this was not mentioned at the prize presentation. With all deference, I should like to state that here is a chance for someone to present a cup. Thank you very much.

Signals Display.—As before mentioned, the Royal Signals Display (motor-cycles and horses) was greatly appreciated and applauded. A description of it by me would fall so far short of the many press reports published whilst the show was at Olympia that I will not attempt one.

Water Polo.—Royal Signals team, composed mostly of " A " Corpites and run by " A " Corps Signals, is having another successful season. At present we are second in the table, and this position is in no small measure due to the excellent play in goal by our Adjutant, Captain A. E. Morrison.

The polo match versus the 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment deserves special mention. Our team had rather a nasty knock when this match was played. Owing to being one man short, through sudden illness, Lieutenant E. C. Nicholls, who was present as a spectator, was roped in to play. After being in the water approximately five minutes Lieutenant Nicholls scored a brilliant goal. Shortly afterwards, however, the referee ordered him out of the water for an infringement of the two yards rule. This, by the way, was the first time that Lieutenant Nicholls had played water polo.

Results to date :

Royal Signals 2, Military Police 2.
Royal Signals 5, M.E.E. 0.
Royal Signals 1, Wiltshire Regiment 1.
Royal Signals 0, R.T.C. 6.
Royal Signals 2, Norfolks 0.
Royal Signals 2, R.A.O.C. 3.
Royal Signals w.o. Worcester Regiment, scratched.
Royal Signals w.o. R.A.S.C., scratched.
Royal Signals 2, East Yorkshire Regiment 1.
Royal Signals 2, R.A.F. 2.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Cricket.—We have opened our cricket season and find we have plenty of talent among the new arrivals, both from India and the Signal Training Centre. On 30th May we played against " A " Corps Signals at Aldershot. Starting at 11.30 we dismissed " A " Corps shortly after lunch for 49. Every man in the side had a turn with the ball and nearly all produced good bowling, so our prospects seem good. After creeping past " A " Corps' total at 7 wickets down we went on to make 79. Signalman Holtby knocking up a spirited 20 towards the end. It was agreed to play one hour by the clock each way after tea. " A " Corps made 36, to which Signalman Holtby and Signalman Spearman replied with 18 in two overs, before a hailstorm washed out further play.

On 6th June we just failed to beat 3rd Divisional Engineers. The Sappers batted first and made 112 after which rain stopped play. The game was resumed on Monday 8th, when we batted with a depleted side, owing to certain R.A. Sections moving out to join their Brigades over the week-end, and made 94.

In the annual match between the Southern Command and the Aldershot Command, played at Bulford on the 2nd and 3rd June, Aldershot Command made 112 and 95, while Southern Command made 362, of which Captain J. A. I. Watts made 191 not out.



Northern Ireland Signal Company's Soccer Team.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Soccer.—The Soccer Season ended for this Company on Thursday, 7th May. Appropriately enough it ended with a win for us over our old rivals The Royal Ulster Constabulary. We have met them three times this season and until the last game neither side had won. However, we won the rubber by defeating them by 3—2. The goals were scored by Pilkington, Twiddy and Ryan for the Company, and by Duncan and Reid for the Police. On the morning of this match the team was presented with the Garrison Cup and Medals.

Cricket.—Up to the time of writing the Company Cricket Team have played ten matches, of which eight have been won, one drawn and one lost. In the N.I.D. Cricket Cup, 1st Round, we drew the R.A.S.C., whom we defeated by 128 runs for 4 wickets, against 60 runs. Details :

v. Bangor.	Won, 135 for 8.	Against 26.
v. Co-Op.	Draw, 163 for 5.	Against 24 for 4.
v. Welch Regiment.	Won, 88.	Against 79.
v. G.P.O.	Won.	
v. Stewarts.	Won, 166 for 6.	Against 29.
v. Campbell College.	Won, 146.	Against 91.
v. Welch Regiment.	Won, 136.	Against, 49.
v. Collegians.	Won, 168 for 4.	Against 117.
v. R.A.S.C.	Won, 128 for 4.	Against 60.
v. Carrickfergus.	Lost, 23.	Against 108 for 7.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Football. " A " Company Win the " Wallace " Cup.—A very large gathering witnessed the final of the Jubbulpore Garrison Football Tournament for the " Wallace " Cup, when we defeated the " S " Field Battery, R.A., by 2—0.

Our team played well up to expectations and fully deserved their victory. Smith was again very prominent in making openings for his side and it must be recorded that Whitehead played a wonderful game in goal all through the competition.

The Gunners never really settled down all through the game. Both sides played the same type of football, swinging the ball about in the air. Shortly after the start Murray shot over the bar of the Gunners, and at the other end Whitehead saved twice in quick succession. Twenty-two minutes after the start, we notched our first goal, when the Gunners' right back misjudged the flight of the ball and let Smith through to score. A few minutes before the interval Smith raced down the field and, getting past two defenders, tapped the ball to Davies, who increased our lead.

On the resumption of play, Smith shot over the Gunners' bar from close quarters. Two free kicks for the Gunners, one from the top of the penalty area, proved to be abortive, and the final whistle found the Gunners pressing hard but without result.



Back Row—C.S.M. Lewis Sergeant Matthew, Corporal Collett, Sergeant Murray, R.S.M. Trapmore, Signalman Whitehead, Lance Sergeant Greig, Signalman Bourner Sergeant Page.
Front Row—Corporal Swinson, Lance Sergeant Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. G. Pollard, M.B.E., Lance Sergeant Edge, Captain L. C. Boyd, Signalman Davies, Lance Sergeant Webb.

At the conclusion of the game Lieutenant-Colonel H. T. Sebag Montefiore, D.S.O., M.C., Officiating Brigade Commander, presented the Cup.

The results were :

v. Headquarter Wing, 1st Batt. Leicestershire Regt.	..	1—0
v. " C " Company, 1st Batt. Leicestershire Regt.	..	4—3
v. " D " Company, 1st Batt. Leicestershire Regt.	..	3—0
v. " S " Field Battery, R.A.	..	2—0

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

Having put the Signals on the map in Northern India as runners-up in the Rawalpindi District Tournament, and with 1st Divisional Signals as winners of the Northern Command Tournament, we entered No. 2 Company for the Buffalo Tournament with hopes of improving on our last year's effort of semi-finalists. In this we succeeded, reaching the final, only to be beaten in a replayed final by 20 A.C. Squadron, R.A.F. from Peshawar, by 2—0. Our progress to the final was as follows :

v. " A " Company, Hampshires	..	won by 4—1.
v. " B " Company, S.W.B.	..	won by 1—0.
v. " B " Company, Argylls (holders)	..	won by 2—1.
v. " D " Company, S.W.B.	..	won by 1—0.

The final was played on Whit-Monday before a large crowd. Our team put up an extraordinarily good show by holding the Airmen, who are considered one of the finest teams in Northern India, to a goalless draw. Extra time was played and with only four minutes to go a corner taken by Homer was deflected by Abbis on to the head of Foster, who promptly nodded it into the net. Visions of the Cup being displayed in the Sergeants' Mess, however, were rudely dispelled two minutes later when a high dropping shot from 40 yards out was misjudged by our goalkeeper and the scores were level again.

The replay was played on the following day. In the first quarter of an hour three or four excellent chances of opening the score, including a penalty, were missed by our forwards. The team tried hard but the ball did not run kindly, and the final whistle found our team two goals down. Well played, No. 2 Company, it was a great effort to get into the final and we hope you will pull it off next year.

The players were : Signalmen Pitt, Campbell, Corporal Cordner, Signalmen Jewells, Hills, Lance Corporal Walker, Signalmen Fowler, Smith, Abbis, Homer, Lance Corporal Keenlyside, Signalman Foster and Sergeant Instructor Richards, A.E.C. The team was very ably managed and trained by R.S.M. Bayliss and Sergeant Clark.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

Hockey Results—

3rd May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., away, lost by 1—2.
8th May v. " B " Company, 1st Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment, away, drew at 1—1.
11th May v. " A " Squadron 13/18th Royal Hussars, away, won by 2—1.
14th May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., away, drew at 2—2.
18th May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., away, lost by 1—3.
23rd May v. " B " Company, 1st Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment, away, drew at 1—1. (Brigade Hot Weather Hockey League). Goals : Signalman Bass, one.
29th May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., home, lost by 0—1.
30th May v. " A " Squadron, 13/18th Royal Hussars, home, won by 2—0. (Brigade Hot Weather Hockey League). Goals : Sergeant Standen, two.

Football Results—

1st May v. Staff and Departmental Club, home, won by 3—0.
6th May v. " B " Company, 1st Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment, home, drew at 1—1.
7th May v. Staff and Departmental Club, home, drew at 2—2.
12th May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., away, drew at 2—2.
15th May v. Staff and Departmental Club, home, won by 3—1.
20th May v. Staff and Departmental Club, home, won by 1—0. (Brigade Hot Weather Football League). Goals : Corporal Milne, one.
26th May v. " G " Battery, R.H.A., home, drew 2—2.
28th May v. " B " Squadron, 13/18th Royal Hussars, home, won by 1—0. (Brigade Hot Weather Football League). Goals : Lance Corporal Grant, one.

The Troop has entered the Brigade Hot Weather Football and Hockey Leagues, and, although numerically weak when compared with Battery, Squadron or Company Teams, are holding their own, as may be seen by the two matches which have already been played in each league.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Fort Canning Detachment.

Football.—Since the commencement of the season Fort Canning Football Club (comprised of Royal Signals, R.A.S.C., M.F.P., R.A.M.C. and other odds and spares attached to Command Headquarters), have done quite well in both the 2nd Division of the S.A.F.A. and the Garrison League. For the information of old Fort Canning personnel the following are the results to date :

S.A.F.A. DIVISION II.

v. Royal Signals & R.A.O.C. (Pulau Brani)	..	drew at 0—0
v. R.A.F. II	..	won by 4—2
v. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers II	..	lost by 0—1
v. Government Monopolies	..	won by 5—1
v. H.M.S. " Terror "	..	won by 2—1
v. Chinese II	..	won by 3—1
v. R.A. II	..	lost by 3—2

GARRISON LEAGUE.

v. R.A.M.C.	..	drew at 3—3
v. Royal Signals & R.A.O.C. (Pulau Brani)	..	won by 5—1
v. R.N. W/T Station	..	won by 9—4
v. H.M.S. " Terror "	..	drew at 1—1

Royal Signals are represented in the Fort Canning Team by Corporal Durand, Signalmen Brooks and Jones.

Cricket.—We have played several friendly matches to date, but it is regretted that the results are at the moment unobtainable. However, on the 11th May we managed to beat " B " Company Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the first round of the Garrison Shield Knockout, by 80 runs. Corporals Taylor and Durand, Signalmen Brooks, Chetwynd and Copping are the Royal Signals' representatives.

Tennis.—There has been very little activity in this line of sport up to the present, but now that the strength of the Garrison has been increased considerably, it is hoped that matches will be arranged in the near future. Fort Canning have twice played The Sappers from Alexandria, and the former recorded a win on both occasions.

Changi Detachment.

Cricket.—Only friendlies have been played in this Detachment to date. We have not done too well in these games, as we only boast three good batsmen, so practice at the nets is the order of the day, and we hope by the time the Garrison Cricket League commences its fixtures to have a side capable of putting up a good show, if not able to register wins.

Yachting.—This popular pastime has suffered a setback owing to the posting to other stations of the leading lights of the Club, so that race meetings have not been held for some time. The Club has since been reorganised under the able leadership of Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson, Royal Signals, who has taken over the duties of Honorary Secretary. It is therefore hoped to report on a few races in the next issue of the WIRE.

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THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

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VOL. XVII.—No. 198 AUGUST, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Obituary.—We regret to chronicle the untimely death of Lieutenant D. E. McIntosh, Royal Canadian Signals, who was killed in an aeroplane crash during night operations at Mersa Matruh, Egypt, on 7th July, 1936, whilst temporarily attached to Egypt Signals for duty. Our sympathies are extended to Royal Canadian Signals in their loss and to the deceased Officer's family in their sad bereavement.

The following telegram was despatched to the late Officer's parents by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O.:

"Judge McIntosh,
Meriman, Seaview Road,
Ten Mile Point, Cadboro Bay P.O.,
Victoria, British Columbia.

All ranks Royal Corps of Signals convey their sincere condolences in your sad loss.

Colonel Commandant War Office, London."

Colonel Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps.—The following correspondence is published by special request for the information of our readers:

General Staff Branch, India.
Simla.
6th July, 1936.

To Major-General S. H. Powell, C.B.

MY DEAR GENERAL,—On your relinquishing the appointment of Colonel Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, I write to express the thanks of all ranks of the Corps for the keen interest you invariably displayed in all matters affecting their welfare, and to say how much they appreciated the visit you paid to all Units earlier in the year.

Although your official connection with the Indian Signal Corps has ceased, all ranks are confident that your interest in them will continue unabated, and join with me in sending you their very best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,
L. G. PHILLIPS, Colonel.
Officiating S.O. in C.

6, Queen Anne Row,
Walmer,
Kent.
18th July, 1936.

To Colonel L. G. Phillips, M.C.,
Officiating Signal Officer in Chief.

MY DEAR PHILLIPS,—Very many thanks for your kind letter and most welcome message to me from the Indian Signal Corps on the termination of my time as Colonel Commandant.

Having known the Corps from its very earliest days, I have been proud, indeed, of this honour, and glad, indeed, to mark the continued success of the Corps.

I feel sure that my very distinguished successor, His Excellency General Sir Robert Cassels has, and will have, an equal cause for pride in its achievements, and that every individual member welcomes the honour of his appointment.

As long as all ranks, British and Indian, work together, as they have done, in mutual respect and friendly emulation, so long will the Corps increase in honour and be an example to the whole Army in India.

I should be glad if the Corps would think that my visit to them all was an increasing source of pleasure to Mrs. Powell, and to myself, and that my interest will continue unabated.

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) SIDNEY POWELL.

On the occasion of the appointment of His Excellency General Sir Robert Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief in India, as Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, the Signal Officer-in-Chief has been asked to convey the following message to all ranks of the Corps :

Simla.

" On assuming the appointment of Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, to which I have been gazetted to-day, I should like to convey to all ranks of the Corps the feeling of pride and pleasure which this honour gives me. I send you all my best wishes, and hope in due course to see many of you personally.

(Signed) R. A. CASSELS, General,
Commander-in-Chief in India."

5th June, 1936.

The Signal Officer-in-Chief replied as follows :

26th June, 1936.

" YOUR EXCELLENCY,—On behalf of the officers and other ranks of the Indian Signal Corps, I wish to convey to Your Excellency their hearty welcome on your appointment as their Colonel-Commandant.

All ranks appreciate the high honour which has been conferred on them, and beg to assure Your Excellency of their loyal and devoted service."

(Signed) L. G. PHILLIPS, Colonel,
Officiating Signal Officer-in-Chief."

Palestine Casualties.—The following is an extract from the " Daily Telegraph," dated Saturday, 27th June, 1936 :

" Linesmen attacked. Privates James Durrie and Albert Barret, of The Cameron Highlanders, were badly wounded when a party of telephone linesmen, escorted by four soldiers, were ambushed twenty miles north of Jerusalem.

" Mr. R. W. C. Tout, the British engineer leading the party, had a remarkable escape. During the night, telegraph and telephone wires between Jerusalem and Nablus had been cut, and the linesmen had been sent out to repair them. The Arabs who had cut the wires were in hiding, and when the repair work was started they opened fire. The attackers had between forty and fifty rifles, and kept up a furious fusilade. Mr. Tout braved the hail of bullets to go for assistance. He reached his car, and although the windscreen was splintered by a bullet, he drove to a telephone post. From there he informed a detachment of the Dorsets at Ramallah what had happened. Two Sections were sent and Brigade Headquarters at Jerusalem warned."

Our readers will be interested to know that Mr. Tout is an ex-N.C.O. of Royal Signals and a regular subscriber to THE WIRE. We congratulate him on the fortunate outcome of his enterprising adventure and convey our best wishes for his future welfare during the hazardous times through which his administration is passing.

National Memorial to His Late Majesty King George V.—With reference to War Office letter number 29/General/741 (A.G.4.c.), dated 8th July, 1936, the Representative Colonel-Commandant has ruled that all subscriptions from Royal Signals to the above should be forwarded to the Commandant, Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, who will send in the total amount received from the Corps.

It is requested, therefore, that C.S.O.s and Os.C. Independent Units will act accordingly, sending bulk sums, accompanied by statements of Units represented.

Nigeria.—We convey our thanks to Lieutenant C. P. S. Denholm-Young, Royal Signals, now serving with the Royal West African Frontier Force at Zaria, British West Africa, for his interesting contribution of notes and photographs describing Service conditions in Nigeria. Our readers will support us in expressing the hope that this article may be only the first of many more to follow from the same source. (See page 331.)

Apology.—We tender our apologies to " A " Corps Signals, Upper Topa, India, for an unfortunate error in the May 1936 edition of the Corps magazine. On page 221 of that publication, their contribution was inadvertently mutilated, leaving the impression that the Northern Command Football Tournament was won by 1st Indian Divisional Signals whereas, in actual fact, the winning team was a combined one from the latter Unit and " A " Corps Signals. In conveying our regrets to those concerned, we would add that every care will be taken in future to prevent a similar blunder.

Obituary.—We regret to record the death of a very old member of " Wessex Territorial Signals " in the person of Mr. George Cousins, who passed away at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, on Saturday, 11th July, at the age of 67. When the Exeter Branch of Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association was formed, he was among the first to join, and he attended last years' annual reunion at Bulford, also the first annual Branch Dinner at Exeter last November. At the latter function he was toasted as " the oldest Wessex Signalman," and in a few words, in his own old style, said that his happiest days had been " with the boys." The " boys "—many of them bald or grey—will long remember " Old George " with affection.

The funeral took place at the Higher Cemetery, Exeter, on Thursday, 16th July, and was attended by representatives of the Corps from 43rd Wessex Divisional Signals (T.A.).

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

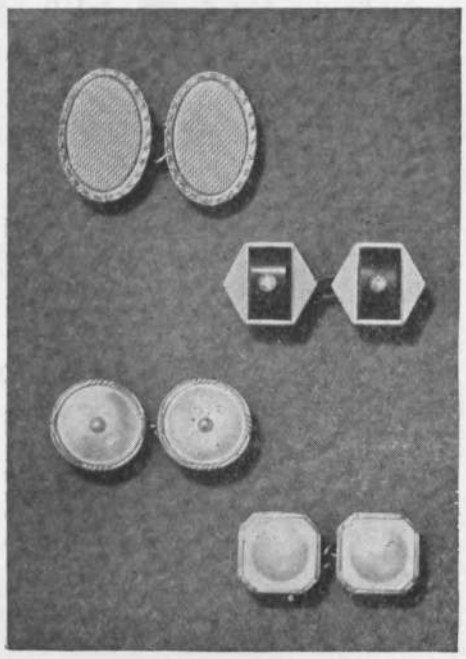
Badges of Membership.—It is notified for general information that badges of membership can be obtained by bona-fide members of the Association, on application to this office, price 1s. each post free. Members residing at, or in the immediate vicinity of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, can obtain such articles from Mr. F. Shakespeare, Hairdresser, Baghdad Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks, on production of their membership cards.

North of England Old Comrades' Reunion, 1936.—We would again remind our readers that, by kind permission of The Commandant, Signal Training Centre, the Northern Branch of Signals Association, Old Comrades' Reunion, will be held at Catterick Camp, Yorks., on Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th September. The organizers of this function hope that as many Old Comrades as possible, particularly the younger element, will attend on that occasion, and request that each will notify his intention of being present on either, or both days specified, to Mr. T. Wilson, Hon. Secretary North of England Branch, Signals Association, Headquarters Northern Command, York, at their early convenience.

" A CORDIAL INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL."

EMPLOYMENT.—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, Carlisle	Labourer
2	Ex-N.C.O., Surrey	Postman
3	Ex-N.C.O., London	Clerk
4	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Van Driver
5	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Telephonist
6	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Doorkeeper
7	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Butcher's Roundsman
8	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Instrument Mechanic
10	Ex-Signalman, Middlesex	Instrument Mechanic
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Instrument Mechanic
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Dundee	Postman
14	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Hospital Porter
16	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
17	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
18	Ex-N.C.O., London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
20	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Stores Dept.
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Cleaner
23	Ex-Signalman, London	Married Couple
24	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
25	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Fitter
26	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
27	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Engineering Dept.
28	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Handyman
29	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer



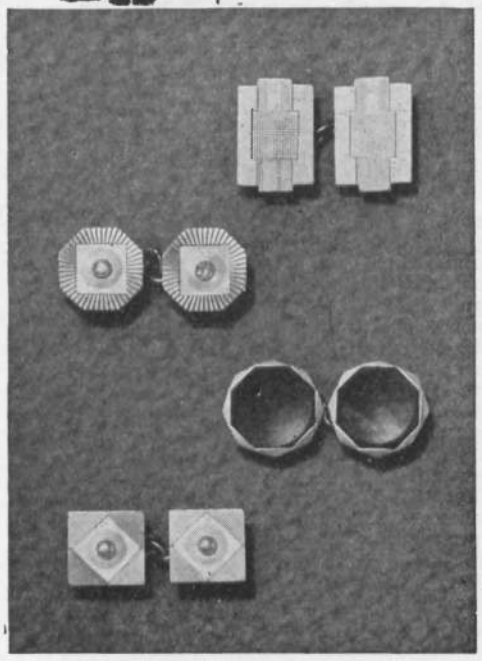
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Ditto 2 studs - - - - £6 0 0

Mother o' pearl and pearl links - £4 2 6
Ditto 4 buttons - - - £4 2 6
Ditto 2 studs - - - £2 0 0

Mother o' pearl links - - - £3 7 6
Ditto 4 buttons - - - £3 7 6
Ditto 2 studs - - - £2 0 0





18ct. gold links - - - - - £5 5 0

Mother o' pearl and diamond links - £9 10 0
Ditto 4 buttons - - - - £9 10 0
Ditto 2 studs - - - - £4 15 0

Black onyx links - - - - - £3 12 6
Ditto 4 buttons - - - - £3 12 6
Ditto 2 studs - - - - £2 0 0

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40	Ex-N.C.O., London	Lineman
41	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
42	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Warehouseman
43	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
44	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Lineman G.P.O.
45	Ex-Signalman, Aldershot	Lineman G.P.O.

(44 and 45, Salisbury and District Branch).

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Situations Vacant.

Motor mechanics and lorry drivers for immediate employment in London. Applications should be submitted to the General Secretary, giving full particulars of qualifications.

Wanted.—A Club Steward.—Old Emanuel Association require a married couple to assist in the running of the Clubhouse at Raynes Park. No objection to children, but prefer none.

DUTIES. The man in the capacity of club steward will be required to carry out the following duties :—

1. Keep the Clubhouse clean and answer the telephone.
2. Run the club bar :—5 p.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays (one night off a week) ; 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays—catering days.

The catering at present is run by a woman specially employed in this duty as cook. The wife will be required to assist in this work until competent and willing to take over full control.

WAGES. Man £1 15s. od. per week. Wife 3s. per week until able and willing to take over full control without assistance when she will receive 10s. per week. Free quarters, light and coal.

Apply in writing to :—

MR. A. V. PATON,
Hon. Treasurer, O.E.A.,
31 Woodside,
Wimbledon, S.W.19



"Good health, old man I'll see you on fatigues."

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
18th July.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR.—The following is notified for publication in the August 1936 WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 12/12/1931.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 23/8/1930.

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :

Mr. S. Hughes.
" E " Troop, Cavalry Signals.
Southern Command Signal Company.
School of Signals.
Army Sports Control Board.
" B " Corps Signals.
2nd Indian Divisional Signals.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :

Mrs. Foot, Somerset.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Kent			Grant	£2	0	0
2	Widow of Ex-Signalman, Glasgow			Grant	£2	0	0
3	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Grant	£3 0 0	Loan	£5	0	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., London			Grant	£0	10	0
5	Ex-Driver, London			Grant	£1	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Cheshire	Grant	£2 10 0	Loan	£2	10	0
7	N.C.O., Herts.			Loan	£3	0	0
8	Orphanage maintenance fees				£10	0	0
9	Ex-Signalman, London			Grant	£2	0	0
10	Orphanage maintenance fees				£6	0	0
11	Widow of Ex-Signalman, Cardiff			Grant	£1	10	0

(Signed) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Signal Training Centre Athletics.

Northern Counties Meeting.—This Meeting was held at Port Sunlight, Liverpool, and the S.T.C. entered eight competitors for the Junior events. A very successful day resulted in the following achievements :

100 YARDS JUNIOR : 1, Signalman Barrett.
JUNIOR JAVELIN : 1, Boy Adams ; 3, Boy Wythe.
JUNIOR DISCUS : 1, Boy Bosten ; 2, Boy Billett.
JUNIOR LONG JUMP : Corporal Boy Player gained a standard.

The remaining two competitors, running in a very fast 880 Yards, were unplaced, although they ran 2 min. 9 secs., only one second under standard. These were Boys Butler and Roberts D.

The performers were well supported by enthusiasts from Catterick, who made it possible to take a coach by road to Liverpool. Corporal Smith was responsible for the excellent catering arrangements.

Army Athletics.—Twelve men and boys have gone down to Aldershot to represent the Training Battalion in the Army Individual Athletics. A full account will be given in next month's WIRE.

S.T.C. versus Durham.—A return friendly match was held at Catterick on 24th June. The S.T.C. could only raise a very depleted side and were defeated by 70 points to 49.

Northern Command Team Championship.—Well done the Depot Battalion Team ! Next year will see us better even than a very good third out of five. Special mention is made of Signalman Batchelor and Signalman Lipop. Keep it up !

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April 1936) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance-Corporals appointed since that date.]

Appointed R.Q.M.S.

2306535	C.S.M. Price G.	1/4/36	6
2307301	C.S.M. Evelyn G.	1/4/36	6

To be Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals).

1853539	C.Q.M.S. Heyward H.	1/4/36	9

To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.)

1856975	C.Q.M.S. Saul J.	1/4/36	15
*1850362	C.Q.M.S. Lewis H.	1/4/36	73

To be C.Q.M.S.

*5430216	Sergeant Coombes L.	27/1/36	73
*5763746	Sergeant Ellerton-Long A.	1/4/36	73
*1850423	Sergeant Paskins W.	1/4/36	73
*1850445	Sergeant Peerless W.	1/4/36	73

To be Sergeant.

2314029	L/Sergeant Brown H.	27/1/36	29
2309580	L/Sergeant Collins D.	19/3/36	29
2308406	L/Sergeant Lacey L.	25/3/36	29
2315291	L/Sergeant Frampton E.	1/4/36	29
4680001	L/Sergeant Stickley H.	1/4/36	30
2312465	L/Sergeant Roberts S.	1/4/36	30
2314478	L/Sergeant Scott H.	1/4/36	30
1045282	L/Sergeant Bye E.	1/4/36	30

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2308476	Corporal Rowe C.	24/2/36	36
723439	Corporal Wright H.	1/3/36	36
2313552	Corporal Collins E.	17/3/36	36
1037642	Corporal Manning S.	24/3/36	36
2314991	Corporal Thompson B.	26/3/36	36
2311017	Corporal Clarke A.	1/4/36	36
5610805	Corporal Brown C.	1/4/36	36
1857681	Corporal Ray J.	1/4/36	36
2315537	Corporal Nuttall R.	1/4/36	37
7733896	Corporal Andrews W.	1/4/36	37
2557045	Corporal Robins P.	1/4/36	37

To be Corporal.

2316190	L/Corporal McCann R.	2/2/36	52
2314053	L/Corporal Croucer W.	1/3/36	52
2315496	L/Corporal Curl F.	14/3/36	52
2321319	L/Corporal Poole D.	19/3/36	52
2316012	L/Corporal Craggs T.	25/3/36	53
2317833	L/Corporal Froggart A.	26/3/36	53
2317168	L/Corporal Richardson W.	1/4/36	53
2316833	L/Corporal Hicks N.	1/4/36	53
2318862	L/Corporal Bartlett G.	1/4/36	53
2315439	L/Corporal Smart R.	1/4/36	53
2316799	L/Corporal Dallimore T.	1/4/36	53
2317006	L/Corporal Simmonds M.	1/4/36	53
2318772	L/Corporal Bale E.	1/4/36	53
5044657	L/Corporal Shufflebotham T.	1/4/36	53
2315573	L/Corporal Bell T.	1/4/36	53
2316769	L/Corporal Page R.	1/4/36	53
2318191	L/Corporal Clark F.	1/4/36	53
2318976	L/Corporal Poole S.	1/4/36	53
2317793	L/Corporal Bellinger L.	1/4/36	53
2318224	L/Corporal Cleveland W.	1/4/36	54

To be Lance Corporal.

2320730	Signalman Spence C.	30/8/35
2310603	Signalman Jacob F.	2/1/36
2320949	Signalman Cox I.	3/1/36
2215073	Signalman Sanderson W.	3/1/36
2321859	Signalman Newton W.	3/1/36
2320774	Signalman Robertson A	5/1/36
2320826	Signalman Preston R.	7/1/36
2320156	Signalman Fielding R.	8/1/36
2320564	Signalman Tweedley J.	11/1/36
2321462	Signalman Banham D.	11/1/36
2319902	Signalman Bundy C.	18/1/36

OFFICERS

. . . in every branch of the Service have the greatest satisfaction in Uniform and Equipment supplied by Alkit, every item being to Regulations.
Newly Commissioned Officers and those contemplating taking Commission should write for full particulars of outfits and terms.

SERVICE DRESS
PATROL AND MESS DRESS
OVERSEAS OUTFITS

FULL DRESS
(for Sale or Hire)



alkit

CAMBRIDGE CIRCUS
LONDON, W.C.2

SEND FOR COMPLETE MILITARY CATALOGUE (T.W.)

2320172	Signalman Bradshaw B.	18/1/36
548057	Signalman Brookes J.	19/1/36
787197	Signalman Ryan J.	19 1/36
2319890	Signalman Ashford R.	20/1/36
2320216	Signalman Richards J.	21/1/36
2320921	Signalman Evans S.	22/1/36
2321758	Signalman Marjoram H.	24/1/36
2320325	Signalman Machin D.	24/1/36
2320727	Signalman Wood R.	27/1/36
2320252	Signalman Dixon R.	27/1/36
6396623	Signalman Russell H.	27/1/36
2318518	Signalman Rymer F.	29/1/36
2318758	Signalman Baker F.	1/2/36
1421443	Signalman Roberts A.	1/2/36
761933	Signalman Lawes R.	2/2/36
2323040	Signalman Whitelaw D.	2/2/36
2313288	Signalman Blaikie R.	4/2/36
543488	Signalman Brightmore A.	4/2/36
3957121	Signalman Woolls W.	6/2/36
2314798	Signalman Legge B.	11/2/36
2316112	Signalman Burdett J.	17/2/36
2318399	Signalman Roake J.	22/2/36
767626	Signalman Johnson E.	23/2/36
2320549	Signalman H.	24/2/36
2320353	Signalman Frettingham A.	26/2/36
4121846	Signalman Hamilton G.	27/2/36
2323501	Signalman King A.	28/2/36

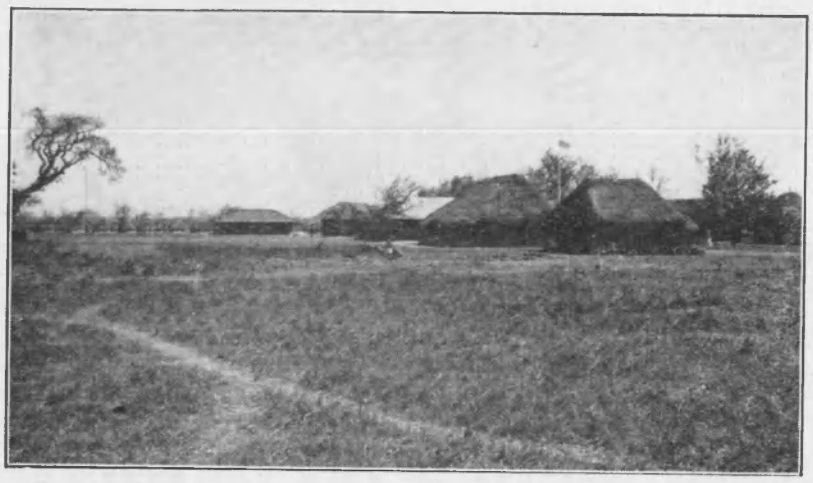
Discharges.

1850264	C.S.M. Graham K.	31/5/36	6
*1045592	Sergeant Beagley F.	13/5/36	75
5487936	Sergeant Cousens A.	1/6/36	22
2313610	L/Sergeant Mayson B.	9/6/36	34
1853203	L/Sergeant Lee J.	17/6/36	32
6972446	L/Sergeant Smithers J.	28/6/36	30
2312471	Corporal Stedman W.	1/6/36	37
2316445	Corporal Holland E.	22/6/36	40

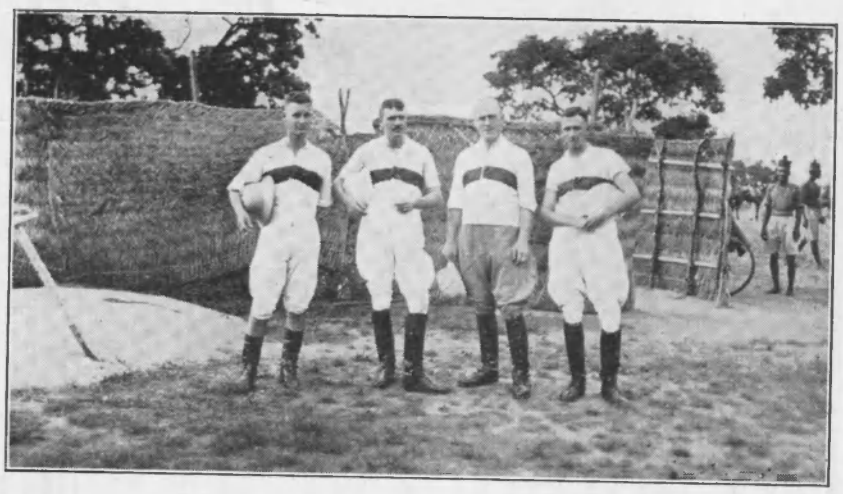
Transfers to Army Reserve.

2319603	Corporal Cokayne T.	23/5/36	49
2319433	L/Corporal O'Donovan H.	26/6/36	50

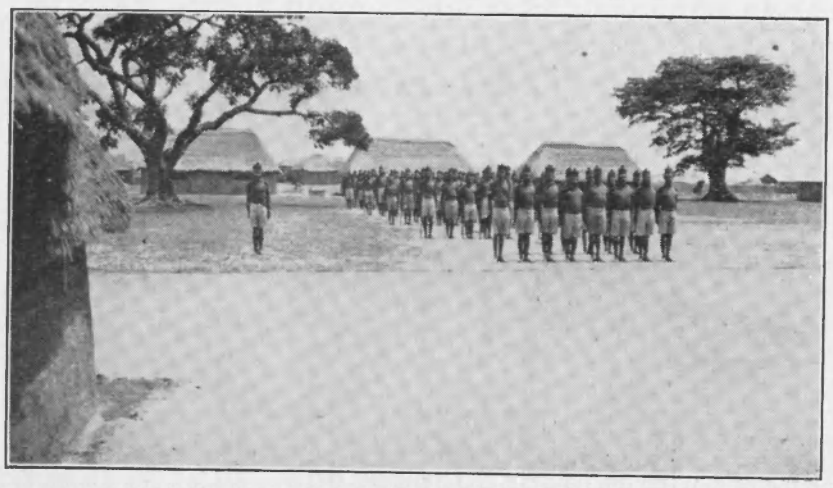
* Special Roster.



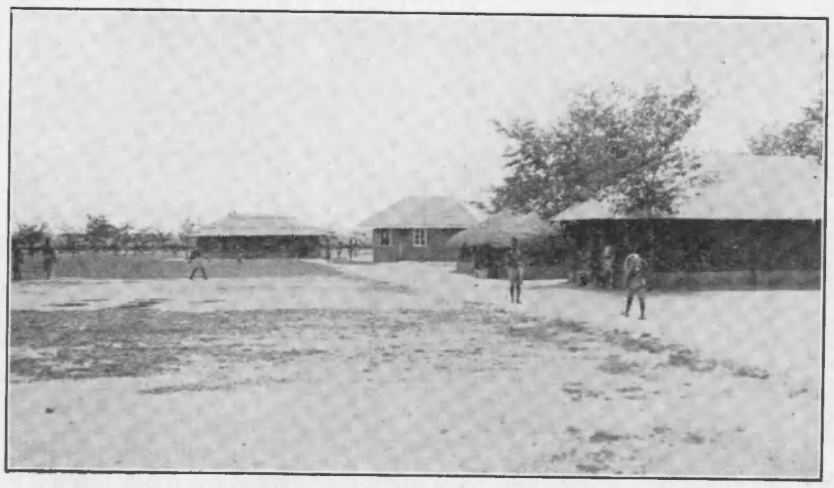
GENERAL VIEW S.T.C., THE NIGERIA REGIMENT R.W.A.F.F., ZARIA.



COULSON CUP POLO TOURNAMENT S.T.C. TEAM (RUNNERS-UP).
Left to right—Sergeant Good, No. 1 ; Lieutenant R. G. T. Collins, The Gloucestershire Regiment, No. 3 ; Lieutenant C. P. S. Denholm-Young, Royal Signals, Back ; Lieutenant A. R. Reeder, Royal Signals, No. 2.



S.T.C. ON PARADE.
(N/C.S.M. Michael Elimby on the left).



IN THE LINES, S.T.C.

Signal Training Centre.

The Nigeria Regiment R.W.A.F.F.

Zaria, B.W.A.

It has occurred to the writer that, although here we are buried in the Dark Continent, perhaps there are some old friends in the Corps who would be interested to hear about the doings of yet another Signal Training Centre. So here goes.

Staff.—Our staff at present consists of the following Officers and N.C.O.s: Lieutenants R. G. T. Collins, The Gloucestershire Regiment, C. P. S. Denholm-Young and A. R. Reeder, Royal Signals, C.S.M. Harris, The Welsh Guards, Sergeants Good and Penny, Royal Signals, Sergeant Moss, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

We shall be sorry to say good-bye to Lieutenant Collins when he leaves us on 21st July for the United Kingdom.

Native Ranks.—We have 105 Native Ranks all told, which supply Signal Sections throughout the Regiment. One of our activities being the running of a number of Wireless Stations in various parts of the country. An interesting point about these was the W/T. Detachment which marched with the Column from Yola to Maidugari and kept touch with Zaria every night throughout the three weeks' march.

A Brigade Section, under Lieutenant Reeder, went to Camp at Katchia in February and put up a very good show, indeed. They also kept in constant touch with Zaria, 130 miles away, and the volume of traffic dealt with about the time of the death of His Late Majesty was very considerable. But we managed to come through with flying colours.

Polo.—Our team consists of: Lieutenants Denholm-Young, Back; Collins, No. 3 and Reeder, No. 2, and Sergeant Good, No. 1.

Our team put up a very good show in reaching the final of the Coulson Cup in May. They beat the Civilians by 1½ goals, but lost to the 5th Battalion Nigeria Regiment in the final by 3 goals.

Racing.—Mr. Denholm-Young's " Carrier " won a Steeplechase in Kano last month and also ran fourth in the Nigerian Grand Military at Zaria in March.

Workshops.—Whenever a car or a wireless set goes " phut " in the Station, the cry goes up for the services of Sergeant Penny. This long suffering N.C.O. gets through a tremendous amount of work and keeps us on the map with our long-standing name of " Signal Motors."

Hausa.—The following have passed their Hausa Language Examination this tour: Lieutenants Collins, Denholm-Young and Reeder and Sergeant Good, Colloquial; Sergeant Moss, Lower Standard.

Sergeant Moss has just sat for his Intermediate Examination and we wish him the best of luck in his effort.

- Plain Tales -

For Your Diary.—For no reason at all we will tell you about a very important (to us) ceremony which took place at Dover, on 4th July, as exclusively forecast on this page last month. If anyone says anything more about Independence Day we shall scream. We, that is to say, Robert Frederick, eldest son of the Birmingham Barlows, was married to Rita, second daughter of the Dover Knights and a branch of the Knights of Gladness. The reception in the Grand Hotel, Dover, was followed by a scamper for the railway station in a fleet of cars headed by an old Narkover boy with the hotel dinner gong. It was a matter for some satisfaction (on the part of the gang), that we missed the train by two minutes. Before the Stationmaster could make up his mind whether to send for the Police or the Lunacy Commissioners, another train arrived.

Here, of course, we should have a line of little stars. Hysterics, as Chadderton used to call them. Came the end of a short leave, and we returned to Bulford, where one of us was promptly detailed for Orderly Sergeant and the other to cope with the mysteries of a coal burning kitchen range. At the time of going to press, both competitors appear to be making fair progress. This competition is now closed!

Bridge Hotel.—That name will sound very familiar to many of you old soldiers. Mr. " Sammy " Hughes and Mrs. Hughes are now in occupation at the Bridge, Uckfield, and if you are ever in the district, especially on a Saturday evening, you may see a miniature Signals Re-union. Did someone say " Who is Sammy Hughes " ? Take the child outside and tell him quietly.

Looked in Vain.—How often have we heard this expression, or read it in books? Shut up! You don't have to answer us. We only said that to get a start. As we ran a nicotine-stained finger down the extracts from the " London Gazette," republished in the WIRE, we pondered, or rather mused on the absence of the names of Majors J. F. Charlesworth and W. H. G. Rogers. Come to think of it, we neither pondered nor mused—just wondered. The fact remains, that the former, at any rate, is a Major, and we take it upon ourselves to offer very sincere congratulations. Major Rogers we haven't seen these many years, but hope that our information regarding his promotion is equally true.

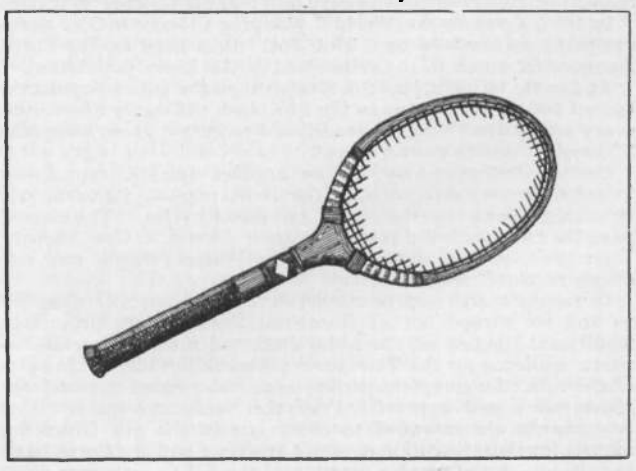
Publicity Corner.—We have just been chatting to some friends, a married couple, who are very anxious that more people should share their pleasant experience. They have been staying at the Union Jack Hostel at Waterloo. It may be that many of our married folk do not realise what advantages are to be had at this excellent establishment. Frankly, we were amazed at the comforts and conveniences available at an astonishingly low figure. If you are taking the family up to town, or just passing through, you will do well to drop a line to the people my friends were telling me about.

Incidentally, and to prove that we are not just advertising with special favour, permit us to add that we still think the Rolls Royce is the best car in the world.

Furthermore, now that we are married, we have decided to buy all our groceries at the —— ahem! We nearly said it.

Reminder of Minnie.—We have received so many letters protesting against the untimely exit of Minnie the Cat that we have had to change our address no less than once. Nothing that we can do will bring her back, but Minnie's friends will be glad to know that her son George has grown into a charming young man. Marvellous sleek black fur and the most intriguing eyes, my dear! George has just obtained employment with a builder, and is very enthusiastic. In spite of our efforts to convince him that he is a gentleman with a private income, he insists on wearing old corduroys, tied below the knee with string, and the wickedest hobnailed boots. Gladys and Marjorie will be grieved to learn this.

Problem Picture.—We thought about calling our sketch " No guts," but after a certain amount of consideration, decided that it might offend the " whatsits " of our readers. If you can think of something else, just write the title on the back of a man-hole cover from a Manchester street and hide it under your pillow. The matter will then be closed so far as you are concerned.



?

Ukann Larfe.—The episode of the smashed house in which Mrs. Larfe figured so prominently, has nothing whatever to do with this story, and we cannot think how it managed to creep in. The owner of the house crawled out from the heap of bricks and came forward with outstretched hand. " Sorry I've broken your front window," said Hermione with a rueful smile. " Pas du tout, madame," replied the dusty figure. " Speak you some French ? " " Not many, monsieur. Et vous ? " " Just a few." Mrs. Larfe called to Ukann and Inspector Faceache and, laughing heartily, they re-entered the taxi.

CHAPTER SEVENTY-ONE.

New readers are advised to drain out the oil after 5,000 miles.

" What puzzles me," said Ukann Larfe, " is that no one has come forward to claim these plans." Hermione Larfe sprang to her feet. " I knew when I married you, you were a fool, but I didn't know you were a ——." " Tut, tut, Mrs. Larfe," interposed the Inspector. " He knows what he is doing. There will be a big reward for those plans and your husband hopes to double-cross his employers." The Inspector's lip curled in an ugly sneer. He uncurled it quickly. The loyal Hermione flung herself at the policeman and clasped him in a terrible grip. Inspector Faceache fought for breath. In the grasp of this extraordinary woman he was no more than a child. Not much more, anyway. His strength seemed to melt away. His eyeballs bulged and his ears rang with blood pressure. We forget what else. We are not sure whether this has any bearing on the story either, so as we have promised to clean the back windows after tea, we will leave the Inspector in this very awkward situation. We never did like him very much.

No parking this side on odd days. BARLEUX.

The Royal Signals Display

On leaving the Royal Tournament, voted by all as being the most successful ever, we travelled to Aldershot for a little relaxation in order to carry out one of our most popular engagements, " The Signals Sports," at Mons Barracks. We were welcomed in barracks by many familiar faces and rounds of " what-ho's " and hand shakes ; then repaired to the canteen for chats over old times. We were all delighted when Colonel Sampson welcomed us and hoped that we might be able to visit Aldershot again at some time in the near future.

On Thursday, 28th May we gave our complete performance on the sports field, an ideal arena, to a great crowd of troops, visitors, wives and families, who, judging by the reception they gave us at the conclusion, thoroughly enjoyed it. The presence of the Corps Band under the able direction of Mr. Ricketts, was, as usual, one of the biggest features in the general success of the show and our signature tune " The Mechanical Horse " was whistled for many days whenever the spectators felt musical. May we thank every one who contributed to the many comforts offered us during our very pleasant visit.

From Aldershot we travelled to Saffron Walden for the Essex Show. We gave four performances, in glorious weather, to record breaking crowds, who gave us a real big-hearted reception.

In the " Open to the World " Jumping Class, our O.C. again competed successfully on " Hot Pot," thus hoisting the Corps flag another notch in the estimation of the Essex population.

At Louth, on 17th June, it seemed that the entire population turned out to welcome us to the Lincolnshire County Show, and every one realised that the traditional reception given us by the " Lincoln " was to be carried out.

On the following day, before another colossal crowd, we included in our show one of the most popular items in our repertoire—jumping the water on motor-cycles. The crowd gave the two successful jumpers a great " hand." Our " Trusty Triumphs " seemed to like it and the Water Jump is now one of our regular " features."

It was at Scarborough on 22nd June that " King Sol " deserted us and we turned out at Burniston Road Sports Ground in traditional English rain to a depleted, but none-the-less enthusiastic audience for the Townsmen's Association Show. In spite of the rain, the complete performance was carried out and our efforts were well appreciated by the hardy spectators. Our best thanks are extended to every one in the 5th Divisional Signals for their hospitality. Once again we had the Corps band to help us. An admirable teaming of the S.T.C. resources.

Going South for sunshine to the Peterborough Agricultural Show, the weather relented, and our sun bronzes, much to everyone's satisfaction, appeared again. By this time we were quite accustomed to record crowds, but here, it seemed, that the County had come " en masse," and our entry jumper went into an arena literally ringed by a sea of faces. " The bigger the crowd, the better the Show " has always been one of our slogans, and it certainly proved true here. Every one gave of his best, and the applause could only be described as " tumultuous." Once again the motor-cycles put some of the jumping horses to shame, taking a particularly difficult water jump in great style, to the obvious envy of some of the unsuccessful competitors in the many leaping events. With everything in our favour, these performances were possibly the best of the season to date.

With many happy memories of Peterborough in mind, we travelled in high spirits to Coventry for the Hospital Carnival on the 27th. On arrival, a special delegation from the Carnival Committee officially welcomed us in the name of the City. This delightful courtesy was " snapped up " by the many " newshounds " of the press, and many illustrations of our arrival occupied places of honour in the local press.

After " settling-in " at the Memorial Park, the whole of the M.C. Section paid a visit to the Triumph Works where we met Mr. Turner (the Managing Director), Mr. Welton, Mr. Fairbrother and our very old friend, Mr. Charlie Evans, who conducted us on a sightseeing tour of the Works. Whilst we were being held spellbound at the marvels of engineering which produce our motor-cycles, the mechanics were searching our machines for any adjustments which might be needed. It was a great compliment to our D.R.s to hear these experts so loud in their praise regarding the maintenance, carried out as part of the D.R.s' daily routine.

On Saturday we explored the many entertainments provided for the huge crowds, including the Fun City, Fair, and the famous procession which included the Lady Godiva Scene. This scene has gained much publicity. Everyone voted the Procession a great show and we returned to the Stadium, finding it packed to capacity with a crowd which included all the " Triumph " staff and many famous motor-cyclists. Just before the show, Mr. Evans reminded us that this was the first time we had visited his firm's home town. In view of this, every motor-cycle trick that we knew was successfully carried out in our forty-minute performance. We venture to state that his hopes for a good show and a good reception were fulfilled.

We should like to take this opportunity of extending our very best thanks for the royal way in which we were entertained by everyone who worked so untiringly in their efforts for our comfort and entertainment ; also to Mr. Turner of " Triumphs " whose hospitality was so generously extended to our Commanding Officer.

On 28th June we entrained for Castle Donington where we performed to a crowd of motorists on the Castle lawn for the Civil Service Motoring Association. The spectators acclaimed the inclusion of the horses as an item of added interest. The words of an anonymous announcer in the crowd who thanked us for the entertainment showed that our efforts can be equally appreciated by both laymen and experts alike.

Our next engagement was the Northern Command Tattoo, at Ravensworth. These notes are being written from there. The rain timed its efforts to coincide with our arrival and since then it has put in an appearance every day, adding to the comforts of life " under canvas." The opening performance, most successful in every way, was broadcast accompanied by the able commentary of Captain Horniman who, having so efficiently described each item in our turn, makes any further description here unnecessary.

On Wednesday afternoon the team turned out for the entertainment of the troops taking part in the Tattoo, who had been disappointed in not being able to see the Show in the evening. The weather decided to help us and, to the delight of those present, we were able to give one of our complete programmes. The praise given at the conclusion recompensed us for the loss of our usual afternoon " siesta."

The attendances were very well maintained, despite the adverse weather. The " full houses " were certainly rewarded with an excellent show for their defiance of the elements.

In drawing this brief resume of our travels to a close, it is with great interest that we learn of the proposed Display Team Formation in India. We extend to our comrades in the sunnier clime every good wish for a successful season and assure them we shall follow their activities with the greatest interest. There is, of course, every possibility that we may have the pleasure of witnessing one of their Displays, because we of the Catterick Team have just seen " provisional warnings " for draft.

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—The prevailing topic at the moment is the Married Families Outing to the seaside, which takes place on 8th July. Scarborough has been selected for the event, and everyone concerned is hoping for a sunny day to enable them, particularly the children, to do justice to the treat kindly provided by the P.R.I. Of this outing, more anon.

As in other years, our Display Team, which is at present performing in the Northern Command Tattoo at Ravensworth Castle, Gateshead, appears to be making quite a name for itself and is putting " Signals " well on the map. Judging from the glowing newspaper reports, regarding the efforts of the " Boys in Toyland," and also the daring exploits of the Display Team, these items must be the real tit-bits of the Tattoo.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Lieutenant R. J. Burton, O.M.E., R.A.O.C., attached to Dismounted Wing ; Lieutenant H. L. B. Kealy, Royal Signals, posted to Mounted Wing ; Lance Sergeant Jones E., returned from a Boxing Course ; Corporal Pike, returned from an underdose of phosgene ; and Signalman Barnes T., from Eastern Command Signal Company.

Departures.—Captain F. P. L. Gray to the Small Arms School at Winterbourne Gunner on a Company Commander's Gas Course. Lieutenant H. R. V. Cook, also to Winterbourne Gunner. Lieutenant G. F. Houghton, who has been selected as Adjutant, Air Contingent Signals (S.R.), Leeds, for their Annual Camp, from 5th to 19th July. We hope you enjoy good weather, Sir ! Sergeant Shardlow M. has received a Colonial appointment, and is proceeding on exchange duty to the South African Instructional Corps. In Sergeant Shardlow we lose a fine athlete who made an excellent showing at every form of sport he attempted. His records in the Army tennis world are unique, and he has proved that he can still hold his own in other sporting activities by the excellent half-mile which he ran in the recent Northern Command Sports. We wish him every success in his new sphere. Corporal Bowie and Driver MacKay proceed shortly to the Army School of Cookery, in order to see if there is anything which they can teach Mrs. Beaton. Signalman Cross, posted to 1st Divisional Signals. Signalman Stampford, posted to Eastern Command Signal Company.

Promotions.—The usual congratulations to the following on their step up the ladder and attainment of the ranks as shown : Corporals Gosnold W. T. J. and Mclndo H., Lance Corporals Fox R. and Sanderson.

Qualifications.—Hats off to C.Q.M.S. Carpenter on qualifying as Fitter Signals, A.I.

Linguistic Achievements.—2nd Lieutenant H. B. de M. Hunter passed an examination in French and qualified as Interpreter (2nd Class). 2nd Lieutenant J. H. St. G. Hamersley, whilst a Gentleman Cadet, passed the Preliminary Examination in French. I should consult our French expert to produce the French equivalent for " congrats," but, on second thoughts, I'll stick to English, it's safer. Cheers !

Sporting Events.—It was quite a thrill at the Northern Command Sports, which were held on 16th June, to see the athletic team from the Depot Battalion so well to the fore. Great credit is due to both Captain T. Boileau and Sergeant Chadney V. on the excellent show put up by their team. Particular mention must be made of the Three Miles Team Race, won by us with a record score of 20 points. We supplied the second, third, fourth and eleventh men home. Naturally, everyone started to talk of old times, when Joe and his harriers were breaking all records in the Army. We were pleased to see Staff Sergeant Instructor Harbin H. of the A.P.T.S., late of the Corps, doing so well in the Individual Events. He won both the Pole Vault and Long Jump. Well done, Harry ! The following athletes have been awarded " S.T.C. Jimmies " for the events shown : Lieutenant A. L. Atkinson, Hurdles and High Jump ; Corporal Gibson C., Pole Vault ; Lance Corporal Large A., Weight. Lance Corporal Jenkins W. has shown good form of late with B.S.A. .22 Shooting. Mention must also be made of his creditable efforts in the recent Small Bore Meeting at Roundhay, Leeds, where he won several pounds in prize money. As the prizes consisted mainly of five shilling efforts, it will be realised that he won or was placed in amost every one of the competitions in which he entered. We hope that he will meet with similar success in the present series of competitions in which he is now competing at Bisley.

Agony.—Who is the N.C.O. who supplements his income by earning an occasional bob as a porter. We find it hard to forgive his blushes, and murmurings of refusal on receipt of his latest shilling for carrying a large suit-case to the N.A.A.F.I. Protestations carry no weight if the pocket is still held open.

Can it be true that two N.C.O.s are now practising hair-cuts on each other. It's a poor excuse that the barber was shut. Is it these same two stalwarts who practised " Odd man pays the fares " on a generous warrior for some weeks, before he tumbled to the fact that he was being " stung " ?

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—We must apologise for the brevity of Dismounted Wing Notes in the July issue. At the present time, the Cadre are in the throes of the Annual Musketry Course and, combined with the leave period, this makes we poor hard-worked (?) office staff a little pushed for spare moments. However, here are a few items that may make interesting reading for old and present members of the Unit.

Parades.—The Signal Training Centre was present in full force on the Depot Battalion Parade Ground in honour of His Majesty's birthday on 23rd June. The Commandant (Brigadier Heymann) inspected the Parade, led them in giving three cheers for the King and then took the salute when the Signal Training Centre marched past in Review Order. Several of the senior squads from the Wing took part in this parade and, in comparison with the trained soldiers, performed their share of the ceremonial drill with full credit. Other recruits formed the cordon party round the Parade Ground.

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Partridge on the addition to their family (Antoinette).

Courses.—Our physical training stalwarts (Q.M.S.I. Wilcox and Sergeant Instructor Silvester), after spending a few days at the A.P.T.S. Refresher Course at York, are now carrying on the good work at the Northern Command Tattoo at Ravensworth Castle.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal McIndo H. on attaining that rank. At the present rate of promotion I shall soon be able to look a " blue book " in the face !

Married Families Outing.—The Depot Battalion Married Families Outing was held on Wednesday, 8th July. Three bus loads proceeded to Scarborough for the day. The weather was a splendid advertisement for that popular seaside resort, the sun shining all day. Lunch was provided at a cafe on the sea front and in the capable hands of R.S.M. Caulfield C. H. all the arrangements ran smoothly and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Drafts.—This Wing does not figure very largely in the provisional names for service overseas. Our Assistant C.Q.M.S., Corporal Ray G., has been warned for service in India.

Agony.—T. E. Smith, " A " Corps. " No word from you yet, Tommy." Northampton.

EL PEE.

"D" Company Training Battalion.

13th July.

General.—Evidently the weather clerk read our report in last month's WIRE and has somewhat amended the weather.

All available Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Company were on parade to celebrate the birthday of His Majesty, The King. At the conclusion of the parade, the Commandant called for " three cheers " for His Majesty, and the response was deafening. The afternoon was observed as a holiday, during which the Junior N.C.O.s and men beat the Officers and senior N.C.O.s in a novel cricket match.

Arrivals.—Signalman Robertson has joined from 2nd Divisional Signals and Signalman Vickers from " E " Company. Signalman Aldridge spent a few days with us on his arrival from 2nd Divisional Signals, before being posted to " E " Company.

Departures.—Sergeant " Tiger " Taylor has left us for 4th Divisional Signals ; Signalmen " Atco " Rowlands and Hamilton F., for 2nd Divisional Signals ; Signalman Ladell D., for 1st Divisional Signals ; and Signalman Beavan, for 3rd Divisional Signals.

Appointments.—We congratulate U/Lance Corporals Balfe T., Buscall R., Rylatt G., and Strutt E. on grasping the shadow of the proverbial baton.

Trade Tests.—Congratulations are extended to the following on obtaining the trade ratings shown : Lance Corporal Bennington L. and Signalman Griffiths C., Clerk, Class II ; Signalman Smith E., Carpenter, Class III (extra qualification).

Married Families Outing.—The annual outing of the Training Battalion married personnel took place on 25th June, at Redcar. The weather was fairly kind, and although it was dull, Father Neptune did not turn on his " taps." A most enjoyable day was spent and an exceptionally good lunch was provided at the Coatham Hotel. There was only one complaint. A certain Sergeant-Major had a full glass of " Womp " left at the conclusion of the lunch. (Perhaps this was " jealousy " on the part of the complainant.) Still, with the help of the C.S.M.'s companions, the " Womp " quickly disappeared.

After lunch, cricket and rounders were played on the sands. The talent provided put even Hobbs and Babe Ruth in the shade. Community singing kept the party wide awake on the return journey and Sergeants Becket and Green disclosed remarkable talent as organisers of the sing-song. There was only one drawback, " Joe " hadn't sufficient coppers for the kiddies.

Everyone returned to Camp at 9.30 p.m., a little tired, but happy. Great credit is due to the organisers, Major E. H. Du Cros, Royal Signals (as P.R.I.), and R.S.M. Butcher E. S., for the splendid way in which the outing was conducted.

Cricket.—We met our " Waterloo " when we played the School of Signals in the first round of the Mackworth Cricket Trophy. The School batted first, and, after a very good innings, declared with a total of 383 for the loss of eight wickets. In reply, we only managed to score 87 runs, all out. We congratulate the School on their victory and Signalman Waterton on his brilliant century.

On Saturday, 4th July, the Company cricket team played a friendly match at York with Messrs. Rowntrees. Several spectators accompanied the team. The game resulted in a victory for the Company by a good margin. After the match, the visitors did justice to an excellent tea, provided by Messrs. Rowntrees. The " boys " then proceeded to " paint the town red " in the approved style. How everyone enjoyed the trip can be imagined by the number of week-end passes submitted with the destination shown as York.

Northern Command Tattoo.—On Thursday, 9th July, an outing, commencing at 2.30 p.m., was arranged to the Northern Command Tattoo, at Ravensworth Castle. Eight special buses were chartered for the Battalion. The first halt was made at Newcastle, where there was a stay of two hours. There was ample time and opportunity for sightseeing, etc., before the party were due at Ravensworth at 7 p.m. The Tattoo proved a very interesting performance and lasted until midnight. After the show was over, the " Personality Kings " were allowed time to bid farewell to their friends before starting on the return journey at 1 a.m.

Impossible People.—The Signalman who, after using a borrowed tooth-brush, discovered that his bed-mate had used it for brasso.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

Outings.—All members of the Company have been included in this heading since the submission of last month's notes.

Members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess broke the ice by choosing 13th June as the day for their annual outing. This year, Scarborough was chosen as the venue, in lieu of Blackpool, but this " Queen of Watering Places " was not in a very good humour, because it rained on the party all day. It can be said, in very truth, that they returned wet inside and out. To rub it in, photographs of visitors to Blackpool indulging in sunbathing appeared in the papers next day. Nuff said !

" Q " Lines and the surrounding district was a scene of intense activity on Thursday, 25th June, when some forty-one families of the Training Battalion started out on a " Families Outing " to Redcar. Once again we seemed fated with the weather, but although it did not actually rain, King Sol was missing, and a chilly breeze blew in from the briny. That soldiers (or their families) don't care was well in evidence, because cricket and rounders were the order of the day prior to lunch being served in the Coatham Hotel. The remainder of the day was free to do as you pleased, and at 7 p.m., a tired but happy party commenced the journey back to Catterick Camp. A short stop was made at Darlington, where a complete ice-cream barrow (less the barrow) was taken on board. More community singing by the children, and Catterick was reached by 9 p.m. Major D. H. Cunynghame, our Commanding Officer, Major H. du Cros, our Second-in-Command, and R.S.M. Butcher E. S. are to be congratulated on the arrangements made. Thank you, gentlemen !

Thursday, 9th July, was the " Other Ranks Outing " to the Northern Command Tattoo, at Ravensworth Park, and some 180 members of the Battalion availed themselves of the chance to have a glance at Newcastle and the surrounding district. There can be no doubt that this year's display by the Royal Corps of Signals was much appreciated by the civilian population in the North of England. To those unfortunates serving in the South, we trust that you somehow managed to " tune in." The commentator highly praised the Show.

On Saturday, 11th July, the Junior N.C.O.s of the Battalion had an outing to the Northern Command Tattoo, and they, in turn, endorse the above remarks.

King's Birthday Parade.—The S.T.C. celebrated the King's Birthday in the usual manner. A full strength parade was held and, in spite of the absence of the Band, we marched past like the Brigade of Guards. The remainder of the day was observed as a holiday.

Drafts.—Again that word. No sooner are we finished with one Trooping Season than another is upon us. Once again our noses are pressed to Order Boards in order to read the latest bulletins concerning those required for a sea trip, between October, 1936, and March, 1937. Heart burnings have already begun, although the lists are only of a preliminary nature.

Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to U/Lance Corporals Topliss and Farrar on obtaining their first chip of the baton on 30th June.

Au Revoir.—As above.

School of Signals.

Obituary.—It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of Mrs. Watterton, wife of Corporal Watterton L. (No. 11 Foreman-of-Signals Course), who passed away on 27th June. We offer our deepest sympathy to Corporal Watterton.

General.—There is very little to say this month, with the exception of the usual topic, and that does not require more than one guess. The Unit Lines Garden Competition is rapidly approaching, and this means more " swede-ish " hours for all concerned. Even the " Atco " broke down to give " Ticker " a much-needed break. In the next issue I will be able to say how good a show was put up by the School.

Extensions.—Congratulations to the following on having managed a further year's scrounge. We hear so much cribbing about Catterick and its many disadvantages, but it cannot be so bad after all, as it seems that nobody wants to leave it : C.Q.M.S. Mitson and Hall ; Sergeant Farmer ; Lance Sergeant Inglis ; Lance Corporal Pearson ; U/Lance Corporal Beck ; Signalmen Bell, Hallett, Hartley, Lutener, Mayes, Mills, Semple, Todd and Wilson S. H. ; and Driver Marsden.

Coursing.—A " Coursing " Class has now commenced at the School. People trying to qualify for the vacant situation made possible by the untimely end of the Unit whippet some time ago. No successes have yet been reported, but the " look-out " in the canteen spots the quarry quite regularly. One cannot, however, do too well with cricket bats and other missiles. Our " wit " suggests that Bob should bring another " Waterloo Cup Winner." We may then, possibly, succeed in our efforts to get that to-morrow's breakfast.

Finis.

SCH. SIGS.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Headquarters.

Mons Barracks.

Three Weeks.—Three weeks at Picket Twenty Farm Camp, near Andover, went quickly, in spite of the fact that the weather was distinctly unsettled. The long trek with our hefty (I nearly said unwieldy) transport column was negotiated without hitch, and we arrived to find that the advance party, under the experienced direction of " Q," had produced a remarkably good lay-out. Three weeks in the lines brought only one suggestion for their improvement—" the position of the white-washed stakes."

High Lights.—Sundry schemes were mooted for the recreation of the troops, but with the incidence of three N.A.A.F.I. concert parties (all remarkably good), a " Directing Staff " or two, a couple of week-ends (one in the middle of the week—sic), and the married families outing, little need or opportunity arose for improvisation. The ladies and children appeared to enjoy the numerous devices that were produced for their amusement, and the maze brought relaxation to brains befuddled by the behaviour of decibels (alias nepers). Thanks are due to the many helpers for assistance and suggestions and also to the critics for taking a day off. Believe it or not—our M.T. Sergeant was to be seen wielding a hammer and jumper the day before the outing, but those who thought this was a part of the show were grievously disappointed. We were fortunate in having with us our new Padre—Rev. J. L. Lewis—who took a keen interest in all our doings.

General.—Probably the M.T. Driving Competition, which immediately preceded the Camp, improved the driving and also accounts for the almost clean bill (or rather A.F.A. 3676) which we brought home. We hope that this is the result of care and not merely fortuitous. This gives all the more point to the merit of the prize-winners of the aforesaid Competition. Here they are :

Class " A," Lorry Driving : 1, Signalman Orton ; 2, Signalman Ward.

Class " B," Lorry Driving : 1, Lance Sergeant Hart ; 2, Lance Corporal Tuft.

Class " A," Light Cars : 1, Signalman Campbell ; 2, Signalman Long.

Class " B," Light Cars : 1, Signalman Madgwick ; 2, Lance Corporal Glover.

We sincerely hope that none of the prize-money will be required to go " towards cost of damage." " Quelle dommage ! "

We are now preparing to lend ourselves for the Southern Command Staff and Signal Exercise, the Eastern Command Exercise, L. of C. Signals and Neutral Signals and a couple of duty weeks thrown in. Meanwhile, if the G.O.C., North Borneo, remains sympathetic, we hope to indulge in a spot of summer leave.

Particular.—Probably you thought there would be a list of those selected for abroad during the forthcoming trooping season. So there is, but we have no intention of producing reams of " delete so-and-so and insert such-and-such." That's not a prophesy, it's a statement.

JESSAMINE.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Greetings from ONECOY " A " Corps. This is not exuberance of " spirits." Oh ! no—just a salutation. Some scribes commence with an apology, others with remarks on the weather—hence the opening sentence.

The Unit Camp has just finished with the Staff College Exercise, and I am pleased to say that it was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole (?) Company (even when it rained). The usual necessary bugbears were there, such as P.T., spud peeling and duties, but nobody seemed to mind. We passed a really enjoyable three weeks and benefited in health.

Just before Camp, our Commanding Officer held a Motor Driving Competition. Honours undoubtedly came to No. 1 Company. Signalman Orton, for two years in succession, being acclaimed the best driver in the Unit. Other prize-winners from this Company were Lance Corporal Tuft, Driver (I.C.) Campbell, Signalmen Long and Ward E. This certainly surpassed No. 2 Company because, out of a possible eight, we had five winners. What about it, TWOCOY ? When the Colonel presented the prizes, he stressed the vital point of careful driving at all times on our busy roads and paid a fine tribute to those who competed by saying that our standard was much better than last year.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Harrison, Hynd, Sweeney, Devlin and Davison from Catterick. To them we extend the " glad mitt " and hope that their stay with us will be an enjoyable one.

Departures.—Sergeant Morgan has " landed " a good job and is settling down quite well in " civvy " life. Corporal " Jock " Lewis has firmly planted his feet in London. He is pleased to say that London is still firmer than Quetta. Good luck and prosperity to both. Our best wishes go with them.

Expectations.—Dickens said " Great Expectations." Well, quite a few of this Company have had their expectations fulfilled. Sweat off ! 'Nuff said !

Things Heard.—One married " pad " (with family) to another married " pad " (without family). " They should have a little sympathy for us with children."

Overheard by husband of second married " pad ", who is shaving in the bathroom upstairs. Up goes the window, a wrathful shout emanates from the said bathroom. " Well, drown 'em."

What a life ! Oh ! to be in the Army now that the draft list is up.

Au revoir till next time.

J.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Having just returned from Unit Camp and the Staff College Exercise, it is only natural that they should be foremost in our minds. Those people who hoped for fine weather were once again disappointed. When most of the Unit were concentrated at Whitchurch, a rum issue was authorised. The rum was so strong that the smell brought all the Unit office staff from Picket Twenty Farm Camp. They said that they had come for a look round, but we knew different.

Congratulations to Major Cameron-Webb and to Lance Sergeant Howard on their step upwards. N.A.D.M. eh ? Smiler. Also to Lance Corporal Turner, our Landru No. 2, on his entry to the Corporals' Mess.

Things We Want to Know.—What is a hiatus ? The person who knows these things may be able to tell us if it has any relation to a " liaison " or lack of same.

Who was the cheery chappie who went to sleep in an Austin at Whitchurch and woke up at the Post Office at Andover? Is it true that he murmured " Bridge over AN—WH 1 and 2 " on being awakened?

Arrivals and Departures.—None yet, but worried faces are prevalent, because the boat list is reported to be in.

Finale.—Great work Pluto! Cheerio everybody. Abyssinia.

BUNNY.

No. 4 W/T Company.

No. 1 Section.

General.—Speaking generally, nothing to report. In detail, the same thing. Joking aside, it really is surprising how little happens when one wants it to. If only someone would commit suicide, homicide, germicide or something equally uninteresting, what a chance there would be for the scribes. Glaring headlines, reams of journalese, exaggerations, suppositions—all the bunk that goes into making a really thrilling " thriller." But what's the use of wishing—nothing like that happens—not here at any rate. It is just a case of the " common round and daily task." I've succeeded in using quite a lot of paper to convey to readers that there is nothing interesting to report, and hope that their patience is of the long-enduring kind which will last till next month.

Arrivals and Departures.—Nil as yet. (Mr.) Thompson L. will be leaving us shortly for a job. He has just completed his vocational course and has employment in view. In case you are not here next month—best of luck, Tommy, and be good! Rumours of the boat list are about, and certain laddies are feeling very peeved because " Ponkey " calls and they will have to pack away their bottles of " Sunbronze " and use cold cream instead. There being no further requests or contributions and only one Jew's mail, the meeting is declared closed.

Jew's Mail.—K.B.—M. (if you can still read) I'm here—Wally.

OSSIE.

1st Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

General.—We tender our regrets for missing these columns last month to all those who were looking for news of us through this medium. We are as busy as ever, and getting plenty of real enjoyment out of training.

On 2nd July we demonstrated before the G.C.s from the Shop, and we hope they liked it. The weather somewhat queered our pitch and they, therefore, viewed a truer picture of our normal work than might otherwise have been the case, had the weather been good. Our " spit and polish " was to no avail after the torrential rain which drenched us just before the G.C.s arrived, and we felt like tramps. However, we " did our stuff."

Staff College Signal Exercise 8th-11th July.—" Staff College " weather prevailed throughout this job of work, but despite this expected handicap, all went with a swing. Must this stunt always be dated for the Monsoon? " B " Section were disappointed because they were not required to perform, but judging by the mutual back-patting within the other Sections, which wound up the Exercise on Friday night, 10th July, we are sure everyone is pleased with what they did. The detachment of " C " Cable Section, which was made up from " K " for the occasion, gained valuable line-laying experience, and liked it. The Corps cable people did some real hard graft throughout the Exercise, and carried out their very heavy share of the signal work cheerfully and remarkably well. They were so pleased with themselves after their " herculean " efforts that their jubilations at the close-down bivouac caused us some loss of sleep. Criticism: " Good linemen but rotten crooners."

Annual Weapon Training.—The height of our Unit average, after the shooting at Ash during July, has gone to the head of our tame poet, Lance Corporal Salmond, who, by the way, is also a very keen shot. Unit elocutionists, who may recite this ballad at Smokers, and " sic " like functions, should do so with feeling (and perhaps some sympathy with the author).

THE LAST ROUND UP ON THE (ASH) RANGES.

Oh, little bullets swift and sure,
Please get for me a goodly score;
Along the sights I gravely peer,
And wonder why I feel so queer.
(Beer ?).

Then I fire and swiftly pray,
(The target seems so far away),
Why does my muzzle tremble so,
I'm almost sure that shot went low.
(And How !).

Odds powder and shot, I feel so brisk,
The first round earned that small white disk,
So on I go with do or die,
And only once I see a magpie.
(Oi ! Oi !).

This " shake-on " is a lot of rot,
I've classified as a first-class shot,
I look around and also see, that
Everyone else is filled with glee.
(Tee-Hee !)-

PRICELESS PERCY.

The " Tee-Hee " probably explains how it is done.

Inter-Section Cup.—" K " Section (commanded by Lieutenant T. G. V. Stephenson), won the Inter-Section Cup again this year, and having previously won it in 1933 and 1935, are now " chucking a chest." Lieutenant J. M. S. Tulloch, now in India, will be pleased at this bit of news—but he knew they could do it! Having lost both him and Corporal Hamilton (Palestine) since last season, the Section had to go " all out " to maintain their place. The runners-up were " E " and " A " Section with 16 points and 15 points respectively against " K's " 32 points.

Sergeants' Mess.—Members of the Sergeants' Mess have requested that their appreciation of the work carried out by Sergeant Palmer, " A " Corps Signals, in re-decorating the Mess be recorded here. He has made quite a classy job of it—even the Guinness tastes of turps and the " Wompo " reeks of paint.

Trooping.—Up to the time of going to press, the names are " still in the bag." For the past few days, since " A " Corps and 2nd Divisional Signals published their provisional warnings for overseas, we have been dashing frantically towards the Unit Order Board. Apprehensive jabberings continue among those who have " had some " and now want to dodge draft, whilst youngsters who are thrilled with the glorious uncertainty of it all, continue to swallow fearful yarns of the flaming frontier, regaled to them by our " One-Gong-Sweats." There's a bloke in " J " Section (no names no " Biff ") who generously offers to do anyone's draft for fifty pounds—instalments accepted.

Odorous Odes—(No. 3 Company).—

When detailed for just another guard or picquet,
Don't mumble, " Oh hell! this isn't Cricket;
Just Kiwi your stuff, old boy, and stick it.
But beware the wiles of Styles
(i.e., remember the date !).

LANKA MK. II.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—The heading alone will probably make some people sit up and take notice. It's about time that Unit Headquarters refrained from hiding its light under the proverbial bushel. This being his first attempt, the writer is full of apologies at having to force these notes on such a critical public. He begs that they will bear with him, keeping in mind the fact that they were compiled in Camp whilst the Unit was at Thursley, and particularly at a time when there are lots of other things to keep one busy. The writer hopes that readers will be somewhat tolerant in their criticisms, believing in that much hackneyed phrase " Practice makes perfect."

Apology No. 1 (To the Old Comrades).—The following dialogue was overheard in Headquarter Barrack-room a few days after the Old Comrades' Church Parade.

Wms. " The C.O. remarked on my smart turn-out on the Old Comrades' Church Parade last Sunday. I felt quite pleased."

R-YN-R. " He must have taken you for an Old Comrade."

Apology No. 2 (To the Western Brothers on the day that Chelsea won the Cup).—Is it true that:

(a) " Boy " Reed refused to be treated in the wet bar and forgot to put in his week-end pass for the " smoke " ?

(b) Busty Bellis stopped ticking for twenty-four hours ?

(c) Personnel of this Headquarters mistook Reveille call for Check Parade ?

(d) The Unit office orderly did not know the way to the N.A.A.F.I. ?

Want Ads.—I am asked to insert the following. " Wanted by young clerk—Collaboration." (Note : She must have lots of money).

Tales out of School.—Have you heard about the D.R.-cum-Clerk, who discovered one night that the barrack-room door would not open ? (Incidentally it was only " on the latch "). After repeating the magic words " open sesame " in vain, he repaired to the nearest window and climbed through. Having accomplished this miraculous feat, he proceeded to the door and opened it. Thereupon, he hied himself to the window, which had been of such good service, and climbed through to the open again. Finally, he marched into the bungalow in triumph by way of the door. The same individual was out late on yet another occasion, accompanied by a bosom pal. The road to barracks being long and weary, they decided to sleep in a barn. Having conferred at great length, they eventually decided that as it was rather cold they would first of all return to barracks to fetch their overcoats.

Things We Have Noticed.—The word " liaise " has become a la mode. Too bad—such a good word, too.

There is an infectious disease peculiar to the environs of Elstead known to the elite as " unrequited love."

We are no longer known as the " Cads." It is difficult to tell whether " A " or " M " took that title from us.

Departures and Arrivals.—Bellis (Thomas of that ilk), departed on 18th June. He, however, refused to go far away from his " loved ones," and we know that the Command Signal Company will appreciate him as much as we did. We offer him an open invitation to come and stay with us for week-ends (but he must bring his own " meals "). To make up the number, Signalman Hodgetts arrived from Catterick. We hope that he will like it here.

Happenings at Camp.—One item of note was the Inter-Section Tug-of-War. Despite several casualties in our team, with a little assistance from " M " Section, we succeeded in beating " K " Section, thus pulling our way to the semi-final. Signalman Jones deserves our gratitude for his effort on this occasion. Our triumph, however, was short-lived, because in the semi-final we succumbed to mighty " B " Cable, who thereby qualify to meet " A " Section in the final. We thank C.Q.M.S. Beverley and Mr. Burgess for their stentorian efforts when, on our behalf, they so ably performed the unenviable voluntary duty of coach to our Section in the first and second rounds respectively.

I understand that the Q.M. Staff really appreciated Thursley. The Orderly-room staff report that, in spite of frequent thunderstorms, they particularly enjoyed the evenings.

We regret to report that Mr. Burgess sustained a severe accident while at Camp. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Two occurrences of rather a weird nature have led us to believe that the theory of " transmigration of souls " is not to be dismissed so lightly. During one " battle " somewhere in Surrey, our O.C. No. 3 Company was reported " killed." On the same day an enemy spy was captured, and it was noticed that he bore a remarkable resemblance to the No. 3 Company Commander. Again, during another sortie, O.C. " L " Section was reported missing, but later turned up in the role of Quartermaster.

And now we leave Thursley (most of us with regret) with visions of fast-approaching Divisional training before us, and later, August leave.

HAFOD.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Thursley Camp having ended, our thoughts now turn to Billingshurst, where we contemplate passing the next month or so. During our stay at Thursley we were favoured with excellent weather, except when there was a scheme, when it invariably rained. Whilst at Camp, a cricket match was arranged with the " lads of the village," in which, I regret to say, we were defeated. In addition, an outing for married families was held by members of the Sergeants' Mess. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Concerts arranged by the N.A.A.F.I. proved to be excellent and of surprisingly high standard. They were much enjoyed by all ranks. We were very surprised to find that our R.Q.M.S. was a " Horlicks " addict, and that he possessed a complete apparatus for its manufacture. We wonder if it is good for " after effects," or whether it is good for the throat. There must be something in it, surely.

This Company's stay in barracks is very brief. We leave for Divisional Camp on 17th July as advance party, so that for five weeks we shall be dwelling in the country at Billingshurst, Sussex. We hope that the weather will be at its best and that we shall benefit by the change of air.

Quite a number of our lads now know that they will be required for overseas this year and, consequently, are busy obtaining all information regarding tropical climate, etc., from those old soldiers who are always glad to impart their own experiences to the full.

With this we will close, our measure of news being expended.

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

General.—After two weeks' respite, we are about to pack up and proceed to Billingshurst Camp for an odd week or two. It is hoped that the Company Clerk will not repeat his Pompey performance.

We did not excel at the Aldershot Show, although Friary shares advanced a few per cent.

Twenty-three individuals of this Company have been warned for draft, and the applications for " swops," etc., are too numerous to mention.

I haven't time for too many notes because so many returns are due in now, and so my valuable time cannot be expended in any other way than on work. Until something really exciting happens I propose to close for this month, hoping to do better next time.

Things We Want to Know.—Who looks like the wild man from Borneo ?

Who looks like a time-expired shepherd ?

Who, with his deep breathing, deputised each morning at Thursley Camp for the R.O.S. ?

Who looked as though he had been lassoed with his puttees ?

Who is the Sheik of " B " with those " searching eyes " ?

292.

No. 3 Company.

General.—And the great big trooper came nearer and nearer, etc. Weather Report for the coming period, " very unsettled." There is a heavy depression centred around the Company Order Board, spreading through August, September, October, November, December, January and February. Periods of sunshine, followed by slight showers at intervals, entirely dependent upon the mood of Records, Chatham. The first storm has already been experienced. There was hardly a dry eye to be seen when the list of departures was read. A great deal of distress was shown by those eligible for a free trip on the *Queen Mary*, followed by a tour of the " mystic Orient." Even those, under the impression that they were on the Mons Barracks Inventory Board, now find it necessary to submit the size of " topi " which they will require. India, however, cannot say we do not supply her with variety. Amongst those leaving for foreign climes this year are the following selection : A very clever grower of fruit from Texas ; an all round athlete with a simply divine figure ; a married man with prospects ; a new type of crooner with an infectious (diseased) laugh. To Egypt we send, with our best wishes, a wonderful operator, and to Palestine goes the pick of the bunch. It appears that unless I am mistaken, the keeper of the " Wailing Wall " will either lose his job or else have something to wail about. If you are in need of an M.C. at your whist drive, a leader for your local guild or a miniature Baden Powell, then here is just what you want. To those who are not going, I crave permission to quote, " They also serve, who only stand and wait." To those who do go, I proffer the troopship national anthem,

" My breakfast lies over the ocean, my dinner lies over the sea,
My stomach's in such a commotion. Oh ! don't mention
supper to me."

It Happened One Night.—The N.C.O. who was mentioned last month for giving a display with his car, has again distinguished himself. This time the scene was laid in Aldershot. The players taking part were : A certain person named " Taffy," the said Lance Corporal, one policeman, and a mysterious individual at present known as " Len." The said policeman was sent for because it appeared that the Lance Corporal was being maliciously attacked by criminals outside the Imperial Hotel. On arrival, the policeman found that both the criminals and victim had flown. He then held a heated argument with " Taffy," who, much to his consternation, proceeded to prod the said

policeman in his ample corporation. The other participants were later found by our reporter in the Queen's Hotel, where they were holding a conversation with the bookmaker's god " Bacchus," and 'midst " Blue Niles " mixed freely with " Green Goddesses " the story was unfolded.

Our mathematician has worked out that if all the cats in the British Isles were placed end to end, you would find them all in Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Marriages.—These are distinctly modified for India, but Hank is threatening to take this step because he is going abroad.

A little kissing on moonlight rides, is why we have the blushing brides.
A little loving now and then, is why we have the married men.

To Let.—A well furnished office stool in the Company Office. The present owner is going abroad owing to nervous breakdown. H. and C. days. A stone's throw from the Unit office. Well-used mat, with permission to occupy same at any time. All modern conveniences (and inconveniences). Apply Sergeant-Major, No. 3 Company.

We Raise Our Hats To.—The man who said he is not going to India because he applied for China.

The man who said they could not send him abroad as he is " Staff employed."

The hundred men who have miraculously acquired money to buy themselves out in the event of being " mentioned in despatches."

To Hank on threatened marriage.

The Poet Again.—He, too, saw the N.C.O. on Friday, after imbibing wisely but not too well, and he swears that he heard the following :

" THE PORT OF REFUGE."

Out of the pub, I step in the street,
Road, what's the matter ? You're loose on your feet.
Staggerin', swaggerin', reelin' about,
Road you're in liquor, past question or doubt.

Street lights, be quiet ! Stand up if you please ;
What the deuce ails you, you're weak in the knees.
Some on your heads, in the gutter some sunk,
Street lights, I see it ; you're all of you drunk.

Angels and ministers, look at the moon,
Shining up there like a paper balloon ;
Winking like mad at me, moon, I'm afraid ;
Now I'm convinced. Oh ! you tipsy old jade.

Here's a phenomenon, look at the stars ;
Jupiter, Ceres, Uranus and Mars ;
Dancing quadrilles, capered, shuffled, and hopped,
Heavenly bodies this ought to be stopped.

Down come the houses, each drunk as a king ;
Can't say I much fancy this sort of thing;
Inside the bar, it was safe—quite all right ;
I shall go back there, and stay for the night.

Finale.—With the end of our muse's work, I, too, leave all readers until another month be past. Cheerio, everyone.

MOLESKIN.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

Dear Friend.—Sorry I haven't written just lately, but you know how things are in the Corps ; work, work and more work. In fact, it seems that my days are absolutely full and the nights, well, you must just use your own imagination. I really haven't had time to breathe, much less to write to you, during the last couple of months. True, I did manage to squeeze in a short vacation, but it was really an act of kindness to some of my fellow slaves.

You see, old chap, Sergeants Cole W. and Harvey A., little me, Lance Corporal " Jackie " Robertson and Signalman Bates F. are seriously thinking of forming a party to visit India during the coming season, so I decided to go to the Test Match at Lords to get a bit of first-hand information on the people we are likely to see out there and also an idea of what we Pukka Sahibs will have to contend with in the way of cricket in the Land of Sun. Having seen Amar Singh and M. Nissar bowl, I have convinced " Jackie " that he and I would be much safer if we took up umpiring.

Whilst on the subject of cricket, I know that you will be pleased to hear that old " Body Line Bill " Williams has once again played for the Corps Cricket XI in all the matches down here this season. " Jackie " and I were fully expecting to get our Corps caps this season, but, although we are very consistent, we have not found a wicket really to suit us yet and, so far, have not scored a run between us. I have donned pads and gloves and walked out to the wickets and back again four times and " Jackie " has done it once.

No doubt you are rather surprised that I have not mentioned Lance Corporal Toe Grip Mahatma Macken Ji. To tell you the truth, I have not seen him for quite a long time ; he has been away romping on the sands at Weymouth. Poor old Mahatma Ji, he hasn't had a holiday in years and he must go and pick the wettest weeks of the year. By the way, we have had an addition to the family since I last wrote. Signalman Bellis R. has joined us in the place of our dear friend Hamp Ka Butch, now a Civvy. Just at present, Busty Bellis is holding 'em back on a scream round Andover way. This scream must be a funny affair ; even Ronnie (Asleep in the Deep) Stanley is on it. Do we chuckle each time we think of him sleeping under canvas with this rotten weather going on. Frankie Dymond is undisputed Gripper Archvice now that Toe Grip is away. Frank is really a marvel once he gets going and, honestly, I cannot see either Guy Rodwell or Toe Grip taking the title away from him again. It really is amazing the number of words he can utter without coming up for air. To-day he has been telling us, once again, about some of the terrible Stations he has served in. He was once at a place called Razmak, where the temperature never falls below 118. I have almost cancelled my visit through hearing him talk. The place must have changed a lot since '26.

Well, old chap, the index finger of my right hand is quite sore with all this typing, so, until next month, au revoir.

Yours, etc.,

AUSTIN.

P.S.—So that we would look like real Pukka Sahibs, " Jackie " and I carried bats out to the wickets.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks,
14th July.

General.—The same old Unit but a new name. The powers that be decided that we should now be designated " Anti-Aircraft Group Signals " ; so be it. It is more or less a reversion to the old title held when we were the Anti-Aircraft Signal Company.

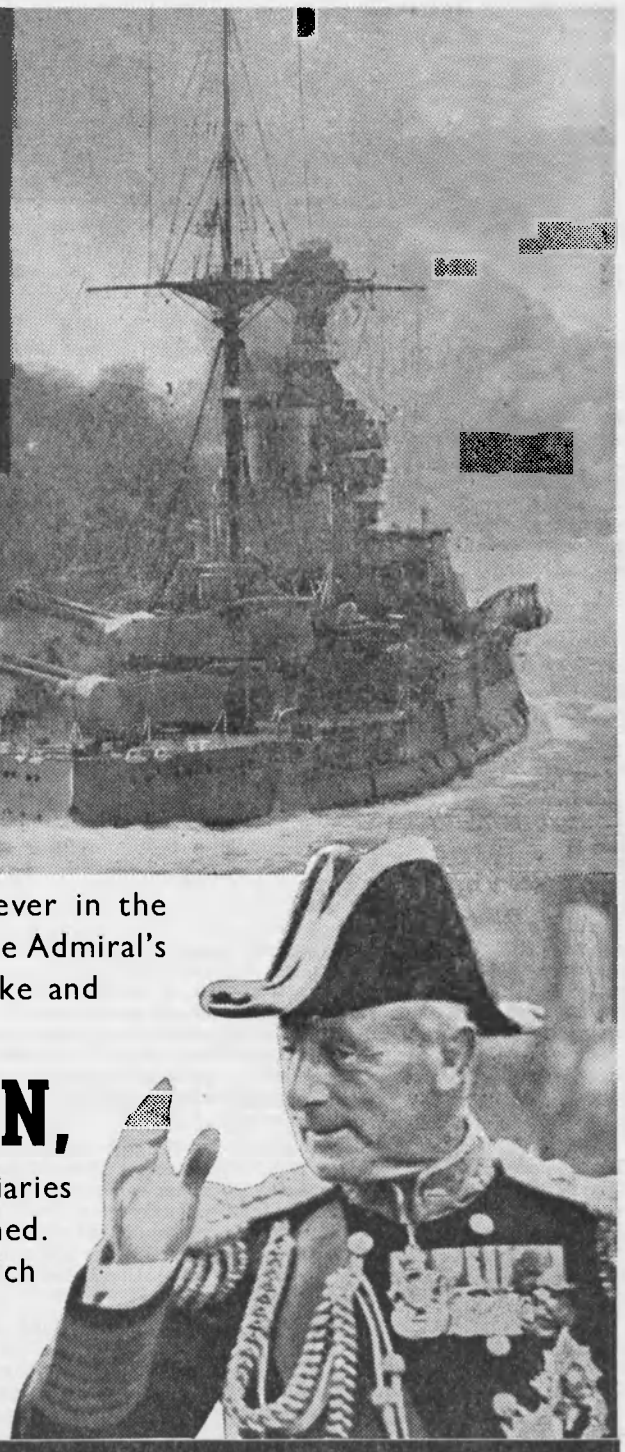
By the time these notes appear, the Cable Section will be " doing their stuff " in the Sussex manœuvre area. I trust the weather in August will be to their requirements.

During July, two demonstrations took place of A.A. Equipment. One on 2nd July to the O.T.C. Cadets, Oxford University, and the other on 3rd July to the Cadets, Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. A Cable Detachment from this Unit took part in both demonstrations. We trust they saw everything to their advantage.

Old Soldiers Never Die.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Mears L. E. C. on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (with gratuity).

Presentation on Transfer.—A framed photograph of the Powell Miniature Rifle Team of this Unit, suitably inscribed, was presented to Sub-Conductor Bale H. J., R.A.O.C. (late R.Q.M.S., Royal Signals) by the Commanding Officer (Major H. M. Sylvester, M.C., Royal Signals), the Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s of the Unit who have served together with this Warrant Officer at Blackdown. Sub-Conductor Bale was a C.S.M. in this Unit for fourteen months, transferring to the R.A.O.C. in March, 1936, with the rank of Sub-Conductor, after having spent a probationary period with that Corps. Sub-Conductor Bale served in the Royal Corps of Signals for over twenty-three years. He has a pleasant personality and was always ready to assist those with whom he came in contact. I take this opportunity (though somewhat belated), on behalf of the Unit, to wish him the very best of luck in his new venture. Royal Signals' loss is the

Jellicoe of Scapa



Jellicoe of Scapa is a name that will live for ever in the glorious pages of Britain's naval history. The late Admiral's life story is worthy to rank with those of Drake and Nelson. Admirably written by

SIR REGINALD BACON,

it is a fit successor to the famous Haig Diaries which the "Sunday Pictorial" recently published. Earl Jellicoe was engaged in a sea-battle which aroused even more controversy than Passchendaele. Start reading this series now. It is appearing exclusively in the

SUNDAY PICTORIAL

R.A.O.C.'s gain. No doubt some of us will meet him again. Best of luck and au revoir.

Strike Me Pink !—B.O.M. has found three more freckles. He seemed quite worried until I assured him it was an asset to beauty.

Service Overseas.—Once again the usual " sweat " appears. The undermentioned have been provisionally warned for service in the Stations stated : India—Corporals Webb A. L., Joyce R. W. and Ellis G. L. ; Signalmen Thomas L. H. and King G. B. Malaya—Signalmen Duckworth W., Parsons F. and Sherratt R.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Conolly L. S. on his promotion to that rank, w.e.f. 10th June, 1936. No more " toots."

What we Want to Know.—Did a certain Lance Corporal fix up the " banns " ? Was it Roy Fox or Henry Hall. I have heard, on good authority, that the verger assists in this direction.

Jew's Post.—To Sandy.—A supporter of Blackburn would like to point out that this team, together with the Villa, are the only teams who have remained in the First Division since the League was formed. As football during the last season was not to be compared with previous seasons, both clubs elected to visit the Second Division of the League, hoping to get more competitive football. B.O.M. would also like to know how many leagues to which Blackburn would have to relegate in order to reach the low level of High Wycombe. " Digger " should be able to continue from this point.

Tail-piece.—Tough guys! Don't forget the bath cubes, B —— ! For the present, good-bye, everyone. Nuff said !

JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals.

Cachy Barracks, Perham Down, Nr. Ludgershall, Wilts.
July.

Camp.—Friends ! Atlantis has nothing on us. The Unit has now been at Camp for about a month. During this month, Jupiter Pluvius, Esq., has been emptying large quantities of water upon us and the surrounding countryside to such effect, that people have been reporting sick with strange web-like growths between their fingers and toes. Torrents have poured upon us from above, and other torrents have rushed down from the hillsides. The latter have coursed pleasantly through tent and marquee alike, in their eagerness to reach the lower levels for the purpose of getting churned into mud by the tanks. Were you to visit the Camp at Reveille, or perhaps some time after Reveille, young men, with pale, set faces, would be seen manfully trying to negotiate seas of mud in an endeavour to get breakfast. The antics of the sluggards are a never failing source of delight to those already seated and roars of appreciative laughter greet any outstanding performance in the way of a fall.

At Camp, in addition to ourselves, are three battalions of Tanks, some Artillery, Ordnance, R.A.S.C. and about fifteen Army Corps of black beetles and earwigs. Discipline is not too good among the latter. Indeed, they might correctly be called " a disturbing element." How long the present conditions will last cannot be foreseen. Evidently those in authority are sceptical of any change, because an Ordnance bloke was distinctly heard to mention an indent for " Amphibious Tanks."

The Tidworth Tattoo is due to take place at the beginning of next month, and for some time now several D.R.s from this Unit have been assiduously trying to break their necks. Others have been manning the telephones on the searchlight stands. These console themselves with the thought that they will be able to see the Tattoo for the whole of its run without paying a cent.

Arrivals.—We offer a belated, but none the less hearty welcome, to C.S.M. Deyermond and Sergeant Stibbs. We sincerely hope that they have come to stay.

Departures.—None—yet. But you should see the first provisional warning order.

Athletics.—The combined teams of 3rd Divisional Signals, Tank Brigade Signals and " E " Troop, Cavalry Signals, scored an easy victory in the Salisbury Plain Area Athletics. It was practically a walk-over. This team was, however, not so successful in the Southern Command Athletics, being beaten into third place. Just wait till next year though.

Notice.—Proud parents are called upon to note that at the recent Shipton Bellinger Baby Show, the Royal Signals babies carried off first, second and third places, and also won a wreath of roses. Why a wreath of roses, we don't know. We thought kids always preferred something to chew. However, a very laudable effort.

Wail.—To Tientsinites. Junior O.K. Stay in Tientsin. Ging. So long,

UVE ADDIT.

"C" Section.

Attached 3rd Battalion R.T.C., Tilshead Camp, Wilts.

General.—Once upon a time I wrote an exceptionally brilliant article for a very well-known paper. It was returned with the editor's compliments, and regrets that he could not understand my Army language. I dealt with such lively topics as manoeuvres camps and leave periods. I did get rather worked up, I suppose. I have now been commissioned to write for THE WIRE, and if this article goes into the waste paper basket, after having paid subscriptions for seven years, I shall buy the " War Cry."

Well, the Section spent a delightful three weeks down at sunny Lulworth with the 3rd Battalion, Royal Tank Corps. Having so enjoyed our company, they insisted on bringing us up to Tilshead when they came. We all enjoyed sunbathing and swimming, and could have stayed there all the year. But no—the Tank Corps decided otherwise—and here we are. Delightful surroundings, for those who love the country. I did see a house the other day when it wasn't raining, but only for a few minutes. It's been raining since we arrived two weeks ago. For those, unfamiliar with this type of country, I would like to give a few hints on what to bring out. Two mackintoshes ; one will get worn out in a week or so. A camp bed with four tins so that the earwigs can be made to swim across to your bed leg. Later on we intend to organise earwig races, and propose to introduce a few black beetles as well.

I hope to be able to bore my many readers next month with a few hints on how to erect and fix MB/MC Sets in Tanks and on trucks. We are so busy that I haven't time now.

Agony.—Lance Corporal Whitelaw would like to hear from Lance Corporal Tommy Atkins, " B " Corps Signals.

P.S.—If I can think of anything snappy after our two weeks' vacation I will let you have it. That is, providing I can get any vacation.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Arrivals.—From " E " Troop, Cavalry Signals, on 9th June, C.Q.M.S. Minion R. From Training Battalion, 19th June, Signalmen Barron T. and Watkins S. From Catterick, 29th June, Lieutenant A. L. Atkinson, 2nd Lieutenants B. H. P. Barnes, P. D. Gracey, M. D. Price and G. D. K. Woolrych. The following Supplementary Reserve Officers have been attached for their annual training : Lieutenants W. A. Sanders, W. J. Sims, H. Metcalf, L. R. James and W. J. Jones ; 2nd Lieutenants C. Stagg and C. R. Lane.

Departure.—2nd Lieutenant P. E. M. Bradley to 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury, on 2nd July.

Promotions and Appointments.—The following were appointed Lance Corporals on the Corps Roster with effect from dates shown : U/Lance Corporals Crouch C. G., 1st April, Ketley, G. E., 1st April, Pearse W. R., 8th April, Smither R. F., 14th April, Ferguson F. G., 24th April, Gilpin H. C., 4th May, and Burfield R. J., 7th May. Lance Corporal Hartard G. W. to be Corporal with effect from 7th May. The following to be U/Lance Corporals with effect from 13th June : Signalmen Milligan W., Lipscombe E. and Belton T.

Medals.—Sergeant Walker H. S. Awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (with gratuity).

Marriages.—Sergeant Barlow R. to Florence Rita Knight, at Dover, on 4th July.

Births.—To Sergeant and Mrs. F. R. Goble, a daughter, Margaret Rose, on 31st May. To Lance Corporal and Mrs. S. F. Bruton, a son, Charles Michael, on 14th June.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

August.

General.—Congratulations to Lieutenant D. A. Pringle, Royal Signals, on being chosen to represent Great Britain in the Modern Pentathlon at the Olympic Games, Berlin, in August, 1936.

No. 2 and 3 Companies are being amalgamated on the 13th July with Lieutenant Danby as O.C. of the combined Companies.

In the Kent County Annual Agricultural Show, held at Canterbury on the 8th, 9th and 10th July, Corporal Cowell, on " Mary," was entered for the Open Jumping, and although not winning any Cups, put up a very creditable performance in beating quite a few of the cracks. We are steadily losing the horses, several having been taken by other Units for polo ponies. I am afraid even Tom Webster in his wildest imagination could not imagine " Biff " as a polo pony.

Promotions.—Hearty congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Fegan on his appointment to that rank, also to Lance Corporal Collins and Lance Corporal Hodgson on drawing the annas for their leadership.

Discharges.—Signalman Shepherd and Driver Rothwell to " Civvy Street."

Cricket.—Congratulations to Lieutenant Gordon and Lance Corporal Lundie on being selected for the Corps. As the Corps only scored 14 against the R.A.S.C., I have not plucked up the courage to ask them how many runs they contributed towards that huge total.

Unit's Agonies.—Wac., 5th Divisional Signal Company. Sorry, only one stork—a bouncing baby boy. What shall we call him ?

HAPPY.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Training of the attached personnel has certainly been the big feature during the last month. I must say that they worked very hard and were always keen to learn something new, which was a great help to the instructors concerned, who, I am sure, must have also enjoyed these little trips to the seaside. Alas, all good things must come to an end, and they have now left us for a period of training at Shorncliffe.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Taylor and family from Catterick, Lance Corporals McKeer, Hodgins and Taylor from " A " Corps Signals. We hope that their stay in Canterbury will be pleasant.

Late Arrivals.—Seventeen N.C.O.s and men from 3rd Medium Brigade R.A. who want to know all there is to know about the No. 1 Set.

Departures.—2nd Lieutenant A. J. Leahy, Royal Signals, Corporal Camp and Lance Corporal McKeer with 10th Infantry Brigade Section for training at Shorncliffe. We hope that the weather clerk will play the game. Signalman Horton to " Civvy Street " with good prospects of employment. We hope to hear from you again, " Hort."

Things We Should Like to Know.—Why has the N.C.O. i/c Check Parade got to use sign language when coming to a certain name ? Who are the two professional footballers who recently arrived in Canterbury ? (It may work.)

Congratulations.—These must be given to Signalman (Geordie) Hindmarch on passing his Driving Test, and also working the double by getting his feet well under the table. I wonder how many instalments have been paid ?

Marriages.—Nil, but I have been told that Mr. Drage has the situation well under control up to the time of writing.

Trooping.—The dreaded " Provisional Warning " has at last arrived, and what a bag it has collected. R.S.M. Noonan, Lance Sergeant Wellock (of cricket fame), Corporal Evans (*our master-cook*—Egypt please note), Corporal Camp and Lance Corporals McKeer, Jacob and Sullings. How many of them will go ?

Agony.—To Gerrard. Do you read the WIRE ? I am still waiting for a reply. Patsy.

Malta Signal Section. Re your query of March, '36. The inventory has now to be amended—shall be passing Malta during coming " Trooper." " Jacques."

Legend.—Have you passed the swimming test ?

THREE CO.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

Being only eleven strong (just a football side), one would think we'd nothing to talk about ! Don't believe it, we're all " Live Wires " here.

Having fixed up the O.T.C. from Cambridge in our Mess for a fortnight, they most nobly acted as our hosts to a grand spree the night prior to their departure—and, Oh ! Boys—What a Night.

The game was attended by some fifty or sixty players, including our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., Acting-Adjutant, Captain J. J. Duvivier, and our O.C. No. 3 Company, Lieutenant C. C. Danby.

The kick-off started with a sumptuous dinner (married members were in their glory !), followed by appropriate toasts and speeches from the O.T.C., C.S.M. (acting for Colonel Portway, unavoidably absent) and Colonel Parsons.

Entertainment, much appreciated, followed from O.T.C. and Mess members, chief scorers on our side being : R.Q.M.S. Payne, recitations on " Babette " and " The Girl I Kissed on the Stairs," also a duet with C.Q.M.S. Fegan, " Watchman, What of the Night ? " Lance Sergeant Fee, a recitation on " Spottie " —very pathetic—everyone brought to tears and beers.

Messrs. Wellock and Cowell completed our team with Good Shots.

Later, when excitement flagged, the famous " Puncher " Fee decided to sell a " Soldier's kit." Socks, comb and slacks went at " Whiz-Bang " prices. At least, Mr. Danby, Sergeant Taylor and O.T.C. (C.S.M.) Dykes would think so !

It was a jolly good evening. Thank you, O.T.C.

By the way, there's an S.O.S. for them just handed in : " Will the new raincoat belonging to our R.Q.M.S. kindly return to Canterbury as early as possible, as his owner is dry inside but wet outside."

Snopshots.—Sergeant Taylor joined us this month from Catterick and makes us just full-team strength (not counting, of course, family).

Our Tennis Court is now solid and firm. Tips on erecting Tennis nets, etc., supplied free by our Farrier Staff-Sergeant.

This month's problems. What is " C.B.H." and " E.B.H." ?

B. B. H.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

June ! The month of roses, inspections and raspberries. The month when a stealthy staff at Records, reminded by the brilliant sunshine of tropical climates, winter cruises, and the like, take a personal interest in us all, and as our names are called out by the leader, chant in unison in doleful tones " India," followed after an impressive pause, by " It is Kismet." At the time of writing the following have taken part in this " old-world " custom, and will, in due course, participate in the annual England to India Boat Race. It is interesting to note that the " entries " include several " English native record holders " : Sergeant Clarke C. ; Lance Sergeant Welsby B. ; Corporals Coles H. and Carruthers ; Lance Corporals Godly, Macey and Ransom.

This month we have pleasure in recording our appreciation of the very determined efforts made by our P.R.I. and his hard-working committee to produce, almost out of the hat, as it were, a delightful programme for our Annual Sports Week-end. Everything passed off according to plan, and with meticulous accuracy. Nothing had been forgotten, and the events were so arranged that, notwithstanding our depleted numbers, everyone was given a fair chance to arrive at the winning post if he so desired. The chief results were as follows :

100 YARDS : Signalman Wilson D. D.
220 YARDS : Signalman Wilson D. D.
440 YARDS : Signalman Haughton.
LONG JUMP : Signalman Yarnell.
HIGH JUMP : Corporal Webb.
CHILDREN'S RACE : Girls under 8 years, Betty Wilson ; Boys under 8 years, John Smith ; Girls over 8 years, Jacqueline Archbold ; Boys over 8 years, Philip Harding.
PUTTING THE SHOT : Driver Fear.
WRESTLING ON HORSEBACK : Driver McDonald.
MUSICAL CHAIRS (Mounted) : Driver Tiltman.

SLOW CYCLE RACE : Sergeant Dodds.
LADIES' RACE : Miss Sawyer.
BAND RACE : Signalman Marshall.
TUG-OF-WAR :
Senior v. Junior N.C.O.s : Junior N.C.O.s.
Signalman v. Drivers : Drivers.

In the evening, following the Sports, a very enjoyable dance was held, and having recently seen the P.R.I. smoking a large cigar, we rather imagine the dance was a profitable one. A record number attended, and included many welcome visitors from Air Contingent Signals (S.R.). We were specially pleased to see Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, M.B.E., T.D. (S.R.), their Commanding Officer. We should also like to thank the Corps Dance Band for their very excellent programme of music played during the evening.

On Sunday morning, 5th July, at the Unit Church Parade at St. Mark's Church, the service was accompanied by the Corps Band. Later we enjoyed a delightful programme of music, played to us under the direction of Mr. Ricketts. We were very pleased to see Colonel H. C. B. Wemyss, D.S.O., M.C., who was accompanied by Mrs. Wemyss and family, again in our midst. The Commanding Officer gave permission for the public to be admitted to the barracks, with the result that some 250 visitors also enjoyed the concert.

On Sunday evening we listened to the first special Children's Concert, which was organised by Captain Jennings, with the able assistance of Mr. Ricketts. There was a record attendance of children, all of whom received a small gift of sweets from the P.R.I. The children appeared to enjoy the music thoroughly, and also the songs, sung specially for them by the Male Voice Choir.

On Tuesday, 7th July, the Sergeants' Mess provided us with a second innovation, namely an "At Home," on the sports field, with out-door games—tennis, archery, clock golf, tenniquoit, etc.—to amuse us. This was a most successful function and was much appreciated.

So ended Sports Week-end, 1936. One point we should like remembered for next year was the success of the Unit Tea, so excellently served by the N.A.A.F.I. This, we consider, was due to tea being served inside the permanent buildings and not in tents on the sports field.

W.

Sergeants' Mess.

General.—During the month the Unit Sports were held. For a change, the weather was most satisfactory. Although the attendance was not as good as in normal times, those who were present enjoyed themselves in the usual manner. We must congratulate Sergeant Dodds on winning the Slow Bicycle Race. Considering that all the cycles used came out of his store, we think he should have been handicapped to the extent of riding without a saddle or minus one pedal. However, like the proverbial tortoise, "he crept with it."

The day after the Sports, the Sergeants' Mess held an "At Home" to the Officers and their wives. Again the weather was favourable, at least until the show was finished, and then we had our daily downpour. Games consisted of tennis, clock golf, tenniquoits and archery. This latter branch of sport proved more difficult than was anticipated, only two hits being registered. Both Mrs. Benson and the Adjutant (Lieutenant Hill), succeeded in scoring, but only once. More interest appeared to be centred round the clock golf where, to the amazement of our professionals, ladies and children holed "in one" with ease. The Committee responsible for the arrangements are to be congratulated on the results, and we now look forward to more functions of a similar nature.

In addition to the remarks passed on both the Sports and "At Home," much comment was made on the excellency of the Corps Band. Its presence undoubtedly was a great attraction. The performances were extremely good and very much appreciated.

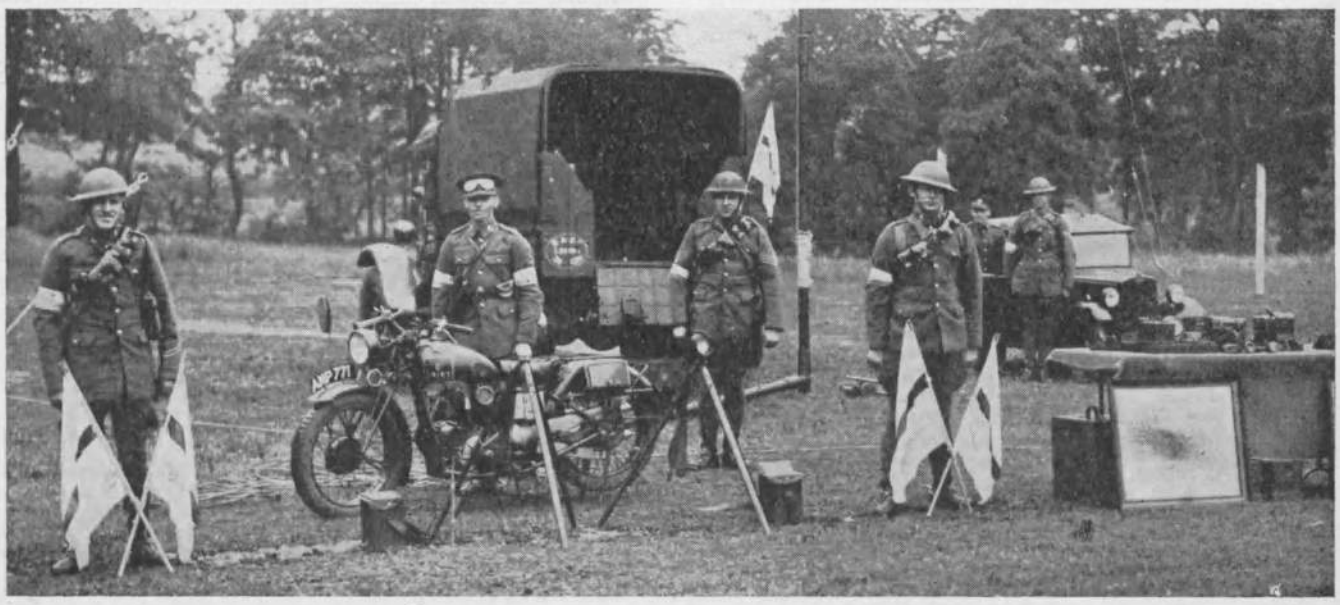
Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

July.

In June, we had the pleasure of taking part in a "General Army At Home," held at Palace Barracks, Holywood. It being our first experience, we had some difficulty in choosing items for public exhibition. We eventually chose a Medium Wireless Car with 48 ft. mast and aerial, Mobile Electrician's Shop, some samples of Fitter's and I.M.s trade test work, and decided to give an exhibition of line telegraphy.

The day turned out very warm. Quite a lot of the public visited our stand, some merely to gaze at us, whilst others asked searching and often embarrassing questions. One old lady, after viewing the line instruments, gave us our first "shock" by carefully sending the Morse alphabet on the "SX" and "DX." Another lady, after watching the Douglas engine at work, asked several technical questions concerning its construction. It later transpired, after our Corporal Electrician had answered the queries, that she had worked for the firm concerned for a considerable period. Although very enjoyable, we were not



The Royal Corps of Signals' Stand, one of the many interesting displays which will be on view, depicting various aspects of Army life.
[By courtesy, *The Belfast Newsletter*.

sorry when the day drew to a close. The Foreman of Signals, by courtesy of the " Belfast Newsletter," has supplied the accompanying photograph.

We have also provided communications for internal and external defence, and spent a glorious night with the T.A., co-operating with the Royal Navy, sinking imaginary ships in Belfast Lough.

The outstanding event of the month has been the arrival of the new wireless equipment. The W/T. Staff are pleased, but the " Q " Staff are a little overworked.

Our Line Section, which is still scattered around the district, has produced some excellent work, and the old communication system has been improved considerably. In fact, we have been complimented this month and are feeling self-satisfied.

Promotions.—Congrats. to Lance Corporal Davidson J. on receiving the pay for his appointment.

Postings.—Lance Corporal Swift H. from Ballykinler to Chisledon to undergo vocational training as an Electric Wireman.

Draft.—The annual list arrived this week. Here are the names of those provisionally warned : INDIA : Sergeants Packman and Toogood, Lance Corporals Turner and Davidson J., Signalmen Rowden, McCluskie, Oliver T., Laws, Breslow, Twiddy, Maddison, Hutchison, Davidson A., Davidson T., Yard and Faulkner. EGYPT : Signalman Worboys. MALAYA : Signalman Inskip. CHINA : Signalman Lawson. So we are losing quite a few.

Items of Interest.—Signalman Smart and Smyth, who are now serving in Singapore, wish to be remembered to the Company, in particular, Londonderry and Armagh. Congrats. to both on getting a B.I.

Dunree.—With the exit of June, section routine returns to normal. It is still good to be alive now that the weather has kindly decided to act like summer. During the past few weeks we have had several visitors from Belfast. To them we extend a hearty welcome and also to all others who may visit our station in the future.

Lieutenant (I.P.C.) C. S. Roberts, M.B.E., accompanied by C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Catt, lost no time in paying his first visit to inspect the intricate workings of the Unit. In the near future, Dunree will vibrate with the various sounds of hammers, picks, saws, and chiefly the groans of the line party as they juggle with the various heavy telegraph poles, etc. We operators hope they can take it.

Many will be surprised to hear of the intermittent illness of the one and only " Zube " Davidson. Tormented by his old tonsils, he has been in and out of dock like a rabbit in a hole. Our Sergeant's bunk is beginning to look like a big game hunter's drawing room. He shot a huge badger not long ago, and the lovely skin ornaments the afore-mentioned habitation.

Nobby, who has been so much on the launch of late, walks with the usual gait of a deep sea rover. Perhaps I had better mention that Dutchy twice fed the dozen or so fish which hide in the Lough. A snap of the Section, taken after the King's Birthday Parade is published with these notes. We regret that Zube's cheery face is absent.



Left to Right (back row) : Signalmen Smith A., Seager D., Slavin V.
Left to right (front row) : Signalman Laws E., Lance-Corporal Clarke G., Sergeant Toogood and Signalman Holland. The two dogs are Jack and Joey.

SIGNALMEN!!

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We were highly complimented by the Colonel, Royal Artillery, on the first class show (his own words), made by our spectacular gardens. Esprit de Corps.

Arrivals.—(Temporarily), Signalman Smith, Anno Domini, from Belfast, until the end of the shoot. The local inn has felt his presence more than once, and we will be very sorry when the time comes for him to depart, because he never ceases to amuse us by his witty remarks and jokes.

There are no departures this time.

Sports.—Bathing, early morning tennis, boat rowing, and fishing are our chief pleasures here.

Odds and Ends.—Which Signalman is known as the " Lough Swilly Mannequin ? " (No prizes offered—for amusement only).

" Tancy " Lee, ex N.I.S.C., " What about that P.C. ? "—Dutchy.

SO-LONG JORDIE.

Magilligan.—The training period brought us a spot of continuous watch, and also an extra operator from Derry. Our new arrival brought an increase in rebate from the N.A.A.F.I. We send our congrats. to Smart, in Singapore, and regret that we shall not be on the boat this year.

Conclusion.—Until next month.

HECME.

Do YOU belong to the Signals Association ?

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The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

INDIAN SIGNAL CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

21st June.

General.—We are at present in the midst of practice Ceremonial Parades in preparation for the King's Birthday Parade next week. The only blot on the skyline is the possibility that it may rain on the 23rd now that the monsoons have broken. Anyway, we'll hope for the best.

Well, this month has not been too slack for some of us, what with concerts, dances, etc. First of all we gave a benefit concert and, I'm pleased to say, everyone came forward and helped to make the whole show a great success in all ways. The show was so much enjoyed by the Unit, that we are to put it on the following week for the Station. The whole cast, under the clever and tactful supervision of Sergeant Wagg, worked very hard, indeed. Pam Trapmore's dance went well with the audience. The " scream " of the night was " Mrs. 'Iggins " (Sergeant Wagg), when the plumbers, hammering in the bathroom, brought the plaster down off the ceiling right into her steak and kidney pudding. Mention must be made of the plumber (Lance Corporal Knox), he made a typical plumber (with all due respect, George). Another rather difficult part as the " Blind Chinaman " was in the capable hands of Signalman Lymn. He played the Chinaman's dreams very effectively. Mrs. Fishwick then gave the " Cads " a treat in a Slave Dance before the Sultan of Great Dimensions. Oh, we must not forget Emma (R.S.M. Trapmore) and 'Erbert (Sergeant Lombard). Six foot Emma took her four foot odd 'Erbert to see the lions feed, and, as a result, got him a job as lion tamer. Well, I'll leave you to guess the rest, but the audience roared at the plight of poor 'Erbert, who was only concerned with the roar of the lions. Then young Walt. Lombard as the Kid went into the den to show how lions should be tackled. Sergeants Page and Matthew then gave us an Egyptian Dance. How they kept a straight face through it I don't know. I'm sure all of us agree that many thanks are due to Sergeant Wagg for the success of the whole show.

This week we held another one of our Unit Whist Drives and Dances, which in spite of the rains, turned out a greater success than expected. On this occasion we had to hire an outside band because two of our band are at present taking leave in India.

Departures.—Signalman Tyler has left us for " A " Corps Signals, Upper Topa. In him we have lost one of the Unit's best tennis players and a good cricketer. Corporal Lennon, after a short spell here has returned to " B " Corps, Karachi. In him the Corporals' Room has lost a " Deadly Gripper." Sergeant Bramwell, posted to Peshawar District Signals. We are sorry to lose him, he was popular with all and a great asset to our Rugby team. S.M. (Foreman of Signals) King left us last month for transfer to the Home Establishment.

Arrivals.—The following are welcomed to the Unit from Field Units. Signalman Hyder from Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat ; Signalman Hooker from " A " Corps Signals ; Lance Sergeant Dadswell from Peshawar District Signals ; Lance Sergeant Farlow from 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Congratulations.—Still many more " sweats on " are being realised. Congratulations to the following : Lance Corporals Knox, Chambers and Hampton on losing that " U/," to U/L/Corporal Scanlan and Davies D. upon getting their foot on the ladder of fame and to Sergeant Kilford getting rid of the " L/ " and Lance Sergeant Gourlay gaining admittance to the Sergeants' Mess.

Also congratulations to the following on gaining higher ratings : Sergeant Snow to E.F., " A " i, and Lance Corporals Marshall and Paling on gaining their Clerk, Class ii.

Who, What, Why and Wherefore.—Who moved his bed because a sun spot was tickling his feet ?

Where does all the money come from on a Wednesday night Whist Drive and Dance.

R.I.P.

Sergeants' Mess.

This should be the merry month of monsoon, but so far it has only succeeded in pulling our leg ; rain has been heard of in far distant lands, read about in the " Statesman," but only very slightly felt where it is most wanted, i.e., here. However, we know it will come and the clouds and few showers we have had succeeded in lowering the temperature (but increasing the stickiness). So we can only hope for a spot of spots soon.

We have had sufficient water to make the lawn into a green carpet and for Sergeant Nicholson's plants and bulbs to peep through the earth and coyly ask permission to get up out of the flower-bed.

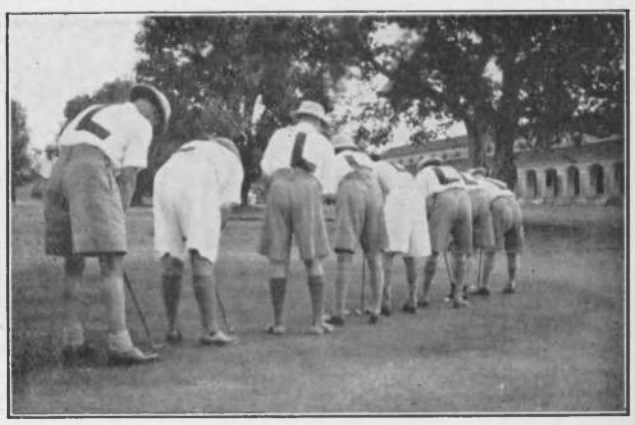
Tongues will " wagg " wherever man is found and the penalty of mucking abaht with a Concert is to be dubbed a Gripper. He has been spoon-fed in consequence for the whole month. The monthly sweat as to " WHO IS the GRIPPER " provides a first-class gloat to many of us—FOR ALL HAVE SINNED !

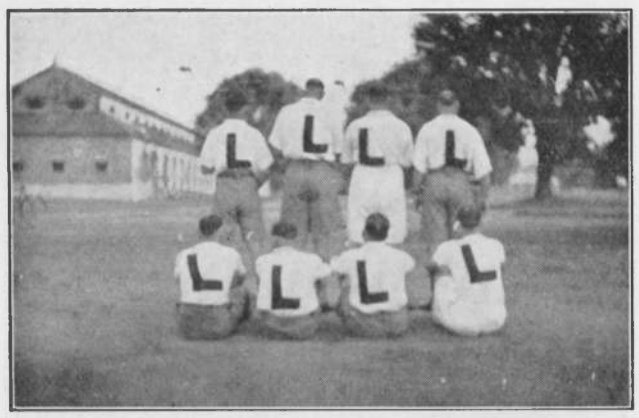
Impromptu dances in the Mess, with music provided by the Panatrope, have proved a welcome and successful idea. There are sure to be more because the same entertainments crowd is functioning for the next quarter.

We have been rather too busy during the month to think about Mess shows. For one thing it has been hot, but mainly because our Concert Party, which has just put on two successful shows, mainly consists of Sergeants or the families thereof. This seems to constitute a record and yet the talent lies hidden beneath their soldierly breasts—who'd a thought it ?

Many rehearsals, much humming, high-stepping, and hair-tearing (for the producer), has resulted in a most enjoyable







Benefit Concert being given in the Regimental Theatre. A sum of Rupees 300 has been sent to a most deserving cause in consequence.

The indescribable restlessness of Sergeant Bramwell L., mentioned in last month's notes, has shaken his very Corps (should that be " core ") for he has since left us, after a spell of 9¼ years in the Depot, to join Peshawar District Signals. We wish him many miles of trekking 'midst mighty mountains and happy days; we can only presume that he intends to add " Tossing the Khyber " to his many athletic achievements. In his place we greet Lance Sergeant " Swanee " Dadswell, who threw his short puttees away in the Jhelum as he crossed over. He retained his chaplies because these articles carry a certain dignity here in " The Centre." Sergeant " Tommy " Tucker has also migrated to us from Trimulgherry. We wish both him and Mrs. Tucker a good feast of Depot delights.

One ought really to write quite a lot about golf as it is on the menu for all meals—and also on the verandah—but one has only to buy the " Times of India " to get a complete " Who's Who " of those who are in the upper ten of this Royal and Ancient Game. That the " Tatler " is sending a special correspondent to Jubbulpore is merely a rumour, but an article from modest medal winners would surely make good reading among Court circles. Suffice it to say that the learners are easily distinguishable from the upper ten as the accompanying snaps will verify. The back views you will agree, are of extreme interest.

The Mess floor is being re-laid with red cement and at one time it was suggested that it would be an excellent idea to hand down to posterity Mutt's achievements (of which we hear so little), by inlaying them in the cement, but the idea was squashed because such glory ought not to be trampled under foot of men.

And so we don our mackintoshes and stand by to watch our kit becoming mildewed.

NORTHERN COMMAND ..... ***INDIAN ARMY.***

" A " Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

General.—The annual brain clearing campaign being still in progress, most of us are up to our eyes in work. Even the Details Company, who are doing all the duties, are complaining. Why, I don't know, but who cares. There are only two more weeks to go and, by that time, there should not be an O.S.iii in the Unit. We are all praying that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has arranged for the extra money in the current year's Army estimates.

The monsoons have broken and everything is covered in mud. It's strange how one complains about the stones under foot in the dry weather and prays for more stones when it rains so as to avoid stepping in the mud.

Social.—Our weekly whist drives and dances are proving very popular and the attendances are increasing every week. Whether to dance or drink beer, I don't know, as I never go. We have even had a slide made which is shown on the screen twice nightly at the Jhika Gali Picture House, proclaiming the social attractions of Upper Topa.

A handicap tennis tournament open to all ranks has been well patronised and all entrants are putting up a stern fight. Numerous bets have been taken between the Div. and the Corps, and we must admit, very grudgingly, that the Div. have some good players. Personally, I think the result will never be known because the Courts will soon be sliding down the " Khud." Another item which has proved very popular is a combined football, hockey and tennis competition between teams composed of the various Sections. The O.S.I.s have managed to get as far as the finals in both football and tennis and the finals will be very keenly contested.

Promotions and Appointments.—Lance Sergeant Butcher A. to be Sergeant. Lance Corporal Wright F. to be Corporal. U/Lance Corporal Cordner N. to be Lance Corporal. Signalman Lowman C. to be U/Lance Corporal. Much more of this and the " Blue Book " will have a larger circulation than the " Daily Mail ".

An Extra Tall One.—A certain C.O. had a dog which followed him on every parade and never passed a man on inspection who was at fault. One day, the C.O. was inspecting a parade and the dog stopped in front of a certain man. Seeing this, the C.O. re-inspected the man but could find no fault. This happened three times and the dog still remained in front of the man. It was found later that the man had matches in the back of his numerals. (I'll leave you to guess who told this one).

Camera Club.—Lance Corporal Baker and Signalman Morris, who are at present running the Camera Club are to be congratulated on winning a number of prizes and a " Best Exhibit " at the Annual Art Exhibition, held at Bharian. The newspaper report stated that the exhibits were of very high standard. Lance Sergeant Lloyd, who also had a number of entries, did very well, and we understand that the number sold will just pay for his last infra-red filter. Signalman Johnstone of the 2nd Cavalry Troop, who is attached to us for a Course, obtained the only prize in the Portrait Group with a water colour of a favourite film star. We have yet to decide whether it was the portrait or the film star which biased the judges in Johnstone's favour. (The portrait brought a very high price in Murree at a private sale).

Echoes of the Courses.—Who was the man who wanted to bury his D.iii when told to earth it ?

Who was the man who said that the 120 Watt Set was put in the big box for demonstration purposes and that it went out as a No. 1 Set ?

How long will it take a creeping cell to catch up to a moving coil if given an hour's start ?

What are two ohms in parallel ? A semi-detached villa ?

That's all until next month.

RENARD.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Saturday, 27th June.

General.—At the time of writing, June is practically over. As this is one of the hottest months in Rawalpindi we are not sorry. June in Pindi is not appreciated quite so much as it is in England, but in spite of the hot weather the Unit, in general, still continues to flourish. Technical training is carried on daily, and everybody is gradually managing to get a spot of leave in the hills.

We sent our Hockey team to the Murree Hills to play in the Murree Brewery Hockey Tournament, but we were unfortunate to be beaten in the final, after what the newspapers described as a keenly contested and very even game. We were up against our old friends/enemies the Hampshires. (See Sports Notes).

King's Birthday Parade.—His Majesty, The King-Emperor's Birthday was celebrated on 23rd June by a Garrison Parade on the Brigade Parade Ground. Royal Signals were represented on this Parade by five Companies (three dismounted, one mounted and one M.T.), one of the dismounted Companies being formed of Indian Ranks of " A " Corps Signals. They all maintained the reputation of the Corps.

Movements.—Lieutenant J. R. G. Walker has proceeded on two months' leave in India, and Lieutenants P. M. P. Hobson and C. D. Gardiner have gone on two months' leave ex-India.

Lance Corporal Lavelle, Signalmen Munden and French have proceeded to 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot, for the training period. Signalman Little has been posted to 2nd

Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, and Signalmen Butler and Cochrane W. to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Major L. B. Nicholls, who has arrived from Kohat to take over Command of No. 1 Company, and to Corporal Craggs, who came from Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat.

Education.—The following are to be congratulated on obtaining their First Class Certificates of Education: Sergeant Sunderland, Signalmen Deakin, McGrattan and Barry, whilst Signalmen Hockaday and Munden must be congratulated on obtaining their Second Class Certificates.

Languages.—Lance Corporals Carn and Dew and Signalmen Fitzpatrick and Howard have all passed the British Service Urdu Test. They are now qualified to converse freely with the "Cha' Wallah" on the subject of "Kharab Cha'."

Extensions.—We do not know if Signalman Hall R. of this Unit anticipated detectives waiting for him when he arrived at Southampton, but instead of going on the Home Establishment this season he has extended his tour in India for another five years. Lance Corporal Woolls and Signalman Lumber have extended their tour for a further year. However, it speaks well for service in India which so many people at home seem to dread each year when the trooping season comes along. Signalmen Hall and Gibbs have also extended their service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Promotions.—After passing witty remarks for many years on the subject of "Quarterblokes," Sergeant Oakes F. has now become a C.Q.M.S. himself, and we offer our congratulations on his rise. Lance Sergeant Ellison D. has also had a step up the ladder, and is now promoted Sergeant. Congratulations to him also.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Sergeants' Mess is a busy place these days. Having the senior N.C.O.s of No. 5 (A.C.) Squadron R.A.F. attached to us, and most of the Warrant Officers of the Rawalpindi Arsenal, the dining room has a "Maison Lyons" appearance at meal times. The Ordnance Club entertained us to a Games Tournament on 23rd June, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Pindi Personalities.—The Provost Sergeant who had his "bike" stolen.

ONEDIV.

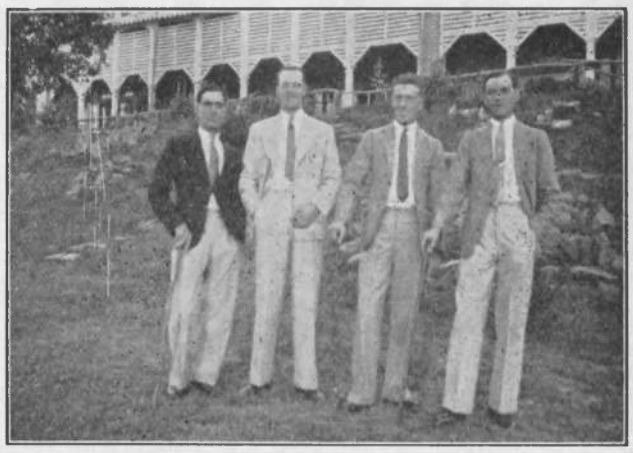
1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

26th June.

Everyone in the Troop is engaged in trying to keep cool at the present time. This is on account of a period of rather sticky weather which has visited Risalpur during the past three weeks. The chief cry to be heard in this connection is, "We don't mind it hot but we do object to it being sticky." Nevertheless, there are no cases of sickness in the Unit and everyone is looking and feeling quite well. Of course, recreation plays a big part in helping to keep us fit and smiling and we are very grateful to our Commanding Officer for taking tennis teams in his car to visit Signal Units at such places as Cherat, Peshawar and Kohat. To these Units we extend our thanks for being made so welcome and comfortable. These trips have been very popular and greatly appreciated, the only snag being that the car only holds six and not twenty. Swimming seems to be the most popular pastime at present and is the only exercise one can take without perspiring. The Station now boasts a swimming bath but our favourite resort is Jalala about 22 miles out. Here we spend a very pleasant and sometimes strenuous afternoon about once a fortnight. Our costumes are not what one would expect at Brighton, and one of the party sporting the slippiest of slips was the cause of the following remark, "Hi! Wrango, that costume of yours has slipped its headcollar." During our last trip our O.R.S., just for a bet, or swank, walked into the river fully dressed and, for a few seconds, all that could be seen was a topee floating on the water. Our perky Unit Tennis Club challenged the members of the Sergeants' Mess to a match, six pairs a side, and got away with it twice. Youth will, of course, be served. These little "At Homes" are very enjoyable.

Our Junior N.C.O.s' Mess organised a bus trip to Upper Topa for the Whitsun holidays, putting up at Sandes Home and, judging by the snaps which accompany these notes, everyone had quite a nice time.

The Hockey team is doing very well in the Station Hot Weather Tournament, which is being played in three separate pools on the knock-out system, the winners of each pool playing off for the



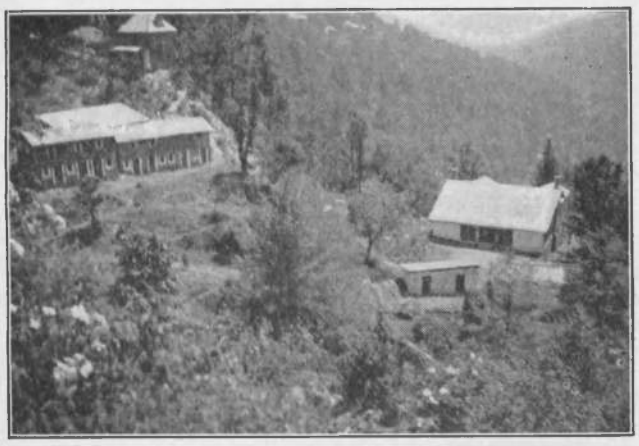


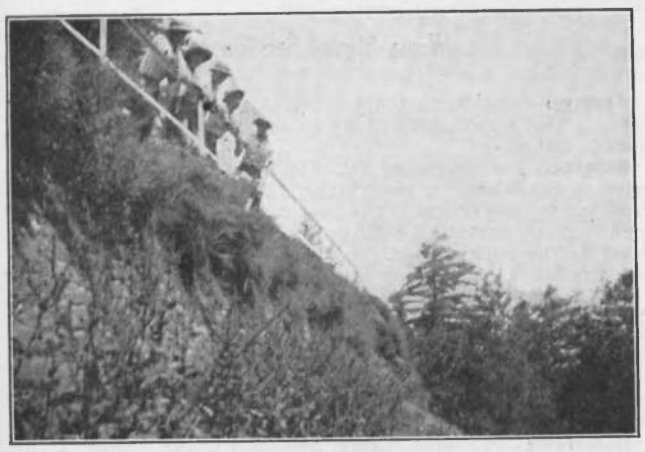


Challenge Trophy. We have just won the first pool by beating the 7th Field Battery, R.A., Nowshera, by 1—0. We have now played our way into the final of the second pool and are due to meet Headquarter Squadron, 14th/20th Hussars, next week. We are also in the final of the second pool of the Perry Football Cup, and hope to set the Station talking by beating "I" Battery, R.H.A. in the final match.

Our hearty congratulations are extended to C.S.M. Lewis H. J., late of this Unit, on attaining his crown (shake up) and to Sergeant Longhurst E. on attaining that rank.

RISI.







Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

9th July.

Introduction.—Whoever thought of such a word ?

General.—The first-half Courses at Landi Kotal have been completed and there are quite a number of individuals looking forward to some extra " pice." Our Inter-Section Hockey Tournament came to a successful close this week with " J " Section, I.O.R.s, worthy winners, and Headquarters and " A " Section, B.O.R.s, a close second. It is hoped that another tournament will be run whilst the second Course is in progress at Landi Kotal.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome Signalmen Kelly and Buchanan to the Unit, the former on transfer from 2nd Battalion Welch Regiment, and the latter from Waziristan District Signals, in exchange for Signalman Done J. C.S.M. Stainer H., after serving about seventeen years on the various frontiers of India, has proceeded to Calcutta for a change of scenery in order to undergo a course of Vocational Training prior to trying his luck in civilian life.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate U/Lance Corporals Gardner and Gentle on placing their feet on the Corps Roster and Signalmen Ricketts and Sergeant on attaining unpaid rank.

Births.—Our congratulations are also extended to Sergeant Instructor Dakin A. E. C., our " Schoolie," on the addition of a daughter to his family.

Vital Questions.—Who goes to Drosh this year ? Who will be lucky enough to get payment leave ? Will " Cheddar " go on leave in '37 ? (We doubt).

S.O.S.—From D.D. to J.I. Have all 2 Company, " A " Corps, got writer's cramp ?

Sergeants' Mess.—Having safely negotiated the third hurdle, we are now feeling quite safe at offering our mite to the readers of THE WIRE. It requires an effort, but we cannot help feeling how delighted, both ourselves and other readers would be, if more items from Messes appeared. Feeling that it is still a little warm, Risalpur Cav. Troop came over to play us tennis and prove how cool the weather was ? We are pleased to relate they did both, although after a hard tussle we managed to pip them at tennis, but they won the perspiration stakes by many lengths. However, it was a very pleasant evening and we are expecting more later.

Who's Who.—Our " Who's Who " now being completed, we herewith send our last contribution, and hope it has proved of interest to readers :

No. 18. " Our James," a monument of the N.W.F.P. Visited " Mons Barracks " in 1935, became an expert at running through cable ?

No. 19. A pony, a dinty, a dancer. Previously toured the Near East.

No. 20. A relic of the Tudor reign. Gates during this period must have been prominent.

No. 21. Colchester, Palestine, Iraq, Aldershot and India. Moulin Rouge Mullins, A.E.C. he hopes to be.

No. 22. M.B.E. A marine of the past, a marine of the present (sometimes), Bar-ry of Spike Island.

No. 23. Depot D.I. Bulford N.Y.D. Peshawar Lineman. No place for spiders.

No. 24. Mott'o : Mentions, India, Drosh, clothes. Says roll on this trooper.

No. 25. One of the twins, doesn't often take Stock-ton.

No. 26. T'other twin, but with a Biff.

No. 27. Bar-low, Bar-high, once over it will be a Sergeant.

No. 28. A spud, but not a Murphy, a Khyber artist and limpet.

No. 29. Should have been 10 but only just joined us. We think he might be well known in Jubbulpore.

Waziristan District Signals.

H.Q. Section, Razmak.

May.

In the last issue of THE WIRE, mention was made of the Section moving out to Mir Ali on 7th March, for a Training Exercise. " Coming events cast their shadows, etc.," the Section again moved out on 18th April for the real thing, to Mir Ali. Considerable praise is due to everybody for the smooth way in which the move out took place. The organisation was perfect and all ranks responded in the true Waziristan manner. The stay at Mir Ali was, although short, sufficient to cancel H.Q. Section's move to Razmak for a few days.

On the 28th of April the move up was accomplished, again in a very efficient manner. D.I. Khan was fairly warm at the time and the change to cooler climes was greatly appreciated by all. Once again H.Q. have settled down to a few months in Razmak, in their old quarters, side by side with their friendly rivals, Razmak Section.

Somehow, this time of the year seems to be devoted to arrivals and departures and the Section have had their usual share. The last draft from " Home " arriving in rather hot weather.

The most notable departure of late has been that of Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, M.C., Royal Signals, who has left Waziris-

tan for " B " Corps Signals, Karachi. The best of good wishes go with this very popular C.O. and Waziristan District Signals wish him every success in his new sphere.

At the same time, the heartiest of welcomes is extended to our new C.O., Major F. W. S. Jourdain, who assumed command on 21st March.

It is not the purpose of this scribe to dwell on sport. Notes on that essential part of the Section's life appear elsewhere, but attention should be drawn to the able manner in which the Section has responded to the call of Captain T. A. R. Scott, in the matter of hockey, football, etc., particularly hockey.

Old " Wazirdist " enthusiasts of hockey will be glad to learn that the Section Hockey Team is as strong, if not stronger, than ever. At the time of going to press, the Section have high hopes. However, more anon, see Sports Notes.

Enormous literary activity was witnessed last month, several bookworms were seen diving for the famous " Blue Book." Congratulations to Sergeants Lacey, Collins and Roberts; to Lance Sergeant " Tich " Wright, Corporal Poole (has the drought lifted yet, Stan ?) and to Lance Corporal Higgins. Roll on the next !

Departure on 11th May: Signalman Vercoe to Wana by N.T.C. to Jandola, and thence by light railway to Wana. Did you find the train journey comfortable ?

Congratulations to Signalman Martin on achieving the almost impossible. Shades of Grippers ! Well done, Stan, it is not so easy to win the famous shield.

The first Detachment arrived on the 2nd June. They seemed glad to get away from the heat for a spell. Never mind, Plain Station service counts for a lot in later years. " Now when I was in—bla-bla—."

S.O.S. to Units at home and abroad and to " Tommy " late of this District. Have you any ivory ticklers or piano breakers, please send this Section one, failing this, " Tommy " why for you no come back this year ?

A pat on the back for Waziristan District Signals. Nearly all our departures for home, etc., inform us that they would give anything to be back in Waziristan. This speaks for itself.

Finally, who reads the " Sunday Sun " ? Old Wazirdists please note if the mail is a bit late getting home that, according to latest information, Razmak is 1,100 miles from railhead and the road is extremely hazardous, so do not blame us.

MAHSUD.

Bannu Signal Section.

May.

Since last the name of Bannu Signal Section appeared in these columns, many changes have taken place. Old faces have gone and new ones have replaced them. Instead of the usual outcasts of Scarborough, we have here now men from Ould Ireland and Aldershot. Although I have never seen Ireland or Aldershot, I'm sure that now I could find my way through either place with ease. Space does not permit of giving all their names, I suggest that the reader writes to one of the " Old 'uns " and enquire for himself.

The Column Training Season is over and the Section returned from the last Column on 21st March, and after the usual checks, settled down for an easy summer. However, it was not to be, for in the middle of April some foolish Indian damsel became involved in an affair in Bannu City, and as a result of her indiscretion we were drawn into the dispute. Alarm Schemes and City Columns were practised daily, and we actually began to think that we would be awarded the " Frontier Gong," but after a week of standing-to, the affair just blew over. It was unfortunate that it happened at Eastertide. It meant the sacrificing of the holidays, but the Section bore it bravely and came through the episode smiling.

The families have left us for their usual recuperative visit to the Hills, and the Sergeants' Mess is now doing justice to the name it bears, the Mess Caterer growing stouter daily.

At present we are in the middle of summer, and with the thermometer standing at 118 degrees, one would naturally expect everyone to be suffering from " liver " but, on the contrary, it is pleasing to see the smiling and contented faces of the Section Bright Lights " wise-cracking " their way through life.

The foremost thought in the minds of almost everyone at present, is where to spend privilege leave. Karachi seems to be the popular vote, and, writing from experience, Karachi certainly offers a change from the usual run of frontier soldiering.

An Upgrading Training Course for the Operators of the Section is being conducted by our Second-in-Command, Lieutenant G. E. Aldridge, Royal Signals. Aspiring " higher raters " are now " gripping " us with Training School " shop " talk.

The standard of sport in the Section is decreasing. This is due to the lack of talent required for competing against local teams. However, the results of certain games played act as a stimulus to spur the team on to meet bigger " fish." I hope to be able to record a few achievements in my next contribution to these columns.

We were unfortunate in the Annual All India Jubilee Hockey Tournament, the better half of the team being indisposed. A team was entered, but we were beaten by the Bannu Gents " B " Team to the tune of 9—1. The score, though, does not do justice to the game. We fielded four players who had never played before and surprised everyone by scoring the first goal.

The Waziri Club beat the Bannu Gents " A " Team in the finals and so retain the Cup for a further year.

Now, in conclusion, I would wish all past members of Bannu Signal Section the best of luck wherever they may be.

All communications and commiserations will be welcomed.

Au revoir.

BANNUCHI.

Wana Signal Section.

May.

Apology.—The Section apologises for the long absence of notes in THE WIRE, and will try to send more regular contributions in future.

General.—The upgrading O/S Course is in full swing, there being 15 candidates for their higher rates of pay. The greatest drawback to the Course is the heat during the day, but we get round this by having all outdoor V/T schemes before breakfast, devoting the remainder of the time to lectures during which a welcome break of one hour is allotted for swimming.

Entertainment.—By kind permission of the C.O. and Officers, the Brass Band of the 4/6th Rajputana Rifles played selections for an hour and a half in our lines, a treat which was very much appreciated by all ranks. We hope to hear them again in the near future.

Arrivals.—Sergeant Lacey, Lance Sergeant Yorke, Corporal Bennett and Signalman Vercoe from Headquarters.

Departures.—Sergeant Lacey and Signalman Craddock to Razmak Signal Section and Headquarters respectively.

Hockey.—Our team has been sadly depleted with the loss of such redoubtables as Corporal Barron and Signalman Dewhurst to the Home Establishment, but numerous games have been played during the month and our opponents have more often than not been the R.T.C. Detachment. We have played them seven times and have won five, scoring 21 goals against our opponents' 7. Other results: Sergeants' Mess 3, Sigs. 2; I.O.Rs 2, Sigs. 1; A.T. Company 3, Sigs. 6; Sergeants 1, Sigs. 2; I.O.Rs 3, Sigs. 4; Sappers and Miners 4, Sigs. 2.

Football.—Very few matches have been played as there is only one Section of the R.T.C. to play against, this being an Indian Brigade.

Mail Bag.—Signalman Parks, " How are the four-legged pals, Busty ? "

Banger. " Keep the home fires burning. Punky O.K. Smiler."

WANASIGS.

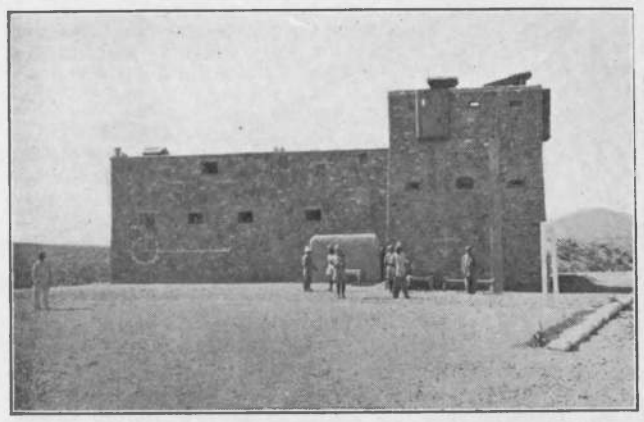
Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Thursday, 2nd July.

General.—Another month over our heads, and so I must once more make an earnest endeavour faithfully to chronicle those all too few things that have happened since last month.

June has really been a wonderful month as far as the weather goes. The last ten or twelve days have been more like spring than summer. However, it is a very welcome break and helps to shorten the summer a lot, for which we are all duly thankful.

The first leave party has rejoined from Upper Topa, looking very fit and brown, and altogether prepared for a few two on and four off's. The second party has left, and are, no doubt, already finding the route from Murree to Topa, via the Tattu Path, after a convivial evening much further than it seemed in the reverse direction. The Second Upgrading Course has just finished, and the candidates are now in the throes of a Trade Testing Board,

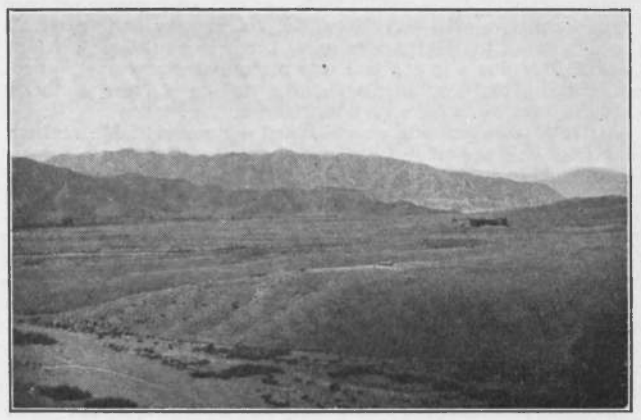


A frontier post, Kurram Valley, held by Kurram Militia. These men were practising semaphore.

so that results should be known by the time notes are due again. Anyhow, here's wishing them all the best of luck and the addition of extra Pice in the near future.

As mentioned in these notes last month, " Instructional Tours" are being run to Parachinar this summer. One took place towards the middle of the month, under arrangements made by our Officiating Commander, Major L. B. Nicholls.

A party twenty strong proceeded on a three days' tour to Parachinar Plain. Parachinar is approximately 117 miles from Kohat, and the round trip entailed a journey of 250 miles. The road is quite good, and follows the Kohat Toi Valley towards Thal, and the Kurram Valley the rest of the way. The tour was the first of its kind and we were all prepared to enjoy it. Nor did we forget that the air on the Afghan border must be cooler than that of Kohat where it had soared to 122° before May was out. We set off at 7 a.m. and were in Thal at 10 a.m., but found it no cooler there, it being only 800 feet higher. We listened to a talk on the recent history of the fort, and spent much time in the large open air bath filled with water of that shade of green which reminded us of the public baths in England. Somehow, the colour was not looked for on the Frontier. At 5 p.m. we were on our way to Arawali and spent the night there. The Kurram River had a flow of muddy water following the recent rain. Arawali is a flattish piece of ground with a wall round, and inside many buildings, hangars, and rows of brick chimneys, ready for use if occupied in force. Housekeepers in the Stations would welcome such fireplaces as stand in ranks and disuse in the open here. Arawali is fitted as an Air Force Station, and is garrisoned by an Indian Company under a British Officer. On arrival we drew our Charpoys, hung our mosquito nets on ropes between the chimneys. Tea, a short twilight, and dusk found us in bed. Breakfast next morning on the verandah of the cookhouse, and shortly after, we were on our way to Parachinar, the broad bed of the Kurram on one side and a row of military posts on the other. To the north of the road, the whole way from Kohat to Parachinar, the land rises in a high and broken plateau of the Tirah, a mysterious country, inhabited by Afridis and Orakzais, fierce and hostile neighbours. After a twenty miles' gradual climb we entered the Parachinar Plain, a great natural amphitheatre with hills on all sides except where the Kurram has worn down its bed. We were met by an Officer who had come down from Parachinar to show us round. Leaving the motor road we were driven to the battered and time worn ruin, Kurram Fort, the spot where, in 1878, General Roberts first met with resistance on his march from Kohat into Afghanistan. It was shelled and taken without difficulty, the enemy retiring over the Plain towards the Peiwar Kotal. Continuing our drive westwards and crossing a record number of nullahs to the mile, we were brought up at Karlaachi Post where the Subedar greeted us by shaking hands all round. To some of us this was the most interesting part of our journey. We were looking into Afghanistan with the boundary scarcely a mile away. The border does not follow the crest of a forbidding range of hills, but runs its course unmarked as far as we could see, across some low-lying ground which forms the entrance to a little valley in the hills and forming, as it were, an entrance to them.



AFGHAN FORT OPPOSITE KHARLAACHI POST, (BRITISH).
The photo shows the Kurram Valley and one of the entrances into British India. It was from here the Afghans attacked in the war of 1919.

Just on the other side of the boundary, as a sort of balance to Karlaachi Post, stands an Afghan Fort. A neglected and decayed piece of architecture. It looks abandoned but holds, we were told, a Company under the command of a Captain who draws 30 Rupees a month pay. The men forming the garrison at present are from Khandahar and beyond, over 300 miles away. They are serving twelve months in this dismal spot, largely forgotten. So they find that pay day does not succeed pay day with anything like the certainty that night follows day. Their uniform is of a material much like thick felt, and is worn all the year round. A high furry cap, jacket tightly buttoned to the neck, loose trousers, puttees and boots is the ensemble. It was no wonder that we did not see them taking the sun. There is no intercourse whatever between the troops on opposite sides of the Frontier. We are very eager to meet them, but they are very suspicious of our motives. Eight miles further on found us at Terimangal, opposite the Peiwar Pass, a harmless looking saddle in the range of hills with a camel track running over passes which are apt to be rather disappointing. They are associated in our minds with invasion, battle and slaughter but, when seen under peaceful conditions, look dull and tame enough. We saw the Peiwar as a steep track meandering up the hillside. The pass is over 8,500 feet high. Here we were told of Roberts' pursuit of the Afghans across the Plain, of his frontal assault and its repulse, of his change of plan, his frontal and flank attacks some days later, his successes and seizure of the Pass. We came back ten miles over the Plain to Parachinar; a large patch of green trees, a fort and an Air Force landing ground. Standing up over us to the north rose the Safed Koh Range, very close and very steep with snow in the channels on the slopes. One point is 15,620 feet, the highest spot on earth to which most of us have been. It is said that the streams which rush down the slopes of these hills provide excellent trout, that a deadly grey snake is met with, that Iguanas of the largest size are to be seen, that the fertile valleys produce large quantities of fruit and nuts and are inhabited by a fair skinned people whose women are remarkable for their beauty. In Parachinar there was bathing and the cool air allowed us to ramble around the grounds of Government House. We left at 3 p.m. and spent the night in Arawali, leaving next morning for Thal where we realised that we had left the pleasant air of the Uplands and had descended again to an elevation of sweat and fatigue. After iced lemonade, more bathing and tea, the 61 mile journey to Kohat completed our visit to one of the most interesting places in military history, " The Peiwar Kotal." ROBO.

WESTERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY

"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

No. 2 W/T Company.

June.

General.—Since our last issue of notes there have been some Inter-Company changes. Unit Headquarters now belong to No. 1

Company and "O" and "M" Section with many of our I.O.R.s are now with us. Thus, No. 2 Company has nearly all the B.O.R.s of the Unit on its rolls. At present the majority of the B.O.R.s plus a few N.C.O. Instructors are busy on the first period Individual Training, while every ten days a few are lucky enough to get away for a spell at Manora.

Arrivals.—Last month we welcomed our new R.S.M., and we now take this opportunity of congratulating R.S.M. Kingman G. E., on being promoted to that rank. We hope he may have a long and enjoyable stay with us.

We also welcomed a draft from the United Kingdom per the *Dorsetshire*, which included Sergeants Vignaux and Pickering, Lance Sergeant Healy, Corporals Bull, Phillpot and Baker. The latter was accompanied by his family.

We extend the glad hand also to a number of Signalmen, too numerous to mention here.

Sergeant and Mrs. Humphrey from the S.T.C. (I.), we also welcome. They seem to have settled down quickly, and we trust they will enjoy their stay with us.

Sergeant Sneddon and Lance Corporal Knight from the W/T. Detachment, Quetta.

Anticipated Arrivals.—We note that Corporal (Badgy) Lennon, who was posted to the S.T.C. (I) six months ago, has been re-posted to the Unit. We shall be glad to have you back, Badgy.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Taylor to the Zhob Signal Section Loralai; Corporal Dallimore and Lance Corporals Bakes and Edwards to W/T. Det., Quetta; Sergeant Sneddon to the United Kingdom on furlough.

Promotions.—R.Q.M.S. Kingman G. E. to be R.S.M.; Signalman Manning R. (at present with the Pack Section in Burma), to be U/L/Corporal. (Good show, Bob!)

Landmarks.—The solitary tennis court in front of the Mess Room is not so lonely now. This week a new court has been laid alongside the existing one and everyone agrees there is now plenty of room for dancing.

Our Information Bureau.—From a recent "I.T." theory test it was noticed that many were in urgent need of information. In future test forecasts, apply to the Bureau and we may be able to tell you what the man in the desert did to find out which of his two metal bars was the magnet and where to look in the desert for iron filings.

D. N. X.

Corporals' Room.

Arrivals.—Corporals Bull, Baker and Phillpot from the United Kingdom; Lance Corporal Knight from W/T. Quetta.

Departures.—Corporal Dallimore, Lance Corporal Bakes and Edwards to out-stations.

Congratulations.—To Lance Corporal Manning R. on his recent appointment.

Medical.—We regret to note that Corporal (Geordie) Walsh has been ill for some time. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Social.—The Corporals' Mess, West Yorkshire Regiment, held a Smoking Concert at their Mess. We regret that so few from here were able to attend, but those who did go enjoyed themselves and everyone spent a very pleasant evening.

On the 29th April, the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess gave a Whist Drive and Dance to our Mess. We all spent a very enjoyable evening and look forward again to further social activities in this direction. The whist prizes were given away by Mrs. Mitchell, the prize-winners being Mrs. Brown, Sergeant Anthony and Lance Sergeant Tant.

Gripper's Shield.—This goes again to Bill Muir. He only just pipped Johnny Bull!

Marriages.—I'll let you know later when we get a letter from Basil Breeze and Les. Jarvis. (At present on U.K. leave).

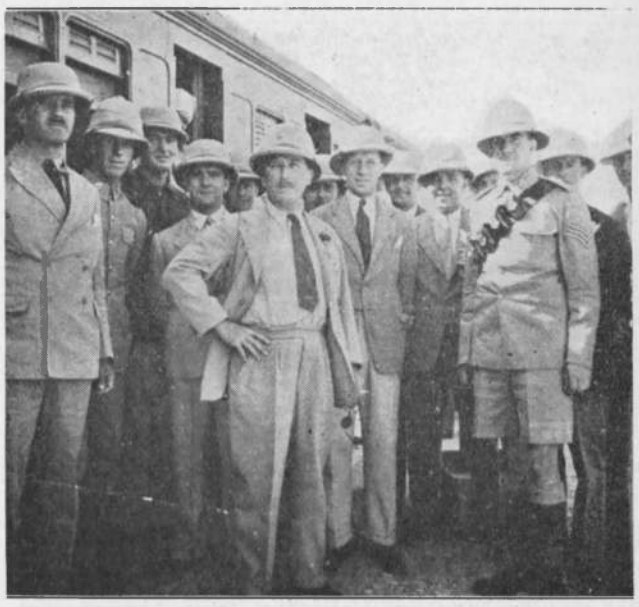
D. N. X.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarter Company.

Sunday, 5th July.

General.—What with Individual Training, Equitation, Drill Courses, Education, occasional schemes and other "whatnots," we can hardly find time for writing, including letters home, etc. But we must have our WIRE Notes. At least that is what the R.S.M. says, and he should know. Although it almost breaks my heart to miss an evening's swimming, here goes.



A snapshot taken by Major C. E. Sketch, Royal Signals, of the Commanding Officer and N.C.O.s prior to the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., Royal Signals. This snap was taken at Quetta Railway Station.

Hatched, Matched and Despatched.—Hatched—pending. Matched—Our Commanding Officer. Despatched—ditto.

To enlarge upon the above, I had better explain that our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., Royal Signals, left us at the beginning of the month for Australia and wedding bells. As he is proceeding direct to Meerut on the expiration of his two months' honeymoon, the N.C.O.s who are due home this year and will not see him again, gave him a dazzling send off at the railway station. This photograph was taken just before the train pulled out. The command of the Unit was taken over by Major C. E. Sketch, Royal Signals, just back from Blighty leave. "We trust you had a very pleasant leave, sir." In fact, quite a lot of our Officers have taken advantage of a spot of leave before starting serious work at Meerut in October of this year. The Adjutant, Captain R. H. O. Coryton, proceeded home whilst Lieutenant D. L. Hyde and Mrs. Hyde, Lieutenants J. H. L. Crichton and H. Worrall decided to take a rest in Kashmir.

Arrivals.—Lieutenant G. C. Nelson arrived from the United Kingdom and soon found himself very busy.

Education.—On the results of the last First Class Certificate of Education Examination, we were able to congratulate Signalmen Pearson and Paterson on passing the remaining three subjects and finally gaining their First Class Certificates. Signalman Willie Lush passed in two more subjects and is now left with only Map Reading to get. Can you get it before you finish Lushie? After the results were known, Pip Pearson left us for the Zhob Signal Section. What a loss, after getting all his tuition free in this Unit! However, we hope to make up for it in the next examination. Betting is going strong. Chippy is an odds-on favourite, and I ought to know, I live in his tamboo. If it's not Henry Esmond, it's Fort Amity or Maths., Mediterranean climates, etc., that he is talking about. Well, hats off to Chippy. I hope you get through, if you don't I shall know it is not through want of swatting-up. Nobby is not doing too badly either, but he will have plenty of time after he gets home to settle down to serious study.

The Last Draft.—The last draft from the United Kingdom arrived whilst the Unit were out on Spring Camp. However, plenty of transport was found to take the new arrivals to Bostan. They are all on a ride now. Some are enjoying it and some—well, I daren't publish their remarks.

Seen and Heard.—Polly, the side-stroke king, in the shallow end with his topee on. What a splash when the high-jump merchant swam to his rescue.

Chippy. "What, no air mail."

Happy. "My calendar says 130 days." Nobby. "My

calendar says 147 days." But what does the calendar in the office say ? Ah, nobody knows but a lot of people care.

Conclusion.—I haven't time for one. There is a drill parade to-morrow and I'm on it. I have to clean up yet.

BURNISTON.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Nocturnal hiking seems to like " J " Section, anyway, they have been out a few times of late and still have some more to do. Two more in fact, and then, we hear, a stroll out to Kojak some 70 odd miles. The Queen's are going as well and, as our uniform is different, it will be easy to tell which is which.

Individual Training is in full swing and a ride for those who can't. Somehow, the horses don't seem to fit some of the Rotten Row aspirants. Garbo trying to do a tap-dance seems no less incongruous.

The Signals Association held a dance in the new hall in Ghurka Road. Everyone seemed to enjoy it, but it was sheer Mormonism —one man to twenty women.

Departures.—Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., has gone to Australia to commit matrimony. The sincere wishes of the whole Unit go with him.

Arrivals.—Several people have arrived from other Units in India to help with the whitewashing. Make yourselves at home, my friends.

Intelligence Bureau.—Q. What is a Eurasian ? A. (From a member of " E " Section), " Eight dots."

Q. What is 10^7 minus ? A. (" G " Section), " Three."

From " Sword and Stirrup," by Major Hervey de Montmorncy. Scene : Somewhere in France. " During a heavy bombardment, as the shells burst, a Sergeant kept repeating, ' That's a five.nine, this is an eight-inch.' ' What's this one, Sergeant ? ' queried a deep, Scottish voice, when a still more terrifying screech announced the arrival of a projectile of even larger dimensions. ' Now they're throwing the gun at us,' the Sergeant replied." This proves that Sergeants are brave and sometimes witty in spite of all one hears to the contrary.

To Scatty, Malaya. A line from you would be welcome. Paddy.

That Little Extra Which the Others Haven't Got.—Guard rehearsals early in the morning. So enervating. The penetrating power of Mr. Shenton's voice loses none of its strength even at 6.30 a.m.

For Music Lovers.—Signalman Hall recommends " N.A.A.F.I. girls' lament in A minor." Also, from Station " P.C.J." " Somebody stole my gal on 19 metres." " One with the Whitewash, the Paint and the Polish," by R. Essemskie—recommended by the Sergeants' Mess (sic).

There have been lots of tremors of late, but not the kind recorded on a seismograph. Ne plus ultra.

NOBBY.

EASTERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

General.—In spite of the fact that the thermometers in and around Meerut are at bursting point (I do believe that several already have burst), work is still progressing along satisfactory lines, and everyone is happy and contented in spite of the usual attacks of that dreaded scourge prickly heat. Incidentally, the chosen few who are hoping to visit the hill stations in the forthcoming month will soon be able to say, " That's prickly heat ; that was."

We had a couple of heavy downfalls of rain early in the month and a sigh of relief was heard throughout the Unit. It really was a welcome change and permitted us to try our hands at Rugby football, the ground being in fairly good condition. Although we had only a scratch team for our first match with " E " Battery, who appear to be our bogey in almost every line of sport, we managed to put up a good display, but we were the losers by four points, the final whistle leaving the score at 9 points (three tries) to 5 points (one try, converted). We are all eagerly looking forward to the monsoon season when, with a combined Signals team, we hope to register quite a few decisive victories. Things are very quiet generally speaking and really interesting news is lacking.

I have noticed recently, however, that one of our junior N.C.Os, just returned from Blighty leave, spends a great deal of his time " filling in." I think it is a " hole " time job. Anyhow his sun-tan is the envy of the Unit, and he has been heard to boast that it isn't every sun-burnt man who is slightly handsome. What about that bald patch, Spraggles ?

Alarm schemes seem to be the order of the day. N.C.O.s creep up behind and awaken us from our slumbers with cries of " Sign on the dotted line," or " Sign here," things which we have always attributed to crockery or pay lists (not to mention moochis and durzis), and once signing is over, the question in every mouth is, " What serial are you ? " " Is yours F.S.M.O. ? " etc., and so now our motto is, " Be prepared."

Corporal Homer of " Big Pig " fame and Lance Corporal Palmer are at present perspiring freely in their attempts to secure a higher rating for the Indian Rank Despatch Riders of the Unit, whom they are training for up-grading from Class iii to ii. They recently began night riding and it is rumoured throughout the Unit that they are now known as the Dawn Patrol. Corporal Homer is taking the Despatch Riding Course as an extra qualification, but he still persists in saying, "Who wouldn't be a D.R.?"



2ND INDIAN DIVISIONAL SIGNALS. SEASON 1935-6.
Winners Baluchistan District Football Rugby, Swimming, Hockey and Western Command Hockey Tournament.

Technically speaking, Trunky, there is only one way of putting a carburetter in its proper position.

Anyhow, we wish them the best of luck, This foreign language is a bit of a stymy. Savi ?

Lieutenant P. C. Williams has taken over command of No. 1 Company. He has proved an asset to our hockey team and is also responsible for the coaching of our rugby team.

Further News.—Negligible.

Agonies.—Orderly clerk, who sleeps in the Unit Orderly Room at night, answers the 'phone and is involved in the following conversation :

Voice at the other end asks for an orderly urgently.

Orderly Clerk : " I am sorry, Sir, but there isn't one here. The duty Despatch Rider is here, will he do ? "

V.A.T.O.E. : " Very well, you can send him."

Orderly Clerk : " Oh, I am awfully sorry, Sir, I am afraid I can't, he's in bed."

Collapse of duty Despatch Rider who once had visions of becoming one of the exalted.

HAM FLINKAG.

Detachment, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Chakrata.
June.

General.—You have all heard the excuses for lack of notes : choose your favourite one, and then excuse me for not putting in any notes since we have been up here.

The Detachment sets out every Thursday morning to explore the surrounding hills on a " Dog and Stick " walk. Rumours are rife that Clavering G. (our local fat boy), has discovered thousands of peaks worse to climb than Everest, and he is inclined to be somewhat contemptuous of trifles like the Ruttledge Expedition. In fact, quite a lot of people say that if Chakrata were to be shifted to Camp IV, there would be less talk of abandoning the effort on the higher slopes.

Some very bad storms have been raging over Chakrata during the past few weeks, not all of them connected with Individual Training. One in particular caused a lot of excitement and some little damage, a telephone line of the Signals system being struck by lightning just outside our barracks. Several narrow escapes were related, especially by those who were a long distance away. After the storm, a fatigue party was sent round to pick up the bits of the various tele. 110s, and found the exchange operator full of a story of atmospherics on the line.

We have recovered from the Proclamation Parade of some weeks ago, and are now competing for a place on the sidewalk on the King-Emperor's Birthday Parade.

Training.—Individual Training is in full swing. There is the usual horde up for B.ii and B.iii, and a lot of not-so-hopefuls for their B.i. Formulas are the only topic of conversation in the barrack room, and it is a good job that all the year is not spent in Individual Training or there would be even more original theories than ever Einstein dreamt of. This Course has brought to light a demon Duplex Board king, and no one would be surprised if he proved that when you switch to S.X. the galvos gave out oscillations of an unknown frequency which are tested by that well-known formula : Wavelength over barrack boxes equals A.R.

We Would Like to Know.—Why our new arrival from the United Kingdom hates white shoes.

Jew's Mail.—To Cox and Foster, Rawalpindi. Congratulations on recent sports successes. Moase.

Conclusion.—In three weeks' time we shall be back in Meerut listening to the mournful lay of the punkahs and chasing flying achchas, so until next month, the Press Section gives way to poetry of a sort.

With the deepest of apologies to Keats :

Oh what can ail thee, Signalman
Alone and palely loitering.
The light has faded from the lamp
Nor sounders sing.

Oh what can ail thee, Signalman
So haggard and woebegone.
Thy progress chart is brimming full,
And trainings done.

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I see a pencil in thy hand
With anguish moist and fever dew
And on thy nose an inky smut
Fast withereth too.

I met a Trade Board in the Hills
Full difficult—a trickster's child,
Their words were long ; their questions hard,
My answers wild.

I made a marking current space
And needles swing from zone to zone,
They looked at me as they did doubt
And made great moan.

I went in on a Fullerphone
And nothing else did all day long,
For sideways was I bent, with all
Connections wrong.

They found me several duplex sets
And asked me then to get them through,
And sure with language strange they said
From D to U.

They took me to the sending set
To tune in four nought nought no more,
And there they shut my wild wild eyes
With shocks a score.

And there they lulled me asleep
And there I dreamt—and woe betide
The latest dream I ever dreamt
Upon that cold hill's side.

I saw S. Acks, and Don R's too
Failed just failed had they all.
They cried " The Trade Board sans mercy "
Thee hath in thrall.

I saw their note books in the gloam
With horrid warning gaped wide.
And I awoke and found me here
On the cold hill's side.

So that is why I sojourn here
Alone and palely loitering,
Though the light has faded from the lamp
Nor sounders ring.

BILL-WUM.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—On Monday, 1st June, information was received that the previous day was Whit-Sunday (tempus fugit), therefore it must have been on Whit-Sunday that cricket bats, balls, stumps, mats, etc., came out of hibernation and several persons, myself included, had duck-less green peas for dinner that evening.

It was noticed that the Whitsun weather in Blighty was the coldest for nearly 30 years, with hail and thunder. The best advice we can offer is for all H.E. personnel to volunteer for India, mentioning this Station, where the sun is nearly always shining and winter weather is an unknown quantity. Reliefs for anyone taking the above advice will, I am sure, readily be forthcoming.

A few more showers have descended upon us since the last WIRE notes were sent to the Unit press (Remington), and, at present, " everything in the garden is looking lively," including tobacco plants, although these are gradually being uprooted.

With reference to the creation of Inspectors of Permanent Communications, it is unofficially rumoured that the present establishment may be increased, the reason for this being the erection of a permanent telephone line of communication route within the Unit. The main terminal pole is situated near the Guard Room, in which a 20 line exchange, complete with test panel, has been installed. A civil line may be connected later, but this does not infer that seats and taxis for the Rivoli may be reserved thereby.

During the first week in glorious June, Captain F. K. Morton of " F " Section, Jubbulpore, and Lieutenant R. C. B. Stuart of " G " Section, Mhow, arrived at Headquarters for the purpose of assisting in Trade Board Tests. We sincerely hope that their short stay was an enjoyable one, and that the change was as good as a rest.

Captain A. B. Bushby, who is officiating as C.O. during Lieutenant-Colonel Pocock's absence on leave, and Lieutenant (Q.M.) T. Jones are at present touring the out-sections of this Unit.

Sporting Chatter.—Notes from this Unit regarding sport have, in the past, been conspicuous by their absence. Since 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop have acquired a British establishment we have been running a Combined Signals team in hockey, football and cricket. Although we cannot boast of any outstanding successes, we can safely say that we have had some very enjoyable and well contested games. It has been suggested that we form a Supporters Club. Anyone wishing to join may do so by applying to Michael Archer, c/o Farrier's Shop, Trimulgherry. Master Archer is our chief supporter and he has informed me that the necessary cards and membership badges (a horse shoe mounted on a silver, or maybe tin, football), will be issued on receipt of subscriptions.

Postings.—The best of luck goes with Sergeant Cooper, who was posted to 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, on 1st June. May the boat arrive just as quickly. Inter-Section postings have been made which, I believe, almost completes the R.A. Sections. The I.B. Sections still carry deficiencies, but these will probably be made up in time for manoeuvres. So, till then, Headquarters can rest in peace.

Promotions.—Congratulations are extended to the following on attaining their respective ranks and appointments : Corporal Green J., Lance Corporal Green R. (" K " Section), U/Lance Corporals Boulter and Gibbon (" G " Section). These were unexpected so, you sweaters, carry on scrutinising those little blue books, it may be your turn next.

Courses.—The conclusion of the Riding Course mentioned in last month's notes has now been reached, all potential roughs having passed out with colours of the flying variety. The " chip" fund, I believe, was valueless, but witticisms were plentiful—" still boils will be boils ! "

Water Duties Course and Sanitation Course diplomas have been duly presented, caps and gowns are being made of alumino-pheric with herringbone-detachments.

Lance Corporal McQuire J. proceeded to Kirkee Arsenal for three months' probationary attachment to the I.A.O.C.

Gooseberry Bush.—The stork (I.P.) paid a long deferred visit to the Unit, on 30th May. The selected couple were Lance Corporal and Mrs. Mitchell, to whom a daughter was presented. Our congratulations are extended to both.

Bungalow Bleatings.—We agree that India is a beautiful place to dream about, but why talk about it, and at the same time, why mention five years ?

A cigarette case was found, lost and found again, this time in the overcoat pocket of " Strike me pink." This just goes to prove that we do clean our overcoat numerals sometimes.

It is rumoured that a limited company are considering clubbing together to purchase a " Hidderstop " motor-cycle. We hope that a sidecar will be attached as this would solve a lot of problems regarding the numerous A.T. carts required by the Q.M. for " Arrivals and Departures " transport. It has been said that a bandolier is not a suitable mark of authority for A/C.S.M's. duties. Still it is very handy as a container for the various and numerous chitties.

Strength Decrease.—Horse No. 105, cast and destroyed—sorry, but that is the fruits of taking information from Part IIs.

Education.—Congratulations are extended to the following on obtaining the educational awards as stated : Corporal Watts S.,

1st Class Certificate. U/Lance Corporal Boulter G., Map Reading towards 1st Class Certificate. U/Lance Corporal Taylor C., Distinguished in " Urdu " as an additional subject to his Special Certificate.

Any questions ? Any answers ?

Our education percentages are now as follows : Special, 9 per cent. 1st Class, 55½ per cent. 2nd Class, 35½ per cent.

The Only Way.—To Bob, London, from " Daphne," ex-Bombay. Your advice taken, we agree. R.O. Blighty and " darn " the boat !

Finis.—Vide Henry Hall and his B.B.C. Dance Band.

CHARMINAR.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

18th June.

General.—The Unit lines have had an overhaul and many improvements made. Now that the monsoon season is approaching it is hoped to make gardens in front of the Unit office and emulate the excellent front garden of our neighbours—4th Indian Divisional Signals. The Orderly Room Havildar has been " nosing " around the local auction sales, purchasing seeds and plants. A wall has been erected in the Unit office dividing the C.O.'s office from the Clerks' office, so no doubt the Clerk can now use, without endangering his reputation, an occasional heated word to any unauthorised person who deliberately strays into the office for the sole purpose of picking up inside information.

The annual Musketry Course was fired this month and B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s have been listening to words of advice, etc., from their instructors. However, the results prove that it was not a waste of breath, and it is a pity there is no Scissors Musketry Cup in this Command. Judging from last year's results at Northern Command, a Unit now requires 99.99 per cent. even to be optimistic of winning the trophy !

The Musketry Prize Winners for 1936-7 are : 1st, Naik Said Ahmed, score 58 ; 2nd, Signalman Sakhi Mohd, score 57 ; Most Improved Shot, Lance Naik Sardar Khan, score 54.

There is to be a Brigade Parade on 23rd June to celebrate the King's Birthday. Weekly practice parades have been held by the Troop and no doubt this will ensure an excellent March Past on the 23rd.

Command.—Captain C. L. Morgan resumed command of the Unit on 6th June on return from two months' privilege leave ex-India. Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler proceeded on two months' privilege leave ex-India on 10th June to the sunny land of Kenya.

Arrivals.—Corporal Brennan W., from Army Signal School, Poona, on 7th June. We hope he will enjoy his daily ride !

Horse Show.—The Secunderabad Horse Show takes place at the end of July and Corporal "Ginger" Rhodes, our temporary " rough," is busy training " Jimmy " for the Best Trained Remount Competition. If " Jimmy " is given an extra piece of sugar I would back him to win any competition !

Howlers.—A certain I.O.R. was asked the meaning of H.E.H. the ——. He replied, " His Exhausted Highness the ——." It seems Royalty must be human after all.

Society News.—Who is the " chotah " Scotsman who borrowed a dress suit to pose for his photo—the result was a cross between Maurice Chevalier and Frankenstein.

Certain B.O.R.s consider that stepping out for a whoopee night means strolling down to the local Bazaar for a glass of lemonade and perhaps a strawberry tart—what they want is a visit to the house of a man with a shot-gun.

Troop Photograph.—A photograph of the Officers, B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s was taken on 8th June for inclusion in the 1937 Indian Signal Corps Calendar. A copy is reproduced below.



4TH CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

30th June.

Leave.—Parties keep going on leave, coming back and saying that they wouldn't mind a tour here after all. The cynical tell them that they'll get it without asking—and without being posted to Egypt Signals.

Moustaches.—Most of de Palo's has " ceased to be attached," but Mungo Park now has one " attached for rations " (though the extremities of it are " attached for accommodation " somewhere else, far away). Not, of course, that it doesn't suit his type of beauty—heaven forbid that we should suggest that !

The Ladder of Fame.—U/Lance Corporals Baker, Burdett, Wilson and Pipe have " got paid for it." We take pains to congratulate them and to treat them with the additional respect demanded by this circumstance.

What Grainger Did.—Grainger has been debarred from swimming. In spite of all our efforts to reduce him to a slim, girlish outline, he continued to grow and grow until he looked as though he'd travelled all round the world and absorbed every inch of it. Then, one day, feeling like Samson in the hands of the Philistines, he leaned against the wall of the canteen ; the great iron framework crumpled and collapsed. Several overworked R.E.s are putting it up again. Grainger is debarred from swimming. This means that the beach appears less crowded and that the level of the sea remains constant. It's an ill wind ——.

Weather.—Remains fair. The N.A.A.F.I. have put parasols over the tables on the beach. We have teas and wads in our swimming costumes, wearing sun-goggles, and have our photographs taken in the hope that it will look like the Reviera.

Blood on the Top Line.—A gust of wind whisked the sand dismally round the tent. The canvas flapped in the ghostly night, while the " poles, tent, R.D., large " creaked ominously under the strain. Outside, the donkeys brayed like the age-old tormented howls of fiends in anguish, and disturbed the solemn stillness of the dark air that hung upon the desert. It was a night such as the devils of hell choose to execute their blood-thirsty designs in the hearts of men. Inside, at a rough " deal table, wood, barrack, rectangular, 6 ft.," sat a man bowed in a fever of thought. His dark hair was tousled about his head and one hand clutched it convulsively ; in the other hand was a thin, long instrument with a point. The atmosphere was tense. He gazed with a morbid fascination at a small piece of coloured paper. Nobody spoke but the man at the far end, and he muttered spells in monotonous dissonance at regular intervals. The atmosphere was still tense. You could have heard a pin drop. Suddenly our villain stabbed ; a sharp, vicious jab with his weapon at his piece of paper. Facing with malicious triumph the startled, baffled, beaten, livid, vengeful, malevolent looks of half-a-hundred other competitors, he forced from his throat the strangled cry, " House, look you ! " And all the world wondered. Needless to say, the villain was one of the cookhouse staff.



5TH DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY.
Before Grainger overthrew it. The entrance to our new canteen.

Hockey.—Our sporting correspondent's notes will be found on the sporting page at the back of this issue.

Agony.—To E. J. C., of 2nd Indian Div., last heard of at Sibi : Aren't you going to answer my February letter ? I wrote twelve pages, too. From D. A. S.

Sting in the Tail (or How to Take the Words Out of Your Mouth).—We are perfectly aware that we have said nothing in these notes that is worth having been written or that is worth reading, but if you are the man in the Unit who has found some more solid news, you have our permission to step up here and tell us what it is. In any case, mind you, it is Corporal Cooke's wedding day, and the rest of the Unit is on holiday. So, now, am I.

LFACKO.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

General.—The old adage, " It never rains but what it pours," seems to be holding good despite our feeble mutterings. Having scarcely recovered from our Annual Table " B," etc., etc., we find ourselves in the throes of Technical training though, strange as it may seem, questions of the puzzling variety are fired with less velocity at the heads of the unprepared ; due, perhaps, to the increase in number of the Troop. Text books are being brought from weird and wonderful places, making many a troubled brow cease to resemble so closely what may be termed as " I have seen the dew drops clinging " ; probably due to the finding of last year's notes still intact.

A parade was held on the garage square to celebrate the birthday of H.M. King Edward VIII. This passed off without a hitch although a certain individual was heard to say, " Don't dirty my shorts too much." Photographs of the parade were taken by our camera-man, so we have come to the conclusion that we didn't look too bad after all. It would be unfair to end this paragraph without mentioning that the one and only Sammay scored 27 on rapid during the Annual Course. Of course, we daren't say too much or else he'll tell us that he got 29 last year. What we want to know is how he got the bottles down to the butt markers ?

Help.—Having read the papers (yes, I can read) lately and seeing the terrible fight we are having to find recruits for our Army, I have at last decided to put forward my suggestions for the improvement of our operators' qualification sheet. First of all, add a new rating, to be termed " B.iv," and the qualifying questions to run as follows :

Q. 1.—Does the tongue of a relay hang out when it's dry ?
Q. 2.—How many carriages are there on a wave train ?
Q. 3.—What temperature is needed to dry a damped wave ?
Q. 4.—Are harmonics the instruments played in church ?
Q. 5.—Is resonance the stuff applied to violin bows ?
Q. 6.—Is the common bar noted for its cocktails ?
Q. 7.—How many players go to make a wave band ?

Arrivals.—Corporal Weeks L. C. to us from Palestine and we greet him with the usual grimy paw. Hard luck, " Wiker," they would have to start and scrap up there because you left them.

Humour.—" Kitty " to Jimmy Betts. Our local Tich is now the proud possessor of a wonderful cat. Every day, Jim can be seen taking its temperature and feeding it on best cooked leather from the cookhouse. At night, when the atmosphere is clear, he

can be seen standing with whip and revolver putting this wild, snarling brute through its paces. Soon we expect him to give us a performance in the N.A.A.F.I. of the marvellous tricks he is teaching it. Keep it up, Jim.

Sport.—The general outlook on this subject is very favourable at present. In latter years the Troop have done very little in this line during the summer; the change is for the better. At the moment, judging by the number of "rackets" laying around, one is apt to think it is a modern Chicago and not just a few enthusiasts who are preparing for Wimbledon. Our local hero (Blacky), besides being an expert and tutor at the game, has come to the rescue by repairing rackets broken in those "smashing forehand drives."

Cricket (is that what one calls it, Sam?).—We have twice played "C" Squadron, 11th Hussars, and were defeated, even with the help of our whiskers, "Taff and Muggins." Egypt Signals turned out a team against us, but were just a little too good. Getting beaten so much, we decided to start with small fry; so our next opponents were the Regimental Signallers of the 11th Hussars. This time we won by 10 runs, thanks to some good bowling by Moore, Clarke and McGinn. Sammy contributed a wonderful 17 in ten minutes. (Stone-waller Sam.)

Heard in the Library.—Signalman "S.A.": "I think I'll go and change my coupons to-night."

Signalman "S. J.": "O.K., we'll both go down."

Result: Sunday morning. Thick heads, two towels, a clock, one ruined suit, three gym. vests and ten razor blades for an akker.

Deduction: To change one's coupons is to go on the spree. O.K., Smudge?

Conclusion.—There is little more to say. Soon we shall start our leave periods and, of course, we are all "on the Jew," and heaven knows who is going to pay an akker for the stamp to post these notes to London. I'm afraid it will have to be "Certified Official" again. I'm afraid I can't tell you what Speedy said lately, as he has now taken up the noble art and is liable to start using me as a punch ball.

Note.—There is no Jew's Mail this week.

PYRAMID.

"H" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Palestine.

Attached 8th K.R.I. Hussars, Balaclava Camp, Jerusalem.

General.—Once again we have to report that we are under canvas, but taken on the whole, things have greatly improved since the last training season. Firstly, the climate is very nice. Secondly, only two attempts have been made to emulate the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Finally, there is an absence of livestock which made sleeping an impossibility in Abbassia. The trip here was very interesting and, considering everything, the roads were good. This time we had no breakdowns at all, and sets and cars arrived in Jerusalem 100 per cent. intact.

On 30th ult., the regiment was visited by the High Commissioner, His Excellency, General Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.I.E., D.S.O., who, in a short speech, welcomed us and outlined our duties here.

Two operations against the terrorist bands have been carried out, and each had a very satisfactory result. An appreciation of the work has been received from the Air Officer Commanding, British Troops in Palestine and Transjordan. From Signals point of view, everything has been successful. The new cars have proved themselves much more suited to the work than our old ones, and the sets have been subjected to less wear and tear. During the two Exercises, communication was maintained the whole time.

We had two interesting trips, one to the Church of the Nativity, at Bethlehem, and the other to Jericho. On the second trip, some of the Section bathed in the Jordan. If their intentions were sincere, I suggest that they try sulphuric acid and dry-scrubbers instead.

Several strongly worded letters have arrived, querying the absence of notes from this Troop. As reported in our last issue of notes, it is not our fault. They were written and forwarded through the correct channels for publication. Since then, they have just disappeared. Perhaps the various items of poetry were a little—er—indiscreet!

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Lieutenant H Winterbotham, Royal Signals, our new Commanding Officer, and wish him a pleasant stay with the Troop.

Departures.—Nil. But we have at least one Lance Corporal who is living in a state of pleasant anticipation. The rest are just waiting for the next batch of rumours.

Increments.—This is quite an interesting bit. Signalman (Paddy) Moore was granted his increment on completing 3 years' service on 5th inst. Irish papers please copy. J.F.C. please note.

Jew's Mail.—To all those procrastinators who owe me letters, "Come across."

Foster, Ponki. "Nerts. Why not underline the bit about missing the penalty?"

Yakob, Canterbury. "Why no passion news? Everyone broken-hearted."

Bezz Cooke. "Best wishes from the family, including Jacob!"

Well, readers, that is all this time. See you all on the troop-carrier in '41.

WEEPIN' WILLO.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

19th May.

General.—Celestial greetings from a great height, O lesser mortals. All my literary ambitions have been realised for did not the Baron of the Border Marchers abdicate from his throne like sounding brass and tinkling cymbal and thrust upon his highness of the battery room the task of giving all and sundry the news and doings of this outpost of the Empire?

Moreover (grammar, tut-tut), there have been great doings. Mickey gave old Jimmy a boot in the correct place and the boys of Radio Pulau Brani have burst through the ether, heavyside layer, and crashed upon the oppos., lounging in slothful ease at home, many pace stick-lengths away. The old one—stop—two has done great work since he arrived and stirred up this abode of rest, so that we may yet see some day a chaplet of laurels grace his august brow and his name written in the annals of the Empire. Your waves may be short, Mickey, but your tales are long, aren't they?—as it were. (Pause for an orange crush.)

Of course, we have other sports and the chicken-chasing season is at its height. It is the G.O.M.'s daily amusement, and a careful watcher can often catch him handing down his walking cane to set off in pursuit of some bird or other.

The football team shows signs of promise and when these Arsenal players, which the sports club is buying (on account of our 2s. 4d. sub.), arrive, we should rise well above our present mid-league position. The spectators' voices are improving as they have all given up smoking because of the aforementioned sub., and they now yodel loud and long on the touch line.

Apa Changkol (?), the G.O.M., is sweating on the boat, and so is Johnny Cave. C.Q.M.S. Finney is often seen hanging around the office verandah looking anxiously towards the Gap, but we all know that it won't need dredging as the same old tubs will arrive. Funny how everybody wants to leave this "Soldiers' Paradise," as "The People" call it. The fellow who wrote that article should take a running jump off the Pagar Cliff.

Corporal Coton has given up testing cables, because swinging the Megger handle makes his arm ache. Young Charles is a good swinger, so is Barrett, but we will refrain from saying what they swing.

Island Gossip.—Tandok got a first-class shot (?).

The Klu Klux Klan were out this week. (So was the flying squad.)

Good night, you cads!

"SOAPY."

Wednesday, 10th June.

Malaya Calling Civilization!—Once again I take up the reins of correspondent for this Section, i.e., Pulau Brani. "Soapy," whose notes you have been reading for the last three months, has decided to go in for journalism in a big way and takes up his appointment on the "Free Press" in the very near future. Exit "Soapy" (Mr. Hudson).

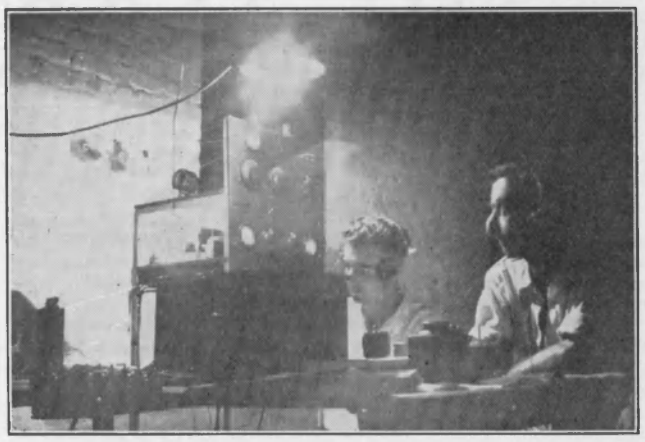
Postings.—Quite a few of the old timers have left Pulau Brani to take up appointments at Changi and Seletar. Signalmen Barrett and Charles to Changi; Signalmen Notley and Bowler to the R.A.F. for advanced (?) W/T training. In part exchange for the above, we received the smiling faces of "Cuthbert" Church, Parker, Carlson and, bringing up the rear, Signalman "Tich" Blunt, telling tales of how the old draft did it in 1934.

Wireless Waves.—The short wave wireless transmitter, which has been the subject of so much discussion in the last issues, is

now an established fact, and every Sunday, at 18.30 G.M.T., we take the air. If any operator would like to hear a little morse, as morse should be sent, just tune in about 28 metres and if you hear a pure, clear, musical note—that's us. That's the good old short wave experimental establishment.

Recently Corporal Walker took over a new Naval set designed for use in Government harbour patrol launches. Actually the sets will be for the Singapore Volunteer Corps, ten operators recently were sent out East to instruct them in the use of it, so I expect we shall be making its closer acquaintance shortly. Needless to mention, the old " C " Mark I sets are still doing their stuff.

Radiation 8. The wireless operators on Pulau Brani now have to take weather reports from the following places: Manila (Philippines), Bangkok (Siam), Hongkong, Darwin and Malabar (Java). These reports are forwarded to the appropriate quarter and so the pilots of air-liners and ships-at-sea are forewarned as to the weather they are likely to encounter, and can be prepared accordingly. (We play our part behind the scenes.)



ARCHIMEDES SUPER DA-DIT ENGINE.
Signalman Smart at the key while Sergeant Collins superintends.



"SOAPY"



OUTPOST OF EMPIRE. WIRELESS STATION, ALEXANDRA, SINGAPORE



A typical Malayan scene.



Introducing to you the South-Sea Wonder. Grappler Watt, heavy-weight All-in Wrestler (Pulau-Brani style), willing to meet one and all. Note his biceps and diaphragm muscles and his huge reserve of energy. He trains solely on curry and rice (Photo being last gasp of former scribe Baron Van Oldenbarnevelt Chatfield).

[*Continued on page* 372.]

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

The re-arrangements, due to the increase in our establishment, have proved extremely complicated, and it will probably be some time before the list of promotions is complete. A number have, however, already been announced, and we take this opportunity of congratulating those concerned.

Preparations for Camp are well in hand. Although details of the training scheme are not yet available, there is every indication that it will contain several new features. We hope to be able to give a detailed account next month as we shall then be in Camp.

The Trade Board tests will take place at the end of the month. The standard attained at these tests is generally high, and we hope that this year will prove no exception. The preparation classes have been running for some time, and the remaining time will be spent in revision, so that the result should not be in doubt.

H. S.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brooks's Bar, Manchester, 16.

It is now three months since notes under the above heading have appeared, and the scribe wishes to apologise for this omission. Several events have happened during the past eight weeks, the most important of all being our annual training at Rhyl. Kinmel Park was reached by the train party at about 3.30 p.m. on Sunday, 31st May, after the 4½ miles from Abergele had been well and truly "route-marched." The band and drums must take the honours for the manner in which they performed during this march, as it was a hot and sultry day, and the weight of the instruments must have been a burden. However, on the striking-up of the Regimental March, prior to entering camp, everyone appeared to pull themselves together and the Unit marched in looking very soldierly and smart. 25 Officers and 381 Other Ranks attended Camp this year. This was most satisfactory, especially in view of the fact that business in this part of the country is definitely on the up-grade, and it is becoming more difficult to get men off from offices and works as trade becomes better.

The weather broke down completely on the Monday, and it rained practically without ceasing until Thursday morning. This was most unfortunate, because the first week's training programme was completely cancelled, the usual Section training being lost. The kind of weather we had during these first days can be imagined when I say that special issues of the old war-time "S.R.D." were duly rationed out by a much worried Lieutenant-Quartermaster. Again, on the Tuesday, a special train was sent from Burscough (our Ordnance Depot) with tent boards, but by the time these stores arrived most of the damage had been done. The tent boards, however, were very acceptable, and were much appreciated by the men who had slept in tents in a quagmire. Whenever I passed the R.S.M. wading across the Camp, he always made the same remark, "I though you said this place was called 'Sunny' Rhyl?" One or two choice words which are usually found in a soldier's vocabulary were, of course, added. We managed, nevertheless, to keep our spirits up by having the Companies paraded in the Mess tents, when all joined in community singing, ably led by the Unit band.

The first Friday was a red-letter day, being pay-day. During the afternoon the Unit Sports were held. We were very pleased to welcome as our chief guest, His Worship, The Mayor of Stretford (Alderman A. Smith, J.P., C.A.), in whose Borough our Headquarters are situated. Alderman Smith very kindly presented to the winners their prizes for sports, speaking a few words of encouragement to each. We were also very pleased to welcome our Hon. Colonel, Colonel Sir Frederick J. West, K.B.E., J.P., who brought along with him our late Commanding Officer, Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., D.L. Colonel West and Colonel Newton visit us every year at annual training, spending a few happy days with us. We should feel we had not had a real Camp unless they came along.

Our chief guest night was held on Friday, 5th June, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. About 64 Officers and guests sat down to dinner, and we must here congratulate Captain C. N. Stafford for arranging such a wonderful show. Our guests were entertained later to a very good variety show arranged by the Officers. Special mention must be made of the song written and arranged by Mr. D. Pritchard and dedicated to Alderman Smith with the title "Albert the Mayor." This song was much appreciated by everybody, but none more than the Mayor himself, who ordered a special copy to be sent to him at the Town Hall.

On Saturday, 6th June, a visit was paid to us by Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., Commanding 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot (our affiliated unit), and after attending Church Parade on Sunday, saw the Unit march past. We hope that he was favourably impressed with all he saw of the Unit, and that he will visit us again in the near future.

The first part of the second week was taken up in preparation for an "all night" scheme which commenced on Thursday morning, 11th June. Fortunately, the weather was ideal for a scheme of this description, and enabled Sections to get into positions and communications were established in record time. We feel that a lot of useful training was carried out, and that the Unit, as a whole, once again proved itself ready to perform any task which it might be called upon to do.

On Friday evening, 12th June, Major-General K. G. Buchanan C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Commander 42nd (E.L.) Division) and his Staff gave us the honour of dining with us on our second guest night. Before dinner, he went through the scheme with all the Officers, and showed where improvement could be made, and what to avoid in future. This proved very helpful, and was appreciated by everybody. Colonel Ashley, our Commanding Officer, then commented on the technical side of the scheme. At the conclusion of the commentary, we adjourned for dinner.

After dinner, the "Colour Party" fell-in, and were inspected by General Buchanan, who was so impressed by their "get up" that he could do nothing else but present each member of the guard with a memento (a silver golf stick brooch).

The Unit returned to Manchester on Sunday, 14th June, everyone feeling quite fit. Although the Camp had been marred by inclement weather, nevertheless, it was felt that this year's Camp had been a "gradely" one.

King's Birthday Honours.—It was with very great pleasure that we learned that H.M. The King had bestowed the honour of Knighthood upon our Honorary Colonel, Colonel Sir F. J. West, K.B.E., J.P. Sir Frederick is very well known in Manchester, where his interests are many and varied. He is Chairman of the Manchester Ship Canal Company, Managing Director of Messrs. West's Gas Improvement Corporation, Ltd., a Past Chairman of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and was Lord Mayor of the City of Manchester in 1926. In spite of this he still has time to take an active interest in the Territorial Army. All members of the Unit combine in expressing their hearty congratulations on the honour bestowed upon him by H.M. The King.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Did the fatigue party from the "P.B.I." duly collect their "braces" from our Q.M., or was it "braziers" they wanted?

Was the postcard duly forwarded to "Cow Throw" by "Frankenstein," and was it written in Welsh?

Who wrecked the Major's tent?

Has the "Doc" had any more dreams of babies with broken arms, and what did he say to the father?

What ground clearance has a super "S.S." and should they be used for mowing? Ask Shorty.

Are we the first Signal Unit to recruit over establishment?

Recruiting.—We are very pleased to be able to report that the Unit is now over establishment. When authority was given to recruit to ten per cent. over establishment, we had a waiting list. Circulars were sent out immediately, and we were successful in enlisting twenty men ten days before proceeding to Camp. We are now well on the way to get the required additional twenty to make up the full ten per cent. Our Commanding Officer has received a letter of congratulation from the Chairman of the East

Lancashire T.A. Association on having actually attained a strength in other ranks in excess of establishment. If this state of affairs continue, we shall have to apply for further extensions to our present Headquarters.

OLD FAITHFUL.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.
(From West Saunton Camp, near Barnstaple).
July.

Editorial.—Both Unit and Company notes this month are inclined to be sketchy, because our annual training dates have been advanced this year, the period being 5th/19th July inclusive. The month under review saw all Companies busily engaged in putting the finishing touches to Section training. This was interspersed with various Section and Company Exercises on Sundays. Attendances in every case were good, and the usual lessons were learnt. The last week in June was mainly devoted to checking and packing stores for Camp. It is impossible at this stage to review Camp as a whole, and it is hoped that the various Company notes next month will contain full reports together with sports events and results.

We extend a warm welcome to Mr. R. G. S. Clifton of No. 2 Company on being gazetted to this Unit.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

As these notes are being penned during the last week of Camp, they will be—like annual training itself—brief. A rapid survey of the Company indicates that we are thoroughly enjoying life, despite the weather. The site is ideal for a good holiday, and so far, we feel that our work has been very satisfactory. The only snag has been the torrential rain which has drenched everything. Fortunately, the sandy soil enables the field to dry rapidly and the discomfort is not so great as it might have been elsewhere. At the moment we are preparing instruments, stores and cables for the Divisional Scheme which takes place on Friday, 17th July, and to-night the whole Unit hopes at least, for one fine day.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Despite the fact that the notes for the month of June were prepared in time they could not reach the appropriate quarter, owing to circumstances beyond the writer's control. They are being sent along in order to preserve our sequence.

June.—Consequent upon the imminence of our annual training, we are now extremely busy checking, repairing and overhauling stores and equipment, ready for our re-union. Possessing happy recollections of our sojourn at Saunton, excitement is naturally now running high. Employers have responded splendidly and those behind the scenes have certainly left no stone unturned in their efforts at persuasion in order to secure a record attendance. We are now eagerly awaiting the 5th July. At the moment of writing we are about to terminate the second series of our Section training, which has been considered highly successful from the points of view of efficiency and pleasure.

As previously mentioned, all concerned are eagerly looking forward to their stay in Camp, especially the first year men, whose interest has been accentuated by the various week-end schemes which have undoubtedly proved very beneficial.

The lads are " full of beans " having made an excellent effort with the " Bandhooks " in the Gould Cup. As the Unit editorial notes have already furnished the requisite details, we have omitted them in order to avoid duplication. Nevertheless, we would like to take the opportunity of congratulating all concerned on their excellent efforts.

Editor's Note.—Owing to pressure of space, two excellent photographs of this Section's training in the Winchester area, Hampshire, have been held over until next month's issue of THE WIRE.

July.—Having arrived at West Saunton for our annual training, there is very little outside news to record, but a full report of the Company's activities during annual training will appear in the next issue. We arrived in time to enjoy Devon's beautiful Sunday, the finest of the summer so far. It appears, however, to have been merely an " isolated day." The lads having imagined that they had come to Devon when it was about to be glorious, were awakened soon after " lights out " by a heavy downpour which continued throughout the night. Although drizzle and cloud cloak the surrounding hills, there are excellent prospects of bright periods. The lads are already looking extremely fit as the result of camp life in the heart of far-famed North Devon, and are thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Au revoir until next month, when full details of the training will appear.

BEGBIE.

No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

As we have not contributed to THE WIRE recently, it seems to be necessary to go back a little. As soon as the paid classes were over, we organised our Sections and, with Topsham coming into the Exeter Drill on Mondays, it was possible for " J " Section to train as a Section, much more than in past years. We had our usual Exercises, and this year we broke fresh ground and played on Halton. Everyone benefitted by the experience. " J " and " K " Section Exercises were identical. The solutions were very much the same, even to the extent of putting a line over the main Exeter—Torquay Road, causing great panic to all road users, and arousing the indignation of the neighbouring garage proprietor, who was labouring under the delusion that, as a result of our efforts, he was losing a lot of trade.

Early in July there was a really fine day. It will be remembered by all who spent the day in a train and in marching from Braunton Station to Camp. By Reveille on the Monday we were assured that our hopes were in vain because it was raining hard. Since then it has never allowed us to get really dry. As a result the first week's training has been affected but, as usual, with keen " Terriers," everyone is still happy. With Camp only half over, it is too early to make our final remarks, and so we will leave comments until the next issue. Meanwhile we place on record the fact that once again we have won the Football Cup. We hope for more. Since our last effort, Messrs. Reeks and Howarth have wangled another pip and our congratulations.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge.

Editorial.—By the time these notes are published, we shall have fought and probably lost our wars, our tempers and most certainly our cash, but who cares. Everyone is looking forward to the hour of departure to camp. This brings me to the point of reminding my readers that we arrive at Shorncliffe on the 26th, my frequent jottings on this subject in the past have perhaps left no doubt as to our destination.

As in the case of all successful scribes, I am now enjoying the privilege of " Fan Mail." Apart from the raspberries, I received some good wishes from Egypt. Perhaps my correspondent will continue his interest in the " happenings " at Stamford Brook and write again.

During the past months the strength of the Unit has been gradually increasing until we are now over-strength. A large number of potential soldiers are still endeavouring to persuade the Recruiter how essential it is for them to appear on parade with the boys. Now a word of advice. No doubt this has received due consideration—but it is one thing to have a complete pay roll and another to complete it with the right type of soldier. Let's hope the " New Army " will prove capable in all that is required of it.

Bouquets.—I have given this paragraph precedence this month because the recipients of the bouquets have won distinction of more than normal recognition. Hats off to our rifle team! For the second year in succession they have proved victorious in the Middlesex Justices' Shield event. Annually this trophy is competed for by the 7th, 8th and 9th Battalion Middlesex Regiments and 44th Divisional Signals. We have, in the past, frequently won the distinction, and this year with 670 points the prize is ours once more.

Lance Corporal Nutting set a splendid example by scoring the highest individual total.

Sunday Training.—A very pleasant day's work was experienced on the 28th. Nos. 1 and 3 Companies sent forth their masses to disturb the ether and upset the receivers of the Luxembourg programme. There were two war areas, one situated in the

vicinity of Chertsey and the other in the grounds attached to the Standard Telephones and Cables factory at Southgate. The scheme was to gain experience in the art of supplying adequate communication to the Division. Everyone worked hard and encouraging results were obtained. I had the good fortune to visit the Chertsey zone prior to being conveyed to Southgate; it appeared that the whole Unit cheerfully enjoyed the practice.

The Southgate Sections certainly enjoyed an advantage by the concentration of their Headquarters in a small and privately-owned area, while Chertsey district gave a more realistic picture of war in the open country. The attendance of Regimental Signallers from Infantry Battalions and a few Legion of Frontiersmen was a pleasant surprise. Apart from leaking petrol tanks and playing hide-and-seek with the hired transport's fitter, all duly arrive back safely at Headquarters.

Officers' Mess.—The July monthly supper was attended by more than an average number. Had business and sport not intervened practically a 100 per cent. muster might have been obtained. These little informal evenings are really jolly and well worth backing up.

Badminton.—The finals of the Unit doubles and singles events in the Badminton Competition resulted in victory for Lance Corporals Nutting and Harding over C.S.M. Tanner and Sergeant Haley, and Lance Corporal Nutting over Signalman Hoyle.

Secret.—The "happenings" at Brighton.

Conversation Piece.—George, you remember your remark about Belgian leather? I believe you've started something now. The sales of polish are increasing!

"0020."

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

Phoenix Street, Derby.
15th July.

General.—There is little of interest this month. The Unit is preparing for Annual Camp, and what a game it is! Roll on, Redcar!

Attachment.—Our Quartermaster, Lieutenant W. O'Brien, was attached to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, from 9th to 20th June, for the purpose of learning the secrets of M.T. accounting.

Depot, Sherwood Foresters "At Home."—No. 1 (Derby) Company, ably assisted by a few of No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company, helped the above to success on Saturday, 27th June, by giving a demonstration of work in a Divisional Headquarter Signal Office, which was maintaining communication with two Infantry Brigade Headquarters. Line Telegraphy, Line Telephony, Wireless Telegraphy and Despatch Riders were used, and spectators were invited to use the telephones or send a message to their friends. In addition an Information Bureau was provided at which questions by the public could be asked and answered by the N.C.O. in charge. Unfortunately (or fortunately), the public weren't too inquisitive, and the N.C.O. got away with it. Anyway it was a very good show, and we were delighted to help our Infantry friends.

L. S.

No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company.

Echo from July.—The Group "E" to Class III Linemen's Course thinned out towards the tail (most tails do), but two junior N.C.O.s and four men managed to stick to the dog and will share Class III bones at Camp. Congratulations to Corporal Baldwin (who thus demonstrates his ability to survive mechanization—he was our farrier), Lance Corporal Laughton and Signalmen Clarke, Howe A., Wilmott and Shady Lane. The S.B.O. Course, while not pretending to upgrading status, did some valuable work. Several made their first full bow to the buzzing box, and some improving an old acquaintanceship, made a very good showing indeed. We shall read these notes at Redcar, and we hope that we shall not have to wait until we get under cover before we do so. Of course, early July is not the prophet of August, but we do not like the look of the weather.

Strength.—We have added a few more to our full roll, and in spite of a long line of "employed," will be able to parade at full strength at Camp. There is, however, still room for more. All ranks are urged to bring their friends along. Despatch Riders are a crying need.

Next Edition.—Will be one more little job at Redcar.

CROOKED SPIRE.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Courses.—As reported in last month's notes, the hopes we had entertained that Sergeant Harrison would "top the house" on his Course at Scarborough, have proved well-founded. Sergeant Harrison excelled, and all our congrats are—and have been—offered. The last Course of the season, prior to Camp, has just commenced. Eight bright lads are helping the P.S.I. to keep out of mischief by attending on Monday and Friday nights, 13th and 17th inst., and also on Sunday morning, the 19th, in order to learn the mysteries of Exchange operating.

Camp.—This, of course, is the one item on a very full agenda. Section stores of all descriptions are being painted and polished-up. Blue patrols, flannels and bathing costumes, etc., are also receiving similar treatment. A very full programme has been arranged, we understand, to occupy us whilst we are at Redcar. Well, there is one thing about it all; we know our way about, and that, 'tis said, is half the battle.

Echoes.—C.W.H., of Cove fame, will be pleased to hear that we had another couple of Cable Winders made. These are of a somewhat different pattern.

The writer sends his salaams to C.W., whom, he hopes, is carrying on the good work of the B.S.M.

Bramji. Cheer up, O.M.! The first year is the worst.

J. H. E.

The London Corps Signals, T.A., and affiliated No. 2 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
15th July.

General.—The 47th (2nd London) Divisional Signals, T.A., officially "died" on 6th July, 1936, and was "reborn" the following day as the London Corps Signals, T.A. The memory of the 47th Divisional Signals will, however, live in the minds of all who have served in that Unit, irrespective of length of time. Those who have served longer, can look back over the years with pleasurable pride at the great strides that have been effected in making that Unit the very efficient and excellent one it was at the time of its "demise." The good hard work that has been done in the past will now stand us in good stead for the future, and we will, in consequence, be better able to deal with the greatly increased activities which we shall be called upon to perform in our higher formation. We shall require more recruits than ever now, and we are pleased to report that they are steadily coming in.

On 29th June, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander, The London Division, T.A., visited our Headquarters, and assisted in the "draw" which had been organised to encourage the introduction of "likely lads" by members of the Unit.

Nos. 1 and 2 Companies (Divisional Signals), carried out another week-end training at Chertsey on 4th and 5th July. This time, however, the weather was kind to us, and a really interesting and enjoyable training was performed. We had quite a large number of our recruits with us, some of whom had only received their uniforms during the previous week. Two or three of these lads had been enlisted so recently that they had not had time to understand the niceties of military manners nor apparently to distinguish one rank from another. The following true stories will illustrate amply what embarrassing moments this lack of knowledge can produce.

1. C.S.M. (to very young boy): "Your lanyard's in a bit of a tangle, isn't it, son?"
   "V.Y.B." (in correct film Bowery tongue): "You're tellin' me!"
2. Major (to same boy who is staggering along with a folded table): "Mind that table is not too heavy for you."
   Boy: "Garn, I'm tough!"
3. Young recruit, who apparently has overheard a C.S.M. greeted by his Christian name, approached a C.S.M., and grabbing hold of his sleeve with one hand, points out another recruit with the other, saying, "Hi! George, he's lost his —— waterbottle!"
   The same recruit addressed a Lance Corporal as "Sir" when given an order.

It doesn't take long, however, for these youngsters to understand, and they are very quick to learn and adopt the correct style. About ten of these newly-joined were attached to each Section and, after being instructed by the Section Sergeants and

watching trained fellows working, were allowed to " have a shot" themselves. They thoroughly enjoyed it, too. Work was carried on well into the afternoon, and so the last week-end training of the 47th Divisional Signals came to an end--a " swan-song " week-end, as it were.

All ranks offer their congratulations to Sergeant Elms G. D., who has just been awarded the Efficiency Medal, (Territorial). Sergeant Elms joined the R.E. Volunteers in January 1904, and served with them until March 1908. In April 1908 he held the rank of Sergeant in the Royal Engineers (T.F.), and remained with them until March 1920. He then transferred to the 47th Divisional Signals, T.A., and has been with us ever since. In addition to the above award, he holds the Territorial Force Efficiency Medal (with clasp), awarded in 1920 and 1925 respectively.

Officers.—We are very sorry to have to report that our late Commanding Officer, Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., T.D., has undergone an operation for appendicitis. We are happy to say that he is making good progress.

A large party of our Officers attended an exercise carried out by " A " Corps Signals at Andover. They greatly enjoyed their visit and were interested to see a Corps Signals in action for the first time. Our best thanks are due to " A " Corps Signals for their kindness to us.

Sergeants' Mess.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeants Samson J. H., Court W. E. and Wilson G. P. (all of the S.R.), on their appointment to that state of " three-stripedness."

Shooting.—Once again we met the 25th Cyclists, O.C.A., in our annual match on the open range at Purfleet on 14th June. These old wallahs still retain their cunning and, in spite of our efforts, pipped us by 10 points. Corporal Hopkins received a spoon for top score for Signals. Sergeants Burrows and Haines tied for second best and each received a similar trophy.

Tailpiece.—Here is some war-time philosophy, culled from a Perth (Western Australia) newspaper: " If you're at the war, you're at the war, and you will either be in a front line or a back line. If you are in a back line, you will not get hurt, so there is no need to worry. If you are in a front line, you will either not get hurt or you will get hurt. If you don't get hurt, there is no need to worry. If you do get hurt, it will be either slightly or seriously. If it is slightly, you are lucky, because you get a ticket to Blighty. If you get hurt seriously you will get better or you will not. If you get better there is nothing to worry about, and if you don't, you will be dead, and you can't worry." Why worry at all ?

EFFEMMA.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.
12th July.

Retirement of C.S.M. Realf W.—It is with many regrets that we have to place on record the retirement of C.S.M. Realf. In him the Unit loses not only a fine soldier and good friend, but what is probably also the last link with its own early history. He was one of the original members of the Southern Cable Telegraph Co., R.E., as far back as 1908, when Headquarters was at the Argyle Hotel (since demolished), in John Bright Street, and they used to drill at the " Rag Market." At the outbreak of the Great War, along with many others in the Company, he volunteered for foreign service, and in 1915 was sent to France with the 6th Division, at that time holding the rank of 2nd Corporal. He saw service at Ypres for two years, and was also at Cambrai and on the Somme. Although in action on many occasions, he escaped injury; and actually acquired a reputation for bearing a charmed life. He returned from France in 1919, and was demobilised. Upon his return to Birmingham, he rejoined the 48th Divisional Signals, who now had Headquarters in Great Brook Street. He was quickly raised to the rank of Lance Sergeant and placed in charge of the Company. In 1925 he was made C.S.M., and has been in charge of No. 2 Company for ten years, until last year when, under local reorganisation, he was transferred to No. 1 Company, rather to his disappointment, as he had hoped to finish his service with his own Company. He was always very fond of horses, and felt their loss, perhaps, more than anyone.

He has been with us so long, and taken so prominent a part both on the military and social sides that it is difficult to imagine the Unit without him. He has always enjoyed a universal and well-deserved popularity, and his valuable experience and sound judgment will be greatly missed as much by the Officers as by the rank and file. He has a son, who recently joined up as a boy, and is preparing to carry on in his father's footsteps.

May we echo the generous tribute paid to him by the Commanding Officer at the last Sergeants' Supper, and recall with pride and gratitude the splendid example which he has set of loyal and devoted service. With our thanks for the past go our good wishes for the future, and may he and Mrs. Realf have many years of vigour and prosperity before them.



C.S.M. W. H. REALF.

At the same time we tender our congratulations to his successor C.S.M. Sant, who comes into his own after many weary months of languishing in the " Q " Branch.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Bright also, who receives this step up in rank.

We were greatly distressed to hear of the serious motoring accident which has befallen Lieutenant Danielsen, resulting in severe injuries. We are pleased to hear that he is making a good recovery, and assure him that if we do not see him at Camp this year, we shall be as much disappointed as he will.

Agony.—C.S.M. Realf would very much like to get into touch with any old comrades of the 6th Division, to whose notice this might come, especially with one time C.S.M. Lawrence who, he believes, is serving, at present, with commissioned rank in India.

No. 1 Company Week-end Camp.—When the advance party paraded on Saturday morning, 13th June, a fine drizzle had set in which showed no signs of abating, and it was soon obvious that the ground would in any case be unfit for pitching canvas. A hurried telephone conference between " the powers that be " evolved a plan to dodge the weather by improvising for the day with training in barracks. Signalman Pember soon had his pots on the go so that when Sergeant Bromhall arrived he was able to provide the troops with an excellent meal in the comfort of the men's mess. There was an excellent turn-out which speaks well for the enthusiasm in the Company, and although everyone was naturally disappointed with the absence of a proper camp, they all entered into the spirit of the thing. " B " Cable Section refused to be daunted by such small matters as drizzle, and sallied forth to Earlswood to lay a couple of lines for the following day's scheme, whilst the remainder took the opportunity to get their technical equipment tested and overhauled in barracks. Thanks to the enterprise of Captain F. E. B. Jones, " Don " Section have been provided with permanently wired portable offices, each designed for two switchboards, with special terminal points for superimposing Fullerphones. We know that besides planning the layout, Captain Jones has spent many of his leisure hours assisted by C.S.M. Bardoe in wiring them up.

After training, the troops were sent home in the lorries and again collected early the next morning and brought to barracks, where breakfast was waiting. Sunday morning was a great deal more encouraging with brilliant sunshine, and the remainder of the scheme was carried out in the Earlswood area as if nothing had happened.

Sunday Training.—The Cable Section carried out a further Sunday training on 5th July, choosing the Tanworth-in-Arden district for a change. They were favoured with a fine day and some valuable lessons were learned. The remaining Sections of the Company will have their Sunday training independently on 12th July.

No. 3 Company Week-end Camp was held under favourable weather conditions on the usual spot, Birds Farm, Earlswood, on 27th/28th June. Training took the form mainly of Musketry Instruction in preparation for the Recruits' Course at Kingsbury, which took place on the following Sunday. One or two very promising marksmen came to light and will duly be borne in mind for the next County Meeting.

Poet's Corner (limited licence).

ODE TO A CERTAIN MOUSTACHE.

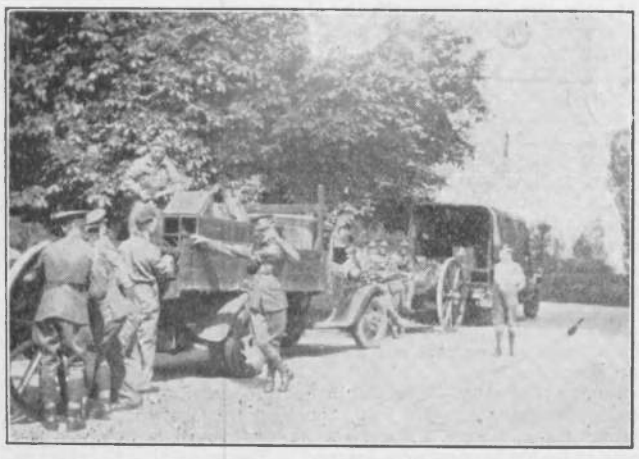
Great things or so the poets sing
From small beginnings often spring
And so when first it saw the light of day
'Twas tender as a new born lamb in May.
As time went on it grew more strong
And presently so fine and long
That sparrows nested in its shade
And foxes went to ground, so it was said.
But now the cherished hopes of days
Have passed untimely from our gaze.
Alas ! the cruel razor's ruthless bite
Has swept you from the landscape overnight.

or else something short and sweet,

His little " tach " he'd bet a pound
Would grow into a thumper.
One day he shaved it off and found
Two earth pins and a jumper.



"B" CABLE SECTION 48TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS SUNDAY TRAINING TANWORTH, 5th JULY, 1936.



"B" CABLE SECTION 48TH DIVISIONAL SIGNALS SUNDAY TRAINING TANWORTH, 5th JULY, 1936.

Signal Scheme at Kingsbury.—" J " Section's scribe contributes the following : On Sunday, 14th June, " J " Section went to Kingsbury to take part in a combined Signal Scheme with the Regimental Signallers of the four Battalions of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in the 143rd Infantry Brigade. As the scheme set was on a rather large scale, a volunteer party went over on the previous afternoon to lay the five miles of cable required ; this proved a tedious task, as the rain hardly ceased until the job was finished, which was not until 7 p.m. However, the following day the weather proved kinder, and a very interesting Exercise took place, from which all who participated learnt much. Apparently we need a lesson in camouflage from air observation, because the anonymous aviator who spotted us from afar gave us quite a shock by nearly landing on our Brigade Office ! We hope the success of this scheme will lead to others of a similar type in future.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.
15th July.

Sergeants' Mess Shoot.—An interesting feature this year has been the revival of our shooting fixture with Bishop Vesey's Grammar School Cadet Corps. The Corps Eight met us on their own open-air miniature range at Sutton. The Corps, who have been concentrating on their shooting lately, turned out a strong team and gave us a handsome licking by 596 points to 521. A return fixture has been arranged for 22nd July on our range, when we hope to return the compliment.

Camp.—It would be as well to mention that Camp this year is at Windmill Hill, Ludgershall. We are looking forward to another re-union with our friends of 3rd Divisional Signals, who will have an opportunity of winning back the handsome Cup which they presented to us two years ago.

GETCHER.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

July.

General.—Everyone seems sad and sorry that our annual training has come to a close, and only a host of very happy memories are left. We had an exceptionally good and successful Camp, and King Sol was brilliantly on parade most of the time.

It is only natural that we should speak of the Company in particular, but the greater praise is due to the Unit as a whole. It can safely be said that the efforts of all were rewarded with the congratulations of our Commanding Officer, and all who have at any time had the pleasure of serving under Colonel Walton will know that praise from him is praise indeed. Credit is also due to this Company for the general excellence of the turn-out and keenness shown by all ranks in the various duties and competitions.

The Company Commanders Cup was keenly contested by each Company, and although No. 3 were successful, we ran them very close for second place. The Company had a similar role in the Athletic Cup. The coveted Section Efficiency Cup was won by " A " Section. Competition in this Cup was " too keen to be true," and " A " Section must be heartily congratulated on their achievement. The Guard Cup was shared by " A " and " D " Sections, whilst the Football Cup for the seventh time in the eight years that this Competition has been in progress, found its home with No. 1. Good old Steve. It will clearly be seen that competition is growing more keen each year. In former years we have been content to see No. 3 take all but the Football Cup, but this year we have gained a Cup and a half.

It is a matter of deep regret that the Unit has to bid farewell to Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton, our Commanding Officer. Although he is leaving us, we trust that we shall see him on many future occasions. He may be sure that he takes with him the best wishes of the entire Unit. May we at the same time welcome Major T. T. J. Sheffield, who is to take over from him, and wish him as happy and successful a time as Colonel Walton.

Annual Weapon Training is now engaging all our attention, and if the results we have been getting on the Miniature Range are any criterion, we may anticipate some excellent shooting on the open range.

Agonies.—Was the spade returned after starting the " Kennels " ? We sincerely hope so.

When the Guard was turned out at dead of night, what happened to the sentry who said, " Corp', there's a bloke 'ere dressed like a Hofficer wants to see the rest of us."

CURRYWALLER.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—The Unit has now completed annual training for the year 1936. This was held at Redcar, Yorks., and was very successful, both from a training and pleasure point of view. This year's camp was distinctive from others as it was the occasion for our C.O., Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton, giving a farewell speech on relinquishing his command to Major T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D. I am sure we voice the sentiments of the 50th Divisional Signals when we wish the Colonel a very happy future and hope to see him again at many more Camps as an honoured guest.

The Unit Sports were held on Saturday, 22nd June, and some very good events took place. Congratulations to No. 3 Company on their good show. It was very nice to see among the guests Brevet-Colonel MacLeod, Captain P. Jennings, M.C., Captain J. W. Middleton, M.C. Their presence was much appreciated.

Post Camp Training.—We are now on with Weapon Training which ends our labours for 1936. Judging by results up-to-date some excellent shooting is anticipated.

The recruits fire on the open range at Eston on Sunday, 19th July, and we hope to see some good efforts.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Annual Training.—The predominant feature must, of course, relate to this year's Camp. Redcar, now behind us, will be thought and talked about with pleasure for many years to come. In the first place, real " Colonel Walton weather " was provided for us. This was, indeed, hard on " Old Sol," but his neglect of us prior to Camp caused many misgivings. Of work there was plenty, but in such circumstances and surroundings it became a pleasure.

The training programme gave ample opportunity for each and all to gather seaweed, consume the " wad " or to " get younger every day " according to individual taste. There were other diversions, of which eloquent testimony was evident at the Station prior to the homeward journey. One can only hope that our near friends, the Durham Light Infantry, will repair the damage to the female hearts of Redcar. Whilst on the subject of " diversions," others went fishing ! But that could be a many-sided story.

Trophies.—Once again No. 3 Company collected the larger portion. This is naturally gratifying, but we would say to our good friends in Nos. 1 and 2 Companies that we do not forget our greater numerical strength is of tremendous advantage to us and that, although successful in so many directions, we hold nothing but admiration for the sterling opposition we encountered at your hands. Such competition engenders good Corps spirit—not Company glory alone.

Medals—T.E. Medal.—Congratulations to the following on their awards : Sergeants Lumley, Trotter and Jones and Lance Corporal Brown T. S.

Piscatorial Prowess Medal (with the freedom of the Cleveland).—To the 50th P.S.I.s with unanimity. The local fish supplies are only now resuming normal proportions.

Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton.—Redcar was the last occasion on which our Colonel was to be with us in Camp as Commanding Officer. We shall always think of him with the kindly regard which, we know, he had for us. We felt that, as our former Company Commander, he kept a specially warm corner for us ; but judging by the enthusiastic scenes of loyalty at the close of Camp, Nos. 1 and 2 Companies must surely have felt the same as we did. We shall always remember your injunction to us, sir, and your successor can depend upon all wagons being firmly hitched to the brightest of stars. That, we feel certain, would be to you the most acceptable thanks-offering in return for what you have done for us.

Lieutenant W. B. Pain.—We greatly regretted your enforced absence during the greater portion of the Camp, but we hope that by now you have completely regained good health.

Our good wishes go to Signalman Veitch with hopes for a good recovery from his unfortunate mishap on the sports field.

Telephone No. 2406. Telegrams: " Fruit."

J. J. THOMPSON & SON

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DARLINGTON.

Training.—Weapon Training is at present bridging the hiatus which usually exists immediately after Annual Camp. When the Course is completed, there will be a period of comparative quiet until the autumn when, it is hoped, we shall buckle to once more with a view to reaching higher stars than ever before.

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—The Company week-end exercises have been a feature of training for June, and the ingenuity of the Commanding Officer and Adjutant has been sorely taxed in an effort to attend the No. 1 Company exercise on 20th/21st in the hinterlands of Aberdeenshire, and that of No. 3 Company in the Fife Rockies at the same time. This they managed by putting in the Saturday in Fife and the Sunday at Aberdeen. No. 2 Company's week-end Scheme being held on the 27th/28th, left them free to see the complete exercise. As these notes are mainly concerning Headquarters and No. 1 Company, we leave the other Companies in the expectation of meeting with their full reports in these columns.

In addition to the attendance of Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie-Reid, Commanding Officer, and Captain L. W. J. Dryland, Adjutant, on the Sunday, No. 1 Company were fortunate in having the Hon. Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., with them during the training period for the first day, and as a welcome visitor in Camp at Headquarters in the evening. Major T. P. E. Murray, Captain A. H. Lennie, M.M., and Lieutenant Miller, R.A., attended " for the duration," undertaking the " Staff " duties.

Captain J. W. Levack, O.C. No. 1 Company, and all ranks, are to be congratulated on producing what must rank as one of the



AFTER THE REPAST

most successful exercises on record. Good lines, orderly offices, uninterrupted traffic and wireless, which in the earlier years adopted a policy of "splendid isolation," taking its rightful place in the order of things.

A very successful battle closed at 8 p.m. on the 20th, but three Officers trapped in an outhouse at Blink Bonny Farm had to renew the struggle intermittently during the small hours of the morning. A projectile in the form of an empty potato case, launched through an open window, caught one of the inmates in the midriff. This clearly made it a "casus belli," and the war was on in real earnest. The attackers retired at 4 a.m. when they found themselves suffering from malnutrition.

The weather remained perfect during the exercise, and in the cool of the evening a visit to the lines found peace and contentment amongst all ranks. The C.S.M., C.Q.M.S. and Sergeants, with the wisdom of old campaigners, were comfortably settled round what might be described as a mobile canteen, enjoying the fruits of their splendid organisation, and the knowledge of a day's work well done, but fortunately not yet aware of the further success to be achieved next day, which might have led to celebrations. We are glad to put on record that the yarns were more nautical than naughty. A nearby "Cotter" when having his "Saturday night" at the invitation of the Sergeants refused an invitation to return with his pipes in the morning to play "Johnny Cope." He was beadle at the country kirk, and made it clear that he could not reconcile such conduct with his duty to "His Reverence." Operations were resumed on Sunday morning and close of play found everyone tired, but conscious of having put their intensive indoor training to a successful practical test.



W/T. STATION AT DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS



COLONEL NICOL, MAJOR MURRAY, CAPTAIN LEVACK AND SERGEANT SANGSTER AT DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

Other activities of the Company included a short practised exercise by "D" and "B" Sections on Sunday, 28th June. Two offices were established, Rear Div. and Div. H.Q. Communication was effected in good time, and in proof of Napoleon's maxim that an army marches on its stomach, Division advanced after lunch. It was a successful day, despite the fact that "Clicks," so welcome in the off duty periods on the Beach Promenade at St. Andrews, proved disconcerting on the superimposed line containing the Sounder (Dx. Sx.).

Pre-camp training continues, and recruits' instruction is prolonged on account of the large number who were enlisted during May and June.

Our Medical Officer, Major D. P. Levack, has been subjected to an amendment in the form of the deletion of the appendix. We are pleased to report very satisfactory progress, which, however, will not be rapid enough for him to attend Camp. This is a sad misfortune, mitigated only by the appointment of Dr. McKinnon of St. Andrews to be our M.O.

A further misfortune was the accident to the Officer who took up his abode in the luxury flat during the exercise. He will have difficulty in explaining this mishap because others before him have had their hands badly trampled on while proceeding to their night quarters.

Sport.—A WARNING.—There is a popular belief, due to the wide display of a well-known poster, that Signals' motto is "More Miles to the Gallon." We desire to correct this because we feel it might give the impression that the Canteen is the best place to train for sports.

Camp.—The Golf, the University, the murder of Archbishop Sharp, will undoubtedly keep St. Andrews in the picture, but in case the public taste for sport, learning, or murder should pall, we endeavour to keep the old town in the forefront by going to Camp there again this year. Reports of our activities during our field training must be left for another time.

Congratulations.—To Lieutenant J. J. Donald on qualifying for promotion in subject "C."

H.Q. AND ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

General.—At present all are preparing for annual Camp which is only a week ahead now.

Week-end Exercise.—An enjoyable week-end Exercise was held on 27th/28th June in which some sixty of the Company took part. We were honoured by visits from Colonel E. G. McHutchon, D.C.S.O. Scottish Command, also our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie-Reid, and Adjutant, Captain James Dryland, who dined with the Officers in Camp at Buchlyvie on Saturday evening. Our Despatch Riders were in use for the first time and are now experts in mending punctures.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Sergeant Harper and his family in the loss of his wife.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals

and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Arthur Cuthbert.—It is with very deep regret that we have to record the death of Arthur Cuthbert. He was a respected honorary member of our W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess for many years. His heart was in Jardine Street, yet Jardine Street owed him much. Arthur left Jardine Street in 1914 in the full bloom of manhood. He saw much service in France and the Great War extracted its tithe in full. He was dangerously wounded, his life was despaired of, but his indomitable spirit triumphed. The passing of the years, however, began to tell; Arthur was forced to retire from his position in the Glasgow Fire Brigade, but Jardine Street continued to attract him. He struggled to attend our functions and witness our parades. The Sergeants' Mess was his little haven. We laid him to rest on 16th June at the Western Necropolis, Glasgow. We mourn the passing of one of the best of comrades and a great, brave soul. If ever man has gone forward for his merited reward, surely that man is Arthur Cuthbert.

Scalpsie Bay, 1893.—The Camp of the Lowland Engineers at Scalpsie Bay, Bute, was struck on Friday, when the Regiment returned to Glasgow. The appearance of the men indicated how much they had benefitted by the week's experience of camp life, and it is gratifying to learn that no serious cases required

attention in the hospital tent. An effort made last year to get the requisite number of men to enable the Corps to go under canvas proved a failure, but the result of this year's endeavour in the same direction has demonstrated the popularity of the project, and it is certain to be taken up again with enthusiasm and even greater measure of success.—"Glasgow Evening Times," 26th July, 1893.

These were the Days (from an old Sergeants' Mess Suggestion Book).—"It is suggested that Old Moses whisky be supplied to the Mess at 3s. 6d. per five-gill bottle. 28th December, 1909."

"It is suggested that a change be made in the type of cigars sold in the Mess. We might revert to the Trichonopoli brand which was highly popular with the members. 4th February, 1903."

McAdie's Medal.—It gives us pleasure to congratulate Sergeant McAdie of our permanent staff on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. We feel that it has been well earned. Our good friend McAdie is worthy of the honour bestowed on him.

No. 2 Company, T.A.—No. 2 Company's recent week-end at Troon was remarkable in more ways than one. An astounding amount of work was done and the results were entirely satisfactory. Most remarkable of all was the bathing parade; at least four hardy youths had to be content with their bathing costumes for quite a time. The reappearance of their wearing apparel, however, ended a period of tension, and the sea salts returned to camp crestfallen but thankful.

Mrs. Wylie.—There is general satisfaction at the continued good progress of Mrs. Wylie, wife of our Lieutenant-Quartermaster. She had not been enjoying the best of health for some time and we are glad to be able to state, in response to many enquiries, that Mrs. Wylie is almost her old self again. The results of a holiday in England should ensure her return to Glasgow feeling strong and well.

No. 3 Company, T.A.—Promotions.—We congratulate Sergeants Gordon D., McBride C., Campbell R., Louden D., and Johnston J., on their promotion. They are all promising lads. They should prove to be a valuable asset to the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

Lance Corporal Hunter J.—We tender our deepest sympathy to Lance Corporal Hunter J. on the death of his son, Ebenezer, at Glasgow, on 1st July.

Lord Stevenson.—The appointment of Lord Stevenson to be one of His Majesty's Judges in Scotland is not without interest to the Lowland Signal Units. We remember Lord Stevenson as Lieutenant Stevenson in 1913. He resigned in that year, but he renewed his association with the Lowland Signals in 1914, on the outbreak of war. Lieutenant Stevenson proceeded to France with a Cable Section. He retired at the end of the war with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Lord Stevenson will also be remembered as Member of Parliament for the Camlachie Division of Glasgow, and as a distinguished member of the Scottish Bar. It is with pride that we record this great honour conferred on an ex-Officer of our Unit. The Lowland Signals have added one more to their honoured roll of men who have risen to high positions in the land.

Perky Pars.—Things are fairly quiet with us, although one or two odd snatches of news have come to hand. The Officers' fishing achievements have been reduced to a sad minimum, despite the fact that certain fishing waters, in Ross-shire, have had to be restocked after our Adjutant's rod and line expedition of last year. The betting is even as to whether the C.O. and Major Niven will lead the physical training stunts at Gailes as they did at last year's camp. The dismantling of Lieutenant Johnstone's model signal offices amounted almost to sacrilege. We hold a photograph of the R.S.M. in kilts, which we threaten to produce. P.S. man Evans is reputed to be the wealthiest bachelor in the Unit. Jock Currie has emerged from his state of hibernation: he comes out during the summer months. His principal passport to fame and industry is a sheet of foolscap (usually blank) carried in an impressive fashion in the right hand. C.Q.M.S. Marshall has issued a Caber Tossing and Hammer Throwing challenge to all comers. McNeil of the trading post in the Regimental store is said to be of Hebrew origin. The erroneous issue of an extra boot lace is said to be the cause of his present state of loss of memory. Caterer Christie of Sergeants' Mess fame was observed to smile on a recent date. The reason for this phenomenon cannot even be surmised. Peter Macphee does not now order his drinks in hogsheads. Taffy Williams is making good progress in his speaking of the English language. Stewart Ritchie is shortly to include a coloured saxophonist in his musical combination. Big Chief Fred Barton claims that his methods are firm but humane. The beer supply in the Men's Club failed on 9th July, Signalman Bottomley fainted and Signalman Graham was prostrated. These news items have been duly sub-edited. The copyright is held by the scribe.

City of London Signals.

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.
14th July.

Despatch Rider Display.—The display team continue to merit congratulations for their work. When at Woking, on 4th July, they were interested in the appearance of Lieutenant D. A. Pringle, 4th Divisional Signals, who appeared, won the Open Mile at the Police Sports and, having witnessed our display, departed. This exploit increased the appreciation of the audience in the capabilities of the Royal Corps of Signals.

Demonstration on Clapham Common.—This was held on Saturday, 20th June, on one of the few really hot days this year. The demonstration, from almost every point of view, was an unqualified success. We put out an Infantry Brigade Headquarters connected to four battalions by poled cable, visual and wireless. Each of the five stations had an interested crowd of spectators. Everyone sweltered in the heat. The restrictions imposed by the Authorities prevented any actual propaganda taking place in aid of recruiting during the demonstration, and it is due to this factor that we must attribute the lack of success from a recruiting point of view. The recruits continue to come in, but since the 20th June, only one man has admitted that he saw the demonstration, and he intended to join in any case.

Camp 1936, Seaford.—The City of London Signals, T.A., proceeds to Camp from 26th July to 9th August and are followed in the same Camp by Line of Communication Signals, S.R. We wish both Units a really high percentage camp attendance. During Camp, No. 1 Company, City of London Signals, is to provide the nucleus of a Corps Signals for the Eastern Command Signal Exercise, at Crowborough.

Line of Communication Signals Signal Exercise with "A" Corps Signals.—Colonel J. Waley Cohen, Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Allen and other Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s had the privilege of acting as Directors and Commanders during a Signal Exercise held at Andover from 26th to 28th June. The Scheme included the communications of Corps with two Divisions during a rapid advance. From the Corps Signals point of view the scheme was further complicated by the allotment of the Corps Wireless Sets to the duty of keeping touch with two Tank Battalions, which were in front of the leading Infantry. Many valuable lessons as to the working of Corps Signals were learned, and from the point of view of the Directors and Commanders, a very interesting three days ensued. Proceedings were livened on the second evening by the arrival of a contingent of Officers from London Corps Signals.

Appointments and Promotions.—The undermentioned appointments and promotions were approved with effect from 1st July: To Lance Sergeant, Corporals Lewis E., McAllister F. and Rickards G. C. To Corporal, Lance Corporals Newman A., Cousins P. and Hale J. To Lance Corporal, Signalmen Mackenzie H., Blake K., Lovett G., Phillips A., Barrett J. and Gill G., to whom we tender our congratulations.

Medals.—Congratulations are also extended to Corporal Alden J. E., No. 2 Company, on his award of the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

C. O. L. S.

ADVERTISEMENTS!

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SPORTS NOTES

Corps Cricket Notes.

Royal Signals v. R.M.A., Woolwich.—Played at Woolwich on 5th June. Won by one run.

The " Shop," who won the toss, put us in to bat on a softish wicket and a real summer morning. We should have done the same, but as it turned out, the wicket had a bit more bite in it later in the day.

Two wickets were down for 33, but Lewis-Barclay and Walford both batted steadily, punishing the loose ones, and taking the total to 105. Unfortunately, Walford pulled a muscle running a short one. This took him off our list of bowlers, and also out of the team for the rest of the matches. Lewis-Barclay was seeing the ball well, when one hung on the pitch, and he gave short mid-on a " dolly." Our remaining batsmen all started off with great confidence, but were victims to mis-timing on a varying wicket, and our total only reached 150, which was disappointing after 116 for 4. Wakelin bowled well for the " Shop," especially after changing ends, taking 5 for 22.

Tea was taken early, in order to save a double interval, and the " Shop " went in to bat at 4.15 p.m. The opening pair put on 35, which knocked a bit off our total. This did not look too promising for us because the side bats down to No. 11. But Cole made up his mind that something had to be done about it and, backed up by some good catches, the seventh wicket fell at 76, which looked good enough. But Wakelin, Leapmann and Power all batted as though they did not have a care in the world, and the ninth wicket fell at 119. Then it started to drizzle, making everything slippery. The score crept up to 149, then Power got his leg in front of one which nipped back from the off and would have bowled him endways, leaving us winners by one run. A most exciting and enjoyable game.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

L. C. C. Harrison b Power	11
W. H. L. Gordon lbw b Lawrence	5
Capt. Lewis-Barclay c Potter b Wakelin	41
Capt. Walford c and b Wakelin	38
J. H. St. G. Hamersley c Dickson b Wakelin	9
A. F. Freeman c Hayles b Stuart	9
E. S. Cole b Lawrence	9
Major Thursby-Pelham c Hayles b Wakelin	0
P. E. M. Bradley c and b Wakelin	4
A. F. McGill not out	7
Colonel Rawson lbw b Dickson	1
Extras	16
Total	150

Bowling—Power, one for 33 ; B-Lawrence, two for 20 ; Dickson, one for 38 ; Stuart, one for 21 ; Wakelin, five for 22.

R.M.A.

C. R. H. M. Stuart lbw b Cole	26
—. Gillett c Lewis-Barclay b Gordon	14
C. F. Potter b Cole	8
V. D. L. Dickson b Cole	0
B. R. M. Hayles c Cole b McGill	38
P. T. S. Brown b Cole	1
—. Bradford-Lawrence c Lewis-Barclay b Cole	4
M. D. Wilkinson c Rawson b Lewis-Barclay	4
P. B. Wakelin lbw b Cole	17
J. F. M. Leapmann not out	16
—. Power lbw b Cole	14
Extras	7
Total	149

Bowling—Cole, seven for 40 ; Lewis-Barclay, one for 44 ; Gordon, one for 44 ; McGill, one for 14

Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C.—Played on the R.A.S.C. Ground, Aldershot, on 1st and 2nd July. Drawn.

A real " sticky dog " wicket and two very steady bowlers, who could both make use of it, and neither of whom bowled a loose ball for an hour and twenty minutes, had us out for a miserable 14 runs. Betting was lively as to whether wickets or runs would win. Marrison bowled 14 overs and 4 balls, of which 13 were maidens, taking seven wickets for 1 run. A really remarkable performance. Our opponents, whose batting was a good deal more enterprising, had a proportion of short balls for which they could wait and hit and this was the sort of thing for which batsmen longed on that wicket. Williams bowled well and full of heart. Carpenter, once having got his length, kept our offside field on their toes waiting for catches. Gordon's catch, which dismissed Sadler, was a real beauty ; close in and low down in the gully off a hard hit. The R.A.S.C. made 180 in three hours, Lieutenant-Colonel Tudor and Corporal Hamlin both playing a fine innings. We went in again at 5.45 p.m., and the same sad story repeated itself. By 6.30 p.m. five of us were out for 27. Sanders, who went in first, was still there, but runs seemed very hard to get. It rained all night. Next day, the ground being under water, the match was abandoned.

This ground has cast a " hoodoo " on us ! Next year we must try to raise it.

We were glad to see Ryan, home on leave from India, in the side again.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

First innings.		Second innings.	
J. E. S. Sanders c and b Sadler	1	not out	7
Sig. Williams c Sadley b Marrison	2		
Capt. Lewis-Barclay c Packe b Marrison	0	c Packe b Marrison	8
C.Q.M.S. Carpenter c Packe b Sadler	0	b Sadler	0
W. H. L. Gordon c Stewart b Marrison	1	b Sadler	0
Corpl. Lundie c Hamlin b Marrison	3	c Stewart b Sadler	8
Sergt. P. Ryan c Stewart b Marrison	3	not out	4
Major A. J. Harris c and b Marrison	0		
F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson lbw b Marrison	2		
A. F. McGill c Hamlin b Sadler	1		
Colonel Rawson not out	0	b Marrison	0
Extras	1	Extras	0
Total	14	Total (for 5 wickets)	27

Bowling—Marrison, seven for 1 ; Sadler, three for 12.

R.A.S.C.

Corpl. Sadler c Gordon b Williams	2
Corpl. Hamlin hit wkt b Carpenter	43
Corpl. Wilton c Carpenter b Gordon	17
Lieut. Packe lbw b Gordon	16
Lieut. Vaughan-Arbuckle c Harris b Williams	10
Lieut. Marrison c and b McGill	26
Lieut.-Col. Tudor c Sanders b Williams	50
Lieut. Kingsmill c Lundie b Carpenter	5
Lieut. Macdonald c Gordon b Carpenter	0
Corpl. Stewart c Harris b Carpenter	1
Lieut. Forward not out	1
Extras	9
Total	180

Bowling—Williams, three for 65 ; Lewis-Barclay, none for 13 ; Carpenter, four for 53 ; Gordon, two for 23 ; McGill, one for 17.

Royal Signals v. Royal Engineers.—Played on the R.E. Ground, Aldershot, on 6th and 7th July. Lost by 4 wickets.

Having won the toss, we went in to bat on a good looking wicket, just on the soft side. Sanders and Lundie who opened for us, batted for half an hour before the former played forward a bit too soon and gave the bowler an easy catch. Lundie, who looked like getting a lot of runs, had a run of bad luck when his ball bounced off the edge of the bat back to the bowler. Lewis-Barclay and Carpenter continued the good work, taking the score to 43. Then Carpenter was bowled by a good one. The rate of scoring was slow, but the ball was biting enough to want watching and the batsmen quite rightly did not take any liberties with some very steady bowling. Hancock's first seven overs were maidens.

When Cole joined Lewis-Barclay we sat back in our chairs, prepared to enjoy ourselves, because they both seemed quite comfortable. Unfortunately, Cole was run out, calling a rather rash run to cover. Williams and Thursby-Pelham added their quota. McGill was beautifully stumped on the leg side. Lewis-Barclay was still batting well and would have obtained a bigger score had he been able to connect with the leg ball—usually a very strong point of his. Rawson and Mills added a very useful 29 for the last wicket, and we were all out at 4 o'clock for 164. Hancock bowled throughout the innings.

The Sappers opened with Rawlence and Kellett. Kellett, however, pulled a muscle in his thigh and was permitted to retire. He returned to finish his innings later. Rawlence and Grove scored 55 when the latter was lbw to Cole. Two wickets fell at 56. We were glad to see Shortt go at 79 as he was looking dangerous. Hancock and Nicholson were still together with 100 up when stumps were drawn. The game started again at 11.10 a.m. the next morning. Williams soon bowled Nicholson with a beauty and two more wickets fell quickly. Then Hancock was very well caught at long leg by Thursby-Pelham, and the score was 150. We had visions of a first innings lead. Anstruther and Sydenham batting heartily, put on 25 runs, giving the Sappers a total of 180 and a lead of 16 runs. Williams bowled very well taking four wickets for 65 runs.

We went in to bat at 12.45 p.m. Sanders and Lundie again opened well and gave us 30 for the first wicket. Lundie again was unlucky, skying a ball for the wicketkeeper to catch. Carpenter and Cole made a few, but the rest failed, and our total of 117 left the Sappers with 102 to get in two hours. One for 5, two for 12, three for 37, four for 46, five for 68 and six for 76, and we really felt we were pulling it off. But, unfortunately, Rawlence, who had gone in first, had been missed before he had scored, and had two other lives off successive balls. By the time Rawlence was joined by Anstruther (No. 8), he was well established and the two of them knocked off the runs by 6.15 p.m. A most enjoyable and exciting match. Ryan was unable to play owing to an attack of malaria, Mills, therefore, kept wicket, and did so very well.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

First innings.		Second innings.	
J. E. S. Sanders c and b Harris	2	c de Chassiron b Anstruther ..	11
Corpl. Lundie c and b Hancock	22	c de Chassiron b Harris	19
Capt. Lewis-Barclay b Sydenham	41	c Rawlence b Harris	12
C.Q.M.S. Carpenter b Shortt..	16	b Hancock	24
W. H. L. Gordon c Grove b Shortt	0	c Shortt b Hancock	5
E. S. Cole run out	16	b Harris	20
Sig. Williams c Hancock b Harris	11	b Hancock	6
Major Thursby-Pelham c de Chassiron b Sydenham	12	not out	5
A. F. McGill st de Chassiron b Sydenham	0	lbw b Hancock ..	2
Colonel Rawson not out	21	b Harris	4
L/Corpl. Mills b Harris	12	c de Chassiron b Harris	0
Extras	11	Extras	9
Total	164	Total	117

Bowling—Hancock, one for 62 and four for 25 ; Shortt, two for 26 and none for 15 ; Harris, three for 37 and five for 52; Sydenham, three for 28 and none for 4 ; Anstruther, one for 12.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

First innings.		Second innings.	
J. R. Rawlence run out	18	not out	34
R. Kellett b Williams	15		
L. T. Grove lbw b Cole	32	lbw b Cole	5
J. L. Nicholson b Williams....	15	lbw b Williams ..	4
L. J. Harris b Cole.....	0	b Lewis-Barclay	6
Major A. C. Shortt lbw b Lewis-Barclay	18	b Cole	16
Capt. L. F. Hancock c Thursby-Pelham b Williams	34	b Gordon	21
H. E. C. de Chassiron c Mills b Williams.....	3	lbw b Cole	1
Tp. Major Hardaway c Lewis-Barclay b Cole	7	not out	13
Capt. R. M. Anstruther not out	10		
P. St. B. Sydenham c Lewis-Barclay b Gordon	13		
Extras	15	Extras	2
Total	180	Total (for 6 wickets)	102

Bowling—Cole, three for 73 and three for 34 ; Williams, four for 66 and one for 19 ; Carpenter, none for 8 ; Lewis-Barclay, one for 17 and one for 11 ; Gordon, one for 1 and one for 30 ; McGill, none for 6.

Royal Signals v. R.A.O.C.—Played on the Aldershot Club ground, 8th July. Drawn.

We won the toss. The same side which played the Sappers, doing duty. Ryan turned up to play, but was still suffering from his malaria. He was replaced by Mills. Sanders and Lundie made 38 when the latter was run out owing to a bad start for a short run. He was well set. Lewis-Barclay, before he had scored, was caught by mid-on from off a very suspicious bump ball. Lunch was taken with Sanders and Carpenter together, and insufficient runs for the time. After lunch, runs came much better, both Carpenter and Thursby-Pelham batting very well and scoring freely. At 3.25 p.m. we were all out for 212. The right sort of score for a one day match.

The start of the R.A.O.C. innings was sensational. Cole bowled an over, and then the game was stopped by rain for ten minutes. Resuming, Lewis-Barclay, in his first over, bowled Brigadier Hoare ; in the next over Cole got Partridge caught in the slips, and in Lewis-Barclay's next over Sheppard was caught in the slips off the second ball. Three good bats for eight runs. Mitchell came in. His first ball rolled on to his wicket but did not shift the bails. The second ball was missed in the slips, and again off the third ball. He then proceeded to bat beautifully, hitting the ball hard all round the wicket and, with Ormershaw giving him good support runs, there were prospects of a good finish. Mitchell had one more life. His grand innings came to an end at last when he was well caught in the deep. That was six for 152, of which Mitchell had made 84, including twelve fours. After he had gone, Love and Chatterton remained in until 6.30 p.m. Chatterton was caught in the last over. So the game ended in a draw, with the R.A.O.C. 50 runs behind with three wickets to go. Thanks to Mitchell, it was an exciting match. Cole and Williams were both feeling the effects of two days' bowling against the R.E., and did not give of their best on a rather dead wicket.

An apology is due for the score sheet. It was not noticed, until too late, that the scorer had omitted to state who had caught the catches.

ROYAL SIGNALS.

J. E. S. Sanders lbw b Lawrence	14
Corpl. Lundie run out	24
Capt. Lewis-Barclay c —— b McCullum	0
C.Q.M.S. Carpenter c —— b McCullum	50
E. S. Cole b Ormershaw	23
Major Thursby-Pelham b McCullum	58
W. H. L. Gordon lbw b McCullum	10
Sig. Williams b Partridge	4
A. F. McGill c —— b Partridge	8
Colonel Rawson c —— b McCullum	13
L/Corpl. Mills not out	0
Extras	8
Total	212

Bowling—Lawrence, one for 58 ; McCullum, five for 64 ; Partridge, two for 62 ; Love, none for 7 ; Ormershaw, one for 6 ; Chatterton, none for 7.

R.A.O.C.

Brigadier Hoare b Lewis-Barclay	2
Lieut.-Col. G. W. Palmer c —— b Williams	18
Sergt. Partridge c —— b Cole	0
Lieut.-Col. Sheppard c —— b Lewis-Barclay ..	0
H. S. Mitchell c —— b Cole	84
L/Corpl. Ormershaw b Gordon	35
Major Love not out	14
W. T. Chatterton c —— b Cole	8
Extras	1
Total (for 7 wickets)	162

Sergt. Byer, Corpl. McCullum and Pte. Lawrence did not bat.

Bowling—Cole, three for 48 ; Lewis-Barclay, two for 20 ; Williams, one for 28 ; Gordon, one for 34 ; Carpenter, none for 31.

Royal Signals v. Catterick Garrison.—This match should have been played at Catterick on 13th and 14th July, but in the absence of most of the Garrison, it was found difficult to raise a Garrison side without Corps players. The match was, therefore, cancelled.

School of Signals.

Cricket.—Our optimism of last month has been justified. We have succeeded in reaching the final of the Mackworth Cricket Competition for the first time for many years. Our semi-final success was gained at the expense of " E " Company, so that one of many previous defeats has been wiped off the slate. " E " Company batted first, and against steady bowling and fielding on a very wet wicket, were dismissed for 59 runs in just over an hour. Corporal Watterton with 4 wickets for 18 runs was the School's most successful bowler. The School opened badly, three good men going back to the pavilion with only 15 runs on the board. Lieutenant Sanders and Corporal Watterton, however, dug themselves in, and they were still together when " E " Company's total was passed, leaving us winners by 7 wickets. Corporal Watterton had then scored 33 runs and Lieutenant Sanders 13.

We now meet " F " Company in the final, and hope to continue the winning sequence.

Results of other matches are :

SCHOOL v. R.S.I.—School 118 for 7 (Beck 26, Ackroyd 23, Young 21) ; R.S.I. 60 (Marsden 5 for 19, Chitty 4 for 24).

SCHOOL v. RICHMONDSHIRE.—School 117 (Lieutenant Sanders, 46) ; Richmondshire 100.

SCHOOL v. " UNITED " C.C.—School 68 for 3 (Young 32 not out) ; United C.C. 50 (Young 4 for 16, Wilson 3 for 23).

SCHOOL v. SCRUTON C.C.—School 27 ; Scruton 50 (Wilson 3 for 6, Armitage 3 for 19).

Tennis.—The tennis tournament is now completed, but no outstanding results were shown. The favourite won in two cases out of three. The results were :

LEVEL SINGLES.—Sergeant Farmer beat Lance Sergeant Cox in the final by 6-0, 6-2.

HANDICAP SINGLES.—Sergeant Farmer (—50) beat Lance Corporal Martin (+15-3) by 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. The winner played great tennis to earn his success. A handicap of —50 takes a lot of pulling up.

DOUBLES.—Corporal Watterton and U/Lance Corporal Beck beat Lance Corporal Bucke and Signalman Cooper by 6-3, 6-2 in the final.

All competitors are to be congratulated on their performance. The tournament was a great success, but it did not bring to light any new " stars."

Sergeant Farmer and Lance Sergeant Cox are now competing in the Command Championships at York. We hope they will add more laurels to stock.

SCH. SIGS.

1st Divisional Signals.

Cricket.—1st Divisional Signals versus 3rd Divisional Signals (Bulford). Result : 1st Divisional Signals 155 ; 3rd Divisional Signals 124. C.S.M. Yates upheld his reputation by making the highest score of 33 runs for 1st Divisional Signals before he was bowled by Lance Corporal Jordon, 3rd Divisional Signals, who incidently took 7 wickets for 42 runs. The bowlers of note were Lance Corporal Petit, 6 for 42 and Signalman Williams 3 for 27. The fielding was good although not quite so speedy as the 3rd Divisional Signals' work. A slight drizzle at mid-day held up play for half an hour. Sunshine, however, soon dried and cheered the players for the remainder of the day. We were well looked after, and left many old friends with mixed feelings of victory and well-being.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Tennis.—We have played two matches this season, both against St. Martin's Tennis Club, Salisbury. In the first match, played at Salisbury, we won by 8 sets to 6. The results of the first match were as follows :

LADIES SINGLES :	Won by	Score
Mrs. Rowe v. Mrs. Penwarden ..	St. Martin's ..	8—6
Miss G. Stevens v. Mrs. Lacey ..	Signals ..	2—6
GENTLEMEN'S SINGLES :		
Mr. Gurling v. Signalman Jordan ..	St. Martin's ..	9—7
Mr. Ledo v. Signalman Farrow ..	Signals ..	3—6
Mr. Hamon v. Signalman Farrow ..	Signals ..	5—7
Mr. Smith v. Signalman Jordan ..	Signals ..	3—6
GENTLEMEN'S DOUBLES :		
Messrs. Gurling and Hamon v. Signalmen Harris and Swale	St. Martin's ..	9—7
Messrs. Groome and Taylor v. Signalmen Swale and Harris ..	Signals ..	4—6
Messrs. Smith and Ledo v. Signalmen Jordan and Swale ..	St. Martin's ..	6—4
LADIES' DOUBLES :		
Mesdames Ford and Rowe v. Mesdames Lacey and Penwarden ..	Signals ..	3—6
Miss Stevens and Mrs. Biss v. Mesdames Lacey and Penwarden ..	St. Martin's ..	6—2
MIXED DOUBLES :		
Mrs. Ford and Mr. Gurling v. Mrs. Penwarden and Signalman Farrow	St. Martin's ..	6—1
Miss B. Biss and Mr. Taylor v. Mrs. Penwarden and Signalman Jordan	Signals ..	1—6
Mrs. Rowe and Mr. Groome v. Mrs. Lacey and Signalman Swale ..	Signals ..	2—6

Signals won the second match 9—8. Results were as follows :

LADIES' SINGLES :	Won by	Score
Mrs. Lacey v. Miss Biss	Signals ..	6—2
Mrs. Vignaux v. Miss Shaw ..	Signals ..	6—3
Mrs. Brooke v. Mrs. Ford	St. Martin's ..	1—6
GENTLEMEN'S SINGLES :		
Signalman Jordan v. Mr. Gurling ..	St. Martin's ..	3—6
Signalman Swale v. Mr. Ledo ..	Signals ..	6—4
Signalman Harris v. Mr. Hamon ..	St. Martin's ..	1—6
Sergeant Luck v. Mr. Chambers ..	Signals ..	7—5
GENTLEMEN'S DOUBLES : ..		
Signalmen Jordan and Swale v. Messrs. Ledo and Groome ..	Signals ..	6—0
Sergeant Luck and Signalman Harris v. Messrs. Taylor and Chambers ..	Signals ..	6—0
Sergeant Luck and Signalman Harris v. Messrs. Gurling and Hamon ..	St. Martin's ..	4—6
Signalmen Swale and Jordan v. Messrs. Taylor and Groome ..	Signals ..	6—0
LADIES' DOUBLES :		
Mesdames Luck and Brooke v. Mrs. Ford and Miss Biss	St. Martin's ..	2—6
Mesdames Vignaux and Lacey v. the Misses Shaw and Shoesmith ..	St. Martin's ..	6—8
MIXED DOUBLES :		
Mrs. Luck and Sergeant Luck v. Mrs. Ford and Mr. Gurling ..	St. Martin's ..	1—6
Mrs. Vignaux and Signalman Swale v. Miss Biss and Mr. Chambers ..	Signals ..	7—5
Mrs. Brooke and Signalman Harris v. Miss Shoesmith and Mr. Ledo ..	St. Martin's ..	4—6
Mrs. Lacey and Signalman Jordan v. Miss Biss and Mr. Chambers ..	Signals ..	6—1

On 13th June, the Unit entered a team in the N.A.A.F.I. Open Relay Race, at Mitcham. The team ran very well to get fourth place by a foot. The 43rd Light Infantry won the Cup for the third year running. The team was : Lieutenant L. D. J. Read, 220 Yards ; Lieutenant R. J. Western, 220 Yards ; Signalman West, 440 Yards ; Lance Corporal Hastings, 880 Yards. In the following week, the same team were second in the Open Relay at the Wiltshire Constabulary Meeting.

On 30th June, we had the first day of the S.P.A. Championships (seven teams competing). We won our way into the final of all the track events : 440 Relay, 880 Yards, Mile and 2 Miles. We also won the 3 Mile Team Race with 37 points. In the field events on this day, we were equal third in the Pole Vault (16ft. 6ins.), second in the Discus (207ft. 3½ins.), third in the Hammer and first in the Long Jump with 40ft. 10¼ins. On the final day, 1st July, we were : First in the 440 Yards Relay by two yards, but were disqualified ; won the 880 Yards Relay by five yards ; won the Mile Relay by 30 yards in 3 mins. 39 2/5 secs.; won the 2 Mile Relay by 40 yards, in 8 mins. 40 1/5 secs. ; won the 120 Yards Hurdles Relay by one foot in 70 1/5 secs. ; equal second in the Mile Team Race, and equalled the Army Team High Jump Record of 11ft. 3ins. ; second in Putting the Shot with 66ft. 1in. ; first in Throwing the Javelin, with 282ft. 5ms.

Total points, 125. Second Team, 2nd Battalion, Loyal Regiment, with 96 points.

After this we thought that there was a chance of getting into the Army Inter-Unit Athletics by winning the Southern Command Meeting, but unfortunately, we had to reckon with the very good team of the 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Unfortunately, our team could not produce their best form on 7th and 8th July—the days of the Southern Command Meeting, and we had difficulty in getting third. The final placings were :

	Points
1—1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment	73
2—2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment ..	48
3—Royal Signals, Southern Command	45
4—2nd Battalion Loyal Regiment	43

A team has been entered for the Army 1½ Mile Medley Relay and, by then, we are hoping to recover our lost form. The teams in the S.P.A. and Southern Command Championships were :

440 YARDS RELAY.—Lieutenants Read, Western and Atkinson and Signalman Smith E.

880 YARDS RELAY.—Lieutenants Read, Atkinson, Bradley (S.P.A.), Atkinson (S. Cmd.) and Western.

MILE RELAY.—Corporal Bucke, Lance Corporal Hastings, Signalmen West and Griffiths.

TWO MILE RELAY.—Corporal Bucke, Lance Corporal Hastings, Signalmen West and Griffiths.

MILE.—2nd Lieutenant Barnes, Signalmen Talbot D., Truscott and Seaman.

THREE MILES.—2nd Lieutenant Barnes, Signalmen Talbot D., Wysman and Seaman.

PUTTING THE SHOT.—Lieutenant Read and Sergeant Jerram.

DISCUS.—Lieutenant Read and Signalman Bain.

JAVELIN.—Lieutenant Read and Lance Corporal Abraham.

THROWING THE HAMMER.—R.S.M. Herbert and Signalman Bain.

POLE VAULT.—Signalmen Hicks and Sheppard.

HIGH JUMP.—Lieutenant Deakin and Corporal Moore.

LONG JUMP.—Lieutenant Atkinson and Lance Corporal Abraham.

120 YARDS HURDLES.—Lieutenants Read, Atkinson and Deakin, and Lance Corporal Abraham.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

Swimming Championship, 10th Infantry Brigade.—The 10th (Jubbulpore) Infantry Brigade Swimming Championship was held in the Gun Carriage Factory Swimming Baths on Friday, 5th June. Owing to our small numbers we were permitted to combine with the G.C.F. Club, and after an evening of keen competition we emerged runners-up, losing to the 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment by half a point. In the final of the Water Polo we drew with 15th Field Brigade R.A., after a very hard game. During the polo we were without the services of our crack player, Signalman Davies B., who had to retire after competing in all other events. His performances were worthy of the applause he received. The results were as follows :

TWO LENGTHS FREE STYLE (team of four).—1, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 2, 15th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 3, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I. ; 4, " A " Company, S.T.C. (I).

BREAST STROKE—TWO WIDTHS (team of four).—1, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I. ; 2 (tie), 15th Field Brigade, R.A. and " A " Company, S.T. Battalion ; 4, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment.

DIVING COMPETITION (team of four).—1, " A " Company, S.T.C. (I) ; 2, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 3, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I. ; 4, 15th Field Brigade, R.A.

TWO WIDTHS FREE STYLE (team of four).—1, 15th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 2, " A " Company, S.T. Battalion ; 3, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 4, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I.

TWO WIDTHS BACK STROKE (team of four).—1, " A " Company S.T. Battalion ; 2, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 3, 15th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 4, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I.

PLUNGING COMPETITION.—1, 15th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 2, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 3, " A " Company S.T. Battalion ; 4, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I.

MEDLEY RACE TWO WIDTHS (team of four).—1, " A " Company, S.T. Battalion ; 2, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 3, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I. ; 4, 15th Field Brigade, R.A.

SIX LENGTHS FREE STYLE (Individual—Signalman Davies, B.).—1, 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment ; 2, " A " Company, S.T. Battalion ; 3, 15th Field Brigade, R.A. ; 4, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I.

WATER POLO, FIRST ROUND.—" A " Company, S.T. Battalion 3, 2nd Battalion K.S.L.I. 1 ; 15th Field Brigade, R.A. 4, 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment 3.

FINAL.—15th Field Brigade, R.A. 3, " A " Company, S.T. Battalion 3.

The following represented the Combined G.C.F. and S.T. Battalion Team : Captains H. E. Rance, R. G. Smith, and C. S. Gamble (R.A.M.C.), Messrs. G. Baggott and Oates (G.C.F.), Sergeant Scott, Lance Sergeants Edge and Gourlay, Corporal Driver, Lance Corporals Stanley and Price, Signalmen Davies, Barran and Hull, C.S.M. Lewis and Corporal Clarke.

G.G.

1st Indian Divisional Signals.

Hockey.—On the 2nd June, the Hockey team, with Sergeant French in charge, went to Upper Topa in order to prepare for the Murree Brewery Hockey Tournament. After hard training for a fortnight, the team was decided upon and managed to carry through the whole tournament without change. This was surprising considering the bad state of the Murree grass pitch which was the cause of numerous injuries.

The team was as follows : Signalman McGrattan ; Lance Corporals Thornton and Thompsett ; Lance Corporal Warhurst, Sergeant French and Signalman Briggs ; Lance Corporal Crimes, Signalman Howard, Signalman Fitzpatrick, Corporal Moody and Lance Sergeant Collins. A short account of the matches played in the Tournament follows.

1st Round. 15th June. v. 1st Battalion South Wales Borderers. A hard game and very well contested, but we were slightly superior and won 2—0.

2nd Round. 17th June. v. 13/18th Hussars. This team had previously disposed of the Punjab Rifles (Ghora Gali School), and were reckoned one of the best teams in the tournament. By attacking almost immediately from the start we managed to get two goals within the first five minutes which put us definitely on top. The game was hard and fast but we gave them only one chance of scoring of which they took advantage. Final score 3—1. This game produced the best display of hockey in the Tournament.

Semi-Final. 18th June. v. 4th Field Brigade, R.A. Not much difficulty was experienced, and after a fairly easy game we ran out winners 6—1.

Final. 19th June. v. 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment. For some reason unknown, it was decided to finish the tournament quickly. This was our fourth match in five days and our team was bruised and a trifle stale. Even so, the match started and finished at a very fast pace. In the first few minutes a chance to take the lead, which might have made a difference, was wasted. Half way through the first half the Hants managed to convert a short corner which gave our goalkeeper no chance. We tried hard to equalise, but all our efforts were beaten by a splendid defence. An easy goal was added in the second half, and in spite of pressing hard we failed to get through and eventually lost 0—2.

It was a disappointment to get so near to obtaining a trophy we have tried for years to win, but there was the slight satisfaction of going further than we have done previously, and perhaps next year will pull it off.

Football—Buffalo Tournament.—The Unit was represented by a team selected from No. 1 Company who, although beaten in the first round by the 20 (A.C.) Squadron, R.A.F., from Peshawar, gave an excellent account of themselves and were by no means disgraced. The match was played under excellent conditions on the Murree Ground on Monday, 25th May, and was well supported by a large gathering of R.A.F. and Signals' enthusiasts.

Immediately from the kick-off, the R.A.F. carried the ball to the Signals' goal and scored. For the next twenty minutes play was very even; first the Signals and then the R.A.F. attacking in turn. Five minutes from half-time, Mobberley (outside-left), was brought down inside the penalty area. McDougall netted from the subsequent spot kick and the teams changed over on equal terms. On resuming play, the Signals pressed continuously for a period of ten minutes and were unlucky not to score. The R.A.F. centre-half was playing a splendid game, ably supported by an excellent pair of backs. From a break-away, the R.A.F. scored what proved to be the winning goal. For the remainder of the game, the Signals strove desperately to get an equalising

goal, but the R.A.F. defence never faltered, and they ran out winners of a splendidly hard-fought game.

The 20th Squadron were the eventual winners of the Tournament. Special mention must be made of Baldwin, the R.A.F. captain and centre-half, who played a magnificent and sporting game throughout the Tournament.

No. 1 Company team : Signalman Hunns ; Signalmen Bourton and Cox F. ; Lance Corporal Thornton, Signalmen Stanford and McDougall ; Signalmen Sharpe A., Donaghy, Horsfield, Corporal Cleveland and Signalman Mobberley.

ONEDIV.

Waziristan District Signals.

Hockey.—Our Headquarter hockey team was badly disorganised at the beginning of the year owing to members of the team departing to the United Kingdom, but with perseverance and practice, plus the assistance of one or two new-comers to the Section, we have once again a really good team. Whilst at D.I. Khan we had only a few inter-section games, but several with the " local " police, which proved more thrilling to the spectators than the players. We are now in our summer station at Razmak, and have had a variety of matches which has greatly improved our playing.

For the benefit of those who have recently left the Unit, the present team with our fixtures and results for May are published below :

Lance Corporal Wood ; Lance Corporals Pyne and Peacock ; Signalmen Machin, Martin S., and Finch ; Lieutenant E. J. C. Harrison, Lance Corporal Durnan, Captain T. A. R. Scott, Signalmen Lambert and Adams, assisted by our noteworthy umpire, Signalman Carter.

v. Razmak Signal Section	won by 4—1.
v. 15th Fd. Coy. Sappers and Miners	won by 7—1.
v. " B " Coy. 1st Bn. E. Yorks. Regt.	won by 4—2.
v. " B " Coy. 5/12 F.F. Regt.	won by 7—0.
v. 4th Light Battery, R.A.	won by 5—1.
v. 1st A.C. Coy. R.T.C.	won by 2—1.
v. 5/12 Frontier Force Regt. (Bn.)	won by 5—1.
v. 4th Light Battery R.A.	won by 7—0.
v. " A " Coy. 1st Bn. E. Yorks. Regt.	won by 9—2.
v. 1/3rd Q.A.O. Gurkha Rifles	won by 6—3.
v. 15th Fd. Coy. Sappers and Miners	won by 3—1.
	59—13.

We are now looking forward to the Razmak Brigade Inter-Company Hockey Tournament which commences on the 4th June, the results of which I hope to have published in the next issue. This is the first time that our Headquarter team has been allowed to enter in addition to our Razmak Signal Section team. Both teams are trying hard to meet in the final.

Football.—Owing to the priority of hockey, which has been put first, due to the tournament, our football team (combined Headquarters and Razmak Section), has only had a very few matches for May. I have not the results handy, but so far they have been fairly good, our chief opponents being The E. Yorks. and 4th Light Battery R.A. Our team now appears to be settling down, so I hope to be able to send a number of good reports to later.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Cricket.—Four matches of note have been played this month, the first, a Unit Trial, to help select a team for the Hot Weather Tournament. In this match, the team skippered by Major L. B. Nicholls, beat that skippered by Captain Brown by four runs. Scores : Major Nicholls' XI 178, (Rose 101 retired, scored in 56 minutes) ; Captain Brown's XI 168 (Corporal Clackett 79, included in this were one six and ten fours). Rose took 7 wickets for 54 runs.

K.D.S. v. Kohat Club in the Hot Weather Tournament. Kohat Club 108, K.D.S. 111 for 7 (Rose 25, Luckhurst 22, Lance Corporal McMahon 43 not out).

K.D.S. v. R.A.F. R.A.F. 130 for 8 declared, K.D.S. 166 for 6 (Rose 60, Corporal Clackett 40).

K.D.S. v. The Best XI. The Best XI 73 (Rose 6 for 33), K.D.S. 109 for 4 (Rose 40 retired, Lance Corporal Angus 22, Private Harrop 20).

Tennis.—We have entered two teams in the Hot Weather League but so far they have failed to cover themselves with glory. Our " B " team having played five and lost them all, whilst the " A " team have played four, winning two and losing two, with a margin of games in their favour of 160 to 152.

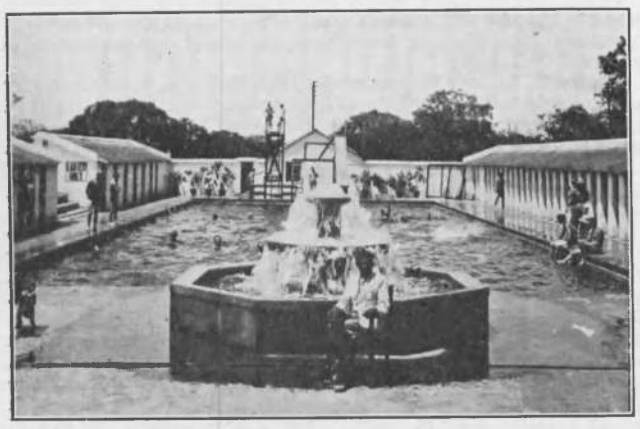
ROBO.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Hockey and Football.—Since the last submission of Sports Notes from this Unit, much interest has been centred around the position of the various Units in the station in the Hot Weather Hockey and Football Tournaments. Until a few days ago we stood a real good chance of holding first position in the Hockey Tournament but, unfortunately, we lost to " B " Company, Green Howards, who proved the superior team. We were without the services of Signalman Meese at centre-half, he being on leave, but he returned in time for us to defeat Detachment, R.A.M.C., 5—0, and " B " Squadron, 17/21st Lancers, 6—0. In the latter match Meese scored three goals and Signalman Boatman netted the other three.

Our best wishes go to the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop who now look like attaining first position in the league. The Unit has not been so fortunate at football and we are still holding our own at the bottom of the league table, hoping that we may win a match in the near future.

Swimming.—We met the 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop in a friendly swimming match at the " E " Battery bath on Sunday, 14th June, and they proved the victors by 15 points to 9. They were definitely the better team, winning all events



GARRISON SWIMMING POOL, TRIMULGHERRY, 1936.



COMBINED SIGNALS FOOTBALL TEAM, TRIMULGHERRY, 1936.

but one, our saviours in this event being Lieutenants Williams and Johnson, whose back stroke proved superior to that of the Signal Troop. I can only attribute our defeat to the fact that we have not had much training and hope we may be able to turn out a really good team for our next match. The teams were :

Free style (2 lengths each)—Signalman Falkingham, Lance Corporal Palmer, Signalmen Drummond and Crellin.

Breast Stroke.—Signalmen Nicoll, Ganner, Falkingham and Tracey.

Diving.—Signalmen Crellin and Drummond.

Side Stroke.—Signalman Crellin, Lance Corporal Rhead, Signalmen Tracey and Falkingham.

Back Stroke.—Lieutenants Johnson and Williams, Signalmen Tracey and Drummond.

Plunging.—Signalmen Falkingham, Niccoll and Drummond.

Length under water.—Corporal Homer, Signalman Lawton.

Medley Relay.—Lieutenants Johnson and Williams, Lance Corporal Palmer, Signalmen Falkingham, Tompkins, Tracey Drummond, Hunter and Crellin, Lance Corporal Rhead, Signalman Lawton.

Detachment 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Hockey.—The hockey pitch here is different to the mutti pitches of Meerut ; it has a loose surface of gravel and is very treacherous. For the first five games the team literally could not find their feet and lost regularly, but the table to date will show the improvement that they have made :

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Against
15	7	2	6	30	23

The matches have all been against the various Companies of the Bedfords, as they are the only battalion in Chakrata. Our star forward, Lieutenant P. C. (" Snap-it-up ") Williams, has, unfortunately, just returned to the plains ; this has not checked our winning career, but has made a difference in the goals-for column, and we miss his cricketer's eye in the circle. Another cricketer who does stalwart work at back is Corporal Penny, while all the forwards are nippy, especially Captain McCormack, who plays a vigorous game at inside-right.

The team is picked from Signalmen Brown and Moase ; Corporals Penny and Hunter ; Signalmen Randall, Dunne, Cashmore and Bovill ; Captain McCormack, Lieutenant Williams, Signalmen Cutter, Robinson ('311) and Redgrave. The goalkeepers came to a sporting agreement to play in alternate games. Brown must have picked the wrong one to start off with, for he attempted to head a shot out, and collected his prize in the shape of a couple of stitches from the B.M.H.

In addition to the first team, we have had a few pick-up games, not nearly as many as we should have liked but the Depot (and only) ground is not allotted as often as we would wish. " The Employed " v. " Course Personnel " is a very popular game and honours are easy ; of the three games played one has been drawn, one won and one lost. Unfortunately, C.Q.M.S. Gould was crocked in the course of one of these games, and cannot trust his knee any longer but has taken up umpiring with marked success.

Football.—The football team found the opponents' net from the very first game. The football ground has been under repair, and only came into play a few weeks ago, since when—well, look at the table :

Played	Won	Goals For	Against
6	6	17	4

The first five games were against Company teams of the Bedfords and the Welch (the latter from the neighbouring Depot of Kailana). The sixth, however, was against the battalion team of 1st Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, who, incidentally, have entered in the I.F.A. Shield. From whence the challenge originated we do not know, but we vaguely suspect those nasty beer drinking men in the Sergeants' Mess. Be that as it may, the challenge was accepted and the most sanguine among us thought that we would do well to keep our opponents' score down to three.

Yet half-time came with no score, and the Detachment had had most of the play. Pte. Balnis had been unlucky once or twice, the other forwards just failing to connect with his well-directed passes. Soon after the restart, however, a pass down the wing was taken by Captain McCormack, who beat a back and slipped across a beautiful centre, which Signalman Wardley headed into the net, leaving the goalie helpless.

The Bedfords pressed hard then, but the Detachment defence was very steady, Corporal Penny bringing off some good saves. The equaliser came from a long lob from the wing, being headed in past Penny, who obviously thought the scorer to be offside. Time was nearly up then and all the Signals spectators were praying for the whistle to go and leave the Detachment with a well earned draw, when suddenly from a scrimmage in the Bedfords' goal area, the ball came to Captain McCormack, whose shot was only partially stopped as the goalie fell forward, and the ball came back to the O.C. He made no mistake with his second attempt, calmly lobbing it into the net. This proved to be the winning goal, and when it is mentioned that the Detachment strength is about 80, you can understand our jubilation when we beat a battalion team. We would like to say that it was particularly fitting that the O.C. should have scored the winning goal ; he well deserved it for the interest that he takes in all sports and the hardworking game that he always plays.

The football team is picked from Corporal Penny and Signalman Guest R. ; Lance Corporal Brown, Signalmen Guest C. and Redgrave ; Lance Corporal Bevan, Signalmen Deighton and Taggart ; Captain McCormack, Signalmen Moase, Wardley, Privates Balnis and Nugent.

BILL-WUM.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Hockey.—The Troop hockey team continues to do well, and P.D.S. will be glad to know that Lofty Roberts is playing up to his reputation. Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler, who has proceeded on two months' leave, will be missed by the hockey and cricket teams.

We have had a few cricket fixtures lately, and although the team contains no Bradmans or Larwoods, it is improving and giving a good account of itself.

A new swimming pool has been built in the Station, and open air swimming in this climate is a joy. However, only a few B.O.R.s use the pool and the majority must suffer from stage-fright or prefer a horizontal position in the bungalow.

No doubt the reports and results of the Combined Signals Games will be given by 4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Photographs of the swimming pool and the football team (and supporters) appear at the foot of page 370. The wee fellow in front of the group is Mickey Archer (I don't know if he is to be a Farrier too !)—our best supporter.

Here are the results for the past week or two :

CRICKET

v. R.P.K. Club .. .. Lost by 20 runs.

HOCKEY

v. King's Dragoon Guards (home) .. .. drew at 1—1.
v. Muslim Star Club (home) .. .. .. won by 5—1.
v. King's Dragoon Guards (away) .. .. lost by 1—2.
v. P.A.V.O. Cavalry (home) .. .. .. lost by 3—6.
v. Moonlight Club (home) .. .. .. lost by 4—6.

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

Hockey, for the Unit team as well as the Corps team, has been most successful.

The first game of the month was versus the Navy, in the form of two Destroyers. Everyone played like blazes and made the game a success. Whenever the Navy attacked, the backs tackled the corner flag, much to the annoyance of our goalkeeper, who had visions of his average going west. He need not have worried, because they only scored once. We eventually ran out winners, 3—1, McAuliffe scoring the hat trick ; but the Navy goalie swears it was only 2—1, and bases his argument on the fact that Johnny borrowed one of the Destroyer's 4.7 to shoot the first goal. Beer was served on the field, and, later on, a jirja was held in the canteen, and so ended a mighty Army and Navy clash.

The other Unit games are : v. A/A., R.E., won 2—0 ; v. R.T.C., drew 1—1 ; v. Artillery Signal School, won 2—1 ; v. Headquarters, 5th Division, drew 4—4. The match against Headquarters, 5th Division, was a direct challenge and turned out to be a Command Performance, with the General and nearly all his Staff playing. Talk about " old soldiers never die." Those old staff-wallahs ran our team off their legs and our chaps, if out of their majority, barely half their age. The match was the biggest fright this Unit has had to date—4—2 against us and barely 10 minutes to go. Allah alone knows who scored the

third goal, but the last and equalising one was a beauty ; fit to be called a " Daily Mail " effort. The ball came over from the right, straight to Johnny McAuliffe right on the edge of the ring, and he flicked it past at least four of their men into the top of the net. There was a loud wailing from the General's team, but the umpire signalled a goal. That is the third time we have drawn with the General's XI and all I can say is, " Well done, Sirs, you deserved to win ! " Our goalkeeper's stock went down with a bump and, after the match, the team considered placing him on the transfer list.

The Corps team has played only two games and won both very easily, beating the East Lancs. 4—2, and the Glosters 4—1. We are now undisputed " Champs of the Desert," and there is some talk of taking on the combined garrison to see if our chaps can get out of second gear. By the time this is in print, that match may have been played. If it does, you'll hear about it next month.

Signalman Sedgwick of this Unit wishes all his friends to know that he has entered the goal-scoring list. He scored one goal, advanced a yard to do it—result, he's positively painful to live near.

D. A. S.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Soccer.—Five games were played last month, three of which were won, 2—0, 3—1 and 3—0, one drawn at 1—1, and one lost by 2—1. Our most interesting match was versus the Signal Detachment at Pulau Brani, who dared us to send a team to play their team of " talent." We dared. The result was a win for us to the tune of three clear goals. Our team, when interviewed, thought that the P.B. Detachment were the easiest thing this side of Hull City.

Yachting.—A number of races have been held lately in connection with the Quarterly Trophy. Whit-Monday, being a holiday, gave us the opportunity of holding the bi-yearly race round a neighbouring island, Pulau Ubin. The distance is approximately 17 miles and the winner, Bombardier Bartlett, completed the course in 4 hours 20 minutes, which is a record. Lance Corporal French, our only entry, ably assisted by Corporal Pearson, as " jib hand," gained fourth place. We are given to understand that the course was littered with " hard cheese " for them. Fourteen yachts sailed under ideal weather conditions.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD.—Malaya Signal Section—(*continued from page* 357.)

Sergeant Collins (we have got to fetch him in) has contrived to put a " C " set in an Army lorry, and can now be seen doing his stuff over in Singapore. The wild animals of Malaya turned and fled into their jungle homes when the above-mentioned " Flying Bedstead " appeared on the scene. I am afraid the " Collins' Super-Directional Aerial " frightened them with its weird masts and bows of coloured ribbon. Still, it is all for the good of the Section. " Mind your backs ! " Here it comes, rattling down the Jungle pathway now.

Annual Musketry.—Recently, we fired our Annual Course. I am not going to say who excelled and who didn't, but it's strange what havoc a Malayan sun can have on one's nerves. Talking about shooting, we wonder who the guy is who leaves the bungalow about two o'clock every afternoon. He has a rifle slung over his shoulder and a bag capable of carrying three tigers at least. Up to now the bag has always come back empty.

And now for the brighter side of Malayan life. No WIRE notes would be complete without mention of the notorious Mr. Twitchen. Sad to say, before long, his name will appear in the departures list, and the doings of Mr. Twitchen will be but memories in our life. He recently celebrated the state of being " Time Ex."

Monthly Dance.—The usual monthly dance was held at the end of the month in the lower bungalow. Lance Corporal French, Signalmen Lambert, Mottershead, Farley and Co., thoroughly enjoyed it ; at least, they appeared to be doing so at 2 a.m. the following morning. The merry widow was there making eyes at Twitch, and Mrs. Payne wore a pink, blue, three-piece costume with a chic crocodile-skin purse to match. Mr. Toogood had his " whites " on.

Sayings of the Famous.—Take it out, remove it.—Hiram K.

Have you seen my target ?

And we had tea on Blakan Mati (Mr. Cooke smirks).

Now camping in Malaya (Corporal Buckton, R.E., quoting from ?).

I will have to work some other time (?).

Solley speaking : " Good morning to you ! "

" Soapy's " night ride in a sampan.

Hating to take second place, we would just like to remind Changi that recently we caught two pythons on little old Pulau Brani, one of them was 15 feet long, also a species of cobra. A centipede, at least 8 inches long, was seen crawling up Signalman Godwin's leg whilst he was taking a weather report down. All the afore-mentioned big game can be seen and produced (in a stuffed condition now) if Changi doubt our statement.

Conclusion.—Ah ! There goes our Digger, complete with sun glasses, green socks and a little attache case. It must be time to pack-in (shades of Dikko). So cheerio, everybody ! The Equatorial Signal Section creeps back into obscurity.

P.S. Things we want to know.—Who was the operator who informed Pulau Brani that the Anderson was towing Changi astern ?

Agony.—Bertie Salmon, 4th Div.—How about a line to " Soapy " ?

BARON T. B. C.

Changi Detachment.

Wednesday, 10th June.

Gee, fellers ! Is it hot or is it not ? The perspiration oozes from me as I glance at the local " rag " and read about the heat wave, the worst on record for Singapore, which has out-stayed its welcome by three weeks. Of course, there are a great many of you who would like to tell me just how hot it is where you are, eh ? Well, you can all go to a hotter place, because I don't believe you.

General.—The beginning of May saw the detachment performing daily with their best friends (?)—rifles—preparatory to firing the Annual Musketry Course. Such remarks as, " When I was at Catterick I knocked the black out of the target," or " I got 96 out of a possible 95, etc.," were overheard in the bungalow. What I want to know is, where is this place Catterick ? Are the markers foreign made ? By glancing at my long run of thirds, I'm beginning to think I've been unlucky with markers. After completing our classification, the detachment pulled out with an average of 63.7. As we are seventeen strong, and I fired also, we consider the average not too bad. Lance Sergeant Walters had top score with 77. When asked how he managed it, he said, " All you've got to do, son, is to shut both eyes, hang on like grim death and pump them off ! " There seems to be a lot in this faith business.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Pearson (Eggy) on attaining that rank. Two tops, Eggy !

Departures.—Signalmen Blunt, Parker and Carlson to Pulau Brani, with, we are told, many sighs of regret on their part.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Charles and Barrett for duty at the W/T. Station.

THE " FROG."

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVII.—No. 199 SEPTEMBER, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

REWARD! RECRUITING!

To all whom it may concern:

Do not read this unless you are proud of your Corps and think that the Army offers a good life.

The Royal Corps of Signals is in need of recruits, and it may not be known generally that all soldiers are potential recruiters and that a reward of 4s. and three days' extension of furlough is given to any soldier for each recruit he brings in who is attested by a recruiting officer.

When going on furlough apply to your Unit office for some of the Royal Signals' recruiting pamphlets which give information about the Corps to prospective recruits.

This is your chance to combine business and pleasure in a profitable manner.

Visit to Mons Barracks, Aldershot on the 5th October, 1936, of her Royal Highness, G.B.E., The Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps Signals.—The following information is published for the guidance of all concerned:—

Programme:

1. Parade at 11.40 a.m.
2. Presentation of brooch to Her Royal Highness immediately after the parade.
3. Inspection by Her Royal Highness of various Corps activities such as Construction Cable and Wireless Sections, Signal Offices, Workshops, etc.
4. Presentation before lunch at the Officers' Mess of a limited number of Officers
5. Photograph before lunch, outside the Officers' Mess of Her Royal Highness and all Royal Signals Officers attending the parade in an active capacity, or as spectators.
6. Lunch in the Officers' Mess for Her Royal Highness, the Lady in Waiting, A.D.C., and a limited number of Royal Signals Officers and their wives who will receive individual notification. Lunch for Officers not lunching in the mess will be arranged separately.
7. Visit by Her Royal Highness to the Married Quarters, Mons Barracks.

Presentation and Officer Spectators.

1. It has been decided that in addition to those Field Officers Royal Signals in the Aldershot Command and those from other Commands attending as spectators, all retired Field Officers Royal Signals of the Regular Army, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army who intend to be present as spectators will be presented to Her Royal Highness at the Officers' Mess before lunch.
2. Luncheon for all Officers not lunching in the Officers' Mess who are attending as spectators and who so desire, will be provided at a cost of about 3s. 6d. in marquees at the rear of the Officers' Mess.

3. Officers of all ranks other than those in the Aldershot Command, who are desirous of attending as spectators, are requested to submit their names to the Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee, AG7 (Signals), War Office, Whitehall, S.W.1, by 22nd September, 1936, stating if they require luncheon. No application can be considered after that date.
4. All spectators will be seated by 11.30 a.m.
5. DRESS :—
(a) Serving Officers. Service Dress and Swords. Medals will not be worn.
(b) Retired Officers. Morning coat or dark suit and bowler hat.

Royal Signals Old Comrades.—A limited number of Royal Signals Old Comrades have been invited to attend as spectators, and those wishing to participate, who have not already been communicated with should submit their applications to the Central Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, by 19th September, 1936. No applications can be considered after that date. They should assemble at the GUARD ROOM, MONS BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT, at 11 a.m. prompt on the morning of the 5th October, and report to the General Secretary, Signals Association, on arrival.
DRESS.—Morning Dress or dark suit, with medals. Luncheon will be provided in the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.

The Late Lieutenant D. E. McIntosh, Royal Canadian Signals.—Apropos Editorial Notes in our August issue, the following is the copy of a letter which has been received from the father of Lieutenant D. E. McIntosh :

"Miramar,"
Seaview Road,
Ten Mile Point,
Cadboro Bay,
Victoria, B.C.
16th July, 1936.

The Colonel-Commandant, War Office, London.
MY DEAR SIR,
Mrs. McIntosh, self and family are deeply grateful for the sympathy extended to us by you on behalf of all ranks Royal Corps of Signals on the death of my son, in Egypt, on the 8th instant.
If it be permitted, may our thanks be passed on to those on whose behalf it is extended.

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) C. A. MCINTOSH.

(The attention of our readers is also directed to Unit Notes from 5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt, on page 397 of this publication.—Editor.)

Forty Years Ago.—The following is an excerpt from the "Aldershot News," dated 8th August, 1896 : "Within a year of celebrating its majority, the Army Athletic Meeting of 1896 has proved one of the most brilliant successes since General Hammersley founded the gathering at Lille Bridge in 1876. The bicycle offered by Mr. J. E. Lawes for competition at the Meeting was won by Lieutenant Wethered, Adjutant of the 2nd East Lancashire Regiment. LIEUTENANT NEWBIGGING, 1st Manchester Regiment, won the high jump, 5 ft. 8 ins., after a great contest with Lieutenant Davidson, 3rd King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Passage to India.—Wife of Corporal, ordered abroad during the Trooping Season 1936-1937, would offer her services as nurse or maid during voyage and in India in return for proportion of cost of indulgence passage on troopship. All communications should be addressed to Officer Commanding, 4th Divisional Signals, Cavalry Barracks, Canterbury, Kent.

Rugby Fixtures.
COBB-NICHOLLS CUP.
Semi-finals to be played on 24th October, 1936.
Final to be played on 26th October, 1936.
CORPS MATCHES.
versus R.M.A. to be played at Woolwich on 11th November, 1936.
versus R.A. on 13th November, 1936.
versus R.E. on 16th November, 1936.
versus Royal Tank Corps on 20th November, 1936.
EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

North of England Old Comrades' Reunion, 1936.—By kind permission of The Commandant, Signal Training Centre, the Northern Branch of Signals Association Old Comrades' Reunion will be held at Catterick Camp, Yorks, on Saturday and Sunday, 12th and 13th September, to which all Old Comrades of the Corps are cordially invited.
The following is a list of bus services from Darlington and Richmond to Catterick Camp :

SATURDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER.

	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1. DARLINGTON—depart ..	11.20	11.50	12.20	12.50
CAMP POST OFFICE—arrive..	12. 3	12.33	1. 3	1.33
KEMMEL LINES—arrive ..	—	12.38	—	1.38

(and so on every half-hour until 10.20 p.m. ; the first bus in each half-hour goes only as far as the Post Office).

	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
2. RICHMOND STATION—depart	11.47	12. 2	12.17	12.32
KEMMEL LINES—arrive ..	12. 2	12.17	12.32	12.47

(and so on every quarter of an hour until 11.2 p.m.).

SUNDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER.

	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
3. KEMMEL LINES—depart ..	1.40	—	4.40	—
CAMP POST OFFICE—depart..	1.45	3.46	4.45	5.46
DARLINGTON—arrive ..	2.28	4.29	5.28	6.29

(and at intervals during the rest of the day).

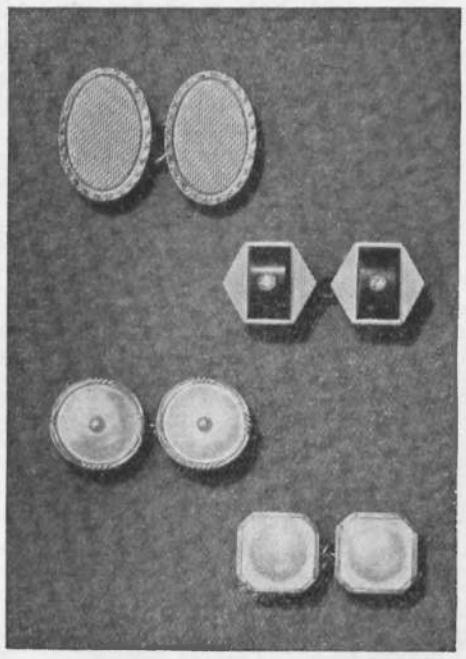
	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
4. KEMMEL LINES—depart ..	12.38	1. 8	1.38	2. 8
RICHMOND STATION—arrive..	12.53	1.23	1.53	2.23

(and so on every half-hour until 11.8 p.m.).
There are also trains between Darlington and Richmond, which is the nearest station to Catterick Camp.

DO NOT GET OUT AT CATTERICK BRIDGE.

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, Chester	Salesman
3	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Clerk
4	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Sorter, G.P.O.
5	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Clerk
7	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
8	Ex-Signalman, Bristol	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, Belfast	Labourer
10	Ex-Signalman, Hull	Motor Driver
11	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Joiner
12	Ex-N.C.O., Bedford	Postman
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Switchboard Operator
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Clerk
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
17	Ex-N.C.O., London	Warder
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Clerk
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Messenger
21	Ex-N.C.O., London	Radio Mechanic
22	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
23	Ex-N.C.O., London	Messenger
24	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
25	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Barman
26	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Attendant
27	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Canvasser
29	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk
30	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Clerk



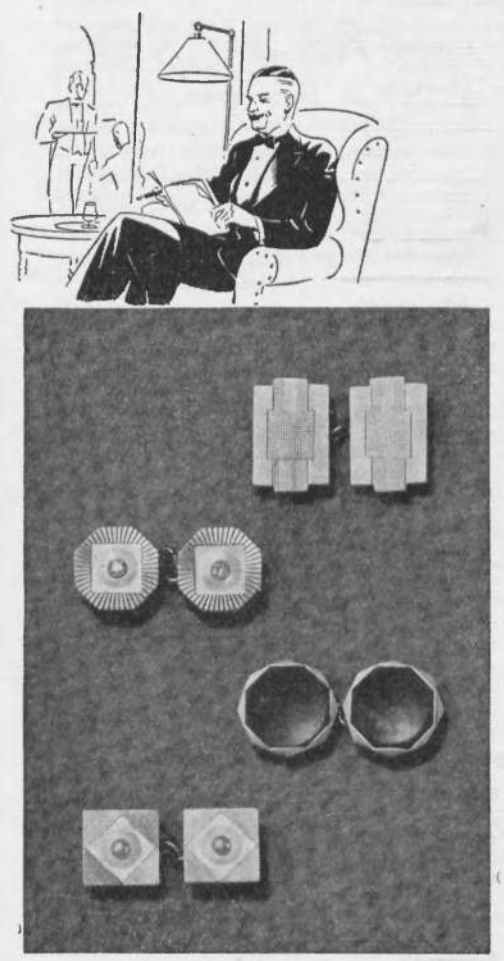
18-ct. gold engine-turned links - £4 5 0

Black onyx and diamond links - £12 10 0
Ditto 4 buttons - - - £12 10 0
Ditto 2 studs - - - - £6 0 0

Mother o' pearl and pearl links - £4 2 6
Ditto 4 buttons - - - £4 2 6
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Ditto 2 studs - - - - £4 15 0

Black onyx links - - - - - £3 12 6
Ditto 4 buttons - - - - £3 12 6
Ditto 2 studs - - - - £2 0 0

Mother o' pearl and pearl links - - £7 0 0
Ditto 4 buttons - - - - £7 0 0
Ditto 2 studs - - - - £3 10 0

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50	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
51	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
52	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
53	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Night Telephonist
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59	Ex-N.C.O., Chatham	Postman
60	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
61	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
62	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	Garage Attendant
63	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	P.O. Engineering Dept.
64	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following :

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W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
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Lieutenant (I.P.C.) H. S. Shave.
Royal Signals Officers' Mess, Catterick.
Sergeant Murphy J. K.

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Colonel A. H. French, D.S.O.

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8	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Grant	£1	0 0
9	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	16 0
10	Ex-N.C.O., London	Grant	£2	0 0

(Signed) H. CLEMENTI SMITH, Brigadier,
Acting Administrator,
Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
18th August.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR.—The following is notified for publication in the September 1936 WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 4/2/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 7/10/1930.

Yours faithfully, T. C. ANGUS, Lieutenant, for Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1936) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance Corporals appointed since that date.]

To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.).

*1042525	C.Q.M.S. Keepen A. T.	1/4/36	73
2308511	C.Q.M.S. Gregory G.	24/4/36	15
2311805	C.Q.M.S. Rankin J. D.	24/4/36	15
2306715	C.Q.M.S. Smith C. V.	29/4/36	15

To be C.Q.M.S.

2309071	Sergeant Willis S. E.	1/4/36	15
2308542	Sergeant Limb F.	8/4/36	14
2308371	Sergeant Farley J. W.	24/4/36	15
2306767	Sergeant Renecle W. L.	24/4/36	16
1857277	Sergeant Angell E. J.	24/4/36	16
2310295	Sergeant Shergold G. L.	24/4/36	16
2311377	Sergeant Hall J. G.	24/4/36	16
2306766	Sergeant Minion R. F.	24/4/36	16
2311591	Sergeant Oakes F. W.	29/4/36	16

To be Sergeant.

2310732	L/Sergeant Kilford L. T.	1/4/36	30
2312672	L/Sergeant Robinson G. W.	5/4/36	30
539712	L/Sergeant Page A. J.	7/4/36	30
2309367	L/Sergeant Butcher A. P.	8/4/36	30
2314887	L/Sergeant Ellison D. A.	14/4/36	30
2310518	L/Sergeant Patterson H. L.	14/4/36	30
2314636	L/Sergeant Ayres W. H.	24/4/36	30
2314966	L/Sergeant Newman F. E.	24/4/36	30
2316173	L/Sergeant Dicker A. J.	29/4/36	30
2315912	L/Sergeant Longhurst E. J.	29/4/36	30

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2306591	Corporal Betty J.	25/3/36	36
2317026	Corporal Edwards W. B.	1/4/36	37
2315755	Corporal Barlow R. G.	1/4/36	37
2316473	Corporal Wellock H. C.	1/4/36	37
2200988	Corporal Gourlay G.	5/4/36	37
2314502	Corporal Harries T. L.	7/4/36	37
2556792	Corporal Wright F. B.	8/4/36	37
2315008	Corporal Twigger W. H.	9/4/36	37
2311589	Corporal Varley H. A.	9/4/36	37
1860641	Corporal Smith W. A.	14/4/36	37
2317550	Corporal Atkinson R. W.	24/4/36	37
2314834	Corporal Sim M.	24/4/36	37
2310890	Corporal Weir R.	29/4/36	37
2309482	Corporal Colwell H. F.	29/4/36	37

To be Corporal.

2318398	L/Corporal Pearson R.	22/3/36	53
6196279	L/Corporal Missen S. V.	1/4/36	54
2315127	L/Corporal Grafton J. E.	1/4/36	54
2319035	L/Corporal Puleston E. H. G.	1/4/36	54
2319925	L/Corporal Jennings F. A.	1/4 36	54
2319712	L/Corporal Wright V. A.	1/4/36	54
7610700	L/Corporal Drake F. J.	1/4/36	54
2312172	L/Corporal Walsh J.	1/4/36	54
2315750	L/Corporal Smith R. P. L.	5/4/36	52
5721792	L/Corporal Nother G.	7/4/36	52
2317079	L/Corporal Vigurs A. A.	8/4/36	53
2319000	L/Corporal Pape J. W.	8/4/36	54
2312308	L/Corporal Green J. J.	8/4/36	54
6393609	L/Corporal Voice W.	9/4/36	54
2320766	L/Corporal Rolls C.	9/4/36	54
2319829	L/Corporal Hughes J. H.	9/4/36	54
2319386	L/Corporal Rossitter P. W.	13/4/36	54
2317588	L/Corporal Verney R. J.	14/4/36	54
2321270	L/Corporal Bucke C. E.	14/4/36	54
2319615	L/Corporal Spafford J.	17/4/36	54
731114	L/Corporal Stretch G. G.	18/4/36	52
2315419	L/Corporal Kerr A. E. G.	24/4/36	54
5823043	L/Corporal Locke C. R.	24/4/36	54
3308076	L/Corporal King J.	29/4/36	54
588073	L/Corporal Wright F.	29/4/36	54

* Special Roster.

To be Lance Corporal.

2320897	Signalman Hatton A.	2/2/36
2318092	Signalman Pratt L.	1/3/36
2321049	Signalman Powell D.	5/3/36
2320055	Signalman Turnham H.	12/3/36
5988342	Signalman Marshall F.	14/3/36
2321610	Signalman Hastings J.	14/3/36
2316577	Signalman Edmunds F.	15/3/36
2321027	Signalman McGuigan J.	15/3/36
2316533	Signalman Collins W.	17/3/36
2321503	Signalman Mitchell A.	19/3/36
2323224	Signalman Gully H.	22/3/36
2320806	Signalman Macklam J.	25/3/36
2318923	Signalman Price J.	26/3/36
5882463	Signalman Harris A.	29/3/36

Discharges.

1853151	Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Clarke C.	29/6/36	9
1039674	Farrier Corporal Welch W.	11/7/36	12
2306393	Sergeant Huggett E.	3/7/36	15
2306891	Sergeant Morgan A. E.	10/7/36	16
2306721	L/Sergeant Sharp D.	25/7/36	29
1419028	Corporal Gay H.	20/7/36	43
2311581	Corporal Renton R.	23/7/36	40
2316394	Corporal Ede W.	30/7/36	38
2316346	L/Corporal Cummings G	4/7/36	58

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2319568	L/Corporal Curtis S.	26/6/36	61
2316728	Corporal Broom R.	17/7/36	43
2310888	L/Corporal Roberts J.	25/7/36	57

Royal Signals Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display, 1936.

Our last WIRE notes left us at the Northern Command Tattoo, Newcastle. We finished there with a flourish on 11th July, and prceeded direct to Aberdeen on the following Tuesday. It is a point of interest that we dressed the motor-cyclists of the party in white boiler suits and crash helmets for the Tattoo. These were quite a definite improvement on the white jackets and caps of previous years. The horsemen wore the yellow shirts and red headdresses, which are now familiar at the Agricultural Shows. We had an excellent run up to Aberdeen. The London and North Eastern Railway thought fit to attach a large engine to our train and we made the journey at a speed worthy of the "Flying Scotsman." On arrival at Aberdeen Station we were met by representatives from the Highland Divisional Signals (T.A.) and from the Depot, Gordon Highlanders. They immediately made us feel at home, and it was not long before we were in our living quarters in the Auction Market. The evening was spent in exploring the town and "banging" the traditicnal Aberdeen "saxpence." The following day was wet, but, in spite of this, a huge crowd turned out to witness our performances. We would like to speak a word of admiration for the advertising done by Mr May (the Secretary) and his committee. Seldom have we seen the job better done, and it certainly produced results! The Aberdonians were very appreciative of our efforts in the pouring rain, and also of our horses, which were much admired by experts and laymen alike.

After changing our sodden clothes, we adjourned to the Northern Hotel as guests of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals. About eighty sat down to supper---forty of ourselves and an equal number drawn from all ranks of our hosts. We take off our hats to the Highland Divisional Signals for the royal way in which they entertained us. An excellent supper was followed by a speech from Lieutenant-Colonel E. B. Reid, which was replied to by Lieutenant H. N. Crawford, and the proceedings then closed with an impromptu smoking concert, in which our hosts produced some remarkably fine talent. It was with sorrow that, on the following day, we said "good-bye" to Scotland and so much hospitality, and returned to Catterick.

Our next visit was in support of a very worthy cause. We travelled to Wakefield, and appeared at a fete in aid of the National Playing Fields Association at Bretton Park, the home of Lord Allendale. The display was as successful as ever, and we were much entertained, on its conclusion, by the other attractions at the fete. A flying display, aquatic sports (in a howling gale!), and an exhibition of fireworks completed a remarkable day's entertainment.

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SEND FOR COMPLETE MILITARY CATALOGUE (T.W.

On 21st July, we set out for the Royal Welsh Show at Abergele. This is possibly one of the biggest and best Shows we have been to. The display has never before been to Wales, and it seemed to appeal to the people there. In spite of pouring rain, record crowds came to see us each day, and gave us a tremendous "hand." Our comfort was somewhat hampered by the weather, and a spiteful gale made things difficult. The presence, however, of our favourite caterers, Messrs. Hancock and Sons from Cardiff, largely compensated us for the disadvantages of the weather.

After three very successful days in Wales, we left on the night of 24th July for Dumfries (in Scotland) to give a display there the following day. We intended to entrain at 10.15 p.m., but after the Railway Company had entertained us by giving a demonstration of how to derail a train with our carriages, it was 3 a.m. before we eventually got on board! However, we duly arrived at Dumfries, and gave our performance that afternoon!

Our next outing was a round trip to Crewe, Brewood, Lutterworth and Bakewell. Great success was met with at all four places, and many friends were made. At Brewood, a crowd of twenty-one thousand watched us, and our performances were much enhanced by the kind co-operation of the band of the Coldstream Guards. At Bakewell, the Scots Guards kindly helped us. Here, we met the worst weather on record. Three-and-a-half inches of rain fell during the morning, and it rained steadily during the afternoon. In spite of this, 16,000 people turned out to watch, and we put on our usual programme without a mistake. Again, our horses were much admired by everyone.

And now, at the time of writing, we are preparing for our trip to Shrewsbury Floral Fete on 18th August. Our season is nearly finished, although we still have several additional engagements, which are not on our original list. On 2nd September, we go to Reeth Show and on the 3rd and 4th, we appear (Despatch Riders only) at South Shields Tattoo. On 9th September, we make another trip to Wales for the Montgomeryshire Show at Welshpool on 10th September. After giving performances at our own Mounted Sports and Gymkhana on 12th and 16th September respectively, we conclude our season at Masham on 18th September.

Our "fan" mail has reached unmanageable proportions. Would somebody like to emulate the Mayor of a certain sea-side resort and use it as a basis for a matrimonial agency?

Signal Training Centre.
The Nigeria Regiment R.W.A.F.F.

Zaria, B.W.A.

General.—A great many things have happened in Zaria since we last took up the pen to let the rest of the Corps know what was doing in the "Dark Continent." The rains are now in full swing, and we have had more or less heavy falls each day for the last few weeks. Up to date the office has not yet leaked, but there is plenty of time!

Command.—We were very sorry to say good-bye to Lieutenant Collins when he left us for leave in U.K. on 25th July. He has done a great deal for this Unit and we shall feel his loss. Lieutenant Denholm-Young has taken over command.

Office Fire.—On Tuesday, 13th July, at about 9.30 p.m. the S.T.C. Orderly Room was completely destroyed by fire. Being a grass-roofed, mud-walled building, it went up pretty quickly. As good luck would have it, there had been a slight shower of rain a few hours before, and this enabled the Guard to get quite a lot of things out before it became impossible to enter the place. Actually, most of the things which were destroyed were old and of doubtful utility. It has naturally meant a great deal of work getting order restored out of chaos, and Sergeant Penny still considers that the labours of Hercules were very much over-rated affairs. Still, we are very nearly straight and ship-shape again. "What's that? Why have we not rendered Return called for in your . . . dated . . .? Sorry, sir. Destroyed in the fire. Please render another copy." Oh yes! It's a wonderful answer to turn away wrath!

Hunting.—The Zaria hounds are having a good season. They meet every Sunday morning at 7 a.m., and almost everyone in the Station who rides at all turns out. Most of the officers and a good many of the B.N.C.O.'s hunt regularly, and the line is usually all that one could wish for. And what an appetite for breakfast!

Point-to Point.—The Zaria Hunt held its first Meeting on 12th July. The whole thing was a great success and reflects much credit on all who had anything to do with its organisation. There were five races to watch over a course of two-and-a-half miles. A huge rocky mound formed an ideal natural grand-stand from which it was possible to see almost all of the course. The Adjutant of 5th Battalion, Nigeria Regiment, Lieutenant A. G. Proudlock, R.A., rode three winners during the afternoon. One of these was Lieutenant Denholm-Young's "Carrier," which won the Open Nomination Race by three lengths from "Carnival," belonging to Mr. Clarke, the Veterinary Officer. Sergeant Penny got through a tremendous amount of work running the "place of liquid refreshment." It was a warm afternoon, and this work was definitely important. Besides, there were the Cups to fill with champagne. The very next day, there was a Handy Hunter Competition, and even in an outpost of Empire like Zaria there were as many as 23 entries. "Carrier" again obliged and won rather easily, Mr. Proudlock again being on his back.

Work.—I had almost forgotten to say that we ARE doing quite a lot of work at the moment. Individual Training is nearly at an end, and our two Brigade Sections are already formed and about to start Section training. N.C.O.s' Courses are in full swing, and another training season is commencing. Yes! We have quite a lot to do between Race Meetings!

WAFFSIGS.

- Plain Tales -

Seasoning.—We are now nearing the end of what must surely be the wickedest summer on record. Exactly what we were going to say about this ghastly season escapes us for the moment, but as everyone has had a pretty good "say" about it already, it is hardly necessary for us to add more. Not, mark you, that a little thing like that would stop us if we had anything to say. Far from it. Perhaps not very far, but still . . . A lot of ignorant people have been blaming the Government for the weather. This is unfair, to say the least, and merely shows that a lot of people even in these enlightened days are quite—but that is not what we set out to discuss. We have a friend who has a mania for statistics, and he finds out all sorts of interesting things. He tells us that if every raindrop that fell in Surrey and Hampshire between 15th March and 17th August could be threaded on fine copper wire—No. I think that even you would never credit this.

Getting back to our subject:

Uncle Alf: "What subject?"

Ourselves (in a high-pitched voice): "Why, we are giving the season the once-over with a masterly . . . "

Uncle Alf: "Rub it in your hair."

Well, I guess that is what we have to put up with.

Health Corner.—An authority on hygiene tells us that it is most beneficial to the general health to stand before an open window in pyjamas and slap the chest heartily.

"What is that booming noise, Mummy?"

"That's Daddy doing his exercises upstairs."

"Doesn't he mind the coal fatigue and the R.E.s watching him, Mummy?"

"Eat your breakfast or you'll be late for school."

Curious how these ideas come along from time to time.

Only about twenty years ago it was considered the thing to go in for deep breathing. Colonel Harvey Clampington-Clampington, whose mother, of course, was a Mugge, developed this deep breathing to an extraordinary degree. He could swell up to an enormous size, especially when he caught sight of the Boys' Company. It was either 1913 or 1914 and a blazing hot day when we were all on parade in full dress waiting for the Colonel to appear. He couldn't find his sword. The deep breathing started and he went purple in the face. When the sword was located it was found to be rusty. He used a little of the stored-up breath to inform his batman of a good time that was coming to him, and then the Adjutant came in to say that General Sir Hogley Fiddleswish was asking if he had arrived on the wrong day, or would the Colonel care to appear now that he, the General, had turned up. The scene that followed literally beggars description. The Colonel burst with a loud bang and scattered himself all over the room. The troops were given the remainder of the day as a holiday. There's a moral to this somewhere, but it doesn't really matter, does it?

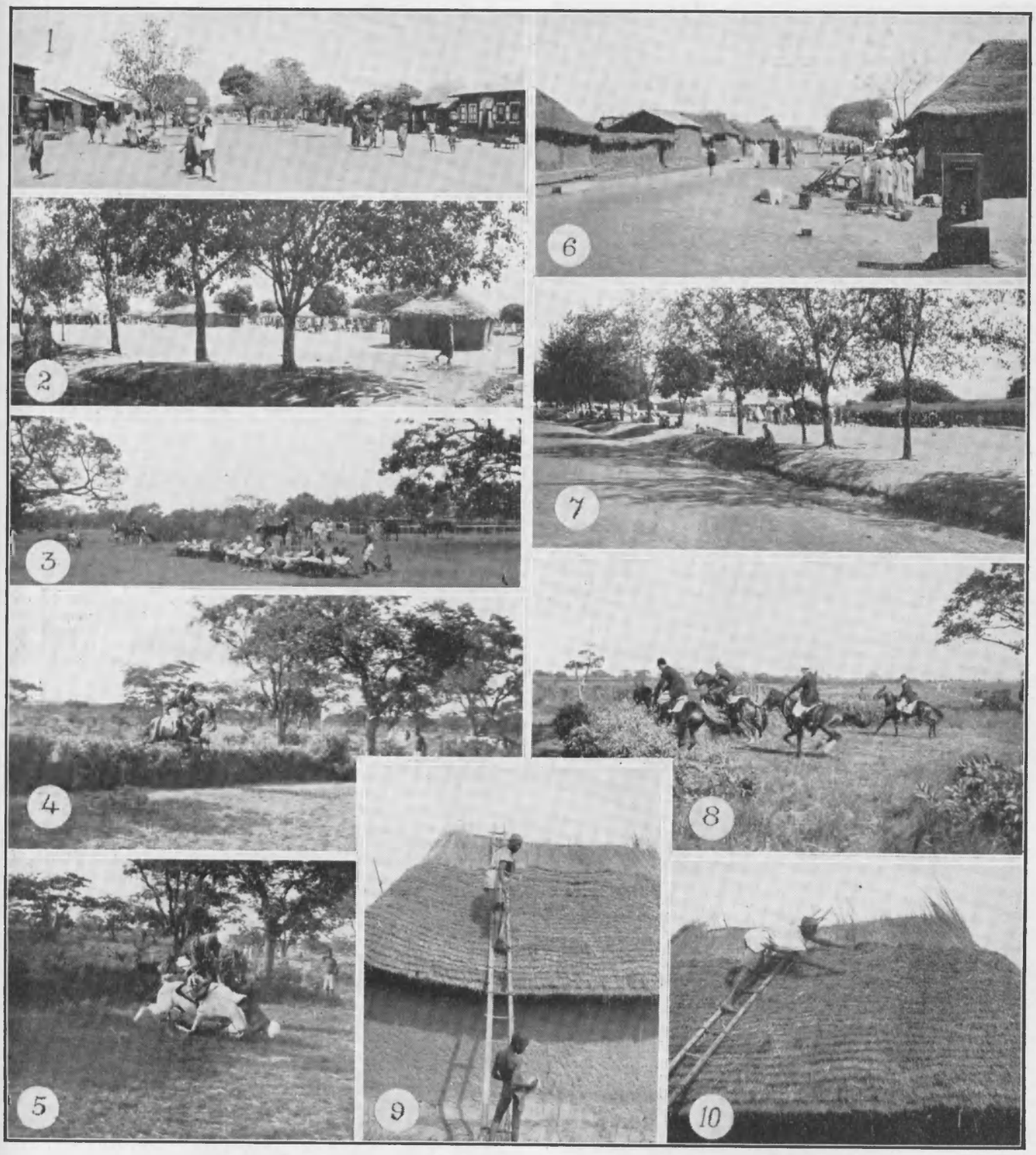
Personal.—If the "electrician's mate," who took distilled water out to camp in a petrol tin, will forward £573 in small notes to our home address, we will say no more about it.

Midland Reflection.—You know how we love to wander around the countryside, or don't you? Over at Windmill Hill, early in August, we found the 48th (SM) Divisional Signals. Possessed of a certain weakness for anyone or anything connected with Birmingham, we ambled through the lines. There was little to indicate that we were not in a Regular Camp. The layout of the kits would have made some professional units that we know of sit up and take notice. Nearly everything was being done at the double and the lads looked amazingly fit. A comforting sight and something to remember with satisfaction if we find ourselves "fixed" as we were just twenty-two years ago. Boy! Bring us our bathchair!

Promotion in the Terriers was rapid the day we were there. We saw a Signalman shoot up to C.S.M. in ten minutes—or maybe he just changed his tunic in a hurry.

Renewed acquaintance with a few old friends and left hurriedly because the aroma from the cookhouse reminded us that we were still young enough to appreciate a good lunch.

Society Note.—With an organization second only to nobody that we have ever heard of, we despatched our special courier, Sergeant Stanley Bainbridge, to Bristol to witness the marriage of Sergeant Harry Ayres and Miss Ena Lilian Wade, at the Church of St. Agnes on 1st August. Stanley rashly undertook to perform as best man, and we have every reason to believe that he carried out his duties with distinction. At the reception he broke down and said, "Ayres luck to you both." He was struck by a horseshoe, intended originally for the bridegroom, but recovered sufficiently well to observe that the bride had her husband "Wade up." He is expected to be about again shortly. As this should be chiefly concerned with the bride and groom we will wish them good fortune and much happiness. The honeymoon was spent at the Tidworth Tattoo, or so we are told, and



(1) The Sabon Gari, Zaria.
(2) The Sabon Gari.— Local Market, Zaria.
(3) Polo.—Zaria.
(4) The Adjutant, Lieutenant A. G. Proudlock, R.A., winning the first race. Last fence.
(5) C.S.M. Carey (Cameronians) has a nasty fall at the last fence of the Light-Weight Race. He was not badly hurt.
(6) In the Sabon Gari Market, Zaria.
(7) The Sabon Gari.—Local Market, Zaria.
(8) Zaria Hunt Point-to-Point.—First race, first jump.
(9) Regrassing O.C. S.T.C.'s Garage ! Zaria.
(10) Regrassing a roof (C.O.'s garage), Zaria.

now we can revert to the subject of Stanley's behaviour. On second thoughts we will not say too much, but when the best man persuades a bridesmaid to stay on an extra day or so, it makes us scratch our heads, even if we don't think much.

Staggering Serial.—Ukann Larfe twirled silky moustache in slim fingers. His amazing adventures had not been without their monetary reward and he was now reclining in his magnificent library with the easy nonchalance of one to whom riches were a never ending novelty. Those of us who have followed the extraordinary career of this famous detective will rejoice to know that he has acquired great wealth. He rang the bell with a well-manicured thumb. "Fogworthy," he said, with studied weariness, "two lots of fish and chips and a large Players." He flicked his cigarette ash daintily. "At the trot," he added. The butler spat with astonishing accuracy into the fine old English fireplace. "Yes, sir," he said quietly. "By the way, sir, there's a bloke outside wants to see you." "A bloke Fogworthy? Do we see blokes to-day?"

The door was suddenly pushed open and Inspector Faceache strode in dragging a portly individual by the arm. "You'll see this bloke Ukann, old fellow," said the Inspector with a disagreeable smile. Ukann Larfe, hero of a thousand or so of the most thrilling adventures in the underworlds of two continents, paled to the lips. He rose shakily to his feet and spluttered incoherently, if that is what we think it means. "The Hooker!" he managed to gasp. Mrs. Hermione Larfe looked up from her knitting with a patient air. "You fool, Ukann, the Hooker doesn't belong to this story at all." She turned to the Inspector and pointed a needle at him. "As for you, you blot, if you don't take that rotten last year's character away and lose it, I shall write at once to Barleux and tell him exactly how you have messed up this story all through."

Inspector Faceache flushed painfully and was about to speak when Hermione snatched up a heavy armchair and flung it with terrific force at the two shivering men. They ducked in time, and the chair sailed through the window with a merry tinkle of glass fragments. The Inspector and his companion slid down the banisters and left Ukann Larfe with his beautiful but fiery wife. They smiled happily at each other.

Our hero rang the bell with his other thumb, also manicured. "Fogworthy," he said haughtily, "cancel the fish and chips. We'll have a quart of shrimps—and step on it." Hermione flung herself into her husband's arms. "Oh, Uky darling," she cried, "isn't it lovely to be rich?" "Don't call me Uky," replied the detective, tearing up a silk curtain with a preoccupied air.

SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE.
BARLEUX.

Waterloo Dinner.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN ENGINEER AND SIGNAL OFFICERS' MESS, SYDNEY.

(By courtesy of the "R.E. Journal.")

On the occasion of their Annual Waterloo Dinner, Lieutenant-General Sir Ronald Charles, Representative Colonel-Commandant, R.E., delivered an after-dinner speech by wireless to the Officers of the Royal Australian Engineers and Signals of the 2nd Military District, assembled in their Mess, at Sydney, on 18th June, 1936. The proposal for this unique method of sending the greetings of the Corps to their allied brother Officers in Australia emanated from Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. Smith, M.C., who commands the 2nd Australian Divisional Signals. He was enabled to make the necessary arrangements through the generosity and courtesy of Mr. E. T. Fisk, Chairman of Directors of Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia), Ltd., who placed his organisation at our disposal for the purpose. General Charles' speech was recorded in London and transmitted by wireless to Sydney, whence it was broadcast throughout Australia.

The Representative Colonel-Commandant began by sending a message of cordial greetings from the Corps. He referred to the geographical difficulties of maintaining a proper liaison with our Allied Corps overseas, and welcomed this opportunity of an almost personal touch, which had been made possible only through the courtesy of Mr. Fisk. He then went on to refer to the association which many R.E. and Signals Officers had had in their brother Officers in Australia, beginning with a reference to Lord Kitchener's visit, when he went to Australia to advise on the reorganisation of the Australian Military Forces, and mentioning several others who had served with the Australian Forces both in peace and in war. He concluded with a renewed expression of good wishes from the whole Corps, with which he associated Brigadier Clementi Smith and the Royal Corps of Signals, who had sent a similar message. A message has been received from Australia to the effect that the speech was successfully broadcast throughout the Dominion, so that it may be taken that the greetings of the Corps reached several other bodies of Australian Engineers on the same occasion.

Copy of letter to Lieutenant-General Sir Ronald Charles, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Representative Colonel-Commandant, Royal Engineers.

Australian Military Forces,
Victoria Barracks,
Paddington, N.S.W.
26th June, 1936.

DEAR SIR,

In continuation of my radiogram of 22nd June last, I am honoured to have the opportunity of forwarding a report on the Royal Australian Engineer, Pioneer and Signal Officers' Dinner to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo.

Some 150 Officers who had or are now serving in Engineer, Pioneer or Signal Corps of armies of the British Empire attended this function, which was held at the Imperial Service Club, Sydney, on 18th June, 1936.

The President of the Royal Australian Engineer and Australian Corps of Signals' Mess, Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. Smith, M.C., presided, and the guest of honour was E. T. Fisk, Esq., of Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia), Ltd., who has long been associated with the development of wireless communication in and around Australasia.

On behalf of all the Officers present, I have indeed great pleasure in conveying to you their deep appreciation of the honour which you conferred on us by sending a message of greeting and comradeship on the occasion of the celebration of one of the outstanding victories of British arms, and one in which the Corps of Royal Engineers played such an important part. This occasion is memorable because it is the first time that an address by the Colonel-Commandant of a Corps of the British Army has been made to an assembly of Officers of Allied Corps in Australia.

From the early days of the foundation of the Dominion of Australia Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers have been active with advice and experience in many of the major developments, both in respect to problems of defence as well as in the economic sphere. All of the Officers whose training had been carried out under the direction of Officers of the Corps you represent were delighted with your reference to Officers associated in more recent years with the Australian Army.

I am asked by the Officers of the Australian Corps of Signals to convey their sincere thanks to you for kindly including a message from Hon. Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Corps of Signals, with whom they are proud to be allied.

In conclusion, I may add that the significance of your message transmitted from the very heart of the Empire on this occasion will be an inspiration to us all in rendering service in the common brotherhood of arms.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. F. SMITH, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Australian Corps of Signals.

Army Vocational Training Centres.

Going Round the Aldershot A.V.T.C.

The following few tips may help to hinder any reader who, either through his own desire, or through no fault of his own, may have to visit a Vocational Training Centre.

To begin with, you can always gauge your importance upon the reception you receive on arrival at the station. If you are met by an Officer in a car you are very important. If you are met by a supervisor without a car, you are not nearly so important. If, however, after looking round the station you have to ask a porter for the direction of the Centre, well ——!

It's Quite Easy.—The first ordeal is being introduced to the Commandant. You can either be very respectful, just respectful, pleasant and respectful, or pleasant and familiar—according to the welcome you received at the station (if any). As you walk round it will be fairly easy to appear intelligent because in most shops the materials lying about give you a clue as to the trade being taught in that particular shop, e.g., brick, bricklayers' shop; plaster, plasterers' shop; paint, painters' shop. But for goodness sake don't, when you arrive at the door of the shop marked "Fitters," say, "Ah! the tailors' shop."

By Their Faces.—The first shop you will probably be taken to is the joiners'. You can usually recognise them by the planks of wood and the clean-faced students who work in it. There is not a great deal to see when all is said and done, but stacks of doors, windows and cupboards, but if you are lucky your visit may fall on a day when they are making something interesting, such as a doll's house or rocking-horse.

The next place to which you will most likely be led is the welding shop. This is the easiest shop to recognise, because the place is full of students with dirty faces, fireworks, fumes and fuming instructors. Vast quantities of electrodes, welding rods and metal are used in this shop on what are called foreigners, but I have heard them called more expressive names.

Hades and Heaven.—And then to the sheet metal working shop. Most sheet metal working shops are abominably noisy. You cannot hear what your guide is bawling at you, but gaze intelligently at him and nod your head frequently in an intelligent manner. He will then shout his remarks once only, under the misapprehension that you can hear them. This saves time and gets you out of the shop quicker—which is exactly what you want.

After the sheet metal working shop, the wood machine shop seems like heaven, but you will find there is a great sameness about the machines. Put broadly, to the uninitiated, most of the machines—like the music—go round and round, but some make shavings and some sawdust, although the instructor would probably have a fit if you suggested that they were installed for those purposes.

You Both Know.—Another giddy trot up and down various shops, watching the men who are pretending to watch their work, when all the time they are watching you (although you know what they are really doing and they know that you know as well).

After your tour the Commandant may invite you into his office before you go. On no account decline. On entering his office he will carefully close the door, and then, bending down to a little cupboard in the corner, will look up to you with a smile and ask, "What will you have?" At this, your face reflects his smile, and you sink back into a chair and say —— Well, say what you like, for you are at last on a subject on which you are well-informed!

National Defence.

The Secretary of State for War announced this afternoon (Tuesday, 21st July), in the House of Commons that the Royal Defence Corps is to be replaced by National Defence Companies, Territorial Army. He said that this change had been decided upon as it was felt that the Royal Defence Corps was not sufficiently identified with the Territorial Army, which is responsible for Home Defence, and interest was shown to be lacking, to some extent, in a force which had no direct connection with Territorial Army units.

The role of the new National Defence Companies will be to protect important points in Great Britain on the threat of, and during, war only. Officers and other ranks will consist of ex-members of His Majesty's forces between the ages of 45 and 60 years, though personnel under 45 may be taken if unfit for service of a more active nature than guard duties. They will be enrolled in peace as being willing to be commissioned, or enlisted, for Home service in the local National Defence Company, as and when required. They will not, however, be called up for service until the guarding of the important points becomes necessary, neither will they be called up on account of civil disturbance. As far as possible, they will be employed on guard duties in the neighbourhood of their homes. Enrolment will be for an indefinite period, terminable at one month's notice on either side, or when members of the Companies reach the age of 60 years, or become unfit for duty. It is particularly hoped that all personnel who joined the Royal Defence Corps will accept the new conditions and re-enrol.

National Defence Companies will be formed on a county basis, or, in certain cases, on a city basis, and each will be linked with a Territorial Army infantry battalion and so shown in the Army List. Enrolled personnel will be permitted to attend parades of the Territorial Army unit with which they are enrolled, and to become members of its clubs, at the discretion of Commanding Officers. Specially-designed badges will be issued to personnel enrolled.

Uniform and equipment will be issued when the emergency arises. Pay, travelling expenses, or other emoluments will not be admissible until personnel are called up and commissioned or enlisted for service. Each officer and man will then be given a bounty of £5 provided that he is found to be medically fit for service. In this connection, special medical standards have been framed for the National Defence Companies, suitable for the duties which will have to be performed, but no medical examination will be necessary for purposes of enrolment, although a man may be refused enrolment if it is obvious that he is physically unfitted for military duty. Once commissioned or enlisted for service, personnel will receive the appropriate rates of Army pay and allowances according to rank.

Previous rank will not be taken into account when personnel are enrolled. Officers will be enrolled as willing to be commissioned in the Land Forces for National Defence duty, the senior officer who will be in charge of the National Defence Company being selected by the Territorial Army County Association in consultation with the Officer Commanding the Territorial Battalion concerned. Remaining officers will be selected by the senior officer in consultation with these other authorities.

Men will be enrolled in the rank of private, and selection for non-commissioned rank will be made according to establishment requirements when National Defence Companies are called out for service.

A total of approximately 8,450 officers and men, distributed among the various counties in Great Britain, will be required for enrolment, and applicants beyond the number allowed for each county will be placed on waiting lists, to fill vacancies as they occur. Pamphlets giving full details of the National Defence Companies will shortly be available on application to any Territorial Army County Association or the Headquarters of any Territorial Army unit. Enrolment, which may be carried out through any Territorial Army infantry unit, will commence as from 1st September.

In conclusion, the Secretary of State for War said that he was extremely gratified to note the general interest taken in matters of National Defence, as evinced by the numerous letters containing offers of help received by him, and he wished to take this opportunity of thanking all those who had offered their services so willingly, or made useful suggestions.

History of Europe's Search for Security.

BY HAROLD STANNARD.

(*With acknowledgments to "Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin."*)

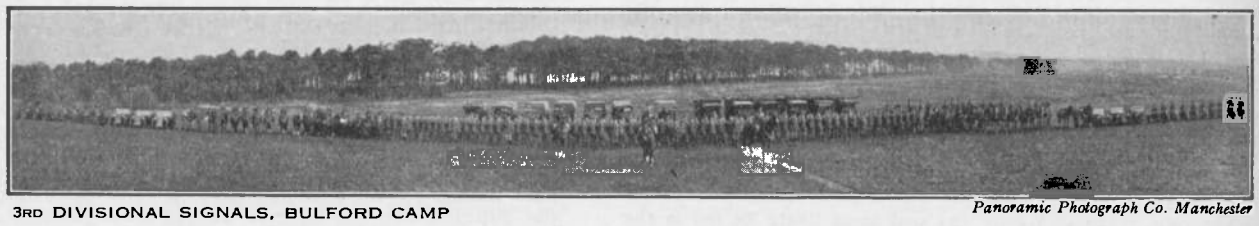
When the modern sort of nation State began to come into existence some 400 years ago it had to work out a technique for dealing with its neighbours. Such rapid progress was made that Sir Henry Wotton, who was born in Queen Elizabeth's reign, could define an ambassador as "an honest man sent to lie abroad for the Commonwealth."

In the eighteenth century diplomacy became an elegant profession whose members were expected—as, indeed, they are still—to know the exact difference between a *note verbale* and an *aide-mémoire*.

The plain man of the nineteenth century, when Britain's policy was one of splendid isolation, did not bother his head about all this technique, but the plain man of the twentieth, who quite understands the truth of Clausewitz's doctrine that war is diplomacy carried on by other means, is anxious to know where he is, particularly with regard to the treaties which he hears so often invoked.

[*Continued on page* 416.]

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Depot Battalion.

Horticultural.—The August holiday has been washed away and as it is still raining the only bright spot has been the Garrison Horticultural Show. This event was held on Friday, 31st July, and our Lines were honoured as the venue for the array of flowers, fruits and vegetables. The brightness of the show was a real pleasure, and made one think of summer at its best. To celebrate the fact, our gardening experts who were competing on their own ground, excelled themselves. They responded to the encouragement and example set by the officers of the Unit, and rallied together in a united effort to put Depot Signals to the forefront. Here is a detailed list of their successes and the trophies won.

CHALLENGE SHIELD FOR BEST UNIT LINES SENIOR COMPETITION FOR BRIGADES R.A. AND BATTALIONS. 1, Depot Battalion, Royal Signals ; 2, Royal Tank Corps ; 3, 1st Battalion Essex Regiment.

UNIT COMPETITIONS AND OPEN CLASSES—SILVER CHALLENGE CUP. DISPLAY OF FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS. C.S.M. Nash and his experts produced a really fine show in this class and gained first prize. One item in the display, namely honey from the Battalion bees, was the subject of much comment. Everyone was relieved to know that no actual bees were included in the exhibit.

MINIATURE GARDEN. A very picturesque effort by Miss Pamela Tayleur, daughter of our P.R.I., gained first prize. This original and artistic miniature was the object of much admiration.

ROSES, SIX BLOOMS (OPEN CLASS). Our Guard-room staff again saw their choice blooms lead the field—a really hot one too—and gain first prize against all the professionals.

CLASSES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

ANTIRRHINUMS. 1, C.S.M. Nash ; 2, Mrs. Tayleur.
RASPBERRIES. 2, Lieutenant Hepburn.
BOWL OF GARDEN FLOWERS. 2, C.S.M. Nash.
MARGUERITES. 3, Lance-Sergeant Knight.
VASE OF RAMBLER ROSES. 2, Mrs. Tayleur.
COLLECTION OF PERENNIALS. 1, Mrs. Tayleur.
ONIONS (Spring Sown). 2, Lance-Corporal Wilson.
CARROTS (Longhorn). 3, C.S.M. Nash.
PARSNIPS. 1, C.S.M. Nash ; 2, Sergeant Dilworth.
TURNIPS (Swede). 1, Lance-Corporal Wilson.
CABBAGES (Large). 3, Sergeant Chadney.
CABBAGES (Small). 1, Farrier Staff Sergeant Vanstone.
BEETROOTS. 2, Farrier Staff Sergeant Vanstone.
CAULIFLOWERS. 1, Sergeant Dilworth.
LETTUCE CABBAGE. 3, C.S.M. Nash.
LETTUCE (Cos). 1, Sergeant Dilworth.
COLLECTION OF VEGETABLES. 3, Lance-Corporal Wilson.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Signalman Cavie E., from Training Battalion.

Departures.—Signalman Beever R. to 3rd Divisional Signals ; Driver Godley C. to 1st Divisional Signals. We wish them every success in their new Units.

Courses.—Signalman Anderton W. and Driver Groom G. are shortly leaving us for A.V.T.C. Courses. We are sorry to lose them and hope that they will find every success in their new sphere.

Promotions.—This item gives us much pleasure, and we congratulate the under-mentioned on attaining the ranks shown : Lance-Sergeant Knight H. R., U/Lance-Corporal Lloyd C.F. (S.T.C. Roll).

Shooting.—Three cheers to Lance-Sergeant Myddleton on winning the St. John Challenge Cup, 1936, in the Sergeant's Mess Shoot and also to Lance-Sergeant Jones, who was runner-up

Tropical Shirts.—Some of our stalwarts are already interested in these luxuries, so cheer up you Eastern warriors who are looking forward to the boat.

Agony—Horsey Tales.—Who was the recruit who, on being told to water his horse in a bucket, led it to the trough and then filled the bucket ? He was probably the same youth who was afraid of giving his horse too much hay in case it caught hay fever.

Strange on the Range.—Instructor to recruit : " Is your cove high enough ? "
Recruit : " I'd like it higher, Corporal."
Instructor (after much effort) : " Better now ? "
Recruit : " Yes, all right, Corporal."
Instructor : " Right ! Away you go."
Recruit lays down his rifle and walks away. That shook him

S.O.S.—Woofie Afv. " As " ow notta sarnd.

BILBAI.

Married Families' Outing.—This year's outing, which was again kindly provided by the P.R.I., took place at Scarborough on Wednesday, 8th July, and was unanimously agreed the best ever. Various buses had been detailed to collect the widely-scattered married folk from their homes at 8.30 a.m., and as the day was bright and warm, everyone started off in good spirits. After a pleasant run, we eventually reached Thirsk. Shortly after leaving this town, great excitement was caused by the information that a NUDIST colony was in the offing. We always thought that the giraffe-necked women of Padaung held the record for long necks, but we have since revised our views. However, shyness ever being a Nudist's speciality, the promised treat did not materialise. The deep depression which followed was, however, quickly dispersed when we halted at the Ham and Cheese Inn, where again the P.R.I. came up trumps and provided free drinks. After an interval everyone rejoined their buses and, strange to relate, only one hero managed to get back in the wrong bus. So on to Scarborough, where an excellent lunch had been arranged at Standevens Hotel. The party then dispersed to their various entertainments. At seven o'clock, the party assembled and made for home. Apart from a very exciting ride down Sutton Bank (we know now why they practise gliding from it, though buses are not exactly ideal for this pastime) and the fact that a Darlington family, having missed its bus connection, went home by meat wagon, nothing eventful occurred. With regard to the latter conveyance, we were glad to see its tail light disappear, and to get upwind of it. We eventually arrived home around midnight, tired but very happy, after a really enjoyable day.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—With fairly decent weather and everyone pleased with the August leave break, normal routine has been resumed. Officers Commanding Trade Companies and Field Units should note that there is a surprising amount of sports talent at present in the Depot. Inter-Squad swimming and cricket is in full swing. Signalman Lovatt of 29 Squad, a left arm medium break bowler, has been taking a lot of wickets.

Shooting.—Dismounted Wing N.C.O.s and W.O.s have made a good show in the St. John's Challenge Cup, open to the Sergeants' Mess. Lance-Sergeant Myddleton being 1st, Lance-Sergeant Jones 2nd, and C.S.M. Gregory in the first four.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Lance-Sergeant Knight H., on attaining that rank.

Outings.—The Dismounted Wing N.C.O.s' Outing to Redcar took place on 12th August. Apart from an occasional shower during the afternoon, the weather was fine and warm, and a good time was enjoyed by all. A party of N.C.O.s spent an hour or two fishing, and we hear that a certain very tall member of the fishing crew fed the fishes without using his bait.

Shows.—The Catterick Garrison Horticultural Show held on 31st July, is covered in the main Battalion Notes, but as the Wing had a considerable share in the happy result, mention may also be made here. The Depot Battalion carried off the Challenge Shield for the best Unit lines, the Silver Challenge Cup for the best display of vegetables and flowers, and first prize for the Open Event for roses. Whilst everyone concerned is to be congratulated, especial credit is due to C.S.M. Nash E. and Lance-Sergeant Knight H. Their industry inspired keenness into others, and went a very long way towards making the Battalion " First." The thanks of " D " Wing are also due to Lieutenant H. R. V. Cooke, who presented the Wing with a hundred geranium plants. These made a very bright splash of colour and looked fine in the Wing office garden. Nevertheless, everyone concerned is to be congratulated—however small his work—it all went towards making the ultimate result such a success. Individual entries were also extremely successful. Seventeen prizes were obtained by the Battalion, of which twelve went to members of the Wing. C.S.M. Nash E., 6 ; Lance-Corporal Wilson A., 3 ; Lance-Sergeant Chadney V., 2 ; and Lance-Sergeant Knight H., 1. Not a bad effort and one that reflects great credit upon all concerned. Congratulations to them all.

EL PEE.

Mounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

Gardens.—After weeks of panic, we at last reached the climax with our gardens. First of all, we had the Garrison Horticultural Show. The Unit did exceptionally well. I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating a few of the outstanding winners. C.S.M. Nash on obtaining the first prize for vegetables. To the " Vanning " combination in gaining one and a half prizes for cabbage and beetroot (the peroxide and flour didn't agree with the spuds, so they were non-runners in that class). To Sergeant Gay on obtaining 1st prize in the open class for roses. (Ex-Corporal Andrews please note.) Who took Sergeant Hill's potatoes and entered them in the Show ? Who also " borrowed " flowers from the Reception Hut and obtained a prize ? Presumably the winners shared the spoils with the donors, or did they ?

Sport.—A series of inter-ride hockey and cricket matches are now taking place. The cadre, before these commenced, had great hopes of taking everything before them and so being able to attend the " thruppeny banquet " in the canteen. Unfortunately, they are meeting with a stronger opposition than was anticipated.

Equitation.—Congratulations to Lance Corporal Dakin on winning the open jumping at Harrogate. To Lieutenant Kealy, C.S.M. Young and Corporal Gosnold on being mentioned in despatches at Middleton Tyas. We have reduced the strength of our horses recently. Some have been destroyed, but good homes have been found for some of the " old timers." " Gunner," who is well known to many who are now serving as well as many now in " Civvy Street," has got his " ticket " and is now doing a spot of light work in civvy street.

Musical.—By the sound of the music emanating from barrack-room No. 21 (Display Room), Meikle's musical abilities have not been unduly missed. This is due to " Ginger " Houghton's prowess with his banjo and spoons. 5th Division will now be getting sleepless nights listening to the wails of Meikle's piano accordion, provided of course that the same Meikle can borrow such an instrument, or have you got one all to yourself now, Jock ?

Rides. " L7 Ride " has passed off, and Signalman Moffat was awarded the prize (whip) for the best turn out, etc. May he continue to gain similar laurels throughout his army career.

WALT.

"F" Company Training Battalion.

Catterick Camp,
18th August.

To Begin With.—Apologies to all those who look forward to the contributions to the WIRE from this Company. However, we can give legitimate excuses for not contributing. Firstly, the Northern Command Tattoo and secondly, annual summer leave.

Northern Command Tattoo.—A separate article on the Northern Command Tattoo follows these notes.

Arrived.—Twenty-four recruit boys and Corporal Johnson J. Welcome ! Also arrived, twins for Corporal Smith F. A. (both girls), and a son for Signalman Peach F. We add our welcome to those of the parents(?). Although they are not with us for long, we must not forget our first draft of the trooping season ; Signalman Norbury L. (S.I.C.D. Signal Section) for Jamaica and Signalman Lawson F. (N.I. Signal Company) for Shanghai. We recollect having had Norbury here last year, but we do not expect to see him here again.

Departures.—We have lost one of our outstanding athletes in Signalman Barrett R., who has left us for 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford. Our loss, etc., etc. All the best " Tishy." We have also, although only temporarily, lost Corporal Kirby, E. H., who is attending a Creed Teleprinter Maintenance Course.

Congratulatory.—We congratulate the following on their recent " step up." Corporal Hawkes on being appointed Lance Sergeant, Corporal Webb who now has two, and Lance Corporal Cunningham, who has got a place on the Corps Roster.

Marriages.—On Monday, 3rd August, 1936, the marriage took place at the Parish Church, Fordingbridge, of Lance Sergeant Barlow R. to Miss Joyce Olive Blandford of " Bickton Ash " near Fordingbridge. They have our best wishes.

Sport.—We have not done very much in this respect during the past few months, apart from athletics, upon which subject we have written a separate article. We must, however, not forget to mention that we have reached the final of the Mackworth Cricket by defeating the Mounted and Dismounted Wings. We now have to meet the School of Signals.

Agony.—To R.S.M. Donaghy, 55th Divisional Signals (T.A.), Liverpool. If you are still alive, we would like to hear from you, sir.

EFF.

NORTHERN COMMAND TATTOO, 1936

After an uneventful journey, we arrived at Lamesley Station, on the morning of the 20th June, all fixed for three weeks in Camp. We were met by the Camerons Pipe Band and a few hopefuls from the neighbouring villages, who accompanied us to Ravensworth Castle. By the time we had drawn our camp equipment and made things ship-shape, we were only to glad to " flop " on our beds and rest. Rest was only possible during the moments of respite gained between the attentions, interferences, atmospherics or otherwise of a certain " woggle woggle " bird, whose raucous cries were audible at frequent intervals. Despite many attempts to dissuade these attentions, it remained very persistent throughout the whole Tattoo period. (Please do not confuse this bird with the tame jackdaw, which was often seen around the tents.) Anyone desiring further information about this high flown subject, should consult Boy Bosten, a well known authority on queer birds.

The eagerly expected summer weather, or rather, fine weather, was not forthcoming, and both the King's Birthday Parade and the inspection by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Field Marshal Sir Cyril J. Deverell, G.C.B., K.B.E., were marred by heavy downpours. Luckily, we participated as spectators, and were able to seek shelter in the stands.

Our costume fitting parade was both interesting and amusing. We had not fully realised until then what talent we possessed in Boys Collins and Bowler as Queens. Collin's first appearance in the guise of Fairy Queen caused a general flutter of hearts in the

ranks of Queen Alice's Army (other armies too). Bowler, dressed in a ravishing jewel bespangled (Woolworth's Special), blue satin gown, and with a liberal application of cosmetics at the hands of Messrs. Raynes, was all that a Queen should be. Hearts were torn 'twixt her and the Fairy Queen. The haughty attitude adopted by Her Majesty, loaded the dice in Collin's favour.

With regard to the performance. Our act was deservedly popular, even though we say so, and, as a whole, the show was a great success, in spite of inclement weather. It reflects great credit on the producer, Captain H. Oakes-Jones, M.B.E., F.S.A. The flood-lighting of the picturesque castle, at the end of the performance, was a brilliant climax to an equally brilliant show.

We all congratulate Corporal Turner on the way he kept his feet, during his nightly round, even though he was supposed to be under the influence of alcoholic liquor. Still, I expect it was just a matter of form with him. The envy of spectators and troops was shown by the upward trend of protruding tongues, a call for more N.A.A.F.I. chits and a parching thirst.

Although our efforts at the Tattoo were greatly appreciated, and every effort made to give us a good time, the adverse weather and close proximity of leave made us all glad to return to Catterick once more. We are now fully accomplished amphibians. (Ah ! Those soft refreshing rains !)

Query.—By the way, who was the sweat that pressed his K.D. under the boards ? There were no " laurels " awarded.

OZ AND GOZ.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Headquarters.

Mons Barracks.

General.—The spot of summer leave, so skilfully predicted last month, materialised. That the adjective summer hardly applies is no fault of ours. Mons Barracks seems rather deserted these days. With 2nd Div. in Camp, duty weeks come round one on and one off, with none at the wash. Meanwhile the war is coming nearer home. One of our " duties " last week was producing a G.S. Wagon for " removing *refuge* from the *insenorita*." Believe it or not—we havn't got the intelligence to think one of these out !

Obituary.—The many friends of ex-R.Q.M.S. Pitt F. T., will be very sorry to learn that Mrs. Pitt passed away on 4th August, after contracting a chill which developed into pneumonia. All his old associates in Mons Barracks express their deepest sympathy with him in his sad bereavement.

Drafts.—For the information of those who are patiently awaiting reliefs abroad, we give the following details. For India we have R.Q.M.S. Hope ; C.Q.M.S. (Foreman of Signals) Lister ; Sergeants Holness, Solly and Gresham ; Lance Sergeants Chesters and Adams ; Corporals Ranking and Smith E ; Lance Corporals Lawrence, Weech, Glover, Ditchfield and Gully. For Egypt Signals, Lance Corporals Tuft and Brightmore. Malaya, Lance Corporals Spriggs and Cunningham. Sergeant Todman and Lance Corporal Vassila are for Malta and Gibraltar respectively. An array of talent calculated to dispel alarm on any frontier.

Postings.—From a very secret and confidential source, Sergeant (not in Blue Book) Howler, complete with a grievance against the B.B.C. " Blinkin' sauce," sez he, " did you hear them the other night ' dissipating ' on Palestine ? How they were running round the ' Jubileean ' Hills firing ' two-inch shells mounted on a lorry ? ' " " What a bore ! " sez I, but he didn't contact.

Culinary.—We are expecting a large influx of recruits from the South of England in the near future. Signalman Prater H. E., one of our cooks, has just left to take up a position as chef at a seaside establishment where the rissoles are euphemistically referred to as " consummé au riz." As this establishment is a convalescent home, we are, ipso facto, doing our bit towards recruiting. But, seriously, we do think this is a good advertisement for the Army.

JESSAMINE.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Our scribe has to admit that owing to August leave and other reasons, he has only one item of interest to note, namely, that another good man has gone west. Signalman Aston L. was married on 28th July, and we all hope that his future troubles will only be little ones.

Carriage Forward.—To A.J.C. (Wooden legs). Rastus hopes that his visit to the R.A.S.C. cricket match was not responsible for the " ducks." Possibly the bit of ribbon took the eye instead of the ball. To Pansy, Wazdist. In reply, " fires burning brightly for twelve more months."

MELIK.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The August winter (sic) holiday has come and gone, and once again we get our eyes down to the more material things. Since the appearance of the last notes, the dreaded boat list has arrived, and from the remarks regarding the cost of purchasing a discharge, there will be room for more volunteers. Ask Paddy, because he knows. I have been asked to write some notes for " O " and " D.R." Section as a separate chapter. (As the aforesaid Section forms the nucleus of the Company, we had better mix them all up. (Open for criticism, Ben !)

The Company formed a Corps Office for the Southern Command Exercises, and were sited at Red Lynch. To live up to the name of the " Oh and DeaR " Section, we had lace-edged sheets, pillow-slips and multi-coloured pyjamas and also beds which one blows up. Frontier soldiering makes 'em tough like that. But to cut the cackle, the show went down wonderfully well, and the efficient working of " A " Corps Signals once again proved itself a foregone conclusion.

Arrivals.—We welcome the arrival of some braves from the Depot and wish them all they wish themselves.

Departures.—Nil.

Dessert.—A Canteen girl has asked me for what reason a certain youth spoke with such an American accent. Probably due to his china diaphragm being pitted. Well, bunghole, ole barrels.

BUNNY.

No. 4 W/T Company.

Particulars.—Had a nice spot of leave, thanks.

UNANIMOUS.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

General.—We have carried on our usual pre-manœuvre training up to date without any startling event, although " L " boards are more scarce and tyres 50 per cent. worn. By the time this appears to litter up barrack-rooms, something will have happened. Brigade Sections will be with their P.B.I. and gunners somewhere in " Manœvarea," and the remainder of the Div. should be encamped down in good old Sussex by the sea. Big schemes over fresh ground are predicted, so we are looking forward eagerly to an interesting spot of training, weather permitting. R.A.S.C. Supplies have laid in a good stock of rum, just in case the R.A.M.C. willingly certifies the weather wet enough to warrant its issue. If last manœuvre season's weather recurs, we would suggest Supplies get R.E. Services to put down a pipe line to Petworth from wherever it is in Aldershot the soldiers' rum is hidden.

With the forthcoming important inspection in view, we have started worrying the Regimental Tailor to death, and driving Company Quarterblokes scatty with indents. Pantaloons of exaggerated cut and fancy chrevons are definitely declasse just now, and before indenting for that new cap you've promised yourself, think twice ! Caps S.D. are so dative. You can always tell one which was issued before the last rainfall.

Trooping.—Inoculated, vaccinated, dentised, and duly warned, our 96 other ranks bound for places nearer the sun are only too anxious to get manœuvres over and a spot of overseas leave in. The cry, " roll on that boat " is heard a hundred times a day now. Hear the echo, Peshdist, Wazdist, Kodist ? Hold the fort ! They're coming. Not as good as the last draft, but then, no draft ever was.

The King's Hundred.—We were pleased to see the name of G/Cadet H. J. Thompson, R.M.A., amongst the placings for the

King's prize at Bisley. G/Cadet Thompson left " B " Cable Section for " the Shop " in 1935, and is doing very well. His old Section and the whole Unit join in congratulating him. When last we saw him, he was riding his bogwheel at the head of a column of gentlemen cadets.

Australia Cup.—The following table, showing the result of the 1936 Competition for the 1st Australian Divisional Signals Cup is reproduced here for the delectation of past competitors now far scattered. Congratulations to Lieutenant T. G. V. Stephenson, " K " Section, the winner for 1936.

Placings.	Section.	Swimming.	Cross Country.	M.T. Driving.	Rifle Shooting.	Revolver Shooting.	D.R. Test.	Total Points.
1. Lt. Stephenson ..	K.	10	9	7	7	6	6	45
2. Lt. Harris	L.	8	5	9	9	2	10	43
3. 2nd Lt. Yearsley ..	B.	5	0	10	10	9½	2	36½
4. Sigmn. Simpson ..	D.	7	7	3	3	8	8	36
5. Sigmn. Hayward ..	G.	9	6	2	5½	9½	3	35
6. 2nd Lt. Henn-Collins	A.	6	3	5½	8	7	5	34½
7. Sergt. Cotterell ..	E.	3	10	4	5½	5	4	31½
8. Sigmn. Dewdney ..	U.H.Q.	0	8	8	4	3	7	30
9. Lance Cpl. Scarisbrick	J.	4	4	5½	2	4	9	28½

Heard in the Sergeants' Mess.—" Which is correct, 00.00 hours, or 24.00 hours ? " The answer to this will be found in F.S.R., Vol. II, 1929, p. 279, and also F.S.R., Vol. II, 1935, p. 196. Look these up, it's worth it ! Thus pints are won and lost.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of ex-C.Q.M.S. P. Hall, who died after a very long illness, at the Farnham Infirmary, on 11th August, aged 36 years. " Nobby " Hall, as he was affectionately known by his hundreds of good pals, now scattered through the Corps, will be remembered as a thorough sportsman and good comrade. At his funeral, which was semi-military, on Friday, 14th August, Signals were well represented. A mourner party, under the command of Lieutenant T. G. V. Stephenson, attended, and a bearer party of six sergeants from the three Units at Mons Barracks bore him to his last resting place. In addition to the foregoing, a party of twenty-six W.O.s and N.C.O.s, representing the three Units, followed the cortege carrying many floral tributes. The sympathy of all ranks is extended to his sorrowing relatives, and we trust that the attendance at the funeral indicated the high esteem in which their late comrade was held.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

Happenings at Billingshurst Camp.—Many and varied. Our theme song was " knee-deep in clover " (not forgetting the rain). Certain personnel of the Unit had to resort to the use of pull throughs on bicycles, typewriters and even rifles. The R.S.M.'s bicycle came in for a good deal of attention—the Unit office staff were most interested in it. On one or two occasions the R.S.M. was allowed to " borrow " it. Much difficulty was experienced in pronouncing the name " Billingshurst," especially when kippers appeared on the menu. During Camp, a constant dreamy look has been observed on the visage of one of the Orderly-Room clerks. His stationery is specially crested with a large " L " (in red)—visions of the M.A.R. and later—yes, much later—the M.Q.R., we suppose. Frequent deep sighs and cries of, " Oh ! to be in London," clearly indicate his frame of mind. He has on one occasion at least, searched the dictionary for such words as " irretrievably." No names, no breach of promise ! One of our N.C.O.s hails from Billingshurst, but until this Camp had not visited his birthplace during his 14 years' service. One evening, whilst wending his way to one of the local theatres, he met by chance in the High Street, one of the oldest inhabitants. The old gentleman recognized him, and the following dialogue took place :

O.A. : " Hullo ! Young Jack, are you in the Army ? "
Jack : " Yes, sir, I am."
O.A. : " Ah ! I thought I hadn't seen you about lately."

For Sale.—One tooth-brush in perfect condition. Apply for further details to the Orderly Room Sergeant, 2 Div. Sigs.

12th August.—The season opened with a big bang on the 12th. 'Twas the night of the Horticultural Show and Fair in Billingshurst village. The Unit office staff report a bag of seven brace (coconuts), together with three brace (again not grouse—of other birds).

Arrivals and Departures.—No casualties in this category since the last issue of THE WIRE. We are, however, expecting a certain Junior N.C.O. to depart from the single status at any moment. He has disposed of his motor-cycle in favour of a pedal cycle. Who's to be best man, Blanco ? Speaking of arrivals reminds me. The latest addition to our staff had a strong reputation on account of his attainments in the musical " line." When interviewed, he modestly admitted that he was an excellent pianist and his voice was not considered bad. On being pressed to give us a few selections from his repertoire, we discovered that he really could strike a nifty chord on the piano. When asked to sing he confessed that he was not so very versatile after all. In his own words, " I only know two songs—one is ' Annie Laurie '—the other one ain't."

Conclusion.—And now sleeves up for Individual Training.

Stop Press.—No. 2323782 of 2nd Divisional Signals would like to hear from No. 2323784 believed to be with the Northern Ireland Signal Company.

HAFOD.

No. 2 Company.

General.—As I commence these notes, preparations are being made for the " Big War " which starts on Monday, 17th. We came out to Billingshurst on 27th July. Unfortunately, the weather has been far from kind, but the Camp, generally, has been an enjoyable one. It seems that there are some real hot dart players in the village, who invariably produce their own " flights," even though they have to unpack them hurriedly. Mavis has now decided " beer is best."

Incidents have been very few. We had three N.A.A.F.I. Concerts, which were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

As only " B " Cable Section and Company Headquarters are here, we shall have to wait until next month for the " tit-bits " from Petworth and Chiltington. I have heard that they are very funny. We did see " F " Section one afternoon. They dropped into tea (without the " Golden Fleece "). I heard someone remark that if ever his child brought that book into the house he would wrap it round its neck. I am wondering, too, if he will christen his first daughter " Kath."

We were happy to note in this morning's press, that H.R.H., The Princess Royal, had become Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian Signal Corps. We are delighted with this appointment, which is, indeed, a further great honour to the Corps. We are all looking forward to her visit to Aldershot in October. Her visit will mark another prominent occasion in our Corps history.

I am sorry to have to close these notes so early, but will endeavour next month to give a more detailed account of things generally.

292.

No. 3 Company.

This ancient typewriter is battered and torn ;
The ribbon is withered, tattered and worn ;
The space bar is stuck and the tabular broke,
I get so perplexed, that I almost choke.

I press on ' A ' key and up comes a ' Z,'
I press on a ' Z ' and it strikes up a ' B,'
I wish it were human, this typewriting wreck,
Then I could just grab it, and wring its 754@&£ neck.

General.—Sorry I had to start in poetic vein, but have just returned from leave, and you are well aware what kind of weather we have been having in England this summer. It never rains but what it bores, and as the Company are out on manoeuvres, news is scarce. May I repeat my appeal made a short while ago ? Will Sections which are out on Schemes please send in any news, however small, of their activities, for inclusion in the notes.

The section romance is now definite, and by the time these arrive in print he will have forsaken his state of singleness for the connubial bliss of serfdom. With him it was a kiss and tell. Later on it will be a kiss and t'ell with everything. I'm married too.

Every month there is some individual whose deeds stand out like a star in the firmament. This month, the " honour " is

accorded to the Signalman who sent to New York for a Course on beauty treatment (four dollars). Little did he anticipate that the firm concerned would advertise their goods on the " outside " of the envelope, thus revealing to the world at large what he was up to. Why didn't you let me know your beauty was troubling you ? I feel sure that a certain N.C.O., employed in the cookhouse, would have been only too willing to lift your face for nothing. Wouldn't you, Jimmie ? However, permit me to tell you that a man who talks with his hands on his hips will never be mistaken for a prize-fighter. Had this occurred in the old days, you would have been placed in the Stocks. Now, " Three " Company, the man's name is given away above, test your astuteness and find it. Don't send me your answers as there are no prizes.

The Company scribe was interested to hear that a certain D.R. of the Company enjoyed his ride the other day. It seems that when he arrived back at Camp, he walked backwards to his tent. Enquiries brought to light the fact that he had left his bike somewhere, and had slid a good way along the road on a part of his anatomy not designed for this purpose. Don't deny it, Charlie, you told me yourself.

The " Dear " stalking programme is in full swing this summer, judging by the actions of a man who came in from Billinghurst for a week-end, and was later observed in the vicinity of Manor Park, strutting his stuff.

Arrivals and Departures. —There are none of the former. For the latter, Johnny Kirkwood leaves us in a couple of days' time for civil life. Our usual wishes (and condolences ?) go with him. He has received my promise to patronise his business. I shall buy my matches from him when we meet again. Best of luck, Johnny !

Here and There.—Thew : " I like work."
Smudge : " Do you ? "
Thew : " Yes, I could sleep beside it."

Charlie (on being shown Hank's wedding ring) : " It looks like a curtain ring."
Hank : " It is a curtains ring."

Smudger : " Say ! do you know that chain smoking is dangerous, Tom ? "
Tom : " I don't smoke chains."

S.M. : " Did you shave this morning, Allan ? "
Allan : " Yes, sir."
S.M. : " Well next time stand closer to the razor."

For the Married Pads.—With effect from 1st September, a C.R.A. flag emblazoned as under, will be flown at the messing office when cheques are ready for disbursal. A loaf of bread, with two bloaters rampant on a background of " Higher Rates," inscribed as follows : " How much this month ? "

Over to the Muse.—

" DEDICATED TO THOSE DEPARTING TO 'CIVVY STREET ' "

When I quit this mortal shore,
Never to return no more,
Don't weep, don't sigh, don't sob,
I may have struck a better job.

Don't go and buy a big bouquet,
For which you find it hard to pay,
Don't mope around and feel all blue,
I may be better off than you.

Don't tell the folks I was a saint,
Or anything wonderful ; I ain't,
If you have jam like that to spread,
Please hand it out before I'm dead.

If you have roses, bless your soul !
Just pin one in my buttonhole ;
While I'm alive and well to-day,
Don't wait until I've gone away.

Promotion.—Congratulations to Signalmen Waugh, McDonaugh, Cameron and Good on being appointed U/Lance-Corporals. Many are called and few are chosen. It is now up to you to ensure that the first step on the ladder of success does not turn out to be greasy.

So until next month, I remain just

MOLESKIN.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, Blackdown.
September.

General.—Our scribe being on his " vacation," I am endeavouring to entertain you with a few lines of interest and nonsense for which I trust you will not criticise me too severely, as this is my first attempt at journalism.

Once more we have a re-union with those who have been " on foreign service," and return with many tales, large and small, from the land of sand and heat. We were glad to see many old faces back again. Perhaps we might distinguish them much better after they have washed some of Egypt's sunshine from their faces.

The Cable Section in the Sussex manoeuvre area return during the coming week after three weeks' hard work. There will be more handshakes and, I presume, a few " pints " in the offing.

Service Overseas.—" Sweats " still seem to be the fashion here. As yet there is no one who has really a " sweat " to worry about, but we are anxiously awaiting the long buff envelope which, when seen, causes so much excitement.

Congratulations to Lance-Corporal Marchant W., who took the plunge into matrimony with Miss Ethel Gertrude Lewry, at Burgess Hill, Sussex, on 1st August. " May all your troubles be little ones, and may they all look like you." It must have been Henry Hall's band after all. The Cable Section in Sussex decided to give the above N.C.O. a good send off. They turned up in strength and formed an " arch " with their black and white air-line poles. A lot of rumours seem to be going around that there will be a whole Company of married men soon. We hope to be able to give you the " inside dope " next time.

Promotions.—There is a nil return so far. Probably, Officer i/c Records is getting busy with his roster again. We hope to hear something from him soon. One N.C.O., at least, hopes so. (Watch that little blue book).

Arrivals.—Driver I.C. Arnold W. from 3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford, also one officer and 31 other ranks from Base Defences, Mediterranean, after a sojourn in the " cool waters of the Med." We hope their stay in this Unit will be as good, if not better than at their previous Stations.

Agony.—To : B.O.M. " It's under your left foot." Sandy. Brown, Caulfield and Pritchard, Egypt Signals, Cairo. " We're here again, why aren't you ? " Doug.

All who have returned from overseas. " Take it easy, fellows! Give us, who stayed behind, a chance. We have to do so much dodging, there are too many bouquets flying around ! "

Sports.—We are looking forward to some good games of hockey and soccer this season. We hear the Cable Sections have some star players. Now is your chance, " H," " G," and " J," Sections, to show what you can do !

Tailpiece.—" All's well that ends well." But I am not sure that this is so. I will tell you all about it another time (if I am able).

K.O.

" J " Detachment (No. 1 Cable Section, 1st C.A.D. Brigade).—Having wintered in Mersa Matruh, and being present at Mex Beach for the Alexandria season, Mr. Hamilton and retinue have returned to Blackdown for winter sports.

PADDY.

" G " Cable Section (late No. 2 Cable Section, R.Signals, ex H.M.S. " President IV ").—Have you ever read that thriller " 1066 and all that " ? It was written by a WIRE enthusiast before we moderns " came up." I therefore doubt that there will be any infringement of copyright regulations if we call our concluding epistle " 1936 and That's That." Naturally enough, only those who shared these trials, tribulations and smiles know to what extent " that's that " includes, although, according to reports from Merda Matruh, things might have been worse. It seems obvious that Mex, in spite of smells and livestock, had many advantages.

Now for the news. After another epidemic of " buzzes " during June, the zero hour for evacuating Mex area was signalled on 14th July. From then onwards we had seven days to be out of the Camp, stores handed in and everything squared up (after handing in the stores, they had to be retrieved and loaded on the stores ship). The numbers engaged in turning the handle of the " Barrows Drum Universal," had good cause to curse the use of

such an old fashioned method in these modern times. Our stores staff had all stores correct, although " Topper's " hair might be a trifle greyer after accomplishing this. For a week we were accommodated on board the *Neuralia* accompanied by the " Can-carriers " of No. 1 Cable Section and the CADS (Composite Air Defence Signals). It is not often we land-lubbers fly the " paying-off pennant " on our home-going troopers as was done in this case. In itself, the pennant with its exceptional length tends to remind us of the extent to which friendship stretches between those who are soon to go their varied routes. Few will forget those of the Naval and Marine crews with whom we played. Should " Wiggy," " Speedy," " Josey " or " Lofty," just to mention a few of those silent (?) Services, ever meet our fellows, rest assured it will be a merry time for those concerned. The last two were fine sportsmen, and always willing to " play in any game." As for swimming, Lofty just showed us all about it. Our best wishes go to our O.C., Lieutenant P. H. Smitherman, R.Signals, who returns to Aldershot. We are practically certain to meet again, sir. Signalman Ashton was going to leave us, but has now extended for another year. (Signalman Baines, please note). We had a noisy send-off, starting with the Grenadier Guards band (a much appreciated action), judging by the hearty cheers given them, and the trawlers, which must have exhausted all their steam with the " hoots " and " toots " they gave us. Passing H.M.S. *Valiant* the only battleship remaining in a once crowded harbour, their band played " O to be in Merry England," and " Auld Lang Syne." One wit remarked that these farewells were so touching, it was a pity to leave the place. We spent August Bank Holiday in cruising the Mediterranean. It is so popular nowadays, especially " with the sharp end of the boat facing Gib." So " that's that," and now for six weeks' leave (maybe), and then for ——— ? I'll tell you later.

Heard on the Boat.—Marine pipes whistle then shouts, " Open all scuttles."

1st Signalman A.B. " Scuttles ? What scuttles ? "

2nd Signalman A.B. " Scuttles be d———, he means windows."

Still More.—1st as above. " Where do we parade ? "

2nd as above. " At the blunt end of the boat."

SANDY.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Training.—The Southern Command Staff Duties Exercise took place between the 23rd and 25th July. No. 1 Company, less Cable Section, was found by the 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot. " A " Corps provided the Corps Cable Section. We wish to thank both Units for their most able assistance. Cable was in great demand, and the two Corps detachments, together with the three detachments provided by this Unit, had a most strenuous three days' training. All cable detachments put up a very creditable performance. The summer break is now in full swing, and in a week's time all the R.A. and Infantry Brigade Sections will have joined their various Brigades. A few old soldiers will remain in Bulford to form a skeleton of No. 1 Company.

Officers.—2nd Lieutenant A. G. Metcalfe, R.Signals (S.R.) and Lieutenant H. Knee, R.Signals (S.R.) joined this Unit on 10th and 14th August respectively, to undergo fourteen days' annual training.

Arrivals.—From Training Battalion, 22nd July: Signalman Wynne B. On 28th July: Signalman Barrett R. From Depot Battalion, 23rd July: Signalman Beever R. W.

Departures.—Driver Scott W. to " D " Troop, Cavalry Signals, on 9th July.

Promotions and Appointments.—Signalman Beard R. to be Unpaid Lance-Corporal with effect from 13th July.

Marriages.—Corporal Holloway W. to Lucy Stubbs, at Amesbury, on 28th July. Sergeant Ayres W. H. to Ena Lilian Wade, at Bristol, on 1st August.

Births.—To Signalman and Mrs. P. W. O'Keefe, a daughter, Pamela Jean Mary, on 26th May. To Signalman and Mrs. W. Lewis, a son, Jack Douglas, on 7th July.

" ARMOUR TO ARMOUR "

Being a descriptive poem of the Tidworth Tattoo, 1936

A wide arena fringed with trees,
  By searchlights' beams beholding,
And round about, the Downs one sees,
  This sylvan glade enfolding.

Appearing from the Wilton Gates,
  A band is smartly swinging ;
And soon a friendly air creates ;
  The crowds respond by singing.

A fanfare sounds from yonder arch,
  The Pipes' lament is swelling ;
And kilted troops toward us march,
  The tunes of Scotland telling.

Swift riders on wheeled-steeds of steel,
  Across the scene come racing,
These daring mounts, spectators feel,
  Have death beside them pacing.

Midst bursting shells, a broken span,
  Approached by rider—speeding,
With urgent message ; desperate plan,
  The gap he leaps—unheeding.

Field guns and rifles—fire and smoke ;
  Proud Lancers charge—full gallop ;
The clash of arms loud echoes woke,
  Dense haze the vales envelop.

Sergeants' Mess.—Unfortunately, I shall be away when the 48th Divisional Signals pay us a visit at the Mess next week, but it is a safe bet that they and our members will have a very pleasant evening. They are out to defend the Cup which they won two years ago, and our next notes will contain the result together with casualties. Congratulations to Sergeant Harry Ayres on his marriage to Miss Ena Lilian Wade, at Bristol, on 1st August. Following so closely on the departure to married quarters of Sergeant Barlow, this makes us wonder if the remaining dining members have any similar bright ideas. Pardon me ! Congratulations to Mrs. Ayres (nee Wade), on her marriage.

C.S.M. Stevenson is holiday-making in the Channel Islands. Sensational news expected hourly.

The social season may be regarded as closed just at present. With members spread over the south of England, the Tattoo and numerous bursts of leave, we find more room than excitement. To be sure, our old eyes lighted up when Messrs. Howard Drake and Bill Mewis arrived to watch points on behalf of Norton Motors. They make excellent Mess members, although we suspect they chafe under Bulford's dullness.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

Sea-serpent seen at Bridlington (news item). What a fuss to make about one paltry creature, when people here have been seeing them crawling about the barrack square for weeks, to say nothing of such everyday sights as snakes, elephants, toads, and occasional devils.

The return of some forty O.R.s from the Near East on 13th August heralds the approach to full strength of the Unit. Needless to say we are very pleased to see them back safely, and, in spite of the hardships they relate, looking very fit.

Congratulations to U/Lance Corporals Ambury and Donnelly on their sudden jump to fame. Don't forget lads, Hitler was once an U/Lance Corporal, and look at him now.

The four-legged members of the Unit are at present enjoying a change of air at Catterick. The longer they enjoy it the better we shall be pleased. In the meantime, a major portion of the Unit are indulging in a few moments awheel with the M.T. Course. Everybody is progressing very favourably, although the Drivers H.T. are naturally finding a little difficulty in using the clutch and brake, instead of pulling at the steering wheel and using strong language, in an effort to stop a 30-cwt. Morris. The North Square is, in consequence, a little dangerous for pedestrians and other traffic between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m. This probably accounts for a certain Officer leaving the Mess in his car, preceded by his servant on foot carrying a white flag.

Gas instruction is still in full swing. Constant use of our respirators has so accustomed us to them that, except for the fact that our facial appearance is somewhat improved, we find them no encumbrance whatever. The next move, I understand, is to make the married families gas-minded. What an opportunity for father. On the command " Gas," wives will immediately put on respirators, and all nagging will cease until Pa gives the " all clear." (Here I am interrupted by a chorus of

married men telling me that the only cure for nagging is to give them gas with no respirator.)

Leap year 1936, has now claimed No. 4. This time from the Sergeants' Mess. Hearty congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Robinson.

The main gate has now been removed, and certain members of the Unit, who formerly found the gate a bit of a problem when returning to barracks at night, are now able to approach to Guard-room door with less difficulty. " After all," as one prominent " gate-crasher " remarked, " the roadway isn't very wide even without gates."

Fishing is rather to the fore at the moment, and two parties have been arranged. I am not quite sure who obtained the most enjoyment—the fish or the anglers. It is, however, significant that a few whiting consented to be caught ; probably bullied into it by a tunny or a shoal of hulking cod-fish who enjoyed the feast.

W.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Rumours have at last merged into fact and August was not far advanced before the old faces, or some of them, made a welcome appearance from the East. C.Q.M.S. Millross, Sergeants Nicholson, O'Flannagan, Powell, Rigden and Robinson, having spent a couple of days looking round the barracks and getting acclimatised, voted against the weather and departed on a month's furlough. We're extremely pleased to see them back from their tour looking so fit and well and hope they return from leave feeling " up to scratch." We cannot hope to use the " shortage of personnel " excuse for ever.

To those who are still left abroad, we tender our sympathies. They have, however, the consolation of having enjoyed a summer this year. The " Queen of Watering Places " has lived up to the " Watering " part. In fact it has done the job so thoroughly that I have watered my allotment only three times during the season. There should be no excess watering charges this year, anyway.

Congratulations to Lance Sergeant Robinson on reaching that rank, also on his recent marriage.

Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

General.—Our annual range practice takes place during August, so we have been engaged in a little musketry daily and firing miniature " ammo." The training season, which corresponds in miniature to the manœuvres in bigger commands, has commenced. We have been testing our new equipment, which provided us with much humour, particularly the R/T. After hearing a broad Scotch voice " bollo-ing " in one's ear from around the corner, we feel that the greatest respect should be accorded to the everyday wireless announcer. However, the results are quite good, and the casualties on the road haven't even amounted to a chicken.

The antiquated equipment at outstations has been replaced at Omagh, Armagh, Londonderry and Ballykinler. In short, we are rapidly becoming up-to-date. The well-worn phrase " dials clicking, etc." was not heard this year, so old N.I.D.-ites will perhaps congratulate the linemen and our communication experts.

Sport has been sadly hampered by rain, but we reached the semi-final of the Cricket Cup, but were beaten rather badly. Perhaps our luck will be in next year.

Draft.—Signalman Ward and family have been provisionally warned for Egypt.

Postings.—Signalman Lawson from Lenan to Catterick, prior to embarking for the China Command, in October. Signalman Jones C. joined us from Bulford, and we hope he will enjoy his stay in N.I.D. Signalman Hayes and family to Bulford. We hope he will like his new Station.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Corporal Turner on his promotion. A pleasant surprise.

Moves Inter-Unit.—Corporal McLaren from Belfast to Ballykinler.

Humour.—The Company artist has produced a sketch, which we hope the editor will publish. [Editor : not received.] After consulation with the " heads " of departments, the barber's shop in question has now been declared out of bounds.

Outstations.—Before compiling outstation news, the H.Q. correspondent tenders his regrets for any notes from Stations which may have been overlooked, due to the training programme, and hopes to include fuller notes next month. HECME.

Ballykinler.—We borrowed a camera last Friday, bought a film on Saturday, but up to now no pictures have been taken. The old Irish sunshine is not conducive to clear-cut snaps. Maybe, if the sun shines for half an hour next month, I'll be able to supply the WIRE with an action picture of the " Mountains of Mourne running down to the Sea." A Corporal I knew, used to be fond of " cloud effects." Well, he can get all he wants of that here, because, judging by the remarks, when raincoats, sports coats, trousers and unmentionables are hung up to dry every morning, " cloud effects " are not a bit popular.

Two weeks ago, seven men, good and true, came from Belfast to take over the range communications, during the N.I.D. Small Arms Meeting. During their stay of three days, the sun actually shone (except at night), hence their remarks about summer sea-side resorts. They seemed to enjoy their stay. Their jobs were, as usual, done to everybody's satisfaction.

Moves.—Corporal McLaren arrived here from H.Q., Belfast, on Monday, 20th July. Deciding that an " under new management " sign was immodest, we refrained from putting it up.

Moves—Pending.—The lot of us to hospital with rheumatics, water on the brain or something, if this weather keeps up.

For Sale.—One velocipede, answers to " old crock." In rotten condition, but suitable for anyone anticipating marriage, provided he doesn't expect a string bag as well. Owner parting with it because he has five new models from which to borrow.

Jew's Mail.—Maddox, Egypt : " I'm here, you're there, mail goes everywhere." JOINT.

Steve and Dad, School of Signals. " Don't believe all he tells you, Mac." SPUD-CAN.

Dunree.—To all concerned and interested in the overseas draft for the coming season. Shahbash, Bahut, bahut, Salaam. [Note.—Not bad language.] It is regretted that half the strength of our small, though formidable, Section will soon be leaving us for warmer regions, perhaps in more ways than one. However, folks, the following are the victims : our " jungi-lat-sahib," Sergeant Toogood who, having already done a stretch and earned the " char gong," will find less glamour in that far-flung land of Punki. Signalman Zube Davidson, a worthy I.M., and our present scribe, Signalman Jordi Laws, complete the trio from Dunree. It may be added that monsoons, typhoons and bassoons hold no terror for us, after having survived this last month of drought and doldrums.

Comings and Goings, " Abrev."—As usual, several moves were effected during the glorious month of July. Corporal Stretch arrived from H.Q., and has since made things hum among the linemen, of whom it can be truthfully said, are much akin to busy bees—ask Dutchy. Our " wondering boy," Nobby, was despatched to Greypoint for the T.A. Shoot, and the garden suffered in consequence. Anyway, our " Sarge " and others did their utmost for the fortnightly inspection of Unit plots.

Peeps into the Future.—Visits to the house of the three brass balls, jumble sales and bonfires, all gifts of clothing kindly accepted.

Romance in Dunree.—Zube, Lofty and Slav are much to be seen in breezy Buncrana, especially since the Scotch lassies invaded the beauty spot. In spite of all the attractions and wiles of scheming maidens, our Section's bachelordom remains intact. May I add, for the benefit of love-torn swains, that a section of a certain inn, not far distant, has become a miniature Post Office, where the local belles hand in their scrawls to be collected and afterwards delivered by obliging courier N.C.O.s. Our magazine's Jew's Corner is certainly put in the shade by the amazing growth of this method.

Q.T.—To Jacko, Lenan. " Gan canny hinney, Dartmoor next time."

The End.—Still raining.

JOR DI.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island,
9th August.

General.—It is an open secret here that the Admiralty intend to make Spike a submarine base. There will be a great saving of that Budget surplus when we shall be able to stand on the ramparts and clean the submarine bottoms as they go by. To be precise, the rain still falls as heavily as it ever did.

Departures.—Departures of late have been of a varied kind. Corporal (Darkie) Francis A. J. discharged to pension. Signalman (Chabbie) Key D. C. discharged on medical grounds. Signalman (Nobby) Norbury L. A. to Catterick for Jamaica. Signalman (Duke) Wilmot L. U. de B. to Aldershot for the A.E.C. Ex-Corporal Francis will be reaping the reward of 21 years of long and arduous work, 16 years of which he has helped the Corps in many foreign stations. Good luck, Darkie, on your entry into civil life. Ex-Signalman Key was medically boarded at Spike Island, and it was deemed advisable, for his own future health, that he should give the Service a miss. All members here wish him the very best of luck. The Corps has lost a cheery and very witty personality in Key D. C. Good-bye again, Nobby! This time for Jamaica. It will be remembered that Signalman Norbury made a lightning move to Malaya last trooping season, but only completed the first lap, i.e., Catterick. The loss of Nobby is like a run-down clock (a big clock) or a "No Credit" notice in the N.A.A.F.I. If you cannot fathom (got that word from a sailor of the new Submarine Base Flotilla) that one, Hirt, the answer is, "No tick(s) here."

On the other hand, Signalman Wilmot L. U. de B. proceeds to Aldershot, without escort, to teach ABC and become A.E.C. Just think what Corporals Knight, Spong or Wright and other old members of the Section would have thought if I had inadvertently (this word has nothing to do with the Luxemburg programmes) left out "without escort." Spike without the "Duke" is like a trumpeter without his trumpet. The significance is really quite elementary.

We welcome to the Section Signalmen Earl and Shergold from Aldershot and Anderson from Bulford. You will find this place made up of one happy family, but it is a pity you missed the summer. It was the Sunday before you arrived. Signalman Anderson must have had a fine impression of Spike. Just imagine being stuck for three hours in the mud, from 12.30 to 3.30 p.m. (signifying that the spread that awaited them had to be thrown away, and "The Rat" yapping merrily into his ear the whole while) and then to be met at the Spike Pier thus: "Are you Anderson?" "Yes." "You are duty lineman to-night."

If "Frog" of Changi must complain about sunshine, make your complaint purely local, via the Orderly Officer. There has been about three square millimetres of glorious sunshine during the past three months. If you have too much, why not give or sell us some cheaply. The P.R.I. and/or Section are brimming and available.

Notice.—If any lineman on draft for China would prefer Spike Island, will that person send a stamped addressed envelope and a cheque for £3,000 to me and I will see what can be done about the whole business. Absolute success can be guaranteed if double the amount is forwarded. Signalman Sant is simply dying to get to China and any offer would be considered.

Healey's Garage.—Bere Island people can be seen in small groups, secretly conversing in whispers and pointing to a dilapidated building known as "Healey's Garage." Rumour has it that the building houses the machine that will attempt to break the world's record for cars (vide Ripley, "Sunday Express").

Congrats.—Reference Bulford Notes for August. Congrats. to Sergeant Walker H. S. on his 18 undetected. How much do I get to keep my mouth closed, Hocky? (From his ping pong opponent.)

SICDSS.



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INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

4th August.

General.—Since our last notes, nothing of great importance has taken place and everything has been going smoothly. The mid-season reliefs to Upper Topa took place on 20th July, and approximately 40 N.C.O.s and men returned to Rawalpindi, looking very brown and intelligent after their sojourn in the hills, where they have been striving for higher trade ratings. Up to press, results have not been published, but we understand they are very favourable. In place of those instructors and students who returned to Rawalpindi, a similar number left for Upper Topa, and by the time these notes are published, they will be well down to it. In regard to the inner happenings of the Unit, it may interest past members of the Unit to know we now have a brand new Unit Parade Ground, south of the old main " Q " Stores, where guard mounting takes place nightly in the true " Caterham " style. The general appearance of the Unit lines these days is very pleasing. All the roads now have avenues of trees, whilst the main approach to the barracks from the Unit office now resembles a well laid-out park, with miniature lawns enclosed by green painted posts linked up with chains. Further up, towards the B.O.R.s' bungalows, " Sanata " hedges are springing up giving the whole barracks a " Garden City " appearance.

A new miniature range is being built on the left of Cambridge Road, near the Grass Farm Stackyards, which will be a great improvement on our previous range. Speaking of miniature ranges, during the last month several practice shoots have taken place on the " A " Corps Ball Alley Range, both for B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s. In order to add a certain amount of spice to the subject, the Commanding Officer awarded prizes for the best results. We are now going to have Inter-Section Shoots, which, in addition to the competition spirit that will prevail, will be very useful training. We should have some good shots next musketry season.

Indian Signal Corps.—The appointment of H.E. General Sir Robert Cassells, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief in India, as Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, is a great honour for which all ranks of the Indian Signal Corps feel justly proud.

Training.—The Unit still continues to have its weekly route marches on Wednesday evenings. The other week, by way of a change, we had a walk-cum-run. One B.O.R. was heard to observe that the walk part was all right, but the cum-run was not so good. We certainly didn't need a Turkish bath when we returned, but it must have done us good and got rid of some of that surplus avoirdupois.

Repatriations.—Seeing crowds of people round the Unit notice board the other day, I endeavoured to find out the cause of all the excitement. On squeezing my way through I found the reason was the " Boat List." Forty-five N.C.O.s and men of the Unit are due for repatriation this coming trooping season, mostly for the Home Establishment, and although there are still a few months to go, they are already ticking off the days on calendars. All the married families are hoping they will get the *Tuscania*, whilst all the lads are hoping for the *Queen Mary*. One man told me he doesn't mind if he goes home in a rowing boat !

Promotions.—This month we have to congratulate Sergeant Wyeth E. J. on his promotion to C.Q.M.S. We now have our establishment of C.Q.M.S.'s. in the Unit.

Extension of Service.—Lance Corporal Crimes G. has extended his service to complete twelve years with the Colours. Who said he didn't have a pontoon face ?

Honours and Awards.—We congratulate Sergeant Cozens S.T. on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Pindi Personalities—No. 2.—The Sergeant who was told to " bite the cook."

Believe it or Not.—A certain Orderly Sergeant proceeded to the Stables at 04.30 hours on a wet and dismal morning to witness the " first feed." Seeing a mule unshackled, he ordered a syce to shackle it up. Attempting to walk away, he sprawled headlong on the ground. The syce had shackled the Orderly Sergeant !

Things We Want to Know.—Who was the Lance Corporal who had " Excused Race " on the Sick Report ?

Football.—A team, composed of boot boys, canteen wallahs and two or three B.O.R.s to fill in the gaps, recently entered a local football tournament. They were defeated in the final by a team of 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment. The rules for the said tournament caused much amusement in this Unit. They are reproduced below, because it is felt that they are really worthy of inclusion.

RULES CONCERNING FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT BEGINNING ON 13TH INST.

DECISION OF MANAGING COMMITTEE.

1. If a player be found playing foul, the referee has the legal power to make him stop for a short while or even can turn him out.
2. If any team wishes to break the rules of the game, then it can be disqualified.
3. Every team will be given seventeen passes, i.e., six extra.
4. The passes given to every team shall be taken back as soon as they enter the gate. The defeated team shall by no means be given passes.
5. The Managing Committee possesses the authority to appoint or select the referee, and no team has the right to disobey the referee.
6. Any player objecting against the umpire should see the Managing Committee.
7. Any team not reaching the ground at the exact time or not ten minutes before time, can be disqualified by the Managing Committee.
8. Every team ought to bring its own football with it.
9. If a team raises an objection or wishing to consult anything, should send his own captain to see the Presidents (1) Mr. Abdul Rahman and (2) Mr. Isaac Robert of Octroi post 22.
10. A player, after having played in one team, cannot go over to the other. If any team allows such a player, it will then be declared disqualified. Matters not, even if it be a winning team.

ONEDIV.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

10th August.

General.—The usual end of the summer feeling is upon us and, in consequence, nothing has occurred that is worthy of note. The first party has returned from Landi Kotal (we congratulate those who are enjoying the extra annas as the fruits of their industry, and to those who failed, " better luck next time "). The second party is now well down to it.

Promotions.—After somehow missing the 1/4/36 promotions, we have several to report now : Corporals Smalley and Frey to Lance Sergeants ; Lance Corporals Thomas and Robson to Corporals, and U/Lance Corporals Horsman and Mann to Lance Corporal (Paid). Who said " Wait until 1940 " ?

Hockey.—We have visited the Khyber twice of late to play the detachment at hockey and have had our colours lowered to the tune of 4—1 by the first Course Party and drew with the second Course Party. The Hot Weather Tourney was played last month, only five teams competing. We won two matches and lost two. The 15th Medium Battery R.A. repeated last year's performance by winning the tourney.

Sergeants' Mess.—Monsoon weather, no, it cannot be, for we don't enjoy such luxuries in Peshawar. It is hot and oppressive, causing the twelve lone members who volunteered (?) to stay on

the plains, to sit around and develop latent working livers. This will never do (quoth one), and decided on a remedy, which took the form of a Mess Tennis Tournament. After much effort and determination, the twelve lone men were persuaded to enter, irrespective of their achievements at Wimbledon and elsewhere, bringing forth some good tennis, pleasant exercise adding lead to the latent, thereby attaining the great intention. Of course, it might be noted here, that the winner naturally turned out to be the " quoth one " to quote, what was Jubbulpore's loss was also the other eleven member's.

Having said a few words about the plains, hill stations had better be mentioned. The latter subject is a bit of a thorn, because really we don't possess one, but, as mentioned before, the families have found breathing space this summer at Khanspur. Some might ask where is this place, ask fifty per cent. of the Mess members, or better still, see their smiling faces as leave approaches. Khanspur is, geographically, a spur nestling in the mountains about seventeen miles from Murree, and about 7,500 feet above sea level. It accommodates about 400 B.O.R.s and 140 families. The station is fairly cosmopolitan, the B.O.R.s are Cavalry and R.A. from Risalpur, " Tank Corps " from Peshawar with a smattering of Infantry from Nowshera. Families are even more mixed, coming from similar places, but comprising more Corps and Regiments. The method of approach from Murree or Rawalpindi is via Sunnybank, Kuldana, Barian Khyra Gali, Chungla Gali, Khanspur. The latter part of the road is very poor, being a one way nil class one. Road Warrant transport is " Tat " (horse or pony with a saddle stuffed with nails ?), and Dandy (a sort of sedan chair, only worse), with A.T. cart and pack mule for baggage. It might be added that a car can be hired with little effort on dry days.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

3rd August.

General.—A very quiet month with very little to record I am afraid. Mainly due to the small numbers here in Kohat, and of course, in a great measure also to the weather, which has been all that one expects of an Indian summer on the plains, with the temperature keeping fairly steady around the region of 114. With a corresponding high humidity, the inclination to remain in cool spots under fans and punkahs, is very strong. We have, however, a Junior N.C.O.s' course going first thing in the morning, before King Sol has had time to rub the sleep out of his eyes, but, otherwise, general routine is the order of the day, with everyone working indoors, as far as possible, until after the second works parade.

D.A.D.O.S. held his annual inspection of this Unit on the 29th, and, I believe, was very well satisfied with all he saw. We were, therefore, compensated for the extra work put in prior to the inspection.

The second leave party has rejoined, looking very brown and fit, testifying to the healthy properties of Topa and those " Dog and Stick walks," not to mention the hour's technical training daily, helping to keep idle hands out of mischief. The third and, I believe, last party for this season left on the night of the 31st, for a month in Topa with Lance Sergeant Ray as their guide, mentor and friend ? (Did you take those batteries for the helio's, Jim ?)

A further trip was run to Parachinar this month. As before, everyone said how interesting it was and what a nice change from the heat of the plains, even if it was only for a couple of days.

We offer our congratulations to Lance Corporals Robson and Turvey and to Signalman Moran on classifying as Operater Signals, Class I at the last Trade Testing Board. Our sympathy goes out to those who just failed to make the grade. To them we would say, " Remember Robert Bruce and the Spider." We wish them better luck next time.

The Irony of Fate.—One of the lower order (deckhand) had been posted from a Cavalry Troop, in order to get away from the long-eared chums for a while. On the first day in his new Unit, he was detailed for, yes, you have guessed it, " Stables." This just goes to prove the old adage, " the best laid plans of mice and men, etc."

Arrivals.—Captain C. H. I. Akehurst from the Signals School, Poona, on permanent transfer. To him we extend a hearty welcome and hope that his stay will be a long and happy one.

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Signalman Allen from 2nd Cav. To him the glad mitt is extended and we hope he will soon settle down to the routine of a Dismounted Unit.

Departures.—Signalman Pittman to the 2nd Cavalry Troop, Sialkot. The best wishes of the Unit go with him for a happy stay in his new Unit. TWOCAV will find that they have acquired an all-rounder of definite ability, a footballer, hockey player, cricketer or what have you.

Sport.—One more match has been played in the Hot Weather Tournament Cricket. We met the R.A.F. " B," whom we defeated fairly easily by 105 runs to 57 runs. Chief scorers were Captain Brown 31 and Corporal Clackett with a hard hit 27. Our opponents wickets were shared by Lieutenant Good, Lance Sergeant Ray and Signalman Rose.

Tennis.—In the Hot Weather League, our " B " team is still without a win. They came very near it in their last match, losing to the R.A.F. " B," by 5 sets to 4, but winning on games by 49 to 47. Our " A " team record to date is as follows :

			Sets		Games	
P	W	L	F	A	F	A
6	4	2	28	26	256	227

We are at present runners-up in the League, but have very little chance, I'm afraid, of overhauling the leaders, who so far are undefeated, with half of their fixtures completed. On Thursday, 6th August, we meet the " Best XI " at cricket in the Hot Weather League. This will be the deciding match, because both teams are undefeated to date. Unfortunately, it will be too late to include the result in these notes, but I hope to tell you how we won the League Championship in next month's notes.

ROBO.

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

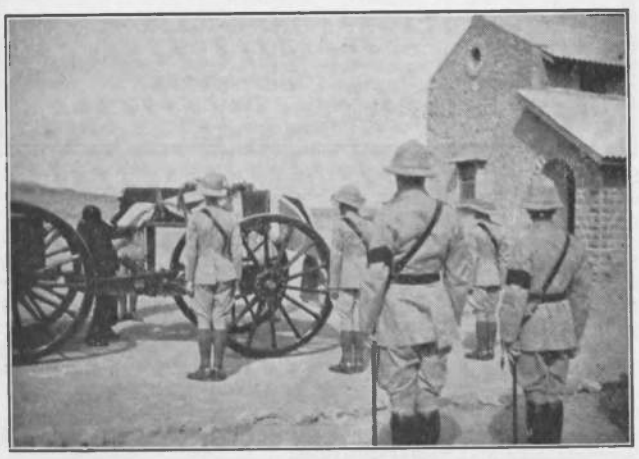
"B" Corps Signals, Karachi.

July.

General.—This month saw the end of the First Operators and Lineman's I.T. Courses, complete with Trade Boards, etc., and, after a ten days' lapse, the second I.T. Course has commenced.



The Late Lance Corporal Peacock.



The Gun-Carriage.



At the Graveside.

We welcomed the Pack Section back from Burma. This return is only temporary, as they will be returning to Burma to finish their Boundary Commission job. This respite allows for the replacements of those among them who are due to go home this trooping season.

Obituary.—It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of No. 2318374 Lance Corporal Peacock J. W., from aneurysm saccular rupture, at the British Military Hospital, Karachi, on 15th July. Lance Corporal Peacock had been ill for some weeks and appeared to be well on the way to recovery, when he was taken with a sudden and serious relapse, on 15th July, which brought about his death late the same night. The news of his sudden death was a great shock to everyone in the Unit. Lance Corporal Peacock was serving his second tour in "B" Corps Signals, having reverted to the Home Establishment in 1934, but returned again the following year. He was well known by many men who have and are at present serving in this Unit. He also had numerous friends throughout India. His personality was impressed upon us all, particularly those who worked with him. In his death, the Unit has lost a good man, and all ranks offer their deepest sympathy to his relatives.

Promotions.—We offer congratulations to the following on their respective promotions: Sergeant Healy, Lance Sergeant Weir, Corporals Wilson and Statham, Lance Corporals Jordan and Edwards, U/Lance Corporals Manning, Duggan, Carlyon, Pullinger and Moon.

Wedding Bells.—Congratulations to Corporal Breeze, who was married at Crewe, on 6th June, whilst on U.K. leave.

Arrivals.—The Pack Section from Burma; Corporal Dallimore from W/T Det., Fort Sandeman; Corporal Bartlett from W/T Det., Quetta; Signalman German from "A" Corps Signals; Signalman Dungey from Loralai and Signalmen Wileman and Davies J. from Quetta.

Departures.—Lieutenant Shawcross to U.K. on leave and reversion to Home Establishment; Lance Corporal Sims, Signalmen Coombs and Bolton to W/T Det., Quetta; Signalman Miller to "A" Corps Signals; Signalman Brannan to Zhobsigs, Fort Sandeman, and Signalman Doris to Zhobsigs, Loralai.

Social.—During the month we held an All Ranks football dance, which took place on the B.O.R.'s tennis courts. It was an open-air show, and was a great success. Great credit is due to the Committee who transformed the tennis courts into a perfect dance hall. The Commanding Officer and officers of the Unit attended and everyone enjoyed themselves. We hope to have more dances like this, now that the ball has started rolling.

Rooty Gongs.—Congratulations to Corporal Walsh H. who has been presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Muft Dak.—Corporal Bucke (School of Signals): "Why so quiet, Cyril? There's sure to be an Indian vacancy for you one day.—Slim."

To Bob (Bulford): "Congrats. from Dally."

TWOBECOR.

Corporals' Room.

July.

General.—Since our last issue our numbers have greatly increased, due to our having had a good share of promotions and the return of the Pack Section from Burma.

Social.—The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess entertained us to a "tin and bottle" Tennis Tournament on Wednesday, 22nd, which was followed by a social evening in the Sergeants' Mess. One of our ladies, Miss Bill Muir, was in fine form for the tennis and enjoyed her winnings of sausages and cream. The social was a great success from every point of view. Even Monsieur Henri Moulinie was applauded for his singing. As there are to be more functions of this sort in the near future, we shall have plenty to record next month.

Congratulations to Corporal Denison on being awarded the Chief Gripper Shield for the month of July.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret we record the death of Lance Corporal Peacock at the British Military Hospital, Karachi, on 15th July. He was one of our new Mess members, and had been ill for some weeks. His death was a shock to us, as we were

looking forward to having him back with us again soon. We offer our deepest sympathy to Lance Corporal Peacock's relatives.

Promotions.—We thank Lance Sergeant Weir for saying "Hello—good-bye" to us on his return from Burma, and Corporal Statham for "pushing the boat out." We are waiting to clamp Corporal Wilson when he returns from Chaman. We welcome the following new Mess members: U/Lance Corporals Manning, Hamilton, Duggan, Kirk, Carlyon, Pullinger and Moon.

Marriages.—We are in the position to record one at last. Our congratulations are extended to Corporal and Mrs. Breeze, who were married at Crewe, on 6th June. Sialkot papers, please copy.

Arrivals.—Corporal Dallimore from Fort Sandeman and Corporal Bartlett from W/T Det., Quetta.

Departures.—Lance Corporal Sims to W/T Det., Quetta.

SLIM.

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarter Company.

General.—Things are just about the same as they were about a month ago. Individual training is still in progress, but the persons concerned do not seem to progress with time, for there are several furrowed brows in the Unit lines as the Trade Board draws nearer. Riding instruction goes on, but the pupils still persist in coming off (for further information apply to Dodger Green.) The school-room is still open for the studious community, and we have frequent schemes, Mobile Column turn-outs, also other "sports" to fill in our spare time.

To and From Quetta.—They say that "exchange is no robbery" so we swapped Signalman Jock Hay for Signalman Eley, leaving us quits with Loralai.

Congratulations.—To Sergeant Gudgeon G. on receiving his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Signals Association Dance (and after).—Another well attended and quite successful Whist Drive and Dance took place on Wednesday, 22nd July. The morning after was not quite so good when the Inter-Section Sports were contested. In spite of the fact that thick heads were plentiful and no records were forthcoming, the results were quite satisfactory. Headquarters Company struck a happy medium and finished fifth out of nine Sections.

Howlers.—Handel's "Largo" is a popular brand of beer. Mercury (quicksilver) was the first confidence trickster.

We Want to Know.—Why all those hoping to catch the big boat this trooper have learnt to swim? Whose Blighty mail will we read when Happy goes?

Free Mail.—To Sweeney, Scarboro' As man to man who is the girl that is taking all your pice? Ask her for 1½d. for a stamp. Willie.

3956925 Taffy. Where are you now? Nobby.

BURNISTON.

Marriage.—It gives us great pleasure to announce the wedding, at All Saints' Church, Tamrookum, Australia, of Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., R.Signals, Officer Commanding the Unit, to Miss B. de Burgh Persse, on Monday, 29th June. The "Courier Mail" of Brisbane says that a no more picturesque setting could have been chosen than the de Burgh Persse family church at Tamrookum. In the church, a wealth of flowers had been sent specially from Brisbane, whilst gold and blue was the colour scheme, with jonquils and forget-me-nots in the pews. The entire church was reserved for the guests, and even then there was a large overflow of people. The guard of honour of eight officers was provided from the Australian Corps of Signals, with Major N. O'Brien in command. Without going into details, the bride was described as a picture of radiant youth as she entered the church with her father, who gave her away. The best man was Captain C. W. Knappe, of the Brisbane Staff Corps. Ushers were provided from relatives of the bride. A wedding luncheon was held at the bride's parents' home at Wyambyn, where a three-tiered cake was cut by the bride with her husband's sword. Numerous wedding presents were on view, and one gift, which came in for general admiration, was a crested silver salver bearing the autographs of the bridegroom's fellow officers of the Royal Signals, Quetta. The wedding gift from the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the bridegroom's Unit took the form of three silver ash trays, and that of the Junior N.C.O.s a silver cigarette casket, both being suitably inscribed.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. W. T. Howe spent their honeymoon on a trip to Fiji and thence to what will be their temporary home, Meerut, India, where Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe assumes command of the 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.

Although Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. W. T. Howe have not arrived at Meerut at the time of preparation of these notes, it is understood that they have landed at Colombo, Ceylon, from whence they will complete their honeymoon trip by car to their destination. We, of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, take this opportunity of offering to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. W. T. Howe our heartiest congratulations, and we wish them a long and happy married life.

A.T.K.

No. 1 Company.

General.—The 1st of August has arrived, and almost the whole of the D.R. Section are discussing some mysterious "boat" or other. Just what they mean, I cannot gather, but it seems to form a very good basis for argument. The most repeated remark of late is, "83 to go." Do any of you old sweats know what they mean?

Agony (or is it ?).—Things have quietened down in this burg lately. The whitewash firms are beginning to send circulars again. The "boys" are settling down to the old drudge. Individual Training still goes on and impossible questions tions are being asked and answered in all Messes. Never mind, you aspirants for greater honour! It will or must end sometime. Don't forget the old proverb, "More honour, more duty."

Departures.—Signalman Donohoe left Quetta for Zhob Signal Section with Loralai as his immediate destination. Let us hope that he appreciates the "no guard" idea. What about your Bi now, Don?

The Glad Hand.—The above is extended to Major Dimoline on his promotion to that rank. Well done, sir! May the office boys quake at your footsteps for a good while yet.

We Want to Know.—Whether the M.O.'s hand slipped when he wrote "M. and D." on a certain sick report? Why did the entire Corporals' Mess parade at Retreat when Corporal Gavins pulled the flag down? Was it out of reverence? What boat do I go home on? Ow! get off my neck! I know I have a long time yet. The Junior N.C.O.s' Drill Course is finished after lasting three strenuous weeks. They all hope that everything went off all right on the pass off.

Jews Mail.—Sergeant Brewster, P.S.I., 49th West Riding Signals, Leeds. So you wangled P.S.I. How did you do it, Sarge? Salaams to C.S.M. Woods. Are Wilson and Forster in your Squad? Thakaray, Holland, 'Pindi. Scott wants to know whether the inland postage rate has gone up? Old 182 Squad sends salaams to Sergeant Healey T., Karachi, and to Lance-Sergeant (Dodge) Green, Meerut (?).

And "here's to the next time," from,

NEWUN.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The Junior N.C.O.s have finished their Drill Course More drama lies behind this statement than you imagine. Every morning, the N.C.O.s "rose with the R.S.M." and practised chorus-boy steps (army pattern) on one of the parade grounds. On 25th July they stole to the hockey pitch with great apprehension, to pass-off. The voice that breathed over Quetta, giving commands, dislodged a few boulders from Murdha Ghar, but Nature's feeble remonstrance was overwhelmed by the "as you were's" and "by the left's" rolling in thunderous roars around the valley. "Oh! Niagara."

Sergeant Gudgeon was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by the G.O.C. on 24th July. Congratulations, Sergeant.

The Signals Association held another dance on 22nd July. Most of our officers and their ladies were there. The dance was a huge success.

Departures.—We forgot to note in last months' WIRE the departure of two very popular N.C.O.s, Corporal Hutchison and

Lance Corporal Mackenzie, who were posted to Rawalpindi and Waziristan District Signals respectively. Best of luck.

Arrivals.—Corporal King, Signalmen Buckles, Mason, and Panter, from Waz. Dist. R.I.P. Biscuit to "Stinky," who wanted ten minutes of unexpired bliss. To walk into "G" Section bungalow was to come under the mesmeric influence of confirmed grippers. Now they are feeling rather rabid, and deserve the needles they're getting. Oh! Tommy, what do you do when Casey starts?

To Connie, Loralai.—How is the poultry farm and the hen that laid for me?

G'bye. NOBBY.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

July.

General.—The long awaited boat list has been published at last, and the fortunate have already commenced to count the days. We shall soon be saying good-bye to faces which have grown familiar in our midst.

The major portion of No. 1 Company has left us for the cooler climate of Chakrata. By the time these notes are published, those who have gone will, no doubt, be thoroughly acclimatised to the hill station weather. Some people have all the luck, is the complaint of those who are condemned to spend successive summers on the plains. No. 2 Company has returned from Chakrata, and the majority of the Company are now renewing an old acquaintanceship with the thrills of riding. The Company has been divided into three rides, (1) Learners, who wear a large "L" when riding. (2) Mediocres, who wear jackboots and fly-switches. (3) Roughs, who wear a sickly grin (and Jhodpurs in the evening). A wealth of talent has been unearthed and at times unhorsed. It is quite possible that we have with us to-day the future riders of Olympia. The writer would like to add that he knows several effective cures for those afflictions which are caused through failing to "bump" at the correct moment.

The D.R. Section is at present under training with two "Austin Sevens," which have recently been added to the Unit vehicle strength, and are considered a vast improvement on the "bikes." The roads in Meerut, especially those round the lines, do not permit really good driving, but the prospective chauffeurs are making the best of it.

Entertainments.—Despite the fact that the weather was not at all favourable for sightseeing (the temperature being somewhere in the region of 100 degrees), a party under the leadership of R.S.M. Bew, paid a visit to Delhi a few days ago, and had a really enjoyable time. Numbering about twenty-five, the party left Meerut at 6.30 a.m. and arrived in Delhi at 9 a.m. Not bad time for the run, since it included a puncture and the usual carburetter faults. The places of interest in Delhi Fort are not open until evening, so the party went on to the Qutab Minar, where an enjoyable lunch was served by Lance Corporal Fletcher. Roughly 238 feet high, the Qutab Minar is a landmark for miles around. The top is reached by a spiral staircase of 479 steps. The climb to the top is more than worth while, and some of the party secured excellent snaps of the surrounding country from this vantage point. On returning to Delhi, tea was supplied in the Fort by the 6th Armoured Car Company. After a tour of the Fort, the party split up, and individuals spent the evening as they wished. The picture houses of New Delhi seemed to make the strongest appeal.

C.Q.M.S. Gould of Unit Headquarters has again shouldered the responsibility of running weekly whist drives in the Men's Mess. There was a fairly good attendance at the first "drive" of the season, and it is expected that these attendances will increase during the next few weeks.

Arrivals and Departures.—Corporal Turner F. and family from "B" Corps Signals, Karachi. Signalman Akehurst J. from 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop (next door). Lance Corporal Mitchell to 3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Signalmen Page G., Crellin N., Cairns A. to S.T.C. (I) Jubbulpore.

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SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—Trimulgherry still continues to get its share of rain. Although it tends to spoil the sports programme, its effect on the vegetation certainly brightens up the landscape. The beginning of July saw the commencement of the second period of Individual Training. Blistered hands and post-lecture arguments are the order of the day. However, we wish the hopefuls will meet with success in their efforts. The C.S.O. paid the Unit a visit at the beginning of the month and we hope everything proved satisfactory. On the last day of his visit, the Sergeants' Mess held a tennis " At Home," and a very enjoyable time was had by all. The Commander-in-Chief in India will be paying us his first visit since his appointment at the end of the month, and we are busy with practice ceremonial parades in preparation for his coming.

Officers.—We respectfully extend our best wishes and tender our hearty congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., R.Signals, on his promotion. Lieutenant-Colonel Cary's stay with us was only a short one as he has now left us again to proceed to the U.K. on leave pending reversion to the Home Establishment. Captain A. B. Bushby, R.Signals, our present Officiating Commanding Officer, accompanied by Lieutenant T. Jones, R.Signals, I.A., our Quartermaster, made a tour of our Out-Sections at Ahmednagar, Mhow and Jubbulpore at the end of June, rejoining Headquarters early in July. Captain S. J. Fielder, R.Signals, has now been taken on the strength of Zhob Signal Section. We hope that both Captain and Mrs. Fielder will enjoy their new station. Lieutenant H. O. Pargeter, R.Signals, paid a short visit early this month to Bangalore to help the A.F.I. with an improvised Signal Section. We understand that his help was very welcome. " G " Signal Section, Mhow, will be losing their Section Commander, Lieutenant R. C. B. Stuart, R.Signals, at the end of this month, when he proceeds on leave to the U.K., pending reversion to the Home Establishment. We wish you bon voyage, sir, and hope that England proves suitable. Our strength of officers has been increased by the posting of Lieutenant G. I. Burgess-Winn, R. Signals, from Zhob Signal Section. Lieutenant Burgess-Winn is at present on U.K. leave and we anticipate the pleasure of making his acquaintance in October next.

Attachments.—Our best wishes go with Lance-Corporal McQuire J., who proceeded to Kirkee Arsenal for probationary attachment to the I.A.O.C. Lance-Corporal McQuire was one of our star hockey players and we do not like losing him. We can only wish him well on his transfer. We welcome Private Field from the Q.O.R.W.K. Regt., younger brother and reproduction of Lance-Sergeant Field of this Unit. Private Field is at present under training with a view to transfer to the Corps, and we wish him all success. Sergeant Gardner of the Southern Command Wireless Group paid us a fleeting visit early this month, and we hope that his stay, short as it was, proved enjoyable. C.S.M. Patheyjohns, of the A.F.I., is at present with this Unit undergoing refresher training. We hope that both C.S.M. and Mrs. Patheyjohns will enjoy their stay with us.

Courses.—We congratulate Lance-Corporal Wood on obtaining a 2nd Class Certificate at the Army School of Physical Training, Kasauli. It is said that " hard work ensures success," and from his account of the school routine we opine that Kasauli must be brimful of it. Signalman Hughes E. has left us for a six months' Vocational Training Course as a Fitter in the G.I.P.Rly. workshops in Bombay. We hope that he will enjoy his stay there and that when he finishes his Course he will be well fitted for " Civvy Street." U/Lance-Corporal Boulter G. proceeds on a District Preparatory P.T. Course at the end of this month. We wish him every success. A Junior N.C.O.s Course has been started under C.S.M. Westwood for instruction in Drill and P.T. This takes place first thing each morning, and breakfast is rounded-off with the usual arguments and discussions between the budding instructors.

Repatriations.—Just to give our friends at home fair warning, we issue a list of those people who are lucky enough to be going home during this coming trooper: Sergeants Penfold A. and Baker L., Lance-Corporals Garnett J. Green R., Wood R. and Gibbon R., U/Lance-Corporal Wright J., Signalmen Hezseltine L., Hughes C., Hughes E. and Hulme H.

It is a big slice out of our small Unit and we shall be sorry to lose them.

Postings.—We welcome Sergeant and Mrs. Goodyear and Lance-Corporal Hatton from 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, and hope that they will find Trimulgherry to their liking.

Complimentary.—We congratulate, firstly, Sergeant Parker on passing English and Map Reading towards the 1st Class Certificate, at Mhow, in March; secondly, Sergeant Copp on his promotion to that rank; and lastly, but by no means less heartily, U/Lance-Corporal Wright on his marriage to Miss Sheila Elizabeth Shannahan, at Jubbulpore, on 1st July.

Sport.—Although, as previously mentioned, the rain tends to interfere with our sport, we have managed to get in a few fixtures. Unfortunately, we have not a large number from whom to choose our teams, but I can safely say that we have given neighbouring teams some very good games in hockey, football and cricket. On 15th July, during the visit of the C.S.O., Southern Command, we had a Derby game against the 4th Cav. Bde. Sig. Troop Hockey XI. It was a good, hard and well contested game, finishing up in a draw, 1—1. The few Rugby enthusiasts amongst us manage to get a game now and again by combining with the detachment of the R.A.M.C., and we have had two or three good games against the various R.A. teams.

Shoot.—On Thursday, 2nd July, the Unit held a Rifle and Revolver Shoot against the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Each team was composed of eight individuals firing rifles and four firing revolvers. The results were as follows:

FIRST PRACTICE. 5 rounds deliberate rifle fire at 300 yards on small targets (highest possible team score 160). Score: Unit 77, Troop 100.

SECOND PRACTICE. Double from 400 yards firing point to 300 yards firing point, load 5 rounds in rifle and fire at a small target. 50 seconds allowed (highest possible team score 160). Score: Unit, 66, Troop 76.

THIRD PRACTICE. 5 rounds rifle fire at 200 yards at a figure of a man carried from one end of the butts to the other (highest possible team score 160). Score: Unit 56, Troop 48.

TOTAL RIFLE SCORES: Unit 199, Troop 224.

FOURTH PRACTICE. Pistol fire at a moving figure of a man (highest possible team score 80). Score: Unit 36, Troop 28.

FIFTH PRACTICE. Deliberate pistol fire at 25 yards (highest possible team score 80). Score: Unit 54, Troop 32.

TOTAL PISTOL SCORES: Unit 90, Troop 60.

It can be seen that although the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop held the lead in rifle practices, we managed to pull up on the revolver practices and win the shoot by the narrow margin of 5 points.

Tailpiece.—Those two great characters, " Dodger " and " The Lurcher," are at present deep in a mystery. They are in search of that elusive " Flux." Someone said it is what the shepherds watched at night but that didn't seem to satisfy them.

ODE TO A LOST SPIRIT.

Once these halls did sound and throb,
To your wranglings with the mob,
Now they're silent and we sob,
Brennan's gone away.

Silently he came, aloof,
But his silence was a spoof,
Hear him praise the old Cav Troop,
Brennan has his say.

But his silence will not last,
Once again we'll stand aghast,
That his jaws could move so fast
Brennan's on his way.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

24th July.

General.—The Unit is still much below strength in I.O.R.s and animals, but we shall be at full strength before Camp training

commences in September. Twelve remounts are expected in the very near future from the Remount Depot, Ahmednagar, and our " roughs " are already putting cotton wool in their breeches. Early in August and September a total of 32 trained horses will be transferred to this Unit from the four Indian Cavalry Units in the Southern Command. Great things are expected from the eight " boys " who arrive here in September from the Training Battalion, Jubbulpore. They will have many opportunities to prove their abilities during manoeuvres. It is marvellous how much a little " greenery " brightens up a place. The Unit gardens are greatly improved and our C.O. kindly gave us some large flower pots which now look well on the office verandah. Although " Painter " is not a Signal trade, we have a few amateur enthusiasts here and during the past month they have been amusing themselves by painting almost everything which could be painted, with the result that notice boards, etc., now look as they are supposed to be and not just a piece of wood.

Ye Olde Blue Book.—Congratulations to our Quartermaster, Sergeant Page A., on attaining the rank of Sergeant. He certainly is getting plenty of practice for the next step on the ladder.

Awards.—Naik Mohd Lall of this Unit deserves a pat on the back for putting Signals in the limelight by winning three prizes at the 1935-6 Saugor Horse Show. His prizes were: (1) The Solly Flood Cup for the Best Trained Remount. (Open to B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s). (2) The Royal Deccan Horse Cup for Point to Point. (Open to B.O.R.s and I.O.R.s). (3) The Scinde Horse Cup for Best Show Horse. (I.O.R.s only). This is a splendid performance, and we all expect him to gain further trophies at the forthcoming Secunderabad Horse Show.

A photo of Naik Mohd Lall accompanies these Notes.



Naik Mohd Lall

Musketry.—A match was held between 4th Indian Divisional Signals and the Troop, resulting in a win for the Div. on revolver and a win for the Troop on rifle (who said the Div. " Bisley " experts would wipe the floor with us !). However, the combined totals gave the Div. the trophy, but we hope to reverse the result next year. At least we shall try. Oxford are still trying to win the boat race and when one wishes to encourage a failure nowadays one doesn't say, " Think of Bruce and the spider," but, " Think of Oxford."

King's Birthday Parade.—The Unit took part in the 4th (Secunderabad) Cavalry Brigade Parade, held on 23rd June. The march past was very good and the District Commander must have been impressed with the turn-out and efficiency of the various Units. The Indian Cavalry certainly look well on a ceremonial parade.

Visit of C.S.O.—The Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, (Lieutenant-Colonel P. B. D. H. Foot, R.Signals), inspected the Unit on 17th July, and an excellent report is expected.

Wishes.—That medals be issued to soldiers in this Command for killing stray dogs, tree rats, and " tiger " ants, then perhaps the " Frontier " service fellows who boost their medals down here will quit squawking.

W.C. (this means " wisecracks," not " William the Conq.").—(1) The moths have gone hungry this week because 4th Div. Sigs. B.O.R.s have retrieved their breeches from the bottoms of boxes for a ceremonial parade. It is understood that, in future, to avoid damage by moths and white ants, they are to lend them to the " 4 BAR C " B.O.R.s who sure will welcome the gift.

(2) To avoid any further heated arguments and confusion, the Div. Sigs. are to hold a parade for the sole purpose of determining which B.O.R. will take up the extreme position on the left. At present there are at least TEN chotah wallahs (out of a total of 16), who are favourites for the prize, which is to be " How to play Hockey," by FORBARCY. Probably, the future command will be, " Tallest on the right, TWEEDLEY on the left."

Sport.—A feature of this month's programme was a hockey match between the Troop and Div. Sigs. It was an excellent game, witnessed by a large crowd, including the C.S.O., Southern Command. The result, 1—1, was quite fair, although the Div. had to exercise terrific pressure late in the second half to score the equalising goal. The " vocal support " given by the supporters of the two Units reminded the writer of former Rangers v. Celtic games when, for the duration of the game, good friends became bloodthirsty enemies.

Corporals' Mess (Signal Units, Trimulgherry).—Yes, it's still in existence, although the attendance there might be considerably improved and thus give the Mess the backing it requires. We have managed to obtain permission to purchase three gramophone records monthly, and (best of all), Corporal " Ginger " Rhodes has been appointed a member on the Entertainments Committee. We shall now perhaps have occasional " whoopee " and " free for all " nights.

BONNIE DUNDEE.

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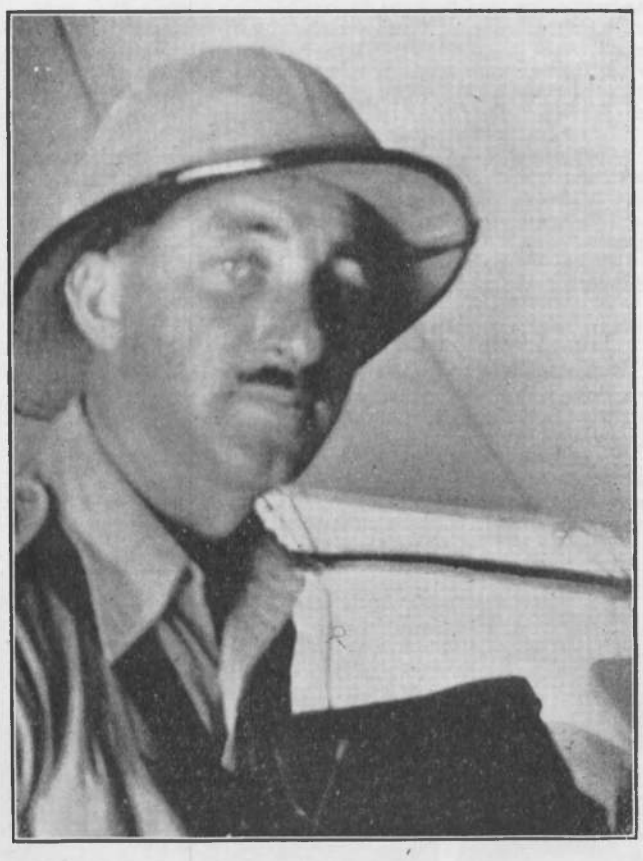
OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

5th Divisional Signal Company, Egypt.

27th July.

Obituary.—The Unit has sustained a deeply and universally felt loss in the tragic death of Lieutenant Douglas Elliot McIntosh. The details of the flying accident in which he was involved are generally known and we need not dwell on them. We cannot, however, refrain from paying tribute to the qualities we had seen in him and admired. He had an open friendliness that quickly won our esteem and a simple dignity that commanded our respect. We took pride in his thorough efficiency, and his pre-eminent consideration for the men under his command had been reciprocated by a more personal regard for him than is perhaps usual. The shock and sincere grief felt by us after relatively so short an acquaintance with him, must be small compared with that felt by those of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals who had known him personally, and it is possible, equally with that Corps, to deplore the untimely death of so efficient an officer. They have our condolences, and we humbly beg leave to tender our sympathy to his bereaved relatives and to his doubtlessly very large circle of friends.

Most of us also had come into contact with Captain d'Arcy Symonds and Captain Barford, the other two army officers who were victims of the crash. Men knew and appreciated direct contact with Captain Symonds; Captain Barford was generally felt to be the most courteous officer one could meet. High praise when uttered sincerely.



The late Lieutenant Douglas Elliot McIntosh,
Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

Movements.—The Unit is undoubtedly due to leave its late comfortless home. Dame Rumour's offspring resemble the sands of the desert; they have been so numerous lately. Half the Unit is looking through catalogues of "gents' natty winter tweeds," while the other half is indenting for new K.D. and sourly filling in the "Form of Will" in their A.B. 64, Part 1.

Wreck Ahoy!—One piece of our impedimenta which will surely be left behind, when we move, is a black, battered hulk, stranded on some rocks far out to sea. It bears a brass plate inscribed with the words, "Here lies Newton A. Drowned at Sea, 1936. Also to commemorate the expoits of our Aggie, who floated away and escaped." The story of the building of this barque follows the lines of those described by Longfellow, Virgil and Homer. That is to say, our Bill and our Aggie tripped hand in hand together over the sands, and when they came back they had some hessian and some petrol boxes. They spread the former over the latter, and painted both of them with pitch, in the approved classical tradition (they had procured the pitch by doing some more tripping over the sand). When the boat was built, our Bill and our Aggie—being neither of them light-bodied nor light-minded men—set Gibson afloat in it. Perkins waited on the beach with Gibson's clothes as he had set sail in a swimming costume. After a suitable interval, Gibson, like the boy who climbed upwards with a banner and kept on mumbling "Excelsior," swam back to shore bearing the barque's pennant. Our Bill said to him, "Where's the boat?" Gibson thrust the flag at him and replied, "Here it is."

Corps d'Esprit.—After some six or seven months in this place, we are able to overhear the following: "There's sand in the lemonade," and "What d'you expect for half an akka—gold dust?"

"London Gazette."—We congratulate the L. of C. Signals on securing the services of Captain Peachell. We have no doubt that they will like him as much as we did. Although we are sorry to lose him, we realise that we have no attractions to hold out which compare with those of the land to which he is bound. At anyrate, why should he want to stay with us when he can get from Atkins Road to Winchmore Hill for one shilling return (should he ever want to go to Winchmore Hill), and also "follow the green light for Victoria" in the flesh and do all the things that visit us only in our dreams? The point of all this is, that we conceive our regret to be unilateral. Captain Peachell could not have been as sorry to leave us as we were to lose him. The L. of C. Signals will take him warmly to their bosom and the 5th Divisional Signal Company will be a memory only of a signal office from which there was "no exit" (unless you were sly and agile). With happy memories we very cordially wish him well.

Delinquents.—Morgan has disgraced not only the Unit but the Corps. The last time he went bathing he returned, in both senses of the phrase, "improperly dressed." His story is that somebody pinched his slacks—"ay, and two Woodbines and a stump in the pocket, look see!" Zimmer, on the other hand, is degenerating morally. He is developing the habit of going round to the barber with the remark that he is going for a hair-cut. Actually, when he gets there, he buys a hair restorer by the gallon drum. It is understood and appreciated how difficult it is to convince the girls that a shaven head need not always mean "clink," and may not, anyway, have been one's own fault at all—but, still, that is absolutely no excuse for getting up in the middle of the night to rub paraffin into the scalp.

Cutting the Tail.—We half cherish the hope, and we sometimes go so far as to foster the suspicion, that these may be the last WIRE notes we shall publish as a Unit. We, therefore, take a regretful leave of our public and thank them for their kind attention.

LFACKO.

"F" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

Cairo, August.

General.—The troops came back to Cairo
From the desert land afar,
Some came in by railroad track
And some by motor car.
Before into the city streets
They were allowed to throng,
Their soiled shorts and shirts they doffed
And put some clean 'uns on.

And so we have returned to civilisation once more. Again we have running water, electric light and a brick wall around us. Again we are awakened from our afternoon siestas by the cooing of the oozlum birds and the cries of the " watches, engraving, nickled mess-tins " merchant.

How many readers of the WIRE missed the notes from this Troop last month ? What, so many ? Had Barleux written his paragraph on " Literary Aid " earlier, I may have managed something, but there was really nothing to write home about, owing to change-of-air leave at Alexandria. Most of the lads took advantage of this opportunity to get away from Camp for a few days. One bright boy mistook the Rue de Souer for a funkhole, but this is a pardonable excuse after 23.59 hours. Everyone is back at the bindstone now and waiting for—what ? There have been several minor cases of sickness but, on the whole, we are all bearing up as well as can be expected. Anyway, we've no mental cases. Or have we ?

Postman's Knock.—Referring to the paragraph which appeared under this heading in our last notes, Bill has since told me that my Hindustani was not " as she are spoke." Well, I would have said it in Arabic, but this typewriter only speaks English.

Odds and Ends.—A party of men, who were mustered together to move a portable hut, were given an order to " space yourselves out, one at each corner and one in the middle all round."

Flip states that a certain English film actress is his sister, but this is rather doubtful as the said film star is quite good-looking.

" Streaky " has rigged himself out with civvy clothes (a la Groppi), and is now on the lookout for an American millionairess who will succumb to that devil-may-care look in his eyes. South American Joe has nothing on him.

A correspondent writes to say that " Egypt is like a magnet to those who have been there." Gercher !

In Reply.—He said it was a cricket ball
Which gave him that black eye,
But how they played that noble game
In darkness is a mystereye.

S. E. B.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

Soldiering.—Civilians and young soldiers on first reading THE WIRE are liable to get the impression that life in Signals is one long round of Garden Competitions, Tattoo Displays and unimportant Schemes. Any news which manages to filter back from isolated troops and detachments doing real soldiering is so tucked away among a welter of reports on inspections, parties, etc., that it is unnoticed by all but the initiated. In order to rectify this, I intend to attract the attention of the above named in the good old daily newspaper style—

" G " TROOP ON ACTIVE SERVICE
" MA/MB SETS UNDER FIRE FOR FIRST TIME "
(Thank you, now please read on.)

With " G " Troop in Palestine.—On 11th July, 11th Hussars Armoured Car Regiment together with " G " Troop Signals were ordered to leave Egypt for Palestine in order to help subdue the unruly Arabs there. The regiment went from Helmieh to Lydda (Palestine) in three separate trains, " G " Troop travelling with " A " Squadron on 14th July. Our vehicles travelled in " flats " attached to the passenger coaches. A short stay was made at Sarafand in order to get things squared up for the job ahead. Here most of the Troop took the opportunity of visiting the Signal Station where many old friends were discovered and a very good night was spent by all. The Troop now split up, " A " Squadron with R.H.Q. proceeding to the seat of the trouble, Nablus, while " B " went to Jenin and " C " to Nazareth. On our journeyings to and around Sarafand, we were impressed by the thousands of vineyards and orange groves which stretched for miles in orderly rows on either side of the train. This part of the country certainly lives up to its biblical title of " a land flowing with milk and honey." On the journey by road to Nablus, these neat and well kept groves gave way to scraggy little cultivated patches, which were an eyesore after the groves below, and eventually even these petered out to be succeeded by wild, rocky, uncultivated country. Through this, the road twisted its tortuous way between rock strewn hills which seemed to our apprehensive eyes to be a veritable paradise for snipers. However, we reached Nablus without any untoward incidents, but our first view of the Camp was by no means a reassuring one as it was surrounded by hills ; barbed wire and sand bags being very conspicuous. For two days, everyone was employed filling sandbags, which we thought a waste of time. On our second night in Camp, we were startled by a burst of rifle fire from the surrounding hills and the whine of bullets overhead. Immediately those sand bags took on a different aspect altogether. The snipers were eventually quietened by machine-gun fire and several trench mortar shells. If it did nothing else, this skirmish at least provided the Troop with a topic for conversation for days to come.

R.H.Q. are now at Haifa, which is on the sea coast, and active service has given way to barrack-room soldiering. Every day reports come in of convoys being ambushed or of sorties against bands of unruly Arabs from the various detachments still out in the Field.

To return to the mundane—

Appointments.—" G " Troop having now increased its establishment, vacancies occurred for several budding Field Marshals. We wish to congratulate Lance Corporals Brooks and Macnair and U/Lance Corporals Lea and Betts on attaining the ranks shewn.

Births.—Signalman Knight R. D. is now the proud father of a daughter. We understand it is " just like its daddy." Poor Kid !

JMJMJM.

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

General.—Well, here we are again, all bright and cheery after our long rest from writing arduous WIRE notes. I would have written something or other for last month's WIRE, but there being nothing to write about—you know how these things are ?

Would you believe it ? There's still a spot of bother going on in this country somewhere. It cannot be very serious at present, because they would otherwise have called us out to settle it for them. I think they must be afraid of the terrible



Transport.



"G" Troop Fortifications.



Nablus.

havoc we should cause once we were let out. We've done our bit, though, just in case we should be attacked. Some really marvellous trenches have been constructed at stragetic points around the Camp. The poor sedentary workers were going about with first-class blisters on their hands for weeks afterwards. The " Staff," of course, were quite used to " graft " (of every description) so a little bit of digging and sandbag filling was just taken in the stride.

Fire ! Fire !—Our D.R. is in the news again, folks. This story should teach Arab policemen to learn more English.

The bold " Cupid "—that's the D.R.—saw some naughty little Arab children throwing stones at an abandoned bus, and promptly informed the first policeman he met. The " Copper," thinking that a stop must be put to this sort of thing, requested a pillion ride to the scene of operations. Perhaps he had never seen " Cupid " in action before. In any case he must have been a very brave man. After cautioning this Arab guardian of the law to keep his feet off the exhaust pipes, " Cupid " set off with his passenger, not knowing, however, that the latter understood very little English. When they arrived near to the bus, the youngsters did not wait to argue, but promptly beat it, across country, where, perforce, " Cupid " had to follow. Suddenly, the " Copper " shouted " Fire ! Fire ! " and our D.R. immediately drew out his deadly six-gun, preparing to do great execution. The thought then struck him that their quarry were only children and hardly worth the waste of powder and shot. Perhaps he was actuated by purely humanitarian motives. (What a hope !) Anyhow, he turned round in his saddle to remonstrate with his passenger, only to see one of the policeman's boots going up in smoke, due to using the exhaust pipe as a footrest.

News Item.—Our total confinement to Camp is being somewhat modified, because a trip to Tel-Aviv is being arranged. If rumour is correct, this is only the first of a regular service. These trips will be run ostensibly for swimming purposes, but who knows where the boys will go for their " swimming." At any rate, if anybody has a nice cheap line in fair-sized cages they wish to be rid of, we shall be glad to hear from them.

Promotions.—I'm afraid that I am a bit late with some of these, but better late than never, so here goes. Congratulations to Corporals Cooke W. T., Smith R. P. L. and Bryan H. on attaining that rank. Also to Lance Corporals Percival S., Moran L., Whittaker E. S. and Robinson N. E. on " coming into the money ! "

Sports.—Those of you who are interested in such things will find a full report on the " Sports " page.

Agony.—Freda, Kohat. " Congratulations ! How's the sparrow ? "

B. W. R., Catterick. " How about that long-promised letter ? "

LARRY.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

General.—Quite a considerable number of linemen are expecting to go home this " Trooping Season," so perhaps a little of something in the way of poetry is indicated. Dedicated to those brave pioneers who, risking the innumerable dangers of the Malayan jungle, laid their cables and established communication between the gun posts, etc., up Changi way ('33-'36). Stout Fellahs !

We are going to leave this land of heat,
Mangrove swamps and Chinese feet.
Of smells obnoxious to the nose,
Assailing one where'ere one goes.
Disease and vermin, bugs and flies,
Mosquito nets and sun-scorched eyes.
Farewell, Malaya, good-bye to thee,
Your pests have had their fill of me.

We are going home to fog and gloom,
To roaring traffic and busy loom.
The sun is there, but rarely shines,
But that's the land where my heart pines.

Now welcome home, O wandering one,
Tell them tales of what you've done.
Of glories you alone have seen,
Of places you alone have been.
Of the malaria breeding " two " year swamp,
Celestial glamour and eastern pomp.
Palm-fringed beaches and emerald isles,
Dusky maidens with sun-kissed smiles.

But sometimes spare a thought or two,
Of the lads who said, good luck to you.
We're still in the tropics under the sun,
But cheer up, my hearties, our turn will come.

General (Lagi).—Things are looking up. Sergeant Collins has a blue cowboy's check shirt ; Lance Corporal Hubbard a nice leather suit-case ; Mr. Scott of Fort Canning a stripe on his arm ; and the bungalow, stores, workshops, etc., a nice coat of evil-smelling paint of Chinese concoction.

Congratulations.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to Lance Corporal Scott E. on attaining that rank. Also to Lance Corporal Gerety, of the R.A.O.C., for managing to survive two years on that malarial swamp. Mind you, the effect is pretty ghastly, but that's the Ordnance's pigeon, not ours.

Sport and Social Evening.—Recently, we all spent an exceedingly enjoyable evening for the first time in Malayan history. Changi Signals fielded a cricket team against Pulau Brani Signals. Naturally, Pulau Brani were decisive victors by four runs. To raise the fallen spirits of the visitors from Changi they were entertained in the Pulau Brani Club. Many tales could be related of the effects of that Malayan beer on some of the lads. I won't mention any here because it would, in all probability, be detrimental to their future efficiency as soldiers. We all thank Captain Moppett, our O.C., for providing the necessary money to buy the equally necessary beer. (Ahem ! ; but it wasn't quite enough ; those Changi lads can't half drink !)

King's Birthday Parade.—The above parade was held on the Padang, on 23rd June. Signals were represented, parading as usual, with the Royal Engineers. Needless to say, everything was a success.

Seen and Heard.—Our Digger, engaged in conversation with a few of the lads at the dance : " ——— now if I had your youth ! " And to think that he is not much more than a war baby himself. (Boer War.) We hear that Sergeant Watmore is spending a few weeks' leave in Bangkok. Watch out, O Tuan ! Siam is in need of a king, and they may take you to be old King Prempeh himself.

Conclusion.—Ah, well ! Once again the Malayan sun is dipping in a final farewell salute over yon Blakang Mati jungle. Once again that deathly stillness prevails which heralds the impending awakening of the jungle fauna. And so once again we bid you farewell and good night, a real old Malayan good night. Mine's a " Tiger."

Cheerio, everybody ! BARON (T.B.C.)

Changi Detachment.

Singapore, 21st July.

Stung.—I have successfully hidden my light under a bushel for some years, but the bushel has been removed and my light shines unhindered (though not uncensored). I wish I had taken that correspondence course on " How to write WIRE notes, in six lessons " ; make up to $300 a month in my spare time—if any.

General.—Beneath the burning equatorial sun (when it shines) and in not-so-burning rain storms, the detachment struggles grimly through the daily grind, maintaining in the Eastern Fire Command the necessary communications for sinking an imaginary enemy at least once a week. With the directors of operations in the detachment office to guide them, Lance Corporal French and his husky line crew take their daily voyage to Pulau Tekong to " fix things." Corporal Morton and his satellites have a roaming commission testing cables and doing those things which linemen do. Signalman Lambert, who has relieved Signalman Farley as Syce of the detachment's car, spends his time riding about like a million dollars. Other linemen may be seen at times, usually going to, or leaving, the canteen. The wireless detachment (Guaranteed Communications, Ltd.) shatters everyone's nerves in the vicinity of the wireless station, whilst producing amps and volts from the Douglas power unit. At other times, they test the ears, tempers and thought-reading abilities of their opposite numbers at Pulau Brani.

H.M. The King's Birthday Parade.—Changi Garrison held a parade on the South Cantonment Padang, Changi, on the morning of 23rd June. The detachment was represented by eight of the best and brightest N.C.O.s and men (I was there) on the left of the Sappers. The salute was taken by Colonel Cave-Brown, D.S.O., M.C., Chief Engineer, Malaya Command. Our rifle barrels have just regained their natural glitter, three rounds of blank having spoilt their outlook for a little while.

Congratulations.—To Corporal Morton A. on attaining that rank. The old custom of " pushing out the boat " will be observed at the end of the month.

X's.—Signalmen (Shorty) Lambert and (Blondie) Mottershead have experienced some interference and atmospherics recently during their daily bickerings. A small troop, school, shoal, or whatever it is, of monkeys in the trees 'neath the bungalow, have set up in opposition. It's rather difficult to tell t'other from which.

Yes, I heard.—Operator to lineman, passing W/T Station : " Where are you going ? " Lineman : " I've just been talking to the storeman on the 'phone and am going to find out what he was saying."

A Signalman to the Messing N.C.O. : " You can fill us, but you can't bust us."

Scot's Column.—Sharkey, 2nd Div. : " W'at abaht it, Jeff ! " Hey Presto, " A " Corps : " How are the fields at Runnymede ? " Agony. Mick, 4th Div. : " Haven't forgotten you and Twit. Have contracted Singapore wrist but hope to get it cured soon." Aggie.

Amateur Radio Station, VSIAF.—Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson, R.Signals, is operating an amateur radio station on 14,060 kc/s, under the call sign VSIAF and would like to get into communication with stations operated by anyone in the Corps. P. I. P.

Hong Kong Signal Section.

Whitfield Barracks, Kowloon, Hong Kong,
16th July.

Apologies.—As it is usual to start WIRE notes under this heading, I'm simply a slave to convention. The apology is, however, partly sincere, because notes from this Section have been rather scarce during the past two years. Perhaps we shall do better in future now that we have official WIRE correspondents.

General.—To be thoroughly oriental, many rickshaws have gone past the barracks since notes appeared last, and likewise many changes have occurred in the Section. We now have a slightly increased Section here, and there is plenty of work around, especially for the linemen who are looking very bronzed. Did someone say browned off ? Even those whose service here only dates back to March, 1936, are looking like veterans of this year's " mashee draft," which is, after all, a good thing. However, with perseverance and hard work, the linemen hope to relax about December, 1943, so there is a good time coming. The W/T Section is still on the same routine duties ; aggravated at times by men going into hospital, on leave, duty and Supts., and " A " Sets going in and out of workshops. The slogan last month, when five men were in hospital and three Sets went in and out of shops was, " It's a great life if you don't weaken." Even Joe Smith (ex Bulford) who has five of the best in India to support him physically and morally, confided to me that at times he feels shaken, but one can't get a good man down and Joe is still upright. This is sometimes considered a bad thing. After two years' deliberation, the R.E.s have decided to alter our mess-room. C.Q.M.S. Paul was therefore able to see his dream realised before he left for U.K. It is a much better mess-room, but somehow it did not have the desired effect on Kay Lee, our compradore, who still gives us the same food as he did in the old mess-room. What I am trying to convey is, Lyons' menu in the Ritz hotel—well, it isn't cricket, as our Cad No. 1 has said. The reading room has also undergone a change for the better, thanks to the cloudburst of $40 from the G.O.C.s fund. The barrack square has been up and down at least six times since Christmas. In fact, I think it is up now—no, it is down again ! However, it is still the same, with the Austin nesting in the largest tree. The order boards are now in the barrack block, so we do not have to walk across the square to read orders now, which is quite a good thing. Incidentally, this " good thing business " is a direct result of reading " 1066 and All That," which is a very good book to be read by all students who intend sitting for flat rate on lower third certificates.

We were inspected in April by the C.S.O. and G.O.C. Working Inspections went off very well ; everybody, including the C.S.O. and the G.O.C., being quite satisfied.

The Annual Musketry Course was fired last month, the Sergeants' Mess very generously donating Cups and Spoons as prizes. Sergeant Brundell won the Sergeants' Mess Cup with a score of 76. Signalmen Disley, Middleton and Stoner tied for the O.R's Cup. They are to shoot again for the Cup next week.

This Section has three officers now. Lieutenant Thomson joined us on 16th January, 1936 ; he is now our O. i/c Wireless, Sports, etc. As our O.C., Captain Power, is at present on leave in Japan. the etc. is rather pronounced.

Sports.—We finished off the Winter Sports season quite strongly, our teams being brought up to strength by the arrival of various sportsmen from Shanghai and U.K. The hockey team, although going down badly in the Mamak Tournament, finished off quite well in friendly games. The football team did likewise. We have high hopes both for hockey and football during the forthcoming season. The tennis team is doing quite well in the Area Tennis League, having played six games to date, winning six, 43 sets for, 11 against. I understand that, with still two games to play, we have won the Kowloon Section, which means that we shall go to Hong Kong to play for the Shield ; the first time since 1930. Lance Corporal Lomax, our tennis captain, has once again won the Mamak Singles Trophy, beating Signalman Austen in the final 6—1, 6—0, 6—2. He was the recipient of a silver replica, and has only one more success to record to win the Trophy outright. At water polo we were rather unlucky, being knocked out by the R.E.s in the first round of the Inter-Unit knock-out. The Small Units Gala takes place next month. As we have the Russell Relay Cup to defend, our enthusiasts are getting anxious.

Holiday Bungalow.—The Holiday Bungalow, at Cheung Chau Island, opened on 7th June, and we are in possession until the end of September. It is, as before, a great success, and all who have already been are anxious for another week. If possible, some snaps will be enclosed with next month's notes.

Three Very Good Books.—

" Warriors at Ease " and " Warriors Still at Ease," by Anthony Armstrong. Published by Methuen, 3s. 6d. Excellent humour by an ex-officer. Should be read by all in authority.

"1066 and All That." Methuen, 2s. 6d. Definitely a good thing.

Congratulations.—To C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Willis on the birth of a daughter, June Mary, at Hong Kong, on 27th June, 1936. To Sergeant and Mrs. Morgan on the birth of a son, John Albert Carne, at Darlington, on 11th May, 1936. To C.Q.M.S. Willis and Lance Sergeant Pratchett on their promotion to their respective ranks. To Signalman Lowe on the occasion of his marriage, at Hong Kong, to Miss Gertrude Constance Wittsack, of Shanghai, on 2nd July, 1936. To Signalman Cole on obtaining his 1st Class Certificate, and to Signalmen Stoner and Harden on passing English and Geography, and Maths. respectively.

Arrivals.—On 30/12, per H.T. *Neuralia*.—Corporals Crow and Pratchett ; Lance Corporals Lancaster, Hood and Somerville ; Signalmen Ashford, Austen, Banham, Disley, Ellison, Edwards, Green, Guy, Mower, Passey, Miller, Robson, Royal, Smith H., Smith L. and Stanford.

On 16/1, per H.T. *Dorsetshire*.—Sergeants Morgan and Gibson ; Corporal Wainscoat ; Signalmen Harkins, Devine, Dix, Hill and Folks.

On 27/1, from Shanghai.—Sergeant Lake, Sergeant Willis and family.

From Tientsin.—Signalman Harden.

On 27/3, per H.T. *Neuralia*.—Sergeant Bennett and family ; Corporal Dodd.

On 30/4, from Shanghai.—Sergeant Knox ; Signalmen Brand, Dawson, Dickens, Hutton, Lowe, Russell, Tittle, Slater, Williamson and Wilson.

On 17/6, from Tientsin.—Signalman Graham.

Departures.—On 3/1, for U.K., per H.T. *Neuralia*.—Sergeant Wilmot and family ; Corporal Rafferty ; Lance Corporal Shove ; Signalmen Buttery, Dilley, Drake, Easterbrook, Farrell, Ferguson, Fielding, Grundy, Henshaw, Martin, Phillips and Short.

On 27/1, for U.K., per H.T. *Dorsetshire*.—Sergeant Colley.

For Gibraltar.—Sergeant Bowler and family.

On 21/3, per S.S. *Corfu*, to U.K.—for discharge.—Signalman Passey.

On 31/3, per H.T. *Neuralia*—for U.K.—Lance Corporal Emary.

On 18/4, per S.S. *Naldera*—to U.K.—C.Q.M.S. Paul and wife.

On 14/7, per H.M.S. *Sandwich*—to Tientsin.—Signalman Stoner.

Though rather late, we wish all who went home last trooper the best of luck in their new Stations. Corporal Rafferty, being in Bulford, will most likely need ALL these good wishes.

Till next time. MATA HARI.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Brook's Bar, Manchester.

General.—The close season period is now upon us and all three Companies meet at Headquarters on Monday evenings. Musketry has been all the go for the past few weeks on the miniature range. The recruits have been to the open range at Holcombe Brook, and we now look forward to the week-end at Altcar ranges, where we hope to put up a good show in the Divisional Rifle Competitions.

Departures.—It is with great regret that we have to record the departure from this Unit of C.S.M. Spong H. C., who has been P.S.I., No. 3 Company, since he arrived in November, 1934. Health reasons are responsible for C.S.M. Spong's departure before his time was up. His doctors had told him that Manchester's climate was responsible, and so he has gone to Aldershot, where we all hope he will enjoy better health in the future. We feel we cannot let this opportunity pass without saying how sorry all ranks are to lose him. He was always ready to help any member of this Unit, and his cheery smile and good comradeship will be missed at these Headquarters. We wish both C.S.M. Spong and Mrs. Spong the best of good luck for the future.

Officers' Mess.—On Friday, 21st July, His Worship the Mayor of Stretford (Alderman A. Smith, C.A., J.P.), kindly invited the officers to meet the Borough Councillors at his house, followed by a bowling match (Officers v. Councillors) on his private bowling green. The Unit band in full dress, under the conductorship of Mr. E. T. Grundey, played selections on the lawn during the evening. The great attraction of the evening, however, was the very large pear tree, under which was spread a wonderful array of refreshments, both of the bottled and other varieties. One would have thought that a Divisional Signal Office had been placed there because there was a continual going and coming. A most pleasant evening was spent, everyone voting it a real Lancashire " do." We hear we are to have another of these meetings later. We then hope to be able to get our own back on the Councillors at bowls.

Presentation of Silver Cup to the Mess.—On Monday evening, 24th July, a dinner was held in the Mess. Alderman Smith, Mayor of Stretford, Sir Thomas Robinson, K.B.E., J.P., the Deputy Town Clerk of Stretford, and other gentlemen of the Stretford Corporation were present. This event was held on the occasion of the presentation to the Mess of a three-handled silver Cup by Alderman Smith. The Cup is beautifully designed, and has the Stretford Coat-of-Arms in coloured enamel thereon with a suitable inscription placed underneath. Speeches were made by the Mayor and Sir Thomas Robinson in which references were made of the help which a civic body could give to the Territorial Army. Both the Mayor and Sir Thomas said they would do all in their power to help us in any way they could. Colonel W. S. Ashley then replied for the Unit and said how pleased he was to welcome our guests and hoped that this function would help to cement the bond of friendship between the local Civic and Military authorities. Colonel R. S. Newton, M.C., D.L. (our late Commanding Officer) was then asked to speak. He took us back a good number of years, and told us of the trials and tribulations of the old Territorial Force when help and encouragement from civic and public bodies was never experienced. He also congratulated both the Unit and the Stretford Corporation on the manner in which they had got together and hoped that the friendship thus commenced would continue.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Who is going to be our new P.S.I., and does he think the climate of Manchester superior to that of India ? He ought to know because he has sampled both. He will still see many old " kites " flitting round the drill hall here just as he did when he left us some years ago. Pleasant journey, Whitt !

How does one get a buckshee trip to the battlefields ? All enquiries to " Dan " and " Frankenstein." Enquiries from " warts " not considered.

Urgent S.O.S. The P.M.C. will give up to two shillings and sixpence reward to anyone giving information which will enable him to put his hands on the dizzy bloke who wrecked his tent at Camp. The said P.M.C. is now all hot under the collar because he cannot put his books straight due to an item for barrack damages, " to one set of drawers (wood), value 7s. 6d." (Sounds like a dog kennel to me). If the informant wishes, he can have in lieu of the 2s. 6d. reward the choice of any of " Clives " automobiles. " Pop Eye " is not yet in the market with the Rolls-Royce family crested.

OLD FAITHFUL.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.
August.

Editorial.—The few weeks succeeding annual training are usually devoted to checking and overhauling stores, etc., and settling down to drill hall life once again for nearly a twelve-month. The fortnight's training in the open is all too short. No matter how inclement the weather may be, there are a goodly number of those who wish that Camp lasted for at least a month. The training and recreation are continuous for the fortnight, and it takes some time to drop back to two drill nights per week.

We were fortunate in securing the same Camp site as in 1933. To most of us the surroundings were well-known. The weather this time was vastly different to its predecessor. Then, we experienced only two hours rain the whole time. This time we only had two dry days. However, we managed to carry out a very extensive programme. The first week was devoted to company training and Section exercises under the Company Commanders. The annual sports took place on the second Monday, followed by Unit Exercises on the Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday was an extremely busy day. The Cable Sections had to lay all lines in readiness for the Divisional Exercise on the Friday whilst the other Sections were busy tuning-up.

The Divisional Exercise was an extremely interesting one, and was set by the Divisional Commander (Major-General B. B. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.), assisted by his Staff, and several attached officers. The surrounding country lent itself admirably to a replica of one phase of the Gallipoli campaign, with the exception that we took the place of our opponents. Generally speaking, the exercise was a success. At the start, everything functioned, but some of our older apparatus showed signs of weakness in the later stages. We are, however, cheered to know that new and up-to-date apparatus, in replacement, will be received before next Camp.

The last Saturday in Camp was the wettest day of the period, and we extend our sympathy to the Cable Sections and attached parties because all the cables had then to be collected.

Despite the bad weather, all ranks enjoyed themselves, and the sick parades were the lowest on record. A contributory factor to this, was doubtless the fact that our site was sandy and well-drained. We live in hopes of again camping in this area before long.

The usual annual official inspections were made, and we welcomed the visitors, among whom were the Chief Signal Officer (Colonel E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C.), the Presidents and Secretaries of the Devonshire and Hampshire County Associations, and the A.D.M.S. Major J. R. Patten, M.C., paid a flying visit, and we were delighted to see him.

This brief resume would be incomplete without mention of the valuable assistance rendered by the two attached Regular Royal Signals Officers (Lieutenants Harrison and Rowett) and a stout body of Regular N.C.O.'s. They were full of enthusiasm to help, and gave us up-to-date information regarding training in the Regular Divisional Signals. We heartily thank them.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.
August.

The absence of our usual scribe on a special mission accounts for lack of notes this month, but our worthy C.S.M. has kindly filled the breach with the following account of this year's Camp.

Camp, 1936.—I think that all ranks who attended the 1933 Camp at Saunton looked forward to their second visit with pleasure, also happy memories were revived. We marched into Camp with " Old Sol " beaming upon us. He then, apparently, went all " Spanish " with " Jupiter Pluvius," and became much damped and " damned," and so did we. The 1936 Camp goes down in 43rd Wessex Signals history as the wettest since 1925, when we were stuck in the mud at Beaulieu, Hants. However, in spite of the rain, we had our compensations in a great many ways. There was no mud, thanks to the close proximity of the sands, also the weather did not hinder our work. Rain or shine, all ranks carried on with a smile. It was good to watch the general exodus each evening of practically all ranks to the various places where pleasure was to be found. The old 'uns were as bad as the young. Personally, I think they had all served for a period in the King's " Navee," and were keeping up the tradition of a girl in every town or village. One of substantial rank, who shall be nameless, even had " VACANT " emblazoned on his tent. Did " Zack " know anything about this ?

Still, I think the fault lay with the General Staff. There must have been a leakage in high places, and when it became known that the 43rd Wessex Signals were to be called " Turks " . . . well, all ranks commenced collecting a " harem," which after all, is only just. One S.M. was in great sympathy with the idea.

With regard to the training, everyone worked with a will, and I do not think that the powers that be found anything lacking, either at work or play.

Great credit must be given to all those who laid cables, the more so when they recovered them in a perfect downpour. I hear that " Mack," our pocket Hercules, is not dry yet.

Thanks are due to Joryaff and his Algerian Band for amusing us when things were damp. It was noted that even small " fry " could wield a cable pole when in the mood.

The Sergeant-Major collected a raspberry owing to the fact that the Algerians decided to broadcast after 10 p.m.

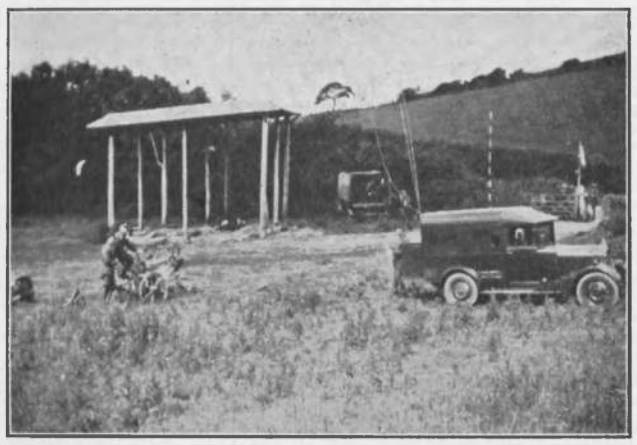
Talking of raspberries, fancy the whole of the Sergeants' Mess sitting down to a raspberry tea ; it seems impossible—yet it is a fact ! Just conjure up the thought of Shoey, Frank, Zack and Tom, also a few other members, enjoying raspberries ; it seems incredible. No wonder we were called the local Boy Scouts of Combe Martin !

One must not pass without a word on No. 1 Company's " Riddle." It started from the first day in Camp. I think the first pain was in the big toe, then it gradually got to the heart. The Doctor, O.C. Company, R.S.M., C.S.M., Orderly Officer, and P.S.I., all began to be worried by this pain-full " Riddle " ; in fact, the whole Sergeants' Mess had a cross-country run through it. No more " riddles " for me. If only I could have given him a pain in the neck !

Well, in spite of the rain, and with the aid of outside and inside assistance, we all got " Younger " every day, returning to work (Dockyard staff excepted) feeling that the weights of hammers and jumpers were as tooth-picks, looking forward to Camp, 1937. May we all meet again and in better weather. Where shall we say ? Saunton ? Did I hear an echo from Exeter and far Southampton ?

Cheerio, everyone ; the best of luck and health to all.

ONECOY.



Divisional Signal Centre, somewhere In Devon. (Camp.)



A Question of " Knots." (No. 1 Company, C.S.M. and P.S.I.)



No. 1 Company. Battery-driven " C " Set, Camp.



No. 1 Company. Engine-driven " C " Set, Camp.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

General.—Hello, everybody ! Here we are again, back at " biz," and still possessing traces of a healthy weather-worn holiday. The inclement weather being apparently general, the kind we experienced at Saunton can be well imagined, but thanks to the powers that be for the excellent camping site. Despite the weather, it was to the general regret of all concerned when annual training reached the end. From a Company view-point, the Camp was the most successful held by our Company, especially in view of the difficulty experienced in obtaining the requisite release of members, which has been somewhat impeded this year by the up-grade of business in this particular part of the county, and the passenger port in which we are situated. Employers responded splendidly, and, as already indicated in the WIRE, those behind the scenes, who certainly left no stone unturned in their efforts of persuasion, have been amply rewarded. Our O.C. publicly thanked all those employers in Southampton and district who so generously released the members of our Company.

" The Southern Daily Echo," the county daily paper, extended a warm welcome in their columns upon our return, giving us a

SHOTS FROM 2ND SERIES SECTIONAL TRAINING AT FARLEY MOUNT, HANTS.



"Ready for the Day's Scheme."—No. 2 Company.



Driver's "Filled Up"—Ready for their Run.
On the Right: 2nd Lieutenant R. W. Day, R.S.M. Stone G. E. and C.S.M. Barraclough.



C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.) congratulating Signalman J. Baker, No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

good headline in the local. Employers having played their part ; now, lads, we thank you for your unflagging enthusiasm. WELL DONE !

Naturally, we are feeling very pleased with ourselves upon winning the " Moore Efficiency," " Roberts," and " Michlemore " Cups, and would take this opportunity to congratulate the respective Companies upon their excellent efforts.

The usual hiatus consequent upon the completion of the annual training has evidently disappeared. The writer was agreeably surprised at the recent activity at Hamilton House. The atmosphere is quite unique. Apparently we are to have a second edition of annual training but under different conditions. By the time one has related his experiences, " Time, gentlemen, please " is called.

Minutes at our drill hall now seem seconds, and the evenings seem better and brighter than ever. Jim, our popular P.S.I., possesses a mystic sort of magnetism (or hypnotism, should I say), making one feel entirely at home. In consequence, our Mess steward is wondering whether we have any homes or whether it is before A.T. If we are made much more comfortable, we shall not want to go home. All are eagerly looking forward to the winter programme. We hear that tentative arrangements for an attractive programme have been made by our friends, and we wish them every success in their efforts. We hope next month to give some indication of our future activities.

As the Unit Editor will, no doubt, describe the main events of the annual training, we are refraining from commenting upon the general items, but are sending along a collection of pictures in lieu, which, we hope, will entertain all concerned and bring back happy memories. Au revoir until next month.

" BEGBIE."

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.C.
14th August.

Editorial.—Folkestone is sad. The " boys " have left. All are back again in London. Uniforms have been returned to the moth balls and attention is turned to the everyday task of breadwinning. Camp was a great success. There is no question as to the pleasure experienced by all ranks. Regarding the men ; although complaints were registered at times in connection with messing, they were only made in order to test the knowledge of the O.O. The Canteen, run this year by the Unit, was very popular. A great improvement on previous years. Accommodation was ample, eats, etc., A1 and at very reasonable prices. It is rumoured that the P.R.I. will be wearing the new regulation field boots next year. Anyway, he and his assistants deserve congratulations for the success of this venture.

Sergeant Dearlove and his " tripes " put over an O.K. Concert during the first week. Bad luck appeared to be the great obstacle in connection with the programme, but after strenuous labours and the repetition of some unrehearsed " lines " the show commenced. The whole of the party are worthy of praise, and it is hoped that they will continue to amuse us in the future.

The Sergeants, as usual, behaved just like Sergeants. They appeared to have a large collection of " home comforts " at Camp. There are ways and means. Anyway, I intend to leave further comment on their activities to their own correspondent —that means you, " POLY."

Officers' Mess.—It was most pleasing to see our complete strength mustered under the roof of a canvas Mess. Captain Tom and his merry representatives of No. 2 Company are so seldom seen in our midst. 2nd Lieutenants Ross, Sheppard, Whithers and Annand made their debut this year. They were all warmly welcomed and strict attention was paid to the damping of any ideas held by them in regard to our congeniality. This year, Guest Night was held during the first week, and, as usual, was a huge success. It is amazing to realise what " Curly " can do with one-and-half men and our money. Sports Day lunch was also well received ; our fairer guests are always pleased with the reception they receive, and marvel at the capabilities of the " man in the wild." During the afternoon, our late C.O., Colonel Reid, was noticed to be continually breaking tapes. Had be been admitted to H.Q. list, No. 1 Company would have won the Competition easily. However, No. 3 Company deserved their success in this sphere.

During the second week the Unit were employed in a skeleton exercise staged by the 4th Division. Concentrating at Crowborough during early Tuesday (4th), all were ready for the war ere the evening meal was served. The narrative and early conferences gave everyone the general idea, and, at dawn on Wednesday, the conflict was in full swing. Attack and counter-attack ensued during the next thirty-six hours. During the whole of this period the 44th provided the entire Signal communication within the Division. The City of London Signals represented the Corps Unit.

The 44th put up a fine exhibition and proved themselves equal to all the demands which were made upon them. The success of the venture was entirely due to team work. At the present moment the high standard of co-operation existing within the Unit is most encouraging.

In conclusion I wish to quote extracts from the following letters which have been received by the Commanding Officer in connection with the Command Exercise :

(1) From General Sir W. Edmund Ironside, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command.

" I would like once more to express to you my thanks for the very fine work put up by your Unit in the Skeleton Exercise which we have just held.

As I told the men, they carried out, under very difficult conditions, the work of a Regular Divisional Signals in a way of which you and every officer and man may well be proud.

The assistance of your Unit has enabled the 4th Division to carry out a most valuable piece of training and I am sure the Exercise has been of such a nature that your Unit will have learnt a great deal.

Wishing you all the very best of luck."

(2) From Major-General J. R. M. Minshall-Ford, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Commander 44th (H.C.) Division :

" I was so pleased to receive a copy of the Commander-in-Chief's letter to you.

You and your officers and men did splendidly and I want to add my congratulations.

I hope you got back safely to Shorncliffe.

I do appreciate your good work."

Up and At 'Em.—Wh-ee-e-e-p, they're off, the 44th were dribbling out of Dibgate Camp at infrequent intervals, halting five minutes every hour for rest and every other minute to cool the engines. A large concentration of " tripes " were assembling at Poundgate Camp, Crowborough, in order to stage a war. No one had thought of bringing Poundgate Camp over to the troops. That shows up the weakness in our administration. However, by the time the last saloon bar was closed, everybody had arrived safely at the new site, and what a sight some of the heavy lorries had made it. When all vehicles had been de-bogged, everyone was ready for the many conferences, which are part and parcel of a big war. Westland won the toss, so were given time to go and hide ere Eastland set out on Wednesday morn to gain contact. It was happening by 07.00 hours. The eggs and bacon were attacked first—then the cook—nobody remembers if there was an O.O., or not. By 11.00 hours, Div. H.Q. were leading Rear

Div. by 200 yards, and by 17.00 hours, someone had thrown double top at last, and we were allowed to move on to Wych Cross. Here we trod on the snake's head, and so a halt of twelve hours was enforced. During this time fierce fighting had taken place all along the front and upper circle. The Eastland Cavalry had so successfully evaded enemy detection that they eventually became lost to our knowledge also. There are rumours about their flanking movement, but " nuff " said. By 07.00 hours, Thursday, we again succeeded in moving, having thrown five aces. Horsted Keynes was the objective this time. The whole advance was successful and completed just on opening time. All H.Q.s have to be in sight of an hotel ; it is said this attracts D.R.s. War continued evenly until the arrival of the meat-pies. These so enraged the Eastland forces that Westland were forced to retire. At about 14.00 hours stumps were drawn. Westland were then fielding on a wet wicket, and Eastland holding a single double blank were worthy of their victory.

Recognition.—We were very pleased to have Mr. Walton, Mr. Leahy, Sergeant Spencer and his boys with us at Camp. The " boys " were of the best—work to them was a mere bagatelle. We appreciate their efforts.

0020.

11th August.

We regret that due to several reasons, chief of which was that the typist was on holiday, our last month's notes did not get in THE WIRE. We hope they are not too late to be of interest.

Well, Camp is over, and, whilst recovering, we will endeavour to remember what it was all about. The site at South Dibgate was a very nice one. The first two days were nice, too, but were followed by rather dull and sometimes damp weather. A one day Scheme and a thirty-six hour Scheme were held during the first week, and both went off well ; while the big preparation was for the Command Exercise during the second week. We moved off to Poundgate Camp early on Tuesday morning and arrived about 13.00 hours, settling down for the night after some bother in parking the lorries in a soft field. The signal office for local delivery around the Camp was maintained all night and had a great deal of work until the early hours. On Wednesday we moved again about 200 yards and remained, parked in a road near the Camp, till 17.00 hours. Rear Div. farther back was having the time of its life with 500 messages. At 17.00 hours came the order to move about five miles to Wych Cross where the fun started in earnest and was kept up at full speed until 03.00 hours the next morning. Came another move and another hard period with bundles of messages rolling in. I believe something in the region of 1,400 messages were cleared during the whole period. This represents enormous effort, and the G.O.C., when he addressed us at the conclusion of the Exercise was highly satisfied. Among other complimentary remarks, he said we could hold our tails well up, as, under the circumstances, we had done as well as any Regular Unit could possibly hope to do. The Corps line, laid by another T.A. Unit, the City of London Signals, was 14 miles long.

The rations were delivered in bulk and the soup especially was " R.9." By 22.00 hours we were nearly all back at Shorncliffe, with the glad news that the first parade was 10 a.m.—just right. Friday and Saturday were two easy days, making up for lost sleep and rest. By 11 a.m. on Sunday, the main body was homeward bound. Thus ended a very hard working Camp, from which all ranks emerge with a good record of work, well done.

POLYH.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

Phoenix Street, Derby.

16th August.

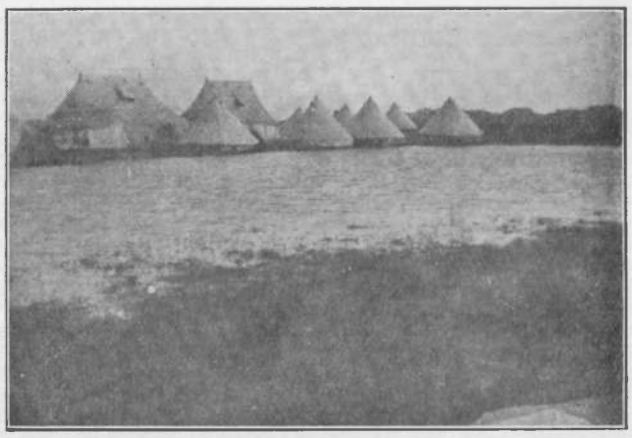
Annual Camp.—The Unit went to Camp at Redcar on 26th July, with the firm intention of staying there until Sunday, 9th August. Owing to the very bad weather encountered, the main body of the Unit, under orders from Headquarters, Northern Command, returned to its Home Stations on Friday evening, 7th August, leaving Redcar at 5 p.m. The day before, Thursday, heavy rain fell continuously, and resulted in tents, etc., being waterlogged, and certainly unfit for habitation. Late during the afternoon the whole of the Unit, except officers and a few of the staff, were, in accordance with orders received, removed to emergency billets in the village of Marske, which is situated about a mile from the Camp. Here they stayed the night, with the idea of returning to the Camp on the morrow, if conditions improved. In the emergency billets, hot meals, supplemented by rum rations, were available, and everybody, although decidedly wet, seemed perfectly happy.



The main muddy road through the Camp.



At the back of 139th Infantry Brigade Headquarters after a storm.



Another view of 139th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, after the heavy rains.

This year we were n Camp with our old friends, the 139th (Sherwood Foresters) Infantry Brigade, consisting of the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Battalions Sherwood Foresters, together with the 137th Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C. These Units, like ourselves, were ordered home on the Friday. It seemed ironical, but the day we left Camp the sun shone brilliantly. The Camp however, was a perfect quagmire. The sandy soil and water had been well mixed, and conditions were considered by the higher command unbearable. Throughout the Camp, the weather had been bad. Heavy rain, supplemented by a few gales, had been the order.

Visits.—A number of distinguished visitors were received by the Unit. Amongst these were the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Field-Marshal Sir Cyril J. Deverell, G.C.B., K.B.E., **A.D.C.,** the G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command, General Sir Alexander E. Wardrop, K.C.B., C.M.G., **A.D.C.,** the G.O.C. 46th (North Midland) Division and Area, Major-General Sir Hereward Wake, Bt., C.M.G., D.S.O., and the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Fladgate, R.Signals. All expressed themselves extremely satisfied with our efforts and it is understood that the Men's messing received special mention by the G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command. Another distinguished visitor was Colonel L. J. Worthington, M.C., T.D., who commanded this Unit from 1921 to 1931, except for a brief period in 1929, when the Unit Commander was the late Colonel D. P. Forman, T.D.

Officers' Mess.—The Mess had the pleasure of an arranged visit from the officers of the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals, who were in Camp at Gandale, Catterick Camp. A return visit had been arranged for Thursday, 6th August, but a telegram was received in the morning from the P.M.C. at Gandale to the effect that their Mess kitchen was under water, and with many regrets the event had to be cancelled.

Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.—Our Mess Concert and other shows which had been arranged, did not materialise owing to weather conditions. We did, however, manage to put one show over. This was a social gathering of families and friends of all other ranks, which was held during the afternoon on Wednesday, 5th August. An excellent tea was followed by fun for the children, consisting of donkey rides and foot races, with suitable gifts of sweets for all competitors, and a special pat on the back for the winners. Our old friend, "Tommy Hewett," was at his best, and provided the kiddies with plenty of amusement.

Corporals' Room.—An innovation this year was the Corporals' Room, which was voted a great success by our friends, the Junior N.C.O.s. They did manage to put over a most enjoyable concert, which was very well attended, and took place on one of the evenings when it was fine.

Promotions—Officers.—Our congratulations are due to our Medical Officer, Captain G. Carruth, R.A.M.C. (T.), who was promoted Captain on 17th July, with seniority from 17th April, and also to Lieutenant R. F. A. Turner, who received his second pip on 14th July.

Training.—Next month we hope to be able to produce some notes about the training carried out during Annual Camp.

L. S.

The London Corps Signals, T.A., and affiliated No. 2 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
14th August.

General.—We have just returned from our Annual Training at Wannock, a sunny little spot near Eastbourne, Sussex. We won't attempt to describe the weather conditions. In fact, if we did we are pretty confident the Editor would allow only about every tenth word to appear in print. When we tell you that we had TWO rum issues you will, no doubt, be wellable to imagine that the elements were anything but kind to us. The advance party, who, by the way, did their stuff as usual, were semi-drowned before the first piece of canvas could be erected, and we are doubtful if their clothes are dry yet! Still, it's all part of the "Great Game," which, of course, includes grousing. However, from a training point of view, the Camp proved singularly successful. Up to the last day or so prior to leaving Headquarters, we were training as Divisional Signals, but during the whole time we were away we functioned as Corps Signals. Quite a lot of that work was entirely new to our fellows, but by hard graft and perseverance we were able to put up such a good performance during a couple of Corps Signal Exercises that we won words of praise from Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., who, together with Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. von S. Thorne, C.S.O., London District, and Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., D.C.S.O., London District, visited us in the field and expressed surprise that so good a standard of efficiency could have been attained in so short a time. (Excuse this trumpet blowing, but we ARE good.) We also received visits from several other distinguished officers, including the Director-General, Territorial Army, General Sir Walter M. St. G. Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the General Officer Commanding, London District, Major-General B. N. Sergison-Brooke, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the Director of Military Training, General A. E. McNamara, C.B., C.M.G., Commander, The London Division, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and our Hon. Colonel, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.

Owing to the Church Parade being literally washed out, the presentation of the Efficiency Medal (Territorial), awarded to Sergeant G. D. Elms, as reported in last month's WIRE, could not take place as arranged. A few days later, however, the sun forgot itself and shone through. A parade was therefore ordered, and Sergeant Elms was duly presented with his second "long-distance" gong. At the same time the opportunity was seized to present a very fine tantalus, the gift of the Unit, to our retiring R.S.M., R.S.M. Thomas S., who has been with us since 1930, and who shortly embarks upon the rather stormy seas of civilian life. We wish him and Mrs. Thomas every success and happiness in their new life.

Sergeants' Mess.—As is our custom, we held our Guest Night at Camp on the second Friday, and were very pleased that all our officers were able to attend. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed with song and jest and, of course, the necessary lubrication. Our President, in referring to this Camp as the first one at which Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., was our Commanding Officer, hoped it would be the worst one he would experience. He also mentioned the departure of our Adjutant, Captain F. H. Bury, at the termination of his tour of duty with us, that of Lieutenant W. A. Tomlinson, who was leaving London for Leeds and the Leeds Signals, and that of R.S.M. Thomas, who was about to enter "Civvy Street," and wished them all, on behalf of the Mess, every success and happiness for the future.

We congratulate Sergeant Elms G. D. on his being the first member of the Mess to be awarded the second Efficiency Medal. With him, too, we wish the ribbon was different to that of the Territorial Force Efficiency Medal. It certainly does look odd to see two similar ribbons adjacent to each other. We also congratulate Sergeant Saunders F. E. on his promotion to commissioned rank in the 49th Divisional Signals, T.A.

Sport.—On 4th August (memorable date!) we held a Sports Meeting. Tug-of-war, which was indulged in by Companies, proved "a great strain" upon some of the tuggers. Heart failure and blood pressure, together with some heartburn, was registered by several of the "younger" ones. The coaches exhorted their teams to "hold 'em" and lost their voices in the process. Headquarter Company proved the winners, and, incidentally, spent the prize money on themselves. Then there was a Tent Pitching Competition. The teams pegged away with great gusto and much tangling of guys. The Boot Race proved very amusing. Some of the competitors were seen for at least half-an-hour still searching for their left (or right) boot. Then there came a Boat Race; the teams astride an air line pole with the Section Sergeant as cox. This race proved "rattling" good sport, and was won in very quick time by "N" Section. The last, but not the least, event was that of the Best Dressed Signalman. Each Section had an entry, and no doubt a lot of time had been spent in buffing 'em up. After a very exacting examination, the prize was awarded to Section "M" entry.

Cable Competition.—The Annual Cable Competition was held in a field not far from Camp on 7th August. Four Cable and two Telephone Sections were entered. The winner was "A2" Cable Section, commanded by Corporal Harvey-Smith F. One amusing incident is worth recording. A base operator, a boy of one of the Cable Sections, suddenly became aware that the cable between him and the wagon was quickly becoming taut, so he grabbed it with both hands and hung on. He hung on so well that he was dragged along on his tummy for about fifteen yards. Then he let go and sat on the running cable. The D.III telephone, which he had previously joined-up, came careering along behind

and towards him until it hit him on the seat, and he finished a further five or six yards surf-riding on the lid of the D.III case. The boy then managed to get a further grip on the cable and dragged his office back to the flag pole.

Social.—We are commencing our dances very soon and will let you know when to come along.

EFFEMMA.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—With Annual Camp once more behind us, we are now approaching the period known as the " close season "—the time when WIRE scribes go grey with worry at the scarcity of material. However, we will make hay while the sun shines. There now only remains the Unit's Musketry Course to be gone through before shop shuts until next season.

Annual Camp.—The 49th Divisional Camp at Gandale, Catterick, will long be remembered for its wetness and mud. So bad did weather and ground conditions become, that training was interfered with towards the end of the Camp, and the boys were sent home on the second Friday. But as soldiering is not all spice, and some of the recruits have received a good christening, one had to make the best of it. Rum rations greatly helped to smooth things out a bit. Technical training began the day after our arrival in Camp, 26th July, and the whole of the first week was devoted to training by Sections. On 31st July, " E " and " F " Sections went out with the 69th and 71st Field Brigades, R.A.

A demonstration of Tanks and Infantry by the 1st Battalion Cameron Highlanders and the 4th Battalion Royal Tank Corps was witnessed by officers and senior N.C.O.s from all Units of the Division. This took place over Barden Fell and each stage of the attack was explained by loud speakers. No. 26 A.C. Squadron, R.A.F., also took part.

We had a taste on the first Thursday of Catterick weather. It began, however, in real earnest on the Sunday, and washed out the Unit Church Parade and Unit Sports. Still, all faces wore a smile on Bank Holiday Monday, a whole day's holiday, except for " F " Section, who were called upon to go out with the 71st Field Brigade. Most of the troops made their way to Redcar for the day, where many acquaintances with our old friends the 46th (N.M.) Div. Sigs. were renewed.

On Wednesday, 5th August, we carried out our now famous " Man Hunt " Scheme, in which the Unit is supposed to be placed at the disposal of a civilian police chief in order to supply communications for him and to assist in tracking and arresting two " dangerous criminals." These parts were played, as in previous years, by Captains J. N. Armstrong and W. L. Hey, whose crime sheets must, by now, be nearly full, what with trunk murders, body-snatchings, diamond thefts and the like.

The " thieves " who were alleged to have stolen a valuable diamond from the Yorkshire Diamond Mining Company and hidden it in Patrick Brompton, were known to be making an attempt to retrieve the precious stone on 5th August. The 49th Div. Sigs. were placed at the disposal of " The Chief Constable of Richmond," Major W. F. Jackson, M.C., T.D., and threw out a wide net of telephone lines, with report posts at strategic points, and W/T observation points. Information as to the whereabouts of the crooks was rapidly passed to the big five at H.Q., and an attempt to " bottle " the thieves' car with police lorries was planned. Eventually, however, they managed to get through to Patrick Brompton and get the diamond, but they had many narrow escapes. But for the intervention of a fair damsel and her car, which blocked a narrow road, there might have been a different end to report. The crooks had a grand time with the cables, some of the faults they put on could only be described as a lineman's nightmare. The whole Scheme was very valuable experience, and gave everyone much practice in the rapid transmission of information, the object for which it was intended.

Congratulations are extended to " K " Section on their fine show with the 147th Inf. Bde. The " chit " from the Brigade Commander was one that might well be envied by any Section Commander, and Lieutenant B. B. Gardner had good reason to be proud of it. It was unfortunate for " J " Section, with such an example before them, that the torrential downpour caused the cancellation of their Scheme with the 146th Inf. Bde. A nice spirit of competition was just getting going.

The interesting experiment, planned for Friday, 7th August, when Sections were to be commanded by sergeants while officers took more senior commands, was also washed out. The mud became very bad on that day, and after rations at night, the Unit packed up and returned to Leeds on the Saturday, encountering the 46th from Redcar on the road doing exactly the same thing for the same reason.

A very interesting visit of inspection to the School of Signals was paid on Thursday, 6th August, and to our guides there, who were given very little notice of our invasion and who showed us round at some inconvenience to themselves, we are greatly indebted.

During Camp we were visited by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, the Director General, Territorial Army, the G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command (General Sir Alexander Wardrop), and the G.O.C., 49th Division, Major-General G. C. Kelly, while our near neighbours, the 4th and 5th K.O.Y.L.I., in the next field, were inspected by their Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Duchess of York, on Minden Day.

We also had attached to us Captain P. Jennings, M.C., from 5th Div. Sigs., Scarborough, who gave us a very interesting talk about Gas, and also a grand little sketch in the Sergeants' Mess on our guest night on 4th August.

A Competition for the " best turned out man " for the Commanding Officer's prize was held on 1st August.

Catterickisms.—As usually happens, there are all kinds of bright spots even in the most drab period of training. A trade board question to linemen recently proved almost as much a test for the examiners as for the examined. In an answer describing different kinds of knots was, " There is also the single bed sheet."

" Try our Bear, Our own Bruin," was the motto chalked up in the Sergeants' Mess. (Have you heard the one about Old King Cole ?).

Who was the Sergeant who fancied himself as a toreador ? His spell of running, which ended in a clean dive over a five-barred gate, would have created an Olympic record, had he been timed.

Next Camp.—Bit early yet but rumours are already in the air, and we have heard such places as Isle of Man, Skegness, and Hornsea mentioned. One optimist breathed the word Blackpool, but . . .

Finis.—Better keep what's left for next month or there'll be no room in THE WIRE for anyone else. More next time.

TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.
Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—" If a man bites a dog that's news " so said Lord Northcliffe, but we have been unable to find anyone willing to oblige, although many of the troops may have been doing this quite unconsciously in Camp while eating their sausage rolls or Forfar Braidies in the Y.M.C.A. Canteen. It might be supposed that Camp, which commenced on 18th July, would give much material to write about, but, even so, it is difficult to decide what constitutes " news " to the readers of WIRE notes. It is fair to state that, in spite of one of the wettest Annual Camp periods on record, which damped the clothing and persons of all ranks, everyone's spirits and enthusiasm remained undamped, and training in no way suffered. In a scattered Unit such as ours, the first day in Camp is a particularly happy one, especially in renewing happy associations. The hard work involved in unloading stores and generally getting things into working order however, require that re-unions are best indulged in during the late evening. This made the request by the Sergeants to the C.O. for " permission, after a busy day working late, to retire early to bed," the more difficult to understand, sorry—we have got this all wrong, the request was, " The Sergeants having had a busy day, working late, respectfully ask for an extension of hours at their Mess." Such a request is easily understood. By attention to the sociable fellowship, the team spirit will be strengthened and a higher standard of training achieved.

Training.—The Unit was visited on Monday, 20th July, by General Sir Archibald R. Cameron, K.C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C.-in-C., Scottish Command and Colonel F. R. B. Naylor, D.S.O., M.C., G.S.O.I., who witnessed battle drill in the form of the assembly of all Sections, complete with personnel, transport and stores being packed in such a way as to make for their quick detachment in order to provide the communications for the various formations which they serve in battle.

On Tuesday, the Divisional Commander, Major-General W. D. S. Brownrigg, C.B., D.S.O., and Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Maitland-Dougall, D.S.O., M.C., G.S.O.2, visited the Camp and inspected the Unit during the progress of a traffic scheme, which brought into use all methods of communication at the disposal of a Divisional Signals. After witnessing the assembly of the Unit in marching order, complete with transport and stores, the General presented the Territorial Efficiency Medals to Sergeant Garden A., Corporals Brewster D. and Peebles A. R., A/Lance Corporal Hunt P., and Signalman Matheson. Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., Honorary Colonel of the Highland Divisional Signals, arrived in Camp on Monday. The Unit also welcomed Captain W. O. Bowen, O.B.E., Adjutant of 1st Divisional Signals, the regular Unit to which we are affiliated.

Continuing the intensive field training, the Unit left Camp on Wednesday, 22nd July, for two days' concentration on the special duties of communications. The object of the "scheme" was to demonstrate to all ranks that the Divisional General must, at all times of the day or night, be able to communicate with all the Units in his command. The training proved a stiff test of efficiency for all ranks. They were called upon to overcome surprises, sudden changes, and night marches, giving all who took part a realistic picture showing how they would function in war.

On Wednesday, 29th July, the Unit carried out their final battle scheme in the area north of Cupar, the manoeuvres being witnessed by Major A. L. Elsworthy, M.B.E., A.A. and Q.M.G., 51st Highland Division and Area, who represented the Divisional Commander, by Captain N. G. Duckett and Lieutenant G. G. Green, Perth, representing the Brigade Commanders. The presence of these staff officers lent a realistic touch to the exercises, and as soon as they were satisfied that the "Signals" had given them all the communications required in the first phase of the battle, they issued instructions for an advance to test the skill of the Unit in dealing with a quick move. After further communications were established in the second position to the satisfaction of the staff officers, all ranks were instructed to close down and return to Camp. A further touch of realism was introduced by the staff officers putting out of action certain officers and N.C.O.'s as casualties in order to test the initiative of the subordinate leaders. No Camp of the Highland Divisional Signals would be complete without the welcome visitations of the C.S.O., Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C., and the D.C.S.O., Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., who spent a few days with us. We were also most fortunate in having with us Major R. F. H. Nalder, O.B.E., of the War Office. Although his visit did not coincide with our "intensive active operations" out of Camp, we trust that what he witnessed will be proof of our anxiety to reach a state of efficiency worthy of the Corps to which we belong.

Sports.—Annual Sports were held on Thursday, 30th July. The Colonel Hamilton-Leigh Cup for the best aggregate in the Inter-Company sports events was won by No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company. The sports were organised on the team system, each member of every team competing against a previously determined standard. The events were—hundred yards, throwing cricket ball, high jump, putting the weight, standing long jump, relay race, sack race, and "V.C." race. The winning team in the tabloid sports was "G" Section of No. 2 (Stirling) Company with 57 points. "K" Section of No. 3 Company were runners-up with 51 points, and "D" Section of No. 1 Company were third with 49 points. Other trophy winners were: Colonel Jayne Cup for Best Company Lines: No. 3 Company. Captain House Cup for Inter-Company Drill: No. 1 Company. Burgh of Nairn Cup for Inter-Company Tug-of-War: No. 2 Company. Colonel Forsyth Cup for Individual Golf Championship: Colonel E. Birnie Reid. Colonel Bald Cup for Inter-Company Boxing: No. 2 Company. Colonel Nicol Cup for Inter-Company Football: No. 2 Company. Colonel Forsyth Cup for Inter-Company Communication Race: No. 1 Company.

Other results, Inter-Company Swimming: No. 1 Company. Inter-Company Basket Ball: No. 3 Company. Despatch Riders Slow Race: 1. Signalman Grigor, 2. Sergeant Baker, 3. Lance Corporal Ewing. Old Soldiers Race: 1. Sergeant Rollo, 2. Lance Corporal Cowan, 3. Mr. J. Anderson. Ladies' Race: 1. Mrs. McIntosh, 2. Mrs. Williamson, 3. Miss Kennedy. Girls' Race: 1. M. Murray, 2. S. Hutchison, 3. J Lamond. Boys' Race: 1. R. McDonald, 2. A. Williamson, 3. M. Hall.

The prizes were presented by Mrs. Murray, Aberdeen mother of Major Murray, second-in-command. Mrs. Murray was thanked by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, who presided.

Camp notes would be incomplete without reference to the Unit Ball, at the Town Hall, St. Andrews, on Thursday, 30th July. This was an innovation on the part of our Commanding Officer last year and at once achieved much popularity. This year's attendance taxed the capacity of the hall, as well as the patience of the normally placid C.Q.M.S., who carried through the catering side so admirably, in spite of the lack of suitable accommodation for this department.

It would be difficult to find a more suitable Camp than St. Andrews. The ground quickly absorbs the rain, and the surrounding country is well suited to our training. The Royal and Ancient Golf Club and the New Club honoured the officers by making them honorary members. Lieutenant Stark, of the University Athletic Association, lightened the work of the sports organisations not only by his able personal assistance but by placing so much of the necessary equipment at our disposal.

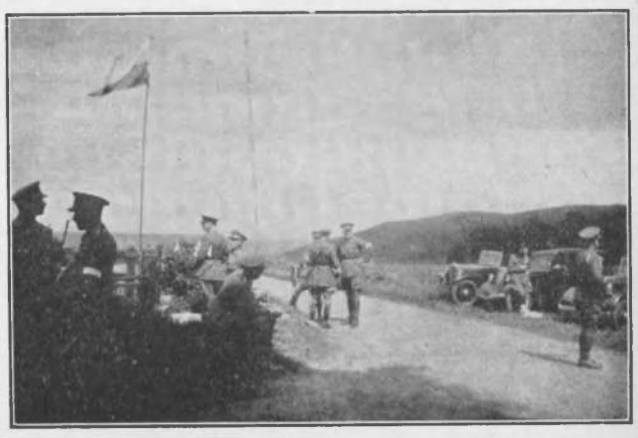
Again this year, the Commanding Officer entertained the officers to dinner at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club during their last night at St. Andrews. They were joined during the evening by Provost W. Norman Boase (who is both civic chief and the Captain of the R. and A.), Dr. G. M. Fife Mott of St. Andrews (much in the news on account of St. Andrews high place in relation to Public Health), and Colonel Stewart, late Black Watch, who judged our drill competition.

Boxing.—Individual winners of the Inter-Company Boxing:
FLYWEIGHT.—Corporal English, No. 3 Company.
BANTAMWEIGHT.—Signalman McLean, No. 1 Company.
LIGHTWEIGHT.—Signalman Gardner, No. 2 Company.
WELTERWEIGHT.—Signalman Halkit, No. 3 Company.
MIDDLEWEIGHT.—Signalman Murray, No. 2 Company.
HEAVYWEIGHT.—Lance Corporal Milne, No. 3 Company.

H.Q.



Signal Office.



With 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Gilbert Macdonald.—Perhaps never before has the Annual Training Camp of The Lowland Signal Units commenced under such an atmosphere of gloom as it did at Gailes in July. It is a hard thing to say, but it was decreed that one of the bravest and best of our comrades, Corporal Gilbert Macdonald, No. 1 G.H.Q. Signal Company, S.R., should receive injuries on 17th July which resulted in his death. We could not bring ourselves to believe that Gilbert Macdonald was no more. It seemed as if it could not be. But "Gibbie" had paraded for the last time. Gilbert Macdonald was laid to rest at Troon Cemetery on 20th July with full military honours. The funeral was attended by all Units of The Lowland Signals. The mourners included five brothers of the late Corporal Macdonald, Sergeants Macdonald H., Macdonald M., Macdonald J., and Macdonald R., S.F., Aldershot, and Corporal Macdonald D. Our late comrade was one of five brothers all serving with the Lowland Signal Units. So we bade a last farewell to Gilbert Macdonald. To the gates of Wallacefield we carred him—Wallacefield where he had spent many a happy day. It was now Wallacefield of "The Flowers o' the Forest," and the Last Post. To Gilbert Macdonald's sorrowing widow and family, and to his brothers we offer our most heartfelt sympathy. We will long be with them in their mourning of one who was to us a gallant comrade. We will cherish the memory of Gilbert Macdonald for all time. He was fearless and generous. His good qualities were manifold. He served his King and Country long well.

Gailes and Gales.—Gailes by name, and Gales by nature! That would be an apt description of Gailes Camp in July 1936. Never before have the Lowland Signal Units encountered such terrible weather during an annual training period. The rainfall for the Gailes district during the first week of our sojourn was the heaviest recorded for twenty-three years. The heavy rains were accompanied by gales, thunder and lightning. Tents and marquees were flattened. Poles were snapped and canvas was torn to shreds. The Regimental Sports on 25th July had to be abandoned. The second week at Gailes showed only a slight improvement. The Sports were held on Wednesday, 29th July, the only day of sunshine with which we were blessed. Circumstances combined not to make the Sports Meeting reach the high standard of former years. However, the abridged version was well organized and thoroughly enjoyable. The S.R. with T.A. Wireless Sections carried out a somewhat ambitious Training Scheme which lasted three days, and covered a considerable area. All ranks worked with a will under the able direction of Major Cumming, our S.R. Commander. Here again, the weather was not too kind to us. Considerable importance appeared to be attached to our efforts. We noted the presence of our old friends, Colonel Trench, Colonel Hitchen, Colonel Angwin and Major Morgan. We hope that our hard work will receive the official benediction. We have every reason to be optimistic. The T.A. carried out a Scheme during the second week. Splendid work was done. Our T.A. comrades richly deserved the all round plaudits for their indefatigable industry. We feel certain that the work done on the T.A. scheme well merits reward. The Artillery Signal Sections of No. 2 Company T.A. have earned high praise for themselves. "E" Section, under Lieutenant T. A. S. Davie, journeyed to Buddon. Their services were greatly appreciated by the Commander of the 78th Artillery Brigade. The 230th Artillery Brigade Signal Section, under Lieutenant D. C. Lindsay, was also highly commended. So ended schemes, sports and the Camp of Gailes of Gales. Yet the Camp, taken all round, was enjoyable. The feather-bed idea vanished. The more adverse the circumstances, the greater became the joy of comradeship. We cannot say good-bye to Gailes without mentioning a few names. Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson displayed wisdom, and showed us the utmost consideration during the wet fortnight. There were traces of anxiety on the face of our esteemed M.O., Major McGrechin, at times, but the smallness of the sick parades, and the absence of even one case of serious illness is a pointer to his great efficiency and long experience. We are grateful for the good work of our Adjutant, Major Giblin. Lieutenant-Quartermaster Wylie, and R.Q.M.S. Colin Sinclair are worthy of special mention. We were often fed and housed under conditions which were well nigh impossible, yet not a single meal failed. We marvelled at the sight of smoke from the cookhouse fires when the cloudbursts and blizzards were at their worst. Truly a feather in the cap of Cook-Sergeant Baxter, and his men. It was "Spud's" first Camp as R.S.M. "Rains like the Somme," said an old-timer. "Winds like Scapa," said an ex-Naval man. But R.S.M. Murphy won through.

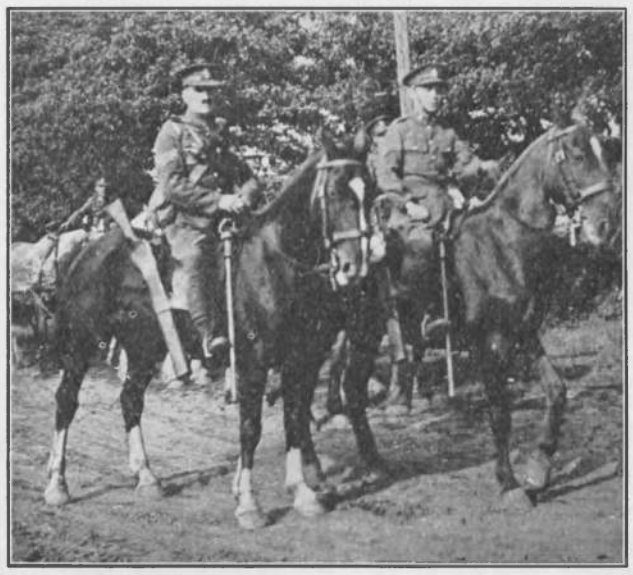
When camps were struck at Girvan,
And as far as Campbell Town,
The Lowland Sigs. kept battling on
Though every tent was down.

Ian Maclachlan.—An interesting visitor to Gailes was ex-Sergeant Ian Maclachlan, D.C.M., on leave from Singapore. Ian was a one-time member of our Units. He had a great reception and lost no time in looking up his old comrades.

Bob Westlands.—Ex-R.Q.M.S. Westlands, S.R., was presented with a wristlet watch from the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess at the Camp gathering of the Mess on 27th July. The gift was a token from Bob's comrades to mark his 27 years splendid service with the Lowland Signal Units. The presentation was made by



The five brothers Macdonald who attended the funera..



The late Corporal Macdonald with Sergeant D. Mackenzie.

Major Niven who eulogised Bob Westlands in fitting terms. May we not lose sight of Bob for many years to come.

Honouring Haggart.—No. 1 Company, S.R., staged a big show on 29th July at the Commercial Hotel, Troon. There were about 200 of C.S.M. John Haggart's comrades present to honour Jock, who shortly reaches the age limit. C.S.M. Haggart mobilized with the Lowland Divisional Signal Company in 1914. He is one of the oldest members of our S.R. Units. It is difficult to imagine the Cable and Construction Company without "Hag."

Lost Luke.—It is reported that Bert Luke, when travelling by rail from Worthing will, in future, be placed in charge of the guard. It is even suggested that the "Worthing Wonder" should be labelled in order to ensure that he reaches Scotland without mishap.

Exercise Echoes.—Who were the poor exhausted officers whom the O.C. S.R. discovered asleep in his office during the training scheme?

Was the gallant Major of L. of C. Signals responsible for the fancy cable shorts? We wonder why our friend the Major did not return to Camp. He may, however, have anticipated that a party of irate cable officers and N.C.O.s awaited him. But vengeance was not to be theirs. The Major of the shorts and faults had judiciously vanished.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

The Ilfracombe Camp is over, and it is without regret that we leave it behind. The weather was in its unkindest mood from start to finish. Wind, rain, cold and fog, in fact everything but snow—and at times it seemed to come very near to that. The Church Parade and the Sports on the middle Sunday of the period had to be abandoned. A voluntary Church Parade was held in the 3rd Monmouthshire Canteen, and was well attended. After this Parade, the C.-in-C., Western Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., presented decorations and medals to the following: Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., received the T.D.; R.S.M. McCormick R. R. and C.S.M. McLachlan P., Long Service and Good Conduct Medals, Regular Army; Lance Sergeant Haberfield W. F., Corporal Steel A. D., Corporal Poole P. B., Lance Corporal Hicks E. F., Lance Corporal Frampton E. G., Signalmen Turner R. and Griffiths R., the Efficiency Medal, Territorial.

The Sports were held on the first fine afternoon, which was the Tuesday of the second week. They were a great success. Judging by the prizes, which were distributed by the O.C., on the following Sunday, each event was worth the effort.

The big scheme had to be abandoned in the middle of it, and the troops returned home instead of spending the customary "night out." The weather was beyond description. What with sticking lorries and narrow country lanes, it was close upon midnight before the last party rolled in to the hot supper which had been kept waiting for them. The issue of a rum ration, however, brightened their already cheery spirits and undoubtedly prevented an epidemic of colds following their wet and tired condition.

Major-General G. Thorpe, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the G.O.C., 53rd (Welsh) Division, inspected the Unit, in Camp, on Saturday, 8th August, and expressed his satisfaction with them. He was to have inspected the whole of the 159th Infantry Brigade and attached troops on the Recreation Ground in Ilfracombe, and a grand march past had also been arranged, but this had to be abandoned, owing to bad weather. It was rather a pity, because, as the senior Unit in the district, we should have headed the march, and we had arranged a rather spectacular event which, we think, would have thrilled the taxpayers on holiday at the famous North Devon seaside resort. The D.R.s, in pairs, twenty yards between each pair, were to have led, followed by the Radio Cars attached from 3rd Div. This, with the excellent marching our chaps can put up, would have been the star piece of the show. The weather clerk decreed otherwise. Some were not displeased about it, because the prospect of a seven-miles' march down a narrow hilly road and back, and also along another narrow hilly road, did not hold out much of a thrill.

We were happy to have our Hon. Colonel and C.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., R.Signals, and the D.C.S.O. (and our late C.O.), Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., with us again, although their stay was curtailed on account of the weather.

Obituary.—We are sorry to relate that the closing hours of our Camp were marred by the death of Signalman Lee R. S. C., in a motor-cycle and car smash on Rumney Hill, near Cardiff, on the evening of 8th August. He was returning from Ilfracombe by road, and with one of our D.R.s, Signalman Winter J. H., became involved in a smash, being killed instantly. Winter was knocked about a bit and had a good number of stitches put into his leg. He is now on the road to recovery. Lee, who was in charge of our "Charging Tent," leaves a wife and three children, to whom we offer our condolences.

Incident.—Officer (reading a newspaper advertisement in the Mess): "What sort of colour is Chinese green?" Another Officer (who had just marched up the hill to Camp with the Unit): "I don't know, but I've seen bale purple."

THE LEEK.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Having just concluded Annual Training, we have at last a little material for notes. It is quite a relief not to be compelled to pull out last month's duplicate and retype it.

The Company was in Camp, at Colchester, from 26th July until 9th August, and, despite the rather mixed weather, everyone enjoyed it, returning to civilian routine with many regrets. A lot of ground was covered in the way of training, and leisure was not so plentiful as usual. This, however, was to everyone's liking. "B" Section, for the first time, put two detachments in the field, and on one occasion only were they behind schedule. Nuff said. "D" Section, with their trailer office, were in the limelight during the many inspections by higher authorities, and we were left with the impression that everything connected with Div. H.Q. met with commendation. This Section was formed principally from first year men and boys, and the way they came along was a great effort. Keep it up, lads! To "A" Section must go the greatest credit. They were compelled to work under very trying conditions and their efforts to cope with them could not have been bettered.

We hope to be able to enclose some photos taken during training with our next batch of notes.

Departure.—It is with regret that we pass Sergeant Charlie Gale on to No. 3 Company. Since joining us from the Regular Army, he has been N.C.O. i/c Cable Section, and to say that they have benefited greatly expresses the case rather mildly. Just one little crib, Charlie. Why so dumb about the new arrival? We can now understand those many silent toasts. The next time anything like that occurs, let us in on it. The best of luck and may your whiskers never grow fairer.

Annual Sports.—We cut a very sorry figure in the annual sports, finishing up with three points only. Some very fast performances were put up during the Meeting, but nothing could possibly approach our tug-of-war team for speed. The way they moved was astounding. The unfortunate part about it was that they were going in the wrong direction. We cannot accept their explanation that they thought that the rope was supposed to be pushed and not pulled. Had we known their capabilities earlier, we should have entered them "en bloc" for the sprints. Perhaps "splints" would be more apt. Our only successes were in events not connected with the Shield. Lance Sergeant Langworthy, Lance Corporal Trayler and Signalman Richards won the four-legged race, and Signalman Miller the motor musical chairs.

Unit Trophies.—Although out of it where sport was concerned, we did our stuff where work was required, taking off the only two Efficiency Cups competed for: the W/T Trophy and the Visual Cup. The latter was competed for in an Inter-Communication Race.

Personal.—"Eddie" is still a firm believer that anyone who keeps a car for two consecutive camps is not really trying. The breakers must make a living somehow, and we congratulate him on being so public spirited. It is only fair to state that the circumstances this time were beyond his control. Apparently C.S.M.s do have some little work to do at Camp. One, we could mention, became so brain-fagged that he could never remember when meals were up, despite reminders from the trumpeter. He finished up by going in for his dinner at tea-time and asking for his breakfast. His wife still refuses to believe such occurrences to be possible. The rumour going the rounds that some of the

engine trouble in " A " Section was caused by the moustache of the Section Sergeant becoming entangled is a gross libel on one of the most picturesque sights to be seen in Colchester this summer (our third day in Camp). To the relief of everyone, this potential cause of trouble has now been removed.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Camp is over, and everyone who attended seemed to have had a real good time, even though the weather did not behave.

Schemes.—The troops were on Schemes every day and they liked it. What is more, they wished they were all Night Schemes (from pub. to pub.).

Departures.—C.S.M. Hooper, M.B.E., has left the Unit after 38 years' service. He will be missed greatly by the Unit, and more so by No. 2 Company. Still we can't soldier on for ever, can we Bill? Our best wishes go with you.

Sports.—One of the tug-of-war teams thought they had to push the rope instead of pulling. We are not allowed to publish the winner of the No. 9 Marathon.

Jewish Mail.—I'll be waiting on the jetty, Norman.

BLACK DOG.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool 7.
12th August.

The weather, as I write these notes, is so beautiful—sun shining, hot, windless—that I am reminded of the weather at Camp—it is so different. In common with most Units, we experienced very varied climatic conditions. Luckily the Camp site at Halton was an excellent one, consequently we did not suffer from flooded or even saturated ground. Camp, however, is always enjoyable, irrespective of conditions, and the general opinion this year indicated that Annual Training was sufficiently pleasant to make Halton a grateful memory. I have an idea that after the next Camp (a Divisional one at Catterick), that memory will become more precious still. Those fair visitors, who honoured us on the middle Sunday, all agreed as they threw hot whiskey between their chattering teeth and listened to the thunder of the rain on the tent roof, that Halton was certainly a great spot.

As usual the first two days were spent in drawing stores and Section Training. Each Company held an independent scheme on the third day, whilst Thursday and Friday were spent on the Unit Schemes as practice for the three-day scheme during the second week. We were very much struck by the unfailing kindness and courtesy of the natives of those parts. Invariably they gave us the use of their outbuildings, and went out of their way to make us comfortable.

The G.O.C., 55th Division, Major-General E. O. Lewin, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., came out to see us, and I believe expressed himself as pleased with the performance. The Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Cobb, M.C., and the Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., always very welcome visitors, also paid us a visit.

During the second week we held the usual three-day scheme. The G.O.C. himself prepared the tactical situation, and had as Brigadiers and Staff, a bevy of Regular Adjutants and similiar mighty men. The situation unfolded itself rapidly, and we were fully extended in keeping up with it. The whole thing, apart from the absence of the actual infantry troops, was worked in a proper manner, that is to say, information concerning tactical moves was obtained from the Staff and acted on by Signals accordingly. It was all very interesting; everyone worked well and hard, and we were proud to receive the cordial congratulations of the G.O.C., who expressed himself as well pleased with our work.

Usually, the three-day scheme over, Camp is virtually finished. This year, however, the scheme was held on the second Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, instead of the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as formerly. This excellent idea gave us an extra day afterwards, which was much appreciated by all.

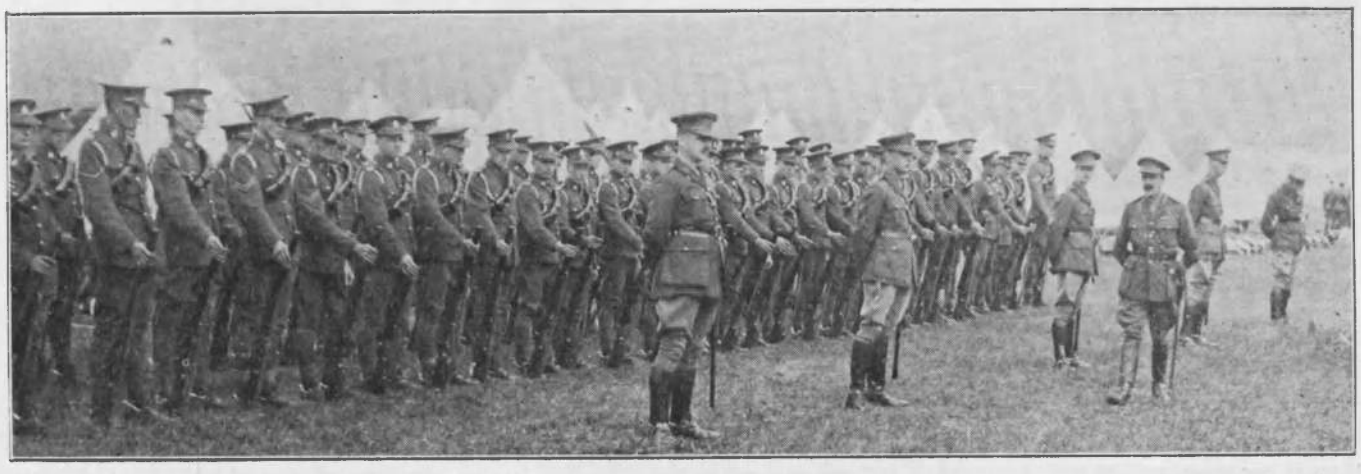
On the Thursday afternoon, Captain J. R. S. Orchard, R.Signals, T.A., was called upon to demonstrate a model Infantry Brigade Signal Office. To witness this wonder, there came, and enthusiastically applauded, the officers of the 150th Infantry Brigade assembled in Camp at Halton. The latter looking very intelligent and speaking eagerly down 'phones, etc., were conducted round by officers of this Unit specially picked for their charm of manner, immense knowledge and ability to retain a poker face. In some respects the Office resembled a first-class store with the personnel looking like mannequins, each with a large label on his shoulder betokening his particular job. I happen to know that the officer in charge of the office momentarily expected that some one would examine his label and say, " Yes, I think I'll have this one."

One other event at Camp remains to be reported. A very praiseworthy effort was made to stage a " mock tattoo " on the final Friday night. The headlights of officers' cars were to supplant searchlights. A big crowd, thoroughly good-tempered, turned up and enthusiastically applauded the mock items as they appeared. The announcer also spoke in a " mock " voice, because no one heard what he was saying. The time available for practice had been very short, and we had to encourage the turns more for their enthusiasm than for their skill. The programme, however, clearly described each item, which we were able to recognise when it appeared.

This Unit gave its usual " Night D.R. Ride," in which we were astonished to find that no one was fatally injured. Mr. T. J. Craig in charge of these daredevils, appeared at the end and gave a mock display of an artist taking a curtain. By this time rain was pelting down and the meeting dissolved in disorder.

We are now back at home with the satisfactory knowledge that the Unit is appreciably more efficient than it was a year ago.

FIVE-FIVE.



Stand Easy.—No. 2 Company awaiting C.O.'s Parade.



THE LONDON DIVISIONAL SIGNALS IN CAMP, SEAFORD, 1936.

Although our annual training was nearly washed out, we managed to find some fine days to take some pictures of our various activities. Top centre is Colonel Ozanne, D.C.S.O., with Lieutenant-Colonel Willway, Major Welsford, and Captain White, taken during the 4th Division Exercise at Crowborough. We show the various companies on parade, the officers and the Unit ready for the C.O.'s parade, some of the D.R. Section risking their lives, and some pictures taken during our guest night.

City of London Signals.

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12.
15th August.

Camp, 1936, Seaford.—Although few members of the Unit got really wet more than once, Seaford Camp will be remembered as one of the wettest the Unit has experienced in recent years. It will be remembered also for the very fine work put in by all ranks of the Unit, some details of which will appear hereafter. The first week was uneventful, being occupied with Individual and Section Training. A very successful T.E.W.T. was undertaken by the subaltern officers, on Monday, 27th July. The Commanding Officer and the Adjutant acted as Directors, assisted by Captain W. D. Campbell Greenacre, M.V.O., Welsh Guards, who gave valuable advice on the correct handling of Machine Guns, Mortars and Anti-Tank Guns. Meanwhile, all other ranks, working under the R.S.M., performed the necessary chores to make the appearance of the Camp site respectable.

For this year again, an extensive camp telephone system was constructed, and the younger members of "B" Cable Section had invaluable experience in putting up airline routes. Connections were obtained from the Post Office, and a large number of operators had the experience of operating a live exchange with access to the Post Office system.

During the second week of Camp, the Unit, as a whole, was fully tested. No. 1 Company (Captain F. White), took part in the Eastern Command Signal Exercise based on Crowborough. They acted as the nucleus of a Corps Signals, finding a Corps H.Q. Signal Office and maintaining communication with the advancing 4th Division. Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C., and Major G. C. Winckley, M.C., were on the Directing Staff at Corps Headquarters, and Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., acted as C.S.O. for the operation. We are informed that No. 1 Company did all that was required of them, and the following copy of a letter addressed to the Commanding Officer from General Sir W. Edmund Ironside, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., General-Officer-Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, shows that their services were appreciated.

"As I told Captain White and the men of your Unit who assisted us in the skeleton exercise at Crowborough, I am very grateful for the help they gave us, and I wish to congratulate them on the fine performance they put up. They have fulfilled the job of a Regular Unit under difficult conditions in a way of which all the Unit may well be proud. Their assistance has enabled the 4th Division to carry out some valuable training, and I am sure the Exercise must have been of value to your men as well."

In addition to the co-operation with the Regular Army, the Artillery Signal Sections serving the 90th (City of London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery, and the 63rd (6th London) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery, carried out Brigade Exercises with their Brigades. An Infantry Brigade Signal Section also took part in an Operation with the 3rd (London) Infantry Brigade.

Public Address System.—This Unit is the proud possessor of a "public address system," which is used for a great variety of purposes. On one occasion it was lent to the 3rd (London) Infantry Brigade, and the writer was privileged to witness an exceedingly fine example of training for the Territorial Army. The whole Brigade was assembled on a hillside and witnessed the work of a reconnoitring patrol and then of a fighting patrol. By use of the "public address system" the Brigade Commander was able to criticize the movements of the patrols for the benefit of the remainder of the Brigade.

Sports in Camp.—This year a more ambitious programme was undertaken; the Technical Efficiency Competitions being held in the morning of the middle Saturday. The athletic events were to have taken place in the afternoon. These were postponed on account of heavy rain until the last Saturday. The Technical Efficiency Competitions proved the very marked increase in the standard of efficiency of the Unit in recent years.

The Guard Mounting Competition, in particular, produced three Guards which would have done justice to many Regular Units. The results were as follows:

GUARD MOUNTING COMPETITION.—No. 3 Company.
CABLE WAGON TURN-OUT.—"G" Section, No. 2 Company.
CABLE LAYING RACE.—"F" Section, No. 2 Company.
TUG-OF-WAR.—No. 2 Company.

At the conclusion of these the Despatch Riders were just about to give their Display, when a heavy storm of rain intervened. Everyone dashed for shelter. Soon order succeeded chaos and spectators were accommodated in store tents, office tents, and in the Officers' Mess tents which, with the brailings rolled up, made admirable covered stands. The Despatch Riders then gave their Display with considerable precision, all the more praiseworthy considering that they were all soaked to the skin, and the ground was very slippery.

On August Bank Holiday Monday the Despatch Riders gave a Display to the Public Schools O.T.C., at Tweseldown Camp, near Aldershot.

The Athletic events were decided on the morning of Saturday, 8th August, when large entries and good racing were witnessed.

Visitors.—Amongst our many visitors were: Colonel G. D. Ozanne, M.C., Deputy C.S.O. London District, Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. von S. Thorne, C.S.O. London District, Major W. U. Tyrrell, G.S.O.3, S.D.6, War Office, who stayed two days, and Captain W. J. E. Gammage, who until recently commanded No. 3 Company. He spent the week end with the Unit. We were also delighted to have Major A. V. Franklin, R.A.V.C., with us in Camp again.

Subscriptions to Unit Funds.—During Camp, the Commanding Officer announced his decision to require all members joining after 15th September, 1936, to pay a voluntary subscription of £1 per year to Unit Funds. It speaks well for the spirit of all ranks that over ninety per cent. of the present members of the Unit voluntarily agreed to pay this subscription during their current engagement.

Guest Nights.—Two guest nights were held in the Officers' Mess. The second was honoured by the presence of Major-General B. N. Sergison-Brooke, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the G.O.C. London District, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the G.O.C. London Division, and Colonel J. C. Denison-Pender, our Honorary Colonel.

Band.—The Unit Band is now an accomplished fact, and besides playing for either the Officers' Mess or the Sergeants' Mess on most nights in the week, played at the Sports and also marched the Unit to Church Parade.

Casualties.—The Unit sympathises with Sergeant Armstrong T., P.S.I. of No. 1 Company, who was evacuated to hospital during the first week of Camp, suffering from a nervous breakdown. It also tenders its sympathy to Signalman Cooper W., No. 1 Company, who was evacuated to hospital with an injury to his knee as a result of a motor-cycle accident.

Thus ends Camp for 1936. The Unit has much to be proud of and many matters have been noted for future attention. This winter we are promised a new scheme of Individual Training which, with increased money available to assist in making the Headquarters more useful to members as a club, will, we hope, ensure that more and more men visit the Headquarters each week.

Unit Photograph.—Members of the Unit requiring copies of the photograph taken in Camp, should give their names to their Company P.S.I., together with 1s. 6d. for each copy required.

Dances.—The Sergeants' Mess will hold its first dance of the season at Headquarters on Saturday, 3rd October. Unit Dances will be held on Saturday, 10th and 24th October. Further details will be published later.

C.O.L.S.

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 374.

The subscription is only 2/- per annum.

Ask your Unit Representative for further details.

SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre.

Army Athletics, 1936.—The Training Battalion entered twelve competitors in the new Young Soldiers' and Boys' events, which were inaugurated this year. The results were very gratifying, and were a reward for the hard training put in by all the entrants. 2nd Divisional Signals very kindly fixed up the team in one of their barrack-rooms in Mons Barracks, and their feeding came under the capable hands of "Jimmy" Emblem. In the 440 Yards (Young Soldiers), 880 Yards (Young Soldiers) and Javelin (Young Soldiers), the entries were very disappointing. There were only two runners in the 440 Yards, three in the 880 Yards, and in the Javelin Signals provided the only two entrants. This fact however, does not in any way detract from the excellence of the performances put up by the Signals entrants. In all the other events, the entries were better, and the competition very keen. In the 100 Yards (Young Soldiers), Signalman Barrett achieved his 14th success in competitions this year, in the excellent time of 10.4 secs. Boy Billett came right on to his form, and produced a throw of 116 ft. 7 ins. in the Boys' Discus. It is interesting to note that, using the same discus, in the Young Soldiers' event, the winner could only produce 112 ft. Boy Adams, with a throw of 150 ft. 8 ins., made a fine initial performance, and one that may stand for some time, unless he betters it next year. Lance Corporal Boy Murray, with a put of 35 ft. 4½ ins., won the Boys' Weight by a foot from Corporal Boy Player; the remainder were three feet behind.

We were very pleased to see Colonel Naylor and Colonel Tillard at the Sports, and also Joe Cotterell, who arrived, smiling, on a bicycle from Camp.

Other Royal Signals entrants provided excellent results, Sergeant Instructor Harbin making a new Army record long jump of 23 ft. 1 in. and Lieutenant Deakin jumping 5 ft. 10 ins. in the High Jump. Training Battalion entries and results are tabulated hereunder:

YOUNG SOLDIERS.

Event.	Entered.		Result.
100 Yds. ..	Sig. Barrett	1st ..	10.4 secs.
	Sig. Hudson	3rd ..	—
440 Yds. ..	Sig. Hart	2nd ..	56 secs.
		(Won in 54.9 secs.)	
880 Yds. ..	L/Cpl. Boy Butler ..	2nd ..	2 mins. 8 secs.
	Boy D. Roberts ..	3rd ..	—
		(Won in 2 mins. 6 secs.)	
Javelin ..	Boy Adams	1st ..	150 ft. 8 ins.
	Boy Wythe	2nd ..	111 ft. 10 ins.
	BOYS.		
Discus ..	Boy Billett	1st ..	116 ft. 7 ins.
	Boy Bosten	— ..	104 ft. 5 ins.
Weight ..	L/Cpl. Boy Murray ..	1st ..	35 ft. 4½ ins.
	Cpl. Boy Player ..	2nd ..	34 ft. 5½ ins.
220 Yds. ..	L/Cpl. Boy J. Roberts	Unplaced in heat.	

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

Athletics.—This year the Army Athletic and Cross Country Association introduced six new events into the Army Athletic Championships confined to enlisted boys and young soldiers. A young soldier for this Competition had to be under twenty years of age on the first day of the Meeting. Eleven boys of this Company and one Signalman from "E" Company were entered from the Training Battalion for these events. Between them, they brought back seven medals. The opposition though numerically weak, was actually very strong, and some really good times and distances were recorded. We were rather sorry that there were so few opponents from our own Field Units, because we were looking forward to renewing old track rivalries in these events. Although our competitors were beaten from first place in one or two events, they all managed to produce a super-effort and record their "best-ever" individual performance. While the results on the whole were very good indeed, thus making it difficult to pick out best performances, in the writer's opinion, mention must be made of Boy Hart's plucky running in the 440 yards Young Soldiers' in which he finished second, clocking 55.6 secs., and Lance Corporal Boy Butler and Boy Roberts D., who were second and third in the Young Soldiers' 880 yards, finishing very close together in 2 mins. 8 secs.

The results in full were:—

YOUNG SOLDIERS' 100 YARDS.—1, Signalman Barret R., "F" Company, 10.4 secs; 3, Signalman Hudson, "E" Company.

ENLISTED BOYS' 220 YARDS.—Our only competitor in this event was Lance Corporal Boy Roberts J., who was beaten in his heat and did not qualify for the final.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' 440 YARDS.—1, Private Dale C., Wiltshire Regiment, 54 secs.; 2, Boy Hart, "F" Company, 55.6 secs.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' 880 YARDS.—1, Private Cook, 1st Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment, 2 mins. 6.4 secs.; 2, Lance Corporal Boy Butler, "F" Company, 2 mins. 8 secs.; 3, Boy Roberts, D., "F" Company, 2 mins. 8.1 secs.

ENLISTED BOYS' PUTTING THE WEIGHT.—1, Lance Corporal Boy Murray D., "F" Company, 35 ft. 4½ ins.; 2, Corporal Boy Player, "F" Company, 34 ft 5½ ins.

ENLISTED BOYS' DISCUS.—1, Boy Billett W. R. A., "F" Company, 116 ft 7 ins.

YOUNG SOLDIERS' JAVELIN.—1, Boy Adams J. E., "F" Company, 150 ft. 8 ins.; 2, Boy Wythe A. R., "F" Company, 111 ft. 10 ins.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Football.—Ten of our first team players depart to-day for Upper Topa, where they are to train with "A" Corps Signals to produce a combined team to compete in the forthcoming Murree Brewery Tournament.

Hockey.—Several games have been played during the month with varying results. These, however, are not to hand. A team is now being selected to compete in the Drapery Tournament due to commence on Friday, 7th August, and we hope to be able to give a good account of ourselves.

Tennis.—An Open Singles and Open Doubles Tournament is at present in progress. Details will be given in next month's notes. A handicap tournament is to follow the open one.

Rugger.—Quite an unusual happening in Pindi, a game of rugger. The ground being in good condition, due to the monsoon, we turned out a team against 5 A.C. Squadron, R.A.F., on their ground, at Chaklala, on Friday, 31st July. After a keen game, we ran out winners by 11 points to 3. The R.A.F. led at half-time by 3 points (penalty goal) to nil, but in the second half we were on top and gathered 11 points. A forward rush resulted in two of our forwards touching down by the corner flag, the extra points not being added. Shortly afterwards, Craddock got over for a try in the corner, McDougall just failing to convert from a difficult angle. In the closing minutes Lieutenant Lyall scored a beautiful try between the posts, and McDougall added the extra 2 points from the spot. We are looking forward to a return game if the weather permits. Team: Verschelde; Craddock, Fitzpatrick, Corporal Cleveland and Lieutenant Lyall; Corporal Simpson and McDougall; Lieutenant Hobson, Lance Corporal Warhurst, Benn, Daffern, Lance Corporal Faircloth, Round Billington and Campbell.

ONEDIV.

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

Cricket.—On account of the present disturbance in this country, most of our attractive fixtures have been cancelled. Nevertheless, we have had several most enjoyable games. So far we have suffered two defeats, the last one being most unexpected, but it probably did us more good than harm. On 28th June we entertained the R.A.F. from Ramleh, who had got together a very strong side, which included several players from Egypt and one from Amman. The R.A.F. batted first, and ran up the useful score of 198 for 9, at which point they declared. A feature of the innings was the brilliant fielding by the home team. After losing our first wicket cheaply, we proceeded to get on top, but the last three wickets fell for only 8 runs, and amidst tense

excitement we were beaten by 18 runs. Signalman Page played a nice innings, and was unluckily bowled out when only one short of his 50. This was voted one of the best games we have seen here for some time. We were also engaged in another exciting finish with the R.A.F. at Ramleh, when both sides ended all square with 94 runs each.

Our rather unexpected defeat came from the B.S.P.P., Jaffa, after being dismissed for 67. They in turn routed us for 42. Only one of our batsmen reached double figures. For the benefit of old ex-Wireless-ites, P.C. Gammell and Corporal Doxie were responsible for this, with five wickets each.

So far, the best bowling performance of the season is that of Corporal Smith against the R.A.F.G.H. Here it is :—7 overs, 4 maidens, 8 runs, 8 wickets (6 clean bowled).

Results to Date.—

2nd May v. Combined Supplies Depot, away, won by 54 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 139 for 9 (dec.) (Page 23, Corporal Smith 25, Billingsley G., 22). " C.S.D.," 85 (Lieutenant MacFarlan, 5 for 7).

7th May v. R.A.F.G.H., home, draw. No. 2 W/T Company, 179 (Page 64, Corporal Cairns 44). R.A.F.G.H., 108 for 9.

23rd May v. Combined Supplies Depot, home, won by 3 wickets. No. 2 W/T Company, 191 for 7 (Billingsley 69, Sergeant Smith, 39, Corporal Smith 36, N.O.) " C.S.D.," 79 (Sergeant Smith 4 for 32).

30th May v. R.A.F., Ramleh, away, tie. No. 2 W/T Company, 94 (Mace 22, Billingsley 29). R.A.F., 94 (Sergeant Smith 3 for 21).

3rd June v. 42nd Field Company, R.E., home, won by 62 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 116 (Billingsley 27, Smith C. 27). 42nd Field Company, R.E., 54 (Corporal Smith 4 for 25, Corporal Cairns 3 for 18).

13th June v. R.A.F., Ramleh, home, draw. No. 2 W/T Company, 157 for 9 (dec.) (Page 20, Cairns 27, Reedman 31). R.A.F., 110 for 6 (Cairns 3 for 28).

19th June v. R.A.F. General Hospital, away, won by 81 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 140 (Mace 56, Smith R. 28). R.A.F. General Hospital, 59 (Smith R. 5 for 31, Cairns 2 for 10).

28th June v. R.A.F., Ramleh, home, lost by 18 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 180 (Page 49, Cairns 26, Smith R. 21). R.A.F., Ramleh, 198 for 9 (dec.).

5th July v. B.S.P.P., Jaffa, home, won by 76 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 128 for 8 (dec.) (Page 43, Smith C. 23 n.o.). B.S.P.P., Jaffa, 52 (Billingsley 3 for 7).

19th July v. B.S.P.P., Jaffa, home, lost by 25 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 42. B.S.P.P., Jaffa, 67 (Smith R. 4 for 15, Guest 3 for 3).

24th July v. R.A.F.G.H., home, won by 82 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 111 for 7 (dec.). R.A.F.G.H., 29 (Smith R. 8 for 8).

2nd August v. 1st Battalion R.S.F., home, won by 32 runs. No. 2 W/T Company, 86. R.S.F., 54 (Cairns 3 for 15, Guest 2 for 4, Whitaker 2 for 15).

The following generally represented the 1st XI : Lieutenant MacFarlan (captain), Sergeant Smith, Corporals Smith, Trudgett, Cairns, Lance Corporal Whitaker, Signalmen Mace, Page, Guest, Reedman and Billingsley G.

Tennis.—There has been very little tennis this season, mainly because there has been no Inter-Unit League this year, but several friendlies have been played.

The Unit fielded two teams against the R.A.S.C. and R.A.F.G.H. in away matches. We suffered defeat in both cases. We had ample revenge against the Hospital in the return fixture, beating them by 55 games to 39. Two Unit Tournaments have so far been played. These were drawn with the idea of pairing the couples up as evenly as possible. In the first Tournament, Lance Corporals Moran and Hawkins beat Lance Corporal Mintram and Signalman Billingsley G. in two straight sets in the final. In the second Tournament, Signalmen Norris and Wells were successful against Sergeant Smith and Signalman Williams H. Both winners and runners-up were presented with Cups.

The Unit Open Tournament, Singles and Doubles, is commencing this week. Results will be published next month.

More anon.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Changi Detachment.

Soccer.—In the Garrison Inter-Section Soccer, " A " League, the Staff and Departments, of which we supply eight players, is doing very well. During the past month League matches have been played and resulted as follows :

v. " B " Sub-Section, 22nd Hy. Bty., R.A. .. won by 6—1.
v. Sub-Section, 7th Hy. Bty., R.A. .. .. won by 5—1.
v. " A," Royal Engineers .. .. .. won by 2—0.
v. " A " Sub-Section, 7th Hy. Bty, R.A. .. won by 2—1.

We are not yet top of the League, but our chances are bright and we are hopeful.

Cricket.—The cricket team, considering the limited number of cricketers available, is doing well. The results of matches during last month were :

v. Fort Canning .. .. won by 100 runs.
v. Pulau Brani .. .. lost by 5 runs.
v. 7th Hy. Bty., R.A. .. .. .. won by 47 runs.
v. 41st (" F ") Coy., R.E. .. .. lost by 6 wickets.

Shipping (or Yachting).—The Ghangi Garrison Yachting Club continues to make progress, and there are good prospects of a club-house being erected near the boat-house at an early date. We have not seen yacht No. 17 (owned and operated (?) by Signalmen Buck, Lambert, Mottershead and Dickson) afloat since the tragic day they turned turtle in a glassy sea. No. 25 (Lance Corporal French, Corporals Norton and Pearson) is going so well that they expect a handicap of sixty minutes every hour when racing. Something will have to be done to slow that yacht down or it will " take off " one day.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

July.

Marathon Badminton.—" Poly " regrets he was unable to write last month. On Wednesday, 1st July, the finals of our " everlasting " Badminton tournament were played off with Lance Corporals Nutting and Harding upholding the reputation (alleged) of " B " Cable against our P.S.I., C.S.M. Tanner and Sergeant Haley in the doubles, beating them in a hard fought match. A little later, Nutting again did battle in the Singles, this time with Signalman (Little Eric) Hoyle, and after two exciting games managed to win. We finished a very pleasant evening, drinking beer out of one of Nutting's prizes and smoking the cigarettes from the other, lit of course from Sergeant Haley's lighter, which helped to make them last out, afterwards saying a good night when Hoyle's alarm clock went off. Apropos this Badminton, it has been whispered that the champions have been challenged—did someone say " Chicken's Feed ? " Still, Nutting always was good at " 500." Colonel Passingham (Middlesex Association), was present, and said he was very pleased to note the interest shown in the games which was the spirit he liked to see.

Shooting.—Having asked the Rifle Club for some news, the Honorary Secretary fired the following " salvo " for the WIRE and, as you may judge, we are well in the news. The Brigade Shoot took place at Purfleet on Sunday, 21st June. Our Regimental Team won the Middlesex Justices Shield for the ninth time in fourteen years. The names are as follows :

Regimental Team	Score
Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Read, T.D.	56
Captain W. Gilbert	40
Lieutenant-Quartermaster E. W. G. Harris ..	45
Lieutenant S. J. Williams	41
C.S.M. Jordan H.	49
Sergeant Brown A. E.	29
Sergeant Walker W.	36
Sergeant James A.	50
Lance Sergeant Jordan R.	38
Corporal Robinson V. W.	44
Lance Corporal Nutting J.	59
Lance Corporal White J.	45
Lance Corporal Coles J.	33
Lance Corporal Thomas C.	34
Lance Corporal Harding W. F.	44
Signalman Davis G. H.	27
	670

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No. 1 Company won the Dell Cup with a score of 348, and were third in the High Sherriff's Challenge Shield. No. 3 Company's Young Soldiers' Team were third in the " B.S.A. Guns " Challenge Trophy. Lance Corporal Nutting was fifth in the Individual Championship. The Unit is more than holding its own in shooting matters by hard work and a very live club, and it is gratifying to note the number of young shots who have come along, just in the nick of time to step into the shoes of the older men, who are beginning to " fade away." Jocey tells of a true one, " The ' L ' men were lined up at the firing points and very plainly told that they were only to fire on the target which coincided with the number of the post where they were to lie down. After the detail had fired 5 rounds, there were ten on No. 15 and none on No. 11. When tackled, the bright one on No. 11 explained that he understood his instructions, but as he could not see his target when he was lying prone, fired on No. 15." Imagine the intense discomfiture of the instructor.

The " Phantom Detachment " is the new title won by one of our wagons and duly earned, as will be seen, during the Scheme which took place on Sunday, 28th June. The detachment was moving over Staines Bridge, drawn by a " mechanisation " lorry, when a policeman stopped it, and the propeller shaft broke. It was left at a nearby garage with its crew and the mechanisation fitter, while Sergeant Burch went on to the rendezvous in the tender. He scouted around and, seeing no one there, came back to the garage to find the lorry and detachment had vanished completely. Out he went again to the rendezvous. After looking everywhere with the officer, whom he managed to locate, drew another blank, and to crown his " ill luck " his tender broke down with clutch trouble, right outside a pub. It seems that the mechanisation fitter heard that one of his lorries was in trouble at Basingstoke and brought the detachment back to H.Q. after strong coercion from the crew. Sergeant Burch, who eventually found his little lambs safe at H.Q., worked out how long it would take him to pay for a wagon, complete. A certain school of thought in the Cable Section incline to the view that the other crew who did the work should have two lots of pay. I understand, that by 14.00 hours, Paddy's dialect got so fierce that he was quite difficult to understand. The other part of the Scheme at Southgate, with " L " Section, went off very well indeed, and the new apparatus wired especially for Camp, was extremely efficient.

Sergeants' Mess.—On Wednesday, 3rd June, we battled with the Junior Mess at snooker, skittles and darts. When they won the first of three games of darts, we retaliated by notching the last two. They also scored first at skittles, but the Mess made the same reply. Encouragement, you know. They may be Sergeants themselves one day.

POLYH.

History of Europe's Search for Security.

[*Continued from page* 381.]

Records for the Past Ten Years.—It is not easy to satisfy him. Just two months ago " Peterborough " quoted on this page a statement from a German paper that the European Powers had concluded 115 pacts of one sort and another during the last ten years ; and the relations of European nations since the War did not begin in 1926.

They began with the Treaty of Versailles, which was signed in June, 1919, by Germany on the one side and the twenty-seven Powers with which she had been at war on the other. It is important to note that, though the British Empire is described as one of these Powers, the United Kingdom, the Dominions and India all signed separately.

The Treaty is divided into fifteen parts, and the treaties under which Britain and the United States made an alliance with France are not a part of the main Treaty of Versailles, though signed on the same day. The Treaty was weakened at the start by the refusal of the United States Senate to ratify it.

Covenant and Treaty.—Its first part consists of the Covenant of the League of Nations, under whose provisions (Article 19) all the remaining parts of the Treaty could be amended, or even annulled. But the Germans hate the Treaty of Versailles and, if they rejoin the League, propose to negotiate for the separation of the Covenant from the Treaty.

Some provisions of this Treaty have lapsed through fulfilment, the section dealing with the Saar being a conspicuous example. Part VIII, which deals with reparations, has gradually disappeared because it proved unworkable. Part V, which deals with German armaments, was repudiated by Germany a year ago a few weeks after Britain and France had proposed to Germany to negotiate a new agreement to replace it.

This week she was reported to have repudiated the sections of Part XII, dealing with the internationalisation of rivers partly German, though she is actually negotiating for their amendment. Such is the consequence of Germany's assertion that, so far as she is concerned, the Treaty of Versailles, which she regards as a document imposed upon her by her conquerors, is valid only to the extent she chooses.

But some of the most important clauses of the Treaty of Versailles were cancelled with the full agreement of all parties concerned. These clauses are to be found in Parts II and III, Part II being entitled " Boundaries of Germany," and Part III " Political Clauses for Europe." They were replaced at Locarno in the autumn of 1925 on lines suggested by Germany herself.

Seven Treaties of Locarno.—It is customary to speak of the Treaty of Locarno. Actually a sheaf of seven treaties was signed simultaneously. The first of these, which Herr Hitler describes as the " Rhine Pact of Locarno," is the most important, and is the only one which involves this country.

Unlike the Treaty of Versailles, it is signed by the United Kingdom alone, and not by the British Empire, and unless accepted by the Dominions and India imposes no obligation upon them. The Dominions and India, while sympathising with the Locarno policy, have not undertaken any obligations to enforce it.

The parties to the Treaty accept and guarantee the western frontiers of Germany as determined at Versailles, and also the arrangements for the demilitarised Rhineland zone which are laid down in Articles 42 and 43 of the Treaty of Versailles, and which forbid Germany either to construct fortifications **or** to maintain troops anywhere on the left bank of the Rhine or within fifty kilometres of the right bank.

[*To be continued.*]

THE WIRE

THE CORPS MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVII.—No. 200 OCTOBER, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Appointment of Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian Signal Corps.—The following copies of a telegram, and letter from His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief, India, Colonel Commandant Indian Signal Corps, to Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, and telegram from Her Royal Highness in reply, are published hereunder for the information of our readers:

To Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal,
Harewood House, Leeds, England.

The Colonel-Commandant and all ranks of the Indian Signal Corps are highly honoured by the appointment of Your Royal Highness as Colonel-in-Chief and tender their loyal duty.

From Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps.
(Signed) R. A. CASSELS, 14.8.1936.

To The Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps, Simla.

I am most grateful for your telegram. It gives me the greatest pleasure to be associated with the Indian Signal Corps.—MARY.

Simla, India.
17th August, 1936.

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal.

Madam,

On behalf of all ranks of the Indian Signal Corps, 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 Highness as our Colonel-in-Chief. It will be the ambition of all ranks to prove themselves worthy of the distinction conferred upon them.

May I venture to ask you, Madam, to convey to His Majesty, The King, our humble duty and our great appreciation of the distinction given us.

I have the honour to be,
Your Royal Highness' humble and obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. A. CASSELS, General,
Colonel-Commandant, Indian Signal Corps, and
Commander-in-Chief, India.

All ranks of Royal Signals will take pride in the latest honour conferred upon our Indian contemporaries.

Hospitality to Dominion Signal Officers in England.—With the object of enabling Royal Signals Officers at Home to extend individual invitations to Dominion Signal Officers, it is notified for information that the following are at present in this country:

Lieutenant A. W. Y. Des Brisay, R.Canadian Corps Signals. (33 Inverness Terrace, London, W.2); Captain K. G. McCullagh R.Canadian Corps Signals (Staff College, Camberley), c/o Office High Commissioner, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1. Captain G. W. Smart, R.Canadian Corps Signals—2nd Divisional Signals.

Armistice Sunday Church Parade.—Ex-Service members of Westminster Branch, Royal Signals Association, will take part in the Armistice Sunday Church Parade of 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals (T.A.). A cordial invitation to participate is also extended to all other Royal Signals old comrades who can reach the Headquarters of that Unit on the day in question, to march with the contingent to church. Time of parade and other details will be published later in the press, but if any old comrade, who would like to attend will send his name and address to the

Honorary Secretary, Westminster Branch Signals Association, 56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1, advance information regarding the arrangements will be forwarded to him.

The Agar Memorial Fund.—The final Statement of Accounts for the Agar Memorial Fund are published for general information. In the first instance, the Fund was administered by the Corps Committee and prizes were paid for, partly from capital and partly from interest on investment. At a later stage, the stock was handed over to The United Services Trustee, together with the balance of cash for further investment. The total subscriptions which have been invested in Australia 3½% Stock, 1964/74, is £581 1s. 2d. Interest from investments, which is received half-yearly, is handed over by The United Services Trustee to The Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and provides the money for purchase of the parchment certificates commemorating Lieutenant Agar's act of gallantry, and the Corps prize for the Senior Cadet entering Royal Signals each half-year.

AGAR MEMORIAL FUND.

FINAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions	639	2	1
Interest on Investments	5	13	5
Refund Unused Cheques		3	4
	£644	18	10

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Cheque Book		5	0
To Producing Certificates for Engraving	1	0	0
To Engraving Certificate-Plate and 2 Certificates on Parchment	30	13	6
Printing of Certificate		9	6
Prizes Cadets, R.M.A.	22	0	8
Refund part Subscriptions	3	8	6
Expenses (Col. Chenevix Trench)	4	18	2
Investment Australia Stock	581	1	2
Sundries	1	2	4
	£644	18	10

Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club.—It is notified for the information of all concerned that the Annual Dinner of the Royal Signals Dinner Club will be held on the 9th October, 1936, at The Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W.1, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from Mr. S. Garland, c/o Lloyds Bank, Ltd., 6 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

Rugby Fixtures.—Cobb-Nicholls Cup. Semi-finals to be played on 24th October, 1936. Final to be played on 26th October, 1936.

CORPS MATCHES.

Versus R.M.A., to be played at Woolwich on 11th November.
Versus R.A., on 13th November.
Versus R.E., on 16th November.
Versus Royal Tank Corps, on 20th November.

The Territorial Magazine.—Not only officers and other ranks, but all concerned with the welfare of the country's Defence Forces, cannot fail to be interested in The Territorial Magazine, the first issue of which appeared in June last. Not only the Territorial Army and Auxiliary Air Force, but the O.T.C. and Cadet Units in the country are dealt with in practical and interesting form. The magazine, in fact, should become a necessity for officers of the Second Line, in addition to all who are concerned with the administration and welfare of the Defence Forces. There is a wealth of invaluable information as well as vividly interesting articles dealing with defence against hostile aircraft, and similar subjects. It can be obtained at all bookstalls, price one shilling.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

GENERAL MEETING.—It is hereby notified for the information of members, that the Tenth Annual General Meeting of Signals Association, will be held at 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, on Wednesday, 7th October, 1936, at 3 p.m., to which all bona-fide members are cordially invited.

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

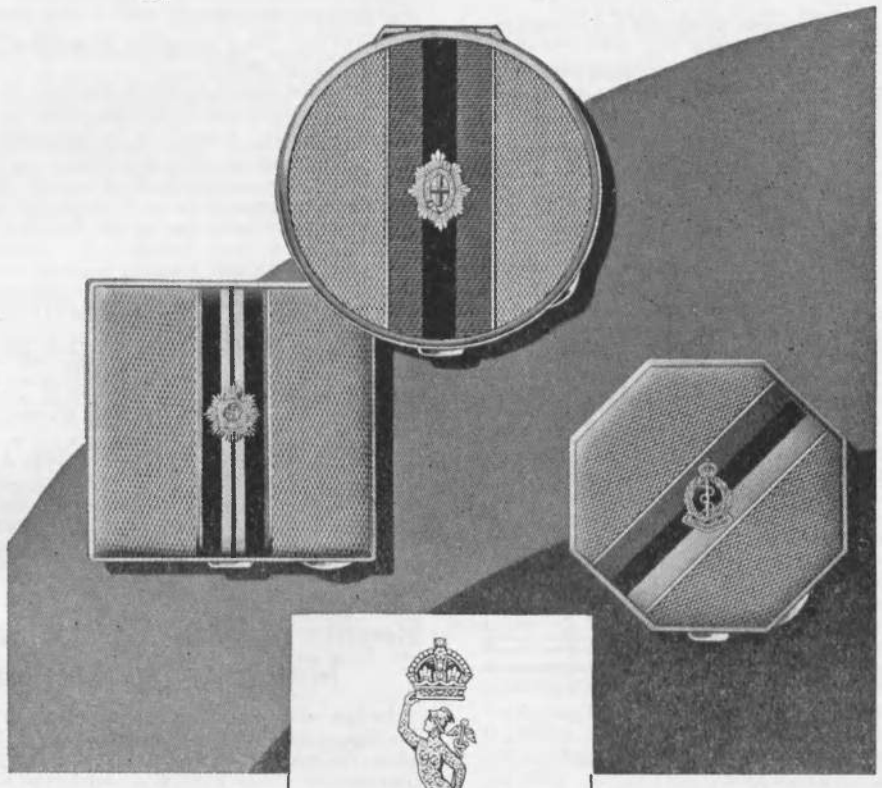
1	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Joiner
2	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Carpenter
3	Ex-Signalman, Devonport	Telephonist
4	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Labourer
5	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
6	Ex-N.C.O., Glasgow	Telephonist
7	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
8	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Post Office
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Batman
10	Ex-N.C.O., Bury St. Edmunds	Postman
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Chef
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
14	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
15	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
16	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
17	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
18	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
20	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
21	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
22	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
23	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
24	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
25	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
26	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
27	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
28	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
29	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Motor Mechanic
30	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Post Office
31	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
32	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
33	Ex-Signalman, London	Cook
34	Ex-Signalman, Bedford	Garage Hand
35	Ex-Signalman, Stoke	Handyman
36	Ex-N.C.O., Sussex	Postman
37	Ex-N.C.O., Catterick	Storeman-Caretaker
38	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Chauffeur-Gardener
39	Ex-Signalman, Glasgow	Labourer
40	Ex-Signalman, Essex	P.O. Engineering Dept.
41	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Reading	P.O. Electrician
43	Ex-Signalman, London	Porter
44	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Waiter
45	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
46	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
47	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
48	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
49	Ex-N.C.O., London	Labourer G.P.O.
50	Ex-N.C.O., London	Postman
51	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
52	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Labourer
53	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Shop Assistant
54	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Porter
55	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Electrician
56	Ex-N.C.O., Darlington	Switchboard Operator
57	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Steward-Attendant
58	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

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Benevolent Fund Notes.

The following letter of appreciation speaks for itself :

London, S.E.
26.8.1936.

The General Secretary,
Signals Association.

DEAR SIR.—May I convey my thanks to Signals Association for the help and kindness displayed in my case.

My wife and I find it difficult to express our appreciation for the service you have rendered, but when I say we are indeed deeply grateful you will perhaps realise how your prompt assistance has affected our circumstances.

With grateful thanks to all ranks of the Corps who make the good work of the Association possible,

I am,
Yours truly,
EX-DRIVER, R.Signals.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Mr. A. Grant, M.M.
Sergeants' Mess, 3rd Indian Divisional Signals.
Mr. S. Hughes.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Driver, Catterick	Grant	£1	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, Paisley	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Ex-Driver, Dorset	Grant	£3	0	0
4	Ex-Signalman, Cumberland	Grant	£4	0	0
5	Signalman, Bulford	Loan	£5	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Liverpool	Grant	£2	0	0
7	Ex-Driver, Edinburgh	Grant £1 0 0 Loan	£1	0	0
8	Ex-Signalman, Southampton	Grant	£2	10	0
9	Ex-N.C.O., London	Loan	£3	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, Northumberland	Grant	£3	0	0
11	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Grant	£2	0	0
12	Ex-Signalman, Lanarkshire	Grant	£3	0	0
13	Ex-Signalman, Norfolk	Grant	£4	0	0
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	0	0
15	Ex-Driver, Newcastle	Grant	£1	10	0

(Signed) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator,
Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
17th September.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the October, 1936, WIRE.

Names and Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :

HOME AND ABROAD. SERGEANTS. 50%. Class 14.

**2309814	Sergeant Cornish W. J.	4/2/32
2306753	Sergeant Cole W. P.	11/2/32
2312809	Sergeant Bailey G.	12/2/32
2306803	Sergeant Archer W. G.	23/2/32
2309580	Sergeant Collins D. J.	4/4/32
2314313	Sergeant Hart R. C.	4/4/32

** To be absorbed into 50% establishment from 5% on promotion.

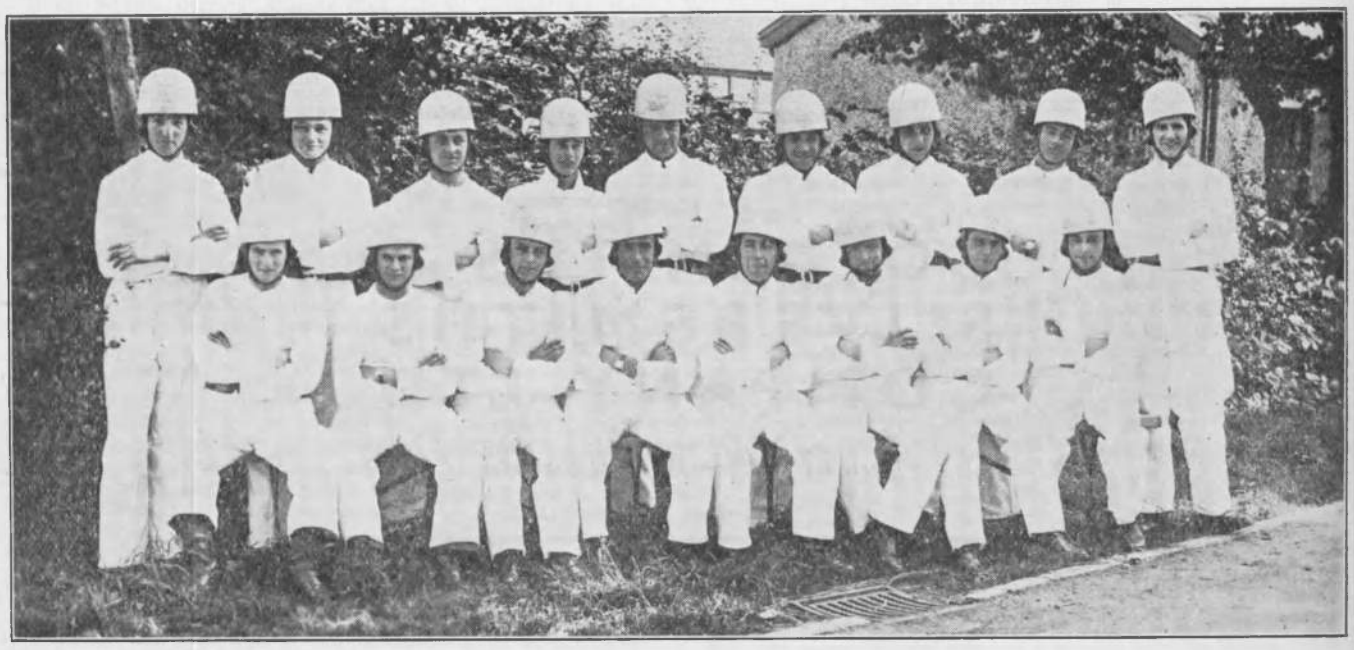
HOME AND ABROAD, 5%. INDIA, 4%. RANK AND FILE. Class 15.

393604	Lance Sergeant Kenny H.	2/ 7/30
6710632	Signalman Chambers W. G.	7/10/30
1051801	Signalman Wilson H.	8/10/30
2313755	Lance Sergeant Ferdinando J. G.	9/10/30
2316619	Corporal Worthington J.	18/10/30
2314256	Corporal Mundy J.	27/10/30

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel,
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Royal Signals Combined Horse and Motor Cycle Display, 1936.

In last month's WIRE we reported our travels up to leaving the Bakewell Show. The next trip on our list was to Shrewsbury, where, as in 1935, we were made "at home" by the Depot, K.S.L.I. Shrewsbury Floral Fete is a wonderful show. Apart from the magnificent display of flowers, the best bands in the country are



MOTOR CYCLISTS AT SOUTH SHIELDS TATTOO.

engaged to give concerts, and the best circus and acrobatic turns in Europe are booked to give stage performances. The first day was wet, but, in spite of this, large crowds came to watch us perform. As the second day was fine, there was a record attendance.

The next outing on the programme was our annual one to Reeth. We were blessed with a fine day for our twelve-mile tramp from here, and we gave our usual performance to quite a nice-sized crowd for so small a place. The following morning the Motor Cycle Display left with the O.C. Display for South Shields to give the sole "Motor-cycles only" display of the season at the South Shields Tattoo. We were camped on the beach at Frenchman's Bay, and found that South Shields and district provide ample facilities for the amusements which a soldier enjoys! The D.R.s put up a remarkably fine show at the Tattoo. Standing up backwards on a machine, a large "fan" and remarkably fine motor cycle "ride" were some of the innovations introduced.

On 9th September, we travelled down to Wales for the second time this season, to perform at Welshpool Show on the 10th. Again a record crowd came to see our show and we all had a very enjoyable time there. Many of us went over to Shrewsbury to meet old friends, and to take part in the festivities going on there in connection with the carnival.

On 12th September we were glad to see the Old Comrades, under Mr. Butler, at our Mounted Sports. In spite of "wicked" weather and ground conditions, the lads managed to put up a show for them. They were helped by Mr. Ricketts and the Band, and also the trumpeters from "F" Company. Similarly, we put up a display of selected items at our Gymkhana on Wednesday, 15th September.

Now we are waiting for our "finale," at Masham, on Saturday.

Before closing, I must chronicle our success in the "Colonel Walsh Bronze Horse Competition" for the best conditioned, turned-out and shod horses in the S.T.C. In spite of their travels through England, Wales and Scotland, our horses managed to win this trophy. This reflects great credit on Sergeant Hill and the mounted side of the party.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the "Corps Promotion Roster" (published in April, 1936) 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.

2306597	Sergeant Bardoe V.	12/5/36	16
2306453	Sergeant Fegan C.	12/5/36	16
*1859197	Sergeant Wyeth E.	27/5/36	73

To be Sergeant.

2306658	L/Sergeant Norcup J.	7/5/36	30
2316422	L/Sergeant Wood E.	12/5/36	30
2315937	L/Sergeant Healey T.	14/5/36	30
2312898	L/Sergeant Boxall C.	27/5/36	30
2313772	L/Sergeant Copp D.	29/5/36	30
2309576	L/Sergeant Elkins E.	1/6/36	30
2309574	L/Sergeant Mansfield F.	1/6/36	30
2315033	L/Sergeant Harrison J.	2/6/36	30

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2316171	Corporal Orton P.	29/4/36	37
2308588	Corporal Peake C.	7/5/36	37
2310791	Corporal Young W.	12/5/36	37
2317275	Corporal Norman B.	14/5/36	37
2308524	Corporal Smalley J.	27/5/36	37
2311316	Corporal Keywood F.	29/5/36	37
2308942	Corporal Shaddick A.	29/5/36	38
2316931	Corporal Howard W.	1/6/36	38
2317499	Corporal Dale G.	2/6/36	38

To be Corporal.

2317146	L/Corporal Morton A.	27/1/36	
758240	L/Corporal Hartard G.	7/5/36	54
3300251	L/Corporal Bain A.	9/5/36	54

* Special Roster.

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2320912	L/Corporal Gosnold W.	9/5/36	54
2308889	L/Corporal Thomas P.	12/5/36	54
2316478	L/Corporal Smith G.	12/5/36	54
2318814	L/Corporal Currie G.	14/5/36	54
4526639	L/Corporal Webb C.	21/5/36	54
2317894	L/Corporal Woolnough W.	24/5/36	54
2317222	L/Corporal Ellis G.	27/5/36	54
2554783	L/Corporal Weller A.	29/5/36	55
6393532	L/Corporal Cooke W.	29/5/36	55
2921996	L/Corporal McIndo H.	29/5/36	55
2320388	L/Corporal Farmer N.	29/5/36	55
2320493	L/Corporal Longworth T.	1/6/36	55
2310901	L/Corporal Wilson C.	2/6/36	55
2317008	L/Corporal Statham H.	2/6/36	55

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2318228	Signalman Hawcroft W.	14/12/35
2319785	Signalman Whitaker E.	6/2/36
2319358	Signalman Hurditch E.	14/3/36
2320161	Signalman Sutherland E.	1/4/36
2320005	Signalman Percival S.	1/4/36
772695	Signalman Payne S.	1/4/36
2320726	Signalman Peart A.	1/4/36
2322192	Signalman Wright W.	1/4/36
2321460	Signalman Ransome H.	1/4/36
2318400	Signalman Sims E.	1/4/36
2023843	Signalman Garnett J.	1/4/36
2320630	Signalman Shannan G.	1/4/36
2321921	Signalman Maudsley B.	1/4/36
2320885	Signalman Angus D.	1/4/36
2317028	Signalman Taylor S.	1/4/36
4446527	Signalman McConnell J.	1/4/36
2321213	Signalman Yaxley R.	1/4/36
2026992	Signalman Pollard J.	1/4/36
2313373	Signalman Roberts A.	1/4/36
2319780	Signalman Chambers S.	1/4/36
2320081	Signalman Knox G.	1/4/36
2317488	Signalman Cole S.	1/4/36
2321591	Signalman Higgins J.	1/4/36
2317914	Signalman Hodgson M.	1/4/36
2319507	Signalman Wood J.	1/4/36

2319622	Signalman Snowball J.	1/4/36
2322145	Signalman Dowding L.	1/4/36
2321314	Signalman Crouch C.	1/4/36
2320708	Signalman Ketley G.	1/4/36
2314919	Signalman Boughton E.	1/4/36
2321223	Signalman Oxley C.	1/4/36
2321900	Signalman Gant S.	1/4/36
2028904	Signalman Vassila E.	1/4/36
2313286	Signalman McQuire J.	1/4/36
2320860	Signalman Brooks H.	1/4/36
2322333	Signalman Macnair A.	1/4/36
2315481	Signalman O'Neill H.	1/4/36
2321385	Signalman Hobbs F.	1/4/36
2320947	Signalman Ewer C.	1/4/36
2318516	Signalman Pirie C.	1/4/36
2316831	Signalman Hales W.	1/4/36
2319976	Signalman Cunningham J.	1/4/36
4444953	Signalman Lockey B.	1/4/36
2322153	Signalman Mudie W.	1/4/36
2322380	Signalman Adamson W.	1/4/36
2310666	Signalman Gattrell F.	1/4/36
2322216	Signalman Hampton G.	1/4/36
2321902	Signalman Moore W.	1/4/36
2318749	Signalman Macken W.	1/4/36

Discharges.

5766050	C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Bushnell A.	13/8/36	9
2307515	C.Q.M.S. Binham C.	12/8/36	15
*1859048	C.Q.M.S. Parsons S.	12/8/36	73
2308710	C.Q.M.S. Paul W.	24/8/36	14
2309347	Sergeant Gibbs J.	24/8/36	15
2314404	L/Sergeant Vickers E.	6/8/36	35
1850413	Corporal Francis A.	10/8/36	40
5987834	Corporal Drury G.	20/8/36	44
2316364	Corporal Broadley J.	22/8/36	35
7875398	Corporal Lewis R.	24/8/36	48
2316440	L/Corporal Laurenson J.	19/8/36	60

Transfers to Army Reserve.

2319693	L/Corporal Adams J.	1/8/36	58
2319605	L/Corporal Marshall E.	23/8/36	

Deceased.

2315195	L/Sergeant Mottram J.	19/8/36	35

* Special Roster.

- Plain Tales -

Small World.—The last time someone said that to us we bit a piece out of the saloon bar counter. Ambling through the pleasant old town of Dover (see small guide books) we ran into a man whom we hadn't seen for a matter of some fourteen years. Chas. C. Cronin in fact. YOU wouldn't know him, so don't read any more. But YOU, of course, will remember that he was in H.Q., S.T.C., Maresfield, and did all sorts of funny things with officers' claims. Well, Charles appears to be prospering, if we may be guided by the appearance of his 1937 car. He sends greetings to all the old firm, particularly those still breathing in Sussex, and to Eric Haines, wherever he may be. Fourteen years is a long time, so it took the remainder of the evening to bring each other up to date. When we parted we sang our signature tune :

Last night upon the stairs we met a man who wasn't there.
He wasn't there again to-day.
We wish—ahem—he'd stay away.

The Muse.—Did you read Stanley Bainbridge's work in 3rd Divisional Signals notes in September ? A creditable effort, my children ; not that we favour poetry as a rule, unless it be our own. Having seen the original, we gazed sadly at the morsel published. About a third of it perhaps. Maybe it would have taken up a lot of room, but it was very easy on the eyes. Stanley will probably end his days making puns, so we were not surprised when he gave us a handful of them to use in this paragraph. And now we think that he has figured on this page enough for 1936, so let us turn to the absorbing business of shopping.

Courtesy and Eggs.—Perhaps you wonder what the connection can be. The ladies from the married quarters will grasp the idea in a moment. One, whom we know awfully well, took a couple of " new-laid eggs " back to the—well, back to the shop. After waiting the usual five or ten minutes for an assistant to grasp the idea that a customer had arrived, she was rewarded by " If you go up to the other end of the counter you might be served." The movement was carried out.

" Yes, madam ? "

Our friend staggered slightly at this greeting, but recovered quickly and produced the eggs.

" These eggs are two of a half-dozen I bought yesterday at one and ten a dozen. They are very bad, and I would like them changed, please."

" Well, now, we can't say for certain that these eggs are new laid ; there are sure to be one or two bad ones."

" Then you shouldn't sell them as ' new laid,' " said the lady, glaring. " If I pay one and ten for eggs, I expect good ones."

" But, madam, we can't guarantee that. You see, some fowl are fed on fish meal, and then their eggs— "

" Good gracious, man, I am not interested in their food. I pay for new-laid eggs, and that's what I want."

" Well, I will give you two more."

" Thank you."

" Thank you."

" Not at all."

Interval for burst of sardonic laughter.

The Chronicles.—Now there came to the Land of Eng, in this year, a mighty host of PWV and others, sailing in ships of war and a tub that was called *Dorsetshire*. And the Captain of the Host spake unto his men, saying, " Go thou and set foot upon dry land at the bay which is Studland."

And they went. And how !

In lifeboats and lighters came they nigh to the shore, and jumped into the waters, so that many fell and were encompassed by waves, to the delight of citizens and *Dorsetshire* lascars. Now, seeing his friends causing much enjoyment for spectators, one PWV, being last to leave the boat, turned to a lascar, saying, " Go thou and do likewise." And the lascar, receiving a four-penny one in the bread basket, lost his balance and knew much discomfort beneath the waves, whereat the PWV were given new heart.

Now there was a goodly company of Brassats and others, who in time of peace sit in high and cushy places, and they murmured among themselves, asking, " What thinkest thou ? " And others rose up crying, " This but sheweth that which we knew in our hearts. No foe shall land upon our shores and get him away with it." And the sea lashed itself to a fury, so that food and chariots could not be brought to the land. So was there much hunger, fatigue and discomfort, for verily an army marcheth upon its stomach, yet must have dry feet.

Now the Brassats, having partaken of food and wine at Ye Cafe Ivanhoe, were melted in their hearts and said, " We will pass this up and send these guys to their villages by train."

And they did.

And it came to pass that, on the day appointed for the exodus of the warriors by train, the wind did abate and the sea was like unto a mirror, which, when thou thinkest upon it for a little time, is something funny. Now when the warriors were departed to their several places, one, Neptune, rose from the waters, saying, in his beard, " So you can't take it, eh ? "

Ukann Larfe.—The celebrated detective had got into the habit of dismissing his servants with an airy wave of the hand. This habit had become so fixed that, when he entered his powerful NBG Straight Twelve and waved his cigar at P.C. Snoggers, an old pal, the chauffeur got out and went into the house. This was a nuisance, because Ukann had to get out himself and go after the man. It was while he was on the front steps, ringing furiously, that two men rode up to the car on bicycles and stuck pins in the tyres of the car. They dismounted to watch the effect of their dastardly act, the cads. Ukann Larfe's hand flashed to his pocket, and he would have shot the two men where they stood but for the intervention of his wife, who swung for a moment from the balcony and then dropped on to his shoulders. The happy couple collapsed in a heap on the steps.

" I say, Uky, what are them blokes a-doing of ? "

Ukann Larfe winced. " Darling," he said, " what lousy grammar ! "

" Well, they're driving your car away, so there ! " The lovely Hermione powdered her nose with rouge ; by mistake, of course. She looked ever so silly. This little incident had extraordinary results, because, when the car crossed Great Mugford Street, a burst of machine gun fire shattered the evening stillness.

A crowd gathered quickly, and the car, which had crashed into a lamp standard, was surrounded by a chattering throng of people, who did little else but give each other advice. Inspector Faceache, who, curiously enough, happened to be in the vicinity, forced his way through the press of people and hauled the two bodies out into the road. At that moment the car burst into flames. The Inspector gazed at the faces of the two unfortunate men and turned away with a muttered curse.

On the cross-channel steamer that night, two soberly clad men leaned over the rail and gazed out across the dark seas. As though by a prearranged signal, they climbed the rail together and dropped silently into the water. Both were drowned. Which is just as well, because we haven't the faintest idea who they are.

Write and tell us why you read this. There must be some cure !

BARLEUX.

History of Europe's Search for Security.

BY HAROLD STANNARD.

(*With acknowledgments to "Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin."*)

[*Continued from page 416, September issue.*]

The "Assembly of Armed Forces."—These are the articles which Germany has violated, at the same time declaring the whole Locarno Pact null. Its other provisions are important. Germany, France and Belgium agree that they will not go to war with one another, but this stipulation is not to apply " to a flagrant breach of Articles 42 or 43 of the said Treaty of Versailles if such breach constitutes an unprovoked act of aggression and by reason of the assembly of armed forces in the demilitarised zone immediate action is necessary."

It is on this stipulation that the French case rests. The obligation of the Powers not to resort to war is, however, independent of the Locarno Treaty in that the treaty known as the Kellogg Pact, to which France, Belgium and Germany are all signatories, provides in its first article that " the high contracting parties solemnly declare in the names of their respective peoples that they condemn recourse to war for the solution of international controversies and renounce it as an instrument of national policy in their relations with one another."

The Locarno Treaty next provides that Germany, France and Belgium will settle by peaceful means " all questions of every kind which may arise between them," and adds that " any question with regard to which the parties are in conflict as to their respective rights shall be submitted to judicial decision." Actually, Germany signed at Locarno arbitration treaties not only with France and Belgium, but with Poland and Czechoslovakia. These treaties do not appear to have been denounced ; in any case, their essence is maintained by Article 2 of the Kellogg Pact, the signatories to which undertake that the settlement of disputes " shall never be solved except by pacific means."

Reference to League Council.—So far the Locarno Treaty has concerned Belgium, France and Germany only. Article 4 brings in Britain and Italy. Their substance is that if Belgium, France or Germany breaks the territorial undertakings given in the Treaty, Britain and Italy will immediately come to the victim's assistance.

The Article also provides for reference of any violation of the Treaty to the Council of the League of Nations.

The question now in dispute is how far the Treaty of Locarno has been modified by subsequent engagements. The first of these is the Kellogg Pact, which has, and can have, no guarantors and which has lost a good deal of its moral strength through the refusal of the United States, who initiated it, to take any action in regard to the Italo-Abyssinian War.

When Germany was Censured.—The second is a resolution passed by the Council of the League on France's proposal, supported by Britain and Italy, after Germany repudiated the disarmament section of the Treaty of Versailles. Denmark alone dissenting, the Council censured Germany's action as a breach of international law and decided to set up a committee to determine what economic and financial sanctions would be applied to a State guilty of similar conduct in future. This committee has been set up, but has not worked out a unanimous scheme.

It is on the basis of this resolution that France will propose to the League the application of financial and economic sanctions against Germany.

Thirdly comes the Franco-Soviet Pact, negotiated last year and just ratified. The German case is that this pact is incompatible with the provisions of the Locarno Treaty. The French case is that the pact with Soviet Russia is on parallel lines with the two treaties which, with Germany's full knowledge, France signed at Locarno with Poland and Czechoslovakia respectively.

Hitler's Pretext for Breaking Faith Examined.—For Britain the Locarno Treaty means one document only—that in which this country and Italy appended their signatures to an undertaking by France, Belgium and Germany to settle all their disputes by peaceful means and to respect both their present mutual frontiers and the demilitarised zone in the German Rhineland.

For Eastern Europe different arrangements were made. Germany did not accept her existing eastern frontiers, but undertook not to alter them except by peaceful means.

As guarantor of this arrangement France signed separate treaties, identical in form except for the names, with Poland and Czechoslovakia. The text of these treaties was communicated to the German Government. Herr Hitler refers to them in the most laboured paragraph of his memorandum denouncing the Rhineland Treaty.

He admits that the treaties with Poland and Czechoslovakia were framed in general terms, but insists that the Franco-Soviet Pact goes far beyond their provisions. This contention must now be examined.

Not "Undisputed."—The German memorandum's first point is that " it is undisputed that the Franco-Soviet Pact is directed exclusively against Germany."

It is, in fact, by no means undisputed. The parties explain in a memorandum attached to their pact that what they desired was " a treaty of assistance between the U.S.S.R., France and Germany under which each of these three States would be pledged to come to the assistance of any one of them subjected to an aggression on the part of one of those three States."

The memorandum goes on to say that the provisions of the Franco-Soviet Pact " should be understood to come into play only within the limits contemplated in the tri-partite agreement previously projected."

Thus the German contention that the Franco-Soviet Pact is directed exclusively against Germany is directly countered by the language of the document itself.

It is not surprising that M. Flandin offered to submit the whole issue raised by the Franco-Soviet Pact to The Hague Tribunal. Under the provisions of the main Locarno Treaty, to which this country is a party, Germany has pledged herself to accept such an offer. The first and strongest legal point against Herr Hitler is that he has torn up a treaty which he had previously specifically accepted on the strength of a faulty interpretation of another treaty—faulty because it disregards its specific language.

The Covenant.—Herr Hitler's other main contention is that in the event of war between Germany and Russia " France would act as though neither the Covenant of the League nor the Locarno Pact, which refers to this Covenant, were still valid."

It is this declaration which makes it necessary to compare the language of the Franco-Soviet Pact with the language of the Polish and Czech pacts which were known to Germany when she entered into her Locarno undertakings. Both the Polish and the Czech treaties referred to the Covenant of the League of Nations. Legislation by reference indeed is becoming almost as irritating in diplomatic documents as it is in Acts of Parliament.

The references in question are to Article 15, Paragraph 7, and Article 16 of the League Covenant. Article 16 is the well-known sanctions article. The reader may care to be reminded, however, that the Article also includes a reference to military sanctions, and it is to such sanctions that both the Polish and

Czech Locarno treaties and the Franco-Soviet Pact have unmistakable reference.

Article 15 is a conciliation Article. Its seventh paragraph, however, considers the case of the Council of the League failing to reach conclusions which are unanimous except for actual parties to the dispute, and declares that in such an event " the members of the League reserve to themselves the right to take such action as they shall consider necessary for the maintenance of right and justice."

Parallel Passages.—This situation is foreseen in all three of the Eastern European treaties under discussion. If, says the treaty with Poland, the Council of the League is unable to reach a unanimous report, then " in the event of Poland or France being attacked without provocation France, or reciprocally Poland, acting in application of Article 15, Paragraph 7, of the Covenant of the League of Nations, will immediately lend aid and assistance."

The parallel article in the Franco-Soviet Pact reads as follows : " In the event of France or the U.S.S.R., under the circumstances specified in Article 15, Section 7, of the League Covenant, being subjected, in spite of the genuinely peaceful intentions of both countries, to an unprovoked aggression on the part of any European State, the U.S.S.R. and reciprocally France, shall immediately come to each other's aid and assistance."

The former of these two quotations was known to Germany when she signed at Locarno. Had France's offer of a judicial inquiry been accepted, Germany would have had to explain how the later declaration went so far beyond the earlier as to invalidate the Rhineland Agreement.

Germany Named.—Herr Hitler's memorandum goes on to say that Germany " did not object to the treaties with Poland and Czechoslovakia, only on the natural condition that these treaties . . . contained no stipulations as to the application of Article 16 of the League Covenant such as are provided in the Franco-Soviet Agreement." Here again exact comparison of the words used becomes necessary. Article 1 of the treaty of Poland reads as follows : " In the event of Poland or France suffering from a failure to observe the undertakings arrived at this day between them and Germany . . . France, and reciprocally Poland, acting in application of Article 16 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, undertake to lend each other immediate aid and assistance if such a failure is accompanied by an unprovoked recourse to arms."

It will be observed that there can be no possible doubt that this article is aimed directly at Germany, whose name occurs in the text. There is, however, no mention of Germany in the Franco-Soviet Pact, which Herr Hitler claims to be beyond dispute " directed exclusively against Germany."

The reference to Article 16 of the Covenant in the Franco-Soviet Pact begins by summarising one of its provisions. It lays down that a member of the League which goes to war in defiance of the League's conciliation procedure " is, *ipso facto* considered as having committed an act of war against all the other members of the League." Having regard to this condition, " France, and reciprocally the U.S.S.R., agree, in the event of one of them being subjected . . . to an unprovoked aggression on the part of any European State, immediately to lend each other aid and assistance in application of Article 16 of the Covenant."

Point Overlooked.—There is, however, one point in which the Franco-Soviet Pact definitely goes beyond the Czech and Polish treaties, though the German memorandum does not refer to it. In the first clause of their agreement France and the U.S.S.R. agree to consult together in the event of threat or danger of aggression by any European State " as regards the measures to be taken for the enforcement of the provisions of Article 10 of the League Covenant."

Article 10 is the Article in which all members of the League undertake to respect one another's territorial integrity and political independence. There was no reference to Article 10 in the Czech and Polish treaties.

There was no need for any reference, because Germany had herself just signed with the two Powers concerned treaties under which all possible questions which might arise between them were to be settled by judicial procedure. Any threat to either the integrity or independence of Poland or Czechoslovakia would be covered by these treaties, and a reference to Article 10 is therefore implicit in France's understanding to come to the aid of both Powers if Germany failed to fulfil the obligations signed that day.

The reference becomes explicit in the case of the Franco-Soviet Pact because there is no corresponding arbitration treaty between Germany and Russia.

The " Lost Provinces."—It will be seen that Germany's case is juridically very weak. She claims as " undisputed " an interpretation of the Franco-Soviet Pact, which is, in truth, in dispute with the language of the Pact itself, and she has refused a French offer to submit the question to arbitration.

By so doing, however, she has broken the Rhineland Locarno Treaty, which provides for the peaceful settlement of all disputes between Germany and France.

What is more, Germany claims that the whole Treaty is extinct, and that she is no longer bound by it. It will not escape French students of the situation that Germany has thus withdrawn her free consent to the return of the lost provinces to France, and they will certainly bear in mind Mr. Eden's statement that Germany's actions " have profoundly shaken confidence in any engagement into which the Government of Germany may in future enter."



How long has your son been in the Signals now, Mrs. Smith ?
Nigh on 20 years—an' bless him, e's a Lance Corporal, I allus said 'e was the most ambitious of the family.

At the Central Telegraph Office.

By W. T. Lowe.

(By courtesy of " The Post ").

(Illustrations by courtesy of the P.M.G.)

Not all of us work in large telegraph offices. Thousands never see a telegraph instrument. And it would be no idle fancy to suppose that many of my friends among rural postmen, telephonists, sorting clerks and telegraphists, etc., all stationed in places far remote from London, will perhaps never see the interior of the Central Telegraph Office. So let me take you for a lightning tour of our modern layout.

To the left, to the right, wherever we look, on this, the third floor of that wonderful building, the Central Telegraph Office, teleprinters occupy the tables. Operators are manipulating keyboards, or rapidly gumming the familiar blue-paper tape—on which there are telegrams—on to the telegraph forms.

Perhaps there is a race meeting at Folkestone, or maybe an agricultural show at Halesworth ; if so, we shall see instruments connected to lines which terminate at the grandstand of the former or the grounds of the latter. All such important events are catered for in a special section by direct communication.

Multiple Telegrams.

In the adjoining section a battery of typewriters keeps up a rapid fusillade. " Telegraphists ? " you ask. Yes, and expert typists, too. They are making multiple copies of telegrams. Sometimes these telegrams, consisting of the same text, run into thousands of copies, each one for a different address. Then the stencilling department gets busy. But should there be only a few identical messages, these will be copied by typewriter.

Teleprinter instruments, working to large industrial centres, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Newcastle, and other places many miles distant, are but a stone's throw away, electrically speaking. Indeed, on the same floor practically



Conveyor Band in Action.



Conveyor Band Circulators at Work.



Operators Dictating Telegrams by Telephone.

the whole of the inland telegraph apparatus of the C.T.O. is accommodated. But this, it would appear, is simply a reversion to a former state; for in 1874, we learn from records that the office has removed from Little Bell Alley, Moorgate, to the third floor of the present building, which stands at the junction of St. Martin's le Grand and Newgate Street.

Well, with the passing of years and increase in the number of telegrams it became necessary to claim greater space. So the P.M.G. and other high officials who then occupied parts of the building were "given notice," and another floor eventually added to meet the demand.

As far as possible all instruments are geographically grouped. In one division we find circuits maintaining touch with Southampton, Portsmouth, Brighton, Bournemouth, and other places in Sussex, Kent, Dorset and Hampshire. Then, in the east wing, Cardiff and Swansea have a nodding acquaintance with Newport (Mon.) and other cities and towns of the West Country. On the same side of the building one particular division is concerned with work only for the Metropolis. Here telegrams for such places as Hackney, Holloway, Putney, etc., are all despatched and received on teleprinters.

Midway, in an obscure corner, there is a teleprinter "hospital" where minor repairs are effected. Immediately any one of the 400 instruments is suspected of giving trouble it is removed and another substituted on the line; in fact, everything is done "at the double" to maintain a 100 per cent. service. Shut off from the rest, test panels and controls occupy the south end of the gallery. Here is a sight that would please the eye of many a wireless "fan." But beyond marvelling at such an exhibition of neatness and efficient organisation, we are afraid that the mechanism is too complicated for us.

Intelligence Duty

So suppose we have a look at the Intelligence Duty, which has nothing to do with crime, as its name might perhaps imply. No other branch of the Post Office is, perhaps, so closely associated with the Press as the telegraphs. Day and night press messages come into the C.T.O. from all parts of the British Isles and the world in general. With printed-address envelopes ready to hand, the Intelligence Duty deals with work for editorial sanctums. This branch is reminiscent of the days when the Post Office dealt with practically the whole distribution of telegraphed news. But the cry of "wheels" (to wind the perforated Wheatstone slips upon), the pneumatic hiss and tapping of perforators, and the hum of Wheatstone apparatus, have all disappeared, never, we are afraid, to reappear. Because, if it wasn't all so modern, it was certainly picturesque.

For short-distance communication, pneumatic tubes give very useful service. Some carry telegrams to and from London newspaper offices. A large system links up Post Offices situated in the vicinity of the City and surrounding areas. One tube runs as far as Haymarket. Another goes to the South-Western District Office, near Victoria. The telegrams are placed inside a small carrier. At the rate of 20 miles per hour this is drawn through the tube by suction. A system of lights signals "despatch," "arrival" and "en route." Thousands of telegrams are conveyed through a total of 75 miles of tube daily.

Do you know what happens when a subscriber wishes to telephone a wire to the Central Telegraph Office, and asks for "Telegrams?" Can you imagine the scene! Neatly arranged telephone switchboard panels span tables laden with gadgets of engineering ingenuity. Coloured lights for various signals flash silent messages to those who superintend.



Telegraphists in Training—the School.



Modern Telegraph Division.
(A conveyor band drop can be seen midway between the two clocks).



The Phonogram Room.

The Phonogram Division

This phonogram division, the largest in the world, is divided into two sections. The lines from the switchboards in the smaller section connect Post Offices in London and the home counties which do not do sufficient telegraph work to warrant the installation of a teleprinter. The larger section deals almost exclusively and directly with the public. At one time the operator's activities were controlled from a switchboard similar to that seen in telephone exchanges, and the operating positions were nothing more or less than switchboard extensions. Now we see every operator manipulating his or her own cords and controlling a number of lines. The operator uses two pegs—one for calling the other for answering. A dial is also fixed to every circuit. On the board a small electric lamp lights up. The operator takes a peg labelled "A," inserts it into a relative hole, says "Telegrams," and then requests the subscriber's telephone number. Perhaps the subscriber's voice is rather faint. An attempt is made to improve reception by using an amplifier, in which the thermionic valves play an important part. Improvement can sometimes be effected by cutting out the transmitter while the subscriber is speaking. This is done by bringing a clever foot-lever device into play, leaving the operator's hands free to continue typing the message. It must be remembered that the subscriber's period of contact with a telephone-telegram operator is of much longer duration than with a telephonist at a telephone exchange. Moreover, the former must pay great attention to articulation, for everything which he or she hears, and has to record on a telegraph form, is greatly varied. The enormous number of telegrams telephoned to and from subscribers' residences and offices to-day justifies the assumption that those who conceived the idea "way back in the 'nineties" were gifted with remarkable foresight.

Conveyor Bands.

Conveyor bands are used in the larger Post Offices, not only for conveying letters and parcels, but also for carrying telegrams to and from the instrument tables. There is an elaborate structure in the Central Telegraph Office through which thousands of telegrams pass daily. Within chromium-plated bars or rails, which form a sort of barrier from the operating positions, men and women are seated at long tables. Each one has a book containing the name of every telegraph office in the United Kingdom. They are sorting telegrams, coming from all points of the Central Telegraph Office, for their respective destinations. Bands of webbing travel at arm's length inside a frame. You have to be quick to follow the progress of any particular message. It is doubtful whether you would see it at all among the hundreds which are dealt with every minute, for these conveyor bands, like time and tide, wait for no man. Slow-moving bands bring packets of telegrams to the sorting clerks or, as they are offiically known, circulators, who place each telegram on one of the appropriate bands, which, running inside the frame, will carry it away to an instrument table, the phonogram room, and other parts of the building. Messages received on teleprinters and in the phonogram room are also carried to these sorting tables by conveyor bands. The telegraphist drops the telegrams into a V-shaped trough at the back of the instrument table. At the bottom of the trough a moving band takes the traffic to a parent band and thence onward to a chain-guarded drop. Tumbling down this drop the message alights upon the slow-moving band, to be picked up by a sorter and circulated to a re-transmitting circuit or to its destination. Up through the ceiling it takes the telegrams for the phonogram room. Down through the ceiling it brings them straight from the telephone-telegram operator to the slow-moving band. This contrivance is really a wonderful piece of work. In a modified form it may also be seen in other large telegraph stations in the British Isles.

It would be possible to fill more pages with descriptions of other parts of the C.T.O.: picturesque King George V Hall, the cable room, administrative offices, medical department (consisting of about seven or eight rooms and a large dispensary), etc. But that baneful word "space" threatens. Perhaps at some future date the Editor will allow me to enlarge the picture.



The Central Gallery.
(Instruments working to the Midlands, Scotland, Ireland, etc.)

Some Aspects of the Work of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

By courtesy of "Royal Canadian Signals Monthly Bulletin."

Following is the text of an address delivered by the Hon. Ian Alistair Mackenzie, M.A., LL.B., P.C., M.P., Minister of National Defence, over a national network arranged by the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission :

I speak to you to-night about one of the branches of the Department of National Defence, which not only has important duties in respect to our defence forces, but which has been called upon also to place its facilities and experience at the service of the general public. I refer to the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, whose members for years have been concerned with matters whose scope far transcends the limits usually thought of as applicable to a military organisation.

It will not be news to any of my audience to-night when I say that in the years which have passed since the Armistice Canada has not felt it necessary to maintain any large regular standing army. The task which has been set our defence forces has been what I would term *secondary*, that is, the maintenance of a *nucleus force* around which our resources could be developed without delay in case of danger.

Immediately after the War the particular problems of defence respecting the service of communication were, with other matters, the subject of careful investigation by a Commission presided over by General Sir William Otter, and his Committee pointed out, with reference to aviation and signals, that both of these are new arts, which at that time were little developed in civil life, and that, in consequence, it would be necessary for the Department of Militia and Defence, as it was then styled, to take a special interest in the stimulation of their growth.

From the very earliest days after the War it was clear that the purely military aspects of these problems could not be separated from what was happening, or might happen, in civil life, and that, therefore, to build up efficient defence organisations the personnel would require a wider field of training than could be provided in any strictly military organisation which we might set up. It was also realised that it would be good for them, and of value to the country, if they were permitted to make such contributions as they could to developments in the civil sphere.

Previous to the Great War period signal communications for the Army in the field were the responsibility of the Engineers. By 1914, however, the technical apparatus required for signalling had developed to such a degree that special training was required for its effective operation and a large and increasing number of men had to be assigned permanently to this work. In the course of the War it was shown conclusively that a separate Signal organisation was indispensable to the conduct of operations under modern conditions. The Signal service was therefore separated from the parent Engineer Corps, and this separation was the origin of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. There have recently been many such adjustments in military organisation, for, in spite of the contrary view sometimes expressed by people whose knowledge is largely hearsay, the Army is actually a very flexible organisation, constantly changing and adapting itself to meet conditions as they exist.

After the War, in so far as the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals was concerned, the first essay away from purely military activities resulted from a need of the Royal Canadian Air Force for certain communications in connection with the forestry patrols which the Air Force was carrying out in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. In all, the Signal Corps established sixteen wireless stations in these provinces to meet this need. In the Signals workshops in Ottawa the necessary ground equipment was designed and built and the aircraft wireless equipment was redesigned from War-time stocks. This wireless system continued in operation for about ten years until March, 1931. At that time the natural resources of the prairie provinces were handed over to the Provincial Governments and forestry protection ceased to be a Federal responsibility. Accordingly, the Air Force was withdrawn from the work and the radio stations were closed.

Following closely upon the establishment of the service just mentioned came the need of the Federal Government to establish communication between Dawson City and Mayo in the Yukon. This need was a consequence of the discovery of a new silver mining field at Mayo. On account of the terrain and the weather conditions, the cost of construction and maintenance of telephone or telegraph lines would have been prohibitive. In consequence, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals was asked to submit proposals for the immediate establishment of radio communication between these two points and for a wireless chain to connect Dawson City with the outside world via the MacKenzie Valley to Edmonton. By using two portable Army sets which had been used by the Canadian Corps in the field and brought back from France wireless communication was temporarily established between Dawson and Mayo in November, 1923.

Since that time the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals has established twelve radio stations in the North-West territories, one of these—that at Herschel Island—being the farthest north station in the British Empire. These stations have had a very important bearing upon the development of the North-West Territories. They have meant much to the residents, traders, trappers and transportation companies, to the Royal Canadian Air Force Photographic Detachments, to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, to officials of the Department of the Interior and of the Department of Indian Affairs. Since the discovery of the vast mineral resources in the North-West Territories civil aviation has become an important factor in northern transportation. The wireless stations established by the Signal Corps along the main flying routes in this great country are of untold value in providing weather reports and other aids to air navigation.

In addition to their normal duties, signalmen in these remote stations have been called upon at different times to act as postmasters, airport superintendents, radio inspectors, hydrographical and meteorological observers, and have assisted in the enforcement of law and order.

I doubt if any of us who look at the daily morning and evening weather reports realise that these reliable forecasts are, to a great extent, made possible through the efforts of personnel of the Signal Corps operating northern wireless stations. These men must turn out at 3.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. each day, although the thermometer may register as low as 50 or 60 degrees below zero. They must read the instruments and forward, in code, to the Meteorological Office in Toronto the weather observations at their stations. Meteorologists, both of Canada and the United States, emphasise the importance of these reports in connection with weather forecasting. Every officer, non-commissioned officer and signalman of the Corps is required to qualify as a meteorological observer by examination set and corrected by the Dominion Meteorological Service.

In 1927 a detachment of the Royal Canadian Air Force was sent to investigate ice conditions in the Hudson Straits. A detachment of the Signal Corps accompanied the expedition. Wireless stations were established at Port Burwell, Wakeham Bay and Nottingham Island, and wireless equipment was installed in all aircraft. One hundred and sixty-seven patrols were carried out with less than 5 per cent. communication failures. This may be taken as an exceptionally good record considering the handicaps to be overcome and the arduous conditions under which the pilots, observers and operators were working.

In 1927, in accordance with the provisions of the Aeronautics Act, the Department of National Defence was required to provide radio aids to air navigation for all air mail routes in Canada. A small experimental station was installed at the aerodrome at St. Hubert, near Montreal. Between 1929 and 1932 five radio direction beacons were established on the prairie section of the Trans-Canada air mail route. These were in operation until February, 1932. At that time the air mail service was temporarily abandoned because of economic conditions and the stations were placed upon a care and maintenance basis. However, this has not prevented the Corps from keeping abreast of the latest developments which have been taking place in all countries in connection with aids to air navigation. Training of the personnel in this very important branch of communication work has continued. Radio beacon stations at the Ottawa air station and at St. Hubert Airport are being constantly used for research and development work to improve both ground stations and aircraft radio equipment. The station at St. Hubert is the terminal station of the Albany-Montreal air mail route.

In 1932 a fast air mail service from Belle Isle to Ottawa was established during the session of the Imperial Economic Conference. Air navigation of the lower St. Lawrence is never easy during the early summer because of fog and bad weather.

and the importance of prompt and accurate weather reports as an aid to such navigation cannot be over-estimated. The Royal Canadian Signals established radio stations at Rimouski, Havre St. Pierre, Red Bay, Allard Lake and Vincent's Pond. The successful operation of this air mail service was partly due to the fortitude and devotion to duty of the wireless operators.

Again in 1933 and 1934 the Royal Canadian Signals were called upon to provide communication for the preventive service in the Maritimes. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Royal Canadian Air Force established a combined water and air patrol along the lower St. Lawrence River. Wireless equipment was installed in the aircraft and wireless stations were established at six points in the Maritimes, with an additional headquarters station at Halifax. Over 900 aircraft patrols were carried out with an average communication efficiency of 96 per cent.

What I have told you so far of the activities of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals may have led you to believe that their efforts are all in connection with the operation of civil communication services of one sort or another. As a matter of fact, the primary duty of the Signal Corps is to provide instructors, both officers and non-commissioned officers, for the training of the Signal personnel in the Non-Permanent Active Militia of Canada. The Corps has its home at Camp Borden, Ontario, where is located the Canadian Signal Training Centre. At this training centre facilities have been provided for training in all branches of signalling, including the most up-to-date equipment used by communication services. This training school in the art of electrical communications is the only one of its kind in Canada. The wealth of practical experience gained in connection with the radio services carried out for other Government Departments is of inestimable value to the officers and non-commissioned officer instructors of the Corps.

You may ask how this small unit of the permanent forces of Canada is able to carry out all these very important services. The answer is by the most careful selection of personnel, followed by the thorough training and practical experience which is given to all ranks of the Corps.

It is reasonable to conclude that it is not desirable, under modern conditions, and particularly in the circumstances in which Canada finds herself, to attempt to divorce military organisations too much from the civil developments and undertakings of our country.

I am happy to be able to assure you that I believe that the duties which have been assigned to the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals since, and in consequence of, the establishment of the Department of National Defence in 1923, have been appropriate to that Corps, and that within the resources which have been made available these duties and responsibilities have been carried out with great efficiency and with commendable despatch.

Vocational Training and All That!

Having spent eight months in civil life since my transfer to the Army Reserve, without loss of a day's work (except through illness), I thought I would try to give a few impressions, and possibly a little advice, to comrades who are still serving, hoping thereby to help them to be as lucky as I have been when, at last, they put their "civvies" on for good.

In the first place, I really wish to urge every man who possibly can to take a Course of Vocational Training. I know, as well as anyone, that the returns published by the A.V.T.C. are often taken with the proverbial "grain of salt." I used to think that way myself. But for the persuasiveness of Captain H. C. B. Rogers, R.Signals, I would never have taken a Course, and would now, no doubt, be lining up for the "dole." The returns are often an under-statement, because men who leave the A.V.T.C. without jobs (very few, I assure you) often obtain employment very quickly, but neglect to inform the A.V.T.C. of the fact. Some of the trades show returns between 98 and 100 per cent.

Speaking for my own trade (Electric Welding); during my six months' stay I saw less than six men leave the "Shop" without jobs, and those were mostly men who didn't want to go anywhere except to their own home towns, or had been promised jobs by firms which they knew personally. As I saw about forty students leave the "Shop" whilst I was there, it will be seen that very few are turned out without employment, and even these are usually sent for in a very short time. I know a certain ex-Signalman of 5th Divisional Signals who left without a job and went home to Derby. Within a fortnight the A.V.T.C. sent him to a job at Chesterfield, where he has proved very satisfactory.

With regard to the choosing of a Course. Many, no doubt, already know what they would like to do, whilst others are probably trying to make up their minds. Those who are determined to live in a certain district should endeavour to ascertain which trades hold out the greatest hopes of employment, and to choose their "Voc" accordingly. Those who, like myself, are not particular where they work, so long as they do work, needn't be so particular, although I would strongly advise them to study the A.V.T.C. returns and to choose a trade which shows a good percentage of jobs found. My own conclusions, based on observation whilst I was at the A.V.T.C., Aldershot, are that Electric Welding, Oxy-acetylene Welding and Sheet Metal Working are among the best trades and all are well or fairly well paid. These trades, together with the "Electrical," seem to be greatly in favour among Signals, which, maybe, says something for the "brains of the Army." I believe the Electrical trades also show very good results, but, personally, I seldom came into contact with them whilst I was there.

Oxy-acetylene Welding and Sheet Metal Working are used extensively in the manufacture of aircraft, and, in view of the Government's re-armament programme and the rapid progress of civil aviation, I don't think I need emphasise this point. Electric Welding is being used for more and more purposes every day, both from a production and repair point of view.

With regard to employment after leaving the Centre. In the unlikely event of the A.V.T.C. not finding one a situation, generally speaking, I believe the South and Midlands of England offer the best chances for ex-A.V.T.C. students in the trades which I have mentioned.

The Trade Unions will not accept members who have been trained by the A.V.T.C., not because of inferior workmanship, but because they say that it is not fair to any man who has served a five years' apprenticeship to a trade. Their influence is not so great in the South of England as it is in the North, although I know men who have obtained work in the North in "mixed shops," that is, workshops which employ both Trade Union and non-Trade Union labour.

As far as Northern Ireland is concerned, it is practically impossible to find a "shop" which is not 100 per cent. Trade Union. I am, of course, speaking only with regard to the three trades I have previously mentioned. I mention these things in order to help those who intend to take a Course; they should not, however, let my remarks deter them from taking one, because there are plenty of "mixed shops" and non-Trade Union "shops" in which they will be able to find employment. I was found a job in London by the A.V.T.C. in a "mixed shop," but, on returning to Belfast at Christmas, with the aid of a little influence I found a better paid one. I am receiving 1s. 5d. an hour for a 47-hour week, plus overtime rates.

The jobs which the A.V.T.C. find are usually with firms who have had ex-pupils of that Centre before and are satisfied. Consequently, one isn't quite as nervous as one would be under other circumstances. The wages vary between 1s. and 1s. 7½d. per hour for Electric Welding, and, as far as I know, these rates generally apply to Oxy-acetylene Welding as well. I know, however, of cases in both trades where higher rates are being earned. Sheet Metal Workers' pay varies between 1s. and 2s. per hour. Two men who started their Courses of Electric Welding with me changed to Sheet Metal Worker and are now both employed at a Dagenham factory at 2s. per hour.

This is my first (and probably last) contribution to THE WIRE. I harbour no delusions as to my prowess as a scribe. It is only because I thought that possibly what I had to say might help some of my old friends and comrades to make up their minds to take a Course, and thereby help them in their efforts to be successful in civil life, that I have taken up the pen. If there are still any doubts, or if there is anything I could make clearer for the benefit of my old comrades, I will be glad to answer any letters addressed to me through THE WIRE Correspondent, Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

I hope that what I have written will have been of some assistance to those who are still trying to make up their minds on this all-important question of Vocational Training.

(Signed) F. G. CASTELL,
Ex-Lance Corporal, Northern Ireland Signal Company.

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

School of Signals.

General.—Leave and the remains of " summer " are coming to an end, and the School is settling down to the winter routine. We welcome No. 119 R.S.I. Course, rather depleted owing to recalls for service abroad, and No. 34 Qualifying Course. No. 79 T.A. Course have also arrived. When No. 11, Foreman-of-Signals Course returns, we shall be working at full pressure.

Sports.—Our sporting activities are reported elsewhere, but it is pleasing to note that the number of all ranks who are keen on the " winter sports " is above the average. This augurs well for our successes during the season. Training has started for soccer, rugger and cross-country. Hockey and miniature rifle shooting will be following to complete the list. Good luck to all the teams.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Sergeant Parkinson on attaining that rank.

Marriage.—On 15th August, Corporal Bush W. was married to Miss Joyce Howsham, at Hampstead. They have our best wishes.

Births.—There are quite a few, and all concerned have our congratulations :

Son—Malcolm Edward, on 9th July, to Sergeant and Mrs. Finney.

Daughter—Maureen Mabel, on 4th August, to Signalman and Mrs. Walmsley.

Son—Frank Brian, on 15th August, to Signalman and Mrs. Hartley.

Son—Donald James, on 6th September, to Sergeant and Mrs. Creaton.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant-Quartermaster Hepburn from the Depot Battalion as our new Quartermaster.

Departures.—With great regret we say good-bye to Captain Marshall (" Uncle "), our late Quartermaster, who has left us on retirement from the Service, having reached the age limit. We shall miss him greatly. He has been a friend and help to the School for many years. Our best wishes go with him.

Radio Communication Examination.—Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Mitson, on having passed 1st Class (Final Grade), in Radio Communication, City and Guilds, London Institute Examination, held in May.

Cooks' Courses.—Signalman Goodwin attended and qualified at a Cook's Course, held at Aldershot, during June/July. It is now reported that false teeth will be re-issued from the Quartermaster's Stores.

S. OF S.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

"A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

Apology.—We are asked to apologise for the absence of Notes from No. 1 and 2 Companies, "A" Corps Signals, in this ssue.—EDITOR.

No. 4 W/T Company.

General.—Have you ever tried hard to get off draft and succeeded, congratulated yourself, only to be given a Section and told to pack both it and yourself up, and proceed on draft (to Palestine) ? Well, that has happened to a friend of ours. Poor old Bill looked very worried about it, and no wonder, because our C.I.D. reported the possibility of a certain ceremony in front of a padre in the near future. Oh ! well Bill, that will keep till you return !

There were quite a few worried faces about when it was suggested that this Section might be required for Palestine. But this morning, however, " A " Corps Signals and 1st Divisional Signals left for Southampton ; and we are still here. Presumably our distinguished presence is not required there. Somebody has felt compassion for the Arabs !

Quite a lot of old faces came staggering round the lines when the reservists were called up. Were they peeved ? Hope they don't keep you too long laddies ! In the meantime bear up, there's a better time coming, if you only patiently wait for it.

Promotions.—The Section tender their hearty congratulations to Major R. T. Williams on his recent promotion to that rank.

Command.—We are exceedingly sorry to lose our O.C., Major R. T. Williams, who has left for Palestine with No. 2 Company, " A " Corps Signals. The very best of luck, sir, and we all hope you will soon be back again. Major E. L. Farnall has assumed command of the Section, and we trust he will find us up to his expectations. There is very little doubt of that, although we say it ourselves.

Medals.—Congratulations are extended to Sergeant Newmarch E. J., and Corporal Millichip W., on the receipt of the " Rooty Gong " and the Frontier Medal respectively. These medals, by the way, were to have been presented by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, on her visit to Mons Barracks, but, owing to the departure of " A " Corps Signals to Palestine, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Elsdale, O.B.E., M.C., presented these medals, on Wednesday, 9th September.

Have You, Etc.—We'd like to know if you have heard :

" That soldiers will be *fried* by Court Martial."

" Of the lady who, when sent to buy her husband a pair of flannel " bags " (38m. waist and 32m. leg), went to the extra outsize department and bought him " bags " with 32m. waist and 38m. leg."

Tailpiece.—It would wag if we had one.

OSSI

Details, 1st Divisional Signals (Palestine Force).

Mons Barracks.
15th September.

General.—In last month's WIRE we frivolously prefaced our notes with the remark that by the time they appeared in print " something would have happened." By this we meant manœuvres, and also the fun Sections have on being Brigaded. We didn't, however, bargain for the sudden move of over two-thirds of our number to Palestine. When the order came, on 29th August, for the 1st Division (including foreign drafts) to embark for Palestine, we were scattered, by Sections, over Sussex, with our various formations, waiting for a Divisional Exercise, which had been mysteriously postponed whilst we slept.

This unusual and unexpected postponement of higher training during ideal weather conditions, provoked considerable speculation of the usual Atkins variety, but none guessed right: a Cook's Tour on the *Laurentic* was furthermost from everyone's thoughts.

There was plenty of work to be done before the Unit left, and this was carried out remarkably well and quickly. The rather cramped space in "Stores Alley" was a severe handicap at first but, with careful organisation, the main stores and the Sections' equipment were in packing cases and ready for shipment fully three days before required.

It was most disappointing to us all when the news came through that N.C.O.s and men already detailed for foreign service were not proceeding with the Unit to Palestine. Section Commanders, in consequence of this order, found themselves with almost entirely new Sections. After Sections had been made up to strength, twenty-four hours' leave was granted, and the Unit sailed on Monday, 14th September, at 3 p.m. (except "L" Section, which sailed on the *Dorsetshire* two days earlier with Units of 3rd Infantry Brigade).

Details.—The mere Details left by the Unit are busily clearing up barracks and making the place fit for heroes to come back to shortly. Barracks, garages, stores; all are being systematically dug-out, and the incinerator is working overtime. A clean sweep—even Styles has been mucked-out of No. 3 Office. He now sits in what was the "holy of holies," re-directing mail to Palestine. Sergeant Andrews, please note.

Funeral of the Late C.Q.M.S. Hall P.—The photograph of the funeral procession, on the occasion of the burial of the late C.Q.M.S. Hall P., was received too late for inclusion with the obituary notice printed in last month's WIRE. His relatives desire to thank all concerned for the beautiful floral tributes received, and for their very kind expressions of sympathy in their sad loss.

LANKA MK. II.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—As you all expected, the main theme of our general notes this month is not exactly an original one, but is concerned with that "land flowing with milk and honey," which is so much in the limelight these days. The inimitable Gwillim, together with 700 others, left Aldershot at an unearthly hour on the 14th instant to search out vineyards fresh, pastures green, and the like. Think of the "Admiral Napier" when next you visit the local oasis to fill your water-bottle, Pete! And Hodgetts—we wonder if he was surprised (pleasantly or otherwise), when he embarked on the *Laurentic*. He must have been prepared for anything after listening for a few months to the experiences of some of Unit Headquarter's veterans. We understand (we would like to have confirmation) that "Vinolia" soap was supplied (gratis), and that electric buttons marked "Steward" were available in the cabins. Consequently, there are many here who are still clamouring for draft to Palestine. Did I say "many"? That definitely was a mistake. The Corporals' Mess, for instance, is like a haunted ruin at dead of night. Indeed, "E-H-L" gets quite peeved at being able to cater for all demands. "O-E-NS" can even get his daily "forty" without being disturbed.

To all those who are now on their way to their "chosen" land, and to those about to go, we wish "bon voyage." We hope that the time when they will be able to rejoin us is not far off.

Arrivals.—Only one—a mascot answering to the name of "Peter." We have to be very careful with him—he is of the nomadic type, and would soon become a departure.

Departures.—We are very sorry to lose our Second-in-Command, Major J. C. McDonald, M.C., who leaves very shortly for China. We shall miss him. We anticipate other departures. Ket and both "Winks" (1 and 3 Companies), all for the boat. Story is shortly leaving on transfer to the "Corps of Civilians" together with Lumberjack. We wish them all good luck. We are as sorry to lose them as they are to leave us.

Things we ponder on.—We wonder: Why S-o-y doesn't go to Mytchett any more? Who is the Junior N.C.O. who desires to undergo a Course—any Course except P.T.?

Why, for certain individuals of our acquaintance,
Thursley has taken the place of Winchester?
Bordon has replaced Kennington?
London comes before Banstead?
Wokingham has become Godalming (or is it Thursley, too, J-M-Y)?

HAFOD.

No. 1 Company.

General.—These notes will necessarily be brief because I have just realised that they are due. Anyhow an effort will be made. It is regretted that notes did not appear last month. This was due to the indisposition of the scribe. Great excitement has now



Funeral of the late C.Q.M.S. Hall P.

Photo by Wm. May, Aldershot.

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CELLARS STOCKED — PAYMENT AS CONSUMED

subsided into comparative calm. The movement of troops from Mons Barracks to Palestine caused a depletion in our ranks in order to make up other Units to strength. We wish all who have gone, both from this Unit and from Mons Barracks, the best of luck.

We hope that our O.C. (Captain B. S. Watkins) is benefiting by his leave. We shall be delighted to welcome him on his return. We hope that he will soon be quite fit and well again.

The Company is under strength. This, coupled with the necessity for our Unit to take over all duties in Mons Barracks, has not improved our lot, but we remain cheerful. The approaching inspection by the G.O.C. is now keeping us busy, but we hope to get the usual " good chit," which this Unit earns year by year.

With this we will close, news is scarce.

PIP.

No. 2 Company.

Congratulations.—We should like to take this opportunity of offering our hearty congratulations to Major Odell, on his promotion to that rank. We hope (somewhat in vain, I think), that this will not mean him leaving the Company, which he has commanded for a number of years. Should he do so, then we wish to thank him for the kind way he studied our individual interests. Good luck, sir !

General.—Being a newcomer to these pages, I must ask the readers and the editor to excuse my efforts as a journalist.

We said good-bye to quite a number of our fellows on Monday morning at 4.30 a.m. It was with a feeling of pride that we watched file after file appearing from, and disappearing into the darkness. We all wish them the best of luck, and we know that the good name of the Corps is safe in their hands. One of them told me that he was wintering abroad. I wonder if it was the late Company scribe ?

The horses of the Gunner Brigade Sections are leaving us. Who said " at last " ? However, " B " Cable Section will keep the flag flying. They said they could do it !

Once more winter sports have started, and we shall hear the old cry, " Don't touch him, he is on football training."

Arrivals.—We welcome to their new " home," Signalmen Wise and Parsonage, and hope they are settling down to their new life.

S.O.S. Egypt.—Good old Joe, they are coming at last ! He who laughs last, laughs longest !

I bring these notes to an end, wishing those late members of the Company, who are at present on the high seas, " bon voyage." Here's to next time.

R. J. B. 494.

No. 3 Company.

General.—Once again, having come to the end of the training season, we look back and heave a sigh of relief.

Lately, the Officer i/c Records has called upon the Company to give of its best for the Palestine Draft. It was good to see so many men volunteering, but, unfortunately, with so many men going, it has left the Company very depleted in numbers.

Sports.—The soccer season has begun again. So far, the Company have not been engaged in any games, but in the very near future the Inter-Section games commence.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Captain G. W. Smart, of the R.Canadian Signals, our new Company Commander. We wish him a pleasant stay in the Company.

Apology.—I wish to apologise for the shortage of WIRE Notes this month. As " Moleskin " is indisposed, I, unfortunately, had to step into the breach.

With best wishes to all from

ADDY-P.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, Blackdown.
15th September.

General.—Much water has passed 'neath the bridge since I set ink to paper and gave you the first-hand news from the front. My locum tenens gave you all the details regarding the return of our wardens from the Mediterranean. I only trust that they are enjoying their spot of leave and return ready and fresh for their Annual Musketry Course.

We are to the front again, the following N.C.O.s and men being posted to Units stated for a spot of service in Palestine : To " A " Corps Signals : Corporal Ellis F., Lance Corporal O'Malley B. and Signalmen Gorman W., Barnes J., Millington W., Hartley J., Cullen P., Halpin P. and Whipp D. To 1st Divisional Signals : Signalmen Richards W., Pescod R., Fears W. and Drivers I.C. Wright, Arnold W., Brown B. and Weston W. We wish them all the best of luck in their new Units and Station. Corporal Conolly L., our pay bloke, was on one of the posting telegrams from Records, but so far has managed to evade sudden departure.

1st A.A. Group Exercise.—The Exercise this year took place in the Littlehampton Area from 6th to 10th September. Fifty miles of cable were laid for the various visual plotting and gun positions and, as far as Signals were concerned, the Exercise was a success. The weather was fairly good to us during this period.

Departures.—I have already recorded above a number of N.C.O.s and men who have departed for service in Palestine. Captain C. F. Newsom, R.Signals, has also joined the S.T.C., w.e.f. 7th September. This officer has never actually rejoined us from service in the Mediterranean. We wish him the best of luck in Catterick.

Attachments.—Lieutenant J. E. Rodgers, R.Signals (S.R.), was attached to this Unit for annual training from 31st August to 13th September. We trust he had a pleasant stay with us.

Service Overseas.—The following are due for an issue of overseas kit in the near future : Drivers I.C. James E. E. and Buckley A., for Egypt.

Agony.—To Ginger Weston. " Has Richie shown you where the golden rivet is yet ? K.O."

JAY EM GEE.

Tank Brigade Signals.

Cachy Barracks, Perham Down, Nr. Ludgershall, Wilts.
September.

Allah Akbar—Death to the Infidel.—The following list of names is submitted for the attention of readers of morbid tendencies. This list should be read on a very wet Sunday to the accompani-

ment of plaintive lays, funereal dirges or what have you. You see, these bright and bonny lads have gone to Palestine: Lance Sergeant Clarke E. A., Corporal Galbraith, A. C., Lance Corporal Potts J., Signalmen Allen F. C., Holberton N., Terry A., Adcock J., Alderman A., Reeves E., Carter S., Marston G., Stewart R. H., Newton J. E., Oates J., Taylor H. A., Sherard D. C., Griffiths R., Cooper J. B., Carrison S., Copinger E. and Weeks A., Drivers (I.C.) Elliott A. E., Cook R. and Wysman C.

In compensation, Records are sending us the following from the Training Battalion: Signalmen Galbraith D., Ward E., Newbold W., Baxter A. and Mitchinson J. We welcome this little lot hopefully. Probably somebody will decide to have a few emergencies suddenly, and we shall lose these, too.

Congrats.—To Lieutenant Newell, on gaining his Captaincy. He has lately been posted to Palestine. We can say sincerely that we are sorry to lose him. To Signalman "Wally" Newman, on finding sufficient money to buy his chit.

Southsea.—A couple of Sundays ago, at the expense of the P.R.I., a bus was chartered to take the Unit to Southsea. Those who went, left Camp at 9 a.m., full of good spirits. Those who had sufficient money, returned the same night in a similar state. From the amount of cold water and aspirin being consumed the next morning, it is assumed that "a pleasant time was had by all."

Agony.—"Mick" Addis—probably in Palestine. How about a line. Johnskovitch.

"Ging," Palestine. Remember, careful does it. "Stemmy." Cheerio!

UVE ADDIT.

"C" Section.

Attached 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Corps, Tilshead Camp, Wilts.

September.

General.—Bad news travels fast, and though our loss will be terrific, I have to announce that Signalman Dowding B. has provisionally qualified for a corner bed space somewhere in India. Confirmation of this will be given at a later date, but I must warn Corporal Muir, of "B" Corps Signals, that he stands a good chance of losing that "Grippers Shield."

Everyone enjoyed a well-earned two weeks' vacation, and once more have their noses well down to it.

It is with much regret that this Section leaves Tilshead on 19th inst. I am sure that everyone concerned will agree that, for a nice quiet life in the wide open spaces and only a fifteen-hour day, camping cannot be beaten. I am informed on good authority that people pay pounds to do the same.

Our tame poet has concocted the following, not for the benefit of the Section, but for the benefit of those who want to know where their previous bed mates are.

Lieutenant Whitbread is our Section O.C.
Sergeant Short helps him and so do we (sic.).
Lance Corporal Potts, known more often as John,
Looks after batteries all the day long.
Signalman Holberton, of motor-bike fame,
Is an "Op" by trade, an important game.
Signalman Stewart is just an ex-rat,
But for instrument faking I take off my hat.
Signalman Lander, who's also ex-boy.
Is assistant-in-chief to Signalman Roy.
Signalman Richardson, fat as can be,
Often stays hours just scoffing his tea.
Signalman Dowding I've mentioned before,
But for trying the lads he takes the full score.
Signalman Palmer, an expert on guys,
Is our Section driver—I'm not telling lies.
Corporal Galbraith, with an awkward name,
Is an "Op" by trade, of Indian fame.
Last, but not least, behind or before,
The author of this, Lance Corporal Whitelaw.
This is our Section, to benefit others,
Who've lost touch with their friends,
And apron strings—mothers.

"C" Section inventors have started a theme,
Which, between you and me, is a jolly good scheme.
Ordnance one day were called for advice,
And this is the story, so keep quiet as mice.
Some adjustment was needed to lower an aerial
Which consists of a mast, cross sectional area;
The idea, for harbouring and hull down was sound,
And when all erected was simply grand.
All that was needed was one piece of string,
Which when given a pull just lowered the thing.
At last it's been done and is given a name,
It's the "Nitwhit" plan of Salisbury Plain.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

General.—Considerable excitement was caused by the reinforcements who recently embarked for Palestine. After contributing about twenty N.C.O.s and men for "A" Corps Signals from this Unit, the scare has quietened down considerably. We had hopes of the return of 5th Divisional Signal Company. Unfortunately, their services appear to be invaluable. They are at present sojourning at Malta, awaiting orders for their return to Egypt.

An all ranks dance, which was held in the Gymnasium on 14th August last, proved an enormous success both socially and financially. The Royal Signals band from Catterick was in attendance and, needless to say, proved a great attraction.

The Wives' Social Club Outing took place on Thursday last. After being entertained to tea in the new Regimental Institute, they proceeded to Bertram Mills' Circus. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Football is in the offing. The Div. team has been registered in the local Thursday League. We hope that they achieve their ambition and ultimately head the League.

Captain J. J. Duvivier, together with 2nd Lieutenants Gordon and Bradley, have left us to join "A" Corps Signals prior to embarking for Palestine. We wish them "bon voyage."

Congratulations to Captain C. C. Danby on the occasion of his marriage and also upon attaining his Captaincy.

We welcome nine other ranks from Catterick, and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

Toc.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks.

A deep depression is at present centred over Scarborough, and is slowly moving southward. Area south-east of Gibraltar is gradually filling, and "wind" amounting to gale force can be expected. Local disturbances have been terrific. Tremors of varied intensity have been registered on the seismometer at Burniston Observatory. Professor Knowall, who has charge of the instrument, stated that the disturbances were attributable to concentrated trembling on the earth's crust. Further outlook, sandstorms.

The brighter barracks movement, inaugurated by the P.R.I. (Captain P. Jennings), culminated in the opening of the new Percy Bar in the Gymnasium by Mrs. H. G. Henderson, at an all ranks dance on 11th September. The bar, kindly installed and paid for by the Scarborough and Whitby Breweries, was, as the occasion demanded, suitably decorated with the firm's wares. The dance was again a great success; the bar was suitably christened and another "huge consignment" was added to the fabulous hoard, which, legend tells us, lies in musty vaults beneath the P.R.I.'s office.

Now, three cheers for Captain P. Jennings, M.C., who will, in a day or two, leave us on retirement. "He wor a reet good soort" lads, and will be sadly missed by the troops.

Perhaps it is not quite the thing to congratulate people who participate in such dreadful things as Football Pools, but we can

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at least mention Driver W. Murphy, who last week received £172 2s. 6d. for 1d. In an interview, Driver Murphy stated that he does not intend to give up his employment, and hopes to devote his new wealth to the welfare of lazy and stubborn mules and troop horses.

The road to fame and fortune has been further overcrowded by the addition of Lance Corporals Newton, Wathen, Garford, Howland, Barker, Cooper, Ambury and Nurse, whilst U/Lance Corporal Haughton has struggled on to the grass verge. Keep it up, and perhaps your grandchildren may soon sew the next one on.

To-night, 15th September, we say "adieu" to Lieutenant-Colonel Henderson, Major Patten, Lieutenant Hill, Lieutenant-Quartermaster Harding and 20 other ranks, bound for Palestine. May we echo the wish of a pleasant voyage and a safe and speedy return. We are pleased to hear that 2nd Lieutenants Miller (of "Millerphone" automatic fame) and Way, and Peter Bradley (son of our late C.O.), will be joining them on arrival in the Promised Land.

In conclusion, congratulations to Mr. Nolan on receiving his second "pip." We hope he will have many more by the time he leaves Cambridge. W.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

The training period is completed, and after many Schemes and the annual musketry, we are looking forward to annual furlough. The summer weather has behaved abominably. Training Camps were almost awash before they were finally closed.

The cricket season is over, and arrangements have been made for us to enter the same competitions as last year.

The movement of troops to Palestine caused a feeling of excitement, particularly because we sent one from N.I.D. There are many rumours that we are shortly to lose Captain H. C. B. Rogers and Sergeant Davies, who are to take up T.A. appointments.

Promotions.—Congrats. to Lance Corporal Watson on being placed in the blue book.

Arrivals.—Signalman Cook (Cox ?), Crump and Preskett from Training Battalion. We hope that they will enjoy their stay here.

Departures.—Corporal Shillitto to 1st Div. to embark for Palestine. Our best wishes and good luck! He left in rather a hurry.

Moves Inter-Station.—Signalman Faulkner from Derry via Belfast to Ballykinler. Signalman McCormack from Derry to Belfast. Signalman Hutchison from Armagh via Belfast to Magilligan. Signalman Roy from Baronscourt to Belfast. Signalman Joint from Ballykinler to Baronscourt.

From Lenan.—Signalman Wise to Belfast. Signalman Swetnam to Derry. Signalman Laws from Dunree to Derry.

Well, we hope you like the new Stations!

Out-Station News.—Owing to various changes and moves of personnel, there is no news this month.

Ex-N.I.D.—Congrats. to Lance Corporal Ashby on his stripe. We were glad to hear it.

Tailpiece.—Sorry, best that can be done until next month.

HECME.

South Irish Coast Defences Signal Section.

Spike Island,
10th September.

General.—The annual manning of all forts of the Queenstown Harbour Defences was a general success this year. The communications were excellent, and everything went off with a swing, including the concentrator at Fort Templebreedy which was unceremoniously removed on the command "dis. signal communications," much to the chagrin of the Instrument Mechanics. The Colonel, Royal Artillery, S.I.C.D., inspected the Unit at work and also the administration. Everything was up to standard, and a good report was received.

We offer our congratulations to Corporal Woolnough W. W., on being the proud father of a daughter, Patricia Mary, born at Cork, on 1st September. Don't forget the pigeon pair!

The Section are firing the Annual Musketry Course at the end of this week. Details will be published next month.

The Bere Island portion of the Section are very busy at this time of the year, overhauling all fixed electrical communications. No doubt this will be their excuse for not sending in a few lines for inclusion in THE WIRE.

We must thank "S.E.B." of "F" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt, for his very enlightening information re the "black eye." But that excuse for certain reasons will not work now.

Will "Ernie," whose "Granny" died recently for the last time, reserve five beds; one for me; not Thomas!

Finis.—We are just going to see the submarine base.

SICDSS.

Eastern Command Signal Company.

Headquarters.

Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1.

No notes have previously appeared from this Company, but we hope to contribute in future. At any rate, quarterly notes will be submitted. Chatham has made a start, and we hope that Dover will follow.

It may interest a good number of the Corps to know that the following are on the clerical staff of the C.S.O. and Signal Company: Sergeant Tolley C. H., Ex-C.Q.M.S. Pennicott A., Ex-Sergeant Buhlman F. and Sergeant Robinson G. (the last named has been lent to War Office and has been replaced by Signalman Reen A. J.).

BEE.

Chatham Area Signal Section.

Kitchener Barracks, Chatham.

Introduction.—On this, our first appearance in the columns of our Corps magazine, it will be of interest, no doubt, to other Units to read who and what we are. Chatham Area Signal Section is our name, and our strength at the moment is: two officers, 12 N.C.O.s and men and 11 civilian employees. We are split into small detachments and quartered at Chatham, Sheerness and Felixstowe, which proves that, although our strength is small, the work we do covers a large area. Our officers are: Major F. S. Atterton, M.B.E., R.E. (Command Classifying Officer) and Lieutenant (I.P.C.) H. S. Shave, R.Signals (O.C., Chatham Area Signal Section). Other ranks are: C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Nix L., Sergeants Harvey C. E. and Wicketts W. H., Lance Sergeant Warren J. C., Corporals Chambers E. and Whitwell R. and Signalmen Harris, Carter, Ball, Snelling, Megilley and Smith. Older members of the Corps (and R.E. Signals) may be nterested to know that our civilian employees (all ex-Signals) are: Messrs. H. Walker, L. Colgan, A. Devereux, N. Cooper, B. Savell, W. Godwin, H. Harvey, W. Byrne, F. Eastwood, T. Jordan and G. Kingstone.

General.—As will, no doubt, be gathered, Major Atterton, as Command Classifying Officer, carries out the duties of classifying Regular and Territorial Units (Cavalry, R.A. and Infantry) in the Eastern Command, a duty which calls for much travelling and Sunday work during the period March to October. Lieutenant Shave, as O.C. Section, administers a very large area in connection with fixed electrical communications. This area includes Chatham, Sheerness, Isle of Grain, Gravesend, Felixstowe, Harwich and Colchester. The military exchanges at Chatham and Sheerness are also under his care.

Drafts.—Although our strength is small, we usually manage to supply our share of personnel for service overseas. At the moment C.Q.M.S. Nix, Lance Sergeant Warren, Corporals Chambers and Whitwell and Signalman Megilley have received provisional warning for this trooping season.

Sports.—No sports of any description can be organised by the Section alone; our divided strength makes this impossible. It is worthy of note, however, that in each of our small detachments, one or more members are usually called upon to assist the Unit to which they are attached, in all branches of sport.

Musketry.—We have just completed our Annual Musketry Course with very satisfying results, i.e., no Third Class shots.

Greetings.—Charlie Warren sends greetings to Pip.

Conclusion.—Quite a few members of the Corps visit Chatham from time to time on Pay Courses, Foreman of Signals Courses, etc. We shall always be pleased to have a chat with them if they will call and see us. Finally, I understand that notes from this Section will be submitted to THE WIRE monthly. Having "broken the ice," it is to be hoped that our future contributions will attain the excellent standard set by other WIRE correspondents.

CASS.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

Upper Topa.

General.—The first period of Individual Training has been completed. Results were very satisfactory, and we congratulate all those who are now able to worry the Pay Sergeant. There are quite a few of them. A word of congratulation to the Instructors on attaining such a high percentage of passes. To mark the end of term—going collegiate—a very successful dinner and dance was held in the B.O.R.s' Dining Hall. About 150 sat down to a glorious spread, and did full justice to it. The after dinner speeches by the C.O. and O.C. Training Company were well received. We noticed that even some of the hardened ones blushed. They did not know that they were so good. The second period of training has commenced. Judging by the present high standard, the ultimate results at the Trade Board should be good. Not many more late nights and damp towels now. Stick it and think of the extra pice!

Heard in Class.—The Instructor had just described a line store dump. He stated that at the dump were two camels for moving stores, one lineman, one storeman, and a blacksmith. Turning to the class, "What is the blacksmith for?" "Shoeing the camels," was a reply. He now has a bad stutter. The following questions should not be answered in full:

Q1. What steps would you take to conduct a mho to it's ohm?

Q2. What do you know of cells? (Note, ex-Pentonville students need not answer this).

Q3. 120 Watt?

Social.—The weekly whist drives and dances continue to be very popular. Despite the very bad weather, the attendance has been exceedingly good. About eighty people sat down at the last whist drive, and after the usual drive, R.S.M. Bayliss introduced a knock-out drive. It proved very entertaining, the winners only getting home by the last trick. The swindle still provides a lot of amusement. Who was too busy to hear his ticket number called out? Must have been very good company, sir! Still, you may win another!

Departures.—Not yet, but pending. Lance Sergeant Young is going to join the Riders of the 2-C. Hope he gets a nice quiet horse and that there are lots of cushions in the Mess there.

Sergeants' Mess.

The weekly whist drives continue to be one of the social attractions of the Station. Tennis has suffered lately on account of the monsoon, but there are signs of a break in the weather, and the hopes of the enthusiasts are rising.

On the night of the 8th August, we held a very successful "Limehouse Night." Everything was in keeping with the occasion. Fish and chips were served in the traditional newspaper wrapping, although someone had a moan because the flavour was not the same when wrapped in the "Civil and Military" as compared with the "News of the World." There were at least three Chinamen present, and one of them, Sergeant Cole—yea, even our renowned Valentine—took a prize. The most effective of the men's costumes was Lance Sergeant Burchell's "Blind Man," which richly deserved the first prize it received. Among the ladies there were several East End types, notably Mrs. Betts as a "Washerwoman," and Mrs. Stanley as a "Charlidy." One member rolled in with a tin star on his vest and announced that he was the Sheriff of Anode Bend, but he won't get a B.1. like that. The accompanying photograph will give some idea of those present.

Our Band.—The other photograph shows our local musicians. Left to Right: Mrs. McIntosh, Signalmen Charlesworth, Foster, Taylor, and Lance Corporal Phillips. The Violinist, Mr. Isaac of the I.A.C.C., and R.S.M. Bayliss, the Band President, were unfortunately absent when the photograph was taken.

Arts and Crafts.—The members of the Corps have long held the reputation of being both artful and crafty. This is no doubt erroneous, but they have lately been doing their stuff in various exhibitions. In June, the 2nd Light Battery, R.A., held a show at Khyra Gali, in commemoration of "Plassey Day," and a large number of exhibits was entered from Upper Topa. A feature of the show was the large number of first prizes in the landscape class, which were of purely nominal value. The following were the awards annexed by our entrants:

BEST PHOTOGRAPH IN THE SHOW.—Signalman Morris's "Evening Toilet."

FIRST PRIZES.—Lance Corporal Baker's "Approaching Storm"; Signalman Long's "A Mountain Stream"; Signalman Mellor's "The Flour Mill"; Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Tret from Chrrapani."

INTERIORS.—Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Christ Church, Rawalpindi."

HIGHLY COMMENDED.—Lance Corporal Baker's "Sunshine and Storm"; Lance-Sergeant Lloyd's "Sunnybank from Murree"; Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Convolvuli."

In the portrait painting, Signalman Johnson, of the 2nd Cav. Sigs. had no rivals, and his boldly executed water colours of Fritz Kreisler and Marlene Dietrich swept all before them.

On 13th August, the South Wales Borderers, at Kuldana, celebrated "Blenheim Day" with a larger show; open to the whole of the Northern Command. A number of well-known local artists were empanelled as judges, and the exhibits were representative of practically every Station in the Command. There were only two prizes and one highly commended in each class.



"Limehouse Night."



The Band.

Competition was very keen. Engraved certificates were given, in addition, to all prize-winners. Our successes were as follows:

LANDSCAPE.—1, Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "The Silent Pool" (this was also adjudged to be the best photograph in the show); 2, Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Lakeside Idyll"; highly commended, Lance Corporal Baker's "Trees" and "Murree Road from Tret."

Lance Corporal Baker was very unfortunate in not having the proper grade of paper available for his "Trees." Properly presented, it would, undoubtedly, have been the most strikingly effective of all the entries.

INTERIORS AND ARCHITECTURAL.—1, Lance Corporal Baker's "The Photographer"; 2, Lance Corporal Phillips' "Alley War, Sadar Bazar"; highly commended, Lance-Corporal Phillips' "Street Scene."

PORTRAITS.—2, Signalman Williams', 1st Div., "Dreaming."

STILL LIFE.—1, Lance Corporal Baker's "Gladiola"; 2, Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Wild Roses"; highly commended, Signalman Mellor's "Still Life."

INDIAN TYPES.—1, Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "The Snake Charmer"; highly commended, Lance Sergeant Lloyd's "Khassadars."

PEN AND INK DRAWINGS.—1, Lance Corporal Green's "Ten Minute Study."

PENCIL DRAWINGS.—2, Corporal Bell's "Denham Mill."

OIL AND WATER COLOUR.—Highly commended, Signalman Godden's "Green and Ivory."

In the Crafts Section, Mrs. Stanley received first prize for knitted work with a Russian jumper, while Mrs. Richards won the only award for leather work with a tooled writing compendium.

A move is on foot for the Unit to have a similar exhibition next month, open to the Command. As it is our first effort in this respect, it will have to be restricted to art and photography, with the hope that, if it is successful, a crafts section can be included in a later exhibition.

Corporals' Mess.

As we do not possess a tennis court of our own, it was decided to run a table tennis tournament. This caused quite a lot of interest and also a great amount of amusement. Lance Corporal Keenlyside was the winner, defeating Corporal Knight after a very hard fight. On the 15th, the Mess combined with the Corporals' Mess, Rawalpindi, and held a very successful dance. Invitations to all Units stationed in the hills found a very good response. Members also came up from Pindi for the week-end. It was voted one of the best dances ever held in the district. Much of the success was due to the hard work put in by the committee. The sight of certain members, trying to polish a stone floor with a table the wrong way up, was amusing; but not to them. They called it hard work. We are surprised! Corporal Johnny Bull, ably assisted by Corporal Sheppard, acted as M.C. "We don't think anyone knows a good crooner when they hear one." Do you Johnny? Everything went with a swing, and at a late hour very tired members went to bed. Another one is in the bag, and we hope the same success attends that too. Have you indented for a few more hands, Bert?

W. E. B.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

31st August.

General.—Our scribe of many moons past, who, it will have been noted, has often mentioned those lucky ones who have "scrounged" to the hills for leave and Courses during the hot weather, has managed to get up to Topa himself for the second half-season, and is now, no doubt, imparting knowledge unto those who seek, and/or knocking it into those who don't seek very far! When he returns from Topa his thoughts will be turning towards the *Tuscania* (?) and home. So we shall probably not see him in print again. We will thank him here for his past efforts on our behalf. Meanwhile, I have offered to carry on the good work, but not for long, because I have only 754 days to go (a conservative estimate let it be noted).

Little of interest has occurred within the Unit this month. The weather has been much cooler owing to the monsoon, but that has passed now, and during last week it has been getting quite hot again. However, now that September is here, we can safely say the worst is over.

Schemes will soon be upon us again, and the familiar war cries, "Fall in, 'A,'" and "Down below, 'D,'" will be heard once more.

Movements.—That very popular officer, Lieutenant P. M. P. Hobson, R.Signals, has left us this week on posting to the S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore. The best wishes of the Unit go with him. Lieutenant C. D. Gardiner has rejoined the Unit after two months' leave in the U.K., and has taken over the duties of Adjutant.

Trade Qualifications.—Congratulations to the following, who obtained their Operator Signals, Class II qualification, at Upper Topa during the first half-season: Signalmen Biggs, Finnecy, Crowe, Earl, Kippin, Mullen, Noble, Perkins, Porter, Swift, Truslove, Vincent, Waugh and Wemyss.

Transfers.—We congratulate Signalmen Perkins and Biggs on being accepted for transfer to the Royal Corps of Signals from 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Sialkot, and also on qualifying as Operator Signals, Class II, in such a short time.

Courses.—Lance Corporals Dixon and Millett both obtained "Q1" at Courses held recently at the Army Signal School and Army Education School, Belgaum, respectively. Corporal Swinson also emerged successfully from the recent "S" Course, held at Jubbulpore.

Corporals' Room Outing.—A small party proceeded from the Rawalpindi Mess to Topa on 15th August for a dance organised by the Combined Messes. A very enjoyable evening was spent, our only regret being that such a few turned out from Pindi. One N.C.O. was heard to remark that it didn't matter, as he could drink their share. Oh! Fairy, I thought it was a dance!

Heard on the Phone.—C.Q.M.S. (to Babu at Supply Depot). "Could you please tell me the price per gallon of creosote?"

Babu. "Yes, Sahib. One and a quarter ounces to a gallon of water."

The C.Q.M.S. has now recovered.

Impossible People.—The M.E.S. fellow who came and marked a site for a new dining-hall and cook-house in the middle of our brand new guard mounting square.

Football.—The Combined Signals team has reached the final of the Murree Brewery Tournament and play the 2nd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, to-day, 4th September. I hope to be able to give the result in the Sports Notes, and also an account of the matches played.

Later.—We were defeated by 2 goals to 1.

ONEDIV MARK II.

Waziristan District Signals.

Razmak,
July.

Half the year has elapsed, and the chief topic at present is "boats" and more "boats." An interesting debate on the famous *Queen Mary* is always terminated by "roll on the *Dilwara*." Some, less fortunate than others, with a few years still to serve under India's sun, have visions of going "home" per air liner or dirigible. Still, they have a lot of time to practise parachute descents. Greenwood's Corner offers admirable opportunities to the "air-minded."

It is rather quiet here at present, several of the Unit being away on leave, sunbathing at Manora or watching monsoon cloud effects from the hill tops of Murree. If the journey by rail in the middle of summer is a bit sticky, the prospect at the end is always alluring.

At present, a Class 1 Operator Signals Upgrading Course is in full swing. Worried looks, furrowed brows and ink-stained fingers all point to the keenness of the lads who are going after the extra money. All power to them.

To brighten up the intervals between work, the Royal Air Force from Miranshah paid us a welcome visit. Everybody vouched "that they were jolly good fellows," and a splendid week-end resulted. The "airmen" were beaten in a game of hockey, but they more than held their own in other ways. The Signals are looking forward with keen anticipation to the return visit to Miranshah on 8th August.

Signalman Done is welcomed to the Section from Peshawar; Signalman Buchanan leaving us in his stead. Corporal King, Signalmen Panter and Buckles have left this Unit for Quetta. Lance Corporal Mackenzie has fairly dug himself in on his arrival from the land of "quakes."

The June Exercise went off with a great swing. Signals upheld their good name, and all ranks who took part did so with full efficiency and keenness. The battle, a European one east of Suez, waged fast and furious on the Waziristan Front. Communications were splendid throughout, all objectives being attained without a casualty. Personnel from Bannu and Wana were also engaged in the battle.

Quite a few old 'uns will be leaving this trooper for England. They are all keen to get back to " Blighty," but the call of the east is strong, and, no doubt, the majority will be back, hanging over the rail of the *Dilwara*, telling the " first timers " all about it. " Don't buy any cigarettes at Aden," etc., etc. Everyone has heard the old, old story. The best of luck to them all. May those booked for " Civvy Street " find cushy billets, and those due for the Home Establishment find Stations as good as they are leaving.

Many readers will be pleased to hear that Corporal Greatorex, Bannu Section, has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. The medal was presented to him at Razmak. Any enquiries on the subject should be addressed to the recipient himself.

Lieutenant C. L. Ommanney has taken over the duties of Unit Quartermaster and O.C. Detachment, Dera Ismail Khan. The small contingent serving in the latter Station are quite happy with their swimming pool and the prickly heat. The summer has not been so bad in D.I. Khan this year; in fact, one or two lads call it mild ! Lieutenant J. P. North is at present commanding Bannu Signal Section. The temperature, co-incident with his arrival, dropped to 87 degrees, and this, in the middle of June, was, indeed, a welcome break. Quite a few of the lads who proceeded on leave are now back feeling all the better for the change. Signalman Sucksmith vouches for Manora and its bracing air. Only the air, Ronnie ?

The Quins Left Cold.—" Kitty," of Razmak fame, has presented Lance Corporal Pyne with eight little " nigger boys." What, at your age, Kitty ! " Who's booked all the pups, Pinto?"



Borrett's Park.

Coming Events.—Unit Headquarters moves down to Dera Ismail Khan in September. The past winters have always been exceedingly pleasant, and 1936-7 will doubtlessly come up to expectations, so cheer up all of you who have been warned for Waziristan in the coming Trooping Season. Don't believe a word the old sweats tell you. A good time is guaranteed with Waziristan District Signals. Here is a friendly tip. If you have any golf clubs bring them along, D.I. Khan has a splendid little twelve hole Course, the property of the Unit, but don't bring your plus fours. If you really want to get rid of the latter garments, Signalman Kelly of Razmak Signal Section may be persuaded to buy them if they will match his super-check sports jacket. A strong sales argument would be the inclusion of a shot-gun and a couple of setters. Followers of Izaak Walton are advised to bring their rods and tackle. The River Indus provides many a pleasant afternoon's sport. The fish, if not as game as salmon and trout, certainly do bite. Failing a walk to the river, which is near at hand, a few fish are always available in the local canal. Bannu and Wana can also boast of similar sport, so roll along with your flies and rods.

Pictorial.—A few local snapshots are included for the interest of those who have never been to Razmak.

Conclusion.—If the above fails to attract you to Waziristan, then we give it up.

MAHSUD.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Headquarter Company.

General.—The Trade Board is now a thing of the past, but there is still some sweating going on until the results come through. In a few days' time we will have Autumn Training to contend with, followed up closely by " au revoirs " to a large percentage of the Unit moving to Meerut and another very small percentage proceeding to the United Kingdom. Why didn't I join up earlier or, at least, come abroad sooner. I seem to be the victim of all the " Grippers " in the Company. The Company " Thin Man," who has to stand in the same place twice to cast a shadow, has started a " Body Building Course." Soon he hopes, at least so reads the advertisement, to stand in the same place once and cast two shadows. The question is, will he last the Course and the few months he has yet to do East of Suez. Talking about the physical brings me to the mental. Two Signalmen, perfectly normal in 1930, and due home this " trooper " (if what ?), were in the Unit bus returning from second house pictures. Suddenly a super sports car flashed by and the following conversation took place :

Signalman A. " What a lovely bus. It wouldn't take that long to do half an hour ! "

Signalman B. No. About twenty minutes I should say ! (Shades of Netley.)

Having only arrived here last " trooper," this conversation gave me much food for thought. (Roll on " 41.")



Charles Street.



The Golf Course, 4th Green and Approach

Departures.—Lance Corporals Greaves and Telfer have swelled the ranks of the " key men " at Meerut. Good show, " B. Docs." It always was a bind when a whole Unit moved. Even in the U.K. So a Maresfieldite and Rhine-Signals informs me.

Recruiting Propaganda.—Signalman Clarke E. J. has extended his colour service to the tune of another four to complete twelve. I am fully aware that you go home before me, but only on this tour, Nobby.

Sports.—Congratulations to the Unit water polo team on once again winning the Baluchistan District Inter-Company Water Polo Cup. They entirely outclassed their opponents, " C " Company of the Queen's Regiment, by 9 goals to nil.

The Unit cricket team reached the final of the Inter-Company Cricket Cup, and, although the tail wagged vigorously, had to admit defeat at the hands of H.Q. Company of the Queen's Regiment. The Company lost by two goals to one in the semi-final replay of the Inter-Section hockey. Their conquerors, " DB " Section, eventually won the competition.

Conclusion.—As Mrs. Newlywed said to her husband when he persistently came home late from the office, " This has got to stop, or . . ."

Cheerio, everybody !

BURNISTON.

No. 1 Company.

General.—No. 1 Company appears (or hopes to) in THE WIRE again. Why they did not appear in the August issue we cannot imagine. We can always live in hopes. After consulting the oracle, we have vague hopes of seeing our efforts at journalism recognised this month.

Signals Association Dance.—The second of the above dances was held in the Garrison Skating Rink in August. In the correct newspaper style, " A good time was enjoyed by all."

Courses.—Both I.T. and Riding Courses ended this month. The nine men who eventually sat the examination are keeping an anxious eye on part two's. Zack's musical ride passed off O.K. No notable failures are reported as yet.

Swimming.—Although a little out of place in these notes, I must mention that we pulled off the Baluchistan District Swimming Cup again this year, with a comfortable margin of 100 points. A whisper was heard at the gala of " Roll on, Meerut, for a bit of competition." I wonder !

Tennis.—The B.O.R.s held a tennis " At Home " to the rest of the Garrison on the 26th. It was very well attended. Mrs. Sketch presented prizes to the following for the events noted :

Winners Unit Doubles, C.Q.M.S. Brown and Sergeant Gudgeon ; runners-up, Signalmen Soutar and Middleton.

Winners Club Doubles, Signalmen Smith E. E. and Foreman ; runners-up, Lance Corporal Madder and Signalman Crookes.

Winner Singles, Signalman McFarlane (" B " Corps Signals) ; runner-up, Signalman Rosbotham (" B " Corps Signals).

The Div. is slightly mortified because the attached personnel proved the better in the Singles event. Don of Zhob Signal Section please note.

The Prodigal Son.—The return of Corporal Burke from an " S " Course at Jubbulpore heralded an increase of throat diseases. His advent and past record set men to thinking, and it was solely as a result of his reputation at Jubbulpore that the Grippers' Shield and Medal were struck. After a hard fight, he lost the position of Gripper No. 1 to Corporal Lewis, but easily won the place of Gripper No. 2 and received the medal for his pains.

Corporals' Mess Farewell Dance.—The Corporals' Room " swan song " was held in the Rink on Friday, the 28th. A large number of invitations were sent out to members of different Messes in Quetta, and a goodly number turned up. The dance was notable for two innovations. They were those of the Signals' new Dance Band and the Grippers' Medley (" Something seems to grip this very throat of mine "). The latter was played with great effect by the former at the presentation of the shield to Corporal Lewis and the medal to Corporal Burke. The band played very well for its first performance in public, and bookings were placed rather well in advance.

Before these notes appear in print, we hope to be in Meerut. Whether the 3rd Div.-ites hope to be in Quetta after hearing of its record or not, we don't know, but we shall be pleased to leave the " Garden City of India," as an enterprising journalist called it. All I know is, that we shall miss the swimming baths during the summer. Our loss, Meerut's gain, etc.

Promotions and Appointments.—Only three this month. Sergeant Handby to be C.Q.M.S. Lance Corporal Bond to be Corporal. Signalman Madder to be U/Lance Corporal.

Agonies.—Lance Corporal Webber (the fat 'un) of Scarborough fame would like to hear from Lance Corporal Bruton, situated somewhere in England (we hope).

Wilkie Bard (late of Waz. Dist.) would like to hear from a member of the Pay branch of that Unit.

Will No. 2321346, believed to be in Pindi, please communicate with No. 2312320.

That's all.

NEWUN.

No. 2 Company.

August.

General.—Preparatory marches for the hike to Kila Abdulla have kept " J " Section busy for the last week or so. The man known as " Fairy " did not live up to his name, and his ominous silence during the marches belied the fact that he is a great Gripper. " L " Section are going (as far as we know) to Pishin, and are condescending to take " Blow " with them, as well as some more youngsters. " G " (for Gripping) Section are also going out, but it will be easy enough for them, since they've enough gas to keep going for months. We hope Mr. Nelson will stand the strain. The Grippers' Shield was presented to Corporal Lewis. He rushes in where Buckles even fears to tread.

The N.C.O.s held a dance last week and, according to reports and " morning after " appearances, it was very successful. The scarcity of ladies is one thing to be regretted here in Quetta.

We must congratulate U/Lance Corporals Cockram and Madder for ducking into a new social circle—that of N.C.O.s. Best wishes, you two. We always had our suspicions.

From a test paper : " The international ohm is an object which repels the flow of electric current and is used in conjunction with a rheostat." Ye Gods !

Noticeable amongst arrivals during the last trooping season were " Oxford Accentists " (not to be confused with " Seventh Day Adventists "), all of whom, it is believed, possess 2nd class education certificates. This laudable attempt to bring the " refanements " of King's English to the lower classes has met, alas, with vulgar expressions of contempt, together with lurid descriptions of the ancestors of " O.A.s," interspersed with prophetic vision of said " O.A.s' " future destination.

Among the new books advertised in a certain catalogue, we have " Dream Interpretations Fried " (" Dream Interpretations," by Freud). " My Cistern," by Miller (" My System," by Muller), and this cipheric attempt, " Red High-Bred Dorothy and Clan Two Dorothy " (" Ray Hydrotherapy and Climatotherapy ").

Last Thoughts.—According to Professor Pavlov, a human being is a bundle of mechanical responses to outside stimuli. Continuing investigations on our own lines, we find that, coming into contact with a sergeant-major (" R " or " C "), a being of the lower order begins to shake. Is this hereditary or something to do with a reflex ? When a man earns a stripe he sings " Nearer my sergeant-major to thee," but he doesn't stop shaking. Now, f'rinstance—no, I'd better not.

The Unit have indulged in the usual football and hockey games this month, but we've had no outstanding matches. The cricketing is recorded in the Sports Notes.

NOBBY.

Sergeants' Mess.

Having not heard from us for some time, we thought we might let you know how we were progressing. This month brings us almost at the conclusion of the tennis season, and we can safely rest on our laurels until next year, because C.Q.M.S. Brown and Sergeant Gudgeon won the Unit Open Doubles, W.O. Wild and C.Q.M.S. Coombs beat Sergeants Fleet and Cooper in the Mess Doubles, and Sergeant Fleet beat C.Q.M.S. Coombs in the Mess Singles. We held a tennis " At Home " to the officers of the Unit, when the Cups were presented by Mrs. Sketch, wife of our Officiating Commanding Officer. Oh, yes, the Cups were in evidence many, many times, and the winners were beginning to wonder whether it was worth it.

Every, Friday we have entertained the Garrison Messes and Clubs with a tennis " At Home," and have had many enjoyable times. This has helped to gather together members of various Messes, and so made life more amenable in this Station of " Wana Huts." We turned out two teams (are we good ?) against the

B.O.R.s of the Unit ; the first team won " hands down " and the second " just failed."

Now that the ladies have been allowed in the Station, thereby adding a little colour to our surroundings, we have been able to run a very successful and pleasant dance once a month. The Unit has now formed a dance band, which has really excelled itself at the last two functions.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to Sergeant Adams and family and Sergeants Barber and Storey, who are the key men from Meerut, and have come with an eye to business, prior to the change over of the Unit in October.

Departures.—We have said good-bye to Ernie Marcham, whom we all thought was a permanent fixture, also to Sergeant Goodyear and family, who have gone south. We hope they enjoy life in their new Stations.

Mess Characters.—C.Q.M.S. Coombs : " If it wasn't for tomatoes, eggs and marrows, India would not be India." " Bearer, Sarhe pialla Makhan baje hai." In a real Cornish twang—" Brr ! ! " Shoey Jagger : 9.30 a.m. Sundays and Thursdays : " Ah, well ! I must go to work now." 9.35 a.m., back in Mess : " Soda water, please." Bert Cooper : " Bi—ll, ne-ver 'erd of it ! "

Last but not least for this edition. BENITO (Chas. Beard), by whose efforts we are now able to get a tune out of the piano. Oh, yes! There is another, but he has a terrible sweat on.

XERXES.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Fort Sandeman,
29th August.

General.—Although the hot weather season is going strong, most of the lads are still feeling quite up to the mark, probably due to the ozone-laden air of Chotair, where most of our hard working (?) Section have been recuperating.

Arrivals and Departures.—We are sorry to lose our Detachment Commander, Sergeant Cosens, who has been posted to Loralai, but welcome in his place Sergeant Ratcliffe, whom we hope will enjoy his stay with us. Signalman Brannan, attached from " B " Corps Signals, seems to be settling down quite well, and is a notable addition to the sports department.

Sport.—Our hockey and football teams continue to give the officers of the Station and the R.A.F. a good run, despite the small number of players at Sandeman.

Appointments.—We all congratulate Signalman Pearce H. T., on collecting an U/Lance Corporal tape, and hope that he soon receives his pay. No doubt, when he does, the detachment will help to celebrate the occasion.

Entertainments.—The R.A.F. still continue to visit us. Last week a contingent of fifteen came to see us off at parlour games. " Speedy " staggered them with table tennis, while they, in their turn, staggered the canteen caterer who ran out of beer.

J. H. E.

EASTERN COMMAND ..... INDIAN ARMY

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Meerut,
11th August.

General.—To our ardent readers we must apologise for the absence of notes during the past several months. Our literary aspirants are few, and they, through fear of censorship, have failed to come to the fore as potential Troop scribes. However, here goes.

In December 1935, the 3 Bar C welcomed to the ranch (or should it be fold—who knows ?) Captain C. Childs, and all hoped that his stay would be a long and happy one. January 1936 saw the departure of Captain M. Duncan to Waziristan and, in accordance with tradition, we quote " our loss, their gain." Changes have been many during the past eight months, both in personnel and administration. Quite a few of the old timers, answering to the call of spring, picked up their parrots and monkeys and were in Blighty whilst spring was there. Amongst them were Lance Sergeant Newman F., Corporal Mundy (Jack), Lance Corporal Marchant (Nobby), Signalmen Green (ex Blue-Lite King), Pauline, Ratcliff, Spencer, etc., etc. Other postings have been re-inforcements from the Div.

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A lot of hard work has been done in the Sections—at least so one might gather from the conversation at communal grips. Reports, from those who make them, stated that things were " good," " satisfactory " and all those other adjectives which are accorded to work well done. Route marches are indulged in by the Mobile Column periodically, and at present Semaphore Drill is considered de rigeur. Communing with the stars occasionally—sorry, lamps—at 20.00 hours, is deemed necessary nowadays but then—

Nothing is too late,
Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate.

Lieutenant A. B. McVittie returned from Saugor on 15th May, replete with a " Q " 1 in Equitation Duties and a " D " in Veterinary First Aid. A great boosting of the " Rabbit Fund " may now be expected in the near future. A few days later, Lieutenant McVittie flew home to England on two months' privilege leave and, on his return, we were entertained by an interesting lecture given by him in connection with the air route, etc. Whilst on the subject of being entertained, our C.O. gave one or two very much appreciated musical parties. Rainbird liked the classics, McDowall and Swan the cheese crisps, whilst Chesty and Tift were just too, too divine, gambolling on the lawn to the strains of " Red Sails in the Sunset." Incidentally, I think, all who attended particularly enjoyed a " Wills ", but not of their own.

Births.—Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Child on the birth of a daughter, at the British Families Hospital, Meerut, on 3rd March.

And now, for the present, I leave you.

PIP.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—We still continue to get rain at Trimulgherry and, although it is a little annoying at times, especially after one has to walk back to barracks from the local " gaff," it certainly brightens things up when it stops.

The Commander-in-Chief in India paid us a visit at the end of July. He expressed approval at what he saw. There were twenty-one British Ranks on parade from the Unit. We paraded with 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, who had six British Ranks on parade. The rest of the parade consisted of Indian Ranks. After the Commander-in-Chief had inspected the parade, he paid a visit to the British Ranks' barrack room. He then left, taking with him the best wishes of all.

Officers.—Captain A. B. Bushby, R.Signals, has left for six months' combined leave to U.K. We are all sorry to lose him, even if it is only temporarily. He was respected by everyone. Captain Bushby has had very bad luck. He was admitted to hospital, and then, hardly before we realised it, he was away on leave. We hope that he has a pleasant leave and regains his health. Captain R. Maguire, R.Signals, has arrived from Jubbulpore to take over officiating command of the Unit from Lieutenant E. L. L. Vulliamy, R.Signals, who has been officiating since Captain Bushby was admitted to hospital. We welcome Captain R. Maguire, and hope his stay with us will be a pleasant one. Lieutenant H. O. Pargeter, R.Signals, has proceeded on leave in India. We hope he enjoys it and comes back full of fight for the fray again.

Attachments.—S.S.I. Stevens, of the A.F.I., is at present with us undergoing refresher training. We hope he enjoys both the training and his stay with us.

Courses.—Lance Corporal Boulter is at present attached to the 1st Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment, undergoing a short P.T. Course. At least, the authorities call it a short Course, but " Syce " says it is killing him. We hear morbid stories from him about the men who fell off the " beam." Still, stick it " Syce," our hearts are with you. The Junior N.C.O.s Course, under C.S.M. Westwood, is still in full swing. Although they seem to enjoy it, we hear whispers of " roll on," and presume they mean " roll on *that* boat."

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Congratulations.—We congratulate Sergeant Parker on passing the higher standard Urdu test at Mhow. We also congratulate Lance Corporal Green R., who attended the 1st Combined Course at the Army School of Education, and obtained " Distinguished " at Education and " Q 1 " at Anti-Gas. Lastly, we congratulate the undermentioned, who qualified as Operator Signals, Class 1 : Corporal Simmonds, Lance Corporal Tweedley, and Signalman Hezseltine.

Service.—Corporal Simmonds has decided that another four years in the Service would do him good. Lance Corporal Wright has decided on another year.

Hill Station.—Lance Corporal Taylor, our Unit Clerk, has proceeded to Wellington for a few weeks, in order to regain his health. In the meantime, Lance Corporal Webster, the future " pay bloke," has given up his studies under the present " pay

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HEAD OFFICE: LONDON, E.C.3

bloke," Corporal Tupper, to hold the fort. No. 3 Company, 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot, please note.

Games Tournament.—On 7th August, the officers and sergeants held a Games Tournament versus the corporals. The games were tennis during the afternoon and indoor games at night. An enjoyable time was had by everyone. The results were: Officers and sergeants beat the corporals at tennis. The corporals beat the officers and sergeants at the indoor games.

Golf.—The "Signals" members of the Unit Golf Club played the "Rest" in a Golf Match on Tuesday, 18th August. The teams were as follows:

SINGLE.

Lance Corporal Mitchell v. Bandmaster McKenna.

FOUR-BALL FOURSOMES.

Signals.		Rest.
Lieutenant E. L. L. Vulliamy and Sergeant Baker	v.	Captain Allinson, I.M.S., and Corporal James, K.D.G.
Captain Maguire and C.S.M. Westwood.	v.	Mr. Boyd, G.E., and R.Q.M.S. Smith, R.A.M.C.
Mrs. Mitchell and Sergeant Page.	v.	Mrs. Smith, R.A.M.C., and Sergeant Ansell, R.A.M.C.

The match was played on a team score of holes basis and Signals were beaten by the Rest by seven holes. Lance Corporal Mitchell gave the Signals a lead of two games by beating Bandmaster McKenna by two holes. Lieutenant Vulliamy and Sergeant Baker lost their match by five holes. Corporal James (ex-assistant pro.—Jubbulpore please note), opened up with a two at the first hole (bogey 3), and was ably assisted by Captain Allinson with a three at the second (bogey 4). They both played first-rate golf and, although Lieutenant Vulliamy was playing well, he was just the odd stroke behind. Sergeant Baker played—well, "nuff said." Captain Maguire and C.S.M. Westwood held a lead at the seventh of three holes, but the Rest managed to reduce this to finish "all square." The last match was a ding-dong struggle until the eighth hole, when the Rest managed to get a lead and win by four holes. Mrs. Smith and Sergeant Ansell proved too strong for our two "tyros."

Conclusion.—Au revoir everyone.

CHARMINAR.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

21st August.

General.—Nothing of importance this month except that there has been more rain in this place this week-end than during the whole month.

Visit of H.E. The Commander-in-Chief.—H.E., General Sir Robert A. Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., A.D.C., Commander-in-Chief in India, visited Secunderabad Station on 27th July. A ceremonial parade was held by 4th Cavalry Brigade, and this Unit took part. H.E., The Commander-in-Chief, is the Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps and a special combined dismounted parade was held in the lines of 4th Indian Divisional Signals by the Signal Units here. The parade was commanded by Captain C. L. Morgan, R.Signals. After the general salute had been given, H.E., The Commander-in-Chief inspected the parade, and subsequently the officers were presented to him. H.E., The Commander-in-Chief, expressed his approval of everything he saw during his visit.

Secunderabad Horse Show.—This Show, which took place on 30th and 31st July, attracted large entries and crowds. Some splendid jumping, show horses, etc., were seen, but the main attraction for this Unit was the Handy Hunter Competition, for which the Course had been arranged by our C.O. It consisted of twelve obstacles, some of which proved to be extremely difficult to the competitors, especially the "stile" jump. This was successfully cleared by only two competitors out of a total of eighty. Naik Mohd Lall Khan of this Unit repeated his Saugor successes by winning four prizes at this Show.

Foreign Languages.—Congratulations to Sergeant Page A. J., on passing the British Service Urdu Examination. Fifty "chips" should come in mighty handy to a married man.

Advertisements.—To: The Manager, "Trimulgherry Razzle." Kindly insert the following in the next issue of your paper. "LOST—One rat trap, with rat. The custody of the dead (?) rat and one packet of Charminar is offered to the person who returns the trap, in serviceable condition, to 'Trapper Snowball of the 4 Bar C Ranch'."

Leave.—Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler has returned from two months' privilege leave. The Kenya air must be good. Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler proceeds to Saugor next month for a "Rough's Course."

The Foreign Legion.—Can any Unit beat this record? One morning, at the breakfast table (for six), the dining members consisted of a Scotsman, Englishman, Canadian, South African, Irishman and a "Sailor".

Sport.—There has not been any football lately, but it is hoped that some games will be fixed up in the near future. Hockey is the favourite game out here (except to football enthusiasts), and the Combined Signals are playing off their first round game of the Secunderabad Small-Unit Hockey Tournament (British) against "D" Company, Royal West Kent Regiment, on 24th August. The team suffered a severe set-back when "A" Company, Royal West Kents, beat them 10—0. Our goalkeeper is still massaging his back! However, with the return of Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler and Lance Corporal Roberts from leave, the team is now greatly strengthened, and it is to be hoped that the team will do well in the Tournament.

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Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Sergeants' Mess.

A very enjoyable party was held in the Mess on Tuesday, 25th August. It was given as a farewell to bid " bon voyage " and happy times ahead to Sergeant " Vic " Little. This able gentleman came to the Unit as a re-inforcement in the recent Mediterranean crisis ; and now that it is over, he returns to 3rd Divisional Signals. The arrangements for the gathering were in the capable hands of C.S.M. Hobbs, M.M., who was assisted by the entertainment committee. Knowing this, you can quite expect to find it turned out a tip-top show. Here is a brief resume of the evening's happenings.

The Mess, for some time now, has been the home of attached R.A.S.C. personnel who turned up in full force. What talent ! Now dear reader, pass this copy of THE WIRE on as it should be interesting to old friends of these folk. As the British Troops have been in Egypt since 1882, and the final Treaty of Alliance was being signed in London, this night's entertainment was typically Egyptian.

We welcomed Sergeant Richardson in from the Western Desert, and also Mr. Emblem, together with C.S.M. Merrill, Royal Tank Corps. The first part of the night was spent in a games tournament. Sergeant Daniels, A.E.C., now a member of the Mess, helped with the scoring, until the musical element arrived. Corporal Ransom opened on the piano with some selections of sedative music, games began to end, and we all went over to the supper buffet which was well tended by the Mess waiters. Food always is a problem in Egypt, but not so to our entertainment committee it seems.

After supper the room was thrown into darkness, and we were all surprised to hear a mournful Egyptian funeral procession, complete with wailing women, in traditional costume, coming nearer in the darkness.

The hero of the scene, " Vic " Little, seemed to know his time had come, so he mounted his throne in the centre of the room, awaiting developments. Having held 'em back in the Desert before, he was prepared to meet all emergencies. The corpse was carried in by the hefty Abdel Hamid Jones, Rastus Mohamed Bird Effendi, Abdel Aziz Hennessy and Fawzia Stone Bey. The beautiful wailing ladies smelt of those love dealing perfumes so common to Sergeants' Mess visitors in Egypt. This perfume, which is international and famous in Edinburgh, sinks east with west—you must be getting anxious to know its name—it's " Globe Brand " (light or dark), from the ice. McEwan's " Flower of Hops." We all gave a shudder to see the beauties Amina Meehan and Fatima Simmonds on view, but I am afraid, gents, they are married. They wore veils with oil bottles and pull-throughs to keep them in place. The party halted at the foot of the throne of " Tourex " Little Elf. The body spoke a few words of regret at the impending departure of " Tourex," who, in turn, carefully replied with a few well chosen words, many of which were inaudible and therefore unprintable.

The scene changed with the final entry of Sheik Yusseff Wintermere, patron of all " Desert Fitters." He had specially been charged with the mission of giving " Tourex " a garland to hang round his neck. The garland was made of Heliopolis ground sausages or cucumbers on wire. The party tried to snare " Tourex " on to the stretcher but he fell through it.

The whole gathering posed for a flashlight photograph, taken by Corporal Frarey of this Unit. As the Egyptian party left, the lovely Amina Meehan tried to linger on among the Mess members, but was beaten for her waywardness by the all powerful Sheik in true Arabian style. Speeches were given on behalf of the Mess to those going home. A suitable atmosphere was maintained by the fizz of the bottles. Then came some remarkable songs, stories, etc. You may have heard some of the stories, but the acting was fine. An excellent turn was given by C.S.M. Merriel, who took the part of a sportsman shooting from behind cover. He used his belt round his neck to direct the zone of fire. A beautiful shot flew by, but having no windscreen wiper he was forced to let the bird go—" One in the hand is worth two in the bush." Mr. Emblem, who gave a nice little Irish song, had to retire early, owing to the strain of the evening. He is an old campaigner, and not so young as he used to be. C.S.M. Hobbs described the hunt they had for missing chips, when returning with Sergeant Little from Brighton to Maresfield some years ago. So, by the time the chips were found, " Vic " must have looked like a Hindoo fakir. Later, there was a demonstration by Sergeant Meehan, R.A.S.C., of what it feels like to be a one-armed conductor playing to a crowded house. Everything was well until he was offered a pint, and couldn't he take it ! He held his baton in a forceful manner, and soon drank the refreshment, much to the surprise of the audience. Gunner Austin gave " Danny Boy " and " Top of the World." This charming personality is an asset to any Mess, and his dancing, well, it's " Ta' mem " (correct, Simmo ?). Mirth-making stories seemed to be above the average, and were maintained almost up to the " spreading chestnut tree " episode.

Sergeant George Cowley kept the house in smiles with his Birmingham wit, aided by the ex-corpse, Jock Ausland, R.A.M.C. His recitation entitled " In Old Chanack " was short, but clearly showed that soldiers really do see the world. The usual music master, Harry Wintermere, sat at the head of the oval table, so familiar to old Mess members. He was probably wondering if Bill Gaffney and Jock Laurie would have made it up just for this special evening, had they been back in the old chairs near the fireplace. The bar was tended by Sergeant Tommy Gladwell, who, by the way, has done the same work each night during August this year. He says it's his last term as caterer, so he should know. However, he did keep the beer nice and cold, which deserves many thanks.

As the night wore on, and gave place to early morning, the party still put on all they knew in the way of musical talent. The attendance was not quite 100 per cent., because the R.S.M. and two or three members are on leave, whilst others had appointments which, no doubt, could not be put off at the last minute. But the evening was a real success from every point of view and we are all looking forward to further nights like this one. The party broke up and filed silently away to bed beneath a starry sky and a hot Egyptian night, with happy dreams to end a perfect day (or night, to be more correct).

Arrivals.—Stop Press—Harry Wintermere's grown a moustache !

Departures.—Three hairs on the near side. Shaving at the incorrect angle, Harry !

Things To Come.—(i) The day when he shaves the other three off. (ii) The day when I have to apologize for letting you all know.



General.—The grass lawn in front of the Mess has now two grape vines at its sides. They may bear fruit in a few years' time. The tennis court is very popular with the families, so ladies bring your racquets out with you when you come. The trooping season is on us, and we shall be losing some very old friends. Sergeant Barnham is actually coming back this trooper ! Interviewed by our correspondent, he says that Egypt isn't like it used to be. He can recall when Pharoah was King ? He can recall Egypt in 1922, and can often be persuaded to tell you how it has taken him until 1936 in order to decide that he is looking forward to coming home. Anyhow, we shall be losing a valuable member of any entertainment committee. He always gives of his best.

"F" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

September.

General.—We've listened to rumours as far back as May,
And dates have been mentioned galore,
But nothing has happened to make us go gay ;
In fact, we get " browned " more and more.

That piece of doggerel has been running through my head for nearly a month, and I've been waiting for the chance to inflict it on the poor unsuspecting readers of THE WIRE. Having inflicted—on with the motley.

As usual, there doesn't seem much to write about, and the fact that Charlie Chase is sucking and blowing on his mouth organ doesn't improve matters. He ain't no Larry Adler, either ! Our work nowadays consists of going to the garages and scraping the camouflage from the undercarriages of the W/T lorries. The camouflage will be replaced by a coat of soothing service green. It is very interesting work. The tools required are a cushion from the driver's seat, an old jack-knife or screwdriver, and complete silence. (Bing Fleck, please note.)

Five members of the Troop are attached to Egypt Signals for Operator Signals Upgrading Courses, and we hope they will be successful in getting the extra akkers.

Congratulations.—To Signalman Ben Faulkner on getting his first foot on the ladder of fame. Also to Lance Corporal Cole on being paid for it. Will the Bank of England hold it all, Bill ?

Odds and Ends.—Flip and Ken, who have been acting as right- and left-hand markers in the messroom, are rather slow in getting off the mark these days. Busty beat them to it, but found that it was impossible to eat prunes and custard with a toothbrush.

We see in the papers that film actress Anna Lee has been making a film with soldiers. " R.O.T.B. ! "

Our notes would be incomplete without a few words about " The Rocket." This dilapidated old Fiat recently arrived in our midst (due, no doubt, to faulty steering gear) at a speed of three and a bit m.p.h. There IS a horn attached, but this is superfluous, and we have plenty of time to dodge. Truly a most amazing vehicle.

Departure.—Our O.C., Lieutenant G. H. S. Balmain, has just proceeded home on leave. Any policeman in Chatham will direct you to the Record Office, sir.

Agony.—To Ging Allen from Syd. " How about a line to this add.? "

S. E. B.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

Au Revoir.—When writing notes for a regimental journal it is often necessary for the writer with an eye to the future to have to prevaricate with " We are sorry to lose —— " or " We deeply regret the departure of ——," even though the departure of —— has been accompanied by huge sighs of relief.

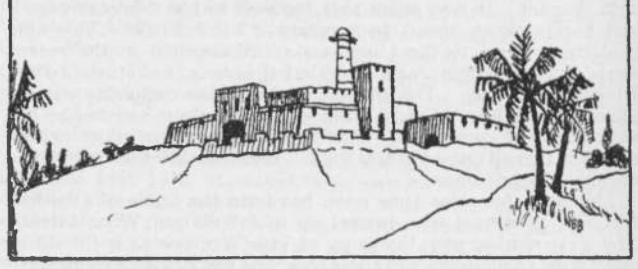
Thus, when the feelings of the entire Troop are really heartfelt, all the old hackneyed phrases of condolence and appreciation seem rather weak. However, all this preamble is just to emphasise the fact that the Troop was sorry to have to say good-bye to Lieutenant-Colonel McMurrough Kavanagh on his relinquishing the command of the 11th Hussars. He was always interested in the activities of the Troop, and was also always quick to show his appreciation for work well done. We are sure that all ex-members of " G " Troop will join us in wishing him the best of luck. We welcome Major Galbraith as our new C.O., and feel sure that we will have just as happy a time with him as we had with his predecessor.

Arrivals and Departures.—Signalman Fraser has been dug out of his retreat in Helmieh to carry on the great work being done by the Troop. Signalman Manley is now resting back in Egypt.

Leave.—As usual, the married pads were sent home for a rest, while the poor old single soldiers soldier on. Tough on these married pads, isn't it ?

JMJMJM.

SOUTHERN BRIGADE SIGNAL SECTION, JERUSALEM.



12th August.

General.—Hello ! Scarborough. Hello ! Malta. Hello ! readers all. This is " K " Section calling you. The little gang who left Scarborough, in September, 1935, under Lieutenant R. H. Copeland, R.Signals, for a trip in the Mediterranean.

After having been at Malta for ten months we took such a liking to the place that we were very loathe to leave. But all good things come to an end, and with many good wishes, hearty handshakes and tears in our eyes we sailed for warmer climes Had the *Neuralia* been going the other way, we should, perhaps, not have been so sorry. However, the Malta Signal Section made us very welcome during our stay ; the true " mucking-in " spirit existed with all ranks, and every one of the Section has pleasant memories of his stay in Malta. You have only to whisper CHALET or GYPO QUEEN and the groans sound like a clap of thunder.

I shall not say much about our trip on the Trooper. Although the weather was calm and fine throughout the four days' voyage, it was with mixed feelings that we landed at Haifa on 18th July What did the Holy Land have in store for us ? That was the question.

We were attached to the 1st Battalion, Loyal Regiment until 27th July. Needless to say, we made the best of our short stay there and saw all the sights which were going. Every afternoon the lads had their usual daily dip in the Mediterranean. What would we give for a swim right now ?

Arrivals.—We welcome to the Section Signalmen Marr, Martin, Thompson, Larkin and Brown, of Egypt Signals. They are attached for all purposes until a date as yet unknown.

Departures.—Signalman Walker to Sarafand and Signalman Whitehead to Nablus on line duty. Let us hope that they are not away from the fold too long.

Musketry.—During our stay at Haifa the Section carried out its annual musketry practice. We regret to state that two second-class shots were discovered in the Section ; the remainder are all firsts. The average score was 73.35. Corporal Brunton-Douglas receives our congratulations for scoring 94 out of a possible 95. It was his last shot but one that found the inner ring (was it excitement that did it, Duggy ?). POL.

31st August.

General.—Movements amongst personnel of the Section have been many. Part II Orders would be a more appropriate title for this paragraph. Corporal Pickett, Corporal Grafton and Signalman McTernan have left us for duty with a detachment of the 2nd Battalion, Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, whilst Lance Corporal Sanderson and Signalman McDonald are doing duty with a detachment of the 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment. Corporal Brunton-Douglas and Signalman Marr can be seen at the South Wales Borderers' Camp at Sarafand. Then we have Lance Corporal Machin and Signalman Martin, " C " Company, of the same Battalion.

Departures (Permanent).—Signalmen Crebbin and Williams have left us for a Welding Course at the Army Vocational Training Centre, Aldershot. They wouldn't believe it was true,

even when their kits were loaded on the lorry (it was a long sweat). We wish them the best of luck and hope that the Labour Exchange won't see too much of them.

Appointments.—We congratulate the following on getting a grip on the baton. Signalmen Scriven, Beaumont and Till have qualified to use the title U/Lance Corporal. Good luck to you, and here's hoping the pay won't be too long in coming (the first fourteen months are the longest).

Robin Adare.—So had Pinky, Sandy, Tim and Jazz until Bill Wathen got them in his clutches with a size oooo clippers.

POL.

No. 2 "A.A." Cable Section, H.M.S. "President IV."

c/o G.P.O., London.

July.

Apology.—The Editor conveys his regrets for the delay in publishing the following notes and illustrations from No. 2 Cable Section, Base Defences Mediterranean, which were inadvertently overlooked during an exceptionally busy period.

General.—With the passing of another month we are again reminded of the fact, because of the necessity of producing more WIRE Notes. These, by the way, are not our sole indications of the march of time, because our "civvies attached" and would-be "vocational trainees" are also apt to remind us of various dates, or the apparent nearness of the date of repatriation. One consolation remains. We are still able to boast of our location which, with its sea breezes and magnificent beaches, makes an ideal summer camp. Almost eighty per cent. of the personnel are classed as swimmers, whilst the remainder, judging by their progress, will soon be able to tackle any test given them. Again, the "breezes" have been blowing fast and furious this month. We are, according to Dame Rumour, as good as in England, until another breeze blows our visions to destruction. However, for velocity, the June breezes break all previous records, and one cannot but help (and hope) thinking that it certainly is not "an ill-wind" this time.

Congratulations to Badgy. Paid at last! Another name in the Blue Book.

Re-union.—Our thanks must be recorded to the happy thought of Lieutenant Hamilton and his merry men for being "At Home" to this Section. It was an occasion which was heartily enjoyed by all those present. An extra vote of thanks is due to Paddy, Mac and Signalman Tyler for their catering achievement. Their "hot dogs" were like London policemen, "simply wonderful." Almost everyone, in spite of exceptionally healthy appetites, had to refuse the caterer's offer of "just one more." At the games, No. 1 Cable Section excelled themselves. Although we lost, these combats were all thoroughly enjoyed. C.Q.M.S. Hawley, well-known for his bowling average on the cricket field, upheld his reputation by also shattering our wickets on the dart board. Of course, when it came to skittles, "Lon" (after three summers at Watchet), was our only hope. Had "Swede" been available we might have chalked up another win. Speeches by Captain Newsome, Lieutenant Hamilton, and Lieutenant Smitherman echoed the cordial feelings of all present, and 'twas well past time before our hosts, very reluctantly, confessed to the fact.

King's Birthday Celebration.—The ceremony of "Trooping the Colour," by the 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards, was the chief feature of the celebrations in the Alexandria Area. The music supplied by the massed bands of the Royal Marines of the Mediterranean Fleet and the drummers of the Guards added even more interest to such an occasion. A large crowd was present, including His Britannic Majesty's Consul General (who took the salute), the Acting Governor of Alexandria, leading members of the British and Foreign communities and some members of Royal Signals.

Sergeants' Mess.—A photograph of the members of the Sergeants' Mess is published with their Notes. Nowhere, in any of the Empire's fighting forces at home or abroad, can one boast of a more mixed, happy and convivial Mess.

Cricket.—Versus Det. 11th Hussars. Won by 18 runs. Chief honours go to Rawlinson (21), Clarke (22) and Baines (23). The latter also claimed 5 wickets for 15 runs.

Versus Royal Marines Signal Section. Won by 22 runs. (That is through training on Marines special brew). Here Clark claimed 4 victims for 16 runs, Baines 5 for 35.

Agony.—Austin (A.C. Sig. Coy.) Who fired on your target?

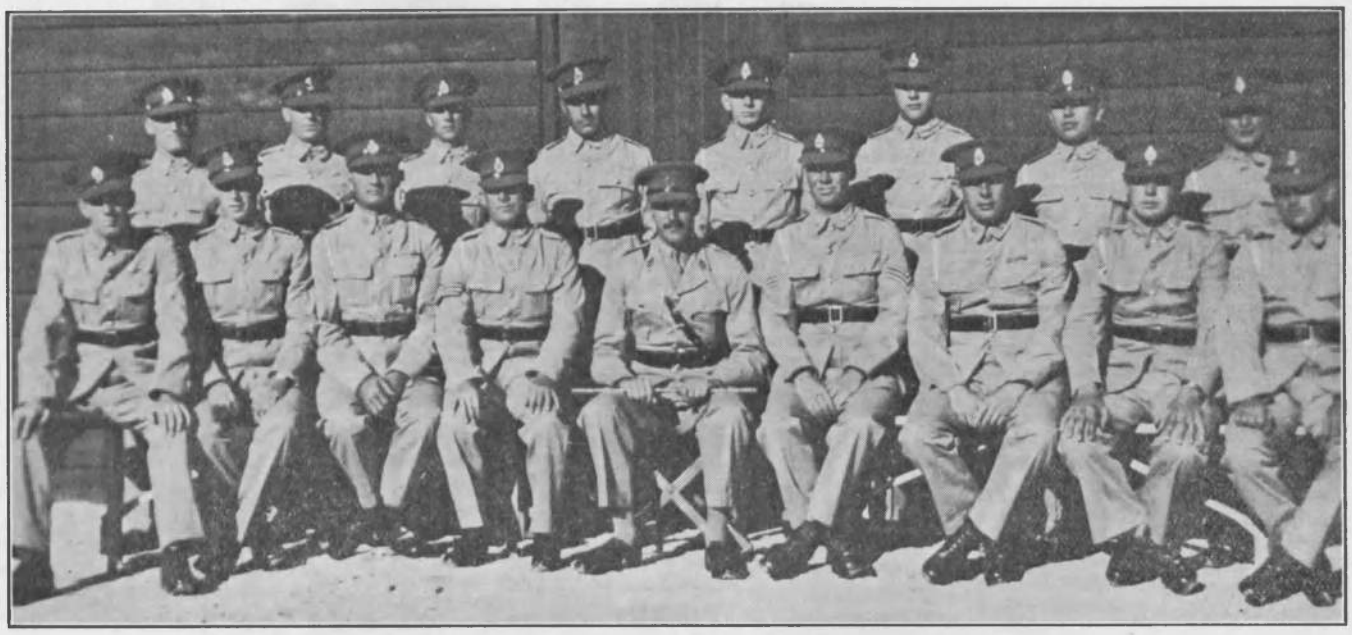
Gib. Sig. Section. "Snaky" regrets to see the apparent low standard of your billiards players.

R.M. Signals, "E" Hut. When we're seedy—we'll call "Speedy."

Query.—We wonder why two of our clan are so keen on their early morning swim. Perhaps there are such being as mermaids after all?

Cheerio.

SANDY.



No. 2 CABLE SECTION.—HEADQUARTERS AND No. 1 DETACHMENT.

Standing—Signalmen Merriman, Walsh J., Fellows, Corporal Field, Lance Corporal Kirk, Signalmen Judd, Crockett, Carmichael

Sitting—Signalmen Ryan, Walsh J. F., Taylor, Sergeant Hodgson, Lieutenant P. H. Smitherman, Sergeant Brown, Lance Corporal Hodge, Signalmen Bennett, Wright.

Base Defences, Mediterranean, 1935-36.

Sergeants' Mess.

Mex Camp, Alexandria, Egypt.

The above Mess extends to all readers very hearty greetings.

In the first place, the composition of the Mess is unique, in that there are five Units of H.M. Services represented, all of which are Royal Units, namely, NAVY, ARTILLERY, MARINES, ENGINEERS and SIGNALS. The initial letter of each Unit, put together, reads "NAMES," hence we are known as the "ROYAL NAMES MESS." This may not signify much to those who are not experiencing our life here, but when it can be said that perfect harmony and co-operation exists at all times, and that our pride is our bulwark in the preservation of comradeship, then nothing further is left to be desired. The group reads from left to right as follows :

Back Row—C.Yeo.Sigs. Bye, R.N., Sergeant Goss, R.M. (hon. sec.), C.Sy.P.O. Wright, R.N. (P.M.C.), P.O. Coop, R.N., Lance-Sergeant Drury, R.E., Sergeant Brockwell, R.M., Lance-Sergeant Scorey, R.A., C.Q.M.S. Webb, R.E., E. A. Booth, R.N., Sergeant Lee, R.M.

Third Row—Sergeant Searle, R.M., Sergeant Rolfe, R.M., Sergeant Hodgson, R.Signals, A/Sergeant Spray, R.M., Sergeant Brown, R.M. (Steward), S/Sergeant Cable, R.E., E. A. Williams R.N., Sergeant Dunsford, R.E., B.Q.M.S. Proudfoot, R.A.

Second Row—E. A. Desbonnet, R.N., B.S.M. Packham, R.A., Sergeant-Major (W.O.) R. W. Hatfield, R.M. (President), Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. Weston, R.M. (Camp Commandant), Captain B. R. Reiss-Smith, R.M. (Supervisor), C.S.M. Braybrook, R.M., Sergeant Brown, R.Signals.

First Row—Lance-Sergeant Martin, R.A., Sergeant Chandler, R.M., Sergeant Dalton, R.M., Q.M.S.I. Carey, R.M., S.B.P.O. Witchell, R.N., Sergeant Motley, R.M., Sergeant Shorter, R.E.

Absent Member—E. A. Hooper, R.N. (who will tell us that "he alone was working").

The average service of the members is 15½ years, and nearly all Service trades and professions are represented. Our bill of health is "CLEAR." These remarks were endorsed by all in a unanimous vote taken at a General Mess Meeting held on 8th June, and also recorded in the Minutes of that Meeting. Our motto, moral and text is, therefore, "COMRADESHIP." With that achieved, nothing can stop progress. Copies have been forwarded to the "Gunner," "The Sapper," "The Globe and Laurel" and "THE WIRE." It is regretted that R.N. publications appear to be non-existent.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

August.

Attachments.—Signalmen Salisbury and Cocking (the one and only) are attached to the R.A.F., Far East, for a month's flying experience. We are thinking of having a Section motto, something after this style, "Malaya Signals, on Land, Sea and Air." We'll see you "*through.*"

Football.—Our sports news hardly warrants a separate publication. As a matter of general interest, we may say for the first time in Malayan history that Signals have been seen in action on the soccer field. We have played three matches up to now, having won two and lost one. Well done, Signals! Thanks are also due to "Soapy" Hudson for his keen organising talents.

Postings.—It is rumoured that shortly we are going to lose eight operators. Their destination is a mystery at present. But why worry, this is the mystic east! We also hear that Hong Kong are supplying us with eight linemen. We can assure the lucky ones of a good Malayan welcome and plenty of cable laying.

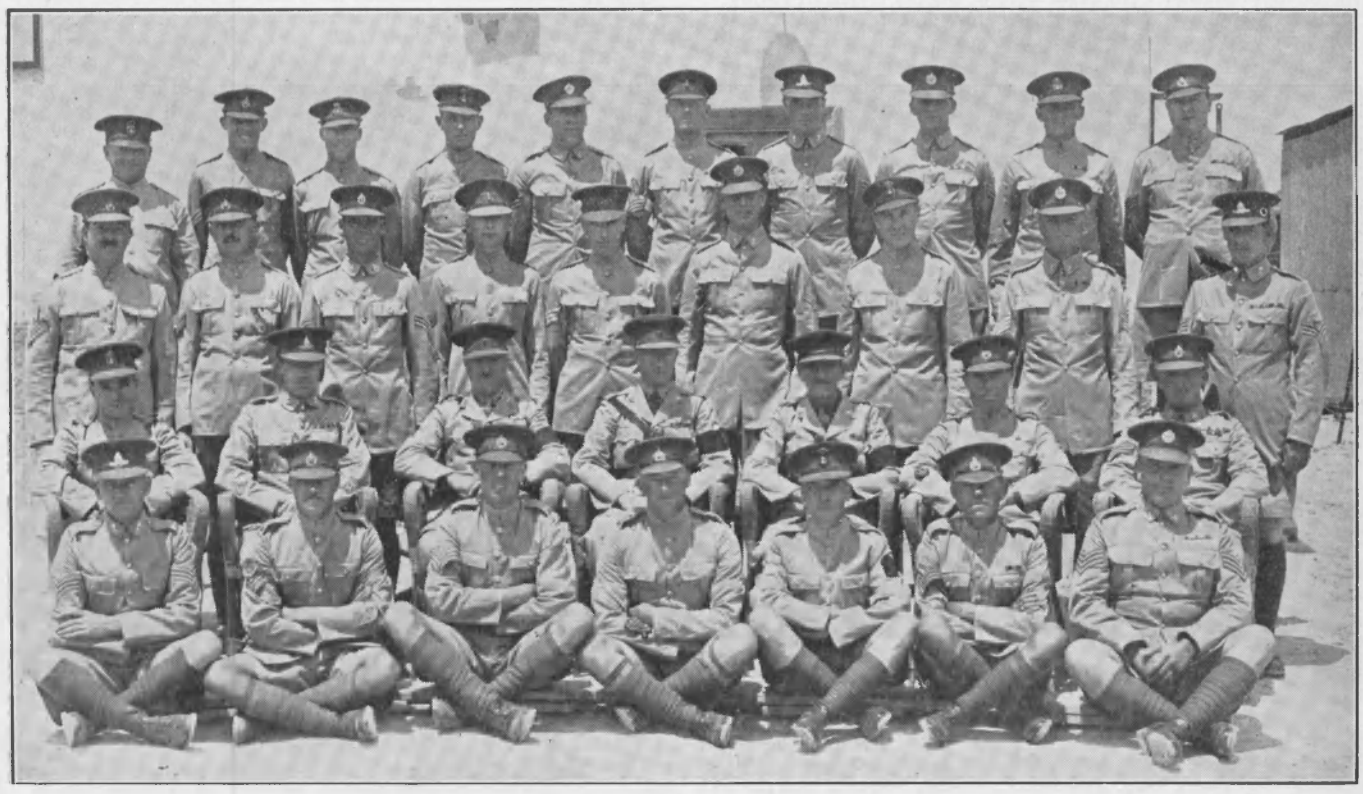
Seen and Heard—Operators!! Signalman Notley offers a message for re-transmission, VE Z ii T. Signalman (no names) asks what "T" means. After it had been explained to him, he exclaimed, "Oh! I thought you were sending me a snorter over the key." Operators!!

Who was that man who dared to cough when the short-wave branch were receiving their first message from Aldershot? Is it right that "in," "out," and "through" trays have already been ordered?

Signalman Smyth is happy. The air mail has just arrived.

Conclusion.—This is all for this month. X314 next full moon.

BARON T. B. C.



SERGEANTS' MESS, BASE DEFENCES, MEDITERRANEAN, 1935-36.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

Camp at Manston this year was particularly memorable, because we found ourselves under canvas, after a lapse of some years spent at Manston R.A.F. Station. Thanks to the good weather, the discomforts promised by our pessimists did not materialise, unless we count the numerous insects, whose behaviour was regrettable, though probably usual. The building of the Camp by the advance party deserves special mention. The work was done well in spite of the lack of practice. It is significant that the Sergeants' Mess was one of the first places to function. The work of the advance party, thereafter, seemed to proceed more easily. By the time the main party arrived, only two or three small tents were still to be erected, and a meal was ready for the hungry travellers. They were duly grateful.

The programme of training, during Camp, included the erection and operation of a Signal Scheme with Divisional, Brigade and Battalion offices connected either by teleprinter, line telephony, superimposed sounder, wireless or visual telegraphy and, of course, the ubiquitous D.R. We were not able to make use of our accustomed landmarks, because the scheme was operated over new territory, but we found the new area well served, and had no difficulty in obtaining ample supplies. In addition to the Signal Scheme, some N.C.O.s and men were detailed to operate a special experimental Scheme under Doctor M. D. Hart. This was an important feature of the Camp, and one which proved extremely interesting.

The various competitions and sports were favoured with almost perfect weather, and some very close finishes were recorded. The results of the Inter-Company and Inter-Section Competitions are as follows :

Inter-Company Airline.—No. 2 Company.
Inter-Company Sports.—No. 1 Company.
Inter-Company Cricket Match.—No. 1 Company.
Inter-Section Tabloid Sports.—No. 5 Section.
Inter-Section Drill.—No. 5 Section.
Inter-Section Swimming.—No. 6 Section.

The sports and cricket match were held on the R.A.F. sports ground by kind permission of Group Captain R. V. Strugnell, M.C. We should like to express our thanks to Group Captain R. V. Strugnell and Squadron Leader F. Wright for helping in so many ways to make the Camp enjoyable. We much appreciated the advantage of having the R.A.F. Band with us on the sports day.

We were glad to welcome a number of old and new friends, who visited us during Camp. We were honoured by visits from General Sir W. Edmund Ironside, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C., Eastern Command, and staff, Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 1st Anti-Aircraft Division, with Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Peck, D.S.O., M.C., and Major H. C. Carey Thomas. Major-General Tompson, after inspecting the Unit on parade, kindly consented to present some Efficiency and Long Service Medals. We were happy to see our Honorary Colonel, Colonel O. W. Nicholson, once again at Camp. A number of Army and Air Force officers came to the Camp to see demonstrations of the Scheme, among them were Colonel E. N. Fortescue Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command), Colonel H. M. Pryce Jones, D.S.O., M.V.O., M.C., Colonel F. J. C. Wyatt, O.B.E., M.C., Major R. G. Lamb, Air Commodore L. S. Cunningham, C.B.E., and Air Commodore H. D. Warrington Morris, C.M.G., O.B.E. We were pleased to welcome Mr. B. O. Anson, Assistant Engineer-in-Chief, G.P.O., with Colonel F. Reid, M.C., T.D., and Mr. G. E. G. Forbes from the G.P.O.

These brief notes on Camp would not be complete without mention of the Post Office Engineering Staff under Mr. A. C. Freestone, who were stationed in Camp with us. We hope that they enjoyed their stay, in spite of the large amount of work they had to do.

Of individual achievements and notable sayings we have said nothing, but that is due to lack of space and the desire to avoid invidious choice. Suffice it to say that everyone enjoyed the fortnight, and we are now looking forward to the next time, which, we hope, will be equally successful.

Owing to the re-organisation, there have been many promotions in the Unit. To all those concerned, we offer hearty congratulations.

Arrangements for training during the winter season are now in hand, and preparations for social events are well forward.

The Westminster Branch of the Signals Association, Old Comrades, meets at Headquarters. We should be pleased to welcome old comrades at our monthly dances, which are held on the third Saturday in each month from October to April inclusive.

H. S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.
September.

Editorial.—The work of re-assembling the respective signal offices, completion of annual weapon training on the miniature range and the exercise of recruits on the open range course proceeds, keeping everyone busy.

The forthcoming training programme, which opens on 1st October next, is an exhaustive one, and will keep everybody at concert pitch. The work of the Company Commanders and supporting staff will be made much lighter if those few, who normally put in only their obligatory drills, will exhibit a little more keenness. The general percentage of parade attendances has greatly increased during the past year or two, but those responsible for the work of organising and running a good show from one Camp to another are not quite satisfied even yet.

One is gratified to note that the Regular forces continue to claim a steady number of our keener members, although, on the other hand, the Unit suffers from the loss of some of its best personnel.

The social side of our activities is also getting into its stride, and, in certain spheres, a determined effort to raise funds is being made against considerable odds.

No. 2 Company possesses a very enthusiastic wireless student. An interesting article is embodied in this issue. We congratulate Spink on his success to date, and wish him good luck in his further researches in the wireless field.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

To be two months away from last Camp seems hardly possible, but time does pass when one is fairly completely occupied. Although traces of occupation are not always evident, we seem to have done a good deal in various ways. Our stores are practically checked, and we now await the completion of the final touches to our signal offices, in order that the individual training classes for operators may commence next month. We look forward to larger attendances and a greater number of classified operators next year; partly to make good our losses to the "Regulars" and partly because the period of training is longer than last year. The linemen and other trades will also be catered for in due course.

Our social side shows signs of renewed enthusiasm, though, so far, it is the old story of the same few stalwarts running the show. We wish more members would exhibit a little more interest in these ventures. Our football team is assured of a good season, provided the weather plays fair. We have been lucky in securing an almost complete list of fixtures for the whole season. Boxing is also attracting its supporters. Last season was a blank one, caused by the frequent absence of our own trainer. But the prospects are bright for the coming season.

An interesting series of competitions in connection with our miniature rifle club is being run by our C.S.M., who is repeating

his previous successful effort. Here again, we look for greater support. A good number of team captains are available but several teams are not yet complete.

Although the methods of raising funds for our various requirements are extremely limited, mainly due to the disadvantages of the location of our present habitation, and its condition from a social aspect, we are trying to raise a little by whist drives. Here our C.S.M. is to the fore. Supported by the usual few, his endeavour shows signs of at least paying its way. We live on in hope that our promised new hall will relieve our anxiety in financial matters.

Last month's scribe has arrived, and will continue these notes.

Ahem! Having duly collected a "wigging" from one of substantial rank, I suppose (having once again been requested to write these notes) that I shall have to be very careful of what is written. Really, I did not know that wives were interested in the WIRE, although I suppose it is not strange, seeing that they go in for "permanent waves."

Since my last screed, things have been rather in the preparatory stage. The P.S.I. duly proceeded on leave and left us to carry on. Drill attendances have not been bad, but could be better. The C.S.M. has been busy attending football league meetings and signing on budding professionals for the soccer league programme. By the time these notes are in print we shall have commenced. We shall be lucky to escape defeat in our opening game, seeing that our opponents are the redoubtable "Royal Marines." You should see "Dolly," Cecil and George in training!

The Miniature Rifle League has commenced, and the first match was only decided by one point. The C.S.M. has begun working out aggregates and percentages.

Two whist drives have been held, and, by the look of things, will soon begin to swell the "Rec." funds. "Tweedle's Tea Room" does a roaring trade. Is it the buckshee coffee or the meat pies that attract? "Reg." makes a capable M.C. We cannot close our notes without a tinge of regret. Departures have hit us badly. Lance Corporal "Ted" Mitchell has gone to the Regular Signals (good luck, "Ginger"!; keep your eye on all butchers' shops when on a cable wagon) and Signalman Strudwick to the Life Guards. The soccer team has lost a stalwart in Lance Corporal Hancock F. who, with Boy Becker, has joined the Royal Navy. No longer shall we hear Freddie shout "howzat, ref.?" in an unsuccessful appeal for offside. Good luck to all in their new spheres.

A bigger blow is the loss of Sergeants Fred Field and Jack Conabeer to No. 3 Company. Still, as they are still in the Unit, our loss is No. 3's gain. We welcome back 2nd Lieutenant G. K. S. Edwards, if only for a short while. One old stalwart has rejoined the Company in Signalman "Ted" Frost, who has rejoined after a five years' break.

Au revoir until my next. Leatherneck.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

From D111 to G.5SP.—G.5SP Calling! G.5SP Calling!! Calling all Signals wireless fans. This is now a familiar call on short-wave bands, and is known to many amateurs' stations throughout the world, particularly in the South of England. It was a proud operator, that Sunday morning towards the end of last year, who made his first call; and it is a much prouder operator who possesses his home-constructed broadcasting station, and can boast of its capabilities. Everything except the generators, etc., and the mike are home-built.

He is William Spink, a Territorial N.C.O. of the Southampton Company of the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals, who, still in his early twenties, is also a member of the Radio Society of Great Britain, and now one of the hundreds of short-wave enthusiasts, who get on the air before breakfast.

Although the term "short-wave" is heard in connection with broadcasting, it represents to many ordinary listeners (except Signals fans) some unknown portion of the air on which only enthusiastic experimenters, technicians, etc., spend their leisure hours.

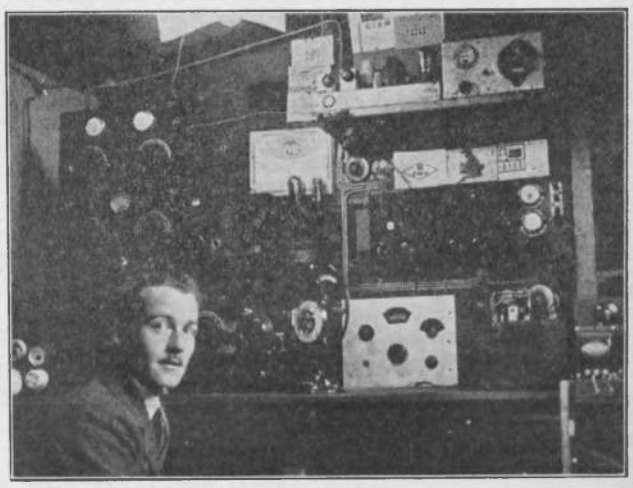
The interest now being shown in ultra short-wave work can be directly attributed to the radio amateurs of the world, many of whom have been investigating the phenomena surrounding these frequencies for the last fifteen years.

Immediately Mr. Spink has finished his work, excepting drill nights, he is "on the air." This nightly performance often carries him well into the early hours of the morning, but that does not worry him much, because he has ingeniously fitted everything into the limited space at his disposal. The germ originally buzzed around during the "constructor's days" of wireless, and began to gather sustenance from the D.III and electrical gadgets in the signal room at Hamilton House (the Company's Drill Hall)—so mystifying to the layman, but almost finding a place on the diet sheet of the members of Signals. It has been said that the only people who learn the morse code are those whose job demands it. However, it was found that much interest could be added to short-wave work if a knowledge of the morse code was acquired so that transmissions could be picked up and reported upon. The code is a part of the Territorial Army Signal training, and Mr. Spink received the necessary instruction under the Company's efficient instructors. He soon became proficient in sending and receiving morse, attended subsequent Courses, etc., and, eventually, the germ became a veritable disease, resulting in the installation of G.5SP, which is tucked away behind business premises in the heart of the town of Southampton.

G.5SP, which has only been on the air a few months, opened out immediately on Telephony. Despite the fact that concomitant preparatory work on the three bands absorbed nearly half this period, and did not permit the exploration of the D.X. field (long distance work), Mr. Spink has already logged some excellent results from all countries except Australia. He is now an enthusiastic collector of Q.S.L. cards. Some people collect cigarette cards and others postage stamps, but amateur transmitters collect Q.S.L. cards. Q.S.L., which, no doubt, is known to most members of the Corps, is a morse abbreviation meaning "Will you give confirmation of ——?" These cards take many novel forms, and, in different parts of the world, various schemes are adopted to make the cards pictorial as well as decorative. The result is that the "den" of an enthusiastic short-wave fan is generally provided with walls which are well papered with these cards, which give a good indication of the patience of the operator and the efficiency of the apparatus. The accompanying photograph shows Mr. Spink at work in the studio of his station, G.5SP. Many of the main instruments can be discerned in the illustration.

All switching, for both transmitters, the modulator and amplifiers, is done from the one switch-board, shown on the wall, just above the operator. As the station's Q.R.A. is on D.C. mains, a ½ kilowatt converter is used for A.C. power supplies; this calls for extra switching. Having all switching grouped in one place saves the operator from dodging about during Q.S.O. In the centre of the bench is the o-v-l receiver; to the left of the microphone is the push-pull 160 meter transmitter for 'phone or C.W. Behind this, on the wall, is the power supply for the plates of the P.A.'s 500 volts at 200 mills.

On the extreme right, on top of the shelf, will be found the microphone amplifier, and just below—the combined frequency meter and monitor; below this, in a rack of its own, is the push-pull modulator, which will give enough A.C. output to



modulate a 25 watt carrier 100 per cent. The modulator power supply is just beneath. On the left is the 20 and 40 meter transmitter. This is a three-stage rig, using a pentode crystal oscillator, buffer amplifier or doubler and a P.X. 25 power amplifier. When using telephony, the doubling is done in the plate circuit of the pentode C.O. as this leaves the middle stage a buffer on either band. But for C.W., the second stage is used as doubler on 20 meters as the P.A. does not require as much excitation for C.W. as 'phone.

The foregoing is a brief description. Mr. Spink will be very pleased to greet any of his regular comrades who possess facilities for " going on the air."

Having achieved his ambition, " William " has since become an instructor to his Company, and is now imparting knowledge to other young members and recruits. He realised that the Territorial Army provided a " man's life," and that it was a mistake to think that joining the T.A. meant drills to the exclusion of all other matters. As a matter of fact, he found that the Royal Signals, T.A., Drill Hall, possessed all the amenities of a club, and what was even more important, the enjoyment of good companionship and the formation of lifelong friendships.

" BEGBIE."

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.C.
15th September.

Some unkind friend has reminded me of the fact that September is nearly through. This in turn brings forward the fact that I have not compiled any notes for the current number.

It is difficult to select suitable articles for publication when the only correspondence I receive from potential contributors is in the nature of bills or requests.

Since returning from Camp we have all been on leave. This implies that we need not attend H.Q., but must, in many cases, work twice as hard at our civilian occupations in order to bring up to date work which was neglected during the Camp period. All this is, of course, the old, old story and, in course of time, one becomes reconciled to the situation.

On 14th September the Drill Hall once more became a place of activity and training recommenced in earnest.

The last contribution contained a very complete account of our experiences at Camp. It is, therefore, out of the question to expand in this direction. Under the circumstances, dear readers, you must have patience and wait for the next issue. Perhaps then we shall have more to tell you.

0020.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

Phoenix Street, Derby.
15th September.

Training at Annual Camp.—Training at Annual Camp this year was seriously interfered with by the weather. However, much useful work was done, and the following are just some of the happenings. During the first week the early morning before breakfast parade was devoted to Physical Training, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all taking part. Later in the morning trained men carried out Section Drill and Section Technical Training, whilst recruits, under the guidance of the R.S.M., and with selected T.A. Instructors, paraded for Squad Drill and Rifle Exercises, and later went back to their Companies for Technical Instruction. Afternoons were devoted to increasing technical knowledge for both trained men and recruits, except those taking part in a novel form of training, which was as follows. This interesting item was a Map Reading Exercise, carried out on lines similar to a " treasure hunt." It occupied four afternoons, each Company of the Unit carrying out three of the Exercises. There were eight teams engaged, with five N.C.O.s and men in each team. The task was to find points on the map from given map references. Lorries were used in conveying the members of teams from one map reference to another. A judge (an officer) rode on each lorry and his job was to see that a different member of the team sat with the driver after each map reference had been found. This member of the team was solely responsible for directing the driver to the next position to be found. The method of changing members of teams was carried out in this way. Sergeant Blank commences, the first map reference being given at the Lorry Park in Camp. On arrival, he finds the map reference selected, enters the time of finding the position on a card, signs the card, and returns to the lorry, joining other members of the team in rear. As he returns to the lorry the next member of the team jumps down, reads the new map reference to be found on the card, notes it, gets in the cab of the lorry with the driver, and directs the driver to the new position. No other member of the team may give any information in any way to the one directing the driver. Judges were empowered to penalise as they thought fit. Only one map per team per lorry was allowed, and the relieved N.C.O. or man could point out on the map the position upon which the vehicle was then located. The N.C.O., who found the last map reference on the card, conducted the lorry back to Camp. Judges were with a different team each day. The lorries were started by an officer at intervals from the Lorry Park, and he gave the map reference of the first position to be found. Two judges were at the Lorry Park to await the arrival (return) and note the time the lorries came in. Teams had to return to Camp at 4 p.m. In any case, they were required to be in Camp by 4.30 p.m., whether all map references had been found or not. Any team returning after that time lost points for every subsequent five minutes. The total distance of the Exercise did not exceed thirty miles, and the map references to be found were about 4½ miles apart. Prizes were awarded, one to the team with the highest number of marks for the three Exercises, and a prize for the team with the next highest aggregate. In addition to the prizes given to members of the successful team, the " Jackson Cup " was awarded to the Company providing the successful team. This Cup was presented to the Unit by Brigadier-General G. M. Jackson, M.C., T.D., to be awarded in an Efficiency Competition. It was previously held by No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company as a result of an extremely good show in a competition based on Signalling.

The Map Reading Exercise, after an excellent competition, was won by No. 3 (Nottingham) Company with their " G " team. " F " team of No. 2 (Chesterfield) and " H " team of No. 3 Company tied for second place.

The recruits' great occasion occurred on the Friday morning of the first week in Camp. They were " passed out " by the Commanding Officer (Colonel G. J. Underwood) in Squad, Arms and Saluting Drill. The four squads of sixteen men astounded (to the great delight of the C.O.) their critics and did remarkably well. Great credit is due to their Instructors, Sergeants Hopkins, Pickard, Andrews and Hinde, whose painstaking methods, with such a lot to do in so little time, could hardly be improved upon. A particular pat for the Boys Squad, their marching being quite Regular Army standard. " But the Boys didn't have to carry a rifle " was a defensive remark heard from a " man " recruit who admitted to the ripe age of seventeen years and one month. Never mind, lads, you all did very well, and that rifle is only a small thing after all !

The second week's training consisted of Section Training with a view to taking part in Unit Exercises to be held on the Thursday and Friday. The first of these Tactical Exercises took place in torrential rain and, with conditions becoming worse, culminated in all except rear parties being ordered back to home stations on the Friday.

Unit practice Ceremonial Parades were also held with the idea that we and others should take part in an inspection by General Sir Hereward Wake, Bt., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C., 46th (NM) Division, on Saturday, 8th August. Units were to march past,

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the salute to be taken by Major-General Sir Frederick Maurice, K.C.M.G., C.B., Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters. The parade did not materialise, as the Units taking part had left Redcar Camp.

No. 1 Sets.—Since the arrival of the No. 1 Sets our operators are now wondering what to do with the old "C" Set junk. The No. 1 Set being such a pretty little toy, we have decided to put it at a premium. Training buzzers are now going frantically, all operators aiming at that fifteen words per minute necessary to admit them to the No. 1 Set Circle. It is rumoured that the Wireless Officer and a P.S.I. have procured "MINE ONLY" labels for attachment to these Sets. Perhaps this is only with a view to developing the "golden voice."

Weapon Training.—Now that all recruits have finished firing their open range practices we are pleased to report a general increase in averages. Certain individuals did so well that we almost doubted the registers—they helped to minimise the efforts of the few who did not need them. One of the latter, after two "washouts" at 100 yards grouping, got a bull with his first shot at 200 yards. He promptly unloaded, counted the remaining rounds, scratched his head, reloaded and got four flags thereafter. He was NOT questioned—some ground is holy.

L. S.

The London Corps Signals, T.A., and affiliated No. 2 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
14th September.

General.—Until this year, our Headquarters has always been closed for training immediately after Annual Training until the first Monday in October. This year, however, Companies have been given permission to hold parades under their own arrangements during the few weeks prior to the commencement of the official training date. This innovation has proved successful in more ways than one. Firstly, Companies can dispose of the necessary overhauling of wagons and stores before serious training becomes due. A second, but not less important, reason is that it may be possible to "rope in" a few recruits. This, in fact, has proved to be the case, because from 17th August to the present time, no fewer than ten good fellows have joined us. The opening of Headquarters also gives some of the fellows the opportunity of completing the requisite number of drills for their bounty. Perhaps, however, one of the best aspects of this new venture is that it allows the friendships formed at Camp to continue and foster uninterrupted by an enforced absence from the very place where such friendships are of the most importance.

Paid Telegraph Operating and Procedure Courses commence on 24th September. We have also started a Physical Training Class on Thursday evenings. This should prove a popular venture. (Bigga da ches'—greata da muss.)

The photographs shown with these notes depict two phases of our new activities as Corps Signals—Air Line and Corps Signal Office.

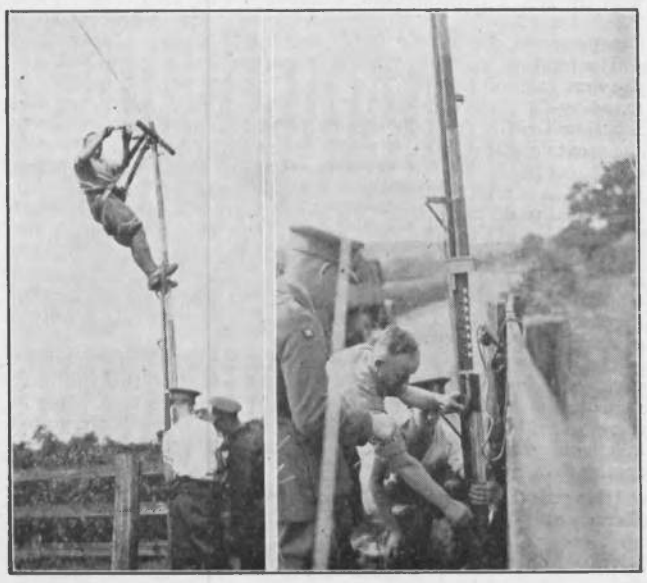
Congratulations.—We heartily congratulate Lance Corporals Cohen D., Gardner B. P., Nelson-Esch D. and Cobb G. F. on their appointment to that state of one stripedness. We also congratulate Signalmen Lowry M. J., Jeff F. G. and Reeve P., all of the S.R., on being awarded the Efficiency Medal (Militia).

Officers.—We are soon to have some additional officers. But this is not supposed generally to be known!

Sergeants' Mess.—It has recently come to our notice that Lance Sergeant Potter E. G. was married a short time ago. Why he kept it a secret we do not know. Sergeant Pettifer R. was "sentenced" on the 5th of this month. We wish them both all the luck possible in their "new service engagement." We congratulate Sergeant "Nobby" Ambrose, D.G., D.C.M. (S.R.), on being awarded the clasp to the Efficiency Medal (Militia).

Social.—Unit dances commence on 10th October next. We hope our old friends will come along again and shake a leg.

AFFEMMA.



REMINISCENCE.

Khaki tunic, civvy slacks, army boots and forage cap,
Sloping arms with a dummy gun, forming fours and thinking it fun.
Marching miles on a hard-packed road, joy of living your only goad.
Seeing discipline come to a mob, sharpening dullard, levelling snob!

Do you remember?

Fit as fiddles, eager for strife, like unleashed greyhounds—keen as a knife.
Sated with drilling, lectures a bore, fed up with waiting—ready for war!
Draft leave at last and farewells all taken; everyone keyed up, spirit unshaken.
Cussing the details that kept us at Dover. Writing a scrawl to wife, mother or lover.

Do you remember?

Landing at Calais—no trumpet, no drum. Just cattle trucks waiting for huite chevaux, quarante homme.
Travelling endlessly, endlessly on; starting, stopping, then shunting along.
Rumble and grumble of guns getting louder. "Are they ours?" "Are they Jerry's?" Our first smell of powder.
Sausage balloons poised low in the sky; like blood-bloated carrion, too lazy to fly!

Do you remember?

Joining the regiment, afraid to intrude. Listening, learning of life, rough and crude.
Taking a tip from a muddy old stager, whose two months of trench life makes vastly the sager!
Then "up the line," machine guns a-chatter. This is the life, naught else can matter.
Waiting for dawn and watching gun flashes—blind to the carnage where the shell crashes!

Do you remember?



Fatigues, wiring parties; mud, blood and slime. Drinking, not water, but chloride of lime!
Watching, waiting, raiding, repelling. Seeing a pal hit—cursing and yelling.
At length, leave to Blighty, excited and happy. Wishing the R.T.O. would make things more snappy.
The girl you'd left waiting, with all her sweet charms, waiting still—in another chap's arms!

Do you remember?

Seeking old faces, missing a few. Watching folk waiting for spuds in a queue!
Trying your damnedest to do everything. Finding the loneliness that only crowds bring.
Over the water, back to the boys. Something familiar—the calm, then the noise!
The girl in the cafe, whose lovely dark eyes promised lots; were those eyes—lies?

Do you remember?

Over the top and the best of luck. Up to the waist of your kilt in muck!
Rushing, staggering, stumbling through. To gain an objective without a clue.
Digging in, holding on, ground cleft asunder—Poppies were growing there, thriving mid' thunder.
Harassed by shell fire, men falling fast. Eating your rations—and making 'em last!

Do you remember?

Seeing a man, whom we'd all thought slow, urging us, coaxing us. Morale was low.
He gave his life that we might live. Bombed a pill-box, was drilled like a sieve.
Shrapnel and gas came unawares, men coughed their lives out, with oaths—prayers.
Kindly oblivion! Awaking in bed. Back with the living, away from the dead!

Do you remember?

Some of us did rather well on demob., some still seeking a permanent job.
Some died, giving their best that their children might garner the fruits of the test.
Yet self-seeking nations, eager for power, greedy for land and what it can dower,
Refute all logic, refuse to see sense, leaving the whole world fearful and tense.
Might isn't right that threatens life. Can't we finish with war and strife?

GOD, MAKE THEM REMEMBER!

Written at a time of remembrance, with a thought for the individual who deems the volunteer soldier a sanguinary fellow lusting for war. May he find the moral in the meat and reflection in the crust!

H. ABERCROMBIE.
November, 1935.

Line of Communication Signals, S.R.

October.

As the last joined, I have been "requested" to supply the necessary copy for what, I am given to understand, has hitherto been a blank space. The outstanding item of importance during August has been, of course, the Annual Camp. No. 21 Construction Section had already been to "The Plain" in May, for a job of work there, and Nos. 21 and 22 Cable Sections had also visited Aldershot in May, for their Annual Training. No. 2 Company were, as usual, able to do their training only at Longmoor, whilst No. 3 Company carried out their training at Aldershot, in June, owing to leave difficulties. It was, therefore, rather a depleted Unit which actually took over the London Divisional Signals, T.A. Camp, at Seaford, from 9th to 23rd August. A Scheme was carried out covering a period of several days, and visualized a landing at Seaford. It was, however, rather handicapped by the lack of men and stores, and therefore, had to be very much in miniature.

We did, however, receive visits from Major-General P. R. C. Commings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Commanding The London Division, T.A.), Colonel E. N. F. Hitchens, D.S.O., M.C. (Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command), Colonel A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. (Chief Signal Officer, Supplementary Reserve Duties) and Lieutenant-Colonel H. V. von S. Thorne (Chief Signal Officer, London District). Colonel J. Waley Cohen, C.M.G., O.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., the Honorary Colonel of the Unit, was also able to spare an evening, and dined in the Officers' Mess on Friday, 14th.

On Wednesday, 12th August, a parade was held, at which Colonel E. N. F. Hitchens, D.S.O., M.C., presented the Efficiency Medal (Militia) to R.Q.M.S. Smith W. A., M.M., and C.S.M. Gosling A., awards, which everyone agreed, were well merited.

On each Saturday a Tent Competition was held. This was won by Corporal Coe's tent, of No. 1 Company, each time. During the Camp period, the Seaford Golf Club very hospitably allowed us to play on the Course. On 21st August a "Bogey Competition" was arranged. This was won by Major F. H. Dallison, M.C., with Signalman Shugar C. H., second. On Thursday afternoon, 20th August, the officers played the sergeants at cricket. The latter won by a comfortable margin. It is hoped to make this an annual fixture.

On Friday evening, 21st August, No. 4 Company held their annual dinner in the Bay Hotel, and hospitably invited all the Officers and P.S.I.s. Everyone spent a very enjoyable evening, concluding with a smoking concert, under the auspices of Corporal Bourne E. A. The weather was very kind during the period, and everyone will remember the Camp at Seaford, as a very pleasant spot. A great contrast, incidentally, to the wind, rain, and general thin time, which we "enjoyed" last year on manoeuvres.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.

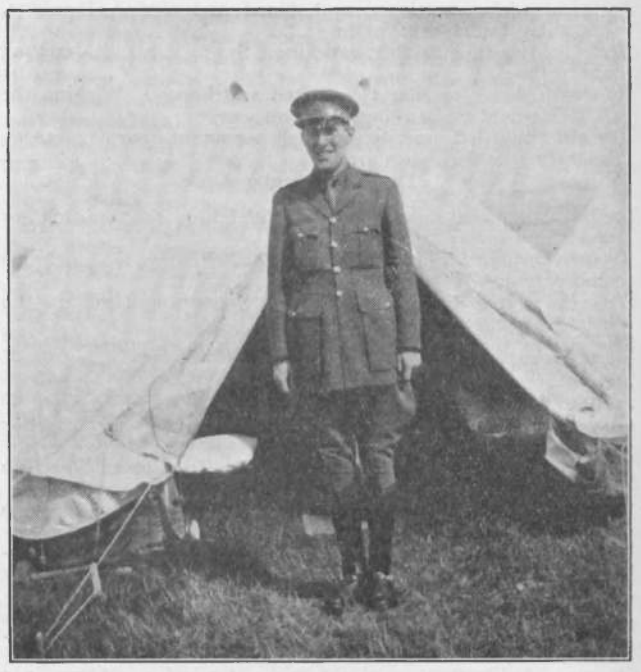
Another Salisbury Plain Camp has come to a successful conclusion. In spite of the dismal prophesies of the weather critics, who promised us, not without reason, a second Winchcombe, the weather conditions turned out to be all that could be desired. We had very little rain, although it was for the most part on the cool side. Windmill Hill, for the great majority of us, was entirely fresh ground, and had not been visited by this Unit for a matter of ten years. The site proved to be an excellent one, and it was possible to select a variation of training ground for almost every day. As regards training, everyone agrees that this will rank among the most successful and enjoyable Camps in the Unit's history. This must have been particularly gratifying to Lieutenant-Colonel Holdsworth, for whom it is unfortunately his last, as C.O. of the Unit. The concession to wear civilian clothing was found a great boon by all those who had earned the privilege to do so. It is hoped that the prospect of this reward will be an inducement to everyone to see that the opportunity to earn it in barracks is not wasted. The programme, in general, followed progressively the lines of the three preceding years, except that rather more attention was given to the actual passage of message traffic with speed and accuracy, than to tactical movements. Fullerphones were also constantly used. Two of the Schemes took place during the hours of darkness, and with very gratifying results. Early in the first week the Unit was visited by the C.S.O., who was then only able to witness the preliminary bursts. He expressed himself very pleased with all he saw, and especially with the evolutions demonstrated by the D.R.s under Captain Simpson and Sergeant Colquhoun. Frankly, he was not the only one so impressed, since the display produced quite a sensation in the Camp itself. We never thought our D.R.s could do things like that. On a subsequent visit, we were able to show the C.S.O. some of our real "stuff," in set Schemes, and he went away full of praises.

Colonel Sir Bertram J. T. Ford, T.D., as usual, spent a few days with us, staying at the "Crown" in Everleigh. The D.C.S.O., Colonel Martineau, was also there.

The group of Instructors attached to us from 3rd Div., consisted of Major Charlesworth, Sergeants Higham, Elmes, Cocking, Chappell, Corporal Pullen (D.R.) and Signalman Hunt, whose assistance was as invaluable as ever. Their Morris R/T cars also took part in most of our Schemes and aroused great interest and admiration. This applies also to the R.A.F. R/T tender from Old Sarum. We had aircraft co-operation on several occasions. I think, that in spite of elaborate precautions and camouflage, they managed to locate our offices on too many occasions. "J" Section took part in an exercise with the 145th Infantry Brigade, whose Camp was adjacent to ours, and brought back a very favourable report. Transport was, as last year, provided by the



The C.O. in Happy Mood.



The M.O., Captain A. G. Whitfield.

Artillery Transport Company (York), under our old friend Mr. Fowler, and, by the second week, Yorkshire dialect seemed to become the official language. " Fair dos by Gum."

The social side of Camp was well catered for by Major P. H. Jones, M.C., with the able assistance of C.Q.M.S. Galpin, Lance Sergeants Parsons and Portman and others, who officiated in the canteen. A concert was arranged during each week. On the first occasion the spice of the programme was provided by the famous " Barleaux," who produced an excellent band and, of course, his inimitable self. Home talent was also well to the fore, notably Signalman Field (piano accordion), Signalman Bittles (Irish songs), and Signalman Edge L., whilst Sergeant Allen at last found willing ears for the " Green Eyes," and Corporal Warrilow (weird noises on a muted trumpet). C.S.M. Ryder had a busy, though, we think, happy time as compere.

The six-a-side Inter-Section football contest ended after some very keen play with a win for " Don " Section, with " J " Section as runners-up. The Chiseldon Sports, organised by Captain E. A. James were also keenly contested, and finally won by " J " Section.

We were pleased to welcome two new officers to the Unit in the persons of 2nd Lieutenant J. M. D. Holmes and 2nd Lieutenant R. Dickinson, and also 2nd Lieutenant G. K. Edwards, who was attached to us from 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals. We hope the latter especially enjoyed his experience with us.

Divine Service.—The Unit joined the Brigade Parade for Divine Service, on what was, perhaps, the hottest day of Camp. The turn-out and march discipline earned for us a handsome compliment from the Brigade Commander, Colonel B. C. S. Clarke, D.S.O.

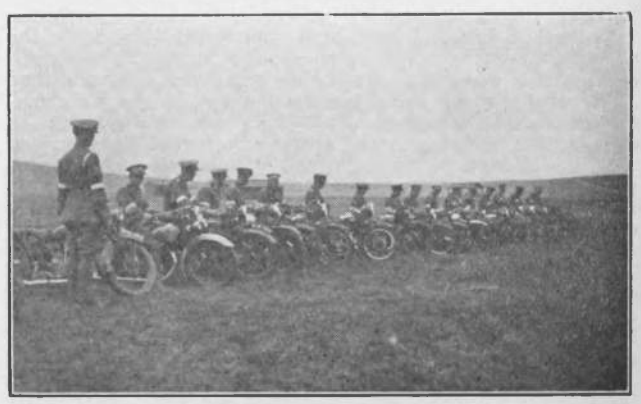
Sergeants' Mess.—The usual happy spirit prevailed in the Mess, and, although it was not possible to arrange many functions, three very pleasant evenings were spent, firstly under the hospitality of the 5th Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, secondly with 3rd Divisional Signals, to whom we are doubly obliged, since the depleted state of their Mess must have made arrangements very difficult. Still, they managed to give us a right royal time, which we shall not soon forget. Furthermore, they contrived to win back the coveted Cup. Although the " bone of contention " is back again in our Mess, we hope that the time will not be far distant when these trophies will again change hands. At the conclusion of the second Unit concert, the officers paid their customary visit to the Sergeants' Mess, where the remainder of the evening and greater part of the night, was spent in jovial mood.

We gratefully acknowledge Colonel Sir Bertram Ford's usual generous gift.

The annual dinner will take place on the 12th inst., and will be duly reported in our next contribution.



Cable Wagons outside the "Crown," Everleigh. Puzzle, where is the Section?



The D.R. Section.

D.R.s' Club.—The club is continuing to function with redoubled vigour this season. Club nights are held fortnightly on Fridays, commencing 4th September, and there will be a morning run on Sunday mornings, also fortnightly, which it is hoped to vary by something in the shape of trials and treasure hunts. Should these notes come to the notice of D.R.s in other Units, we should like it to be known that we would greatly like to exchange visits with some of them, or, alternatively, meet them half-way and arrange some sort of convivial celebration. The attention of the City of London Signals is particularly invited. They promised to consider it last year.

Cup and Prize-winners at Camp.—OFFICERS' TECHNICAL CUP.—Lieutenant G. St. L. King.

SMALLWOOD CUP (D.R.s).—Lance Corporal Parrott.

BEST IMPROVED SUBALTERN (DANIELSON CUP).—2nd Lieutenant P. W. Malins.

SIX-A-SIDE FOOTBALL.—" D " Section.

CHISELDON SPORTS.—" J " Section.

CLEANEST TENT.—Tent No. 12 (recruits).

Photographs.—The accompanying excellent photographs have kindly been supplied by 2nd Lieutenant P. W. Malins.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—Doubtless, you have all heard the various excuses for omission of notes from time to time. Well, please choose your favourite one, and accept this as mine, together with my promise not to err again. This is rather a slack period for the Company (excluding the P.S.), and so little has happened. It is, therefore, difficult for our scribe, with only little ability in this direction, to write when there is scanty material available.

Weapon Training.—Since our last Notes, the Company has completed its Annual Weapon Training with good results, and a definite improvement on last year. This only goes to prove that the extra " pokey drill," besides being enjoyable, and interesting, was also very effective. Whilst on the subject of musketry, the results were so good that our officer in charge of the Cable Section considered that we were expert enough to enter competitions, and accordingly challenged the N.C.O.s' Mess to a Mystery Shoot. This was, of course, accepted, and I don't remember a more pleasant evening being spent. I'm afraid the officers gave us a stiff practice to fire, and one in which we were rather less experienced than they. This consisted of running from our range to the Mess, consuming a pint of *any* liquid refreshment, returning to the range and firing five rounds in two minutes, followed by a practice, suggested by the ROBERT SUGAR MONKEY, to more running, eating half a pork pie, drinking half a pint of beer and firing five rounds in two and a half minutes. All credit is due to the challengers, who were successful in defeating us, but only by a very small margin. I should hate to state the name of the Warrant Officer, who failed to score after the second practice. However, the evening was so successful that a repetition must be arranged in the very near future.

Winter Training.—We have not yet commenced our Winter Training, but judging by the number of enquiries, every one is very keen to start. If the efforts and suggestions of our officers for improved training are any criterion, the Efficiency Cup will remain here indefinitely.

Agony.—Congratulations to our Headquarter Staff on the expert way in which they solved the riddle of the division of the mystic circle. We hope that the services of the gentleman were not called in because of the nature of his employment.

CURRY-WALLER.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—There's very little to report at the moment. We await the programme of training for the training year 1936-7.

Musketry.—We've finished our musketry for 1936. The results were quite creditable. The keenness displayed was very encouraging, particularly so with the N.C.O.s.

Command.—Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton handed over command of the Unit on 4th September. It is with sincere regret that we have to say farewell. We know that he will visit us whenever the opportunity arises. Here's our best wishes to Colonel and Mrs. Walton. We heartily welcome Major T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D., who has assumed command of the Unit. We wish him every success. He knows that the Unit will loyally support him.

Apropos Annual Training 1937.—Our Headquarter Staff are inventing novel games (?), which, I expect, they will introduce whilst in camp next year. Although not acquainted with full details, it appears that members of the Sergeants' Mess will have to learn to duck quickly—very quickly. Tall fellows make good targets.

ANGLER.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

September.

14th Infantry Brigade Exercises.—The outstanding item of importance is the visit of certain personnel of the Company to Catterick Camp in the capacity of Signal Section to the 14th Infantry Brigade. Those of us who formed the Section realise our good fortune, and can only regret that such an experience is a thing of the past. We were not unappreciative of our responsibilities, and much useful training was gone through before departure to Catterick, under the command of the Adjutant, Captain Bell. One could recount columns of interesting detail, but, as it concerns each or all of us in a personal rather than in a Company sense, the wish to do so must necessarily be waived. It was unfortunate in one respect that we did not get a little more employment ; but, as a compensation, it gave us the opportunity to see the Regular Army Brigade troops doing their jobs. Truly an interesting experience. We were quartered with the Depot Battalion during our stay, and a delightful experience it was. Everything that could be done for our comfort and welfare was done. Although the phrase " Thank you " may appear tardy in cold print, it represents our sincere feelings to R.S.M. Caulfield and his staff for the great kindness we received. No. 3 Company of the 50th hopes to meet you again, sir !

Major T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D.—We naturally regret the termination of tenure of command of the Unit of Brevet-Colonel Walton, and it is with feelings of pleasure that we welcome Major T. T. J. Sheffield as his successor. This opportunity is taken to assure him that he can rely on the whole-hearted co-operation of his Gateshead Company. Brevet-Colonel Walton taught us to " hitch our wagons to a star." That is our slogan here.

Marriages.—C.Q.M.S. Knox G. (who has taken unto himself another " Q.M.") and Sergeant Campbell A. (a wife to help in the running repairs). Congratulations, good luck and happiness to all.

THREECOY.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—This is a very quiet period of the year for us. With the exception of the usual routine and preparations for the first of our winter courses, which commences in the near future, there is nothing of note to report.

In a recent newspaper article, rating the intelligence of animals in terms of power to think for themselves, the anthropoid apes are placed first on the list, while man has not been given even honourable mention. The justice of this omission is impressed upon us, while endeavouring to put together some WIRE notes during our off season. It is a fact that as oysters come on the menu, WIRE notes go off. The method of testing an oyster, is to tap him hard on the upper shell. If he is fresh, he shuts up at once. The absence of notes, therefore, must not be taken as indicating loss of fitness. Technical training may be suspended, but no doubt all ranks retain their freshness by continuing systematically the early morning P.T. exercises.

P.T. or not P.T. What a suggestion !
Whether 'tis better in the wind to suffer
The pains and harrows of outraged nature or,
By reposing, end them.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who, rising from his downie bed,
Never to himself hath said,
" Hail ! blessed morn that brings P.T.
To Highlandmen of DIV. HD."

From what I've said you will jalouse,
I like to get out in short trews,
And work off some of last night's booze,
While early morning breezes ply
Round ankle, calf, knee and thigh.

I love to hear my joints go crack,
And taking Hebbie on my back,
To run about till knees go slack,
Perspiring beads upon my brow,
I like it, 'deed I do (sez thou).

Although I perspire from every pore,
And every joint is stiff and sore,
You'll always find me to the fore
When we, like Ghandi and his train,
Set out to plunge into the main.

Thus, when we put handbook aside,
And take gymnastics in our stride,
Let no man scoff or none deride.
We will not think, " by heck it's sore,"
But " fit ourselves, FIT for the CORPS."

H.Q. AND ONECOY.

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Our faithful scribe from Aberdeen, having so efficiently dealt with the whole Unit's activities at St. Andrews this Camp, leaves nothing to be desired, and also saves us the job of worrying out all the details, which, it must be confessed, have been forgotten. We would say, however, that it showed many of our very young members in a new light, because, in spite of all the wettings, they got from time to time, they remained far more cheerful than normally they do under normal circumstances here in Stirling.

September sees us commencing our Winter Courses. We are faced with a very stiff programme in our endeavours to bring our establishment of Operator Signals up to strength. It is our hope eventually to obtain about 35 Operators from the raw material we have in hand. Our programme allows us ninety working hours to do this in. We have every hope of being successful, because, once again, our friends in Scottish Command Signal Company, through the courtesy of Major R. E. S. Clephan, have come to our assistance, and are arranging for us to have the help of Sergeant Pendergast on each of our training nights. A very great sacrifice on his part, and one that is greatly appreciated by all ranks. Courses commence on Tuesday, 15th September, and will continue throughout the winter until March next year, with a small break to enable us to get over the festivities in the New Year.

The Sergeants' Mess open their winter programme with a dance early in October, their first effort in Stirling by the way. It is hoped that this function will be the forerunner of many others. The Company are also looking forward to a Company smoking concert, the date of which is not yet fixed. We have an abundance of talent, which was greatly in evidence at the Unit " smoker," held whilst at Annual Camp. Writing in the same vein, we would say that the Unit Ball at Annual Camp was an event which appealed greatly to our " first campers." It would be interesting to discover if this event in our Camp life is unique among Territorial Camps.

TUCO.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals
and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Abbotsford.—The Abbotsford affair followed hard on the heels of our fortnight at Gailes. Nevertheless, we were able to provide sufficient personnel to satisfy the needs of the Black Watch and Gordons at Abbotsford. We must give all the credit for this show to our Territorial Units. It was they who toed the line and provided every man for the Corps' work in these miniature manœuvres. Is is not every day that we have the opportunity of winning the commendation of Commanders of Regular Infantry formations. This we did at Abbotsford. Major Victor Warren was in charge of our lads. A man of many works is our Major Warren. He flourished at Gailes. He won laurels at Abbotsford. There are many of us who would have liked to have been at Abbotsford. It was something novel. It was a bolt from the blue. It is gratifying to know that those of us who were privileged to participate in this affair maintained the traditions and the good name of the Lowland Signals.

Son and Heir.—It is a rare occurrence to congratulate one of our officers on the birth of a son and heir. Lieutenant A. S. W. Mitchell, S.R., has broken the spell. Our best wishes go to Lieutenant and Mrs. Mitchell. May all that is best be the lot of Mitchell the younger. Here's luck to the little lad !

Luke's Lot.—We refer this time to Lieutenant Luke of wireless fame. If he had his way, he would sacrifice much in order to further the cause of his Section. He would have been at Scarborough. He would have organised autumn week-end camps. But the fates were against him. So we leave our good young friend tearing at the leash for the commencement of the next training season.

Harrison Here.—We had a very welcome visitor to Jardine Street recently. It was none other than our old and respected P.S. man, Bert Harrison. We understand that Bert's promotion prospects are rosy. He deserves anything which may come his way. He has many a friend and well-wisher in Glasgow.

McNeil Migrates.—The youthful Sergeant McNeil of the Regimental Store has left us. Young McNeil has joined the Glasgow Police. He is a promising lad. We can well imagine him making the best of his new job. The departure of Mac. is a distinct loss to the Units. It will be no easy matter to find a man to fill his shoes.

Murray's Mishap.—Bob Murray is a man of regular habits and temperate ways. His people at St. Albans were almost forced to regard Bob as having diverged from the narrow path. Bob advised his good folks that he was arriving by boat from Glasgow to St. Albans—merely a mistake on the part of the Post Office Telegraphs. The Murray fellow is still the man he was.

All Quiet.—Things are quiet. The aftermath of the Camps is dead and gone. Anxious looking officers and quartermasters have again regained their smiling status. Before long we will be in the throes of the winter campaign. There are to be some enticing Paid Courses. The football and cross-country enthusiasts are standing-to. So we are back to the usual run of things. We look forward to the wintry evenings and the club room fires.

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53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

The period since Camp has been one of gathering up loose ends and getting ready for the forthcoming training season. There has been much to do in clearing off the North Devon mud stains. It is rumoured that as various layers of the rich red loam were removed from the six-wheeler, several missing items of Camp equipment appeared.

The outstanding event of the past month is the marriage of our Adjutant, Captain R. T. H. Gelston to Miss Gladys Mary Hibbert, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. F. Hibbert of Liverpool. The wedding took place at Swansea, where the bride's father was formerly the Borough Water Engineer. He now holds a similar position in Liverpool. Colonel F. Hibbert, M.C., was C.R.E., 53rd (Welsh) Division, for a number of years, and now holds an R.E. Staff appointment in the Western Command. Major W. G. Trice, our second-in-command, was best man. Captain D. S. Blunt, R.E., and Captain D. A. O. Wilson, R.A.M.C., acted as ushers. A guard of honour, composed of a large party of our own Officers, headed by the C.O., Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., T.D., together with a number of R.E. and R.A.M.C. Officers, paraded outside the church, from which the happy pair made their exit under an arch of swords. A reception was held at the Langland Bay Hotel, and later in the day Captain and Mrs. R. T. H. Gelston left for a motor tour in Ireland.



[By courtesy of the "Western Mail and Echo" Ltd., Cardiff.
The wedding of Captain R. T. H. Gelston and Miss Gladys Mary Hibbert.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 3 Company.

General.—It is rather late in the day to say a few words about the Annual Camp, but here goes, better late than never. First of all, praise must be given to our Lieutenant-Quartermaster in the layout of the Camp. Plenty of space and all that. Taking things all round, I think everybody got down to it, and so made it a success. Praise seemed to be coming in from all quarters.

Now that we are back and settled down once more, a Paid Evening Class has started, at the end of which, I hope to publish the names of the successful candidates. Musketry is gradually progressing, and judging by the results we should put up a good show in the Unit Shooting Competition.

Recruiting.—As fast as they go, so they come. Here is the latest joined: Lieutenant A. J. Stevens, Signalmen Geddes, Marchant, Claydon, Smith, Harrodence, Barnett, not forgetting Sergeant Gale, transferred from No. 1 Company. To all these we hand out the glad hand, and hope their stay will be long and happy.

Parades.—At the end of the Southend Carnival Week a Drumhead Service was held on 23rd August in Chalkwell Park. I am glad to say that the 54th was well represented. The turn-out was very good, and the marching exceptionally good.

Sports.—These were held on Bank Holiday. The weather, as usual, was not very kind. Here are some of the results. We retained the Sports Trophy, but lost the Visual. The 100 Yards was won by Corporal Smith E. W., with Signalman Story second. The Relay Race came our way, the team consisting of Corporal Smith, Signalmen Points, Storey and Willsher. A very good race. Well done! The Boat Race, I thought, was never coming to an end. After many tries we succeeded in capturing it. The Tug-of-War was won by No. 4 Company, which consisted of the Bedford and Ipswich Detachments. Well done, No. 4!

No. 3 Coy.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool, 7.
September.

Although things, on the surface, are going slowly, as is usual at this time of the year, there are indications that activities in the sub-strata are paving the way to an entirely satisfactory training season next year. The most important of these activities is the steady influx of recruits. In spite of competitions and attractive alternatives, such as the recently-established Auxiliary Air Force Squadron at Speke, new men continue to roll along, among them a gratifying sprinkling of ex-Service men, who prove very helpful to the raw recruits without previous experience. At Mason Street, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies are over strength and No. 2 Company at Prescot will shortly be in a similar happy position. Then, heigh-ho for next Camp and that Cup, which we intend to win, for the best attendance at annual training.

Next Camp, incidentally, is to be a Divisional one at Catterick, and provided the weather favours us, we should have an enjoyable fortnight. The last time the Unit was at Catterick it rained continuously, soaked everything and made life miserable. Following the example of last year, we are to have a week-end scheme in the early part of October, at Altcar. We must hope for better weather on this occasion. Altcar under decent conditions is a goodly spot, but when the gods are unkind, is very much the opposite.

At the Barracks work goes on steadily. Operating Classes, miniature range shooting and drill for the recruits are mostly in evidence. It is very striking to observe the difference in a man's bearing, even after a few weeks of training. Although we can only get them two nights a week, quite recent recruits are marching with a swing like veterans. Their necks, in a lot of cases are, for the first time, touching their collars at the back. The good spirit, prevalent in the Unit, has been evidenced during the last few months, when independent Section Schemes have taken place. So far, these have been confined to No. 1 Company, whose O.C. must be very pleased to see his men turning out so eagerly for a day's work, without receiving any pay for it.

No. 3 Company is holding an Inter-Section Shoot at the end of September on the miniature range. The awards, so far, have not been decided upon, but will, no doubt, be worthy of presentation at the hands of their august donor, the O.C. Company.

We are now on the eve of the winter social season, and next month, October, sees the first of the monthly "Officers' Hot Pots." I am sure they will prove as successful as those previously. We are hoping to have with us the same good friends as last year. The climax of this brilliant season will come with the annual dance, which will be held at the Adelphi Hotel on 18th December next. Last year, a most horrible and sinister fog depleted the number of guests at the dance, which proved none the less enjoyable for those who overcame the elements, and arrived safely. This year, we are hoping for more clement conditions and a record attendance. Towards this end, it has been decided to reduce the fee for a double ticket to a guinea, the single ticket costing 12s. 6d. as before. We anticipate a great rush for tickets at these prices, and I can only strongly advise those most interested, who have struggled so far through these notes, to write immediately and reserve their tickets.

"55"

SPORTS NOTES

School of Signals.

Tennis.—Garrison Singles.—Winner, Sergeant Farmer F.

5th Division Inter-Regimental Doubles.—Winners, Lieutenant J. B. Adams and Sergeant Farmer F. Although they lost the first set, and were losing 5—2 in the second set, Lieutenant Adams and Sergeant Farmer managed to win the second set and the match.

Catterick Garrison, Other Ranks Doubles.—In this event Sergeants Farmer and Cox were runners-up.

Handicap Mixed Doubles.—Winners, Sergeant and Mrs. Farmer. Their handicap was —15.3, but they won the final match 6—0, 6—1.

In the final of the Signal Training Centre Other Ranks Lawn Tennis Tournament, Sergeants Creaton and Cox (holders) beat Corporal Cottingham and Lance Corporal Urquhart 6—1, 6—3, 4—6, 6—0.

"A" Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India.

Tennis.—Despite the handicap of the monsoon weather, a very successful tournament has been completed. Some good tennis was witnessed, and the winners had some hard matches. The number of entries, amounting to 120, exceeded expectations. In the Men's Doubles, Assistant Surgeon Muller and Sergeant Boxall beat Signalmen Ashworth and Mobberly. Signalman Ashworth won the Singles, beating Signalman Hagen in the final. In the Mixed Doubles, R.S.M. and Mrs. Bayliss beat Mrs. Paskins and Signalman Tyler. We congratulate the Committee on their very able management under adverse conditions, also for their abundance of energy in organizing another one so soon. This is in progress now, so more of that next month.

Football.—After the very hard luck in the Buffalo Cup, the football team has put in some very strenuous training. Corporal (Badgy) Hopwood, assisted by Corporal (Fishy) Cleveland, official wakener-up in the morning, has kept them hard at it. Judging by the results of matches played against the different battalions stationed in the hills, we stand a very good chance of winning the Murree Brewery Tournament. No, this is not a beer drinking contest, although it may sound like it. Up to the time of going to press we have got over the first round, beating the A. and S.H.B. Team, 3—0 (Keenlyside 2, Foster 1). Next month we hope to describe how we won it.

More Football.—We should like to congratulate the schoolboys of this Unit on their success in recent matches. Lack of opposition prevents more matches being played. They met the Air Force Boys twice, drew one and severely trounced them 9—0 in the second. They have a first-rate trainer in Sergeant Richards. Keep that up!

Stop Press.—We entered the semi-finals of the Murree Tournament by defeating the 60th Squadron, R.A.F., 6—0 (Keenlyside 2. Foster 2, Abbiss 1, Mobberly 1).



A" Corps Signals, Runners-up Rawalpindi District Football Tournament.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Tennis.—August Bank Holiday was the period chosen to begin a tennis tournament, the first round of the Open Doubles being played off on the Sunday before. There were fourteen entries for the Doubles and twenty-six entries for the Singles. The Doubles was finally won by Sergeant Bygrave and Lance Corporal Dew, who defeated Lieutenant-Colonel Penney and Lieutenant Lyall 6—2, 6—2, 6—4.

Bicycle Polo.—A special feature of August Bank Holiday was a bicycle polo match between officers and sergeants. The officers won, but the sergeants carried all before them where methods of falling were considered, Sergeant Stevens being the winner with a beautiful dive over the handlebars.

Football.—The Div. representatives of the Combined Signals football team left for Topa on 4th August. The Murree Brewery Tournament started on 26th August. The following is a summary of the team's progress:

1st Round. Combined Signals v. Argylls "B." Signals won 3—1.

2nd Round. Combined Signals v. 60 Squadron, R.A.F. Signals won 6—0.

Semi-Final. Combined Signals v. 20 Squadron, R.A.F. Signals won 1—0.

Final. Combined Signals v. Argylls "A." Argylls won 2—1.

Hockey.—We entered a team for the Royal Drapery Hockey Tournament, and the following are the results:

1st Round. 1st Div. v. 5 (AC) Squadron, R.A.F. Div. won 3—0.

2nd Round. 1st Div. v. Khalsa Heroes. Drew 3—3, and in the replay Div. won 3—2.

Semi-Final. 1st Div. v. Pindi Police. Police won 2—1.

Billiards.—We have had two billiards matches v. 73 Fd. Bty., R.A., both of which we lost. We beat them at snooker.

Waziristan District Signals.

Hockey and Football.—Headquarter Section hockey team won the Razmak Brigade Inter-Company Hockey Tournament, beating 4th Light Battery, R.A., by 3—2 in the final. After a thrilling game, Razmak Signal Section were beaten by our opponents of the final match, by the odd goal in three. They had their revenge, however, in a friendly match when they beat Headquarter Section by 3—2. Well done, Razmak Section! At the time of going to press, the District football team are preparing to give a good account of themselves in the Waziristan District Football Tournament. Four stalwarts from Wana are in the team, and judging by results to date, they are a welcome



"H.Q." Section, Waziristan District Signals, Winners o the Razmak Brigade Hockey Tournament.

inclusion. The final of the District Hockey Tournament takes place on Thursday, 6th August, at 9.30 a.m. To be completely modern, this space is left blank, a " Stop Press " as it were : Waziristan District Signals. 4th Lt. Bty., R.A.
3 goals. 1 goal.

Golf.—The local golf course at Razmak (can it be claimed to be the highest in the world at 7,000 feet ?) proves a great attraction, and the Unit can boast of a few Henry Cottons. It is not, however, quite the thing to use a driver on the " Boosa " track or to attempt putts from yards off the green. Still, results count, and if your opponent does look chagrined at a lucky shot, well, it is all in the game. The Course at D.I.Khan is in splendid condition, ready for the onslaught when Headquarter Section move down for the winter.

Swimming.—The Unit team is at present in strict training for the sports at the end of August. The team this year is stronger than ever, and should do well. The plunge seems a certainty, because Lance Corporal Matthews finds the bath a few yards too short for him. Good luck, keep it up " Mutt " !

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

The Baluchistan District Swimming Championships were held at the Matheson Swimming Bath on 5th August. This Unit was still able to head the way by defeating the rest of the British Units in Quetta by a clear margin of almost 100 points. Keen competition was shown by the following Units : The Royal Tank Corps, The Queen's Regiment, Royal Artillery, Royal Signals and the Departmental entries. This caused immense excitement amongst the spectators, who occupied the whole surroundings of the baths.

The following results will show how we " swam " away with the Cup for the second year in succession :

60 YARDS FREE STYLE.—1st, Lieutenant E. C. Thompson ; 3rd, Signalman Price T. (W.E.S.). Time, 37⅘ secs.

60 YARDS BREAST STROKE.—1st, Signalman Leyland, N. ; 2nd, Signalman Smith J. Time, 49⅕ secs.

60 YARDS BACK STROKE.—1st, Sergeant Fleet W. ; 2nd, Signalman Scott P. Time, 53⅘ secs.

PLUNGING.—1st, Signalman Kiernan (W.E.S.).

DIVING.—1st, Signalman Kiernan (W.E.S.) ; 2nd, Signalman Crockett L.

RELAY (TEAM).—1st, Lieutenant E. C. Thompson, Lance Corporal Leigh T. and Signalmen Price T. (W.E.S.) and Holt. Time, 3 mins. 38⅘ secs.

FINAL EVENT.—The final event of the day was an exhibition water polo match between " A " Team Signals versus the Rest of the Garrison, which led to an easy victory of 5 goals to nil.

The trophy and medals were presented by the Army Commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Walter W. Pitt-Taylor, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who was heartily applauded at the finish of a real good day's exciting sport. Following this was a Swimming Gymkhana held on 20th August, when we " swam " away again with most of the events, as the following results will show :

OBSTACLE RACE.—1st, Signalman Eburne.

In " Jutland " the Signals were runners-up to the officers of the Garrison, who kindly presented the first prize to the Signals team, who were second.

TENNIS BALL SCRAMBLE.—1st, Lance Corporal Leigh ; tied 3rd, Signalman Davies A.

POLE WRESTLING.—Signalman Eburne, runner-up.

OPEN RELAY—SPECIFIED RANKS.—Won by Signals.

LIFE-SAVING RACE.—1st, Signalman Smith J. and Mrs. Turner.

REVEILLE RACE.—1st, Signalman Davies A. ; 2nd, Signalman Haslam T.

At the third meeting the finals of the Water Polo Leagues were played off. " A " Team Signals beat " C " Company, Queen's Royal Regiment, in " A " League by 9 goals to nil. Although we won by a big margin of goals, it doesn't mean to say that it was an easy victory. It was a real hard, clean contested match, in which the combination of our team was superior. At the conclusion of the swimming, the District Commander, Major-General H. J. Huddleston, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C., presented the Cricket Cup and medals for the Baluchistan Inter-Company Cricket Cup, in which we were runners-up, having lost in the final to H.Q. Company, The Queen's Regiment.

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Hockey.—We offer our congratulations to the team on their splendid achievement in winning the Meerut Hot Weather Hockey Tournament. This was last held by a Troop in 1919 when the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop were the winners. Actually, the result was remarkable, because the number of players available, compared with other Units, was exceedingly small. Although our goal average was not very flattering, the general keenness shown both by members of the team and supporters, has had marked results. Pride of place must go to Lance Sergeant Robson (Robbo), at centre-forward. He is certainly one of the best we have had for many years. A photograph of the team, complete with Cup and Medals, accompanies these notes.

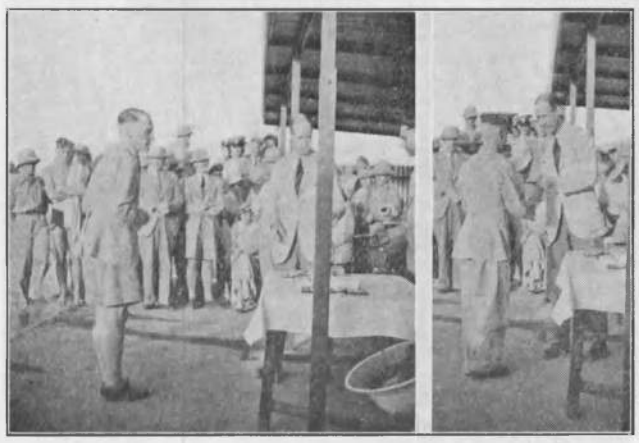
Shooting.—Another trophy, which we have laid avaricious hands upon, is the Scissors Musketry Cup. A very high percentage in scores was obtained to procure this trophy, but, this is straight from the gun's barrel, at a shoot in January some people definitely had warped rifles.

Sports.—The Combined Signals Sports were held on 12th 13th, and 14th March. In the Challenge Cup (competed for by half-companies of 3rd Indian Divisional Signals and the Troop), the Troop was second. Successes in particular events were :

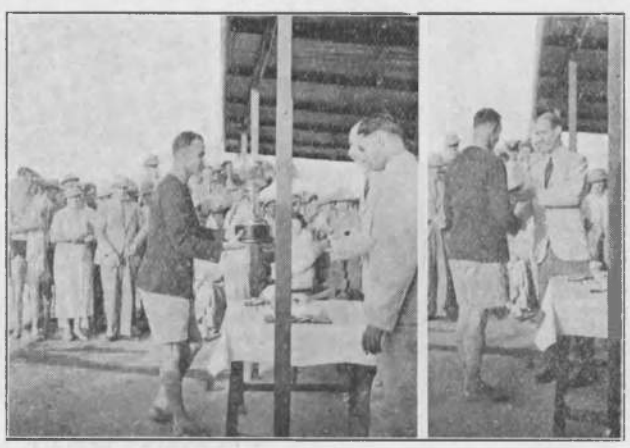
MOUNTED.—Team Jumping and Best Trained Half Section.

ATHLETICS.—100 Yards Relay, Long Jump, Weight and Discus.

Captain Childs showed genius in the organization of the Mounted Sports, marquees and refreshment booths. Bunting flying gaily from every available pillar, ferns with their luxuriant green lending a brilliant contrast to the harsh severity of poles and



Lieutenant-General Sir Walter W. Pitt-Taylor, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., presenting medals to Lieutenant E. C. Thompson, R.Signals, and Signalman Kiernan.



Lieutenant-General Sir Walter W. Pitt-Taylor, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., presenting the Trophy and a medal to Sergeant Fleet W.

yellow grass. Lances gay with coloured pennons gleaming in the sun. A really commendable effort, sir.

Football.—Owing to the concentration in hockey, very little football has been played. We entertained the Tank Corps from Delhi last month, and were very fortunate to draw 2—2. There have been one or two friendly games with the Div., the results of which have been mislaid, not, I may add, purposely. As far as I can remember, one ended in a win for us and the other in a draw ; no score.

Tennis.—A tournament on the American system was run in the New Year and drew quite a lot of entries. Lance Sergeant Phillp was the winner with Signalman Jacobs (Tom) second, and Corporal McDowall third.

PIP.

Egypt Signals, Cairo.

Aquatic Gala.—1936 in Egypt is unique in more ways than one. Particularly so, as it affects swimming, because we were able to present a Corps Gala with so many Signal Units here for the Abyssinian and Palestine Emergencies. "F" Troop, 5th Divisional Signal Company and 20 Field Brigade Signal Section, were invited to compete. It pleased us very much to find entries from each of them in the events. A broiling hot day. A bath crowded with spectators, each with a seat and good viewpoint. Events like the novices and experts races keenly contested. Humour provided in the life saving and pillow events. The effort of the adies in a balloon event causing much merriment. Races for the children and the whole ending with an exciting water-polo match. There were no boring or tiresome waits in between events. There you have all the essentials for a successful swimming meeting. A programme of 27 events carried through in 2½ hours, each one off the mark at the time scheduled on the programme, which speaks well for the organisation of Lieutenant Blum, our officer i/c swimming, who was assisted by his committee of R.Q.M.S. Smart, C.Q.M.S.s Kendall and Leith, Corporal Gibbs and Lance Corporal Edwards. We must not forget those who assisted in the judging, timekeeping and other duties which added to the enjoyment of swimmers and spectators alike. We are grateful to Mrs. Edes for kindly consenting to present the prizes.

Eliminations, for the finals, took place at Ezbekieh Baths on the morning of Wednesday, 19th August. During the afternoon of the same day, the final of the 440 Yards was decided, together with the remaining heats of the swimming events. The finals commenced at 3 p.m., on 20th August, in the new Garrison Bath, at Abbassia. Signalman Kendall K. was Victor Ludorum. The full results are :

NOVICES EVENTS.

1. ONE LENGTH FREE STYLE.—1, Watts (20 2/5) ; 2, Sergeant Archer and Lance Corporal Simpson, dead heat.

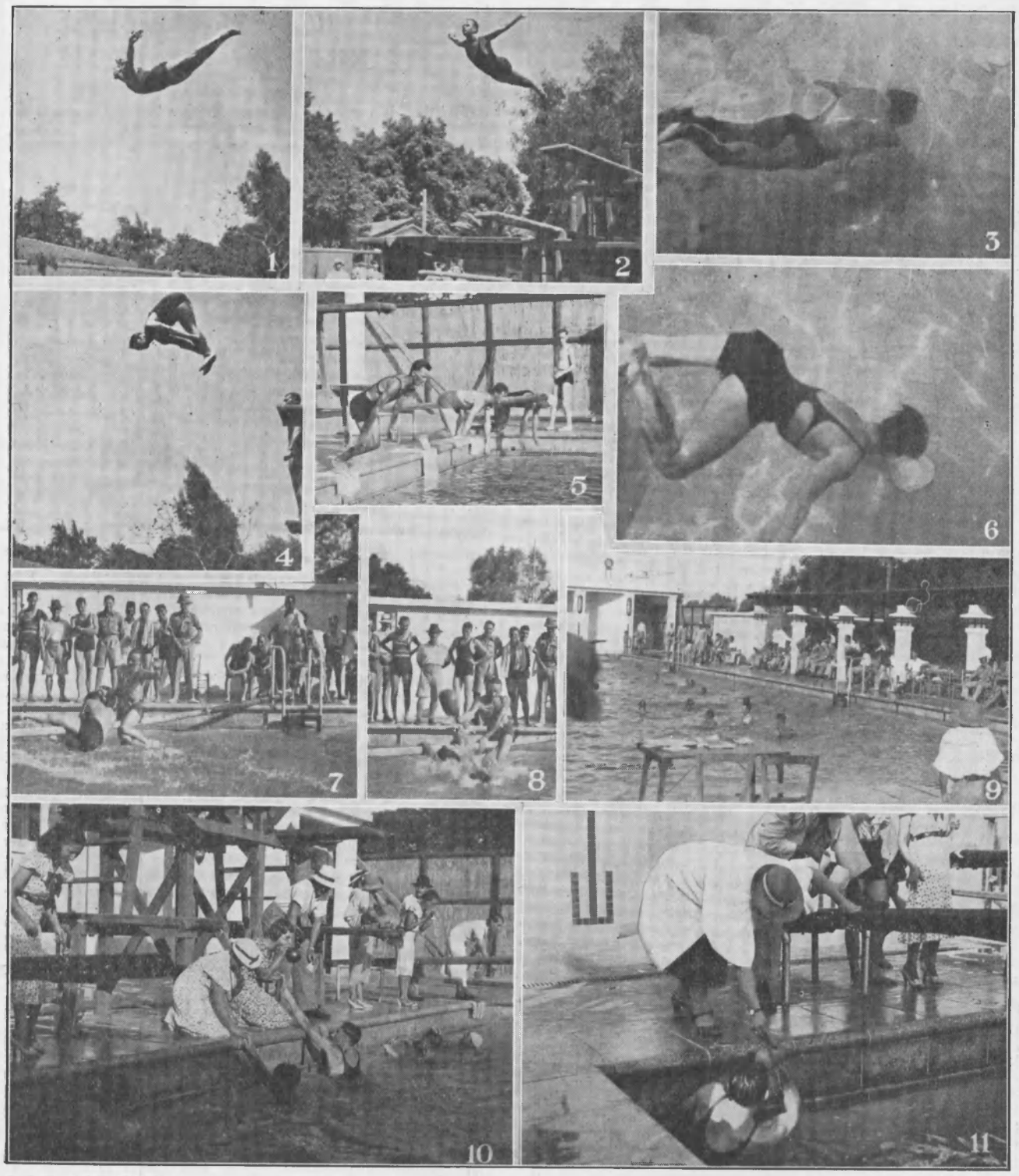
2. THREE LENGTHS FREE STYLE.—1, Coslett (1.22 3/5) ; 2, Clarke P. ; 3, McConnell-Wood.

3. TWO LENGTHS BREAST STROKE.—1, Kendall E. (1.1) ; 2, Petrie ; 3, Longhurst.



3RD CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP HOCKEY TEAM

Back Row—Signalmen Mulholland D., Otton J., Fish J., Lance Sergeant Philip P., Corporal Roberts E., Signalman Forrest G.
Seated—Signalmen Leebrick A., Giles D., Lance Sergeant Robson L., Signalman Locke V., Corporal McDowall G.
Front Row—Lance Corporal Frettingham A., Corporal Hunt J.



1. C.Q.M.S. Taplin in his first swallow dive from the 5-metre spring board.
2. C.Q.M.S. Taplin in his second swallow dive from the 5-metre spring board.
3. Competitors under water in plate diving competition.
4. C.Q.M.S. Taplin in plain dive, pike position, 3-metre spring board.
5. Start of the three lengths novices' side stroke. Left to right : Sergeant Pearce, Lance Corporal Simpson, Lance Corporal Edwards, Corporal Scratcher on side of bath.
6. Competitors under water in plate diving competition.
7 and 8. Signalman Clarke wins two out of three pillow fights.
9. Non-competitors enjoy a swim before the commencement of the gala.
10. (H)air raising in the balloon race.
11. Mrs. Kendall does her bit for Sergeant Kendall.

4. THREE LENGTHS BREAST STROKE.—1, Kendall E. (1.47 2/5); 2, Batty; 3, Dwyer.

5. ONE LENGTH BACK STROKE.—1, Edwards (29); 2, Marshall G.; 3, Baker.

6. THREE LENGTHS SIDE STROKE.—1, Lance Corporal Simpson (1.33); 2, Coslett; 3, Sergeant Pearce.

OPEN EVENTS TO CORPS PERSONNEL.

7. TWO LENGTHS FREE STYLE.—1, Crerar (41 2/5); 2, Kendall K.; 3, Lieutenant Ruck.

8. THREE LENGTHS FREE STYLE.—1, Kendall K. (1.15 1/5); 2, Hendry; 3, Allen.

9. FIVE LENGTHS FREE STYLE.—1, Sebborn (2.16); 2, Kendall K.; 3, Corder.

10. 440 YARDS FREE STYLE.—1, Sebborn (7.17); 2, Kendall K.; 3, Lance Corporal Edwards.

11. ONE LENGTH BREAST STROKE.—1, McHugh (24 3/5); 2, Roebuck; 3, Lance Corporal Edwards.

12. THREE LENGTHS BREAST STROKE.—1, McHugh (1.38 1/5); 2, Roebuck; 3, Lance Corporal Edwards.

13. ONE LENGTH BACK STROKE.—1, Hendry (25); 2, Kendall K.; 3, Sebborn.

14. THREE LENGTHS BACK STROKE.—1, Kendall K. (2.2 2/5); 2, Mills.

15. PLUNGING.—1, Roebuck (49ft. 3m.); 2, Sergeant Archer (49ft. 2in.); 3, Lieutenant Lloyd (46ft. 1in.).

16. PLAIN DIVING—1 METRE SPRINGBOARD AND 3 METRE FIRM BOARD.—1, Lamb, 43 pts.; 2, Kendall K., 41 pts.; 3, C.Q.M.S. Taplin, 38 pts.

17. FANCY DIVING.—1, Lamb, 29.2 pts.; 2, Clarke P., 23.8 pts.; 3, Watts P., 22.8 pts.

18. INTER-COMPANY RELAY (1 officer, 1 C.Q.M.S. or above, 1 Sergeant or Lance Sergeant, 1 Corporal, 1 Lance Corporal, 1 Signalman or Driver).—1, Unit H.Q. (2.15); 2, No. 3 Company; 3, No. 1 Company.

Winning team consisted of Captain Finmore, C.Q.M.S. Taplin ("F"), Sergeant Archer ("F"), Corporal Scratcher (Brigade), Lance Corporal Simpson and Signalman Sebborn ("F"). 5th Divisional Signal Company were unable to enter a team. The most exciting race of the afternoon.

OTHER EVENTS—OPEN TO CORPS PERSONNEL.

19. ONE LENGTH OFFICERS' HANDICAP RACE.—1, Captain Finmore; 2, Lieutenant Ruck. Handicap was well arranged as most of the 7 competitors were in line together for three parts of the distance.

20. CHILDREN'S RACE (under 12).—1, Iris Kendall; 2, Graham Jones.

21. CHILDREN'S RACE (over 12).—1, Muriel Kendall; 2, Isabella Lynch.

Our thanks to Mrs. Finmore for starting the children's races.

22. PILLOW FIGHT.—1, Clarke; 2, Hughes. Last eight competed in the final.

23. BALLOON RACE.—1, Lance Corporal Edwards and M. Kendall; 2, C.Q.M.S. Taplin and Mrs. Pearce.

24. PLATE DIVING (best of 20 plates).—1, Lance Corporal Edwards; 2, Signalman Clarke, 15 plates each; 3, Batty (14).

OPEN EVENT FOR OTHER UNITS.

25. OPEN RELAY (2 back, 2 breast and 2 free style lengths).—1, R.A.S.C.; 2, 1 Bde. R.H.A.; 3, 6 R.T.C.

26. WATER POLO.—Cairo European Police 3, Egypt Signals 3.

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27. LIFE SAVING DEMONSTRATION by Corporal Wagner and Lance Corporal Edwards, which was loudly applauded.

COMMAND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, 31st July—1st August.

Our congratulations to Signalman Lamb, 5th Divisional Signal Company, in gaining second place in the plain and fancy diving competition.

COMMAND TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, 31st August—5th September.

Although competing in each event, and the team swimming well, we were only able to reach the final in the medley race in which Kendall K. did the back stroke, Kendall E. the breast and Crerar, free style. The loss of some of our swimmers and divers on detachment in Palestine was severely felt in competition against complete regiments.

CAIRO AND DISTRICT WATER POLO AND RELAY LEAGUES.

The Unit has had a disappointing year, finishing at the bottom of the water-polo league table. The system of training and supply of reserves is being re-organised to help us to regain the name which we formerly held in this league.

Until the departure of Thompson and the illness of Kendall in the mid-season, our hopes ran high, because we were at the head of the league table for some weeks. We finished the season in the 5th position.

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

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VOL. XVII.—No. 201 NOVEMBER, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of Royal Signals.—This November, 1936, issue of the Corps Magazine chronicles another historical landmark in Royal Signals history. We publish herein, on page 469, a descriptive account of Her Royal Highness's first visit to the Corps, together with a photograph of the *Diamond Brooch* (a replica of the Corps badge), which was presented to her on that occasion.

May we respectfully say that we shall anticipate the honour of publishing accounts of other visits in the not too distant future.

We also extend our hearty congratulations to the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, for their splendid Show, put up at such short notice.

A collection of photographs is being arranged as a Photographic Supplement for presentation with our December, 1936, issue (Christmas number).

Obituary.—It is with much regret that we have to announce the death of 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Way, who was accidentally killed in Palestine, on 27th September. (See page 465 of this issue.)

Oxford University Arctic Expedition.—The following extracts from correspondence between War Office and Lieutenants W. R. Smijth-Windham and A. B. Whatman, R.Signals, are published hereunder for the information of our readers:

19th September, 1936.

DEAR WHATMAN,

I am instructed by the R.Signals Corps Committee to extend to you, on behalf of brother officers R.Signals, a cordial welcome on your return to England and to congratulate you on the successful part you played whilst a member of the Oxford University Arctic Expedition.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) C. K. THURSBY-PELHAM, Major.
Secretary, R.Signals Corps Committee.

22nd September, 1936.

DEAR MAJOR THURSBY-PELHAM,

Please convey to the R.Signals Corps Committee and brother officers R.Signals my sincere thanks for their kind welcome and congratulations on my return from the Arctic. I greatly appreciate them.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) A. B. WHATMAN, Lieutenant.

" Sherwood," Meerut Road,
Brockenhurst, Hants.

6th August, 1936.

SMIJTH-WINDHAM,
S.S. " Mooltan,"
c/o Agents, Plymouth.

Brother-officers R.Signals welcome you on return and congratulate you on the successful part you played whilst accompanying EVEREST EXPEDITION.

COLONEL COMMANDANT.

11th August, 1936.

DEAR MAJOR THURSBY-PELHAM,

I should be very grateful if you would kindly convey to the Colonel Commandant and the officers R.Signals my very sincere thanks for their kind telegram of welcome and congratulations on my return from Mount Everest Expedition.

While on the Expedition I have gained valuable Signal experience, and, I hope, not only that this will be of service to

the Corps, but also that, on the occasion of a future Expedition, the Corps may have the privilege of again sending an officer.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) W. R. SMIJTH-WINDHAM.

Hospitality to Dominion Signal Officers in England.—With the object of enabling Royal Signals officers at home to extend individual invitations to Dominion Signal officers, it is notified for information that the following are at present in this country: Lieutenant A. W. Y. Des Brisay, R.Canadian Signals (33, Inverness Terrace, London, W.2); Captain K. G. McCullagh, R.Canadian Signals (Staff College, Camberley), c/o Office, High Commissioner, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1; Captain G. W. Smart, R.Canadian Signals, c/o 2nd Divisional Signals, Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Competitive Examinations for Established Situations of Ex-Soldier Clerks, Grade "B," War Office.—Competitive examinations for the established situations of Ex-Soldier Clerks, Grade "B," in the War Office will be held by the Civil Service Commission in London and certain provincial centres on 15th December, 1936. Of the 50 vacancies, which it is desired to fill from this competition, the following will be reserved for successful candidates with Army service in the particular Corps named below:

Royal Artillery	4
Royal Engineers	11
Royal Corps of Signals	2
Royal Army Medical Corps	1
Royal Army Service Corps	2
Royal Army Service Corps (M.T.)	1
Royal Army Ordnance Corps	5
Royal Tank Corps	1

The remaining vacancies will be open to candidates from all Units of the Army.

The following regulations are subject to alteration:

1. The upper limit of age for these situations is 49, and candidates must be under that age on the first day of the month in which the competition is held.

2. At each examination the number of candidates to be selected will be such as may from time to time be fixed.

3. In order to be eligible a candidate must on the first day of the month in which the examination is held—

(a) have been discharged from the Army after not less than 12 years' service with the Colours, or have been invalided out;

(b) have left the Colours not more than two years;

(c) be in possession of at least a 1st Class Certificate of Education and an Army Certificate of Character marked "Exemplary" or "Very Good."

4. Candidates will be required to satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners that they are duly qualified in respect of health and character.

5. Every candidate must be a natural-born British subject, the child of a person who is or was at the time of death a British subject; provided that exception may be made:

(a) In the case of candidates serving in a civil situation to which they were admitted with the Certificate of the Civil Service Commissioners.

(b) In the case of natural-born British subjects who served in His Majesty's Armed Forces in the Great War between 4th August, 1914, and 11th November, 1918.

(c) In the case of natural-born British subjects who have satisfactorily completed a period of not less than five years' service on full pay in His Majesty's Regular Forces.

Provided also that if the Civil Service Commissioners are satisfied in the case of any candidate who is a British subject but does not fulfil all the requirements of the rule as to nationality and descent, that the candidate is so closely connected by ancestry and upbringing with His Majesty's dominions that an exception may properly be made to that rule, they may accept such candidate as eligible provided that this discretion shall not be exercisable unless (a) the father or the paternal grandfather of the candidate was a natural-born British subject, and (b) neither the father nor the paternal grandfather had acquired any other nationality by naturalisation or by any other voluntary and formal act.

The consent of the authorities of the War Office is required before a candidate either of whose parents was of other than British nationality at birth can be appointed to that Department.

6. Persons holding situations in the Civil Service must obtain the permission of the authorities of their Department to attend the examination before the commencement of the competition.

7. The examination will be in the following subjects, viz.:

English.
Arithmetic.
Geography.
Army Organisation.

Candidates will be required to obtain such an aggregate of marks in the examination as a whole as to satisfy the Civil Service Commissioners.

8. Of the vacancies to be filled from any examination a number may be reserved for competition among candidates with Army service in particular Corps, the remainder being open to candidates from all Units of the Army. Any additional vacancies which may occur and which it is decided to fill on the result of the examination may be offered to candidates next in order of merit either on the list for the reserved vacancies referred to above or on the general list, as may be required.

9. Application for permission to attend an examination must be made at such times and in such manner as may be fixed by the Civil Service Commissioners.

10. A fee of £1 will be required from every candidate attending an examination.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MADE BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONERS WITH THE AUTHORITY OF THE ARMY COUNCIL.

Annual salary of Ex-Soldier Clerks in the War Office:

Grade "B."—£155, rising by annual increments of £12 to £277 16s.

Grade "A."—£289 14s., rising by annual increments of £12 to £337 7s.

Vacancies in the higher grade will normally be filled by promotion from the grade below. The total establishment of Ex-Soldier Clerks is at present 396, of which 75 per cent. is allotted to Grade "B" and 25 per cent. to Grade "A."

The normal hours of attendance are seven a day (inclusive of meal intervals), with a half-holiday on Saturday if the state of business renders this practicable, overtime when approved not being payable except for attendance in excess of 42 hours a week. Subject to the requirements of the Public Service Ex-Soldier Clerks of both grades are allowed 24 days' annual leave.

Further information, together with the prescribed forms of application, may be obtained on application to the General Secretary of Signals Association.

The Provincial Centres at which such Examinations will take place are as follows:—

Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Chester, Darlington, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Preston, Salisbury, Sheffield, Stoke-on-Trent, Swansea and York.

King George Jubilee Trust Fund.—The total subscriptions to the King George Jubilee Trust from Royal Signals personnel and Units totalled £314 17s. 5d.

Passage to India for Nurse-Companion.—Young married woman offers her services as child's nurse, or companion, for passage to India. Good experience with children. Speaks Hindustani fluently. Willing to remain in India.—Apply Nurse-Companion, c/o The Editor, THE WIRE, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1.

Bound Volumes of "The Wire" for 1936.—All readers, Units, Messes, etc., requiring bound volumes of THE WIRE for 1936 are asked to submit their orders early, as only a limited number will be available for distribution.

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"By courtesy of the Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company, Ltd."

To Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal.

G.B.E.

This brooch is presented to Your Royal Highness

— on Your appointment as —

Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals,

by 844 Officers and 11,544 Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men who are serving, or have served, in Your Corps, in the Regular Army, the Supplementary Reserve and the Territorial Army.

Trading Facilities.—The attention of all THE WIRE readers is directed to the advertisement of "THE MOTORISTS' PURCHASING ASSOCIATION," which appears on page 486 of this issue.

This is a very old-established Association and, through the services of Captain A. R. Simpson (Indian Signals, retired) all Royal Signals officers are invited to become Honorary Life Members without entrance fee or subscription.

The Association should be of great use to our readers, and especially to those returning home on leave, as it is in a position to supply almost any commodity and can invariably show its members a considerable saving in retail prices.

In addition to general purchases, such as furniture, radio, clothing, silverware, etc., they have, through the London Car Exchange, Ltd., their associated company, special facilities for supplying any type of new or secondhand car. Owing to their large membership, they handle really first-class secondhand cars and, which is not usually the case with the average dealer, they know each car's full history.

In addition to the purchasing side, the Motorists' Purchasing Association controls THE GROSVENOR GARDENS CLUB, which is situated on the same premises. Captain Simpson is the Hon. Secretary, and it has been agreed to allow all Royal Signals officers on leave to become Honorary Members for the duration of their leave free of charge. This should provide a useful rendezvous for officers who are in need of a congenial place in which to meet their friends without the added expense of heavy subscriptions, as is the case in most clubs.

Officers wishing to avail themselves of this offer should get in touch with the Editor, or write to Captain Simpson direct.

Signals Association Notes

Armistice Sunday Church Parade.—Apropos our previous announcement in the October issue, it is notified for general information that the Westminster Branch Contingent of past and present members of R.Signals Old Comrades will assemble for this year's ceremony at the Headquarters, 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, T.A., 56 Regency Street, London, S.W.1, on Sunday, 8th November, at 10 a.m. sharp.

Dress: Civilian clothes with medals.

It is hoped that as many R.Signals Old Comrades as possible will endeavour to be present, in time to march with the contingent to church.

The 27th Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion, R.E. band will be in attendance.

BRANCH INFORMATION

The Salisbury and District Branch.—The fifth ANNUAL REUNION DINNER of the above branch is scheduled to take place at the CAFE RENDEZVOUS, 21 Catherine Street, Salisbury, on Friday, 20th November, 1936, at 7.45 p.m., to which all R.Signals are cordially invited. Tickets to members of Signals Association 3s., and to non-members and guests 3s. 6d. Postal orders, etc., should be "crossed," made payable to the Treasurer of the branch and forwarded to Mr. F. Cole, Hon. Secretary, 10 Charnwood Road, Salisbury, not later than 13th November. Will those desirous of attending kindly make early application to assist the Committee in making the necessary arrangements. Dress: Lounge suits.

The Exeter and District Branch.—Our membership now exceeds 100, and we are proud to announce this. At our Annual General Meeting the date of the Second Annual Dinner was fixed for Saturday, 28th November, and the Committee are now busy with the necessary arrangements. It will, I think, meet with general approval that the Dinner is to be held at the H.Q. of the 43rd Wessex Signals, T.A., Exeter, and we appreciate the kind thought of Captain C. W. Knight (Adjutant), and the co-operation of Captain L. E. O. Evans (O.C., No. 3 Company), in this matter. Last year, we expected a party of about 70, and 92 rolled up on the night to occupy the accommodation arranged for 70! However, notwithstanding the "squashing-up," everybody kept merry and bright. If any members of the Corps or the O.C.A. are down this way on the 28th November, we shall be pleased to see them. The Hon. Secretary is Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., 101 Pinhoe Road, Exeter, who will be delighted to furnish particulars.

We have received an invitation to parade with the Exeter Company on Armistice Sunday, and we much appreciate the close touch "past and present" are maintaining. The "old boys" hear with pleasure that recruiting for the 43rd Wessex Signals is going well, and anything they can do to help they will readily respond.

OLD SPARK.

The Darlington Branch.—Provisional sanction having been obtained for the formation of a new branch of Signals Association at Darlington, prospective members in that area are asked to communicate with Mr. G. A. Mortimer, 53 Shelton Street, Darlington, Co. Durham, who has agreed to undertake Honorary Secretarial duties for that area.

An Opportunity for a young married couple to live in a good-class residential locality—RENT FREE.

The Ex-R.Signals proprietor of a small general drapers, offers free accommodation of six rooms and a salary of £1 per week to a young married couple with not more than two children, to manage and develop his business at Chingford, Essex. The vacancy, however, provides occupation only for the wife of a husband, who is already in employment. The former, who should be not more than 30 years of age, must have had previous experience and be thoroughly conversant with all branches of the drapery trade. Applications should be addressed to The General Secretary, Signals Association, 95 Belgrave Road, London, S.W.1, for onward transmission to the prospective employer.

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, Bury St. Edmunds	Attendant
3	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Wireless Operator
4	Ex-N.C.O., Nottingham	Postman
5	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
6	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Chauffeur-Gardener
7	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
8	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Night Telephonist
9	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Electrician
10	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
11	Ex-Signalman, London	Car Park Attendant
12	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
14	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
15	Ex-Signalman, London	Cook
16	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Wireman P.O.
17	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Part Time Night Telephonist
18	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
19	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
20	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
21	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Engineering Dept.
22	Ex-N.C.O., Middlesbrough	Postman
23	Ex-N.C.O., Middlesbrough	Storekeeper
24	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Postman
25	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Lorry Driver
26	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
27	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Post Office
28	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Post Office
29	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Electrician
30	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Valet-Waiter
31	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Hotel Porter
32	Ex-Signalman, Middlesbrough	Labourer
33	Ex-Signalman, Scotland	Clerk
34	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	P.O. Engineering Dept.
35	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	P.O. Engineering Dept.
36	Ex-N.C.O., Chiseldon	A.A. Scout
37	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Clerk
38	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Clerk
39	Ex-N.C.O., Hants	Lineman P.O.
40	Ex-Signalman, Hants	Lineman P.O.
41	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Groom Gardener
42	Ex-Signalman, Somerset	Carpenter's Mate
43	Ex-Signalman, Halifax	Postman
44	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Wireman P.O.
45	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Wireman P.O.
46	Ex-Signalman, Hull	P.O. Engineering Dept.
47	Ex-N.C.O., Newcastle	Postman
48	Ex-N.C.O., Ireland	Lineman
49	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Fitter's Mate
50	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Fitter's Mate

51	Ex-Signalman, London	P.O. Fitter's Mate
52	Ex-Signalman, Derby	Labourer
53	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Messenger
54	Ex-Signalman, Wrexham	Lineman
55	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Porter
56	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Enameller
57	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Post Office
58	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	P.O. Engineering Dept.
59	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Factory Worker
60	Ex-Signalman, Chester	Postman
61	Ex-Signalman, Portsmouth	Labourer
62	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
63	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Labourer
64	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
65	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Electrician's Mate
66	Ex-Signalman, Hants	Radio Service Agent

(36 to 42 inclusive Salisbury and District Branch).

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :

" B " Corps Signals, India.
Portsmouth/Southampton Branch.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.
2nd Indian Divisional Signals.
Malta Signal Section.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Catterick.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :

Major G. M. Welsford, R.Signals (T.A.).
Mrs. C. J. S. Le Cornu.
Captain F. H. Bury, R.Signals.
" Anonymous."

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, South Shields	Grant	£2	0	0
2	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	0	0
3	Widow of Ex-N.C.O., Sussex	Grant	£3	10	0
4	Ex-N.C.O., Essex	Grant	£1	7	0
5	Ex-N.C.O., Hants	Grant	£2	0	0
6	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Grant £5 0 0 Loan	£5	0	0
7	Ex-Signalman, Lancs	Grant	£4	0	0
8	Orphanage maintenance fees		£10	0	0
9	Orphanage maintenance fees		£6	0	0
10	Ex-Signalman, Beds.	Grant	£3	0	0
11	Ex-Signalman, Surrey	Loan	£3	0	0
12	Ex-Signalman, India	Grant	£2	0	0
13	N.C.O., India	Grant	£3	15	0

(Signed) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
17th October.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication in the November, 1936, WIRE.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 11/2/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 9/10/1930.

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel.
i/c Royal Signals Records.

30, Taswell Road, Southsea, Hants.
16th October.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—It is with great regret I have to write and inform you of the death of my husband, Sergeant S. J. Peters, " A " Corps Signals, Rawalpindi, India. My husband died on 9th October, at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, twelve days after an operation for acute appendicitis. He was home on leave from India for nine months, and we were only married on 1st June this year.

Will you please publish the news of my husband's death in THE WIRE, so that his numerous friends in the Signals in India will read of it. It is impossible for me to write to them all.

Thanking you,
Yours truly,
(Mrs.) S. J. PETERS.

Government House, Portsmouth.
October.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—I should be glad if you could find space in the forthcoming issue for the following :

OBITUARY.—We very much regret to report the death of No. 2313351 Sergeant Peters S. J., R.Signals, which took place at the Portsmouth Royal Hospital, after an operation for appendicitis, on 9th October, 1936. Sergeant Peters was on leave from India, and was living at Southsea, when he was taken suddenly ill. His death followed after a few days. He was buried with full honours at the little military cemetery of Christchurch, Portsdown Hill, overlooking Portsmouth. The 2nd Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, provided the band and firing party. The Corps was represented by Brevet-Major C. T. Hughes, M.C., R.Signals, Officer i/c Signals at Portsmouth.

We feel sure that the friends of Sergeant Peters will sympathise with his relatives and his young wife to whom he had been married only about three months.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) C. T. HUGHES, Brevet-Major, R.Signals,
Officer i/c Army Signals, Wessex Area (East).

Harrogate, Yorkshire.
11th October.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

SIR,—I would very much like to offer to Mr. and Mrs. Way and the Royal Signals my sincere and heartfelt sympathy in the very sad loss which has so recently befallen my old Unit. It was only a few days after my retirement that I heard of the sad death of 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Way, R.Signals.

As a bachelor, I lived in Mess with Dick Way in Scarborough for over a year. One could not have found it possible to meet a more congenial and friendly companion—so easy to get on with, and yet so interested in the things that are really worth taking an interest in.

He loved country, and especially Yorkshire, and often spoke to me of his favourite part—the Dales.

I remain, Yours,
(Sd.) P. JENNINGS, Captain, R.Signals (Retired).

Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
25th September.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—It would appear that little notice has been taken of my letter of 8th November, 1935, published in the December, 1935, number of THE WIRE on the subject of the early registration of the names of boys for enlistment in the Corps for training as Trumpeters. Applications are still being received on behalf of lads of 15 years of age, and as vacancies are few, they stand little or no chance of being accepted, as forthcoming vacancies are booked up from the Waiting List about 18 months before they occur.

I should be glad if you would again draw the attention of parents in R.Signals in your " Editorial Notes " to the necessity of registering their boys' names soon after attaining the age of 13½ years, and not waiting for the result of the Apprentice Tradesmen's Examination before taking action.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) C. FIRTH, Colonel.
i/c Royal Signals Records.

Do YOU Belong to the Signals Association?

See pages 464 and 465 how it is helping your time-expired comrades—and may help *you* when you leave the Service.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES–

Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Major F. S. Straight from School of Signals to C.S.O., Northern Command.
Major D. A. Brown from Aldershot to C.S.O., Western Command
Major J. C. McDonald from Aldershot to China.
Major F. W. Nicholls from Aldershot to Palestine (No. 2 W/T Company).
Major T. B. Gravely from Palestine to S.O.S. Course (Sheerness).
Major J. L. Henderson from Palestine to School of Signals
Major L. W. Schneider from Leeds to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Major C. T. Hughes from Portsmouth to Aldershot.
Major F. A. S. Atterton from Chatham to Portsmouth.
Major H. E. Rance from India to War Office.
Major R. Jee from Aldershot to India.
Major G. S. Hurst from Canterbury to India.
Captain R. Sutton-Pratt from Catterick to War Office.
Captain R. T. H. Gelston from Cardiff to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Captain R. H. Copeland from Palestine to Cardiff (53rd Divisional Signals, T.A.).
Captain C. D. Clapp from India to Bulford.
Captain R. N. Higgs from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Captain C. F. Newsom from Blackdown to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Captain R. T. O. Coryton from India to War Office.
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay from London to Canterbury.
Captain H. C. B. Rogers from Belfast to London Corps Signals, T.A.
Lieutenant H. L. Lewis from Egypt to 44th Divisional Signals, T.A.
Lieutenant R. J. Moberley from Perham Down to School of Signals.
Lieutenant D. M. Smyth from School of Signals to S.T.C.
Lieutenant F. R. B. Moore from Catterick to Bulford.
Lieutenant L. T. Shawcross from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Lieutenant A. T. Sladen from India to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Lieutenant G. F. Houghton from Catterick to Leeds (Air Contingent Signals, S.R.).
Captain C. C. Danby from Canterbury to Leeds (49th Divisional Signals, T.A.).
Lieutenant H. V. Hayfield from Catterick to India.
Lieutenant A. D. Boddam-Whetham from Catterick to India.
Lieutenant D. A. Pringle from Canterbury to India.
Lieutenant L. E. Thorpe from Aldershot to India.
Lieutenant D. N. Deakin from Perham Down to India.
Lieutenant A. Fitz G. McGill from Aldershot to India.
Lieutenant F. S. P. H. Lang from Aldershot to India.
Lieutenant L. J. D. Read from Bulford to India.
2nd Lieutenant B. D. Corbett from Aldershot to Cambridge University.
2nd Lieutenant D. A. Nolan from Aldershot to Cambridge University.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 25/9/36]

ROYAL SIGNALS—SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

N. M. Wallace to be 2nd Lieutenant, 26/9/36.

[War Office, 29/9/36]

ROYAL SIGNALS—TERRITORIAL ARMY

43rd (W) Divisional Signals. Lieutenant F. H. Reeks to be Captain, 2/9/36.

[War Office, 2/10/36]

ROYAL SIGNALS—SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

L. W. Lovegrove to be 2nd Lieutenant, 3/10/36.

ROYAL SIGNALS—TERRITORIAL ARMY

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals. Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay vacates the appointment of Adjutant, 1/10/36.

[War Office, 9/10/36]

REGULAR ARMY

British Forces in Palestine. Colonel R. E. Barker, h.p., to be C.S.O. (temp.), 8/9/36.
1st Division. Major V. J. E. Westropp, Royal Signals, from Staff Captain (temp.) to be D.A.Q.M.G., 8/9/36.
Royal Signals. Lieutenant H. D. Mountford to be Captain, 8/10/36, and remains seconded.

OFFICERS

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SEND FOR COMPLETE MILITARY CATALOGUE (T.W.

Royal Signals Officers' Annual Dinner at The Junior United Service Club on 9th October, 1936.

There were ninety-eight officers present, representatives of the Regular and Territorial Army, Supplementary Reserve and University O.T.C.s, in addition to officers of the Reserve and Retired List. The representative Colonel-Commandant, Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., presided.

The Chairman read out telegrams, which had been received from His Majesty The King, and Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, also a letter from Lieutenant-General Sir John Fowler, and cables from Lieutenant Meiklejohn in the Antartic and Signals in Egypt and Quetta.

The Chairman, in his speech, said that since the last dinner, the Corps had been honoured by the appointment of Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief. In August, 1936, the Indian Signal Corps had had a similar honour conferred upon them with the appointment of Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief.

An informal visit by Her Royal Highness to the Signal Training Centre, at Catterick, took place on 8th October, 1936. Her Royal Highness was very pleased with her visit, and mentioned amongst other things that the drill of the recruits was beyond praise.

Owing to the despatch of Units to Palestine, the visit of Her Royal Highness to Aldershot, on 5th October, had been postponed.

As a result of the Italo-Abyssinian war, the situation necessitated the despatch of troops to Egypt. Strong reinforcements from home were sent to provide signal communications in Egypt, the Mediterranean and Aden, and many establishments in those areas were improvised. In Egypt, it was interesting to recall that the blue and white signal flag had appeared in certain places, where it had never been seen before, that is, the Western Desert. The name of the Corps stood as high in Egypt as ever, and it was gratifying to hear of the keenness and cheerfulness

which the men showed under conditions which were as trying as could be imagined under peace conditions.

Signals in India had celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the raising of the first Companies. At the celebration, many of the "1911" officers and other ranks were present, including the Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, Major-General Powell, who visited India for the occasion.

In the Quetta earthquake, in June, 1935, the work of 2nd Indian Divisional Signals and detachments "B" Corps Signals and the Experimental Wireless Section, in restoring communications, was awarded the highest praise by the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief in India. During September and October, 1935, Peshawar District Signals, "A" Corps Signals and parts of 1st Indian Divisional Signals were engaged in operations against the Mohmands—one British other rank signalman was awarded the Military Medal, and one Indian other rank signalman was awarded the Indian Distinguished Service Medal. Four officers and four other ranks were mentioned in despatches.

On 1st June, 1936, His Excellency, General Sir Robert A. Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., A.D.C., Commander-in-Chief in India, was appointed Colonel-Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, in succession to Major-General Powell.

The situation in Palestine had necessitated the despatch of 1st Divisional Signals and "A" Corps Signals. In addition 5th Divisional Signals (less No. 2 Company) and "F" Signal Troop are also in Palestine.

Lieutenant Smijth-Windham, accompanied the Mount Everest Expedition this year, and Lieutenant Whatman had just returned from the Oxford University Expedition to North Eastland in Spitzbergen. The latter officer fell 600 feet down a mountain side without sustaining any serious injury. Lieutenant Meiklejohn is still with the Antarctic Expedition.

The following guests at the Dinner were welcomed :

Colonel Stokes, A.G.7, War Office.
Captain K. G. McCullagh, R. Canadian Corps of Signals.
Captain G. W. Smart, ,, ,, ,,
Lieutenant A. W. Y. Des Brisay, ,, ,, ,,

Attention was drawn to the new University O.T.C. Signal Companies at Bristol, Belfast, Glasgow and Manchester. A welcome was extended to the following Officers Commanding these Companies, who were able to accept the invitation to dine : Dr. R. R. Melhuish, Bristol University, and Captain G. Brown, Glasgow University. In addition, Lieutenant-Colonel Portway from Cambridge University O.T.C. was a welcome guest. We were, unfortunately, bidding farewell to him as O.C. Signal Company, Cambridge University O.T.C., which he had commanded for four years.

The S.T.C. motor-cycle and equitation team gave their display again this year at the Royal Tournament and elsewhere, and received the highest praise.

The London Divisional Signals (T.A.) had trained a motor-cyclist display team, and they had given thirteen shows at various gatherings with great success.

There had been many changes in the T.A. organisation which had effected Signals.

The Chairman welcomed the additional numbers of T.A. and S.R. officers who had joined the Dinner Club this year.

Sporting Achievements.—The Chairman was glad to say that the Corps had maintained its high standard throughout the year at the various Stations. He did not propose to go into details, except in one or two instances. He mentioned that the S.T.C. Other Ranks Jumping Team had won the Northern Command Bronze Medal Tournament. In Show Jumping, at the Jubbulpore Horse Show—officers, 1st and 2nd ; other ranks, 1st and 2nd. At the Equitation School, Saugor, in the Viceroy's Cup (Open Jumping), 1st and 2nd. In the Great North of India Horse Show, in the Open Jumping, 1st, 2nd and 3rd places had been obtained. Mention was made of the achievements of Boy Barrett, Training Battalion, S.T.C. : 100 yards Army Junior Championships, 1st ; 100 yards Northern Counties' Junior Championships, 1st ; 220 yards A.A.A. Junior Championships, 3rd. He thought that those dining would be interested to hear that V. A. Stuart, an ex-boxer in the Corps, had been selected to represent Great Britain in this year's Olympic Games.

North of England Reunion of Royal Signals Old Comrades at Signal Training Centre, Catterick, on 12th—13th September.

Royal Signals Old Comrades have again been entertained right royally by their serving brethren, and on this occasion by The Commandant (Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E.), his Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire. Despite a miniature cloud burst, which broke over the moor on Saturday the 12th, and which threatened a cancellation of the sports programme, a steadily increasing crowd of visitors began to arrive, and although it was feared at one time that weather conditions would prevent many from attending, it soon became evident that such apprehensions were groundless.

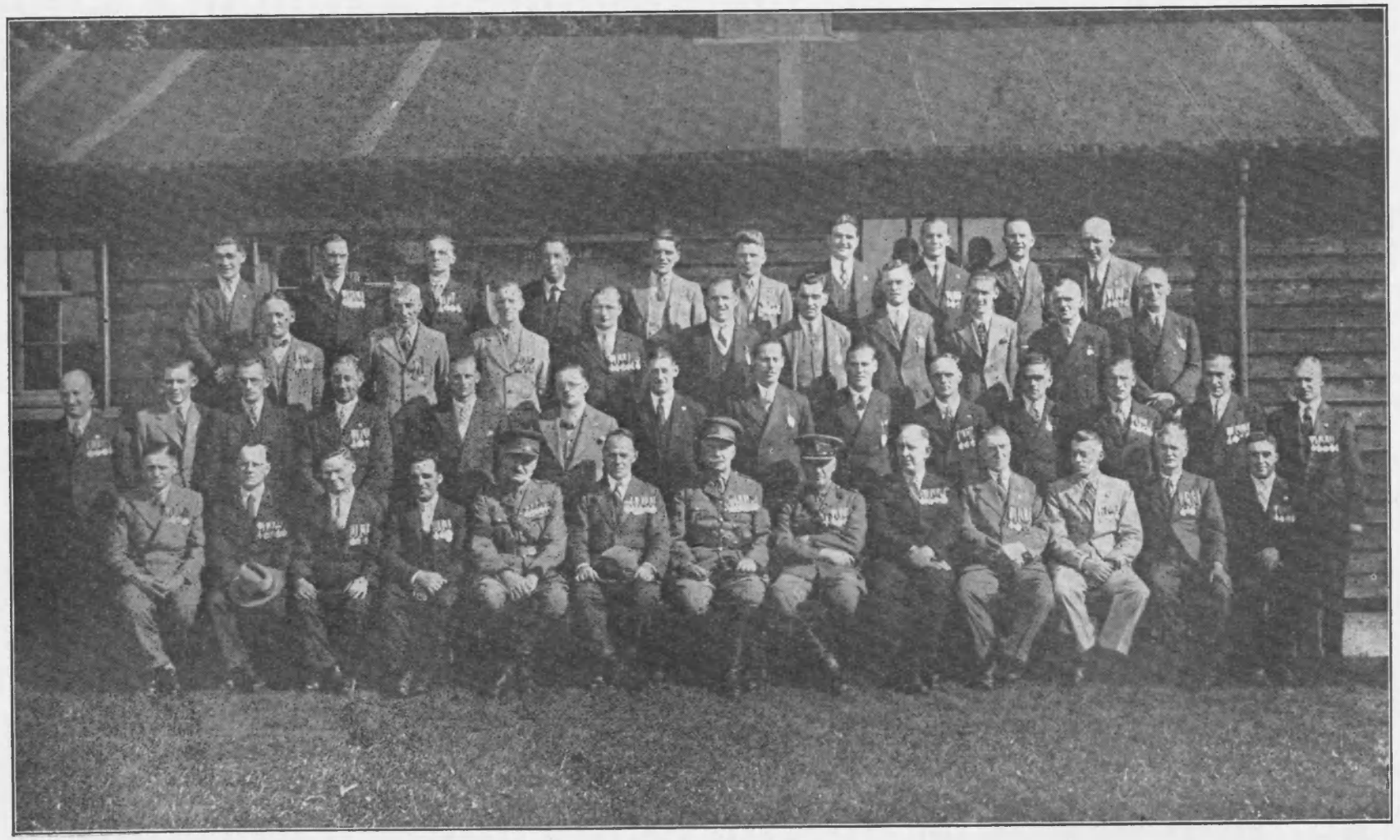
The sports were eventually held at Druggon Hill Farm, on a ground sodden with rain ; and gum boots, mackintoshes and umbrellas were the order of the day. Handicapped as they were, however, the numerous contestants put up a wonderful performance, and the climax of the afternoon came with a display of horse and motor-cycle acrobatics by Lieutenant Crawford's display team, which must have eclipsed all their previous efforts. Not only the visitors, but also those to whom such events are more or less a daily occurrence, were loud in their praises for the actors, who put up such a splendid show under difficult conditions, and the recollection of motor-cyclists performing hair-raising evolutions on what was virtually a mud flat will remain an outstanding feature of the occasion.

A smoking concert was arranged later in the evening, at which the Commandant and his officers were in full attendance. In a speech of welcome, and on behalf of the Old Comrades' visitors, Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Fladgate thanked Brigadier Heymann, his officers and all ranks of the Training Centre for their whole-hearted hospitality. No one knew better than he what an enormous amount of work was entailed in preparing for such occasions, and in thanking their hosts for the very generous welcome accorded to them, he particularly wished to include Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper and all who had worked unobtrusively behind the scenes to ensure the success of the undertaking. It was, he suggested, only right that such reunion gatherings should be staged at the Training Centre, rather than at outlying Stations in the Command, and he ventured to hope that it would be possible, in future, to make this North of England Reunion an annual S.T.C. feature. As President of the North of England Branch, he was pleased to see so many guests in attendance, and he expressed the hope that those already participating as members of the Association would do their best to advance the movement throughout the Northern industrial areas.

In responding, Brigadier F. A. Heymann said what a tremendous pleasure it was to him to see so many Old Comrades present. As the cradle of the Corps, he added, the Signal Training Centre was undoubtedly the right place for such functions to be held, and he ventured to hope that the present occasion was only the first of many more to follow. It was, he said, an added pleasure to him to welcome Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., the representative Colonel-Commandant of the Corps, to their gathering. Brigadier Clementi-Smith, he remarked, had been actively connected with the Corps Association since its inception and, as its present Chairman, he was particularly interested in its continued growth and expansion. In extending a very cordial welcome to the Old Comrade visitors, Brigadier Heymann expressed the hope that they would all enjoy their visit and he looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to seeing double their number in attendance on the next occasion.

An interesting programme, interspersed with community singing, was then proceeded with.

On Sunday the 13th, the Old Comrades took their customary place on the Church parade, and, headed by the Corps band, proceeded to St. Martin's Garrison Church, under the command of Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C. After the service, and on return to the parade ground, Brigadier Clementi-Smith presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to Sergeants Percy A. J. and Dunn A. of the Depot Battalion ; C.Q.M.S. Renecle W. L.,



[By kind permission of Avison's, S.T.C. Photographers, Catterick.

Royal Signals Old Comrades' Reunion at Signal Training Centre, Catterick Camp, on Sunday, 13th September, 1936.

Lance Sergeants Jervis J. W., Weir W. and Knowles J., Corporals Reilly A. and Saunders A., and Signalman Gibbons W. of the Training Battalion; also The Indian General Service Medal to Corporals Jones J. W. and Adams W. G. At the conclusion of these presentations, Brigadier Clementi-Smith addressed the parade and expressed his gratification at seeing such a representative company of Old Comrades in attendance. Directing his remarks to the serving soldiers, he reminded them that he had, that morning, been privileged to officiate at two most important ceremonies. Firstly, the distribution of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to various "serving" recipients; and secondly, to welcome the company of Old Comrades, many of whom were already in possession of that decoration. It was, he said, a medal very difficult to earn, despite all that may be said to the contrary. It represented 18 or more years of honourable service, and was awarded to those who had given of their best. He enjoined his younger listeners to strive to emulate the example set by those recipients and also to appreciate to its full extent the spirit of comradeship illustrated by the presence of the older soldiers on their parade ground. There was also, he said, an appeal he wished to make to *all* his listeners. The Corps, at the moment, was under strength, and needed more recruits to complete its establishment. Each and everyone could help in that respect by encouraging friends and relatives to join. Royal Signals offered a free, healthy and progressive life to the right type of applicant, and he expressed the hope that no opportunity would be lost to bring in recruits on every possible occasion.

The parade was then dismissed, and after a group photograph had been taken of the Old Comrades, the latter proceeded, by invitation, to the Officers' Mess, where the Corps "Silver" and "Trophies" were displayed for their inspection.

Returning to the Training Battalion Lines, the Old Comrades were provided with a most appetising luncheon, and after many expressions of gratification at the splendid reception they had been given, proceeded their several ways homewards.

May we, on behalf of all Royal Signals Old Comrades, convey our appreciation of the very cordial welcome extended to them on this, their first visit to the Signal Training Centre.

Visit of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, to the Signal Training Centre, Catterick, on 8th October, 1936.

Although Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, was appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps in May, 1935, a series of unfortunate occurrences have prevented her from visiting any part of her Corps until the 8th October, 1936. The culminating disappointment was that, after everything had been arranged for a visit to Aldershot on 5th October, the despatch of troops to Palestine at the end of September so denuded Aldershot that there was very little left there to visit. The Princess was gracious enough to suggest an alternative visit to the Signal Training Centre at Catterick, and arrangements were put in hand immediately.

Owing to such short notice, however, it was found necessary to make the visit rather informal, as a consequence of which, the guests were kept to as low a number as possible. The morning of the 8th October was, unfortunately, dull and rainy, but improved slightly as the day went on. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by her Lady-in-Waiting and Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., the representative Colonel-Commandant, drove over from Harewood House, Leeds, and was met at Catterick Bridge by Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper (Her Royal Highness's Orderly Officer for the day), who, in a small car flying a distinguishing flag of Corps Colours, led the way to the parade. Two motor cycle despatch riders acted as Escort to the Princess's car.

The detail and formation of the troops on parade, who were under the command of Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant Signal Training Centre, were as follows: on the right of the line were two troops of the Mounted Wing, in line, under Command of Major G. P. Pavey, M.B.E.; then, on their left, and also in line, came the composite Battalion of five Companies under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies were men of the Training Battalion, No. 4 Company comprised the senior recruits of the Depot Battalion and No. 5 Company consisted of boys. All Companies were twenty-five files strong, plus one Company Commander, two Company Officers, and the necessary serrefiles. The Band formed up in the rear of the centre of this parade; and then, in rear of the Band and extending the full width of the parade ground, came five Spectator Companies. These Companies consisted of all men not taking part in the ceremonial drill of the parade and included, in civilian clothes, those men who had but joined the Corps the day before. The parade was finally set off by a cordon party of one officer and seventy-two other ranks, who were distributed equally all round the parade ground.

On alighting from her car, just after 11.15 a.m., the parade came to "attention" and sloped arms. Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, then presented Mrs. Heymann to Her Royal Highness, and Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Mrs. Heymann, walked to the dais, acknowledging the salutes and curtsies of the officers, their ladies and children, who were present as spectators. On arrival at the dais, Royal Signals gave their Colonel-in-Chief the Royal Salute, and then stood "at ease" while Her Royal Highness moved forward to inspect the parade. Escorted by Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., and his Staff, the Princess Royal walked down the front rank of the parade and then back along the Spectator Companies, speaking to a number of men of her Corps, including some of the most senior and bemedalled other ranks, and also the latest-joined recruit, who was on parade in his civilian clothes. (We hope that this Signalman, when he is one day one of the senior other ranks in the Corps, will have the honour of speaking to Her Royal Highness again.)

Her Royal Highness then returned to the dais, and the Mounted Wing and Battalion moved off and formed up on the passing line for the March Past. The Royal Signals Band swung round in front of the Commandant, and all was set for the next phase. The Commandant gave the order, "Royal Signals will March Past by Troops and Companies," and the Band moved forward to the strains of "Begone Dull Care," our invigorating Corps March, wheeling left after passing Her Royal Highness and then left about, and halting opposite the dais in order to play the remainder of the parade past.

The parade having reformed on the inspection line, that spectacular movement of "Advancing in Review Order" was carried out to the tune of "The British Grenadiers." The parade then stood "at ease," and Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, in a short speech, which was relayed across the parade ground by two loud speakers, presented Her Royal Highness with a diamond brooch of the Corps Badge from all ranks of the Corps, Regular, Special Reserve and Territorial. The Brigadier said:

"Your Royal Highness,—On behalf of the Royal Corps of Signals, I have to welcome you on your first visit to the Corps, since His Late Majesty, King George V, honoured us by appointing you as our Colonel-in-Chief. I can assure you, Madam, that your Corps will ever strive to maintain itself in a state to show that it is deserving of this high honour. I am to ask Your Royal Highness to be graciously pleased to accept this brooch, which represents the badge of the Corps, and I am to say that it has been given by 12,388 past and present officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and signalmen of the Corps in the Regular Army, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army."

In accepting the brooch, Her Royal Highness replied:

"I am indeed glad to have the opportunity of visiting the Royal Corps of Signals. It is a great pleasure to me that I should have been appointed your Colonel-in-Chief by my father, and I assure you that I shall take the keenest interest in the welfare of my Corps. I am confident that you will always give me cause to be proud of my association with it. I deeply appreciate your thought of presenting me with this beautiful diamond badge. I shall value it very much, and would like to express my warm thanks to all the 12,388 donors."

Then, taking time from Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., at the head of the parade, everyone present gave Her Royal Highness three of the best and most sincere cheers that have ever been heard. Thus finished the parade, and the troops then marched smartly off to their Company parade grounds.

When the short notice and also the fact that the men on parade were still recruits, is remembered, the precision of all movements was most gratifying, and reflected the greatest credit on the instructional staff of the S.T.C. In fact, our recruits helped to enhance the reputation of the Corps.

And now came the more informal side of our Colonel-in-Chief's visit, when Major G. Tayleur first showed her two squads of recruits at physical training in the gymnasium. Her Royal Highness was most interested to hear how the young recruit increased in weight, during his fourteen weeks with the Depot Battalion, and also appreciated the comforts of the reception-hut, where our newly-joined have their first taste of barrack-room life.

Captain M. Duke, the Adjutant of the Depot Battalion, then showed Her Royal Highness the famous Rock Garden, in which he has encouraged his men to take an interest, and then on to the Depot Battalion Institute, where Her Royal Highness talked with the manageress for a few minutes. Here the N.A.A.F.I. waitresses had made the place look very spick and span, and they themselves most smart in their attractive blue uniforms.

From the Depot Battalion lines, Her Royal Highness motored to the School of Signals, where she was met by Colonel G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C., and conducted round his lines. Here she saw not only the equipment and accommodation provided for the technical training carried out at the School of Signals, but she was also shown the modern apparatus employed for cooking and providing hot plates and hot meals. From here, Her Royal Highness went to the Officers' Mess, where fifty-four officers and four ladies were presented to her in the large ante-room. Afterwards a photograph of our Colonel-in-Chief, together with approximately eighty of the officers and five ladies of her Corps, was taken outside the Mess. Before she went in to lunch, Her Royal Highness admired the layout of the garden in front of the Mess. All together, over eighty officers sat down to lunch with Her Royal Highness.

It must be pointed out here, that although this visit of the Princess Royal to the Signal Training Centre was of an informal nature, we still were able to have representatives of both the Territorial Army and Supplementary Reserve with us to receive our Colonel-in-Chief, and the following officers of the Northern Command were invited to attend the parade :

Colonel W. Boyle, T.D., Hon. Colonel, 49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals.

Colonel H. A. Walton, just relinquished command of 50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood, Commanding, 46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D., Commanding, Air Contingent Signals.

These officers were also presented to Her Royal Highness, included in the photograph, and attended the luncheon party.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., Commanding 49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals, was unavoidably prevented by illness from being present and Brevet-Colonel G. Bray, M.C., T.D., D.C.S.O. for T.A. Duties, Northern Command, and Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D., Commanding 50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals, regretfully had to refuse the invitation owing to long-standing business engagements on that day. Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Fladgate, C.S.O., Northern Command, and Mrs. Fladgate were also present. Mrs. Heymann, as the Commandant's wife, and Mrs. Rawson and Mrs. Tayleur, as Unit Commanders' wives, were present, but Mrs. Cary was unfortunately prevented from attending on account of indisposition, Mrs. Beadon taking her place at the last moment. Colonel R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C., was present as a representative of the Corps Committee. Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C., our other Colonel-Commandant, was unable to attend as His Royal Highness, The Duke of York, was visiting his Garrison on that day.

At lunch, the Royal Signals Band played under the direction of Mr. R. R. Rickets, our Bandmaster. Her Royal Highness appeared to enjoy the music and specially asked for the band programme of music, which she took away with her.

After lunch, Her Royal Highness visited the married families in St. Quentin Lines. On arrival there, the five warrant officers, Class I, of the Signal Training Centre, and their wives, were presented. They were : R.S.M. Harrison T. and Mrs. Harrison, R.S.M. Caulfield C. and Mrs. Caulfield, R.S.M. Butcher E. S. and Mrs. Butcher, R.S.M. Freemantle J. and Mrs. Freemantle, R.S.M. King V. J. and Mrs. King. Her Royal Highness then made a tour of " Q " Lines, paying a personal visit to the quarters of Mrs. Chadney, Mrs. Harries, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Chandler. Not only are these four ladies to be congratulated on making their quarters look very nice, both inside and out, but those ladies, whose quarters Her Royal Highness had not time to visit, must also be highly commended for making the general appearance of " Q " Lines so neat and attractive with paint, bath-brick and flowers.

All Royal Signals children had been granted a holiday for this occasion, and they attended the parade in the morning—in force. When Her Royal Highness, having finished her visit to " Q " Lines, drove off to Harewood House, the children joined enthusiastically in the parting cheers which the married families gave our Colonel-in-Chief on her departure.

It was with great satisfaction that we noticed that Her Royal Highness had pinned the diamond Corps badge to her coat at the first opportunity after it had been presented to her, and wore it for the rest of the day.

Thus ended a very happy and memorable day for all ranks of Royal Signals at Catterick. In closing, although we realise that other Units of the Corps will be hoping for a visit from our Colonel-in-Chief, before our turn comes again, may we all, at Catterick, respectfully thank our Colonel-in-Chief for honouring us with her visit. We wish her long life and happiness, and hope that it will not be long before she honours us with her presence again.

C. M. F. W.

The Wedding of Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

(By C. H. K., Australian Staff Corps.)

An event of outstanding interest to the Corps took place at Beaudesert, Queensland, Australia, on 29th June, when the marriage of Miss Betty Bannantyne De Burgh Persse to Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., R.Signals, took place in the family church of the bride's mother's family.

The bride's grandparents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Collins, were among the great pioneers of Queensland and founded Tamrookum Station. The homestead of the Station has been demolished, and in its stead a beautiful church, constructed of cedar felled in the Station, has been erected as a memorial to the late Mr. Collins.

The church is situated in a beautiful countryside 17 miles from Beaudesert, which is about 40 miles from Brisbane. On all sides rise tier upon tier of hills, which eventually merge into the Great Dividing Range.

It was a perfect day and some 200 guests from all parts of Queensland assembled. In true Signals style, the bridegroom arrived at the church preceded by a motor-cyclist despatch rider and accompanied by his best man, Captain C. H. Kappe, Australian Staff Corps, who was at Catterick in 1926 on No. 11 " Q " Course. In attendance was the Guard of Honour, comprising the Commanding Officer of Signals, 1st Military District, Major V. O'Brien, V.D., and seven other officers from Signals 11th Mixed Brigade and 1st Division, two Sections of which are raised in Queensland. It was a unique occasion, the officers of the Australian Corps furnishing a guard for a British officer marrying one of Australia's loveliest daughters.

The reception, which was held at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. De Burgh Persse, some 21 miles from Tamrookum, was a delightful function.

Prior to the wedding the " Guard " presented Colonel Howe with a suitably inscribed cigarette casket of Queensland timber.

We have since had news of the happy pair, and now understand that Lieutenant-Colonel Howe will take up the duties of Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command, India, on his return.

The Australian Corps of Signals wish them the greatest luck and happiness, but desire to let it be known (quietly) that a closer watch will be kept, in future, on eligible British officers when they visit our shores.

- Plain Tales -

World Scoop.—We are now able to disclose that a large body of Signals actually landed in Palestine quite recently. If any other papers and magazines have said anything about this, don't you take any notice; the nasty things! In the photograph below may be seen several of our lads enjoying themselves up a gum tree near Jerusalem. The one on the left with a cigarette in his

ear is not one of ours ; the low cad ! [You haven't sent a photograph. Ed.] " I know I haven't." " B."

Digestively Speaking.—A heavy meal of " toad in the hole " is not the best preparation for an hour with pencil and paper, but as the former was irresistible and the paper simply must be in the post this evening, we can get down to it with a heavy sigh.

These grey skies and the fine driving rain send our thoughts as far as India, where so many of our people live their carefree lives. Ahem ! There are those in India, who will say that we owe them letters. They will probably be right, for we have lost the art these days. Perhaps Sergeant Savage, who may be at Rawalpindi will read this. We had the pleasure of entertaining his son at Dover last Sunday. That would be the 11th October. Alas ! The younger generation have not the capacity of we dodderers in our day. Well do we remember disposing of twenty-four slices of bread and butter alone and unaided before falling upon the cake. Nevertheless, young Ronald acquitted himself nobly. Still thinking of meals, we wonder when the Army will discover a really satisfactory and speedy method of feeding the troops in barracks. We have such a good scheme in mind that we think we will keep it for another time.

Cavalry Corner.—With a generosity that makes us blush all over, we have resisted the temptation to comment on the changed and peculiar gait of certain subalterns in the 3rd Divisional Signals. We had some ourselves when we were very young and " Ginger " Simnett (whom the saints defend) was at the top of his form. Embrocation should be applied externally and much beer internally. Nothing lasts for ever.

Look Better.—With the social season well advanced in most military centres, it is up to us to do something for the lady members of the service. You girls who have wrestled with those hopeless kitchen ranges in married quarters will find yourselves terribly handicapped at dances unless you heed our words. If you are thinking of wearing that frock you picked up at the jumble sale, you will find that your back and shoulders require some attention. To remove sun tan and blacklead smears, apply a large pot of Devonshire cream. Rub well in with a chamois leather, cover with a ground sheet and go to bed for six weeks. The treatment may have the effect of enlarging the pores, but this can be overcome by inserting match sticks and breaking off the ends flush with the surface of the skin. If still dissatisfied, wear your overcoat all the evening. Soot may be removed from the hair with a pair of scissors, but if you are a blonde, don't bother. Spray with perfume and stay at home. There was something we were going to say about teeth, but as time presses, we will go on to feet. If you do a lot of dancing, it is advisable to wash the feet at least every other Saturday. A solution of beeswax, treacle and old rope ladders will prove to be practically useless, and should never be tried. There are many other perfectly ridiculous remedies, but as you most likely have a wireless set of your own we will let you off.

Ukann Larfe.—With great regret, we have to report that Ukann Larfe, Hermione and Inspector Faceache were lost in the desert when their airship *Queen of the Height* sprung a leak over the Sahara last month. Search parties are out on bicycles, and hope has not yet been abandoned. It is understood that the authorities will call off the search so that those taking part can attent the bonfire celebrations on 5th November. Ukann Larfe and Inspector Faceache were known to be on very bad terms at the commencement of the flight, and it is thought that the policeman may have pulled the cork out of the airship in a fit of pique and a straw hat.

In any case it saves an awful lot of bother, because we have been wondering for some time how we could get out of this. If they do not return very soon, they will find us gone, because in two more pages we shall be out in the great big world where men are men and sergeant-majors are just a pain in the neck.

BARLEUX.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1936) on which the respective names may be found. This information cannot, of course, be given in the case of Lance Corporals appointed since that date.]

Commissioned as Lieutenant and Quartermaster.

2307026	F/Sergeant-Major Harris G.	11/9/36 ..	12

Foreman of Signals Roster To be W.O. ii (Q.M.S.).

2314083	C.Q.M.S. Walker A. R.	30/6/36 ..	9

To be W.O. ii (C.S.M.).

*5610124	C.Q.M.S. Bennett J.	1/6/36 ..	73

To be C.Q.M.S.

*2309066	Sergeant Hanby, J.	1/6/36 ..	73

To be Sergeant.

2200858	L/Sergeant May C.	2/6/36 ..	30

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2313039	Corporal Practchett L.	14/4/36 ..	37
2315133	Corporal Knight H.	2/6/36 ..	38
2313972	Corporal Frey N.	10/6/36 ..	38
2317009	Corporal Smith A.	18/6/36 ..	38
2316999	Corporal Clarke E.	29/6/36 ..	37

Promoted Corporal.

2320537	L/Corporal Robson F.	2/6/36 ..	55
2317619	L/Corporal Conolly L.	10/6/36 ..	55
2319860	L/Corporal Costen A.	18/6/36 ..	55
2317153	L/Corporal Day G.	23/6/36 ..	55
2320312	L/Corporal Bond J.	29/6/36 ..	55

Farrier Roster (To be Farrier Corporal).

391560	Signalman Mill E.	12/7/36

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2321012	Signalman Weech C.	4/4/36
2321966	Signalman Moran L.	5/4/36
2321773	Signalman Stead P.	7/4/36
2320057	Signalman Baker S.	8/4/36
832501	Signalman Pearse W.	8/4/36
2319286	Signalman Green R.	8/4/36
2322390	Signalman Trevethan P.	8/4/36
2321280	Signalman Green N.	9/4/36
2322388	Signalman Spencer P.	9/4/36
2318653	Signalman Newton A.	9/4/36
2317258	Signalman Kirk R.	13/4/36
2320257	Signalman Powell E.	14/4/36
2320038	Signalman Smither R.	14/4/36
2320217	Signalman Constantine H.	17/4/36
2319655	Signalman Davidson J.	18/4/36
2320859	Signalman Wilson A.	19/4/36
2214990	Signalman Pipe H.	24/4/36
2319740	Signalman Ferguson F.	24/4/36
2320983	Signalman Cordner N.	29/4/36

Discharges.

2308164	C.Q.M.S. Thomas S.	23/9/36 ..	14
2306663	C.Q.M.S. Wheeler E.	29/9/36 ..	15
1856183	Sergeant Merritt W.	10/9/36 ..	15
*4527970	Sergeant Penney L.	22/9/36 ..	74
2316503	Corporal Eldred F.	4/9/36 ..	43
2310878	L/Corporal Cabbett W.	8/9/36 ..	52

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2316736	L/Corporal Kenneally G.	19/8/36 ..	59
2317032	L/Corporal Sanderson R.	7/9/36 ..	
2317010	L/Corporal Hilliar A.	11/9/36 ..	54
2319818	L/Corporal Cross C.	20/9/36 ..	59

Transferred to R.A.O.C.

1850360	R.Q.M.S. Hales A.	2/3/36 ..	6

Deceased.

2309839	Sergeant Daniell C.	30/9/36 ..	22

* Special Roster.

Signal Training Centre.
The Nigeria Regiment R.W.A.F.F.

Zaria, B.W.A.
15th September.

General.—I am afraid I must apologise for the non-arrival of notes from Nigeria last month. As a matter of fact, they never got written. We blame it on the extra amount of work we are doing, together with the rain, sandflies, heat, gin, etc., which are always with us.

Work.—This is our busy month. Individual training is just over and we are right in the middle of our annual classification. This amounts to a Trade Testing Board as far as our wireless operators are concerned. The wireless set at Maidugari has been giving some trouble lately, so Lieutenant Reeder set off on the long 500-mile trek there to put it right. He only left two days ago, which means that all the work of classification and trade testing will fall upon Lieutenant Denholm-Young and Sergeant Penny. Still, if Mr. Reeder comes back with an elephant, it will have been worth it all. We are laying in a goodly stock of beer just in case!

The Post Office land line from Zaria to Sokoto—some 300 miles—has failed twice lately and all civil traffic has been passed by our W/T. It is interesting to note that the Post Office often relies on us to deal with their traffic.

Promotions.—We congratulate C.S.M. Good on his promotion to that rank.

Weather.—The rains are having one last long fling. They ought to be stopping about now, but at the moment of writing it looks as if they were intending to stay for some time yet.

Ceremonial.—A few weeks ago the Emir of Zaria received the King's Medal for African Chiefs. The presentation took place in the city, on the steps of the Palace. A few Europeans watched the ceremony from the balcony above. There was one amusing little incident. The Emir approached the Resident and bowed his head to receive the golden chain around his neck, but, unfortunately, his head-dress was so huge that the chain just would not go over it. The Resident tugged and the Emir wriggled until it looked as if the chain were about to break, but it just made it, and the decoration came to rest on the Emiral breast.

(The writer took some photographs of this ceremony, but these have not yet been printed. If they arrive in time, they will be sent on to the Editor by air-mail.)

Sport.—The rain has nearly stopped, but polo has not yet started. We still amuse ourselves with golf, tennis, football, hockey, cricket, billiards, darts, and exercising our ponies. The Station has played several composite matches against Kaduna. These are amusing concerns, and are generally played at week-ends. A composite team of officers, B.N.C.O.s and civilians goes down to play. On Saturday, there is a football match, followed in the evening by a dance, darts and snooker. On Sunday there is a hockey match and a golf match. What a party!



Natives watching the presentation of the medal to the African Chiefs.

The Desert Song.—"Oh, for the three horseshoes at East Worldham!"

Weather.—Every good conversation starts with a few well-chosen remarks about the weather. The less said about it here the better. It has been just rotten. Rain, rain, and then more rain. After that it was very hot for about a week, just long enough for us to think that the rains were really and truly over, and then it started to rain again. It might really just as well be Catterick!

Catterick! I wonder, does that pub at Bellerby still stock Smith's Tadcaster Ales? But I am wandering from the job in question, and in any case, I am not due for leave for another eight months!

Work.—Individual training stopped in the middle of this month, and we spent a hard two weeks in classifying and trade-testing. Our wireless operators were tried out at Corps B.III standards, and they put up a very good performance. The remainder of the Unit did remarkably well, and there were very few disappointed ones.

Inspections.—Lieutenant Reeder went off to visit the wireless station at Maidugari. This is 567 miles away, and took him three days to get there. At the same time, Mr. Denholm-Young was seeing the sights of Kano and Sokoto. Sokoto can best be described as the "farther edge of nowhere." It lies in the middle of an apparently dead-flat plain—desert, nothing more. The accompanying photographs will give some idea of the utter desolation of this part of the continent of Africa. After all, one must remember that Northern Nigeria is really the Southern Sudan, and is part and parcel of the great Sahara Desert.

Sokoto provides one welcome exception to this. It has the most lovely gardens; I mean public gardens. They remind one of those Moghul gardens which are dotted about over Northern India, such as those at Wah, Kashmir, and similar places. They form a real oasis in what would otherwise be arid desert. Mind you, they are not cool places; because no one could call Sokoto cool. But they do provide a welcome change to the weary eyes.

The new Commandant visited the S.T.C. on 1st October, and congratulated the Unit on everything he saw.

Forthcoming Attractions.—Zaria races take place on 25th and 26th October. "Carrier" is confidently expected to be there, or thereabouts. Then come the Kaduna races, followed by a meeting at Kano. After that comes Christmas. So that the party which starts at the Zaria races, will probably be non-stop till after Christmas!

Hausa.—As we expected, Sergeant Moss, K.S.L.I., passed the Intermediate Examination. This being his first tour in Nigeria, it is very much to his credit, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations. We hope that some of the £50 reward is going to be spent on beer!

WAFFSIGS.

"On The Wrong Tack."

I had twelve bottles of whisky in my cellar, and my wife told me to empty the contents of each and every bottle down the sink. So I said I would and proceeded with the unpleasant task.

I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I extracted the cork from the second bottle and did likewise, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I then withdrew the cork from the third bottle and emptied the whisky down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I pulled the cork from the fourth sink and poured the bottle down the glass, which I drank.

I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank one sink out of it and threw the rest down the glass.

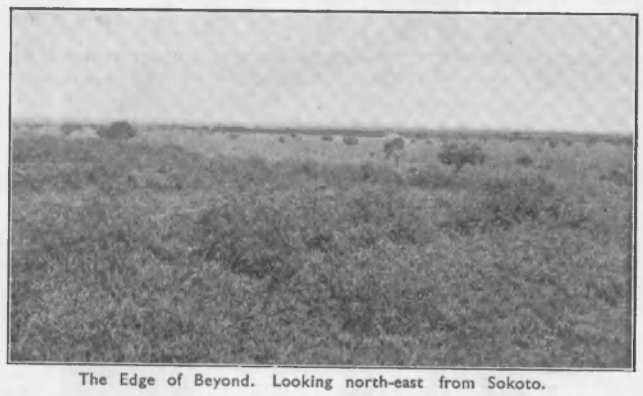
I pulled the sink out of the next glass, poured the cork down the bottle and drank the glass.

I pulled the next cork from my throat and poured the sink down the bottle.

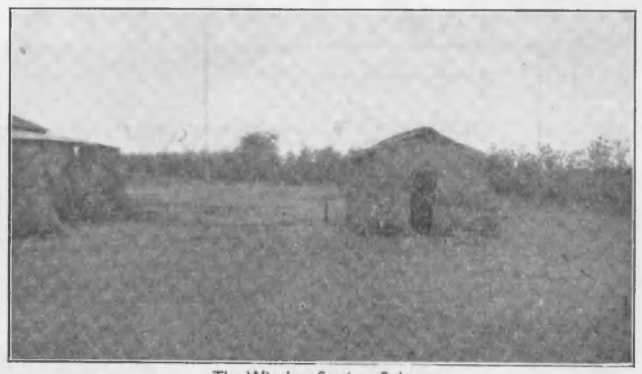
Then I corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink, and drank the pour.

When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand and counted the bottles, corks and glasses and sinks with the other, which were twenty-nine. To be sure, I counted them again and when they came by I had seventy-four, and as the house came by I counted them again, and finally had all the houses and bottles and corks and glasses and sinks counted, except one house and one bottle, which I drank.

SOME SNAPS FROM S.T.C. NIGERIA REGIMENT, R.W.A.F.F.



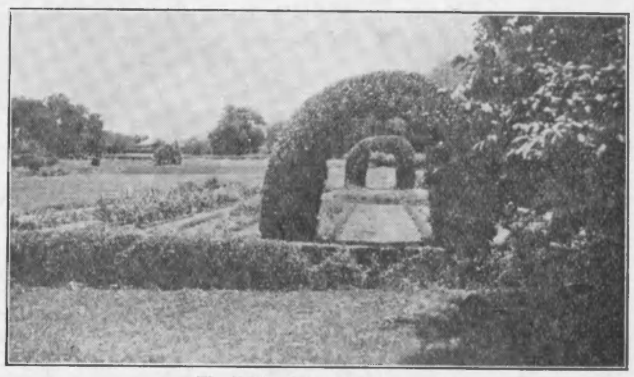
The Edge of Beyond. Looking north-east from Sokoto.



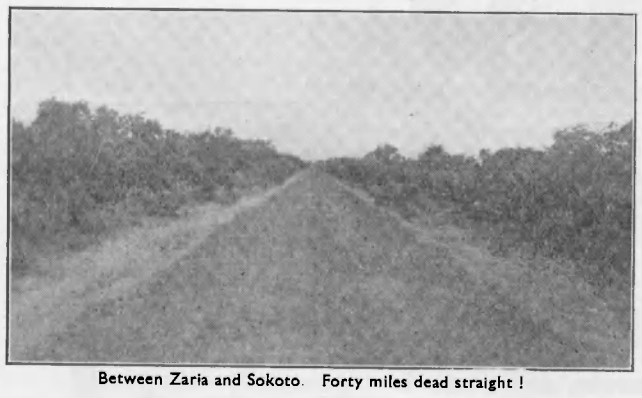
The Wireless Station Sokoto.



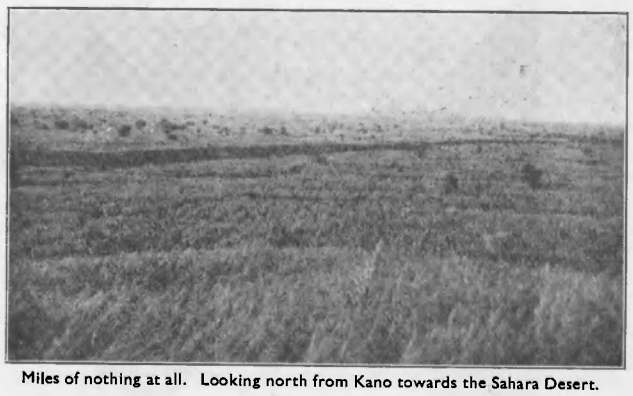
The O.C.'s car on the way to Sokoto. A halt for beer.



The Public Gardens, Sokoto.



Between Zaria and Sokoto. Forty miles dead straight !



Miles of nothing at all. Looking north from Kano towards the Sahara Desert.



A street scene, Kano.



Looking down on Kano from a hill four miles away.

JOIN THE ROYAL SIGNALS



REWARD ! RECRUITING !

To all whom it may concern:

Do not read this unless you are proud of your Corps and think that the Army offers a good life.

The Royal Corps of Signals is in need of recruits, and it may not be known generally that all soldiers are potential recruiters, and that three days' extension of furlough is given to any soldier for each recruit he brings in who is attested by a recruiting officer. A reward of 4s. is also paid for each of these recruits when they are finally approved.

When going on furlough apply to your Unit office for some of the Royal Signals' recruiting pamphlets which give information about the Corps to prospective recruits.

This is your chance to combine business and pleasure in a profitable manner.

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Headquarters, Signal Training Centre.

B-r-r-r-r-r—" You're through, sir ! "

" Hullo ! Hullo ! Is that the S.T.C. ? War Office speaking ! Listen ! The visit of The Princess Royal to Signals at Aldershot has had to be postponed owing to the Palestine exodus. Her Royal Highness is most disappointed, and has particularly asked if she may pay an informal visit to you instead next Thursday week. Ring me up to-morrow at 10 a.m., and say whether you can manage it. Good-bye."

A SOLILOQUY.

Phew ! That's a tall order ! Put up a good show, for our first Colonel-in-Chief, who has not yet had an opportunity to see her Corps ! How many days have we got ? Can't stage a second-rate show for an occasion like that ! What did they say ? " *She particularly asked if she might come and see us.*" Why, of course ! What am I dithering about ! First portion of the Corps to be visited by her, that's an honour in itself ! Must grab this opportunity ! Not so terrifying after all, and our fellows always turn up trumps when put on their metal. Of course we can do it ! That's that, then. Now for the details.

And so, at 10 a.m. the next day, War Office was informed that the Signal Training Centre would consider it a great honour if Her Royal Highness would visit us on Thursday, the 8th October, 1936. From then onwards, preparations went forward apace. Practice parades for the Inspection and March Past took place in the early mornings, which were, with the exception of the first one, real clear, bright and snappy autumnal ones. As practically all the men who had attended spring drills and the parades for the Commandant's annual inspection had been drafted to Units, it was, at first, thought necessary to have these early morning practices almost daily, but at the first one, the men did so well on parade that, including the full dress rehearsal and one other S.T.C. practice parade, only six practice parades were held. These practice parades were as necessary to train the horses to the band, rifle movements and cheering, as they were to perfect the men in their movements. The horses, few of which had come in such close contact with martial music and movements before, confounded the critics by their intelligence, and their presence (which is, alas, rapidly becoming so rare) added considerably to the spectacle.

But these men and horses were not alone in the preparations for Her Royal Highness's visit. The Training Battalion workshops, constructed an excellent dais with overhead cover, tastefully decorated in navy blue and stained wood, from which Her Royal Highness might take the salute at the March Past. It is of interest to note, that this seemingly, and in truth, solid and well-built structure was made from the wood of old army huts condemned to firewood. It was borrowed as such, and to the regret of those who worked on it, was dismantled and handed back for firewood after the ceremony.

September this year was an exceptional month of luxuriant growth of grass, trees, hedges and all those things which appear in a garden or along the roadside in the way of flowers and weeds. Thus, to make sure that everything was up to the usual standard of " Saturday morning inspections," many of all ranks and trades, worked willingly and cheerfully at what is known in civilian life as " overtime " but for which no equivalent exists in the Army. The result could only be judged by the appearance of pleasure and approval, which Her Royal Highness gave to everything she saw, both indoors and out.

And the weather ! The foreigner laughs at us for the amount of time we spend discussing the weather, but then he hasn't the privilege of living most of his life in our country, and particularly in Catterick. A week before the 8th October, the day fixed for the Princess Royal's visit, the weather was exceptionally good ; bright, sunny mornings, and that red sunset at night, which we are told is the " shepherds' delight." Then the Press, becoming ever and ever bolder, dared to prophesy a week ahead that the 8th would be " fair with bright intervals." And so we hoped ! Suddenly, we all woke up one morning to realise that 8th October had arrived, and on this day the Corps was to give official greeting to its first Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, whom our late King George V had been graciously pleased to appoint as such on his Jubilee Day, 6th May, 1935.

(A full account of the day's proceedings are reported on page 469.)

Special Order of the Day.—The following " Special Order of the Day " was issued at Catterick Camp on 19th October, by Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant, Signal Training Centre :

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S VISIT TO THE SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE.

Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, has written a personal letter to Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., Colonel-Commandant, conveying her entire satisfaction with her visit to the Signal Training Centre on 8th October, 1936.

Her Royal Highness was particularly struck by the smartness and steadiness of all ranks on Parade and was most interested in all she saw.

She made special reference to the gardens in Unit lines and was very pleased to see that the Signal Training Centre took such an interest in them.

Her Royal Highness once again expressed her gratitude for the Brooch presented to her by the 12,388 Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Signalmen who are serving or have served with her Corps.

Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., on behalf of the rest of the Corps, wishes to thank all ranks of the Signal Training Centre for making our Colonel-in-Chief's first visit to the Corps such a success.

The Commandant, Signal Training Centre, also wishes to thank all ranks under his Command for their loyal support in carrying out all arrangements so successfully at such short notice.

Headquarter Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—The chief item of interest this month must be the visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, but as a more able pen than mine will describe the visit, all I need say is that I think " H.Q." Wing did their bit quite well.

Change of Command. –Lieutenant-Colonel F. O. St. John, D.S.O., M.C., left us on 23rd September, and the command of the Battalion has fallen on the second-in-command, Major G. Tayleur. Lieutenant-Colonel St. John has gone on a two months' well-earned leave to Canada. Before going, he said some very flattering things to the Senior N.C.O.s. The troops lined the road from the Gym., and cheered Colonel and Mrs. St. John until their car was out of sight. We were sorry to see you go, sir, but you carried the best wishes from those serving in the Depot for health and happiness to Mrs. St. John and yourself.

Arrivals.—We welcome the undermentioned, who join us from Units as shown: Lieutenant M. J. Conway from Cambridge, Lieutenant D. M. Smyth from School of Signals, Lieutenant A. B. Whatman rejoins from Oxford University Arctic Expedition—you'll find your experiences handy in Catterick, sir! 2nd Lieutenant D. A. Nolan attached from 5th Divisional Signals whilst undergoing a Course at Cambridge University, Sergeant Clee A., R.A.V.C., from Depot R.A.V.C., Woolwich, Farrier Corporal Mills E. W. from 3rd Divisional Signals, Lance Corporal Stead P. from 4th Divisional Signals, and Signalman Chambers W. G. from 3rd Divisional Signals.

Departures.—Our best wishes go to the following who left for pastures new: Major A. J. Harris, O.B.E., Rev. E. J. Norton, R.A., CH.D., Lieutenant (Q.M.) Hepburn to School of Signals, Lieutenant G. F. Houghton as Adjutant to Air Contingent, S.R., Leeds, Lieutenant A. D. Boddam-Whetham to India, Lieutenant A. V. Hayfield to India from Malta, Lieutenant F. R. B. Moore to 3rd Divisional Signals, Sergeant Dobson, R.A.V.C., to R.A.V.C. Depot, Woolwich, Lance Corporal Johnson E. to 4th Divisional Signals, Drivers Leek T. A. and Simpson R. to 3rd Divisional Signals.

Marriages.—Lance Corporal Jenkins to Miss Doris May Avery, at the Registry Office, Pembroke, 6th August. This item of news will interest many ex-members of the B.W.T.O. staff. We wish Lance Corporal and Mrs. Jenkins all prosperity.

Births.—A daughter, Ann Louisa, at Military Families Hospital, on 15th September, to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. H. Knight.

A son, Michael Ernest John, to Corporal and Mrs. Fairweather, at Military Families Hospital, on 7th September.

Courses.—Sergeant Dilworth has enjoyed a Course as an Epidiascope and Kodascope operator. Lance Sergeant Allston has just returned from a Weapon Training Course at Hythe. Lance Sergeant Shurer A. is still undergoing transformation to a Guardsman at Caterham. Lance Corporal Edmunds D. G. is killing two birds with one pair of handcuffs. He will complete a Fire Fighting Course at Aldershot, strangle a week-end leave, and then undergo a Provost Course at the Military Prison and Detention Barracks, also at Aldershot. Signalman Smith H. has recently completed a Regimental Butchers' Course, held locally, and can now carve "A," "B" or "C" joints.

Sporting Triumphs.—We pay special tribute this month to the Depot Battalion cricket team for winning the final of the Scheppes Cup Competition from the 21st Field Brigade, R.A., after what was surely the most exciting match of the season. The final scores were: Depot Battalion, 130; 21st Field Brigade, R.A., 115. It was a thrilling match from start to finish, and our hearts sank when our wickets began to fall like ninepins. Thanks, however, for a gallant score of 91 by Corporal Ferrier, most of which came from boundaries. Our stalwart, C.Q.M.S. Carpenter, also played his part well and bowled like a hero, taking six R.A. wickets for 51. The R.A. made a real fight of it, and the issue was in doubt until the last ball bowled; the last pair were scoring freely when only 15 runs were needed to win. It was a relief to see the batsman misjudge the ball and to see his wickets spreadeagled. Congratulations are due to the S.T.C. diving team for the excellent display they gave at the Depot Swimming Gala.

Agony.—Who is the Hercules, whose proud boast it was that he could blow up footballs and burst them? When put to the acid test of bursting a balloon at the aquatic sports, failed to accomplish the feat. This was in spite of much encouragement and cheering, too. He should have stuck his moustache into it!

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

An interesting little ceremony took place in the Mess last month on the promotion of Mr. Harris to Lieutenant-Quartermaster. The Mess decided to present Mr. Harris with a silver cigarette box. This was duly accomplished with a few well-chosen words from the President. Mr. Harris replied. The speeches were short and to the point, but the "sitting" after "the boat was shoved off" was much more to our liking. Surprising where some of them put it, isn't it? We thought it was a lost art, too!

We are commencing the winter programme of whist drives and dances by holding the first one on Friday, 16th October. If they are as successful as those we held last year, we shall be satisfied.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—We must apologise for the absence of notes in the October issue. The Wing pursues the even run of normality in spite of rumours of blood, murder and sudden death in other parts of the globe. We turn out our monthly quota of future N.C.O.s (we hope) with regularity and despatch.

Visits.—The visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal will, I expect, be fully covered in the Battalion notes, but we think mention should be made here of the admirable way in which the recruits of this Wing carried themselves on their first big parade. We understand that favourable comparison with men of longer service was made by several distinguished spectators.

Congratulations.—To the following men of No. 34 Squad, who received awards as shown on the final Pass-Off of their Squad: Signalman Gibbs D., P.T. Medal and Shooting Spoon; Signalman Baker L., Colonel's Whip; Signalman Knight G., Shooting Spoon; and Signalman Powell C., Shooting Medal.

Births.—To Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Knight, a daughter, Ann Louisa.

Sports.—We hope to have quite a lot to say in this direction in our next issue. At present cross-country teams and Inter-Squad boxing are on the boards.

By The Way.—We hope to publish a very interesting announcement next month. One very well-known member of the Corporals' Mess Bachelors' Club is about to take the plunge. Is his hair red?

Artist's Section.—We asked our Wing artist to oblige with a contribution, which is appended herewith.

EL PEE.



MAKING SURE—OR THE RECRUIT WHO DIDN'T FORGET—By BILL ADAMS.

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

Command.—The Battalion welcomes as Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Carey, M.B.E., R.Signals, who on 17th September, took over the cares of office vice Major H. D. Beadon, M.C., R.Signals, now second-in-command.

Historical Record.—I make no apology for the use of the hackneyed phrase "History in the making," for in absolute fact history *was* made on 8th October, when, for the first time in the history of Royal Signals, the first Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps, Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal, paid an informal visit to the Signal Training Centre. At 11.15 a.m., Her Royal Highness arrived at the Depot Battalion Parade Ground, where the Training Battalion with a Mounted and a Dismounted Company of the Depot Battalion were drawn up in Review Order. It was unfortunate that Catterick gave a further display of its curious weather, and greeted Her Royal Highness with a heavy downpour of rain. The Royal Salute was given with all the smartness of a Guards Brigade. Her Royal Highness inspected the Parade to the music of the Royal Signals band, under our Musical Director, Mr. R. R. Ricketts. Her Royal Highness then returned to the dais, and took the salute as the Parade marched past, headed by Brigadier F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., Commandant, Signal Training Centre. The Parade then reformed line and advanced in Review Order. The Royal Salute was again given, and the Parade ordered arms.

Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., then, on behalf of all ranks, Regular, Supplementary Reserve and Territorial Army, presented to Her Royal Highness the diamond and platinum brooch of the Corps Crest, to which all ranks had subscribed. Her Royal Highness replied in a few gracious words. Then Brigadier Heymann called for three cheers for Her Royal Highness, which were given by all ranks, making the welkin (whatever that may be) ring. The parade then moved off.

I presume that the Depot Battalion will tell of Her Royal Highness's visit to their gymnasium, reception-room and gardens, because I can only take up the story at the point where Her Royal Highness visited St. Quentin Lines Married Quarters, after having lunched at the Royal Signals Mess. At St. Quentin Lines, at about 2.30 p.m., the warrant officers, Class 1, of the S.T.C., and their wives, Superintendent Clerk and Mrs. Harrison, R.S.M. and Mrs. Caulfield, R.S.M. and Mrs. Butcher, R.S.M. and Mrs. Freemantle and S.M. (F. of S.) and Mrs. King were presented to Her Royal Highness. Apropos of this presentation, this was the first time that all the warrant officers, Class 1, of the S.T.C., have been on parade at one time. (Shame! Ed.).

Her Royal Highness then visited some Married Quarters in St. Quentin Lines leaving for Harewood at about 3.30 p.m.

Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper, R.Signals, of this Battalion, acted as Orderly Officer to Her Royal Highness during her visit to the S.T.C.

O.C.A. Reunion, Northern Command.—Owing to the reduced strength of 5th Divisional Signals, Catterick Camp was selected as the venue for this year's O.C.A. Reunion. This was held on Saturday, 12th September, and combined with the S.T.C. Mounted Sports. As usual, Catterick weather was at its worst, but in spite of teeming rain, the whole programme was carried through. Special mention must be made of the Royal Signals Display Team, who put up a splendid show under conditions which were extremely unfavourable. In the evening, a smoking concert was held in the Vimy Lines Institute under the able management of Captain R. Sutton-Pratt and Lieutenant M. G. A. Hepper. It proved a great success. Fuller details of this very successful Reunion are given in Editorials.

Training Battalion Swimming Gala.—At the Sandes Soldiers' Home Swimming Baths, on Tuesday, 29th September, our Annual Swimming Gala was held. A very well organised programme was carried through in strict accordance with the published time-table. This was the first official occasion at which our new Commanding Officer officiated. Sergeant Hart R., is to be congratulated on the excellence of the arrangements and for his team of very expert swimmers, who, incidentally, have since distinguished themselves by winning the Catterick Journal Challenge Cup, Catterick Garrison Water Polo League and Cup.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

The absence of notes in the last two issues is regretted. Our scribe has been indulging in a few days of well earned fine weather and furlough.

Arrivals.—We welcome to the fold Signalmen Wilson and Bartlett from "A" Corps Signals, and numerous recruits from the Depot Battalion. Recruits will come and recruits will go but . . .?

Departures.—C.Q.M.S. Paul recently decided that he was too old a soldier and has departed to civil life with hopes of a suitable situation with the Corps of Commissionaires. C.Q.M.S. Wheeler departed to a vacancy, which was held open for him during last year, Signalman Smith has taken up a vacancy with the local contractor. We wish them the very best of luck in their new situations, and hope to see them at some later Old Comrades' meeting. The following have left for Field Units, and we hope they find the new surroundings to their liking: Signalmen Butchers and Mole, Corporals Huggins and Freeman.

Promotions and Appointments.—We congratulate Captain D. C. P. Hall, R.Signals, on his recent promotion, and Corporals Day and Costen on pulling the second bar; also to Lance Corporals Yeadon and Tompkins on taking an interest in the Blue Book.

Obituary.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of 2323285 Signalman Echlin C. P. (late of the display team), who passed away at the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, on 8th August, after a very short illness. The funeral took place at the Military Cemetery, Catterick Camp, and all available officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Company attended. "Paddy" was very popular with all ranks, and he will be sadly missed in the hockey team.

Births.—Congratulations are extended to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Fry on the birth of a son, John Richard (a little "Badgy"), at Farnham, on 5th July, and to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Walton on the birth of a son, at the Military Families Hospital, at Catterick Camp, on 13th October.

Old Comrades.—An Old Comrades Meeting took place at Catterick Camp and was run in conjunction with the Mounted Sports. As usual the Committee must be congratulated on having selected a *VERY WET DAY* (true to tradition). However, after the displays had thrilled all present, the sun kindly followed suit and the remainder of the day was observed as a "scorcher." This was followed by a concert in the Canteen, Vimy Lines, and many old songs were again sung. Sunday saw the Comrades on parade with the Battalion. After the service, Staff Sergeant Weir was presented with the L.S. & G.C. Medal, which was promptly honoured in the custom of the Service.

Marriages.—There has been a rush on "Indents" for the "Ration Bag and Accumulator Stakes," and the recipients are: Lance Sergeant Atkinson, who was married to Miss Hilda Margaret Neesham, at West Hartlepool, on 8th August, and Signalman Crick C., to Miss Esther Barraclough, at Leeds, on 1st June, and Corporal Furniss to Miss Mary Winifred Robertson, at Darlington on 5th September, and Lance Corporal Strutt to Miss Lily Violet Wilkinson, at London, on 26th July. Congratulations are extended to them all, and we hope that the services will enable you to see the world—and be paid for doing so.

General.—The annual musketry has taken place, and once again the usual reasons why I failed or otherwise occupy the main trend in the barrackroom. However, the shooting was of a high standard, considering that the shooting was carried out at Bellerby Camp, where conditions are not so favourable to good shooting as might be expected.

(St)range tales like: The Signalman, who when asked what he was doing with his rifle remarked, "The windjammer has stuck, sir." The new vocab. for the backsight and is it wise to have a Cadbury in one's bandolier pouch during rapid fire? Accidents will happen!

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

12th October.

Command.—On 1st October, we bade farewell to Captain R. Sutton-Pratt, R.Signals, who is taking up an appointment at the War Office. There can be no doubt that, during his stay with us, he effected many improvements in the Kemmel Lines Institute and barrack-rooms. He always had the interest of all ranks under his command at heart, and our best wishes go out to him in his new sphere. We welcome as our new Company Commander, Captain C. F. Newsom, R.Signals, and we trust that his stay with us will be both long and pleasant. Best wishes are also extended to Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley, R. Signals, from Cambridge University.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on their respective promotion and appointment: Lance Corporal Forster H. to be Corporal; Signalman Spence P. to be U/Lance Corporal.

Arrivals and Departures.—Again these are too numerous to mention individually, but to all those who have arrived since the last rendition of these notes, we extend a hearty welcome. To those who have departed to other Units, we trust they will look back to their soldiering in Catterick as a pleasant experience.

Births.—To Corporal and Mrs. Camin, a son, Brian Gerald.
To Signalman and Mrs. Allen, a son, George Anthony.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

10th October.

We Apologise.—For the absence of WIRE notes from this Company last month. We have no excuse, except that it doesn't often happen. Since the last notes were written, many changes have taken place in "F" Company.

Departures.—Usually, we do not like repeating old sayings, but the one about R.E. fixtures certainly applies to one who has just left us—Signalman "Tich" Handley, after a tour of 9½ years in Catterick, but who has now decided to try out the bracing air of the "Queen of Watering Places." We have also lost Corporal Shipton W., our old pay "bloke," who has, like most Catterick bachelors, gone to Scarborough. You may be too late, Willie! We wish them both the best of luck and prospects.

Last, but not least, our best wishes go with the ex-boys, who have left our lap for Field Units. Signalmen Creed and Brookman to "A" Corps Signals, Signalmen Clarke and Hart to 1st Divisional Signals, Signalman Evans to 2nd Divisional Signals, Signalmen Maguire, Pellant and Latter to 4th Divisional Signals and Signalmen Barry, Westbrook and Peckham A. to Northern Ireland Signal Company.

Arrivals.—We extend a hearty welcome to 2nd Lieutenant J. de D. Yule, R.Signals, who has already shown that he is going to be a great asset to the Company soccer team. We also welcome very heartily (being our new pay "bloke") Lance Sergeant Rigden W. from Scarborough, and as we find it pays to be on good terms with the Pay N.C.O. we hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one for us. Put me down for . . . this week, Sergeant! Although we have not seen much of him yet, we welcome to the Company Signalman Wilson A. from Scarborough, who is here as relief to Signalman Handley. Come up and see us sometime!

Congratulatory.—Congratulations to: Captain E. S. Cole, R.Signals, on attaining the rank of Captain. Boys Harding, Martin, Wythe and Bowles on their appointment to Lance Corporal Boy. The recipients of the C.O.'s whip in the last recruit boys' squad, namely, Boy Murray A. E. and Boy Warren W. J.

Visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal.—After many anxious moments, particularly on the part of the boys, the long-looked-for occasion has come and gone. An occasion that many of us will never forget. To many of us, this was our first glimpse of Royalty, and we all agree that it was worth the little extra "sweating."

Sport.—In the final of the Mackworth Cricket, we managed to beat the School of Signals, and so won this section of the Mackworth Trophy for the second successive year. We have made a start in boys' football, and have played off some League fixtures, but these are too numerous to give a detailed report of them. We have also played one or two friendly hockey matches during the past week or two, but nothing of great importance has been done.

"EFF."

Sergeants' Mess Training Battalion.

Our Mess goes from strength to strength, promotions and postings have given us a more than usually large membership. Our latest arrivals were Lance Sergeant Rigden, who returned to the fold after a sweet sojourn in the "dismal depths of Scarborough," and Lance Sergeant Alexander, who came from the Corporals' Mess by the shortest and cheapest route on promotion.

Another very enjoyable whist drive and dance was held on Friday, 2nd October, the guest of honour being our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., R.Signals, who seized this opportunity of becoming acquainted with our members and their ladies. The first prize at the whist was won by Lieutenant-Quartermaster G. W. Harris, R.Signals. We take this opportunity of congratulating that officer on his elevation to commissioned rank.

School of Signals.

Visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal.—On 8th October, we were honoured with a visit by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, in her capacity as our Colonel-in-Chief, when she made a tour round the School. We are given to understand that the visit was a most satisfactory one in every respect.

Marriages.—Our Company Storeman, Signalman Steenson, took the plunge on 3rd October, at Scarborough. They have our best wishes. This is one of the favourite topics in the School. Even now, others are preparing for the venture, and shortly, single men will be very scarce. It must be good to be popular.

Congratulatory.—We congratulate Lieutenant H. D. Mountford, R.Signals, on his recent promotion to Captain.

Courses.—Signalman Allison attended and qualified at a Course in Sanitary Duties, at Aldershot, during September/October.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant R. J. Moberly, R.Signals, who has joined us to look after the "lines" side of the School. We hope that his stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—We are sorry to say that Lieutenant D. M. Smyth, one of our rugger and hockey stalwarts has left us for the Depot Battalion. His interest and great keenness helped to keep the School on top in the Mackworth Rugger. Our best wishes go with him.

Things we Want to Know.—How was it that the "Chef" was so able to disguise the gravy, that, on one memorable occasion, he didn't even know its name himself? Even "Gyp" is not quite explanatory. 'Nuff said!

Sch. Sigs.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

Details, "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot.

General.—The Chief Signal Officer inspected the Details on 29th September, and everything passed off quite satisfactorily. There are not many of us here, but we can still do our stuff.

The weather has turned exceedingly cold, and it is no strange thing to hear "leave wallahs" from India saying, "Roll on the boat and let's get back to some warmth." Not only are the "leave wallahs" saying it, but quite a few ex-India chaps are wishing they were back again. In a way it is surprising. Those who know the country are longing to get back, but those who don't know any more about the place than what they have heard hate the thought of going and dig up some marvellous excuses to get off draft. They won't be convinced that there is nothing to worry about. Ah, well, there will come a time when they, too, will regret leaving, when the "Call of the East" will be strong in their blood, and the sting of a "mossie" is like the kiss of the morning sun, when livers will be ripe and language strong; and though they, too, will be saying "Roll on the boat," when the boat does roll they'll not be so joyful about it.

Arrivals.—C.Q.M.S. Handby J. E. and Sergeants Steele P. and Bell H. Attached w.e.f. 14th September. Waiting for the boat back to India. By the time these notes appear in print they will be half-way there.

Departures.—Corporal Strickson H., to 4th Div., Canterbury, on 17th September. Signalman Utting S. Discharged. Best wishes, Stan! Driver Hayward F., to 5th Div., Scarborough, on 16th September. Sergeant Barrett A. Discharged. (Another civvy—roll on!) C.Q.M.S. Radford S., to 2nd Div., Aldershot. Corporal Bartley H., to 3rd Div., Bulford (attached only).

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations are extended to Lance Sergeant Smith A. E. and U/Lance Corporal Crellin G. T. on attaining their respective high altitudes.

Tailpiece.—That's all, and quite enough, too! Aren't you all bored stiff?

O.

No. 4 W/T Company.

No. 1 Section.

General.—We have not yet quite recovered from the repercussions caused by the departure of " A " Corps Signals, but we are endeavouring to " bear up " in our usual good style.

The C.S.O. inspected the Company on 29th September, and we have reason to believe that he was very pleased with everything he saw. Truly, the barrack room was a picture, and so it ought to be considering the amount of elbow grease expended and the number of hours indulged in quiet cursing. Never mind, locals, it was a good job done well !

With the departure of " A " Corps regimental duties and fatigues come a little more frequently, but we can do 'em !

Arrivals.—Nil.

Departures.—Corporal Millichip W. to Bulford on a Course. Since leaving us he has had more than one heart attack ; he was provisionally warned for draft, definitely warned for Egypt, taken off, put back again, and now, just as I am typing these notes, he is off again. I'm quite sure that " F " Troop were looking forward to him, too. They've missed something good ! Signalman Hornby A. discharged at his own expense—he couldn't take it. Hope you are doing well, Alby. Two more of our locals are on their draft leave, but only one knows his date of departure—Signalman Telfer R. B., who will wend his way Egyptwards on or about 2nd December, and will arrive just in nice time for Christmas. Signalman (Taff) Stockden is for India when they have built a new boat for him. No doubt he will make the khuds resound with the noise of his exhaust in the near future.

Hatched, Matched and Despatched.—Nil, and not even any rumours. Shame, ain't it ? Not a scrap of room for scandal !

Did You Know.—That " soldiers now have early morning tea " (daily paper) ? Can some old sweat—he'll have to be very old, I expect—please tell us when " gunfire " did originate ? I'm perfectly sure it isn't as recently as this year.

That " married families have their coal brought to their doors by soldiers " (daily paper) ? Do we know it, or don't we ?

Jews' Corner.—Bob, Sarafand. Expecting a letter any day. Frog.

Tailpiece.—Roll on, the nuts and oranges.

OSSIE.

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

The contributor's knee, having been mistaken by a burly forward for a rugby ball, he feels in no mood for waxing eloquent. Still, he will give of his best (poor though it may seem).

We are experiencing at the moment a very happy combination of work and sport. As far as the former is concerned, individual training is now in full swing, and we hope that aspirants for higher ratings will not be disappointed.

Hockey and football are a la mode. It is believed that everyone in the Unit has participated in at least one " pukka " game to date. The final of the Inter-Section Football Competition was played-off yesterday, after some exciting preliminary rounds, in which a fair amount of local talent has been discovered. The Army Cup is, metaphorically speaking, the cynosure of all eyes of the Unit. " B " Cable Section were gallant losers to " D " Section in the competition mentioned above. The Commanding Officer, when presenting the Section Football Shield to " D," expressed the sentiments of all the spectators of the game by praising " B " Cable for putting up such a good show. Jock Cant also deserves a word of praise for the way he handled this game.

P.T. has commenced on a grand scale. Everyone turns out daily at 10.15 a m. for half-an-hour's initiation into the intricacies of the " trained soldiers' tables, without apparatus " (the word " apparatus " embraces such terms as tunics and ' ammos.'). The P.T. squad, now known as " employed," are having a particularly interesting time under Corporal Watts—such phrases as " severe bendings " are now being included in their vocabulary.

Arrivals.—(should have been singular)—Signalman Markland—a clerk—and very welcome.

Congratulations to Signalman Ormiston on appointment to Unpaid Lance Corporal.

Au Revoir.

HAFOD.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Annual musketry is now completed and the result known. It is good to see the Company with a good average (63.69 to be correct). We were, however, more glad to find that there were no third class shots.

Many of the Company are enjoying a well-earned furlough before proceeding to foreign climes. We have been very hard hit. When they have all gone, the Company will only be a skeleton of its former self. Year by year we lose old hands and rebuild the Company the following season.

The Inter-Section football has proved very interesting this year, plenty of really good games. We congratulate " D " Section on winning the Inter-Section Soccer Shield, and also " B " Cable on putting up such a good show in the final. " D " Section are also in the final of the Inter-Section hockey. Good luck, and bring home another pot ! The Company now play in the Command Soccer League. We have won one and lost one. It is giving the youngster his chance. The games are thoroughly enjoyed.

Individual Training.—Individual training is in full swing. We hope that those under training will, in due course, attain their ambition of higher ratings and pay.

Conclusion.—Until next time.

P. I. P.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Once again, we have come to the end of the training season, and the Sections have returned to the Company ; the last being No. 6 A.S.S., from the wilds of Deepcut. With the coming of winter, individual training will start again, and all concerned will have notes, and yet more notes to write.

The Unit mounted sports have been held under the direction of the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant. We are still wondering how some of the plucky ones kept aboard. As some of us know, it is not quite so easy as it looks. The Section sports are now in progress. " E " Section under the captaincy of their O.C., 2nd Lieutenant A. F. McGill, were, after a fine game, beaten by Headquarter Section at hockey. It was a good game, and as the score of 1—0 shows, they put up a good fight for it. No. 6 A.S.S., " F " and " B " Sections are still in the running at hockey and football. The well-known " voice " of " B " Cable can be heard urging them to greater efforts.

We should like to take this opportunity of saying how very pleased we are to see our Commanding Officer on the touch-line. He is there regardless of time or weather, when we are playing our various sports. It gives us great encouragement to see him.

Last minute news. P.T. starts to-morrow. This year it is being held at 10.15 a.m., instead of the early hours of the morning. Those who used to scrounge under cover of darkness, will now have to watch their steps or jumps as the case may be.

Arrivals.—Signalman Brown J., our new Company scribe, has joined us from the Training Battalion. We wish him all the best. Signalman Ketteridge has returned to us after an absence of twelve months. We can't wish him anything, because he knows what's coming to him.

Departures.—It is with regret that we record the departure of two of our Section Commanders. Lieutenant R. Linton, O.C., " F " Section, and 2nd Lieutenant A. F. McGill, O.C., " E " Section. They have done much for the Company, and we thank them and wish them also, the best of luck in their new Stations. Driver Martin has also left us for No. 1 Company, where, we are told, he is getting a bedspace in " Cad's Row."

Knowledge.—To the gentleman concerned it is spelt " attendance," subject to confirmation.

Finale.—Having exhausted my literary knowledge, I will say farewell until next month.

R. J. B. 494.

No. 3 Company.

General.—We welcome the arrival of our new Company Commander, Captain G. W. Smart, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, and hope that his stay will be a pleasant one.

Individual training is in full swing once more, and all are looking forward to going on their annual furlough with at least a B.II. rating.

Weapon training for the year is over, and it is satisfactory to know that there are no 3rd Class shots, and only ten 2nd Class shots with an average of 49.

Sport is in full swing at present, and we hope, at a later date, to publish a good account of ourselves.

Two of our stalwarts are about to leave us for civilian life. Our best wishes go with them.

Aldershot Command Signal Company.

Queen's Avenue, Aldershot.

VIRTUS IN ARDUIS.

General.—Thousands of letters having been received by us from our fans with regard to the non-appearance of notes from this Station, we once again appear in print. Perhaps the C.S.O.'s inspection had something to do with it, or it may have been the City Editor's day off. However, here we are. The aforementioned annual inspection went off very well, the Chief Signal Officer congratulating all ranks on the excellent show made.

Replies to Correspondents. To Mr. George Allison.—" If ever you are in doubt about the team you should turn out, visit this Station, where, I am sure, you will have no difficulty in learning what *is* wrong with the Arsenal."

To Malaya Signal Section.—" We think you had better cancel the ' in, out and through trays ' and devote your energies to making a soundproof room for Mr. Busty Bellis, who will be with you at the beginning of January. His snoring reminds one of Duke Ellington at his worst."

To No. 2 A.A. Cable Section, H.M.S. " President."—" Austen has many friends among the markers."

To Wazirdist Sigs.—" Your article and snaps still leave us cold and unattracted. Why not mention the delights of Columns in Razmak, dust storms and prickly heat in DIK, modern (?) bungalows at Bannu and Wana ? Perhaps we'll put in for a second tour, and perhaps we'll still prefer Aldershot."

Grip Off.—Guy Rodwell has been undergoing a Course of Map Reading in preparation for the 1st Class Examinations. We have been very quiet down here this month ; in fact, Mespot has been almost a taboo subject. However, we wish him a " D " and the entrance into that mystic bloated rank, C.Q.M.S.

Very small grips take place daily. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the subject is why the coupon went down, and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning the cry is heard, " It's in the bag." When the bag does really hold these coups, I suppose we shall have one or two more members of the " Accumulator and Ration Bag Cycling Club."

Sport.—Owing to the Palestine emergency, no sport has been played yet, but a Football League has been formed among the remaining Signal Units here, and we hope to put up a good show. " Where's that Tiger ? "

Cheerio till next month.

FRANKIE.

Tank Brigade Signals.

General.—This Unit is like a flea-ridden cat—it's always on the move. This time we are to move into separate accommodation about a couple of hundred yards down the road. The reason for the shift is that the 1st (Lt.) Battalion, Royal Tank Corps, is returning home on the big boat, and wants its barracks back. This is very inconvenient, especially if one happens to have been dragged from under the gooseberry bush without a full complement of nomadic instinct.

No more, it seems, shall budding defaulters parade outside a nice red-brick building with polished floors. Instead, they must await their award under the demoralising influence of a tin hut. In other words, the new office and stores block is constructed of corrugated iron. It is believed, too, that both recreation rooms belong to the iron age. This should be handy for sharpening knives and earthing wireless sets.

Entertainment.—On Friday, 2nd October, the O.C.A. dance was held at Salisbury. Unfortunately, owing to a pressing engagement elsewhere, this blurb writer was unable to be present, therefore a first-hand description of it cannot be given. From all accounts, it was a very jolly little " do," the solemn portraits and magisterial splendour of Salisbury Guildhall doing nothing to detract from the fun. This, so we are told, was especially evident towards the latter part of the evening, after the majority of the dancers had taken a few trips to the bar. This bar, by the way, was under very excellent management—it didn't close until one o'clock in the morning.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Friend and Burrow from the Yorkshire moors (absolutely unrelated to those Moors in Spain).

Departures.—Lieutenant Deakin to India. Honestly, some Unit's gain is our loss, especially in the high jump.

Definite Warnings.—Signalman Gear and Driver (I.C.) Stones, their " bags sea-kit " almost on their shoulders, the Sergeant-Major's advice ringing in their ears, are preparing to winter in the land of the Pharoahs. The best people do this, so we are told. Just another instance of the exception proving the rule.

Appointments.—U/Lance Corporal Alltoft receives additional pice and gets his name tacked on the end of a very long list of other names in the little blue book.

Signalman Marley receives an upside-down G.C. and the hope that, at some time, there's going to be some pay attached to it.

Finale.—Another madman is taking over correspondent next month, so, unless our friends abroad like to sport a stamp, it's going to be a case of

UVE ADDIT.

"C" Section.

General.—Since our last appearance in print, the Section has altered its map reference, and is now in Lydd for a few days, prior to rejoining our parent Unit at Perham Down. The Section was sadly depleted towards the conclusion of manœuvres by the posting of Corporal Galbraith, Lance Corporal Potts and Signalmen Stewart and Holberton, who left us to do their stuff in Palestine. The remainder carried on and successfully maintained communication between . . . ? Handcart and Tinkers Firs to the last. It is the opinion of the Section that the loss of nearly half its numbers was very keenly felt, and necessitated working until midnight instead of 11 o'clock. However, we know that some other Unit will benefit, and that Corporal Galbraith's sunny smile will brighten up some other tent.

I did not hear any remarks of regret that camp life has ended, and I can only conclude by letting our " half-sections " in Palestine know that the Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, appreciated their work very much, and I am sure the Section enjoyed their stay with the Tank Corps.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—At the end of the collective training, one is inclined to think that a great deal of strenuous effort is over, and that the time has come to take a rest and get some leave. At Bulford things are different. The day starts early, and before the sun appears over Beacon Hill there is great activity in the Camp. Officers are undergoing a month's Riding Course under the Commanding Officer, starting at 7 a.m. At the same time warrant officers and senior N.C.O.s can be seen marching up and down the Pimple under the R.S.M. Then comes the normal day's routine of individual training and musketry, and to wind up, all rugger players turn out for a short punt-about at 4 p.m. daily. These things are all to the good, because it must be remembered that 3rd Divisional Signals is one of only two Field Signal Units left in England.

Trials with different types of mechanical cable layers are being made, and a number of officers from the War Office are coming down on the 16th to see a demonstration of them at work. It is hoped that the future policy of the mechanized Cable Sections will soon be determined.

Arrivals.—From Training Battalion, 20th August : Signalmen Boozer C., Harte C., Donkin S., Tonge S., Sangster T., and Wilson A. On 25th August : Signalman Rushton H. On 20th August : Signalmen Joyce H., James J., Knowles A., Baker P. On 1st September : Signalmen Carr J., Chamberlain H., Francis A., MacPherson W., Rogers W., Hickman R., and Stevenson C. On 3rd September : Signalman Trask F.

Departures.—To A.V.T.C., Chisledon, 5th August : Signalmen Johnson H., Butler K., Meehan M., and Thornhill C.

Discharges.—On 13th August : Signalman Warr A. F. On 21st August : Signalmen MacGarrity D., Carter W., and Brooks D. On 28th August : Driver Bull W. G.

Promotions and Appointments.—Signalman Mill E. W., to be Farrier Corporal, with effect from 12th July. U/Lance Corporal Lane C., appointed Lance Corporal on the Corps Roster, with effect from 13th August.

Educational Awards.—Lance Corporal West G., obtained the following certificates at the City and Guilds Examination on

4th May: Radio Communication—Pass, 2nd Class Preliminary. Electrical Engineering Practical—Pass, Preliminary Direct Current.

Marriages.—Corporal Richardson F., to Ella Adelaide Richens, at Cirencester, on 12th August.

Signalman Ravillious F., to Ena Elizabeth Hatcher, at Stockbridge, on 15th August.

Signalman Crockett C. G., to Bertha Riley, at Amesbury, on 15th August.

Births.—To Lance Sergeant and Mrs. R. Chappell, a son, James Redvers, on 9th August.

To Corporal and Mrs. R. Coles, a daughter, Fay, on 11th August.

Sergeants' Mess.

World events have made themselves felt, even in our little backwater, because a large body of stalwarts have left us to make up the number at Aldershot. They will do more than make up the number if we know them.

Major J. F. Charlesworth, Captain J. Vickers and Lieutenant L. C. C. Harrison, M.C., whilst being rather "out of bounds" in this paragraph, are nevertheless handed our hearty good wishes for the trip, also Major J. R. Patten, M.C., who has gone to Scarborough. The following Mess members looked very smart in their F.S.M.O. as they left for Aldershot on the "Jew's Course." Good luck to all and a safe return! C.Q.M.S. R. Minion, Sergeants Watt, Tennant, Walker, Neal and Heasman. With the Corporals and Signalmen a total of 61.

The social season is about due to open, and a "smoker" is billed for 25th September, with a dance on the 26th. Something in the nature of a farewell for those fortunate people, who expect, or shall we say, hope to go abroad this season.

Going back a little further, we have to record a function of interest which took place in the Mess in August. The 48th (SM) Divisional Signals came over from their Camp at Windmill Hill, with the object of defending the Cup, which they won about two years ago. In this they were unsuccessful, because the members "saw their boots off" to the tune of 51 points to 21. Darts, billiards, shove-ha'penny, pokey die, dominoes and elbow-bending were the principle items. In the last-named, the Terriers more than held their own. They came over in force, headed by R.S.M. Newman, and were heartily welcomed by our R.S.M. Herbert and a goodly crowd of members. Several of our lads were away on leave and some were still out in the blue with Sections, but the evening was a great success. The consolation prize, consisting of a huge specially prepared bone from the cookhouse, carefully disinfected and mounted on a wooden base, was presented by R.Q.M.S. "Jim" Adcock to C.S.M. "Barney" Ryder, foreman of the "Four-X-Ranch," amidst deafening applause. "Barney" replied with a few well-chosen hiccups, and the evening proceeded merrily on its way. There should be more of this!

Things are looking up, as Steve said when he threw all the darts at the ceiling. One of the most enjoyable dances we have had for a very long time took place in the Mess on Saturday, 26th September. There was a whist drive, which was short and sweet; short because the people are quite incapable of arriving at the advertised time, and sweet because it was no longer. Prizes were given for all sorts of things, and "Barleux" managed to produce a passable band from the remnants of his once famous gang. He was assisted by Phil. Thomas of the R.A., who squeezes a pretty accordion. It is to be hoped that more of these bright evenings can be arranged, so that Bulford may uphold its reputation for winter gaiety. (Interval for screams).

Hearty congratulations to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Chas. Tebby on the arrival of a son, Anthony Charles, on Tuesday, 29th September, at Tidworth Military Hospital. (All's well).

We entertained the officers in the Mess on 25th September, at least we hope we did. The usual indoor sports provided considerable amusement, and some of our members were astonished at the skill of certain of the guests, who would scarcely be regarded as clever exponents of the art of shoving a ha'penny. Our guests lost the tournament by 23 points to 26, which doesn't prove anything, despite the fact that we recognise the double six domino upside down!

A recent welcome arrival is Sergeant Sprunt R. We could do with some more members, so post your applications early. Other guests and lodgers equally welcome are Messrs. Jenkins and Merrifield from the Village Post Office, London, and Sergeants Forrest and Jerram. They are all working, or rather employed, with an experimental section, searching for the "golden voice," or something.

Weather forecast for the next six months—well, perhaps we had better not publish that!

4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Owing to the small number in the Unit, it is difficult to select anything of interest for publication. The outstanding event of the month was a six-a-side football tournament which was played off during the first week in October. It was eventually won by Lieutenant Thuillier's team, which played well throughout the tournament, and beat two very strong teams who thought they had a "cert."

Departures.—The Unit inventory has gone all cockeyed this last month, and several old hands have left us for a Course on Vocational Training; R.Q.M.S. Payne, C.S.M. Leckie and Signalman "Toc" Booth of Waterloo fame. Corporal Peters, a saddler of great renown, proceeded to Lydd on a two months' Coach Trimming Course (2 fours Pete?). We have also lost our O.C., Brevet-Major G. S. Hurst, who sailed for India (3rd Divisional Signals, Meerut) on 16th October.

Arrivals.—Almost unbelievable, but names are too numerous to mention in these notes. We offer a hearty welcome to them all and any more to come.

Kit Inspection.—On a recent kit inspection by the Company Commander, the one and only "Oliver," when asked to show his shoes canvas, replied, "One on and one at the wash, sir." He still cannot see the joke.

"Happy."

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Burniston Barracks, Scarborough.

It is with very deep regret that we record the death, in tragic circumstances overseas, as the result of an accident, of 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Way, R.Signals. Although the late 2nd Lieutenant Way had been with this Unit only a short time, he was, nevertheless, a very popular officer. Critical when necessary, ever ready to give a word of praise for a job well done, or a word of advice and encouragement to do better next time. His sudden and untimely end has come as a great blow to the Unit. To the relatives of the late 2nd Lieutenant Way we tender our deep sympathy in their great loss.

The usual winter cruising has now commenced, and Signalman MacDonald has left us for Jamaica. Whether he arrives there depends very much on how he marked the case containing his saxophone. Sailors are very critical where music is concerned, hence the provision of a label "Not wanted on voyage." Lance Sergeant Badham has also embarked on another stage of his career. This time a return to civil life and employment in the P.O. via the A.V.T.C. We wish him every success.

The sea of matrimony, too, needs mention. Signalman Holmes having taken the plunge at Scarborough. Congratulations to Signalman and Mrs. Holmes, and may all their troubles be hockey players.

Now an innovation. Perusing my WIRE I noticed that mention is never made of the bad lads of the Unit. Enquiring why brought forth the answer "that they're hardly worth mentioning." Anyhow, why worry? If you read Part II Orders you will know all about them.

Early morning P.T. has now found its way into the day's programme.

Perhaps it is merely a coincidence that the Winter Whist League has also commenced, and, I may mention, with two victories to the Unit team. Of course, one has to be really good to get in the whist team these days. This, coupled with P.T., which will give additional strength to their ankles when kicking under the table, leads us to expect great things from the team this year.

The coming of winter has again revived our social activities. Weekly whist drives are again proving a success, and the gymnasium also becomes a kiddies picture palace on one evening per week. The films and apparatus are very kindly provided by Sergeant Lambke. Silent pictures, of course, but then the kiddies get a bigger thrill when they can shout encouragement to the hero and give "raspberries" to the villain.



Signalman and Mrs. Holmes.

Dances are to be held once per month. Strange to say, the support for the first one came chiefly from outside the barracks. Now, what about those inside? We've seen you all dance before.

We are all very pleased to see Lieutenant G. B. Stevenson back with us again, this time accompanied by Mrs. Stevenson. Congratulations to Mrs. Stevenson and yourself, sir. W.

Sergeants' Mess.

Events still continue to upset the peaceful calm that reigns occasionally over this area.

With the return of the C.A.D.S. from foreign service, it was thought that matters would begin to settle down to the "pre-middle east" period. No sooner had the members returned from "overseas leave" than others were detailed at short notice for foreign service. On 16th September the following left us for a change of climate: C.S.M. Deptford, C.S.M. Archbold and C.Q.M.S. Dunn. The latter received his promotion on the day of departure. Congrats. Peter! Four officers and sixteen other ranks made up a representative party from this Station. We await the return of the above with interest. The Mex Beach anecdotes having now ceased to be a topic of interest.

Obituary.—All members of the Mess received the news of the death of 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Way with very deep regret. His loss will be felt by everyone with whom he came in contact. Our condolences are offered to Mr. and Mrs. Way on their tragic and sudden loss.

Congratulations.—Congratulations are offered to Lieutenant G. B. Stevenson on his recent marriage, and hopes are extended that the future will ever remain bright and rosy.

A hearty welcome is extended to Mrs. Todd, wife of R.Q.M.S. Todd, M.B.E., on her arrival in Scarborough. That the climate remains ideal for the health of the infant Todd is the sincere wish of all.

Apologies are tendered to Lance Sergeant Robinson for not reporting his marriage in last month's notes. However, we now offer our congratulations and best wishes for the future, and continue to hope that some day we shall get (and be able to keep) a "single" member in the Mess for an appreciable period.

Congratulations to Sergeant Nicholson on winning the Billiards hampionship and on obtaining the highest break. Oxo.

Eastern Command Signal Company.

Dover Area Signal Section.

H.M. Gun Wharf, Dover.
13th October.

Introduction.—Our Headquarter notes of last month gave fair warning of Dover's intention to make known its existence, and bearing in mind that what may seem "shop" to us may be new to you, just as your "shop" is always interesting to us, we are determined to serve you a kettle or two of our own fish.

We had hopes of circularising our nominal roll in the form of an engraved scroll, but the cost was prohibitive. Nevertheless—we are the Dover Area Signal Section, and we make the sweeping assertion that every member is worth listening to—for a while. Although a comparatively small Section (possibly the smallest in the Corps ?), we shall be unable to tell you about its full ramifications in the space allotted this month, but the patient reader will know all in the fullness of time, and this without the aid of Barleux's small guide books.

Before disclosing the identity of our members, and we expect you to be the gentlemen we think you are, that is, you have played fair and read through from the beginning, we want to introduce a new feature to these columns. To ensure that our notes are read, and not merely passed by unread, "because," you may say, "what is the use of reading about such a wonderful Station, I am never likely to see it," we have decided to present a really magnificent *FREE GIFT* to the first twenty who send us congratulations on our appearance in the Corps magazine. It is quite on the cards that we shall receive a very large number, and it is, therefore, extremely important to be among the first twenty.

We conclude our introductory by repeating the admonition to read from the beginning, and on that word, present our Section Commander, Lieutenant S. C. McGregor (I.P.C.), C.Q.M.S. C. Emsley is our Foreman of Signals (special consideration will be afforded the Egypt mail), ably assisted by Sergeants Wilmot H. D. and Salmon G., Lance Corporal Spence C. A., A/Lance Corporal O'Callaghan J., Signalmen Dace and Stanford. The remainder come under the category of civilian employees, Messrs. Baker, Gurnsey, Cronin, Godfrey, Seeley, Bailey, Dennis, Douch, Dunkling, Phelan, McDonnel, Shepherd and White.

General.—Dover—Premier Cinque Port (we know of the controversies continually arising from this claim), Shorncliffe, Hythe, Lydd, and Newhaven are the principle centres of work. Additional to the normal F.E.C. maintenance and three telephone exchanges—two at Dover, one at Shorncliffe—we have a fair amount of heavier work in the submarine cable class, but more of that later. We only included this passage on *WORK*, hoping the subject will afford plenty of material for small talk hereafter.

Drafts.—Sergeant Salmon, India, A/Lance Corporal O'Callaghan, Malaya, the former only the proverbial provisional—meanwhile all are happily content to "P.A." that wretched file.

1st Class Certificates.—"How'd you get on with maths, Sarg ?

"Easy wrote 'Mae West' to each question!"

"We'll buy!"

"I done 'em wrong!"

Conclusion.—Having made our debut, it will be our constant endeavour to create the impression that this Section is quite different from others, this, of course, especially in the sense of superiority. A word would not be amiss here to the harassed six or eight year squatter in depots and like places. A letter of introduction or mention of the fact that the applicant is acquainted with someone prominent in his particular trade will sometimes achieve an early posting. It is obviously impossible to tell anyone how to secure an "At Home," but we are able to put out of countenance the rumour that Dover is a "jumping off spot" for India.

A final hint regarding our Gift Scheme. Have you ever noticed how strange it is, but a fact nevertheless, that in opening a lot of letters, one invariably selects those which stand out from the others. Moral—let your letter of congratulations be sent in an envelope a little larger than the size which is usually available and supported by the plea you have "just run out of civvy envelopes."

Adieu, we await your verdict.

DOVER SIGS.

INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Here we are once more, and in the absence of our " Editor " in hospital, I will take any " bouquets " which may be flying about when these notes have been published.

The rains now appear to have ceased, for which the majority of us are most thankful, although I hear some of the " water rats " having a quiet moan about fine Saturday mornings. Why Saturday mornings, I can't think ! What more can one wish for, than to be up early on a fine bright, sunny morning, even though it is Saturday, and wander under the trees, with dew-soaked grass underfoot, and hear the strains of " about turn," etc. ; and what an appetite for breakfast, and—what a wet shirt !

In the winter, a young man's fancy lightly turns to *boats* (and an old man's, too, apparently). I have heard numerous discussions on the subject, and have come to the conclusion that someone must be going home in the near future. Sergeant " Tiffy " Thornton and family hope to leave us about 12th November for home and *work*, which to him will most probably feel quite strange, after having served twenty-two years, seventeen of which have been spent in India. I'm not saying for a moment he hasn't worked all that time, he may have, but I don't think anyone has managed to catch him at it. He will be accompanied by Lance Sergeant Greig, Corporal Shufflebotham, Lance Corporal Marshall (all for H.E.) and Lance Corporal Chambers S. (for T.A.R.). Lance Sergeants Wheeler, Arnell and Goodison, with families, are also hoping to depart on 12th November, per S.S. *California*. (Now I know why the song " California, here I come " was written.) It should be noted that I say that all the above are " hoping." There's many a slip 'twixt the shore and the boat.

We still continue with our fortnightly dances, but of late the attendances have left much to be desired. " Come on, you budding Fred Astaires, don't allow wallflowers to grow on the theatre verandah ! "

On the evening of Friday, 25th September, some very weird noises were heard coming from the Sergeants' Mess. I hope some explanation will be given in their notes. It is believed that somebody was trying to sing. The singer of " When my ship comes in " should be revealed. He was certainly cut out for a singer, but the scissors must have slipped.

We welcome the following : C.S.M. Weston from 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sergeant Pickering from " B " Corps Signals, Sergeant Cosens and family from 1st Indian Divisional Signals, and Lance Corporal Wattle from Peshawar District Signals. They are, I believe, all in relief of people going home. They are wished the usual.

I can quite see why our " scribe " went into hospital. I'm off now—but not to the same place. They don't have my brand of " tea."

NOGUD.

Sergeants' Mess.

The monsoon has gone. It has cooled us down, wet us through, turned our kit mouldy and spoiled our jaunts ; but who cares about that, anyway, because Jubbulpore is now a land of green grass, leafy trees, flowering gardens and herbaceous borders (cf. Nobby's tash).

The B.S. (that means British " S ") Course left us during the monsoon, except for one lonely Scotsman, who had a lively interest in the newly-made bunkers on the golf course, and who also wanted to be certain that he had fulfilled his obligations as " a super-smashing, breath-taking, paramount *gripper*." He was not the only one from the Course who won the spoon ! Tenacity, under the same name, once swam the Channel. This month, the spoon is balancing on the edge—consequently, for safety's sake, people avoid walking too near the edge.

Many impromptu shows, like whist drives and dances, have been put on, and they are proving a very popular way of spending a Saturday or a Wednesday evening. The music, which is provided by the radiogram, is most successful—except when it, too, gets hot and palpitating from the roundelays, and belches forth volumes of smoke and emits foul smells as a protest against being pressed too hard.

The ladies played the gents in an Indoor Games Tourney, and the match was a draw, 66 points all. My, but Lizzie threw a pretty dart, and Daisy tossed a pretty ring—signs of a misspent girlhood ! In the return match, there was a distinct male superiority (I should have said that the men were again normal). Of course, the ladies wanted to tip up the ludo board, but instead they accused the scorer (sex—male) of deft manipulation of the score-board.

By far the most original show, however, was a " Cockerels' " concert held this week. This took the form of a broadcast, with the artists singing in a small room and the audience festooned around the lawn, judging the items. It was rightly called a " Cockerels' " concert. Many of the " vices " should only have been inflicted on the ears during the early hours of the morning, when one is fortified against such noises, and not in the late evening when nerves are jaded. Nevertheless, it was voted an excellent show, and Mrs. Fishwick won the prize for distinguishing the most correct number of radio artistes. We found many good voices, some with a most pleasant trill, some with a throb of sentiment, one or two even had " timbre " in their voice, but a visit to Nobby, and lubrication soon cleared it !

We have received into our midst, for a while, the following members : C.S.M. Weston, Sergeants Pickering and Cosens. We shall soon be losing R.Q.M.S. Tank, who leaves us to take up a post in the Arsenal at Cossipore. A suitable presentation was made and our well wishes go with him.

The Mess Golf Tournament resulted in a good match between Farrier Staff Sergeant Maguire and Sergeant Whittington. The Farrier's hammer strokes prevailed and resulted in a win by 4 and 2.

And so into October—the month when some should have been hitting the deck. We noted their disappointed faces and felt sorry for them. (Just because the Jews and Arabs couldn't agree !) It just means that we shall enjoy their company a little longer. They may still be home for Christmas !

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

Rawalpindi, 5th October.

General.—At last the Unit is beginning to resume normal proportions after being sadly depleted in numbers during the summer months, due to people being on Courses, leave, etc. The hill season having now come to an end, approximately forty of our N.C.O.s and men returned from Upper Topa, where they have been striving for higher trade ratings. The leave season also being over, most of us are putting our civvies in moth balls for a few months whilst we settle down for some real work. Section Training has begun and our Brigade Sections are preparing to leave in order to join their respective Brigades. From now on until Christmas we expect to be very busy, with visions of General's Inspections, Camps and Signal Exercises looming up in front of us. We hope, however, to put up our usual good show on all of these.

The majority of our married families have already returned from the hills looking very fit. Husbands have been seen very busily scrubbing out Quarters and endeavouring to fix curtain brackets to the accompaniment of much language when the brackets refuse to be fixed.

In fact, Pindi has filled up rapidly in these last few weeks after being fairly empty all the summer. The only stragglers left to return to the fold at the time of writing are the members of the combined football team, who have been to Simla playing in the Durand Tournament. They were doing extremely well until they met our old rivals, the 2nd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who beat us 3—0 in the third round, and who eventually won the Cup.

Promotions and Appointments.—We offer our heartiest congratulations to the following on attaining their respective ranks: Captain (Q.M.) P. E. Nolan, M.B.E., Lieutenant D. C. Lyall, Lance Sergeant Ravenhall E. and U/Lance Corporal G. Briggs.

Arrivals.—Major L. B. Nicholls and Captain R. W. Morgan have returned from short leave in the U.K.

We welcome Lieutenant D. E. Harrison from Jubbulpore.

Lance Corporal Lavelle and Signalmen French and Munden have rejoined us from Sialkot, where they have been on a two months' Equitation Course with 2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Privates Whittingham and O'Connell have arrived from 1st Battalion, Dorset Regiment, for attachment on probation. We wish them all well.

Departures.—Sergeant S. T. Cozens and family left us for Jubbulpore on 15th September. We hope they are settled down in their new Station. Our best wishes go with them.

Extensions of Service.—Lance Corporal Thornton G. has decided to really go in for soldiering and has signed the dotted line to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Chitral Relief.—We must congratulate Sergeant Beckley and the nine B.O.R.s who went with him on putting up a successful show in providing No. 1 Set communication for the Chitral Column this year.

Medals and Awards.—At last the Officers, N.C.O.s and men who were on the Mohmand Operations, 1935, have been given permission to wear the "frontier gong" ribbon. If all the lengths of I.G.S.M. medal ribbon which the Dhurzi sold last week were sewn end to end you'd be surprised how long it would be. However, we congratulate the fortunate ones on their award of the medal. I'm sure that they are longing to get the actual medal to wear on Church Parades, etc.

Wanted—Musicians.—Yes, that heading conveys a lot. Last year we sent out an appeal for some musicians to volunteer for the 1st Indian Divisional Signals, and what did we get? Nothing but crooners! As this Unit goes to the hills next year and social events are plentiful, we really would like to have our own band. If only we could get a violinist and a saxophonist or two, we'd be happy. Don't let us appeal in vain.

This Month's Best.—C.S.M. (to Company halted by river) "Right! Fall in!"

Facetious one. "No fear! I didn't join the Coldstream Guards."

Finale.—Well, as the Provost Sergeant refuses to lose his bike any more, I'm afraid that is all the news at the moment. Look out for our special "Camp life" number next month.

ONEDIV.

Waziristan District Signals.

September.

General.—Apologies are extended to all those concerned for the non-appearance of notes from this Unit for the last couple of months.

Razmak column went out on the 7th of the month for a six-days' hike, because rumour had it that a tribesman had been seen to trump his partner's ace, and as an angry Mahsud is quite a rarity up in these parts, the powers that be decided to give the lads a treat.

The Section enjoyed their trip, but have decided to pack bathing costumes on the next one. Did it rain? Oh, boy, did it rain?

The Garrison Horse Show was held on the 21st and 22nd, both days being a holiday. Razmak Section carried off second prize for the best turned-out Pack Mule.

The Unit is now undergoing its annual musketry training, and if the instructor is not kidding us, we are all due for a trip to Bisley next year.

Casualties.—The N.C.O. from N.I.S.C. who lost two inches in height on his first column. Several cads in the Section state that if a mule could have borne his weight this would not have happened.

Sport.—In the Inter-Company Sports held here on the 18th and 19th, Lance Corporal Peacock won the Pole Vault with 9 ft. 9 ins. The Unit finished up with fourth place. We won the Brigade Tennis Tournament by a handsome margin, but up to date the Cup has not been received.

Arrivals.—Lance Sergeant Williams A. from 3rd Div., Meerut.

Congratulations.—To C.S.M. Lydamore A. on doing eighteen years with the colours without being rumbled (he admits it, anyway).

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To Sergeant Lacey L. A. on being awarded the Sergeants' Mess " Grippers Shield " for the second month in succession.

C.I.D.—Who was the W.O. who split his new Jhodpurs because the horse was too high, and why does he go to the back of the stables to mount ?

Jews' Mail.—Bob, N.I.S.C. Have not forgotten you. Taff.

WAZDIST.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Meerut.

Meerut.
9th September.

General.—Gentle readers, not yet having received any threats of extermination from you as a result of writing last month's notes, I'm afraid I shall, once again, have to tempt the gods by jotting down all the inane thoughts which come to me when seriously contemplating the " 3-Bar-C." Incidentally, I can assure you that anything witty or which might seem personal, will be entirely fortuitous and not written deliberately to offend.

Addenda.—I concluded last month's notes with a paragraph concerning the generous way in which Captain Childs distributed his " Wills " at musical parties which he promoted. Well, I think that the following paragraph can now safely be added. He has since proceeded to Kashmir on leave and certain individuals of the Troop are, once again, martyrs to racking coughs caused by an awful weed named " Guinea Gold." Donald still insists, however, " that they look quite a decent brand in a case." Dear me, these poor Corporals !

Trooping.—Trouble in Palestine is causing a lot of consternation amongst the recruits of 1928-29, and the dilatoriness of Meerdist in the matter of passages for our Messrs. Giles, Jacobs and Tift is not looked upon with favour. In fact, Tift's words, when interviewed, were, " I do not think that Meerdist realises the extra work it means for me making out a fresh sweat chart when they fail to allot passages on the boat we *should* go home on." Various other members of the " 3-Bar-C " have been, are, and will be investing their hard-earned pay (?), judiciously we hope, in brass work, silk and suitcases. Amongst them are Lance Sergeant Robson (Gordon), Sergeant O'Rourke (Paddy) with family, Lance Corporal Frettingham (the dear), Signalmen Burns (Jock), Otton (Ginger), Locke (Viv), Dorsett, Hurt (Fwankie), etc., etc. But enough of these " hardened to India soldiers," with their bazaar prowling narratives, and, incidentally, their meal-time conversations—Delhi, '31 ; Gurgaon, '30 ; Roorkee, '34 ; Kasera Kera, '35—they can quote them ad lib, but how boring !

Here and There.—Since Captain Child's departure on leave the " brown utility car " is being overhauled (?) by Donald, and Fwankie has been seen driving a hard bargain over the sale of his fishing rod ; of course, a fishing rod is rather superfluous on the boat. Talking of fishing rods, reminds me of the fisherman's wife who gave birth to a baby boy, who, when weighed, tipped the scales at fourteen pounds. This terrific weight astonished everyone until, later, it was discovered that the baby had been weighed with the spring balance which Papa always used on his fishing expeditions. [Joke.] Really, I have laughed myself quite hoarse over that and now, being in that state, let's talk about horses.

Over the Sticks.—On 7th September, a Handy Hunter Competition, comprising individual and pair events, took place over the Troop " Grand National " course. The course was a veritable stumbling block for the majority of our potential equestrians—yet Lieutenant A. B. McVittie insisted that there was not a jump over three feet two. Individual winner was Signalman Forrest G., and winning pair Signalman Tift H. and Naik Adalat Khan. All three were recipients of Cups kindly presented by Lieutenant McVittie. However, the fact is that Lieutenant McVittie had organised a " real corker " in Handy Hunter courses, travelled afar, and our neighbours, 3 Divsigs, were tempted to enter six horses. Taken generally, their results were fair—only two completing the course favourably. Now, the Div. intend to retaliate by sending over a team on Thursday, to show us the way over the same course (they hope). Now that leads us up to a different course.

A.V.T.C. Courses.—Signalman Jacobs (Tommy) has been placed on the " waiting list " of bricklayers for the A.V.T.C., Blighty. Despite this damaging evidence, he denies emphatically being the instigator of the " brick-wall " and " Irrigation Canal " jumps on the " Grand National " course.

Promotions.—Congratulations to C.S.M. Bennett J. on his acquiring an escutcheon ; he airs it by wearing it in the shape of a crown on the right wrist. Also to Lance Sergeant McDowall on attaining that rank.

Gardening Notes.—If you have a lawn which requires cutting, do not buy a lawn mower, get a grazing party in the vicinity. We find this works quite well. Not only is the lawn cut, but the gardening instincts of some horses even make them trim the herbaceous borders—fastidious animals ! In the matter of gardens generally, lovesome things, and the production (for small families only) of pumpkins in particular, please send all queries to J. O. Burns of Scotland. His matutinal peregrinations round his window box have been, most assuredly, a sign of his unswerving interest in the garden welfare of the Troop, and I am sure everyone will miss him after his departure.

Finale.—Good !

PIP.

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

21st September.

General.—Readers of THE WIRE will be surprised to see notes from this Section once again. No apologies are tendered, however, for the lapse of time since the last records were published. Much has been accomplished in the months which have elapsed. The chief thing of importance is the erection and laying out of a garden, which surrounds the bungalow. Lawns, flower beds, and even the trees that once looked shabby and bedraggled have been trimmed, but of that you shall hear anon. Many who have at some time or other been stationed in Muttra will remember how the surroundings of the bungalow were barren of colour, appearance or any semblance of modern civilisation. I do not mean that everything was a jungle, but it was not far off. Times have changed, and the new order brings forth fertile land from barren waste.

I will attempt to describe how the transformation came about, all in six short months. On 14th February, 1936, a new O.C. arrived. Remarks were made about the landscape and the general appearance of the bungalow and its surrounding land. A vision of lawns, flowers and a hedge were conjured in the imagination. This was begun within a fortnight. Those of the Section who were posted to Meerut in March this year, will remember the back aching job of digging a three foot deep trench for the hedge. Clavering, Rose, Cashmore and others were among those who were here. Well, that was the start. Gradually through the months that have passed, working early morning and through the hot days of the summer, the garden is nearing completion. It should be remembered that, although there are 32 in the Section, leave is granted during the summer and, therefore, the Section was at its lowest in regard to men. A vast difference in the Section will be seen by those who care to visit us. Those of you who know the bungalow, will see something like this. Surrounding the bungalow is a wire fence, the space of 20 feet is cleared of all weeds and grass. Then comes a hedge, three feet in height, the place which used to boast the " Plaque " is now a flower bed with a small cemented " plaque " just big enough to hold the slab with " Jimmy " and the motto inscribed thereon. Behind the hedge, neatly cut and planted with flowers, are the four flower beds ; the lawns surrounding them are neatly bricked off from the 12 feet of red raddle. A word about the red raddle will be as well. This was made from bricks, which the men of the Section dug out of the ground and patiently crushed with their own fair hands (with the aid of hammers), and then laid and rolled. This extends round the bungalow to the main road. The trees have been trimmed to look like trees, instead of overgrown bushes.

This has all been done in the six months, the lawns at the back are expected to be completed by the end of September this year. Further improvements, such as gate posts and gates for each side of the bungalow, a small wall to be built to guard the garden from the enterprising bulls which wander round at night looking for sweet young plants, have yet to be made. Another hedge will be planted where there is now a fence. Then small white posts to hold the looped chains, all the way round the bungalow. Many other things are being considered, but it is wise that they should be left until they begin to become realities, like our present efforts, before saying what they are.

Those of you who read these notes will have some small idea of the work which has been done this summer, but to understand and appreciate all this, it has to be seen in order to fully comprehend the amount of work which has been done. It cannot adequately be described on paper.

Sports and Pastimes.—The Section has a great many shikarri wallahs, also other types of wallahs, such as photographers, darts champions and the like. At present we have our Section Sergeant and the Venerable (Werp) Fabian out in the blue catching tiddlers which weigh pounds ; in fact, some of the fish they are sending back defy description. This is not a fishy yarn, but for once true. Not being an ardent angler myself, it is not necessary to stretch my arms to tell of the fish I have caught and lost, but it seems to me that if they catch anything like those we have seen of late they will have to hire a man or two for demonstration purposes, probably with double extension arms to tell of the ones they have caught and lost again. The latest story, which seems to be one not mentioned before in the annals of history, is that when these immense fish are caught they are all tied up in a row on a piece of string and thrown back in the water, picketed on a pole, there to fend for themselves as best they can until such time as their death warrant is signed or it is time to pack up and go home. The queer thing is, they always seem to get loose somehow. We shall soon here tales of others who are catching three or four fish at a time which are adorned with pieces of string, etc.

Corporal Cairns and Lance Corporal Gedney have gone on a month's shooting leave somewhere in the Jhansi region. We cannot give any lurid accounts of their adventures until next time, but we live in anticipation of a good many stories.

Then we have the photographer (Bugs) Allen, who, it seems, gathers to himself all the latest catalogues of lovely cameras and dreams of the time when he will win the Irish Sweep and buy out the firm which makes them.

There was a little affair of shooting, which it may be worth mentioning. A very well-known Lance Corporal of this Section went shooting one week-end and, very much to our surprise, we heard that he had been chased by a nice big, blue bull. The head is now hanging in the bungalow. Of course, varied accounts were heard, but we prefer to imagine this ardent sportsman being pursued across country for several hundred yards by a very maddened bull. We wonder whether the animal took offence at his shooting or because he tried to hold a conversation with it. (Some call it gripping.) Such things, we know, cause animals to become desperate ; however, we'll let it pass. Live and let live, eh, Werp ?

Arrivals and Departures.—Signalman Fielding left us after a long holiday in Muttra. He will probably be enjoying himself in Meerut by this time. We hope he doesn't have too many things to do. Signalman Latham, who relieved Fielding, is at present basking in the sun of Muttra. I saw him only the other afternoon sunbathing. Perhaps he wants to get sun tanned before going home. Still, it seems that he knows one or two here. I even heard one bright lad warning him to beware of Grippers. I shall have to find out what this thing is !

L.

WESTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Apology.—Whether it has been due to the lack of inspiration or to an inherited Scots instinct (canny wi' the ink) predominating in the Zhob, notes from this Section have been somewhat similar to the financial status of a soldier on a Thursday night, i.e., a minus quantity. " Fade out " being an old Indian custom, we hope that all is forgiven, and with your approval, Mr. Editor, may we request the " moving of the decimal point one place to the right," thereby permitting us our " place in the sun." The fatted calf now being served, let's " get going."

Entertainments.—To vary the routine of life, a whist drive and dance was held in the B.O.R.'s Institute, on 12th September, under the able guidance of Lance Sergeant Cosens. Everything ran smoothly, that is to say, no man died with five aces in his hand. When the prizes were distributed, we congratulated Mrs. Cosens, Mrs. Russell, C.Q.M.S. Russell (secret training " Q " !), Signalmen Hobson and Greetham. The latter remarked that booby prizes are " hot stuff " compared with the standard of whist played to secure these prizes.

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OPPOSITE VICTORIA STATION

Arrivals.—This month has seen the return of Signalman Greetham to Loralai. He is settling down. When interviewed he said " that he likes the place, although the continual stream of heavy traffic disturbs his sleep at nights." All newcomers to Loralai from outposts near the frontier, suffer from the hectic life here. The noise caused by theatre-goers returning home is troublesome at first.

Departures.—Signalmen Keenan, Donohoe and Hay have left us for pastures new, and were last seen heading for Fort Sandeman. We haven't heard their O.K. signal, nor any complaints of messing, etc. Perhaps they have found their ideal—" eating without ticking."

Before signing off, we announce the departure of Lance Sergeant Cosens and Signalman Taylor A., who proceeded to " B " Corps Signals on 1st October. We sincerely hope that their tour in Karachi will be as successful as their stay in the Zhob. They did excellent work in the Section, both from the " official " and social points of view. Good luck, " Supt." and " chin up," Arthur!

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

General.—At last it is beginning to get warm again, not that it is ever really cold, but this " sticky " atmosphere is a decided change from the cool weather we have recently experienced.

Trade Test.—Captain F. K. Morton, R.Signals, and Lieutenant S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan, R.Signals, have come from " F " Signal Section, Jubbulpore, and " K " Signal Section, Ahmednagar, respectively, for the Trade Test which takes place this month. We hope they enjoy their short stay with us.

Courses.—The Junior N.C.O.s' Drill Course is coming to an end, and, by the time these notes are published, we shall all have been " passed out " by our Adjutant, Lieutenant E. L. L. Vulliamy, R.Signals.

Lance Corporal Boulter has returned from his P.T. Course, and has gone on leave to recover from his exertions.

We are at present undergoing Gas Instruction (not the gas that old ladies use, but this " intoxicating sort," the stuff which clings and makes one cry).

After having been contaminated, your pal decontaminates you, but he, in turn, becomes contaminated, and his pal decontaminates him, and so on, until we have the fighting forces of the world contaminating and decontaminating each other. This, of course, prevents war, because there can be no fighting if you are continually being contaminated and decontaminated. We hear that the authorities are going to issue umbrellas, in order to protect the troops when gas is rained upon them from aeroplanes.

Births.—Congratulations to Lance Sergeant and Mrs. Millen on the birth of a son (Geoffrey Stephen), born at Hampstead, on 30th July. (Another man for the Army, eh, Steve ?).

Sport.—Although small in numbers we continue to put up a good show at hockey, football, and cricket. On 27th August, we entered a swimming team versus the North Staffs, and lost by only about two yards. Our Golf Club still holds its own, and we hope shortly to enlarge the membership. On Sunday last we played the staff of the B.M.H., Trimulgherry, at cricket, on our ground. We all had an enjoyable time.

Conclusion.—Au revoir everyone.

CHARMINAR.

" G " Signal Section.

Mhow, C.I.
31st August.

General.—Very little has happened here of late, except that we have just seen the tail-end of the monsoon, and what a monsoon ! We were wondering when it was going to rain, when someone mentioned that it was all over. Now for some glorious (?) sunshine. At present, school is the order of the day for the majority of the Section, and we hope that when results are published, to be able to show a 100% return for 1st Class Certificates. Ere these notes are in print, we shall be on our way to Andora, near Sholapur, to participate in an R.A. Practice Camp, with the 3rd Field Brigade from Kirkee and Trimulgherry. We are all looking forward to the trip.

Congratulations are due to Sergeant Parker S., on obtaining a few " ackers " by passing the Urdu Higher Standard Examination. His hair is now quite silvery as the result of his strenuous efforts.

Departures.—Our O.C., Lieutenant R. C. B. Stuart, R. Signals, left us on 31st July, for the Home Establishment. He took with him our very best wishes for every success in his new sphere. The departure was something in the nature of that accorded to a large draft. Mhow Station was crowded to capacity with local notabilities, including " G " Signal Section in full force, not to mention the vast number of bearers, etc., complete with bombs and fireworks.

Social Life.—Although we are few, our social life is by no means dull. This is mainly due to our near friends and neighbours, H.Q., 8th Field Brigade, R.A., who continue to hold their social evenings. As ex-" G " Section-ites will remember, these are a roaring success.

Sport.—We are well represented in local sport. Two of our number play rugby for H.Q., 8th Field Brigade, who have had a very successful season.

Finis.—To " F " Sigsec 2nd Div. " How about wasting 1½d. Whifflesnoop ? "

GLOOPS.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

18th September.

General.—B.O.R. Technical Instructors have been busy this month in view of the forthcoming Trade Test Board, and it is hoped that many I.O.R.s will obtain higher trade ratings.

The animal establishment has been increased by twenty-four ; these horses were transferred from the 7th and 11th Cavalry Units here and the Royal Deccan Horse, Poona. A further eight are expected this month from Sam Browne's Cavalry, Jubbulpore.

Nine boys have arrived from S.T.C., Jubbulpore, and they certainly look a smart lot.

Departures.—Lieutenant A. M. W. Whistler to Equitation School, Saugor, for an eight months' Course.

Inspections.—The Brigade Commander carried out his annual inspection of the Unit on 15th September. The programme consisted of a Mounted Parade, a Dismounted Parade and P.T. and Musketry.

Miniature Range.—A competition was held during the month, and our C.O. showed everyone how easy it is to hit the bull. Sergeant Page was the winner in the B.O.R.s section.

Marriages.—A " Nil " return, and no signs that this will change in the future. It may be mentioned that this is Trimulgherry (what a station !), not Scarborough.

Handy Hunter.—The C.O. had a course made within the Unit lines, consisting of twenty-four obstacles of all shapes and sizes. A competition was held, and competitors found the course quite tricky. Signalman Attrill showed the B.O.R.s how to do the course. He now needs an extra size in helmets.

Wireless Equipment.—Three " C " Mk.II Sets have been despatched to this Unit in order that operators may be able to instruct the I.O.R.s in the mysteries of wireless.

Things We Would Like to Know.—Is it true that someone's hair is falling out ? If so, why is he not using Harlene ?

Who started the detective agency in the bungalow ? Was it the great " Tick-Tock " ?

Is the music still going round and round and round ?

Leisure Hours.—Sport in the Unit is chiefly hockey. It is hoped that new talent will be found in the boys who arrived recently from Jubbulpore.

Owing to lack of B.O.R.s, it is necessary to run a Combined Signals team for football and cricket. The scribe proposes to leave the job of reporting these games to his partner-in-crime in the Div. Sigs. Mention must, however, be made of the great improvement shown by the football team in recent matches. A local football league commences on 1st October, and it is hoped " Signals " will do well.

The most popular indoor sport here is reading air-mail letters. Owing to the many delays in recent mails, it is noticed that a few grey hairs are springing up on some heads.

Lately there have been many challenges issued at billiards and snooker, but no champion has yet been decided. It appears that " Silas B." has the makings of a great player if only he would keep his eyes open. At a recent handicap tournament a player preferred to be handicapped seven blacks rather than have " Silas B." as his partner.

BONNIE DUNDEE.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

"A" Corps Signals, Palestine.

Appreciation.—I am indebted to a new scribe in No. 1 Company for the notes which follow under the heading of "Milk and Honey." It has only been necessary to substitute Unit for Company in order to make the notes general. Not an unpardonable liberty, I hope!

Milk and Honey.—Calling all Sections. A hurry call came on the afternoon of 4th September. "A" Cable Section was with the 1st Division at Billinghurst Camp, whilst "C" Construction Section was at Tilshead putting the finishing touches to that short Airline Route. "Gotit"???

Anyway, the Cable Section, although a little peeved at having had to lay about thirty miles of cable for nothing, soon got stuck in the true Cable Section style, reeled it all up, and were in barracks at 11.45 a.m. on Saturday morning, 5th September, "C" Section arriving the following day.

Rumours. Rumours. Oh, rumours! Some were off to Palestine and others were not. Medical inspection commenced, inoculation and vaccination was as common as the flies we were expecting to meet. Still, the bomb did not explode, and night arrived with the Company still in doubt as to the exact cause of the excitement. Sunday, what a day! Warned to be prepared to proceed to Palestine. Pack up stores was the first order.

Monday arrived with the usual week-end feeling, and with it came the first of the reservists recalled to the Colours. The next few days were spent in issuing tropical clothing, fitting, marking and putting on puggarees. Friday had its compensations, "Remuneration for services rendered"—pay. This was followed by a speech by the Commanding Officer, who, in his remarks, expressed his great appreciation for the admirable work which had been carried out by the Unit, and intimated that leave would be granted to all ranks for the week-end. The boys were more than pleased at the opportunity of saying goodbye to their folk, and the leave was appreciated by all.

Back in Aldershot once again. Our final orders were issued; we are to embark on the S.S. *Laurentic* at Southampton on 14th September. *A Civvy Packet, too, boys!*

The night of the 13th arrived. As "Reveille" was fixed for the early hour of 2.30 a.m., it was not considered necessary to disturb the sheets and blankets. The Unit paraded at 4.30 a.m. and entrained at the Military Siding, Aldershot, at 6.10 a.m. The train moved off to the accompaniment of The Royal Norfolk Regiment band playing "Auld Lang Syne."

To ensure that the Unit was up to fighting strength, quite a number of the personnel of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Divisional Signals and Tank Brigade Signals were drafted to us.

On arrival at Southampton we were delayed some hours. When embarking on a *civvy* boat things were not so cut and dried as they would have been on a troopship, but nobody seemed to mind this spot of bother. The S.S. *Laurentic* is a fine vessel of 18,724 tons, just twice as large as an ordinary troopship. As we passed down the harbour we saw the H.T. *Nevassa* ready to transport some more of our Palestine pals, also the giant "*Queen Mary*," which at the moment is not on the Palestine run. After all the excitement of getting aboard and settling down, we sailed at approximately 3 p.m. Nothing much occurred before reaching Gibraltar; the Bay behaved very well. Just after passing the Rock our O.C. Troops (Colonel Elsdale) received a marconigram from the Governor (General Harington) wishing everyone "Bon Voyage." At Malta we paused to send out mail, and also to put ashore Corporal Verney, of 1st Divisional Signals, with appendicitis. Thence onward to Haifa.

Disembarkation began about 7 a.m. on the morning of the 23rd. The Unit was divided into two parties, one to go by train to Jerusalem, while the other comprised Base Signals and the M.T. personnel bringing the vehicles through by road. The road party left Haifa on 24th September, but, owing to delays, had to stay the night at Nablus, where one of our party was nearly elected Mayor??

To Continue.—Our worthy contributor, having gallantly filled the breach, quietly steps out.

The Unit is now quartered in various buildings and different types of canvas in various parts of the Holy Land. People with grey hairs are quartered in girls' schools and colleges; others are in tents on dust heaps. We are all having a pretty full day's work and have little time to nurse any homesickness which might supervene. It may allay the pangs in some young female bosoms (and older ones, too) to know that the curfew goes at 6.30 p.m. and all are safely shepherded in at that hour, unless on duty.

Sergeant Howler Speaking.—(a) Did you hear about the Arabs who fired on a village for three hours and then went in to ask for water in order to boil their rifles out?

(b) Why do they send us on the train from Haifa to Jerusalem if the line is unsafe? Why doesn't the ship put in at Jerusalem?

(c) Why do so many of the troops say Mersa Matruh instead of "merci beaucoup"?

To Whom It May Concern.—All the lads are behaving themselves very well—there's nothing else to do.

JESSAMINE.

"G" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Palestine.

Attached 11th Hussars, P.A.O.,
Haifa, Palestine.

Palestine Expeditionary Force.—During the past fortnight the strength of Signals in Palestine has been considerably augmented by the arrival of 1st, 5th Divisional Signals and "A" Corps Signals. We welcome them to the Holy Land and trust they will enjoy their stay here. Among these are some old stalwarts of "G" Troop, and we all hope soon to meet Lance Sergeant Neal, Corporal Shaddick, Signalman Paddy Leonard, ex-Signalmen Geordie Erhorn and Frank Cole. We understand that Geordie had just wangled a cushy job in Harland and Wolffes. Hard luck, Geordie! In a surprising display of modesty, we refuse to say anything about "before you came out."

Arrivals and Departures.—On 5th October we lost Lieutenant E. R. N.-W. Nanney-Wynn, who left us to return to Egypt Signals. We are sure his new Unit will appreciate him as much as we did. His place was taken by Lieutenant A. B. Ruck, to whom we extend a hearty welcome, and hope that he will enjoy his stay with us.

Hospital.—"G" Troop still continues to supply its quota to the above. Almost everyone in the Troop has had a spasm of sandfly fever. At present we have four such invalids and two other very interesting ones. Signalman McGinn, who has never been known to hit anything on the ranges, managed to hit the target unwittingly (good word) on 29th September. He is getting on as well as can be expected. The other patient. Well, he is Signalman Catigen. A wise guy.

General.—Everything is now organised and everyone has settled down. Although most detachments, especially R.H.Q., are shorthanded, things are running pretty smoothly. The "can carriers" of the Troop appear to be the No. 1 Set operators, who are working at all hours of the day (or so we understand from their tales of woe). Through constant changes of command, etc., the stores have been checked so often that even the operators of R.H.Q. can recognise a gudgeon pin lock washer in an instant.

Owing to the Troop being split up, and due to pressure of work, we have done nothing in the sport line as yet. However, footballs and hockey sticks are being brought out into the daylight again. With the arrival of the cold season it should not be long before things begin to look up. There appears to be enough Signals in Palestine to start a Signals Competition, such as was attempted in the Western Desert.

Unfortunately, in these competitions it is only natural to pick the best players, and this tends to centre the sport around fifteen or so men in each Unit. Why not have also a competition for "crab" players (for instance, I like playing football, but I never know where the ball will be going when I kick it).

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Conclusion.—Before these notes appear in print we will have left our tents and be snugly ensconced in billets. We will certainly need them if the downpour of a few days ago is any augury of future weather.

JMJMJM.

"H" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Palestine.

Attached 8th Hussars, Gaza.

General.—The Troop has now moved from Jerusalem to the winter quarters at Gaza, and at present a number are billeted in the town, whilst a few are under canvas near the aerodrome. Two No. 7 Set detachments, under Lance Corporal Evans and Lance Corporal Cox respectively, are at Majdal and Batani, while one No. 2 Set is established at 2nd Infantry Brigade H.Q. at Jaffa. Prior to leaving Jerusalem we welcomed many ex-4th Divites, who moved in with "A" Corps Signals—but that loading drill made many a brave heart tremble!!! News is also to hand that many more friends in the form of 5th Divisional Signal Company are at Haifa, including the one and only "Lout" Shalom (big fella). Happy New Year to you all!

So "G" Troop were actually under fire. Well, well, well! I seem to have heard that they stayed a short time in Palestine. In order not to mislead our subscribers, I beg to report that "H" Troop have been under fire since they got to Palestine. Many times!!!

Rumours of our return to both Abbassia and England in the near future are still current, but only the very optimistic members of the Troop pay any real attention to them. We can bear up so long as we do not get as far as Malta and then have to return.

Departures.—Signalmen Jones and Beveridge for a week's leave in Cairo.

Arrivals.—Signalmen Jones and Beveridge from a week's leave in Cairo. From the little remembered, they had quite a nice time, thank you!

Agony.—Corporal Watson, Egypt Signals. "Thanks for the doings! W."

Signalman Foster, India. "No more cuttings to hand yet!"

Ross Effendi. "Why no home address sent? Was hoping for a buckshee feed when we get back. What a pal!"

For Sale.—One camp bed (part worn). Owner *may* proceed on Blighty leave in March. Apply Rabbi Brookes, Beersheba.

In Conclusion.—

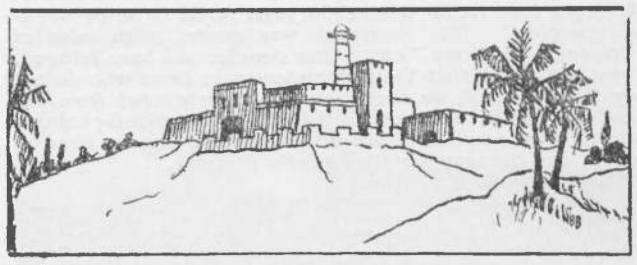
There are many Signal Units
Just north of Timbuctoo,
There are many who are sleeping on the sand.
And they're finding that it differs
From the clubs of Waterloo
And the pubs of Piccadilly and the Strand.

There are many who had finished,
Or who just had months to do;
There are many who were "sweating" on a "voke."
Instead, they're stuck out here
(It may be for a year),
And many can't appreciate the joke (?)

There are many who have been here,
Maybe many years ago;
There are many who are having their first "whack."
But the East loses its lure
When you're on your second tour
And you haven't early hopes of getting back.

(With many apologies to A. H., somewhere in England.)

WEEPIN' WILLO.



"K" (16th) Brigade Signal Section.

Nablus, Palestine.
30th September.

General.—Here we are again, folks! Another month has gone, and with it another name. Last month we submitted notes under the title of Southern Brigade Signal Section, Jerusalem, but, as you can see, we have since then had another move. Three months—three moves—three names. Not so bad, eh? I wonder where we shall be next month?

We left Jerusalem on 23rd September and proceeded to Nablus by road. After an uneventful journey lasting nearly three hours we arrived at our destination and were directed to our billet. It isn't everybody who can boast of bedding down in the municipal buildings of a town. Anyway, it came as a very pleasant surprise to us, and quite a change from being under canvas. Living in a tent is all very well for a fortnight's holiday, but is apt to get monotonous over a longer period.

Jerusalem was very nice while it lasted. We were too busy to do much sightseeing, but a few of us had the pleasure of seeing sights of biblical interest, and several managed to have the unique experience of trying to swim in the Dead Sea; otherwise there is very little to relate.

We think we shall like Nablus, but not much. The Arabs are getting too affectionate and are sending too many love tokens in our direction. As they only send them after dark, when we are thinking of much pleasanter things, we don't appreciate it as much as they would like us to. Still, there are others who are worse off than us, so we can't grumble (much).

Promotions and Appointments.—Our best wishes go to Captain R. H. Copeland on his promotion to that rank; also to Jazz Barker on dropping the "U/" from his title, thereby getting a grip on the blue book.

Arrivals and Departures.—We welcome to the Section Lieutenant A. C. R. Stead, of 5th Divisional Signal Company, who has come to take over command of the Section from Captain R. H. Copeland, who has left us to take over the duties of Adjutant, 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals, Cardiff.

Our Very Best.—The No. 1 Set, on test, had been ordered to move further afield. After a lapse of time the home station

was told, " If you can't get them, give them ' G.B.' and tell them to come in."

Casualties.—No. 1. To Morris Car No. 33170. One bullet through the bonnet. No. 2. The guy who asked for a fourth kipper at lunch. No. 3. The 1st Divite who tried to tell our oldest soldier how much change he should have from a ten-piastre piece.

POL.

"F" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Egypt.

Cairo, October.

General.—Why do the majority of scribes start with this heading ? What does it mean anyway ? Let's look it up in the " enci—cency " book of words. Here we are—" What every Unpaid Lance Corporal hopes to be." No, that can't be it! Oh, skip it !

A.S.E.C.—The first meeting of the newly formed Association for the Suppression of Equipment Cleaning took place during the week. A committee was elected and sworn in. After the President had rapped his knuckles for silence, pandemonium broke loose and the business of the evening was cussed and discussed. This was a talk on " Should mess-tins be nickel-plated ? " Comrade Snooky kindly gave us the following statistics. " Assuming that a Signalman joins up for eight years with the Colours and cleans his mess-tin once a week, and if Bluebell is at two-and-a-half piastres a tin, then the cost of cleaning a mess-tin for those eight years would be seven-and-a-half piastres." This statement was greeted with cries of " boloney," " siddown," etc. After disorder had been restored, it was discovered that the interrupters were those who do not buy their Bluebell, so they were promptly ejected from the meeting. The President stated that the cost of nickel-plating a mess-tin was ten piastres, but just then the trumpeter blew up for tea, and the assembly filed quietly (?) away.

Football.—Results to date :

v. H.Q., 6th Battalion Royal Tank Corps	..	Drew 1—1.
v. R.A.P.C.	..	Won 1—0.
v. Garrison M.P.	..	Drew 1—1.
v. H.Q., 6th Battalion Royal Tank Corps (Return match)	..	Drew 1—1.

The above matches were all friendlies, but in the first round of the Small Units Knock-Out Competition, we were unfortunate to lose to the 39th Company R.A.S.C., by the odd goal in five.

Hockey.—Two matches have been played so far :

v. 2nd Field Company, R.E.	..	Lost 4—3.
v. No. 1 Company, Egypt Signals	..	Won 4—1.

We were unlucky to have Signalman Andrews in hospital with a bad leg, because he would have been an asset to both the football and hockey teams.

Odds and Ends.—Forecast for potential civilians. " Cox " may soon " Byrne " his boats, but a " Gale " will follow.

It is published for information that " Spikker " the " horizontal wonder " will, on no account, receive callers between 13.30 hours and " tea up."

To Hero Copra Wallah. Heartiest condolences from Bill. R.O. 23/12 !

S. E. B.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

October.

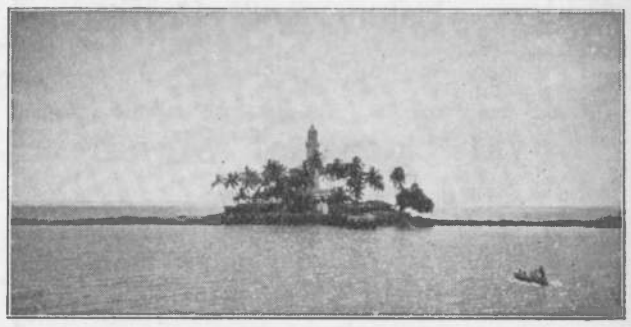
Apology.—Gibraltar calling ! Once again we must apologise for being a little late with our notes, hoping that those who have looked for news will not think they have looked in vain.

General.—For the first time in the history of the Gibraltar Signal Section the Unit was represented on His Majesty's Birthday Parade. We were afterwards commended by His Excellency, The Governor, on our turnout and movements. Since our last notes, Gibraltar has, as everybody knows, had a few exciting times owing to the local situation, and extra work has had to be performed by the Unit. This was carried out with the usual Signal cheerfulness, and resulted in a very nice report from the Acting Governor, Brigadier W. T. Brooks, M.C. Work continues in the Line Section, and it is hoped, in the near future, to make Gib. a lineman's paradise. They can then pack up their climbers, etc., and join the operators in a long rest (?).

H.E. The Governor's Inspection.—The Unit was inspected on Tuesday, 29th September, by His Excellency, The Governor and Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Charles H. Harington, G.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O., D.C.L. Everything went off in the time honoured way, and His Excellency said, " For the third year in succession, I am pleased to have the honour of inspecting the Royal Signals. It is always a pleasure to me to see you, and I am greatly impressed by the amount of work you do here and by your smart turnout on parade to-day." The whole Section were delighted with His Excellency's remarks, and humbly assure him of our continued loyalty.

Personal.—Greetings to Mrs. H. Carr, wife of Lance Corporal Carr, who arrived from the United Kingdom on 18th August. A happy sojourn here and all the best of luck.

W.H.B.



Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

September.

General.—

OUR HAPPY LITTLE BAND.

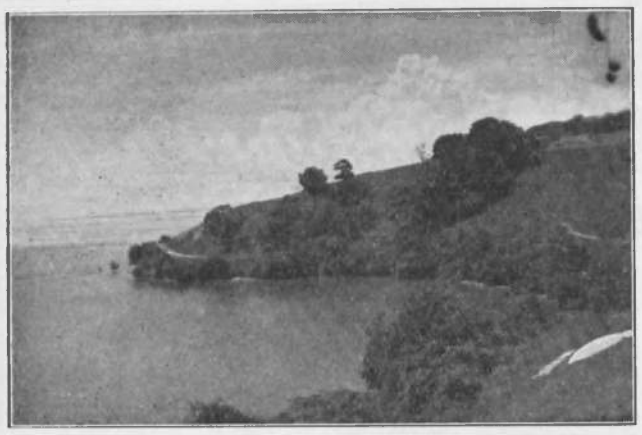
C.Q.M.S. Finney, the " quarter-bloke,"
Tends us as he would his moke.
He's greying fast, his eyes grow dim ;
We'll soon be saying " Finis " to him.
But, " Q," you can't complain a lot ;
The sights you've seen, the lines you've shot !
Gee, we are so awfully keen
To be he-men like you have been.

Sergeant Collins, our wireless loudspeaker,
Was given a Set—it functions—" Eureka ! "
Now, when we ought to be in bed
We're trying to raise Catterick from the dead.
Oh, Sergeant, dear, what a man you are ;
You'll ever be our guiding star,
To help us, light us on our way,
Inspire our work, revile our play.

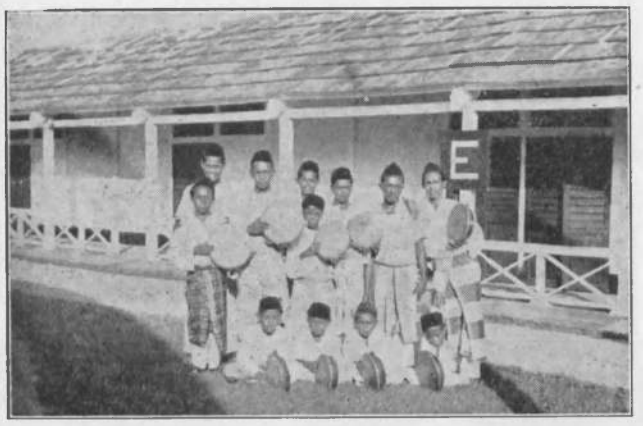
With bits of wire and pieces of lead,
Flashlight bulbs and a wagging head,
He flits around from coil to coil,
Is always burning the midnight oil,
Usually humming his favourite song,
" Sing as we go "—it won't be long—
That's Corporal Walker of Shanghai fame ;
" Short-wave Colin " now's his name.

Oh ! Where is Cave ? Oh ! Where is he ?
When I want him I no see.
My line is " dis.," my 'phone no speak,
Nor likely to within a week.
He's playing with children in the sun ;
His joints are dry, his " wipes " half-done.
Oh ! Where is Cave ? Oh ! Where is he ?
He is a " Cave " of mystery.

Pop Goes the Measles.—Well ! well ! well ! ! ! Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Walker has contracted measles and he finds himself once again behind the bars. I expect, sir, talking to people from behind the bars awakens distant memories in your brain, eh ? " What ! You have never been behind the bars before ? " " Sorry, sir. Still, I expect you hope to be behind a little one of your own one of these days when you leave the Army ! "



A view of Teregah Bay, Pulau Brani. Sharks abound in these waters. (Ahem !)



Harry Roy would blush if he heard these locals performing. When we hear them we do something a little more drastic than blushing.

Isn't it strange how important a part Bars play in the life of a soldier. After drinking in the bar he possibly finds himself behind the bars, there to reflect, in his weary hours, on the time when he will have a bar of his own. But measles in Malaya—Bah ! ! !

Congratulations.—Heartiest congratulations to Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Walker on attaining that rank. Also to Lance Corporal Hudson (Batteries, Ltd.) on grasping the first rung of the ladder. Hurry up, Soapy, and come out of hospital ! Malaria or no malaria, we all want our pints ! Of the above, the heartiest to Signalman (and Mrs.) Salisbury, of Salisbury (and Scarborough). What for ? Well, you guess. Anyway, it's hopeless thinking of the Army as a possible future career. The " happy event " took place at Salisbury on 28th July (what a blessing is the air-mail) and the name chosen by the proud parents Kathleen Roberta. This should be particularly interesting to 5th Divites. The christening mug may have passed round—probably has, because I haven't seen it.

Departures.—We are shortly about to lose our Command Signal Officer, Major H. N. Brown, who is due to return to England in a few weeks' time. We all hope his stay in Malaya has been a pleasant one. We all join in wishing him " bon voyage " and the very best of luck.

Royal Signals Dance.—For the first time in Malaya Signals held a dance. It proved to be a very successful and enjoyable evening, and we convey our thanks to those responsible : albeit we would like to know who drank all the profits ?

Seen and Heard.—Corporal " Long-Wave " Coton handing Corporal " Short-Wave " Walker a few " C " Set parts with which he had walked off whilst Sergeant " Medium-Wave " Collins was recuperating after his attack of " mal-de-mer," contracted when on the Government launch *Ubique*.

Ex-boys will be interested to hear that we are shortly going to attempt to establish communications with " F " Company via short-wave.

We saw Sergeant Watmore over here the other day purchasing some sticking plaster ! I wonder what nuts are loose now ?

Conclusion.—Don't forget to read our sports notes. Before closing down, a little bit of advice, please. Do you think we ought to believe that Corporal Walker is contemplating using the Equator line for an aerial for his " Get your Station " Super-super ?

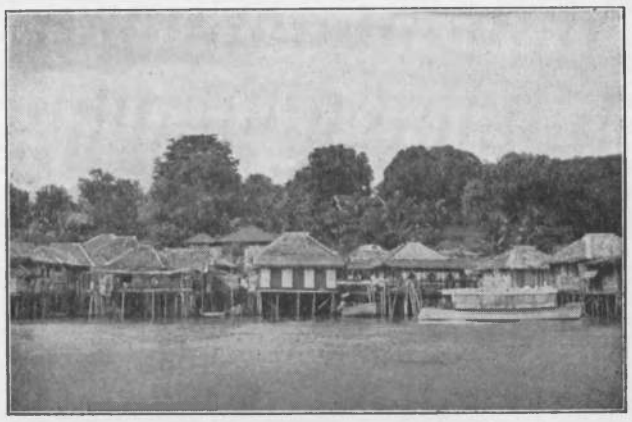
Cheerio, everybody ! ! !

TANDO (T.B.C.).

Changi Detachment.

Changi.

General.—Greetings, everyone ! I managed to steer clear of this job last month, having managed to pass the " baby " on to someone else. Unfortunately, the person who wrote in my stead was reduced to a mental wreck trying to think of something humorous to include in his WIRE notes. He is to be seen, night and day, wandering around burbling to himself and jotting things down in a note book. He is quiet enough now, though ! I've just been outside to him and took a pick-axe with me ! So here I am once more, much to your regret, but no funny stuff from me, though ! I don't believe in it. Not since the time when I partially cut the stay wires on the main mast



A Malay Village on Pulau Brani. Note how the houses are built on the water. Years ago this was a sure protection against wild animals and snakes. To-day it is a sure protection against high rentage dues, and it is a good labour-saving device. At high spring tides the water rises so high that it covers the floor, and Malay " Binnies " squat on their tables and watch Nature " Spring Cleaning " for them.



A happily married Malay couple. Note the sweet angelic smile on the multi-jewel-bedecked bride. This marriage took place recently on Pulau Brani. Their honeymoon was spent on Biakang Mati.

of a chap's yacht while his back was turned, so that when he got out to sea in a stiff breeze the stays snapped, the main mast collapsed and fell on him. The yacht turned turtle, and the poor fellow was nearly drowned! I simply roared when I saw it happen, having waited expectantly like. After the person concerned had seen me about it, and I had " come to " in hospital, I realised that it's a waste of time being funny. Most people nowadays have no sense of humour.

Bungalow Decorations.—We have one particular photograph enlarged in a posh frame. " Kit plate " is its official name, but it has been re-christened many times by those who have been found wanting with muttered threats of shooting the owner of the number of the kit photographed on sight. We are told that the owner of the aforementioned kit is hiding in the swamps of Pulau Brani.

Scout Movement.—This movement has been started in the Garrison, together with the Rover Scouts. The Signals boast four members in the latter section. At night, after their meetings, we listen to the drone of their voices as they mutter the Scout rules, of which the most popular seems to be " Help others at all times." This, everyone agrees, is a distinct improvement on their previous rule of " Nerts to you, Jack ; I'm in the life-boat ! " Unfortunately, their good deed per day does not cover cleaning a fellow-soldier's equipment. I must have this adjusted, otherwise mine will never get cleaned !

Trooping.—" For those in peril on the sea " is now sung regularly by the locals here, who are due home this season, for the benefit of their reliefs, who are, or soon will be, on the high seas en route to Malaya. As I am one of the aforesaid locals, I trust nothing will happen around the " Med " which will mean my relief being pushed off at Malta or some other " Home " Station. My old man has decided to put another threepenny piece in the Xmas " duff " this year to celebrate my home-coming, so I must get home in time for Xmas !

Agony.—To ex-Malta Signals, 1926-1931. " Pompey " Poole, 41st F. Coy., R.E., wishes to be remembered to " Nutty " Burrows and " Knocker " Johnson. A line or two would be welcomed.

SIGNALMEN!!

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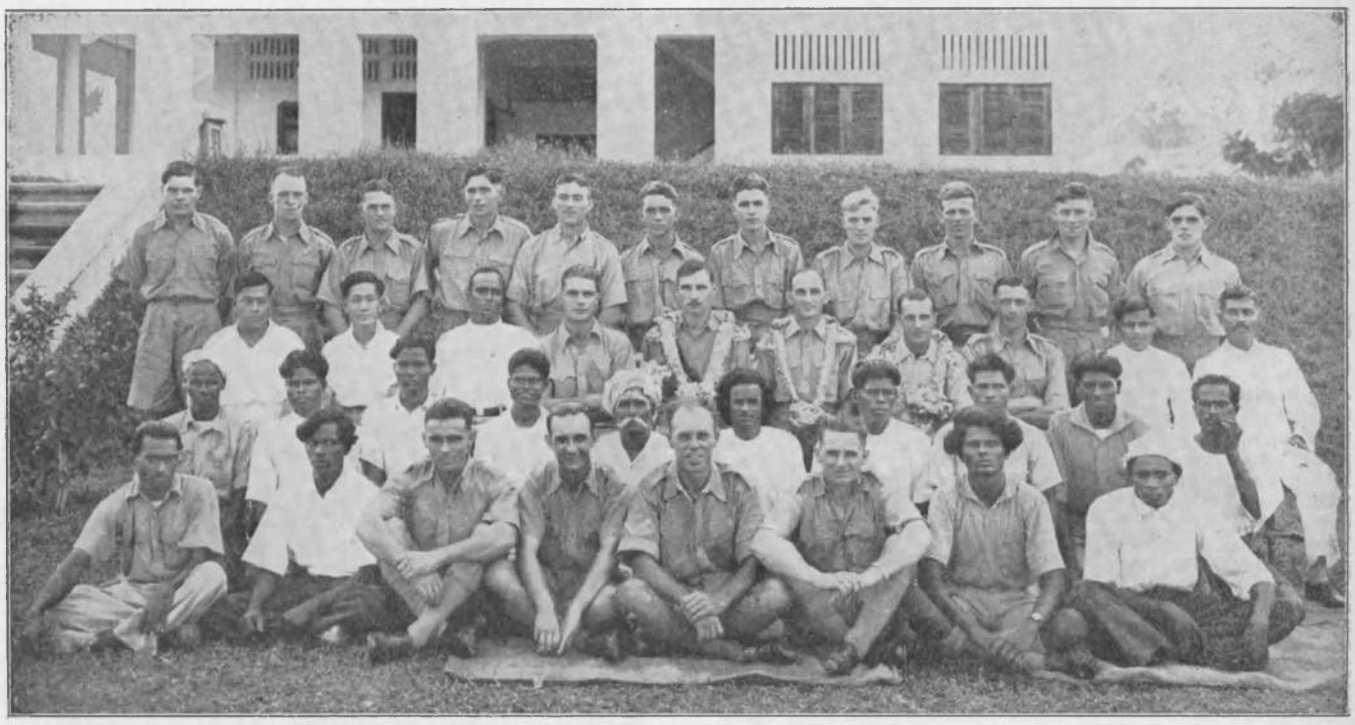
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CHANGI DETACHMENT, MALAYA SIGNAL SECTION.

Back Row, Left to Right—Signalmen Gray, Farley, Strong, Barrett, Tomlinson, Payne, Charles, Mottishead, Dickson, Goldfinch, Holmes J.
Sitting, Left to Right—Osman (T.S.B.O.), Yeo Chin Chuan (Jointer), Appasamy (Mandore), Corporal Pearson, Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson (O.C., Detachment), C Q M.S. Chimes (Foreman-of-Signals), Lance Sergeant Walters, Corporal Morton, Leo Michael (T.S.B.O.), Solomon (T.S.B.O.).
Kneeling—Coolies.
Sitting in front, Left to Right—Two coolies, Signalmen Buck, Foster, Lance Corporal French, Signalman Lambert, two coolies.

THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A., and affiliated No. 2 Company, Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
13th October.

General.—Things are running along very smoothly. Individual and recruits' training is now in full swing, preparatory to the pre-Christmas Trade Board. A paid Telegraph Operating and Procedure Course, an Officers' Class and a voluntary Physical Training Class are being held each Thursday evening, and all are proving very popular.

Recruits are still coming along at a good steady rate, which we sincerely hope will be maintained.

We have purchased two Morris light vans, which we are fitting out as W/T cars. When this has been completed, we shall be able to carry out considerably more training than has been possible in the past.

Owing to the Palestine emergency, we have been unable to get Sergeant Jarvis, 1st Divisional Signals, as a P.S.I., and are now one P.S.I. short of establishment. We hope the Officer i/c Records will come to our help at a very early date.



A Unit dance was held on 10th inst. It was a most pleasant affair; the band was really good and the attendance surpassed our expectations.

On 1st November, we are holding our annual Church Parade. We expect to muster a large party, because bounties will be paid after the parade!

Officers.—Our Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D.) sails for East Africa on 5th November. He will probably be away for two months. On 22nd October, a farewell dinner will be given to our Adjutant (Captain F. H. Bury) who sails on 14th November to take over command of Malta Signal Section.

Four new officers are about to be commissioned. Further details of this will be given in a later month.

Sergeants' Mess.—At the moment, our Mess is rather "in one." We have got the decorators in at last and, of course, they are doing their very best; it apparently comes natural to them to decorate everything within reach or splashing distance. However, when they have finished, we believe the place will look rather smart. Even now it looks about seven years younger.

On Saturday, 26th September, we held our first dance of the season. A great time was enjoyed by a large and merry gathering. Keep a note of our next one on 5th December.

We told you last month that Sergeant Pettifer R., was married on Saturday, 5th September. This month we are able to produce photographic evidence together with some information culled from the local police—pardon—we should have said, Press report. He and Miss Irene May Bradley tied that knot, which is not used in cable work, at Emmanuel Church, West Hampstead. According to the Press, the bride was resplendent in white marocain and carried scarlet carnations and white heather, while the groom, the best man, Sergeant Burrows L. J., and Lance Sergeant Hobbs C., (we rather believe he was acting as umpire at this match) wore the blue patrol dress of the Royal Signals. A real red, white and blue wedding. Well, Reginald me lad, we hope you and your new "C.O." will have a very happy married life! We wonder, if, when he arrives home after parade on Mondays, his missus will ask "Hoover" you with this evening?" Help!

Congratulations.—We offer our hearty congratulations to our new R.S.M. Bob Evelyn, who has taken over from ex-R.S.M. Thomas S., who is now working for his living (?) "Cohen" along very successfully, too, we hear.

Obituary.—It is with very deep regret that we have to report the death of our late Honorary Colonel, Colonel J. G. Fleming, C.B., D.S.O. A wreath and expression of sympathy to Colonel Fleming's family were sent on behalf of all ranks of this Unit.

EFFEMMA.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

Norton Street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester.
12th October.

News is still scarce again this month, October being the month of calm before storm, by which I mean that November is the month earmarked for the commencement of our 1937 training programme, so we can all look forward to taking off our jackets, rolling up sleeves and getting down to a regular job of work, and I don't mean getting in a corner and filling up football pool coupons.

On 12th/13th September, the Company team were at Altcar Ranges for the annual shooting competitions, and although we did not set the place on fire, nevertheless we felt we put up a very decent show, as we found quite a number of P.B.I. teams below us on the final reckoning. The officers' team also put up a good show, but they really did themselves proud in the pool bull competitions when they took away the money prizes for all the pool bulls won but one. I hear that the boys celebrated their success on the way home, one bright spark went so far as to collect "a couple o' ducks," as our Gracie has it, to present to his better half as a peace offering, and we are still awaiting the true

account of how these were received when he did eventually get home.

Officers v Sergeants' Shoot.—This annual event took place at Holcombe Brook on Sunday, 4th October, when 33 officers, warrant officers and sergeants attended. The officers have only won this event once during the past eight years, so we thought it was about time we did something about it. At the end of the first practice, the officers led the sergeants by only a few points, but at the end of the second practice, the officers had established a very good lead and comfortably won the match. The scores were, officers 358 points, sergeants 319 points. The officers then entertained the warrant officers and sergeants at a luncheon, held in the Mess at the Holcombe Rifle Range. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Ashley said he was very pleased to see so many officers and sergeants gathered together again for this annual function, and it was one way of returning the hospitality of the officers' visit to the Sergeants' Mess in Camp, and he hoped we would have another good training year before us. In reply, R.S.M. Brooks E. A., said he wished to thank Colonel Ashley and the officers for providing such an excellent repast, and he was very pleased to be able to congratulate the officers on their great win over the sergeants, but hoped the tables would be turned next year. In the individual prizes, the officers took the lot, first, second and third, and also the booby prize for the lowest score. The winners being: 1, Lieutenant T. C. R. Walker; 2, Lieutenant R. H. Clegg; 3, Lieutenant J. L. Harrison.

OLD FAITHFUL.

Jew's Mail.—Sergeant Harvey, Chatham. When is the "inventory board fixture" going to move, and where?

C.Q.M.S. Coombes, Meerut. I notice you are still snortin' and gruntin', Joe! Bear up brother, Beer is Best! Brrrrrr!!

R.Q.M.S. H. C. S., Palestine. Ve are vanting some "chews" plees, thank you! There ain't some left in Cheetham, No! Shall we send the AMP 686?

Jock Stevens, Madras. How would you like to do some more manœuvres around Tunda with the old "K." Two of the old Section are here. My salaams to you "empire builders," Gerrcher!!

"BRINGE."

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters, The Priory, Exeter.
October.

Editorial.—The past month has witnessed considerable activity in the three drill halls. Finishing touches were made to the signal offices during September, and the operators' individual training classes commenced on the first parade night in October. As a result, the numbers on parade appear to have increased. Comprehensive training programmes have been prepared for the several classes of operators, and the various subjects to be dealt with have been so arranged as to reduce monotony to a minimum. The linemen and those of other trades are also catered for. Though not carrying out individual training at present, they have their programmes of work, and are getting down to their jobs. The Cadre Course for T.A. Instructor N.C.O.s is being repeated this year with our parent Unit, the 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford. The first Course, held at the end of November last year, was highly successful, and there is every indication that the N.C.O.s selected to attend this year will have an equally instructive and pleasant fortnight. Some of last year's group of N.C.O.s are disappointed, because they may have to wait some years before a Refresher Course can be anticipated. Recreation and social functions within the Unit are also well to the fore, and preliminary arrangements have been made for the various Company dinners.

Promotions.—Congratulations to Captain F. H. Reeks on receiving his third. We are also delighted to see that Captain G. W. Odell, a previous Adjutant, has been promoted to field rank. There are still a number of us who have pleasant memories of "those four years."

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

General.—Activity has been continuous during the past month. The stage was set in the last week of September, and our operators (qualified and prospective) commenced their individual training programme on the first. Since then, each parade has shown a slight increase.

Our lorry has returned home from manœuvres, showing signs of strain and wear, and will earn a rest after receiving hospital treatment. Its return cramps the style of "B" Cable Section (whose wagons have been reposing in the garage during its absence). They manage, however, to improvise unorthodox but effective methods of running through cable, etc., because the drill hall is required either for weapon training, drill classes or lamp reading. A peep into our reading-room the other night disclosed a small party of lads receiving a preliminary lecture on the theoretical make-up of our Morris six-wheeler.

After the general parade, the "half-point" squad gets busy. To the uninitiated, they are in teams of three, and vie against each other for the much-coveted local trophies of the chase (sorry, I mean range).

Our worthy C.S.M. is persevering with his whist drives. These Wednesday evening gatherings are very pleasant, and though our funds have not swollen yet, we venture on.

The Company football team, although no notes have yet appeared for this season, flourishes in the local league. The team scribe is in hiding, but we are expecting him to unload his jottings shortly.

Congratulations.—This may be termed the autumn double. To Captain F. H. Reeks, of No. 3, we offer our best wishes on securing his third pip. The "Gazette" a few weeks back made pleasant reading; we learnt that Captain G. W. Odell, a previous Adjutant, had received his majority. We still remember the many pleasant visits which he paid us at Devonport, and the help and guidance we received from them. Our congratulations, sir!

ONECOY.

Additional Notes.—It is rather difficult to find much to write about these days, because, with the passing of the Territorial Year, things appear to slacken. However, instructional classes have begun, and are fairly well attended. During the summer time, it was a pleasant sight to see so many turn up for the Voluntary Drill Class under Lance Sergeant Norman. Recruiting is quiet for the moment.

The main topic at present is, whether it will be Bulford or Saunton. Very few of the Company remember our last Bulford Camp, which was in 1926. Still, we saw some life with a Brigade next to us!

The recreational side of our life is progressing. The Miniature Rifle League is going strong, and great keenness is shown, especially by the recruits.

A few stalwarts are keeping the whist drives going, but I am sorry to mention that members of the Company do not back them up. If they did, we should not have to look around for a bit of extra cash.

The soccer team is meeting with fairly good success. This, and the Miniature Rifle League, will be dealt with in the sports section.

LEATHERNECK.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.
8th October.

Business has been slack, toffs! We are enjoying a rest after the efforts at Camp, and leave is being snatched where possible.

Profit and Loss.—This is the season when odd jobs are performed, such as laying out "tent tele's" to dry before ironing and returning to their bags, redistributing winnings and losses in stores, and so on. In fact, we are adjusting the jolly old plant account, after the havoc caused by war.

Arrivals.—We have pleasure in welcoming our new Adjutant, Captain H. Lewis, from Canterbury, where some of us met him last year. We hope to assist him to pick up the threads, recently dropped by Captain Lewis-Barclay, who returns to Canterbury after a helpful tour of duty. He has our good wishes for the future.

The Awakening.—Yes, sir! They are "coming to." Committees are getting busy again, arranging dinners and dances. The first dance takes place on 17th October. Support is required to make these functions a success, and we trust this will be the forerunner of a prosperous season.

The Rifle Club.—This is also very much alive. It has just struck me that it might be their cannons making our darts drop out. The times I have missed a "treble 20" in that way—phew!

Parades started again this week after the aforementioned vacation. We have been having some very fair musters of keen

youngsters, most of them are after the extra £1,000 a year or so, payable at Camp, for Group "E" or "B111." Judging from their determination to acquire knowledge, someone will have to go to the bank soon.

The Three "R's."—This is another true one of the "L" men down on the range, and is vouched for by a responsible person with a crown on the forearm of his tunic. The squad were asked to sight the rifle at the target. On checking up, the Instructor found one man set for aircraft. After another try, he aimed to puncture the sewer. The kind mentor then got him to stand up and read a notice on the wall in order to ascertain whether his sight was O.K. On being pressed, he said he could see nothing wrong with it, as he could neither read nor write. The Instructor is still breathing!

Sergeants' Mess.—Several members are using their extra spare time to become proficient at some other aspects of a soldier's career. The skill necessary to show a profit on the board is increasing each week. Some of the rabbits come closer, and the startled gasp of incredulity when a needed double is obtained, followed by cruel and jeering remarks, is a thing of the past. I must say the "champs" are taking this assault on their income pretty well and have been known to order the prizes with a smile; albeit a little sickly.

Ex-Lance Sergeant Bracey, who was severely injured in a civvy motor-cycle accident during the last two days at Camp, is sufficiently recovered to get about on crutches. We trust he will soon be able to resume work.

Our "Mary Astor."—We are delighted to record that Sam has recovered his case "full of private documents" intact, before the Press got hold of his diary. The worried apprehensive looks and quick furtive glance through each fresh edition are now no more. Saved again!

(D) Artful Personalities.—No. 1. R.I.P. in civvy life. Freddie (Double Top) Gilbert, of fragrant memory. The pit around the favourite number is gradually closing up after repeated soakings since he retired, and we shall soon do away with the steps used to recover the barbs from the hole, also the extra light used.

No. 2. Jocey (don't he go close) Jordan, who is difficult to catch, and a consistent performer in the top notch. Stands square and throws very crafty-like; valuable in any team. Somebody told me he is no better than he should be, because he started when he was three, trying for 2 ones. Obtained degree in barracking with "hons." and keeps it green by constant use. Pays income tax of 1d. per game on darts.

No. 3. Leserlie.—Reckons he's good, and so he is—with a good partner. Has a long reach and is quick at counting—and uses both assets to advantage. Looks rather thin and worried lately because these same rabbits gave him a shock. His latest pastime is, poring over one of his old school prizes, "Darts for Group E." Only last night he rushed home at 9.20 p.m., when he saw who was playing. A most unusual thing for him to do! Rattled, eh! Usually quite a merry little soul.

"POLYH."

15th October.

Editorial.—It is customary for the faithful scribe to acclaim the arrival of new faces and to depict the shedding of tears at the departure of the old ones. I approve of the custom and, as a rule, endeavour to fulfil the role of the faithful (you heard).

Now, let me relate to you a sad story. On returning from annual training, I wrote, and being in a good mood, I wrote well, of the exploits of our boys. Apart from the fact that no one has yet bought me "one," in order to show their appreciation, all would have been well, but, alas, I had overlooked the Doctor! Well, boys, I suppose I've lost all chance of obtaining "light duty" next Camp, probably my ration of No. 9's will be cut, too!

This year, Mr. C. G. Roberts joined us as our own M.O. He is quite normal in most respects, hale, hearty and merry, with a passion for nosing round field kitchens and delivering hot soup to troops in the field at small hours of the morning. At least this was the impression he created—perhaps he was trying to find his way back to the Base? Previously, "Doc." had served with the 7th Battalion, Royal Welch Fusiliers, but suffering from shooting pains in his corns, decided to find a more relaxing form of amusement. Trust you will be happy with us, "Doc." and never run dry of the "special mixture" for "morning after" complaints.

Another new face, to which we accord a welcome, is that of Captain H. Lewis, who arrives from 4th Division, Canterbury, to take over the duties of Adjutant. Only recently arrived, I have been unable to obtain a complete interview. However, one learns that he is keen, considers the "terrier" far too inconspicuous in the eyes of most people, and is willing to do all he can to adjust the position. Is quite a sound hockey player, and knows his way around Folkestone. Up the "Wampach."

We are sorry to lose Captain Lewis-Barclay, who has returned to 4th Division, after four years' service at Stamford Brook. It is not all milk and honey being adjutant in the T.A., although it has advantages no doubt. We send our good wishes in the wake of your departure "L-B," and trust you will enjoy your tour of duty at Canterbury.

Surely Not.—Lance Corporal, entering Orderly Room and addressing R.S.M.: "Excuse me, sir. Have you a Signal Training, All Arms"?

R.S.M.: "Sorry, I issued the last one yesterday!"

Lance Corporal: "Damn it! That's the only book which has the particulars of the shooting competitions in, isn't it?"

(And he's paid, too!)

"0020."

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

Phœnix Street, Derby.

15th October.

Shooting Competitions.—Shooting for the Forman and Bramcote Cups took place at Trent Rifle Ranges on Saturday, 3rd October. The Forman Cup, presented by the late Colonel D. P. Forman, T.D., to be awarded for the best representative team from the three Companies of this Unit. Teams to consist of one officer, one W.O. or Sergeant, one Lance Sergeant or Corporal and three Lance Corporals or Signalmen, and to fire five rounds at 200, 300 and 500 yards with two sighters at each distance. After an excellent competition, No. 3 (Nottingham) Company were declared the winners with a score of 242 points, and our hearty congratulations to the winning Company for such an excellent show.

The Bramcote Cup was presented by Colonel N. G. Pearson, D.S.O., to be competed for annually by officers of the Unit with ten rounds at 200 yards. Captain and Adjutant E. Levett, R.Signals, was the winner with 38 out of a possible 40 points. The Commanding Officer, Colonel G. J. Underwood, was second with 36 points.

L. S.

No. 2 (Chesterfield) Company.

October has been marked by two very important annual events. Proficiency grants, on the revised scale, have been paid out, to the vast delight of Signalman (and Mrs.) Morsecable. The value of a grant of a pocketable size is shown by the fact that only a few July recruits failed to qualify before Camp.

The other event was the Company Annual Dinner, which was held at the Station Hotel. This function achieved a great success. The troops attended in greater number than ever before and set about the business of enjoying an evening in great style. Following the custom of previous years, invitations were sent to all officers of the Unit, the senior officers of the 6th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters, former officers of both Units, to representative nominees of the public bodies and of the prominent industrial boards, and to past and present W.O.s and N.C.O.s, whose Territorial record could not be denied at any gathering representing T.A. interests. The yards and yards of cloth which had to be allotted to guests was proof enough of the genuine interest which Territorial matters arouse in Chesterfieldians, both public and private. A powerful concert party produced a very acceptable programme in just the right tone for the occasion and prevented any lag between toast and response. Following the loyal, Corps and silent toasts, the C.O., Brevet-Colonel G. J. Underwood, paid some very kind compliments to the Company for its success in work and recruiting beyond establishment in 1936, and to the Adjutant and P.S.I. of No. 2 Company, both of whom are to be relieved this year. Captain R. A. Stevenson, in reply, owned to a lack of success in the matter of musketry trophies, but protested that this indicated no decline, but rather that rivals must look to their pull-throughs next year. Lieutenant D. Mucklow, in a maiden speech, amazed everyone with his excellent proposition of "The Town and Trade of Chesterfield" and bravely refrained from all mention of our famous C——d Spire. The Mayor and the Member for

Parliament both responded, and each gave very heartening encouragement to the T.A. movement in general and to this Company in particular. Lieutenant R. F. A. Turner proposed "The Guests" and provoked a very witty response from Mr. Theo. Pearson (prominent in local business and public affairs), who also emphasised the high place which the T.A. held in local esteem and his satisfaction that the general public appeared to be giving its belated recognition to the value of the T.A. as a national asset. The photograph shows the chair, part of the top table and a cut through the ranks (only Press photographers are allowed to do this).

The Company scribe acknowledges with many thanks the kindness of the Editor, The "Derbyshire Times," by whose courtesy the picture is reproduced, and whose report of the proceedings has been of great value in recalling just what did happen.

The Future.—The 1st November will see two changes, in conditions of service and in permanent wave. The first of these should result in even greater technical efficiency and consequently in an even happier Company. The second allows me to offer Sergeant Morley W. A. a very hearty welcome to the town and Company.

CROOKED SPIRE.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Shooting.—At shooting, as in practically all other ventures this year, we have performed very well. Well enough, indeed, to win the Forman Cup. The competition for this trophy took place on Saturday, 3rd October, at the Rifle Ranges, Trent. We fielded our team with every hope that we might win, but we knew that every member had to do his real best. Suffice to say that we won, and that every member *did* his best.

A photograph of our team (less one member, Signalman Scott) accompanies these notes. The names of those shown are: From left to right, back row: Signalmen Warren F. W. and Munson S. P. Seated: Sergeant Hopkins R., Lieutenant E. R. Perkins and Lance Sergeant Henley W.



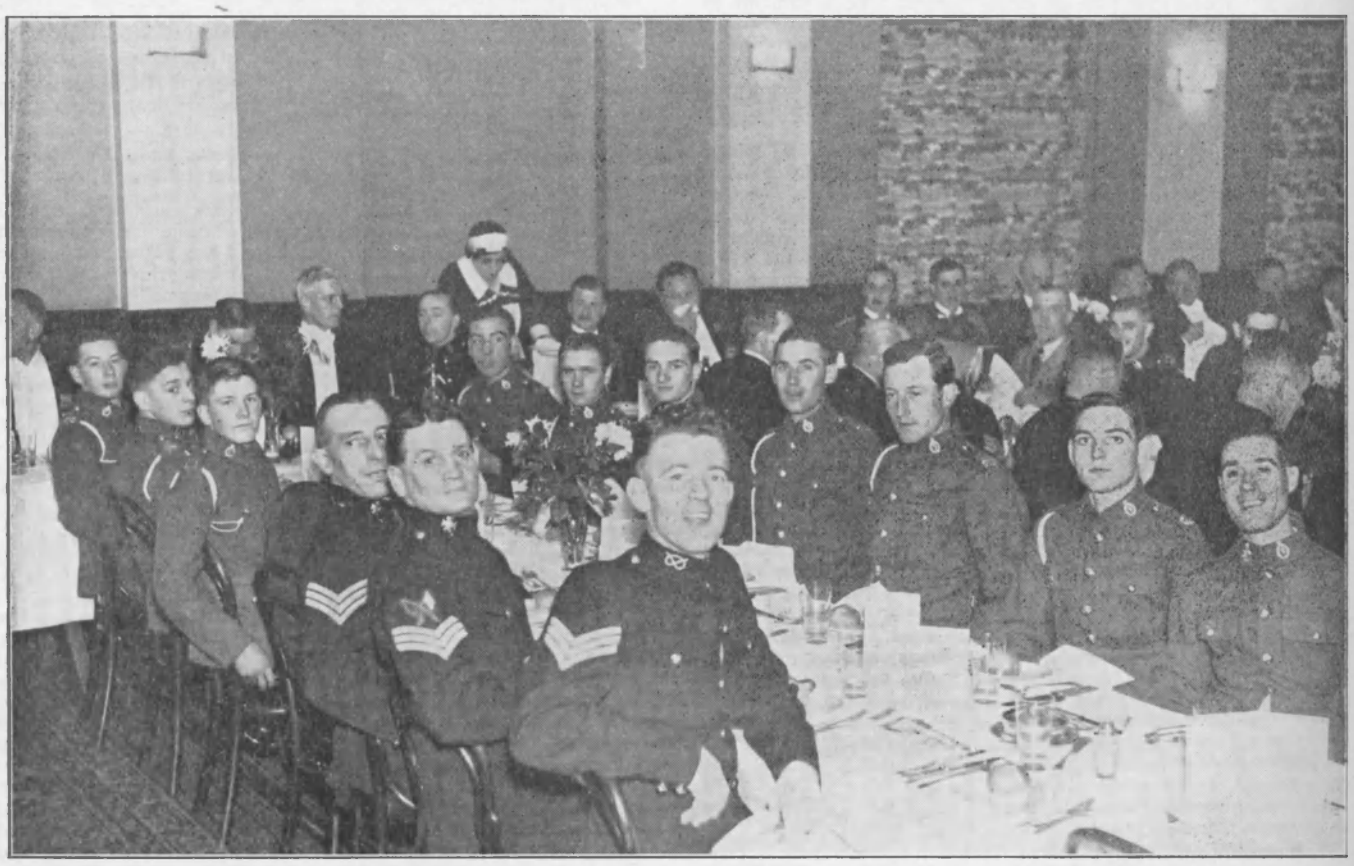
No. 3 Company, 46th (N.M.) Divisional Signals, T.A. Winners Forman Cup, 1936.

It will no doubt interest some readers to know that Signalman Munson is an ex-Regular member of the Corps, and will be remembered better, perhaps, as Farrier Munson, who served at Maresfield, Aldershot and Egypt. To all old friends he sends his greetings.

Echoes.—To see the face of such an old friend as C. W. H. was indeed a pleasure. Maybe in the future he will come and join our happy gang.

J. H. E. is preparing for the worst, but hopes for the best!!! Bramji Sahib is warned to expect the arrival of an ex-rat in Ind.

SIGS NGM.



(Reproduced by courtesy of the Editor, "Derbyshire Times," Chesterfield.)

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals. Company Annual Dinner.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—During the past month little of interest has taken place, due, of course, to the fact that Company Training has been in abeyance. Our winter training programme commences on 2nd November and the syllabus arranged is of a special interest to everyone. We feel sure that it will, as in the past, receive the same enthusiastic reception from the N.C.O.s and men.

Boxing.—As in previous years, the Company will again be entering a team for the Dent Cup. We have been fortunate in securing the services of a very experienced boxer, under whose tuition we hope once more to regain this coveted trophy.

Badminton.—It is a matter of regret that the services of the professional engaged by Headquarters have not been so prominent lately; since 3rd October, in fact. We sincerely hope that the events which transpired on that date were not directly responsible for his absence.

Annual Dinner, N.C.O.s' Mess.—We have departed from our usual custom of holding an N.C.O.s' outing and have, as a new innovation, instituted an annual dinner. We very much appreciate the fact that so many of our senior officers were present at this function, and we should like them to know that any special effort which they may have had to make in order to be present contributed largely to the success of the evening. The evening went with a swing from the commencement, due to the fact that the dinner was excellent both in quality and quantity.

After dinner those who were capable walked unaided to the Club Room, where an excellent musical programme was awaiting them. Those who had dined " not wisely, but too well," were assisted by benevolent friends. The entertainment provided was of a very high standard, and our heartiest thanks are due to the various artistes who helped to make the evening so successful.

Annual Bounty Parade.—Our annual parade for the payment of bounties took place on 14th October. This was a most fitting occasion to welcome our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D., who, on inspecting the parade, expressed his gratification on the general turn-out.

All ranks are confident that, under the guidance of our new Commanding Officer, we shall maintain the high standard of efficiency which we have set ourselves in the past.

CURRYWALLAH.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—The time has now arrived for the Company to recommence serious training, which begins on Tuesday, 3rd November, for N.C.O. operators. This is being looked forward to by the N.C.O.s concerned, and there is no doubt whatever that this will be a very successful Course. All operator N.C.O.s up to Lance Sergeant will be eligible to take part, and every hope is held for a 100 per cent. attendance. The usual items appertaining to operators and signals generally will be gone into, and by the time the New Year arrives, the N.C.O.s on this Course hope to pass out on test with flying colours. On the conclusion of the above Course, a Lineman N.C.O.'s Course will follow in sequence; but more anon about this in the next issue.

We are sorry to lose the services of the undermentioned N.C.O.s and men. We are sure their thoughts will be with No. 2 at annual trainings, because their stay in the Company was very much appreciated. In the case of Corporal Shepperd S. R., he leaves us after twelve years' loyal service. Good luck, " Spen "! To Lance Corporal John R. we wish the best of luck, after six years' service with us. To Signalmen Taylor J., Markham R. W. and Garthwaite J., we also wish success after their four years' stay with us. Through the above departures, vacancies now exist in the Company. We hope to fill them before the New Year arrives. To all ex-members of this Company, who are in regular service in other lands, we wish success.

P.S.I. Change.—We are now losing the services of T/C.S.M. Woodcock N. W., who has been posted to No. 3 Company, at Gateshead. Of course, he is not leaving the Unit; we shall be meeting him again at annual training. We wish him a successful time at Gateshead. We offer our support and good wishes to A/C.S.M. Widgery on his appointment as successor to T/C.S.M. Woodcock,

Social.—The social side of the Company is about to commence its winter activities, and our first venture is a miniature range challenge shoot. Further functions are being discussed and will be commented upon in the next issue.

Obituary.—We tender our deepest sympathy to the relatives of the late Signalman Lakin W., who has just died at Middlesbrough, after a long and painful illness. Signalman Lakin W. was a member of No. 12 (N.) Air Squadron Signal Section, which was attached to this Company, but is now disbanded. He leaves a widow and two children.

MIDBRO.

No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

October.

General.—The writer of these notes finds much of interest when reading of the activities of other Units, and tries, in a modest way, to maintain that interest by submitting material which may be regarded as reciprocatory. At the present time, however, regret is felt that fuller use cannot be made of the opportunities afforded in these columns to detail the activities of this Company. Training of all kinds over for the season. We have now reached a dead part of our year—somewhat early for commencing the social events and too early in most respects to commence the forthcoming year's training. As a purely private expression of opinion, the writer feels this quiet spell to be rather unfortunate, if for no other reason than it means some difficulty when it comes to picking up the threads again. On the other hand, all work, etc., is apt to give Jack the blues. Anyhow, if the " blues " have to be obtained through working, then there is ample opportunity to have them by rolling up for the winter Courses. 'Tis far better to keep up the circulation by aiming at " twenty-fives " these cold nights, than a division of attention between the amorous victories gained in far-off Redcar and those same " twenty-fives " when the summer evenings come round.

Old Comrades' Association.—All those who attended the annua reunion held this year at the Depot, Catterick, are enthusiastic, and a substantial increase in membership is imminent. This, of course, is not really surprising, for we of No. 3 Company possess a definite weakness Depot-wards. Maybe 'tis the benign twinkle in the eye of R.S.M. Caulfield, not to forget " Molly " and many others of happy memories. Once again we thank the Depot Staff for their outstanding hospitality and courtesy, which contributed so largely to the pleasure of the reunion.

Personal.—Company changes of a somewhat unexpected nature have been announced; but as these notes are now overdue, reference to them must, of necessity, be held over until next month.

" THREECOY."

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

General.—Although no better equipped with any news of topical interest in relation to training, we are to be found again this month, thrusting our way into the columns of the Corps journal in the belief that it pays to advertise. Members of Parliament and the legal profession, when confronted with a problem concerning which little is known, immediately search in ancient records for a precedent. We have found a precedent for what follows by having discovered that Wellington, although a good soldier, was in his late years a bad poet.

In a gas attack (and on other occasions for that matter), the " No's " can cause the mind to function, and thereby save the rest of the fabric from much inconvenience. We make no apology, therefore, for poking our " No's " into the November issue. Henceforth, when visiting the Zoo, we will always have a fellow feeling for the Chimp. when we see him with his " No's " in the WIRE.

" I'D RATHER DIE THAN SAY 'YES.' "

No news, No WIRE notes,
No muse, No anecdotes,
No thoughts Noetic,
No theme poetic,

No cookhouse stews,
No canteen booze,
No wet reviews,
No rendezvous,
No P.T., No contortions,
No unexpended portions,
No empties in the " dickie " seat,
No D.R. docket, No receipt,
No maps, No diagram,
No clicks in diaphragm,
No Nodose cable,
No forgotten label,
No seven-plus-three, No line,
No meat from Argentine,
No gorgonzola cheese, No looks askance,
No Tabloid Sports, No Unit dance,
No rum queue,
No songs taboo,
No choruses of mild improper tang,
No Fullerphones, No " banjo twang,"
No sore heads, No looks funereal,
No tongues of " flannel-like material,"
No eightsome reel, No band,
No beer in the upright grand,
No " Q " Sheets, No " E " Group,
No earwigs in the soup,
No technical nomenclature,
No notes at all can we procure,
No snappy tales remember,
Notes, No bon,—November.

Training.—Our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, and Major T. P. E. Murray have just returned from a short attachment to 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford. During their stay at Bulford, Colonel Reid and Major Murray were fortunate in being able to witness an interesting twenty-four-hour Exercise between the 7th Infantry Brigade and the newly mechanised Cavalry Brigade. These Officers were impressed by the smooth and efficient running of the Brigade Sections, which reflected the very careful training these Sections had been given. The extensive use to which the No. 1 Set is now put was most marked. No Commander was without his No. 1 Set. Line communication in this Exercise was practically non-existent.

The glowing reports brought back of the No. 1 Set have greatly interested the members of the Wireless Section, whose activities, will be much enhanced by the new Set—two of which, we learn have, at last, reached this Unit.

Thanks to the admirable arrangements made by Lieutenant-Colonel C. P. Prescot and the officers of 3rd Divisional Signals, Colonel Reid and Major Murray were given every facility for trying out the No. 1 Set. This they did to the full on the vast expanses of Salisbury Plain. The latest cable-laying apparatus was also demonstrated. The speed and perfection with which the lines were laid and reeled up was indeed a revelation when compared with the present system in use in the T.A. The C.O. and Second-in-Command cannot speak too highly of the genuine welcome extended to them by Lieutenant-Colonel Prescot and the officers of 3rd Divisional Signals. In spite of the shortage of personnel, owing to replacements being required to fill up Signal vacancies in the Palestine Force, no time and trouble were spared to enable the officers attached to study the latest developments in the working of Signals. It is to be hoped that more of our officers will avail themselves in the future of the great opportunity, which the privilege of such a liaison with the Regular Army affords.

On their way to Bulford, Colonel Reid and Major Murray called at the Royal Signals Mess, Aldershot, and were able to personally wish Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Harris, M.C., and the officers of 1st Divisional Signals, our affiliated Unit, " god speed " on their way to Palestine. May their activities in Palestine meet with every success.

H.Q. AND ONECOY.

No. 3 (Kirkcaldy) Company.

General.—Not much to write about at this time of the year. Bounties have been paid and are now probably spent and forgotten. The extra money was very acceptable and will, no doubt, be a great assistance to recruiting.

A Company general meeting was held while we had all the lads present on Bounty night. The main item on the agenda was the forming of a Badminton Club, which is to be run on the same evenings and in conjunction with the Rifle Club. With the help of a loan from Company funds and the work of a few enthusiastic members of the committee the club started off with about twenty members and is now a going concern. Several members are becoming very efficient players and arrangements are already in hand to have matches with local clubs.

Entertainments.—A supper and dance has been arranged to be held on the evening of 20th November. This will take the form of a farewell to C.S.M. Swatton, who is leaving the Company on completion of his tour of duty with the T.A.

FIFESIGS.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Thomas Orr.—We have been the bearers of some sad tidings in our notes of late. Yet once again we have to record the passing of another old comrade. Ex-Sergeant Thomas Orr, who was discharged from our S.R. Units three years ago, passed to his rest at Edinburgh, on 19th September. He was laid to rest at Bent Cemetery, Hamilton, on 22nd September. Tommy's illness was a long and trying one. His continued ill health resulted in his being superannuated by the Post Office. Tommy was removed to Edinburgh to undergo an operation at the hands of a specialist. Tommy survived the ordeal, but he gradually became weaker.

We well remember Tommy Orr as " the wizard of the wires." He was a master of the art of signal office wiring. His genius for concealing cables and the neatness of his work were extraordinary. War Office experts have been astounded at his dexterity. Signal Officers regarded his services as invaluable. An eminent Signal Officer, who held posts of great responsibility during the war, described Tommy Orr as the most efficient indoor lineman he had ever met. We will not easily forget Tommy's achievements on the Salisbury Plain manœuvres of 1933. His great work on these manœuvres won high commendation. Tommy Orr was at all times a zealous worker. He worked the whole year round in order to make the annual training period a success.

So we mourn the loss of one, who in his day had few in the Corps to equal him at his craft. Unassuming and kindly, his memory will long linger with his many friends. We would tender to his widow and relatives our heartfelt sympathy. We assure them that their great loss is shared in full by Tommy Orr's old comrades.

Baldwin's Bounty.—The award of the L.S. and G.C. medal is not exactly a rare event. The latest award of this decoration to one of the Jardine Street Permanent Staff men is of more than usual interest to us. It gives us great satisfaction to record the awarding of this medal to C.S.M. Baldwin J. Sergeant-Major Baldwin has been deservedly popular with all ranks since he came to Jardine Street. We gladly record our appreciation of his good work. We heartily congratulate him on his medal award.

Ex-C.Q.M.S. Arthur.—We were glad to meet ex-C.Q.M.S. Arthur on a recent date, and to present him with a handsome timepiece from the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. The presentation marked ex-C.Q.M.S. Arthur's good work for the Units and the Sergeants' Mess.

The Late Mrs. Twamley.—We regret to announce the death on 14th September, of Mrs. Twamley, mother of Mr. Ernest Twamley, one of the oldest and most respected honorary members of our Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. Mrs. Twamley had a life-long interest in the Lowland Signal Units, dating back to the nineties, when her son Ernest served as a corporal. We sympathise with Ernie in his great loss. With the passing of this grand old lady, another link with the old days of our Units has become severed.

The Musings of Macinnes.—A literary atmosphere prevails within the Men's Club these nights. Macinnes, the spoof poet, is at his deadly work. The author of " The Gailes Lament " had incurred the wrath of Macinnes the spoofer. So Macinnes retaliates. He has scrapped his winter's work of inventing

mediocre jokes for the summer camp. Macinnes now addresses himself to his " Ode to the Rum Jar."

Story of Stobbs.—The scene is Church Parade at a pre-war camp at Stobbs. It is a day of sweltering heat. The various Units in camp are assembled. Here and there in the ranks are signs that the effects of the intense heat are beginning to be felt. The Colonel of the Glasgow Royal Engineer Signal Units, in his capacity as senior officer on parade, gives the command, " All ranks sit down." The order is not at all to the liking of the officer commanding the Seaforths, who replies, " Stand still Seaforths, the Seaforths never sit Down." (From an old Press cutting.)

The Signal School.—Jardine Street is now complete with a Signal School. The school is complete with everything necessary for the training of telegraph and telephone operators. In addition there is every facility for technical instruction. The school has been organised, and is conducted by Lieutenant W. Johnstone, S.R., to whom must be given the credit for the innovation.

54th (East Anglian) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 Company.

Training.—Training since camp has been principally in the nature of Paid Evening Classes. Advance results show that those attending have made considerable progress. The Trade Board on 15th October should result in quite a few obtaining their higher ratings. This Company has made strenuous efforts to retain the Waley Cohen Cup for obtaining the most passes at Trade Boards during the Training Year. It will be known within a few days whether or not we have succeeded.

Musketry.—We heartily congratulate No. 3 Company on borrowing the Musketry Cup from us for the next twelve months. The Cup was up for competition on 13th October, on the Miniature Range at Stratford, and was competed for by Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies and Beds. Detachment. Each team comprised one Officer, one W.O. or Sergeant, and two other ranks. Lieutenant S. Young, C.S.M. Warner E., Signalmen Griffiths E. and Hillery represented this Company. The final placings were : 1, No. 3 Company, 171 points ; 2, No. 1 Company, 158 points ; 3, Bedford Detachment, 134 points ; and 4, No. 2 Company, 116 points. Bedford Detachment deserve special mention for making the long trip to compete, especially as they have so few from whom to select their team. Corporal Steinmetz, of this Detachment, was top individual scorer with 55 points.

Social.—The annual dance and trophy presentation is taking place rather earlier this year, on 30th October, at the West Ham Baths. More of this anon.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalman Robinson L. from No. 3 Company and also those recruits who have joined our ranks since camp.

ONECOY.

No. 2 Company.

General.—Here we are again, like the penny with two heads. No, we have not been disbanded, we were just keeping quiet in case our services were needed for Palestine !

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Courses.—The Paid Evening Classes have just come to an end, and the Trade Board takes place to-night, 15th October. Sweat on ! Let us hope that everybody comes out on top.

Musketry.—The Musketry Cup has been won by No. 3 Company. And can they shoot ! We are hoping to get some good rifles for the Stratford Companies before the competition takes place next year. (Not me, Ted !)

Sports.—Our boxers are training in real earnest. The ring canvas is already soaked in blood. Signalman Smith of No. 1 Company has only to get another eight stones off to do " feathers." (He might make it !) There is also a darts tournament in the offing ; of course, there are a few " News of the World " " champs." in the Unit, so we are looking forward to some very good games. There is also a billiards tournament, but the players are still in the beginners' stage (the P.S.I. of No. 2 Company can vouch for that).

Jewish Mail.—You don't have to get off at Malta, Norman ! Go straight on and take the first turn to the right when you get to Gib.

BLACK DOG.

No. 3 Company.

General.—There is not much to report this month, but, nevertheless, here goes. The G.O.C. paid us a visit on 10th September, and was very pleased with everything that he saw. The Paid Evening Classes are nearing the end, and whispers are heard every now and again. " When will we get paid, Sergeant ? "

The shooting team is in training, and are showing aptitude. What with " I " Groups, it does the eyesight good. The test will be on the 13th, when the competition takes place. Thirteen is a lucky number these days, isn't it ? More about this later.

Enlistments.—We welcome Signalmen Barnes W. A. and Clark to the fold, and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Inter-Company Transfers.—We lose a good D.R. in Signalman Robinson L. to No. 1 Company on the 5th. We tried not to lose you, but you had to go. You have all the good wishes of No. 3 behind you, Robo !

Discharges.—The following have said good-bye to us on termination of engagement : Signalmen Bender, King and Jones G. G.

Entertainments.—The O.C. has kindly given his permission to hold a spcial evening on 19th October (one of many we hope). Now, the roof nearly comes off with the efforts of the concert party (now in the making). More of this when the show is over.

Heard on the Miniature Range.—Sergeant : " Have you fired a rifle before ? "

Signalman : " You wouldn't think so."

Sergeant : " Good ! Lay an aim on that target." (Rifle in tripod.)

Signalman (after much effort) : " There you are, Sergeant ! "

Sergeant : " You are miles out, look again ! "

Signalman (after looking again) : " I shall have to get glasses, because as I see it now, I am on the bull ! "

Sergeant : " Now tell me, in your own words, how would you lay an aim ? "

Signalman : " Get one of these things (foresight protectors) opposite the " U " of the backsight and point them both at the bull."

Sergeant is still unconscious.

3COY.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

38, Mason Street, Edgehill, Liverpool 7.

For the first time since I have been writing these notes it has fallen to my lot to record the death of one of our N.C.O.s, Lance Corporal Jones A. E., who contracted a cold which turned to pneumonia. Lance Corporal Jones leaves a widow and two children, to whom the Unit extends its most sincere sympathy and condolences. Their loss is, essentially to a lesser degree, ours. Any Unit can ill afford to lose a promising hard-working N.C.O.

We held a week-end Signal Exercise at Altcar at the beginning of October, and enjoyed perfect weather—a complete change from last year's conditions. During the afternoon of the second day, the Inter-Company Competition for the Rollo Cup was shot-off. It was once again won by No. 2 Company. The shooting

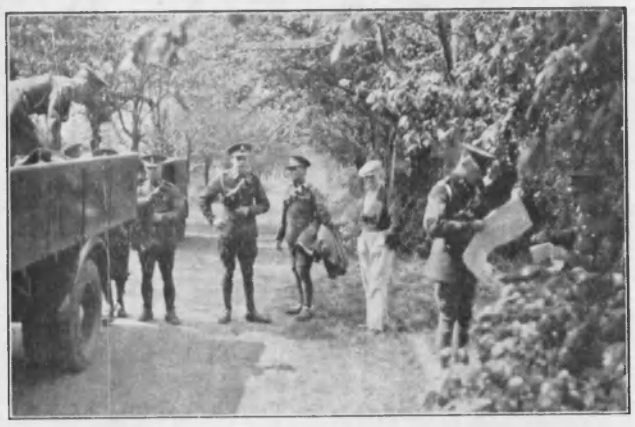
[*Continued on page* 504].



"C" Set. No. 1 Company at work.



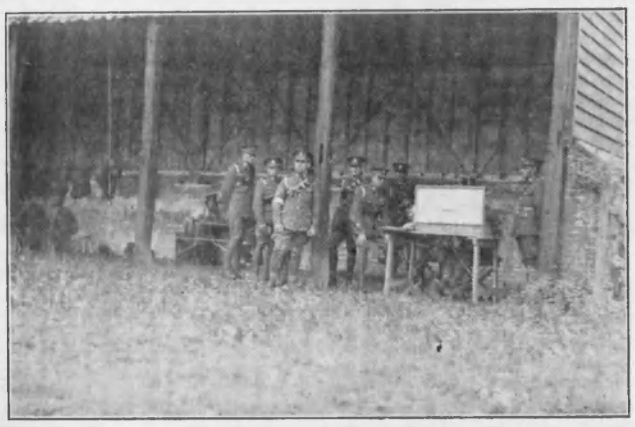
No. 2 Company Telephone Wagon Detachment at work. No prizes offered for guessing the nature of the building in the background.



Checking up at the end of a No. 3 Company Scheme at Hockley.



Marching back from Drumhead Service which concluded Southend Carnival Week.



No. 3 Company Scheme. Waiting for work to commence.



No. 3 Company Drill Hall, Southend. It looks, and is, very inviting. So roll up, lads! Roll up!



"A" Wireless Sets at work.

SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre.

S.T.C. Cross-country.—The S.T.C. has entered the North Yorkshire and South Durham Harriers League this year and will be running junior and senior teams in each of the six fixtures.

The first run, at Darlington, proved a great success for Signals, as the accompanying results show. Great credit is due to Lance Corporal Blades for his able assistance in training the majority of the team and for his fine individual performance :

SENIOR RACE.

WINNERS.

	Points.
Royal Signals, Catterick	26
Darlington	66
Middlesbrough	133
Synthonia	147
R.A.F., Thornaby	174
West Hartlepool	216

INDIVIDUAL PLACINGS.

Lance Corporal Blades	1
Lance Corporal Boy Butler	2
Signalman Craig	3
Signalman Mackinnon	4
Lance Corporal Strutt	6
Boy Campion	10
Signalman Lutener	17
Lance Corporal Boy Brewster	18

JUNIOR RACE.

Winners : Royal Signals, Catterick.

INDIVIDUAL PLACINGS.

Boy Clover	1
Boy Roberts	2
Boy Watson	3
Boy Halstead	4
Boy McKenna	5
Boy Richards	6
Boy Valentine	7
Boy Warren	9

School of Signals.

Cricket.—On 17th September we played the much-delayed final of the Mackworth Cricket Trophy, when we had to bow the knee to " F " Company after a most enjoyable game. The game commenced on the 17th, but took a couple of hours on the following day to complete it. " F " Company batted first on a dead wicket. Thanks to a nice contribution of 61 by Captain Cole, they compiled the useful total of 147. Lieutenant Hodgkinson, who batted in great style for the School, made the highest individual score of the game, 68 ; he used the long handle to great effect. Signalman Young was the School's most successful bowler with 6 wickets for 66 runs. Hard luck, School ! We must hope for better results next year.

Soccer.—The soccer team have played three games to date, one friendly and two Garrison League, the results of which are shown below :

Friendly.	v. 119 R.S.I. Course	Lost 1—5
League.	v. " P " Bty., R.A. (Away)	Lost 0—2
League.	v. R.A.S.C.1 (Home)	Won 4—0

On 17th inst. we play the Mounted Wing in the first round of the Mackworth Trophy Competition and hope to turn the tables for last season's defeat.

Cross-country.—The first Mackworth run takes place on Wednesday, 14th October, and our team are all fit and hoping for great things. Sergeant McKee has been giving his expert advice on the game and keeping everyone well in training.

At Darlington three of our team, Signalmen Craig, Mackinnon and Lutener, ran well in the North Yorkshire and South Durham Harriers League on Saturday, 10th October, and were placed third, fourth and seventeenth respectively.

5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Football.—In spite of the difficult times we are at present passing through, the old ball still keeps rolling, and we do our best to produce a team worthy of the Corps in general and the Unit in particular. Up to the present, and with the help of a couple of " old stagers," we have played quite a few friendly matches, all of which have proved victorious for us. One friendly match in particular is worthy of mention, that against our old opponents and one of the best teams in Scarborough district, namely Scarborough Juniors. This match was looked upon by us as a real test of our worth. As we gained a victory by 4—2 in a very keen game, I need hardly say that we were content with our team to play prominently in league fixtures.

The first league fixture, versus the Junior Imps (always a very good team, but greatly improved this year), was played on Saturday, 10th October. The conditions were ideal for footballers and spectators alike, and, although at the end of a keen and most interesting game we had to admit defeat by 2—1, everyone was satisfied that we had put up a very creditable show. Our forwards seemed just to lack that little bit of understanding which was necessary to produce that other goal or two.

Old members of the Unit, who are now scattered in far-off fields, will be pleased to hear that ex-Signalman Steer S., is taking up his abode in Scarborough for the present, and has expressed his willingness to help us out if required.

On Saturday, 17th October, we are due to play Filey Town F.C. in the second round of the Scarborough District League Cup. This, we realise, is another stiff hurdle, but we hope in the next notes to be able to inform you all of a victory.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Rugby.—The season has now concluded. Although we failed to annex any Cups, we played good rugby considering our small numbers. We were most unfortunate in our tournament games, because we were continually losing valuable players through casualties. Much credit is due to those who did play in keeping the margin of our opponents' victories to low scores.

Harwood Little Cup.—We reached the semi-final of the Inter-Company rugger, but were beaten by " B " Company, The Leicestershire Regiment. Our side pressed almost throughout but failed to take the opportunities of scoring. " B " Company seized the one opportunity offered and scored a very fine try.

Eduljee Cup.—In the Inter-Unit Competition our small numbers hit us harder than ever. However, in a trial game against the Battalion team of The Leicestershire Regiment, we held them to a pointless draw. After about five minutes' play in this game Lieutenant Steward broke his nose and was out of the game for the rest of the season.

In the first round of the Brigade Inter-Unit Cup we drew with the 15th Field Brigade, R.A., who were the eventual winners. We started the game with seven forwards and two five-eighths, but after eight minutes Signalman Dologhan was injured, so that we had to resume orthodox formation outside the scrum. Shortly after this Lance Corporal Wright (full back) mistimed a fly-kick and tipped the ball into the R.A. three-quarter's hands, who ran over easily for a try, which was converted. After this Signals had their fair share of the ball, and territorially more of the game, but could not score. Shortly after half-time Signalman Burns twisted a knee and had to leave the field. This meant taking another from an already light scrum. However, the thirteen stuck to it grimly and continued to get the ball. Signals twice were unlucky not to score ; once when Lance Corporal Price missed a penalty by two feet, and again when Whitehead after a good run gave an inside pass to Lieutenant Eraut, who was pulled down a yard from the line. Towards the end of the game Signals pressed hard, but there was no further score. This match reflects great credit on the team for their fight in the face of misfortunes,

both before and during the game. Particular credit is due to the forwards, who got the ball frequently, and whose play in the loose was far superior to that of their opponents, while the defensive spoiling and tackling was really good.

The undernamed represented the Signals in the tournaments : Lieutenants R. B. S. Eraut, J. M. C. Hoblyn and E. K. Steward, 2nd Lieutenant A. C. Iyappi, Sergeant Wagg, Lance Sergeant Greig, Corporal Collett, Lance Corporals Price, Wallis and Wright and Signalmen Hughes, Burns, Whitehead, Davies, Dologhan and Ide.

Swimming.—On Sunday, 27th September, the Officers of the S.T.C. (I) met the Warrant Officers and Sergeants in a six-event tournament, which terminated in a victory for the Warrant Officers and Sergeants by ten points to eight.

EVENT 1. DIVING (one standing, one running and one high).—1, Warrant Officers and Sergeants with 96 points. The diving of Sergeant Matthew and Lance Sergeant Gourlay was very good and there was only one point difference between them.

EVENT 2. ONE LENGTH FREE STYLE (RELAY RACE).—1, Officers. (The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' team were disqualified for a false take-off by Lance Sergeant Edge.)

EVENT 3. ONE LENGTH BREAST STROKE (RELAY RACE).—1, Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Sergeant Scott gave the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' team a good lead in the first length, and after this the Officers merely followed at three-quarters of a length behind.

EVENT 4. MEDLEY RACE.—1, Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Sergeant Matthew gave the Warrant Officers and Sergeants a three-yard lead on the back stroke, but this was reduced by Major Smith on his side stroke. However, Lance Sergeant Gourlay again increased the lead for the Warrant Officers and Sergeants on the overarm.

EVENT 5. PLUNGING.—1, Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Distance, 81 ft. 5 in. 2, Officers. Distance, 80 ft. 8 in. Major Rosenberg was very unfortunate in his plunging. He struck the side of the bath on his first plunge at 39 ft. 5 in. whilst still travelling fast.

EVENT 6. DIVING FOR PLATES.—1, Officers.

Swimming. Inter-Section.—During the past month there has been much activity in this sport in preparation for the Inter-Section Clock Competition. In the first round No. 1 Section defeated No. 2 Section by ten points to nil. The following week the attached Section defeated No. 2 Section by the same number of points. There was much speculation as to who would win the final, because both sides were strongly represented. After a very keen struggle, which revealed a few dark horses, No. 1 Section emerged the winners by six points to four, the last item on the programme being the deciding factor.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

A most enjoyable week-end was spent at Campbellpore by a party of our sportsmen as guests of the 63rd Field Bty., R.A. This was a sporting event and results were as follows :

FOOTBALL.—63rd Bty. won 3—0.
HOCKEY.—1st Div. won 3—2.
TENNIS.—1st Div. won 4—0.
CRICKET.—63rd Bty. won by 76—70 runs.
SWIMMING.—Won by 63rd Bty.

The 63rd Bty. paid us a return visit last week and another good week-end of sport was witnessed. Results as follows :

FOOTBALL.—63rd Bty. won 6—4.
HOCKEY.—1st Div. won 2—1.
TENNIS.—1st Div. won 3—1.
CRICKET.—1st Div. 131 (Ward 36, Gale 31, Collins 22), 63rd Bty. 53 (Ward 3 for 15, Swinson 3 for 9).
MINIATURE RANGE SHOOT.—1st Div. won by 681—630 points (possible 800).

Football.—The Royal Signals Rawalpindi team entered for the Durand Tournament, but were defeated, as reported in our notes, by our old friends the Argylls in the third round.

FIRST ROUND.—Versus Oriental Club, Simla. Won 9—0. A comfortable win for the Signals. Scorers : Keenlyside 5, Homer 2, Cowan and Mobberley.

SECOND ROUND.—Versus Mohan Bagan (Calcutta). A stern encounter versus a Calcutta First Division League side. The "Statesman" reports that the Signals have to thank their goalie, Cox, and the backs, Bourton and Campbell, for their victory. This game was most keenly contested and was only won by a solitary goal scored by Keenlyside during extra time.

THIRD ROUND.—Versus the Argylls. We were apparently not up to form in this game and the Argylls repeated their victory in the Murree Brewery final, this time to the tune of 3—0. For the Argylls, McNaught, in goal, was in splendid form, saving a hot penalty from Keenlyside and two other shots which were winners all the way.

Gibraltar Signal Section.

Rowing.—The Unit has enjoyed a very successful season, having again won the Small Units Trophy and the Emergency Trophy, also being runners up in the Challenge Oar. Well done!! Lance Corporal Manning was once more our hard working cox, and he and his crew are to be heartily congratulated.

Cricket.—The cricket season was most successful, considering that two of our regular bowlers were away for a considerable time, one on leave and the other in hospital. Out of 22 played, 15 matches were won, 6 lost, 1 drawn, and the final game against H.M.S. *Barham* ended in a tie of 163 runs each. This last game was a personal triumph for Sergeant Parry who made 61 runs, and took 4 wickets for 35 runs. Against the full ship's team, this was a very creditable performance.

Sergeant Parry was again the outstanding batsman and bowler of the season, with an average of 41 runs per innings, total runs 662, and 71 wickets at a cost of 8 runs each. Next in batting were Signalmen Harvey and Adams with an average of 16 runs per innings. The latter kept wicket exceptionally well. Bowling.—Harvey with 35 wickets at a cost of 14 runs per wicket was second, and Signalman Fuller, although handicapped by bad health, third, with 34 wickets at a cost of 17 runs.

Captain Gem, after playing three very skilful innings of 49, 34, and 25, was out of the game for the remainder of the season with a ricked back, much to the loss of the Section and S. and D. teams.

The annual all day match Single v. Married was greatly enjoyed. Despite a good innings by Signalmen Buck (35) and Adams (36), the married crocks, with a fighting innings of 84 not out and subtle spin bowling of C.Q.M.S. Diamond, 2 for 8 and 5 for 11, triumphed. The Cricketers Inn, managed by our "George," was also an outstanding success.

Inter-Unit 1.—Owing to the present situation in Spain, the Unit outings had to be cancelled this year—but we were compensated by a two days' sports fixture, which, with the addition of "eats and drinks" and the company of the married families, was quite successful.

Inter-Unit 2.—Up to the time of writing, the following are the results of the Inter-Unit Competitions, the "married" beat the "Singles" at Cricket, thanks to an invaluable 87 not out scored by Lance Sergeant Parry. Cups have been won to date by : Lance Corporal Carr, Tennis Singles ; Lance Corporal Carr and Signalman Binstead, Tennis Doubles ; Lance Corporal Carr, Swimming ; Lance Sergeant Parry's Crew, Rowing.

A slight alteration was made in the competition for the Unit Swimming Cup this year. A number of events were held, and points were given for first, second, third, etc., the arrangements being ably carried out by Corporal Poulton. Now that the winter period is near, we are hoping to get some football and hockey, probably on the same lines as last season. The winners of the shooting and billiards are undecided, although quite a number are prepared to "accept" ones last penny on the results. However, more anon.

Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

Hockey.—Now that another football season has ended, we turn our attention to hockey and rugger. In the former we have already established an impressive entry into the game by getting together a Signals hockey team on Pulau Brani. We challenged the R.A.O.C. on 3rd September on the local "Pdang." We were under the impression that we would be beaten by a comfortable margin by a far superior team. Imagine their surprise when we scored a victory over them by one goal. The team was as follows : Signalmen Notley (goal), Twitchen and Seager (backs), Hopcraft, Cave and Smart (halves), and (forwards) Peck, Blunt, Chatfield, Lance Corporal Hubbard and Signalman France.

Our next game was played against the R.E.s and, after a thrilling game with only one minor casualty, we were the victors by two goals to one. We have also played the R.A. on Blakang Mati, but they turned out to be our superiors, and we were beaten by two goals to one, Signalman Cave scoring. It is doubtful whether we will enter the Singapore League as a team, but rumour has it that the R.E., Signals and R.A.O.C. will merge to make a strong Island team for the said League. For friendly matches, we shall maintain a Signals team.

Rugger.—We have not many rugger enthusiasts, but we shall at least be represented by that weight-lifter, strong man, Jack-of-all-trades, Signalman (Busty) Parkin, who is rumoured to be a "boy international." Also, we have Signalmen Smart, Hopcraft and Cave. These experts are going for a trial at Changi, and we are hoping for a good report from either the selectors or the hospital.

Changi Detachment.

Soccer.—Having won the Inter-Section League "A," a knock-out competition was arranged between the winners and runners-up of Leagues "A" and "B." The Signals were drawn against No. 3 Section, 11th A.A. Bty., R.A., in the semi-final and won 5—3 after extra time. In the final we met "D" Sub-Section, 22nd Heavy Bty., R.A., whom we beat 3—0. We were unlucky to lose in the fourth replay of the first round of the Collingwood Cup Competition by 2—1, after having drawn three games 1—1 with extra time in each game.

Cricket.—This season we entered a team in the Command Knock-out Competition. Although known as "The Rest," the team consisted of nine Signals, one R.A.M.C. and one C.M.P. So you can fully understand how we became known as "The Sigs." We were fortunate in drawing a bye in the first round. In the next round, the semi-final of Changi Area, we were drawn against the 7th Heavy Bty., R.A., whom we defeated by 43 runs. Scores: "The Rest," 127 (Signalman Holmes 47); 7th Heavy Bty., 84.

In the final we played the Royal Engineers, Changi, but were not so fortunate, losing by six wickets. Scores: "The Rest," 141; R.E., Changi, 142 for 4 wickets.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Soccer.—The Company team's first game, as I predicted, ended in a defeat by four goals to nil, at the hands of the Royal Marines. It was obvious that the superior training of the "sea soldiers" was bound to tell on our rather tired eleven towards the end. Our lads played well, and kept the score down to one goal until the last twenty minutes, when the defence cracked under constant pressure, and conceded three more goals. Our next game, played against Drake Junior Imperials, showed a vast improvement. At half-time, we were one goal down. A second-half revival saw us winners by four goals to two. Scorers: Petherick 2, Ridolfs and Rickard.

We met "Drake" the week following, when we seemed to be in for a severe trouncing, because at half-time we were losing by three goals to one. However, the second-half saw our lads going great guns, and they piled on four goals to win by five goals to three. C.S.M. Humphrey and Lance Sergeant Northam were outstanding. Scorers: Petherick 2, Humphrey 2, Northam.

Our fourth game was with Devonport Y.M.C.A., a team of giants. They soon put on two goals, to which we replied with one, scored by Lance Sergeant Northam, prior to the interval. The second-half saw great defensive work by Grey, Kelloway and Paterson, so that we retired losers by two goals to one.

Position to date: played 4, won 2, lost 2. Goals for 10, against 11. Points 4.

Miniature Rifle League.—Sergeant Blackaller's team lead in the Sergeant Stone Trophy and Points League Trophy. They have won all five matches with an aggregate of 434½ points for and 398½ points against. In the points league, they have secured 9½ points out of a possible 15 points. In the Individual Championships, a recruit is outstanding both in the open (C.S.M. Gibbings' Cup) and recruits' (C.S.M. Gibbing's Bowl). Recruit Pawlby has an average of 17 points from four matches fired.

THE TERRITORIALS

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals—(*continued from page* 499)

was not up to usual standard, owing to very unfavourable conditions—a strong sun and a haze spoiled a lot of targets. However, congratulations to No. 2 Company and to C.Q.M.S. Wylie of No. 3 Company, who achieved the highest individual score.

Our Inter-Section Shoot, held by No. 3 Company, was won very comfortably by "K" Section. This was a keen-spirited contest, and will prove very popular.

To C.Q.M.S. Griffiths of No. 1 Company and Mrs. Griffiths we wish to offer our felicitations on the birth of a daughter. May they all prosper! "FIVE-FIVE."

The London Divisional Signals.

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road,
Clapham Park, S.W.12.

We must apologise for the absence of notes in the October issue. There was little to say, so we missed a month. Nothing which is really worthy of report happens at this time of year in a T.A. Unit. It is a time of preparation and of retrospection.

Drills re-commenced on 15th September, and have been singularly well attended since then. Dealing first with preparation, it is perhaps good to chronicle some forthcoming events. Paid Courses for all trades commence on 3rd November, and continue until Easter, 1937. This year, all individual training, including Paid Courses, is to be run under the auspices of Section Officers, who will be responsible for the up-grading of men of their own Sections. This should do much to keep Sections together. The Despatch Riders continue their activities. They are holding a D.R. Section dinner on 21st November. The officers' annual dinner is to be held on 22nd October, and we are to be honoured by the presence of the Right Hon. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P. Secretary of State for War.

Inspection.—The Divisional Commander, Major-General P.R.C. Comings, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., is to hold his annual inspection of the Unit on Friday, 16th October, and on that day also, the officers of the Unit repair to Oxford for a week-end T.E.W.T. We hear rumours that the counties of Oxford, Worcester and Gloucester are to be transformed into the country of Palestine for the purpose.

Annual Prize-giving.—The date of the annual prize-giving this year is 8th December, and Field-Marshal Sir Cyril J. Deverell, G.C.B., K.B.E., Chief of the Imperial General Staff, has very kindly consented to present the prizes.

Christmas Party.—The Children's Christmas Party is booked for 19th December, and we hope to see a record attendance.

Retrospective.—We are beginning to see the first fruits of the Commanding Officer's scheme whereby all members of the Unit subscribe to Unit funds.

The stage has been completely redecorated, and looks very well.

The Canteen and Sergeants' Mess are open every evening during the week, and an ever-increasing number of members of the Unit are getting the Club habit of turning in to Headquarters during any evening when they have nothing else to do. Being blessed with a really good Headquarters, with ample facilities for games, etc., makes this easy.

Recreational Facilities.—We have an ambitious programme, designed to attract all ranks of the Unit to Headquarters whenever they have the opportunity. The winter season opened with a well-attended Sergeants' Mess dance on 3rd October, and a Regimental dance on Saturday, 10th October. Friday evenings are available for organised P.T., boxing and fencing. Members of the Unit are also able to play badminton and squash racquets five nights a week. The members of the Sergeants' Mess and their families have commenced the season well with strong attendances for badminton and squash on Sunday evenings.

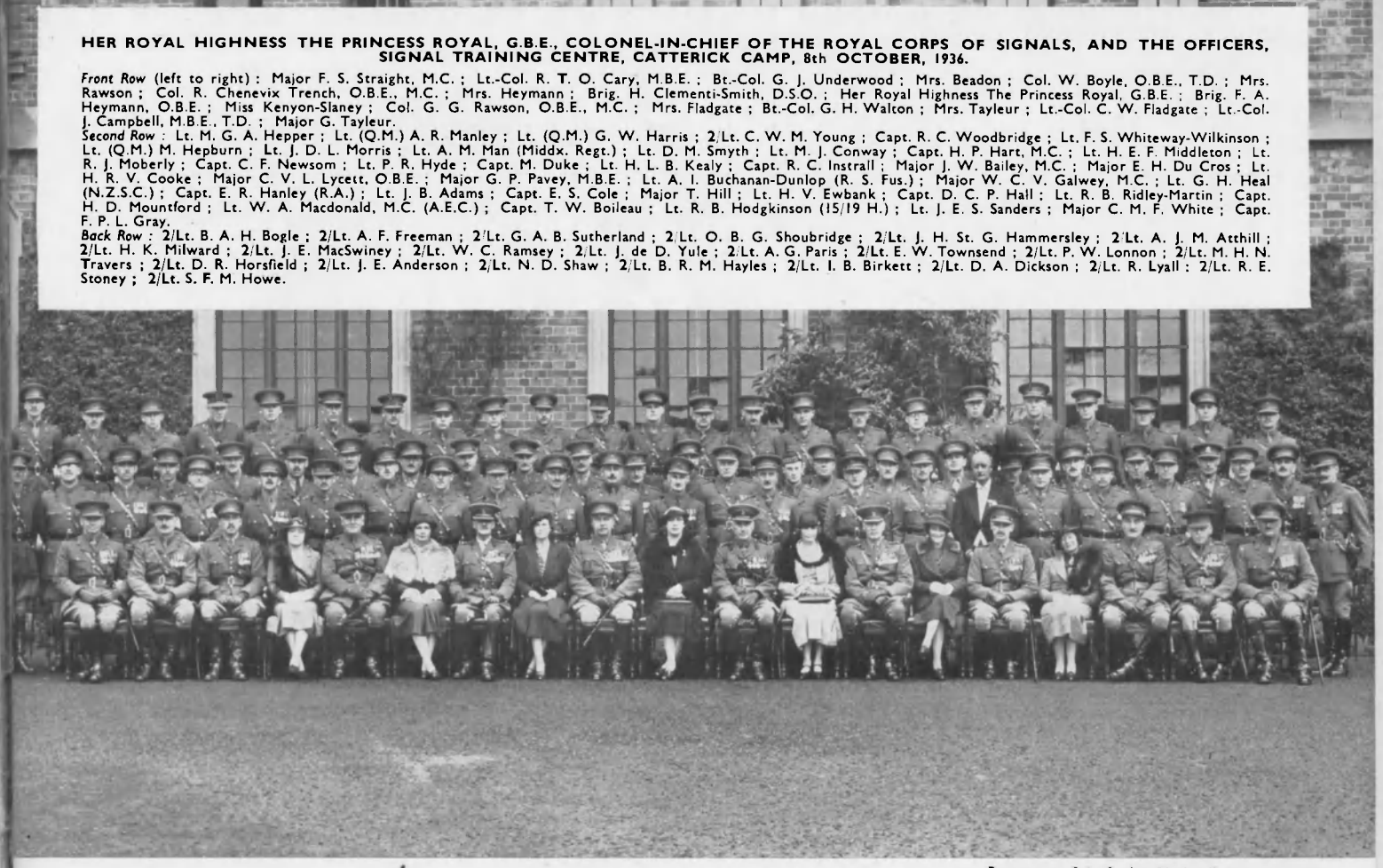
Personal.—All ranks of the Unit, and also his many friends in the Corps, will learn with regret of the accident to Lieutenant (Q.M.) W. J. Barnes, D.C.M. Details are lacking, but apparently he was knocked down by a motor-cyclist when crossing a road near his home. He was admitted to St. Anthony's Hospital at North Cheam. Mr. Barnes is now well on the way to recovery and we hope the shock will have no ill effects. C. O. L. S.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, G.B.E., COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS, AND THE OFFICERS, SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE, CATTERICK CAMP, 8th OCTOBER, 1936.

Front Row (left to right) : Major F. S. Straight, M.C. ; Lt.-Col. R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E. ; Bt.-Col. G. J. Underwood ; Mrs. Beadon ; Col. W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D. ; Mrs. Rawson ; Col. R. Chenevix Trench, O.B.E., M.C. ; Mrs. Heymann ; Brig. H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O. ; Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, G.B.E. ; Brig. F. A. Heymann, O.B.E. ; Miss Kenyon-Slaney ; Col. G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C. ; Mrs. Fladgate ; Bt.-Col. G. H. Walton ; Mrs. Tayleur ; Lt.-Col. C. W. Fladgate ; Lt.-Col. J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D. ; Major G. Tayleur.

Second Row : Lt. M. G. A. Hepper ; Lt. (Q.M.) A. R. Manley ; Lt. (Q.M.) G. W. Harris ; 2/Lt. C. W. M. Young ; Capt. R. C. Woodbridge ; Lt. F. S. Whiteway-Wilkinson ; Lt. (Q.M.) M. Hepburn ; Lt. J. D. L. Morris ; Lt. A. M. Man (Middx. Regt.) ; Lt. D. M. Smyth ; Lt. M. J. Conway ; Capt. H. P. Hart, M.C. ; Lt. H. E. F. Middleton ; Lt. R. J. Moberly ; Capt. C. F. Newsom ; Lt. P. R. Hyde ; Capt. M. Duke ; Lt. H. L. B. Kealy ; Capt. R. C. Instrall ; Major J. W. Bailey, M.C. ; Major E. H. Du Cros ; Lt. H. R. V. Cooke ; Major C. V. L. Lycett, O.B.E. ; Major G. P. Pavey, M.B.E. ; Lt. A. I. Buchanan-Dunlop (R. S. Fus.) ; Major W. C. V. Galwey, M.C. ; Lt. G. H. Heal (N.Z.S.C.) ; Capt. E. R. Hanley (R.A.) ; Lt. J. B. Adams ; Capt. E. S. Cole ; Major T. Hill ; Lt. H. V. Ewbank ; Capt. D. C. P. Hall ; Lt. R. B. Ridley-Martin ; Capt. H. D. Mountford ; Lt. W. A. Macdonald, M.C. (A.E.C.) ; Capt. T. W. Boileau ; Lt. R. B. Hodgkinson (15/19 H.) ; Lt. J. E. S. Sanders ; Major C. M. F. White ; Capt. F. P. L. Gray.

Back Row : 2/Lt. B. A. H. Bogle ; 2/Lt. A. F. Freeman ; 2/Lt. G. A. B. Sutherland ; 2/Lt. O. B. G. Shoubridge ; 2/Lt. J. H. St. G. Hammersley ; 2/Lt. A. J. M. Atthill ; 2/Lt. H. K. Milward ; 2/Lt. J. E. MacSwiney ; 2/Lt. W. C. Ramsey ; 2/Lt. J. de D. Yule ; 2/Lt. A. G. Paris ; 2/Lt. E. W. Townsend ; 2/Lt. P. W. Lonnon ; 2/Lt. M. H. N. Travers ; 2/Lt. D. R. Horsfield ; 2/Lt. J. E. Anderson ; 2/Lt. N. D. Shaw ; 2/Lt. B. R. M. Hayles ; 2/Lt. I. B. Birkett ; 2/Lt. D. A. Dickson ; 2/Lt. R. Lyall ; 2/Lt. R. E. Stoney ; 2/Lt. S. F. M. Howe.



By courtesy of the Studio, Blackwellgate, Darlington.

VISIT OF

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCESS ROYAL G.B.E.

COLONEL-IN-CHIEF ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

THE SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE
CATTERICK CAMP, YORKSHIRE

ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1936

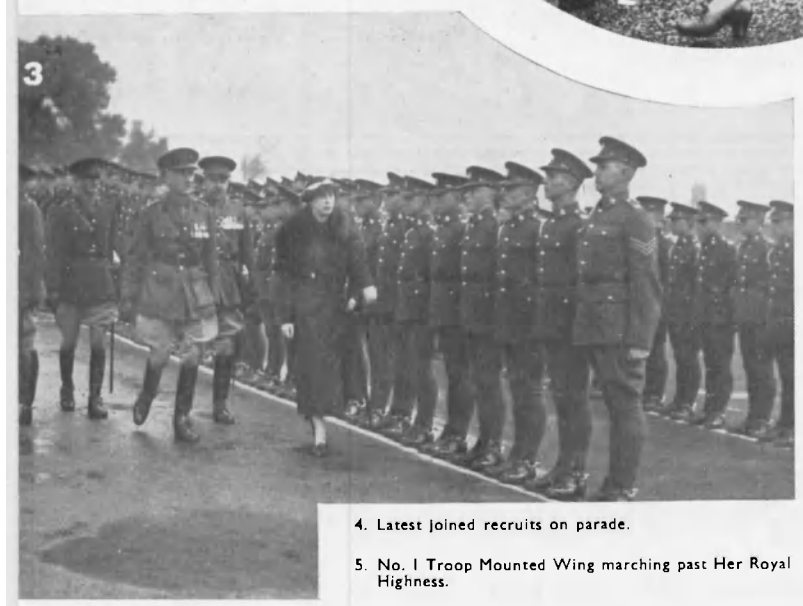


1. Her Royal Highness arrives and Mrs. Heymann is presented by Brig. H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O.



2. Her Royal Highness walks to the Saluting Base accompanied by Brig. H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., and Lt. M. G. A. Hepper, Her Royal Highness's Orderly Officer for the day.

3. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Brig. F. A. Heymann, O.B.E., inspects the parade.



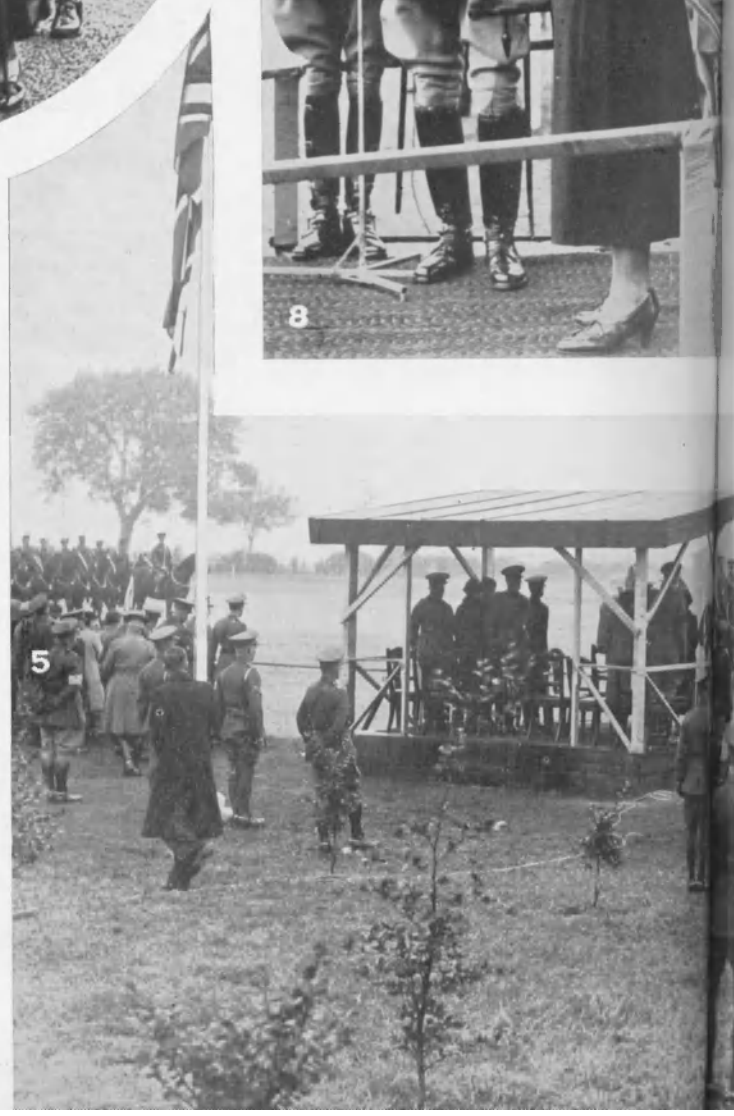
4. Latest joined recruits on parade.

5. No. 1 Troop Mounted Wing marching past Her Royal Highness.











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6. Her Royal Highness taking the Salute at the March Past.

7. Another view of the March Past.

8. Brig. H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., making his speech on presenting Her Royal Highness with the Brooch of the Corps Crest.

9. Her Royal Highness thanks her Corps for the Brooch.

10. Her Royal Highness walking through the lines of the Depot Battalion.

11. Capt. M. Duke, Adjutant, Depot Battalion, shows Her Royal Highness the Depot Battalion Rock Garden.

Photos 1 to 11 by courtesy of "Northern Echo," Darlington.



7





11



12. The five Regimental Sergeant-Majors await the arrival of Her Royal Highness at "Q" lines.

13. The five Regimental Sergeant-Majors and their wives being presented to Her Royal Highness.

14. Her Royal Highness leaving Newbigging Hall accompanied by Lt.-Col. R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E.

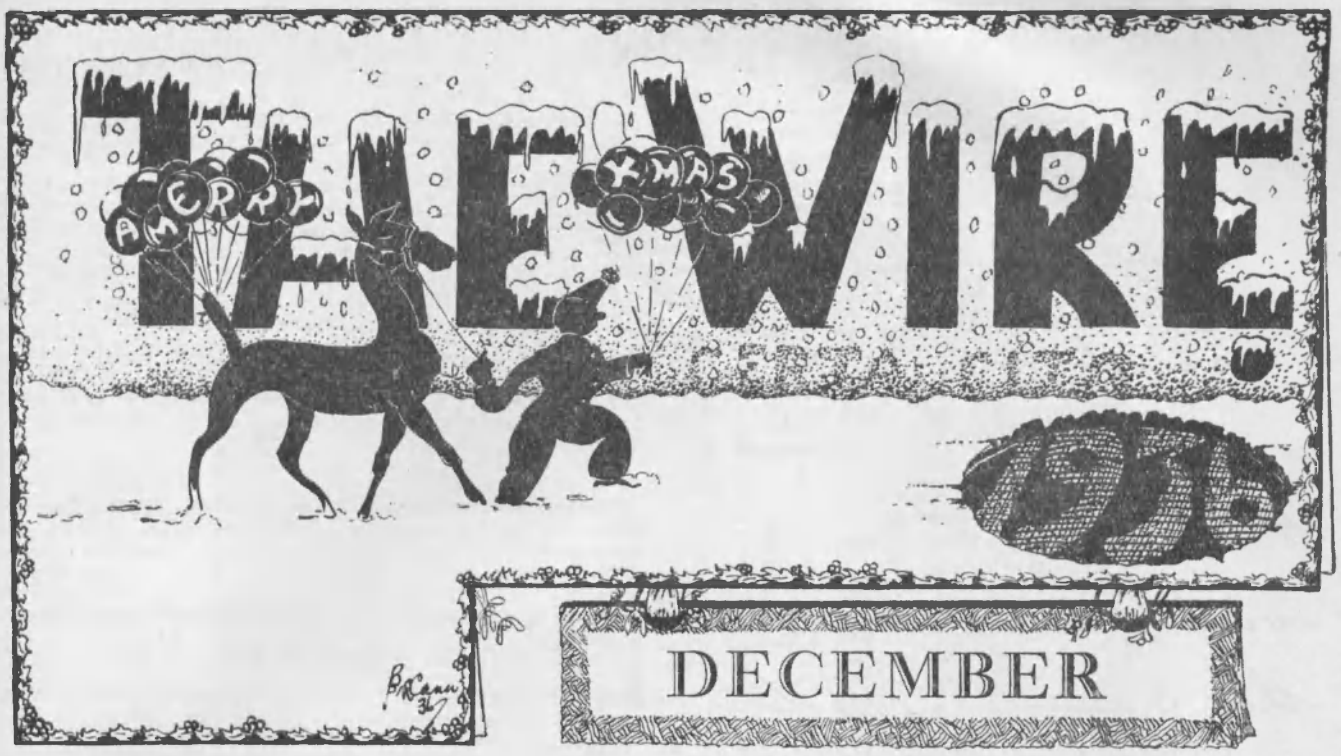
15. Her Royal Highness leaving Mrs. Harries' quarter.

16. Her Royal Highness visiting Married Quarters in St. Quentin Lines.

17. Her Royal Highness says "Good-bye" to Brig. F. A. Heymann on the conclusion of her visit.

Photo No. 12 by courtesy of C. Avison, Catterick Camp.

Photos 13 to 17 by courtesy of "Northern Echo," Darlington.



SECRETARY AND EDITOR:
Mr. W. BUTLER, 95 BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1,
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VOL. XVII.—No. 202 DECEMBER, 1936 PRICE—SIXPENCE

- Editorial Notes -

With the Best of all Good Wishes to our Readers at Home and Abroad

Particularly to:
Ex-Sergeant March F. V., Victoria, Australia.
Ex-Sergeant Walters C., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.
Ex-Corporal Haines E. J. J., Auckland, New Zealand.
Ex-Signalman Vickers C. F., Venezuela, South America.
Ex-Sergeant Lennox A. C., Ontario, Canada.
Ex-Sergeant Chick L. E., Vienna, Austria.
Ex-Signalman Mitchell A. S., Rhodesia, South Africa.
Ex-Signalman Graham N. F., Nyasaland, Central Africa.
Ex-Sergeant Bennett T. G. H., Iraq.
Sergeant Bland R. C., Khartoum, Sudan.
Ex-Corporal Hodgson H. S., Ceylon.
Mr. K. G. Montgomery, British East Africa.
Mr. Vernon A. S. Wade, Simla, India.
From all of whom we should be glad to receive news when they have the time and inclination to write.

On behalf of all ranks Royal Signals, we beg to convey our loyal duty and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, G.B.E., Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, at the same time thanking her for her gracious message of greeting, which is published in facsimile on page 506 of this issue.

Appointment of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal as Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian Signal Corps.—The following copies of correspondence are published hereunder for the information of our readers:

Letter dated 26/9/1936 from Her Royal Highness to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, India:

"DEAR SIR ROBERT,
I wish to thank you for your letter.
I regard it as a great privilege to be appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Indian Signal Corps by His Majesty the King.
Please convey to all ranks what pleasure it gives me to be associated with the Indian Signal Corps, and also express my grateful thanks for their congratulations.
I shall always take the deepest interest in their activities and welfare.
Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
(Signed) MARY."

Letter dated 9/10/1936 from His Excellency Sir Robert Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., to Her Royal Highness:

"MADAM,
I write to acknowledge your Royal Highness's letter of the 26th September with very many thanks.

32, GREEN STREET,
W.1.

I send my best
wishes for Christmas
to all ranks and
wish prosperity in
the New Year to
my Corps.
Mary.
Colonel in Chief.

I will convey your Royal Highness's gracious message to all ranks of the Indian Signal Corps, which I am sure they will appreciate most gratefully.

I have the honour to be
Your Royal Highness's humble and
obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. A. CASSELS, General,
Colonel-Commandant Indian Signal Corps
and Commander-in-Chief, India."

British Troops in Palestine.—The following cable was despatched by Her Royal Highness to the Chief Signal Officer, Palestine Force :

" Chief Signal Officer, Army Headquarters, Jerusalem.

I send my good wishes to all SIGNALS in Palestine and hopes for an early return.

MARY, Colonel-in-Chief."

To which the following reply was sent :

H.R.H. Princess Royal,
Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, London.

Royal Signals, Palestine Force, wish to thank your Royal Highness for your very kind message and wishes, which are greatly appreciated by us all.

Chief Signal Officer,
Palestine Force."

Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals.—It is notified for general information that Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., has agreed to act in the capacity of Representative Colonel-Commandant of the Corps for 1937.

Wireless Operators.—The attention of our Wireless Operator readers is drawn to an advertisement on page 511 relating to the training facilities offered by THE BRITISH RADIO ENGINEERING COLLEGE, 179, CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON S.W.9.

This organisation possesses its own employment department, which has successfully accommodated over 400 students with congenial situations during the past three years. Full particulars regarding fees, etc., may be obtained on application to this Office or by direct communication with the Principal of the College at the address quoted.

Wanted.—Daughter of ex-Sergeant-Major, R.Signals, requires post as nursery governess or children's nurse with officer's family going abroad. Age 24, good sailor, excellent references. Previous experience at home and in India. Applications to " NURSE," c/o the Editor.

The Soldiers' Home, Wenlock Terrace, York.—Offers accommodation for soldiers travelling to and from leave. Fulford bus from station. Apply Lady Superintendent. Telephone : York 3570.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association Notes

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

The Committee of the Birmingham and District Branch of Signals Association desire to extend, through the medium of the Corps Magazine, a cordial welcome to any member of the Corps who may be leaving the Service for residence in that area. All such members should get into touch immediately with the Hon. Branch Secretary at Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham, 11.

EXETER AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Severe weather conditions prevented many from attending this year's Armistice Sunday Church Parade. The accompanying photograph was taken outside the Cathedral and depicts the Old Comrades' Contingent under the leadership of Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D., at the head of 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals (T.A.). Names, reading from left to right, are as follows :

Major J. W. Western, O.B.E., T.D.
H. E. Ellis, J. A. A. Brown, W. H. Scorer, H. W. Boulger, M.C., D.C.M.
W. Cousins, W. Friend, L. J. Cousins, W. E. Kettell.
J. Scrivens, A. Wood, H. J. Wooldridge, F. F. West, M.M.

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

1 Ex-Signalman, Glasgow ..... Lineman
2 Ex-Signalman, Sheffield ..... Salesman
3 Ex-Signalman, Sheffield ..... Labourer



Enduring Gifts



In Sterling Silver with the colours of your Regiment in Enamel, and your badge in silver.
Flapjack Vanity Case, diameter 3 ins. **£2.15.0**
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B

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5	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Labourer
6	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Car Attendant
7	Ex-N.C.O., Aldershot	Lineman
8	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Labourer
9	Ex-Signalman, Coventry	Factory Hand
10	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Lineman
11	Ex-Signalman, Preston	Postman
12	Ex-Signalman, Chatham	Labourer
13	Ex-Signalman, Brighton	Postman
14	Ex-N.C.O., Portsmouth	Postman
15	Ex-Signalman, Wolverhampton	Post Office
16	Ex-Signalman, London	Houseman
17	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
18	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
19	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
20	Ex-Signalman, London	Labourer
21	Ex-Signalman, London	Fitter's Mate
22	Ex-Driver, London	Porter
23	Ex-Signalman, Shrewsbury	Labourer
24	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Eng. Dept.
25	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Postman
26	Ex-Signalman, Wigan	Postman
27	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Labourer
28	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Eng. Dept.
29	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	P.O. Eng. Dept.
30	Ex-Signalman, Wigan	Postman
31	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Factory Hand
32	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Maltster
33	Ex-Signalman, Bury St. Edmunds	Labourer
34	Ex-N.C.O., Bedford	Postman
35	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Postman
36	Ex-Signalman, Reading	Railway Porter
37	Ex-Signalman, Sheffield	Motor Driver
38	Ex-N.C.O., Carlisle	Labourer
39	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	P.O. Eng. Dept.
40	Ex-Signalman, Croydon	P.O. Eng. Dept.
41	Ex-Signalman, Carlisle	Labourer
42	Ex-Signalman, Stoke-on-Trent	Lineman
43	Ex-N.C.O., Huddersfield	Wireless Examiner
44	Ex-N.C.O., Hounslow	Clerk
45	Ex-N.C.O., Chester	W.D. Constabulary
46	Ex-Signalman, Manchester	Private Service
47	Ex-Signalman, Bulford	Lineman, G.P.O.
48	Ex-N.C.O., Salisbury	Clerk
49	Ex-Signalman, Salisbury	Lineman, G.P.O.
50	Ex-Driver, Salisbury	Café Hand
51	Ex-Signalman, Birmingham	Switchboard Operator

(No. 45, Chester Branch. Nos. 46 to 51, inclusive Salisbury and District Branch.)

THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The Administrator gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following :

CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS from :
Aldershot Command Trust.

GIFT OF CLOTHING from :
Colonel G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C.
Captain F. H. Bury.

APPEALS dealt with :

1	Ex-Signalman, Sunderland	Grant	£2	0	0		
2	Ex-Signalman, Essex	Grant	£5	0	0		
3	Ex-Signalman, London	Grant	£2	10	0		
4	Driver, Yorks	Grant	£2	0	0		
5	Signalman, Chisledon	Grant	£1	0	0	Loan £1	15 0
6	Ex-Signalman, Northumberland	Grant	£1	0	0		
7	Ex-Signalman, Yorks	Grant	£1	0	0		
8	Ex-N C.O., Essex	Grant		9	0		
9	Ex-N.C.O., Notts	Grant	£2	0	0	Loan £2	0 0
10	Ex-Signalman, Newcastle	Grant	£1	12	0		

(Signed) T. H. L. SPAIGHT, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Administrator,
Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Correspondence.

Waiting List for Married Quarters Roll.

[D.O.496] Royal Signals Record Office, Chatham, Kent.
17th October.

The Editor of THE WIRE.

DEAR SIR,—The following is notified for publication.

Dates on which top individuals were registered on the Waiting List for the Married Quarters Roll :—

(a) Home and Abroad—Sergeants, 11/2/1932.
(b) Home, Abroad and India—Rank and File, 9/10/1930.

Yours faithfully, C. FIRTH, Colonel.
i/c Royal Signals Records.

London.
7th November.

The General Secretary,
Signals Association.

DEAR SIR,

I wish to express the deep sense of gratitude my wife and I feel towards the Signals Association for their assistance. Our daughter is slowly regaining her normal health, due to the timely help thus afforded.

This letter does not adequately express our gratitude but I should be glad if you will publish it in THE WIRE to give the members of Signals Association some idea of the good work which is being done and how much that work is appreciated by those, like myself, who are compelled to apply to the Association for assistance in times of emergency.

Yours gratefully,
——, ex-Signalman.

Corps News—Officers

MOVES—

Major R. G. L. Giblin from Glasgow to Malaya.
Major C. Wheeler from Scarborough to Edinburgh.
Major F. S. Thompson from War Office to Catterick (S.T.C.).
Maior H. E. Rance from India to War Office (M.T.I.).
Captain L. V. Younie from India to Scarborough.
Captain W. D. McGregor from War Office to Bulford.
Captain L. R. C. Watson from Staff College to Aldershot (2nd Divisional Signals).
Captain F. H. Bury from London to Malta.
Captain D. R. Paterson from Malta to Staff College.
Lieutenant R. C. B. Stuart from India to Spike Island.
Lieutenant L. D. M. Patterson from Aldershot to Glasgow.
Lieutenant T. J. F. Fuller from Blackdown to India.
Lieutenant R. E. Crawford from Perham Down to China.
Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley from Catterick to Malaya.

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

[War Office, 16/10/36.]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

Lieutenant R. J. Moberley is seconded whilst holding the appointment of Instructor, School of Signals, 30/9/36.

SCHOOL OF SIGNALS.

Lieutenant R. J. Moberley to be Instructor (Cl.G.G.), 30/9/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals—Lieutenant H. L. Lewis, R.Signals, to be Adjutant and is granted the temporary rank of Captain in the T.A., 1/10/36.

50th (N) Divisional Signals—Captain T. S. Mensley to be Major, 4/9/36.

[War Office, 20/10/36.]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, 20/10/36 :

H. S. Lewis-Barclay.
H. A. Spencer, M.C.
E. H. C. Harris.

Lieutenant D. M. Smyth is restored to the Establishment, 30/9/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The London Corps Signals—The undermentioned to be 2nd Lieutenants, 24/10/36 :
J. J. Collins.
J. F. English.
A. S. P. Salter.
[War Office, 27/10/36.]

REGULAR ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant G. F. Houghton is seconded for service with the S.R., 1/10/36.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Lieutenant G. F. Houghton to be Adjutant, Air Contingent Signals, and is granted the temporary rank of Captain, 1/10/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals—G. I. Bray to be 2nd Lieutenant, 31/10/36.
[War Office, 3/11/36.]

REGULAR ARMY—COMMANDS AND STAFF.
Captain B. B. Kennett, M.B.E., R.Signals, to a special appointment (Cl.F.F.), 1st Division (temporary), 8/9/36.
Royal Signals—Lieutenant H. L. Lewis is seconded for service with the T.A., 1/10/36.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
C. H. Shuttleworth to be 2nd Lieutenant, 4/11/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The London Corps Signals—J. W. B. Cocke to be 2nd Lieutenant, 4/11/36.
53rd (W) Divisional Signals—Captain (Q.M.) W. S. Catleugh to be Major (Q.M.), 4/11/36.
[War Office, 6/11/36.]

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
H. Lynch to be 2nd Lieutenant, 7/11/36.

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals—2nd Lieutenant A. McK. Annand to have seniority, 4/7/36, next above 2nd Lieutenant A. C. H. Withers.
[War Office, 10/11/36.]

REGULAR RESERVE OF OFFICERS—ROYAL SIGNALS.
Captain G. Muir, M.C., from Supplementary Reserve, to be Captain, 8/11/36, with seniority, 8/12/20.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The undermentioned 2nd Lieutenants to be Lieutenants :
R. H. E. Robinson, 4/11/36.
H. E. Knight, 8/11/36.
A. G. Metcalf, 8/11/36.
G. Alder, 8/11/36.
R. A. Green, 8/11/36.
J. H. Russel to be 2nd Lieutenant, 11/11/36.
[War Office, 13/11/36.]

TERRITORIAL ARMY—ROYAL SIGNALS.
The London Corps Signals—Captain F. H. Bury, R.Signals, vacates the appointment of Adjutant, 14/11/36.
Captain H. C. B. Rogers, R.Signals, to be Adjutant, 14/11/36.
Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton, from 50th (N) Divisional Signals (supernumerary), to be Colonel, 4/9/36, with seniority, 4/9/34.

CORPS PROMOTION ROSTER.

Subsequent Amendments.

[The figures in the last column indicate the pages in the " Corps Promotion Roster " (published in April, 1936) 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.

2315877	L/Sergeant Parkinson R.	4/ 7/36	30
2315986	L/Sergeant Lambert J.	4/ 7/36	30
2309540	L/Sergeant Starling C.	11/ 7/36	31

Appointed Lance Sergeant.

2314155	Corporal Hawkes W.	4/ 7/36	38
2316092	Corporal Ravenhall E.	11/ 7/36	38
2313714	Corporal McDonald G.	26/ 7/36	38

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To be Corporal.

2317480	L/Corporal Foreman W.	4/ 7/36	55
2318533	L/Corporal Pfeiffer G.	11/ 7/36	55
2316052	L/Corporal Turner W.	18/ 7/36	55
2561306	L/Corporal Morris J.	21/ 7/36	55
5246492	L/Corporal Millichip W.	24/ 7/36	55
2320890	L/Corporal Atkin G.	26/ 7/36	55
2309315	L/Corporal Honeyborne H.	31/ 7/36	55

Appointed Lance Corporal.

2319654	Signalman Cox A.	20/12/35
2323362	Signalman Hudson C.	27/ 1/36
2319160	Signalman Scott E.	22/ 3/36
52377	Signalman Postance C.	1/ 4/36
2316526	Signalman Gilpin H.	4/ 5/36
2316711	Signalman Burfield R.	7/ 5/36
4385392	Signalman Hurst E.	9/ 5/36
2320792	Signalman Tomkinson J.	9/ 5/36
2318321	Signalman Melly W.	10/ 5/36
2320998	Signalman Dix H.	12/ 5/36
2321238	Signalman Gardner A.	12/ 5/36
2319884	Signalman Bennett R.	12/ 5/36
2319982	Signalman Evans S.	12/ 5/36
2320187	Signalman Knight L.	12/ 5/36
2314610	Signalman Wathen W.	12/ 5/36
2319851	Signalman Gatford J.	12/ 5/36
4386053	Signalman Vickers J.	14/ 5/36
2319857	Signalman Gentle E.	21/ 5/36
2316039	Signalman Howland S.	23/ 5/36
2321672	Signalman Boughen L.	27/ 5/36
2318230	Signalman Robinson N.	29/ 5/36
2313521	Signalman Fox R.	29/ 5/36
2320459	Signalman Barker N.	29/ 5/36
2321379	Signalman Cooper A.	29/ 5/36

Discharges.

*5429946	R.Q.M.S. Tank R.	30/ 9/36	68
1856116	C.Q.M.S. Bond W.	3/10/36	14
2311689	Sergeant Osborn E.	4/10/36	23

*** Special Roster.**

2307448	Sergeant Davis J.	6/10/36 ..	21
*6278543	Sergeant Holloway C.	10/10/36 ..	74
7807408	Sergeant Barrett A.	11/10/36 ..	24
2316597	L/Sergeant Badham A.	19/10/36 ..	36
2320388	Corporal Farmer N.	30/ 9/36	
2308338	Corporal Butler C.	2/10/36 ..	41
6538759	Corporal De Courcy T.	12/10/36 ..	46
6907550	Corporal Bolshaw W.	12/10/36 ..	36
2316211	Corporal Jones D.	12/10/36 ..	48
2311707	Corporal Mayer T.	24/10/36 ..	41

Transfer to Army Reserve.

2319712	Corporal Wright V.	1/10/36	

Deceased.

*313351	Sergeant Peters J.	9/10/36 ..	73

* Special Roster.

- Plain Tales -

So What ?—Our last Christmas in the Army. Well, we wish you firstly a happy Christmas and then all good fortune for the rest of your time. Once more, perhaps not for the last time, we thank our countless thousands of readers (cough, cough) for bearing with us so patiently. We are, incidentally, dumb-founded to realise that this powerful article completes eleven years of " Plain Tales." It seems such a little time ago that we scampered around the barracks at Chatham and later Aldershot. We used to say " Roll on, the pontoon," just as you say to-day. Well, here's the end and we have quite different feelings about it. What will you do with *your* time ? Will you drift along happily, refusing to worry about anything, scorning advancement and financial gain ? Or will you grasp every opportunity and climb the ladder ? The Army caters for both temperaments. See my staggering book, " Boy to Sergeant in 24 Years," Freeman, Hardy and Willis, 6s. 11d. a yard. At the end of your pontoon you should have a substantial bank balance. You will have, of course, won't you ? Two shillings a week only will be nearly £110. You will not say " What shall I do with this ? " on the day you deck yourself in gent.'s spring suiting. But why should we give advice ? Ha ! Or, better still, ha ! ha ! You haven't all got saxophones, have you ?

On Waking.—We have been indulging in that most repre-hensible habit, an after-lunch nap, but, being Sunday evening, it doesn't matter very much. The point is that we have the grandest liver and a perfectly bloodshot outlook, so that things which have given us the heebie-jeebies during the week stand out with some clearness, but not much. We are interested to learn that two new cinemas are being built in Salisbury. Of the two that they already have in that ancient city, one is cursed with the most atrocious acoustics and the other seems to have had its seating accommodation designed for dwarfs. It is to be hoped that the new cinemas will rise to the ever-improving standards. We haven't the faintest idea why we should discuss cinemas, but, having started, let us permit the Garrison Cinema at Bulford to sail into the picture. Here we have remarkably clarity, though a somewhat strident tone. The seating leaves much to be desired and the screen is far too small. The supporting films are usually pretty foul, and it is nearly always raining when we come out. There may be reasons why these defects are not remedied, but we do not know what they are, neither do we care. Amesbury has a really tough little cinema, but it should have been built in Bulford Camp.

Really, we are quite fortunate, because the only other thing which got under our skin last week was Army rations and coal. One experiment we haven't tried so far is eating the coal and burning the meat. Well, we didn't try deliberately.

They Go.—Often you will read in THE WIRE that someone has left a Unit and that those remaining behind are practically heartbroken. Usually their loss is someone's gain, at which most of you turn over the page with a muttered " Oh, yeah ! " In this Army of ours we have become used to so much meeting and parting. Sometimes we soon forget, but more often the friendships are very well remembered and there is genuine regret when little communities are robbed of popular members.

The 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford have lost many of their lads during the last few months. We know that, because we happen to belong to that part of the world for the moment. Other Divisional Signals may tell us about their losses, but this month we are still reeling from the shock of losing Stanley Bainbridge, the celebrated authority on hot cross buns. As if that were not enough, Frank Goble must take himself off to the " Terriers " at Cardiff, and Mr. Chappell tapped a smart bowler to rakish angle and snapped his fingers at the Orderly Sergeant for ever.

Yes, we think regrets here are real enough. Perhaps one of these days we may get some of our old members back, but, so long as they are sergeants, we shall not mind if strangers arrive.

Orders for the Piquet.—By an unknown poet, who would do well to remain in obscurity, don't you think ? Or don't you ?

If you see a horse is dying and has one foot in the grave,
Help him in with all the others ; think of all the work you'll save.
If you think a horse is hungry, don't forget you've felt that way.
Never mind about your chocolate, give the beast a bale of hay.
If you see a horse lacks comfort, think about your own good bed.
Strip the coat from off your back, lad ; place it 'neath the creature's head.
If his leg gets o'er a bar, and the bar is hard to shift,
Cut his leg off from the shoulder. Stable piquet ? It's a gift !

Sensational New Story.—Whom and what the story is about, more or less. Uncle Alfred, a crusty old Manchester gentleman, is suspected of murdering Minnie the Cat. Pansy Esther, a poor but honest girl living in India, astonishes the world by playing tennis with one hand and a piano with the other. Her husband, a blonde giant called Willie, discovers Minnie's body in a kennel occupied by Tessa, the notorious setter, and denounces Uncle Alfred to Ukann Larfe. Inspector Faceache hears that Ukann has the case in hand, so in a tearing rage he rings up Mrs. Larfe and shakes his fist at her. He then gets his bicycle out and walks round to see Lord Elpas, a wily old rogue who has so much money that he pays people to spend it for him.

The upshot, or rather outcome, of this is a call by Lord Elpas at the office of Barleux and Barleux, the infamous bucket shop people. Lord Elpas has just bought a small bucket when in walks the whole crowd, with the exception of Minnie, who arrives in a sheet of brown paper.

Uncle Alfred shuffled to the front of the little crowd, his poor old bones creaking with every movement. " You sneaking hound," he screamed, pointing at the Inspector with one finger and at Barleux with the other. He was about to yell further insults when the floor collapsed and the whole company dis-appeared into the depths to the accompaniment of crashing and splintering woodwork. A haze of fine dust hung for a moment in the still air and then drifted lazily through the open window, which was subsequently found to be shut. A small band of street singers, giving their version of " Shoe-shine Boy," were mowed down by machine guns and silence once more descended on the old homestead. The end (we think).

BARLEUX.

Royal Signals Golf Meeting.

The Royal Signals Golf Championship Meeting was held over the Harrogate Golf Course at Starbeck, near Harrogate, on 23rd and 24th September, 1936. Owing to the moves of Units which had taken place recently, the number of competitors was not so large as usual. In addition to the contingent from the S.T.C., Major Winckley, Captain Lewis-Barclay and Captain Chadwick came up from the South. Captain McNair came over from his T.A. job in Manchester and Lieutenant Longfield appeared from Scarborough and not Malta, where many thought he had gone. Everyone was very pleased to see Captain J. Morris May from the 49th (W.R.) Divisional Signals (T.A.).

The Meeting began with two rounds medal play for the Corps Championship on the first day. Captains Lewis-Barclay and Duke were playing together and, as it transpired, the winner was to come from one of these two. They each returned a 77 in

the morning round and commenced the afternoon with " all to play for." Captain Duke continued to play very steadily and, in spite of one out-of-bounds excursion, excellent putting enabled him to return another round of 77. Not dismayed by his opponent's robot-like putting, Captain Lewis-Barclay improved considerably on his morning round and returned a finely-played 72 to win by five strokes. This is the sixth occasion on which Captain Lewis-Barclay has won the Championship. Leading scores were :

	First Round.	Second Round.	Total.
Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay ..	77	72	149
Captain M. Duke	77	77	154
Major G. Tayleur	95	79	174
Major G. C. Winckley ..	90	87	177

On these same two rounds, which counted for the Corps Championship, a handicap sweepstake was held. The leading scores for this in the morning were :

	Gross.	Handicap.	Net.
Captain Duke	77	4	73
Captain Woodbridge	84	10	74
Captain Lewis-Barclay	77	2	75
Major Winckley	90	15	75
Major Galway	94	18	76
Major Tayleur	95	15	80
Captain McNair	92	12	80
Major Lycett	98	18	80
Lieutenant-Colonel Cary	99	18	81

In the afternoon the scoring was better and the leading scores were :

	Gross.	Handicap.	Net.
Major Tayleur	79	15	64
Captain Lewis-Barclay	72	2	70
Major Winckley	87	15	72
Captain Duke	77	4	73
Lieutenant-Colonel Cary	97	18	79
Captain McNair	94	12	82
Lieutenant Longfield	91	7	84
Major Lycett	104	18	86

Several of the competitors in turn felt that they already had the money in their pocket until Major Tayleur arrived with his remarkable score. As he had gone round in 95 in the morning, and, let it be said now, went round the following day in 95 also, the " stewards " were hard put to it to resist an enquiry into his in and out running.

On the morning of the second day there was played off the round for the Handicap Challenge Cup presented by the Games Fund, which Captain C. A. H. Chadwick won with a net 72. Captain R. C. Woodbridge and Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay tied for second place in the sweepstake, each with a net 73.

In the afternoon the Meeting ended with the bogey foursomes.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary was in the process of taking over the Training Battalion at the time of the Meeting, but he turned out and, partnered with Major Winckley, won the Challenge Cup presented some years ago by Major-General E. V. Turner, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. The winning score was " all square." Captain Woodbridge again came in for a share of the sweepstake, as he and Captain Chadwick were runners-up.

There was brilliant sunshine throughout the whole of the two days. Some ladies who came down from Catterick walked round the course with the competitors and had tea afterwards in the clubhouse. All this made it a very cheery Meeting, and it is hoped that more people will make an effort to attend when it is next held.

The results of the Meeting were published in " The Times " of 28th September, 1936.

Chitral Relief, 1936.

Move by Air of the Wireless Detachment of Peshawar District Signals, September, 1936.

This article might have been headed Chitral Relief (modern style). For the past thirty years the relieving and relieved troops have wended their weary way to and from Chitral by the ancient method of marching, taking about six weeks to do the round journey, but 1936 saw several new innovations.

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Firstly, M.T. lorries were used to transport the Relief for more than two-thirds of the way and, secondly, aeroplanes were used to transport a small portion of the Relief from and to their Peace Stations. Amongst those selected to travel by air were the B.O.R.s of the wireless detachment, consisting of two N.C.O.s and four other ranks of Peshawar District Signals. As this is the first time in history that the Chitral troops have been relieved by air, a short account might prove of interest to our readers, especially to those who have memories, and possibly painful ones, of climbing the Lowarai Pass. The type of aircraft employed for the job were Vickers-Valencia Troop Carriers of No. 2 Bomber Transport Flight from Lahore, and the starting point was Chaklala Aerodrome, just outside Rawalpindi. The information that the detachment was going to be relieved by air was received with rather mixed feelings and much discussion by the members of the detachment. I rather suspect that there were two schools of thought on the subject ; the " safety first," who were of the opinion that a third-class walk was more desirable than, what was to their minds, a somewhat risky first-class ride, and the more daring members, who were, to use an Army term, " all for it."

After the necessary instructions had been issued, and practice in " emplaning " and " deplaning " had been carried out, it was decided that the air relief, as far as Signals were concerned, would be carried out as follows : The first half of the relieving party, consisting of one N.C.O. and two men, would arrive on the first 'plane on 20th September and a number of the relieved party would return on the same 'plane ; the second half of the relieving party would arrive on the last 'plane on 20th September and the remainder of the relieved party would return on the same 'plane. This arrangement worked well and allowed time for the relieved N.C.O. to hand over to his Relief. The day the first half of the Relief were due to arrive, 18th September, came round surprisingly quickly.

Perhaps a brief description of the type of aircraft used for this work would be appreciated by those who have not yet made their acquaintance. The Vickers-Valencia Troop Carrier holds 17

[*Continued on page* 548].

HOME STATIONS



3RD DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, BULFORD CAMP

Panoramic Photograph Co. Manchester

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE NOTES

Depot Battalion.

Visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal to the Signal Training Centre.—A separate account of Her Royal Highness's visit to the Signal Training Centre has already been published in the November issue. This article is the story of our Colonel-in-Chief's visit to the Depot Battalion.

After the parade was over Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Brigadier H. Clementi Smith and Brigadier F. A. Heymann, crossed the Square to the Gymnasium, where Major G. Tayleur was waiting. Brigadier Heymann presented him to Her Royal Highness and the party then went inside and upstairs. There were two recruit squads at work. Major Tayleur explained that one was in the eleventh week of training and the other in the second week of pre-square training. Her Royal Highness asked who the instructors were taking each squad and was told that they were Corporal Stirk (the boxer—India M.H. Championship Bantam-weight, 1932-33, S.T.C. Feather-weight Championship, 1934-35-36) and Lance Corporal Johnson. All the recruits doing P.T. had an excellent opportunity of seeing their Colonel-in-Chief right at the beginning of their service and cannot fail to be inspired throughout their Army life.

After a stay of little more than five minutes the party left the Gymnasium, crossed the main road and walked down to the Reception Hut. Signalman Davis W., the hut orderly, was the only occupant. Her Royal Highness asked how long men stayed in this hut and then walked down to the far end and examined the pictures. As all men who have passed through the Depot in the last few years will remember, these pictures are the original posters designed for the Display. Her Royal Highness particularly liked the posters by Lionel Edwards and Lance Corporal Daly. She then noticed the Hut Gardening Shield and asked all about it.

After leaving the Reception Hut the party walked down to the Rockery. This is a new departure in the Depot; it was only begun a year ago. For the information of those who have not been here during the last year, it should be noted that in the summer of 1935 the Royal Engineers made a road, which runs roughly north and south through the lines past the Unit bath-house. The construction of this road resulted in a large bank about 40 yards long and 10 feet high at the highest point, tapering to ground level. In the autumn of 1935 all the large boulders and stones lying in odd corners of the lines were collected and put in this bank and a collection of rock plants ensued. On reaching the Rockery Brigadier Heymann presented Captain Duke, who had the honour of describing the Rockery to Her Royal Highness. She asked where the plants came from and was told how some had been bought and some presented by various friends. She noticed particularly Dianthus Mars and Veronica Rupestris and also a New Zealand daisy (Celmisia). Captain Duke assured her that the latter was so rare that it cost as much as 3s. 6d. Before leaving the subject of the Rockery may we enquire whether anyone in the Corps has any spare plants? If so, the Officer Commanding, Depot Battalion, would gladly receive them. The Rockery has about one hundred different rock plants, but it is an enormous area to cover and there is room for many more.

Her Royal Highness then proceeded to the Institute. Here she saw the billiards room and the reading room. Lance Corporal McGuigan was in the library. She asked various questions about the pictures and was interested to hear about the library. She then walked along the passage to the restaurant, where the manageress and waitresses were drawn up behind the counter. She spoke to the manageress and asked various questions about the restaurant and the goods on sale there.

Her Royal Highness then left the restaurant and passed by the Sergeants' Mess. It happened that the windows of the Mess were open and she saw inside on the table the silver model of a Chinese junk. She stopped and asked Major Tayleur what it was. He explained how it had been presented by the N.C.O.s of China Signals to the Depot Sergeants' Mess in 1934. Her Royal Highness then entered her car, which was waiting by the Sergeants' Mess, and drove to the School.

After lunch she visited St. Quentin Lines, where R.S.M. and Mrs. Caulfield had the honour of being presented, before she made a tour of inspection of the lines. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Mrs. Tayleur, first went into Sergeant Chadney's Quarter. Here she tried to shake hands with the eldest boy, Victor, but he was too shy. After looking round the house Her Royal Highness went into the garden, saw the baby, and enquired after her welfare. Mary Rose Chadney was three days under eight months when this informal interview took place, but she sat up and showed a lively interest. She can fairly claim to be the youngest member of the Corps to meet our Colonel-in-Chief. Sergeant Chandler's Quarter was next visited by Her Royal Highness, and here she showed great interest in the Indian brasswork and also the Richelieu embroidery done by Mrs. Chandler. Her Royal Highness complimented Sergeant Chandler on having such an industrious wife.

Finally, may we say that the visit of Her Royal Highness had been the one topic of conversation in the Depot for fourteen days. On the day itself many old soldiers felt almost as nervous as recruits at their first inspection. The Princess Royal, however, showed such a keen and sympathetic understanding that all our nervousness vanished. When she drove away at the end of that very exciting day there remained the most delightful memories, which will be cherished by all ranks and their wives, of the joy and pleasure at seeing their own Colonel-in-Chief actually in the Depot lines.

Dismounted Wing, Depot Battalion.

General.—Another Catterick summer (?) having passed, the subject is boats and still more boats. Our first draft en route for "Civvy Street" is due to arrive on 14th November. We notice the junior members of the Wing scanning their blue books and noting the numbers of senior N.C.O.s who are expected to finish their time.

Marriages.—Most of the cadre personnel paraded at St. Martin's Church to give a send-off to Corporal Payne S. ("Ginger") on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Agnes Winifred Martin on 15th October. Our old friend "Jock" Bowie did duty as best man.

Re-engagements.—Corporal Nicholls G. to complete 21 years with the Colours.

Courses.—Lance Sergeant Shurer completed a Course at the Guards Depot, Caterham. Lance Corporal Partridge L. departs for a Course in Pay Duties at Chatham.

Boxing.—The first Recruits' Inter-Squad Boxing Tournament of 1936 was held in the "Blood Tub" during the month. The seventy-five competitors gave us a good three evenings' entertainment and the standard of boxing was well up to average. The keenness and sportsmanship were very noticeable, and the "do or die" spirit with which the youngsters entered the ring was a credit to the Wing. Some very promising talent has been noted and with a little more training and experience should make very useful boxers. Our congratulations go to No. 41 Squad for winning the Boxing Shield. Results are given below. On the final evening a black and white demonstration of I.S.B.A. rules was given by Lieutenant M. J. Conway, Lance Sergeant Myddleton, Corporal Stirk and Lance Corporal Johnson. This was greatly appreciated. We would remind everyone that the fouls demonstrated are to be remembered, but in no instance to be used. At the conclusion of the tournament our Commanding Officer, Major G. Tayleur, very kindly presented the Shield to the winning team and medals to individual winners.

Winning Squad: No. 41 under Corporal Payne S.
Runners-up: No. 35 under Lance Sergeant Spearpoint F.
Bantam-weight Winner: Signalman Pedley of No. 36 Squad.
Feather-weight Winner: Signalman Jobling of No. 39 Squad.
Light-weight Winner: Signalman Napthine of No. 37 Squad.
Welter-weight Winner: Signalman Harmison of No. 35 Squad.
Middle-weight Winner: Signalman Lawrence of No. 35 Squad.
Light Heavy-weight Winner: Signalman Stacey of No. 36 Squad.
Best Loser: Signalman Adams of No. 37 Squad.

Thanks are due to the following: Lieutenant Hyde, Referee; C.S.M. Gregory, Timekeeper; and Q.M.S.I. McKay, M.C.

This Month's Best.—Our O.C., when giving his lecture to recruits who have not yet commenced training, was asked by one recruit how he could do *more* than 21 years. We may mention that this laddie had been here less than three weeks.

Beagling.—Our O.C., Major J. W. Bailey, M.C., R.Signals, is Master of the Catterick Garrison Beagles, and we are appending an account of the month's sport. We should state that many members of the Wing take an interest and often follow the hounds on afternoons off.

Following our successful opening Meet at Walburn Hall, previously recorded, the hounds met at Duggan Hill on 3rd October. A hare, found on Scotton Covert, gave us a short, uninteresting hunt; the hounds pulled her down on the moor above Sweethill Plantation. The hounds worked hard for the remainder of the day without further success.

From Downholme on the 7th a hare was found on Sourmoor Hill and took us right-handed over the main road to Gill Beck and up the waterside nearly to Wathgill Camp before bearing left back over the road to Coldstorms Wood. Here the hounds came up to her and ran her back to Sourmoor. Then away in the same circle as before. She repeated this circle a third time, but not quite so wide, and eventually clapped on the roadside, to be put up by the pack and killed as soon as she got back to the moor—35 minutes. By this time several hares were on foot and, although we hunted on till late, we did not kill again.

The Stadium was the fixture for the 10th and the first hare found nearby was accounted for in quick time. She made for the open moor, and once away from the plantation, where she was found, hounds never checked. Nothing much was done then for an hour or so until a good old hare was found in the quarry near Ulwith Farm. Then a remarkable hunt followed. The hare ran first a straight point of a mile, then doubled and ran nearly the reverse line, but carried on to the Stadium, again doubled on her own line, ran to Duggan Hill Farm and did exactly the same. But by this time she was a tired hare and made into Ulwith chicken run, where she clapped first under a pet rabbit hutch, then crept through a number of chickens, and even pigs, and clapped again in front of the house. Lambton pushed her up when most of the other hounds had passed her, but they soon pulled her down in the next field after fifty-eight minutes. Young Nimble was seen to put her feet up to the pet rabbit hutch and inspect the contents with a suspicious look.

Hudswell Grange was the Meet on the 14th, and after some difficulty in finding a hare we succeeded in adding a brace to our total. The first, an enormous hare, gave us twenty minutes and was killed at Crowhill Farm; the second, after fifteen minutes on the open heather. A third hare, found near Waithwith Bank Plantation, gave us a good hour round Hudswell Grange, but in the end she beat us very near the farmyard.

Newfound England on Saturday, the 17th, was a rare Catterick day, gale, rain and cold, but hounds managed to account for one of the many hares which were on Barden Moor; the first one was found after seventeen minutes. After that we found dozens and finished quite a good day by getting away on a big fox. So that was that.

Wednesday, the 21st, was Brough Hall, and a good hare from near the keeper's lodge on the Tunstall Lane took us left-handed to Prospect Hill, about a mile straight, then dodged back over Tunstall Lane to Breckonborough Quarry and left-handed again to Tunstall Village, through cottage gardens and Manor House stackyard, on towards James Lane, where we changed and took a fresh hare in a small circle towards Wintylow, and back to the same field. Here we fresh found our original hare and rattled her away straight to Brough Whin, where hounds got on good terms with her and pushed her out of the hedge bottom to kill her in the open after ninety minutes' hunting. We drew back below Tunstall Lane by request and hunted on until 5.30 p.m., but the number of hares on foot by this time made it impossible to settle to one for long.

Scotton Village on the 24th, as usual, was not a great success, as these hares will persist in running into the barracks, but eventually we got one away long enough to kill in the open fields above Whinney Hill after about an hour's dodging between huts. Then followed more hut dodging until we got on to an open country hare near Risedale. This hare gave us a fast hunt round the Stadium, up Range Road, over the top of the old tank driving field nearly to Black Hill, where hounds killed her on their own, but we got there in time to gather some fragments.

The Meet was Stainton on the 28th and, as usual, a hare was soon found on the moor, but only a small one. Luckily, the hounds changed on to a good hare inside two minutes and went away to the grassland, but only a small circle first time before she made back to the moor. However, they kept her going until she decided to make the grass again. She left the heather and made straight down over the Reeth-Leyburn Lane on to the Downholme footbridge, where she turned left and ran the Gill Beck nearly down to Green Lane Ford before she swam the stream, and then ran on to the foot of How Hill, where she doubled and made back to the ford. The hounds killed her in the lane before she got near to the water—twenty-five minutes. The next hare, which was found just above the road, took us on to the moor, then a straight point of about one and a half miles on to Walburn Moor, where she did a couple of circles, then ran almost on the old line back to Stainton Moor, where hounds pulled her down after another good thirty minutes. Our third hare gave us an hour's good run between Stainton, the Downholme main road, Walburn Hall and Wathgill, but, unfortunately for us, the hounds changed on to a fresh hare when our own hare was well beaten, but we could not find out exactly where the change had taken place, because they were just out of our sight when it happened.

The Stadium, 31st October. The hounds drew towards Ridge Plantation, where a big hare was found. She took us first towards the Ordnance Workshops, but turned left short of the Compound and made towards the Stadium. Still bearing left, ran through the rough field below Wenlock and straight on to Scotton Covert. Over the top of this hill we lost sight of the hounds, but she must have got straight on to very near Gandale Farm, because we collected a couple of our moderate hounds coming back from there. Almost at the same time the main pack came into view racing back towards Sweethill on the moor side of the by-road to the Gandale-Range Road. She took them down this road some way before bearing off right-hand to the top of Wenlock, where she doubled back through the bracken and ran over the top of Sweethill through a patch of gorse, then swung left and ran back past Ulwith on to the Golf Course. Then she swung right down the grass fields to Risedale Farm and on down the cinder track nearly to Harrington Road, turning right again towards the Destructor, and then back to Ridge Plantation. Here she was viewed not far in front of the hounds and getting very tired. Again she headed for Ulwith, but turned short and clapped in an open field midway between Ulwith and Risedale. The hounds put her up and raced her to Risedale and straight on over the Golf Course to the Destructor. Across Harrington Road, along the military railway for a short

distance, then turned left down into the brookside by the Gloucesters' 30-yards range, where hounds killed her after a wonderful hunt of fifty-two minutes. The hounds then drew towards the Royal Signals' Mess, where another hare was found in a young plantation. This hare started by small circles and tried the old barrack-room dodge around two sets of lines, but we managed to get her away after some difficulty. Next she made for Duggan Hill Farm, but doubled just short of the farm and took to roads. She ran roads, then from near the Royal Signals' Mess to the Training Battalion lines, through the barrack-rooms, over one sports field on to the road which runs to Whinney Hill gravel pits, right on to the pits, then took a cart track towards Gandale Farm, where, owing to the approaching darkness and proximity to Gandale Wood, where hares and rabbits abound, the hounds were stopped after a good and really tricky hunt of one hour and twenty-five minutes.

EL PEE.

Headquarters, Training Battalion.

During the last month interest has been centred on trooping, postings and cadre changes. Although nothing has yet happened in this respect, our first draft for India leaves us on 1st January. On 11th November Armistice Day was observed by the Unit in the usual manner. In the early part of the morning a number of the wives of the married N.C.O.s and men appeared on the Company parades selling poppies to all ranks. Thereafter they toured the Unit lines for the " casuals." This work was carried out voluntarily by these ladies and was organised by Mrs. Carey the wife of our Commanding Officer. Judging by their empty trays, they did good work for a worthy cause.

The appeal for an A.1 nation has reached this Battalion. As yet it is only in the form of a " hush-hush campaign." Perhaps a great deal will be written on this subject at a later date, but for the present we must be content with " ladies first."

Besides the appeal for an A.1 nation, a " brighter Catterick " move has commenced in the way of entertainments. Whist drives are now a weekly feature in the Institute, and the comments on these prove that such a form of entertainment has long been overdue. During the week-end the cries of " Eyes down," " Dinky Doo " and the rest may be heard in the Institute without exertion. This entertainment, which needs no introduction, is thoroughly enjoyed by the participants. Everyone hopes this " brighter Catterick " move will continue.

"D" Company, Training Battalion.

Births.—Congratulations are offered to Captain and Mrs. D. C. P. Hall on the presentation of a son at Darlington, and to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Walton, a son at Catterick Camp, and also to Lance Corporal and Mrs. Hales, a daughter at Catterick Camp.

Marriages.—Congratulations to Signalman Morris R. G. on his marriage to Miss Doris May Hinds at Aylesbury, Bucks, on 27th October.

Arrivals.—A welcome is extended to Sergeant and Mrs. Harvey on their arrival from Eastern Command Signal Company. We hope that their stay will be a pleasant one. Welcome to Signalman and Mrs. Ward, Signalmen Worboys and Madison, who are passing through on their way to the East. For you a warmer period is forecast.

Departures.—A farewell to Signalman O'Donovan, who left us for 2nd Divisional Signals, and to Corporal Fry and Signalmen Dawson, Finnigan, Ramsey, Turner and Walker, who have gone to " E " Company before embarkation for India. Likewise warmer periods indicated.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to the following on their further outlook in life : Lance Sergeant Green W. to Sergeant, Corporal Jones H. to Lance Sergeant and Lance Corporal Fry H. to Corporal.

Social Events.—Great activity has been witnessed in the vicinity of Vimy Lines Institute on Thursday evenings, the occasion of the Battalion whist drives, which were recently introduced by our new Commanding Officer. At the last one held forty-two tables were booked and the drive was a great success. Apart from first, second and third ladies' and gent.'s prizes, several hidden numbers proved useful.

Now that the Christmas leave period has been published great activity can be seen round the Post Office. The pay department is inundated with short pay applications.

"E" Company, Training Battalion.

Departure.—Two months ago we had the pleasure of welcoming Lieutenant E. I. E. Mozley to this Company. It is now our sad duty to record his departure to Singapore on 2nd December.

Indian Draft.—The roll of the first Indian draft has just been received and the undermentioned are now enjoying their draft leave prior to proceeding to India on 1st January, 1937 : Lance Sergeant Powell G., Corporal Fry H. and Signalmen Finnegan D., Dawson W., Ramsay J., Turner P. and Walker G.

"F" Company Training Battalion.

General.—Nothing of note has happened in our Company during the past month.

Welcome.—To that of the Battalion as a whole we add the welcome of " F " Company to our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Carey, M.B.E., R.Signals. Don't forget, sir, " boys will be boys " !

Good-bye.—Yet another batch of ex-boys have left us to go out into the cruel, unkind world. Although they may have been responsible for a lot of the Company Sergeant-Major's grey hairs, we wish them all, nevertheless, the best of luck : Signalmen Parkinson J., Cullen P. and Moore P. to Tank Brigade Signals and Signalmen Morrice W., Davidson D. and Jamie M. (when they return from furlough) to Northern Ireland Signal Company. Our best wishes go with the Rev. E. M. M. Bright, our Methodist Chaplain, who is leaving the frozen north for Aldershot. We shall always appreciate the interest he took in both our welfare and football.

Entertainment.—Thanks chiefly to Lance Corporal Blades, we have had several enjoyable evenings, which included whist drives and dances in the Boys' Club. We also thank all those responsible for the installation of a new radiogram in the Boys' Club and hope that they realise how much we appreciate it. We are soon to have a concert party. Crooners are barred.

Education.—Congratulations to the following boys on obtaining their First Class Certificates of Education : Birch W., Bowler J., Buddery W., Cleave L., Fenton J. P., Gosling J., Halford R., Halstead T., Hockings N., Jones I., Lisseter R., Martin V., Smith M. D., Sullivan W. and Valentine C.

Conclusion.—That's the lot.

EFF.

School of Signals.

Arrivals.—We extend a welcome to Major J. L. Henderson, R.Signals, who has taken over the many responsibilities of S.I.O. We hope his stay will be a very pleasant one. The glad hand is also extended to Signalmen Hodgson and White. We hope they will soon feel at home.

Departures.—It was with great regret that we said good-bye to our late S.I.O., Major F. S. Straight, M.C., R.Signals, who has left us to assume the duties of C.S.O., Northern Command. We wish him and his family all the very best of luck and good health in their new Station. Two of our stalwarts leave us within the next day or so : Signalman Beswick, who is off to sunnier climes, Palestine, and Signalman (Ben) Walters, to Bulford. Our good wishes go with them. The School rugger team will miss them both. Signalman Williams W. A. also changed his quarters, 1st Divisional Signals, on 9th November.

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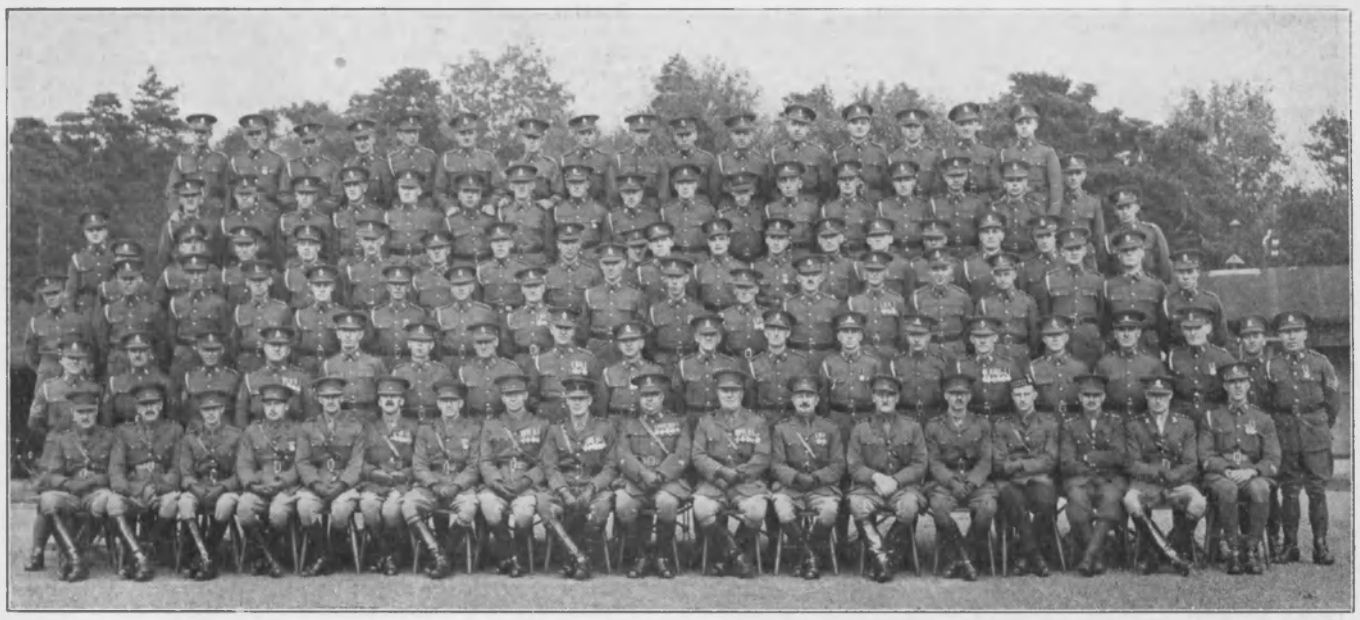
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SCHOOL OF SIGNALS.

Marriages.—As these notes are due, a nil return is necessary. The dark hour for one of our number is, however, very near at hand. Not having sampled it, I can't offer sympathy or otherwise, but he must have pluck, unless he has caught the School habit. Anyway, we will wish him all the best in case he needs it.

Unit Photograph.—The pretty picture represents the School's effort to show what a nice body of men we are. It's many moons since a Unit photograph was taken and shown in THE WIRE, so late School-ites can compare the past and the present. We might add that the grouping in itself was a great work of art, the back row being very well " balanced."

SCH. SIGS.

ALDERSHOT NEWS

2nd Divisional Signals.

Unit Headquarters.

General.—A very important item, which disturbed not a little the even tenor of our ways during this month, was the annual inspection by the G.O.C., which took place on the 12th. We are all hoping for a very good report.

Everyone in barracks seems to be on the " Jew " these days, voluntary short pays being rampant. We imagine the fast approach of Christmas is making itself felt.

The following personnel of the Unit have represented the Corps at rugger during the current season : Lieutenant W. A. Purser, 2nd Lieutenant P. G. Curry, Sergeant Parker W., Lance Corporal Rider and Driver Groom, with Lance Corporal Herbert as reserve. Our rugby team was also successful in annexing the " Cobb-Nicholls " Cup this season.

Arrivals.—Signalman Martin from No. 2 Company to assist the Pay N.C.O.

Departures.—As forecast in last month's issue of THE WIRE, Signalman Storey has now become Mr. Storey. Good luck, Mr. Storey !

Hospital.—2nd Lieutenant Curry and Lance Corporal Snell are sadly missed by the rugby fifteen. We trust that they will soon be well enough to turn out again.

HAFOD.

No. 1 Company.

General.—Individual training still holds prior place, with the result that we find ourselves very short of personnel to perform duties, etc. To level this up we hope that all our men will qualify for higher pay, and so improve the efficiency of the Company.

The G.O.C., 2nd Division, inspected the Unit on the 12th, and we hope that he was pleased with what he saw. This year it was hard going through shortage of personnel.

We congratulate Lance Corporal Bennett R. on his marriage and hope that he and Mrs. Bennett will be very happy. He shouldn't have kept it so dark!

We were glad to see our Company Commander Captain B. S. Watkins, looking so fit. We are looking forward to welcoming him, when he returns to duty later this month. Don't slay all the rabbits, sir !

We said farewell on the 14th to our first regular draft, Signalman Silver, to Sarafand. We wish him luck and hope he will carry on the good name of 2nd Div.

Jews' Mail.—889, S.C.R. " What is the price of stamps ? " Bill, 287.

P. I. P.

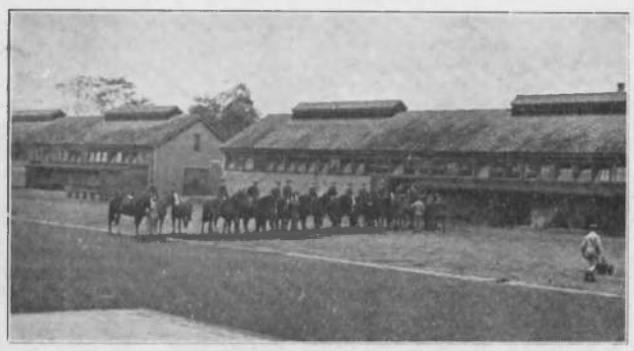
No. 2 Company.

General.—The long-expected day has come and gone. Thursday, the 12th, found 2nd Divisional Signals waiting for the G.O.C. to inspect the personnel and lines. The usual Wednesday half-day had to be spent in preparing the Unit for inspection. However, we were given the half-day on Thursday following the inspection.

Field-day for the Eton College O.T.C. also took place on Thursday. It therefore necessitated us finding Wireless Sets and D.R.s to take part in this Scheme. It was rumoured that only those who were not considered smart enough to take part in the inspection were chosen. The writer of these notes, who was one of those to take his equipment on Schemes that day, cannot believe it. Rather, shall we say, only those who were efficient enough were called upon to represent the Corps.

Some of our late members will read with regret of the departure of the horses and then wonder why they volunteered for abroad. With the kind co-operation of Corporal Haswell, I am able to submit two photographs showing the change-over from horses to mechanisation. We take this opportunity of thanking Corporal Haswell for his assistance in taking the photographs.

It will interest rugby supporters and players to know that the " Cobb-Nicholls " Cup is the property for twelve months of this Unit. No. 2 Company was well represented in the team by Lieutenant W. A. Purser, Sergeant Parker, Lance Corporals Rider and Evans and Signalmen Tagg, Grice, Searle, Bedden, Bedford and Brooks.



Goodbye.



Welcome.

Arrivals.—We welcome Signalmen Baxter, Preece, Soffe, Kitcher, Collins and Leak from the Training Battalion and hope their stay will be a pleasant one.

Departures.—Sergeant Sargeant left us for Malta ; Signalman Hardwick for Catterick. We wish them both the best of luck at their new Stations.

What We Should Like To Know.—The name of the Signalman who asked his grandma to write for his Christmas leave.

Au revoir until next month.

R. J. B. 494.

No. 3 Company.

General.—It appears to be the habit lately of apologising for the briefness of our notes, but this time the usual scribe has left us for sunnier climes.

We have just finished with the G.O.C.'s annual inspection and are now looking forward to that hard-earned spot of furlough.

Arrivals.—The following have recently been posted to us ; we wish them all the best of luck during their stay : Corporals Cook and Burke and Signalmen Rae, Spall, Usher, Richardson A., Clark, Masters, Whim and O'Donovan.

Departures.—Signalmen Smith N. and Moore W. and Driver (I.C.) Taylor have left us for the land of the " Wailing Wall." Volunteers, too ! We wish them the best of luck in their new abode. Signalman Allen, having proved himself a splendid cook at a Course recently held at the School of Cookery, has been posted to the S.T.C. We congratulate him on the fine results of his Course. We are very sorry to lose his services.

Civilian Employment.—By the time these notes appear we shall have lost a valuable N.C.O in Sergeant Brunton C., who will be well established as a civilian in the Vauxhall Motors, Ltd. It is to be hoped that he is not unduly worried by requests for spare parts. Good luck, Bob !

THREECO.

1st Anti-Aircraft Group Signals, Blackdown.

North Frith Barracks, Blackdown.
13th November.

Greetings.—The season's greetings to all Units at home and abroad.

General.—Firstly, I must apologise for the absence of notes in the November issue of THE WIRE. Now proceed !

The Unit fired the Annual Musketry Course (rifle) on No. 1 Range, Pirbright, between 12th and 14th October. The average score was 62.3. The Revolver Course was fired on " A " Range, Ash, on 19th October ; average score, 32.66. The highest scorer in rifle was Corporal Conolly L. S., and in the revolver Signalman Austin. The MacSwinney Cup for the best average was won by Headquarter Section, and the Plate Shoot Competition went to " H " Area Signal Section.

The 2nd A.A. Group Signals is being formed at Blackdown this winter under the command of our C.O. (Major H. M. Sylvester, M.C.). The two Units in one, so to speak.

Departures.—Lieutenant T. J. F. Fuller, R.Signals, on 23rd October on H.T. *Dorsetshire* for service with " A " Corps Signals, India. 2323971 Corporal Webb A. L. to discharge on completion of eighteen years' service. 5248669 Signalman Crockett F. C. and 2321725 Signalman Clarke W. to Northern Ireland Signal Company. 2321834 Signalman Coombe L. to 3rd Divisional Signals, 2568397 Signalman Newman C. H. G. to the Army Reserve on compassionate grounds, 758065 Signalman Davis S. J. to the Army Reserve and 2317893 Corporal Field L. L. to the Training Battalion, S.T.C. We wish them all the usual good luck in their new spheres.

Arrivals.—2324021 Signalman Langmaid R. from 3rd Divisional Signals.

Promotions.—Still hoping.

Service Overseas.—Another for the big boat. Signalman Knight K. O. for a tour in India.

A Little Bird Whispers.—That our Pay Bloke (Corporal Conolly L. S.) has entered the first stages of the matrimonial stakes. Yes, lads, I assure you. In fact, she has that glittering ring on her left hand. Isn't he an oyster. Toot, toot ; congratulations !

Armistice Church Parade.—The Armistice Church Parade Service was held in the Garrison Church, Deepcut, on Sunday, 8th November. Owing to the limited seating arrangements, our numbers were reduced to twelve other ranks. Eight of these totalled 159 years' service. Average, 19¾ years. Not too bad for a small Unit.

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M.T. Course.—Pupil. "May I stand in the shade; the sun is in my eyes?"

Instructor. "No. The sun is conducive to the ripening of green things!"

Vocational Training Courses.—The following have proceeded to the A.V.T.C., Aldershot, to be introduced to the art of bricklaying: Signalmen Walsh J., Bedford H. and Broomfield C. B.

"G" Area Signal Section.—Send humble greetings to their late stalwart, "Busty," posted to the S.T.C., Catterick. If good wishes count in this life, then our ex-Palesteeni-Egyptian should need very few running repairs during his next trip.

And that's that.

JAY EM GEE.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

General.—The death of Major-General C. P. Heywood, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., while out shooting was a great shock to all Units in the 3rd Division and was particularly regretted by Signals, to whom he had proved himself a great friend during his short command of the Area since April.

The annual inspection of the Unit, which was to have taken place on 3rd November, has accordingly been postponed.

The two minutes' silence on Armistice Day was observed by a Unit parade in a drizzle. The Commanding Officer addressed the Unit for a few minutes before the silence and explained the significance of observing Armistice Day.

Sergeants' Mess.

We took up rather more room than usual last month, so that it is with little or no conscience that we forward this brief report. The departures, which are much regretted, during the past month are: Sergeant Goble F. to 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals as P.S.I., Lance Sergeant Bainbridge S. to Spike Island to think up some new puns and Lance Sergeant Chappell into the great world to earn his living. The best of luck to all of them. Arrivals are, unfortunately, nil, but we have Lance Sergeant Given A. from the 51st Divisional Signals on temporary attachment. We trust that he will feel very welcome.

The next item may come under the heading of "Sport," but our lady friend suggests "Entertainment." The hockey match between the Officers' Mess and the Sergeants' Mess on Tuesday, 10th November, was decidedly interesting. The result was a draw, 1—1, and this about describes it accurately. We were surprised that the officers did not wipe the ground with their aged opponents, but maybe experience and weight count for something after all. We haven't laughed so much since the Sergeant-Major fell off his horse.

And so the 3rd Divisional Signals Sergeants' Mess sends hearty greetings for Christmas and the New Year to all old members and friends. We can imagine the overseas people sitting on the Mess verandah harking back, "When we were at Bulford in '33." Yes, you've got to be tough to live here! Blow, blow, thou winter wind; we can take it!

R. F. B.

Details, 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

General.—The word "Palestine" is no longer taboo in regimental journals, so, just in case you haven't read it in the daily papers, we are able to reveal that there are troops in Palestine. In fact, they are even thinking of coming home again in time for Christmas. Anyhow, we hope so.

Since the appearance of our last notes physical training has obtained a fair grip. Half the Unit is rippling with newly-acquired muscle—the other half is rippling with laughter at their antics.

It's an ill wind, etc. The whist team are going stronger than ever and are now only two points behind the leaders. A little more practice in manipulation when dealing and the shield may make its first appearance in the barracks.

The extension until 1 a.m. comes as a great boon to the night-birds. All concerned welcome the extra hours in Peasholm Park and the cessation of the necessity to sprint up the hill to the barracks to be in by 11.59 p.m. After all, it's hardly the time of the day for sprinting.

After twenty-six years' service R.S.M. Bevan has left us for civil life. We wish the R.S.M. and his family every success in their new surroundings. R.S.M. Bevan's successor is R.S.M. Shenton from India. Of course, although we realise that anno Domini does take the edge off things as far as actual prowess on the field is concerned, we, nevertheless, extend a hearty welcome to R.S.M. Shenton and hope for that little extra impetus to soccer which will take us to the head of the local league.

The 5th November was celebrated with a communal bonfire and firework display for the children, both young and old. Much to the disgust of the rising generation, only an effigy was available for the fire, and the habit of placing crackers in close proximity to the seat of one's pants was discouraged as much as possible.

The monthly dance attracted a moderate gathering and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves.

The conclusion of these notes marks my last effort from 5th Divisional Signals. Strangely enough, my final scribble coincides with National Rat Week. There is, however, no connection. Rats, by the way, received very drastic and effective treatment here. It's a hard world, even for rats!

W.

Sergeants' Mess.

General.—Congratulations to 13th Infantry Brigade Signal Section on being selected for the early trip home. A hearty welcome awaits "Womany Wose" and Dick Mansfield. Sergeant Challen has now got into the habit of "letting things down lightly" and is quite satisfied that these "smash and jab" raids do not pay. Another thing, the pockets have been narrowed since you went away.

Arrivals and Departures.—On Tuesday, 10th November, the members of the Mess assembled in full force to bid R.S.M. Bevan good-bye on his departure for civvy life. The dinner proved a great success and various toasts were drunk with gusto. Speeches were made and replied to and interludes on the piano with community singing, led by Mr. Fisher and his accordion, helped things along tremendously. In case any member did not, or was unable for various reasons, to say good-bye, we do it now for him. Best wishes to yourself and family in your new sphere of life.

We welcome to the Unit R.S.M. Shenton and family and hope that they will find the place more salubrious than Quetta. The weather will be similar and one or two faces familiar.

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The football team are already winning games (in anticipation), but I am afraid they will be unlucky.

Armistice Day.—The 11th November was celebrated in a fitting manner. A detachment attended the service in the harbour and a wreath was placed on the War Memorial by C.S.M. Brandon on behalf of the Unit. The remainder of the Unit attended an open-air service in barracks. All ranks heartily supported Earl Haig's Fund by purchasing poppies. Borrowing to support such a worthy cause in this instance is excusable.

Our thanks are due to the proprietors of the Odeon Theatre for their kindness in placing the cinema at the disposal of all troops and their families on Armistice Day.

Oxo.

Northern Ireland Signal Company, Belfast.

Winter seems to have arrived with a vengeance with several gale warnings.

We are sorry to record the departure of Captain H. C. B. Rogers, who has left us to take up an appointment in London. He has our best wishes.

The arrival of final draft warning orders is going to rob us of some old hands and about a dozen operators, who will sail for India on 1st January.

Work continues. We now have a remote control unit at one of our stations, which is working very well. The I.M. could supply quite a lot of humour out of the situation.

The biannual Trade Board takes place in November and operators are arriving from Out-Stations to take their B.1 and B.2 tests. Actually, it provides a reunion for the old hands and an exchange of knowledge.

Sport has treated us well. Our soccer team is the same as that during last season, whilst the hockey team is quite promising. We hope to be able to include some sports notes in the near future.

Promotions.—Nothing this month.

Moves, Inter-Section.—Lance Corporal Clarke from Dunree to Omagh, Lance Corporal Davidson from Omagh to Belfast, Lance Corporal Edwards from Belfast to Dunree, Signalman Peckham to Londonderry, Signalman Clarke to Lenan, Signalman Crump to Armagh and Signalman Cook to Ballykinler. We hope that they like their new Stations.

Moves, Drafts.—Signalmen Davidson A., Davidson T., Rowden, Mcluskie, Hutchison, Laws, Twiddy and Yard are leaving for Catterick shortly, whilst Signalmen Worboys and Ward have left via Catterick for Egypt and Signalman Maddison for Singapore. "Bon voyage."

Arrivals.—We welcome Lance Corporal Ogden from Scarborough and Signalmen Clarke and Crockett from Blackdown. We hope that they will enjoy their tour in N.I.D.

Departures.—One horse to the last round-up.

NEWS FROM OUT-STATIONS.
DUNREE.

Lost, stolen or strayed. Which? Last month's news from the above Section. We are proud to report that we won the "brighter Dunree" Gardening Competition, for which there were nine other entrants. The following is the order of merit: 1, Royal Signals; 2, H.Q. Section, R.A.; 3, Right Section, R.A.; 4, Royal Engineers.

We expect our friends at the S.T.C. and all Unit horticultural experts will be pleased to read of our success. The numerous visitors to the Fort have remarked on the excellence and high standard reached in our efforts to further the good name of the Corps.

The linemen are forging ahead with the reorganisation of the Fort's communications and, judging by the rate of progress, we will soon be able to call "long-distance." They have certainly been "up the pole" these last few weeks, and I hope to send in a snap next month of Corporal Stretch and Signalmen Holland and Cassidy taken whilst "performing."

Arrivals.—Signalman Swetnam is now anchored here. The mail bag has since had an extra piece stitched on to deal with his fan mail. Signalman Laws is back again after three weeks' temporary duty at Derry.

"Dutchy's" New Suit.—After months of "sprees" and "Jew Courses" alternatively, he has, at least, realised his ambitions. His last suit, the three-piece one with the brown jacket, blue trousers and checked waistcoat, is now available for hire. Well done, laddie!

Tennis Tournament.—The entire Section was entered for this Tournament in the hope of sharing the honours. We were defeated. In the Singles Sergeant Toogood was beaten 7—4, 4—6, 6—1 by Sergeant King, R.A. Perhaps he may shine in the coming Squash and Billiards Tournaments?

Latest Records.—Corporal "Z" received most letters in one week from mother (most in one day, same handwriting, four)?

X 464s.—Lofty Langley, ex-94 Squad. "Heard you're married. What about ten shillings? Catterick Boy Friend."
Signalman Maddison. "It's easy to remember how to forget."

Visitors.—Our visitors' book did a roaring trade during October. We welcomed our O.C., Captain Pope, Lieutenant (I.P.C.) Roberts, C.S.M. Rankin, C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Catt, Sergeant Davies, Lance Corporal Thomson, Signalman Watts and the one and only Signalman Coram.

Musketry.—Corporal Stretch and Signalmen Cassidy and Jackson gave the seagulls a surprise by obtaining scores of 83, 84 and 78 respectively. Not only the seagulls were surprised; we wonder who were in the butts?

BALLYKINLER.

As the regular scribe was on leave last month and the Station short-handed for a while, the notes from here were unavoidably held over. Full apologies to all those who looked for them and many thanks for looking.

Little of importance seems to have occurred recently except the firing of our Annual Course. The "bull," which got away, bears extraordinary resemblance to "Alibi Ike." Maybe if they had not put the targets so far away a few possibles would have been scored. Still, de mortuis and all that.

Moves.—Signalman Oliver left for Belfast on 1st October, when the Superintendent returned from leave. Signalman Faulkner joined the Station on 5th September ex-Derry and via Belfast. The draft only affects Faulkner so far (he is for India), but we others still hope—and fear.

Furlough will soon help to fill the moves column and also fill the notes, but at present there is no more to be said.

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INDIAN·SIGNAL·CORPS

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

13th October.

General.—The fine weather having come to stay, it is a hard job to find anyone in a bungalow between 4 and 6 p.m. Some people play tennis, others go swimming, many are out every evening playing football or hockey, while a few seem to live on the golf course.

A Junior N.C.O.'s Course has just commenced. (No, not drill this time.) By all accounts it is proving very interesting. The N.C.O.s are at present concentrating at delivering short lectures, but what is in store for them later has not yet been revealed. A "ride" is also in progress, but as it is not yet very far advanced no bones have been broken. It is said that our horses are "human." They stop, start and turn by ear?

Arrivals.—The following are welcomed from Field Units: Lance Sergeant Norman from 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Lance Corporal Wattle from Peshawar District Signals and Signalman McGregor from "A" Corps Signals.

Departures.—Quite a few this month. Corporal Richardson to 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Lance Corporal Pratt to the Army Signal School, Poona, Lance Corporal Wallis to 1st Indian Divisional Signals and Signalman Hancock ("Bang") to "A" Corps.

Promotions and Appointments.—Congratulations to Sergeant Goodison N. on his promotion to that rank. Also to U/Lance Corporal Bliss P. on his appointment.

Tennis.—The tennis season opened with a "Tin and Bottle" Tournament. Many entries were received, so were many bottles and tins. The collectors of the groceries were: Mrs. Macguire (1st, Ladies'), Lance Corporal Holland (2nd, Ladies'), Lance Corporal Price (1st, Gent.'s) and Sergeant Wall (2nd, Gent.'s). The booby prize went to Lance Corporal Scanlan, but I'm not going to tell you what it was. It was very appropriate, anyway.

To "Nunc," Risi.—First Saturday, New Street Station, December, '37. Squadron Leader.

Sergeants' Mess.

October is upon us. Another month has added to our grey hairs, but who cares about that? Have we not discovered new talent and great genius (genii?) during last month?

Book early for copies of an exclusive publication, "From 'Rabbit' to Vice-President in 200 Days." True, O readers, his photograph graced the pages of this very magazine with "L" emblazoned (or engraved) upon his back. The book was written beneath the shade of Nicholson's Neck (the frontier, egad!) and should demand a ready sale amongst "Walker" Cup contestants.

Just imagine! Writhe, ye old soldiers! Squirm with horror, ye of the Old Brigade! A farrier sitting calmly listening to the caterer's crooning with a banjo and drinking TEA. He won the Mess Golf Trophy on it, too.

Good-bye to Mr. Tank, who duly left us (or was he vouchered over?) for an official "Civvy Street" job at Cossipore Arsenal. Welcome to Lance Sergeant Norman B. from Risalpur. (Did you leave my bloomin' garden blooming?)

Tragic! The Corporals beat us at hockey. We are trying to decide whether our centre-forward was mortified or merely petrified; in any case, it was a long illness, because the stretcher arrived after the match. Rude remarks from the line spurred us on to a brilliant and battling finish, but we still lost by the odd goal in three.

The Mess is being beautified (not the members) by the addition of two excellent dining tables. We shall, in future, see the reflection of our chickens (cutlets?) glistening in a polished rosewood surface, for which our thanks are mainly due to Mr. Jim Brierley. Judging, however, by the wrinkled brows and forgotten formulæ, these tables were very helpful to two of our members who recently sat for First Class Maths. The volume of the inside of a goldfish bowl might have been more within the sphere of the Penzance Pirate!

And so, with the Tennis Courts being thoroughly overhauled and the Mess still being depreciated quarterly, we leave you until the November notes are due. Meanwhile, we wish you a happy, quaffy Christmas, with good fun and good fare.

To Y.D.B. Oh to be in M.R. now that October's there. But there ain't no boats. The man with the cat. KIKO.

Corporals' Room.

General.—Once more, kind readers, you are gripped by the Junior Cads of the S.T.C. (I). The majority of our members are just recovering from the result of our annual whist drive and dance, which was held last week. Again our annual show proved popular with the whole Station judging by the number in attendance. I'm sure everybody couldn't help but enjoy themselves. The dance programme was made very popular with numerous spot prizes and a Waltz Competition. One member wanted to enter this Competition half-way through, thinking that he was excused the first rounds: results of "Dutch courage"! Benny Collett and his lads performed well with the "Red-hot Pepper," assisted by Mrs. Fishwick, who exercised her vocal chords through the "mike." But we must not forget that some members of the room worked very hard to make the show a success.

Everyone has had a lecture at some time or other, either from the missus, R.S.M., schoolmaster or even the Rector, but the lectures of lectures are now being given twice weekly by the "Corporals' Room Syndicate," admission free. In other words, the Junior N.C.O.s are now learning how to lecture correctly. It is all so very interesting when one sits back and realises how much there is in good lecturing. Take note, all you grippers visiting Jubbulpore. Talking about grippers, we have now on show one of the finest of these specimens living under the name of Lance Corporal Wattle (ex-Peshawar).

In some of our previous notes you may all have read about that rare bird the "Lam-bird." Once more he has taken a front page position. Last week he was seen in the surrounding area, but was very elusive. Connolly and his merry men went out and bagged the "bird," bringing him back alive with a slight leg wound. We are, however, sorry to relate that Corporal Lambird, whilst out on a shoot last week, received a leg wound during a beat. The tale goes that they were hot on the trail of a panther when the accident happened. Bert is going on O.K. now in the B.M.H., and so the said panther rests with an easy mind.

Billiards.—Just recently a Billiards League was formed in the room. This has created greater interest towards the ivories. Lance Corporal Hull, one of our latest members to the fold, heads the League, having only lost one game.

Departures.—During last month we have lost Corporal Richardson to Risalpur, Lance Corporal Pratt to Poona and Lance Corporal Wallis to Rawalpindi.

Arrivals.—Only one. Lance Corporal Wattle from Peshawar. He is now well at home with all of us. Let him get up!

Forecasts.—Part I Orders state that we are likely to lose a few members in a week or so en route for the Homeland. They are Corporal Shufflebotham and Lance Corporals Marshall and Chambers, who hope to leave Bombay on 14th November. In more ways than one we shall be sorry to lose all of them.

NORTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

30th October.

General.—We are very busy in the 1st Indian Divisional Signals these days. During the past week the Unit has been inspected by the Adjutant-General in India, Lieutenant-General Sir John E. S. Brind, K.C.B., K.B.E., C.M.G., D.S.O., the District Commander, Rawalpindi District, Major-General E. DeB:.rgh, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E. The animals of the Unit have also been inspected by the D.D.V.S., Northern Command, Colonel C. A. Murray. Consequently, everybody has been "well down to it"

in order to ensure the usual high standard for which this Unit is famed.

Company training is in full swing. No. 1 Company carried out some very useful schemes, whilst No. 2 Company is gradually dwindling down to " one man and a dog " owing to the Brigade Sections leaving to join their various Brigades. In a few days' time Unit Headquarters, No. 1 Company and " F " Section proceed to camp at Hassan Abdal. Our readers can, therefore, see we are a very active Unit.

Arrivals.—We have quite a lot of arrivals to report this month. Captain (Q.M.) P. E. Nolan, M.B.E., Lieutenant E. J. F. Heap, C.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Hall T. E. and Corporal Scrase R. have returned from leave in the United Kingdom. Lieutenant A. D. Boddam-Whetham has joined us from the United Kingdom. Lieutenants D. E. Harrison and R. B. S. Eraut, Lance Corporal Wallis C. and Signalman Sanders have joined us from the S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore. Sergeant Cadell T. has been posted to us from the Army Signal School, Poona. We offer them all a hearty welcome and hope that they will soon settle down.

Departures.—So far only one, but many are hoping. Signalman Carlton W. has been posted to the S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore. The following are for repatriation on the troopship *Dorsetshire*, sailing on 28th November: Corporal Thorpe W., Signalmen Cloke H., Dawes N., Morris W., Dyke A. and Sanderson A. We wish them all " bon voyage." Many of them have been ticking off the days on calendars for many months. Well, their time has come, so they need not tick any more.

The Call of the East.—Just as a contrast we have to report that Signalman Gibbs H. has obtained permission to extend his tour for a further five years in India. This should gladden the heart of at least one Signalman at home who was expecting to be warned this season for India.

Extensions.—We have always thought that Lance Corporal Faircloth W. had a " pontoon " face. He has extended his service to complete twelve years with the Colours.

Appointments.—There was a sudden rush on the Dhurzi's shop the other day for lance stripes. We congratulate the following on getting a foothold on the first rung of the ladder: Signalmen Bourton, Sharp A., Donaghey P., Campbell A., Hurst J., Lewis L., Lilley F. and Pearson S., all appointed U/Lance Corporals.

Learning.—On 12th October and the two succeeding days nineteen N.C.O.s and men of this Unit sat for their First Class Educational Certificate. Now that the examination is over we are pleased to note their features resuming a normal appearance; the bumps of knowledge and lines on their foreheads are gradually disappearing. However, we wish them luck when the results are published.

Condolences.—We offer our sincere condolences to Mrs. Peters and all ranks of " A " Corps Signals on the occasion of the sad death of Sergeant Peters S. J. of that Unit, who died at Portsmouth whilst on leave in the United Kingdom.

Trade Qualifications.—The following N.C.O.s and men were successful in the recent Trade Testing Board held at Upper Topa. We congratulate them upon obtaining their respective ratings. Operator Signals, B.I: Sergeant Ellison D., Lance Corporal Millett W., U/Lance Corporal Pearson S., Signalmen Blake H., Combe T., Glendinning H., Herrington R. and Tough R. Operator Signals, B.II: Lance Sergeant Cooley T. Operator Line, B.I: Corporal Moody R. Electrician Fitter, A.II: Lance Corporal Tant A.

Sick List.—At the time of writing our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. C. Penney, O.B.E., M.C., is on the sick list. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he will be back to duty long ere these notes are published. At the moment Major L. B. Nicholls is officiating commanding the Unit.

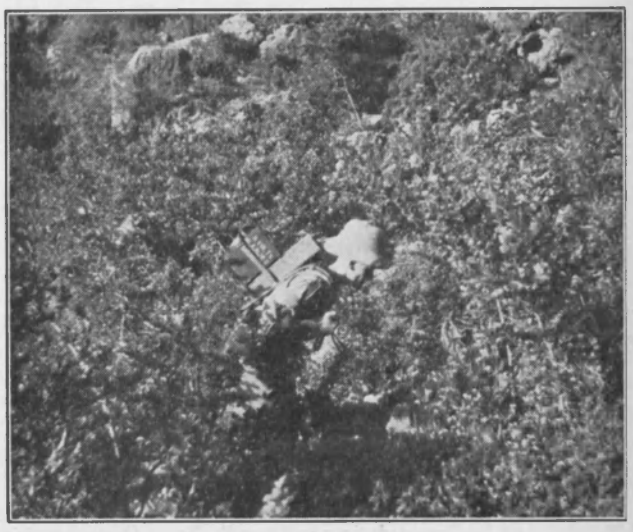
Hikers ! ! ! !—Our photographs illustrate a little morning exercise (Thursday morning it was 100 degrees) in some neighbouring hills. Corporal Christian and Lance Corporal Crimes can be recognised in one, whilst in another Lance Corporal Crimes cannot be recognised, but it is his back view.

They were doing a " straight " 500-ft. climb on rocks and shale, trying out an experimental man pack carrier for the No. 1 Set. The weight has to be carried to be believed, but we are confident that Sergeant French and his merry men have produced as good an article as possible.

'Pindi Personalities. No. 3.—The sergeant who said he was applying for a Vocational Course as a milkman because he was always " carrying the can." ONEDIV.



Lance Corporal Crimes.



Corporal Christian.



Signalman Moore, Topee of Sergeant French, Lance Corporal Crimes.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

General.—The Unit regrets that the absence of notes recently has been so marked. However, it is hoped that in future a modicum of gossip will be forthcoming and subsequently passed on to our ever-waiting public.

The Unit is now back to normal. The Hill personnel have returned and the I.O.R.s' leave parties are all finished. Unit training is in full swing and everybody is getting down to the No. 1 Sets with which we have recently been equipped. Naturally, schemes do not finish when the stations have closed down, but are frequently re-enacted by the barrack-room transmitters in the evenings.

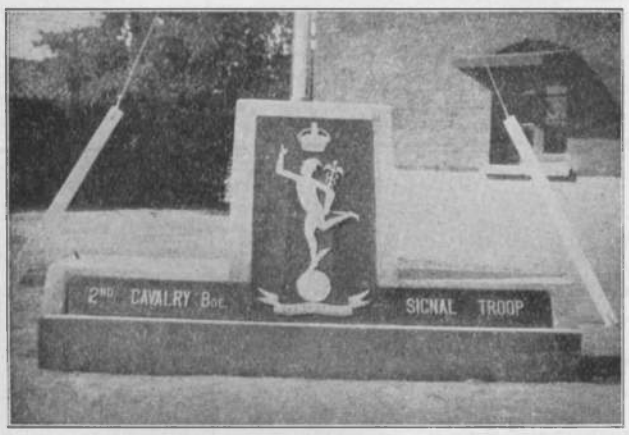
Arrivals and Departures.—We extend a hearty welcome to Corporal Richardson from Jubbulpore. We also wish the following the best of luck on their departure to the places named: Lance Sergeant Norman to Jubbulpore; Lance Corporal Sutherland and Signalman Bryan to the Home Establishment. In Signalman Bryan we are losing a first-class hockey goalkeeper and an excellent Quarterbloke's mate.

Congratulations.—Our heartiest to Major V. C. Holland, our Commanding Officer, on his recent promotion to that rank. Also our very best to C.O.M.S. Szarkowski and Sergeant Starling on their respective rises. Sergeant Starling is leaving us in the near future on posting to Waziristan District Signals and our hockey team's loss will be their gain.

Corporals' Room.—An informal dinner was held on the evening of 28th October. After the eats had disappeared it was noted that several members were in the running for the title of "Poker-faced Tippet King." A whist drive has been arranged for the near future and an excellent show is expected.

Tailpiece.—These notes are of necessity sketchy. I'm new to the Troop and new to the job. But time alone will tell.

AUDAX.



2nd Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Sialkot.

31st October.

Captain L. V. Younie, R.Signals, who has commanded the Troop since 1st October, 1934, left on 23rd October last for the Home Establishment. Lieutenant K. C. O. Bastyan, R.Signals, assumes command of the Troop. A farewell smoker was given by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, when the opportunity was taken to welcome Lieutenant D. A. Pringle, R.Signals, from 4th Divisional Signals. Incidentally, Lance Sergeant Gratwicke S. sails on the same boat, the *Somersetshire*, for transfer to the Home Establishment.

Now that the hot weather is passing things are waking up and I hope to be a little more consistent with WIRE notes. Of course, I could write a book on the trip from Southampton to Karachi, but that would make me seasick and invite rude replies from Kohat.

During the past month or so numerous postings and transfers have taken place, and the following leave the Unit for better or worse: C.S.M. Weston H. to S.T.C. (I), Jubbulpore; Signalman Craghill H. to 1st Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi; Signalman Rawcliffe J. to "A" Corps Signals; Signalman Allen F. to Kohat after a brief stay. As replacements the following have arrived. It is hoped that they will stay away from all Staff jobs and refrain from knocking down jumps in the riding schools. Lance Sergeant Nuttall R. from 1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop; Lance Sergeant Young W. from "A" Corps Signals; Signalman Pittman W. from Kohat; and Signalman Howard H. from "A" Corps Signals.

Sergeant Lawman H. and Sergeant Standen R. are to be congratulated on getting away with it every time for the last eighteen years. Volunteers for Church Parades are now numerous.

Signalman Walbridge W. passed in English at the last examination and has been awarded the First Class Certificate of Education.

Beer has been flowing lately at the expense of Corporal Bain A., Lance Corporal Tomkinson J., U/Lance Corporal Holder W. and U/Lance Corporal Leach W.

Corporal Milne J. is transferred (at last) to the I.A.O.C. in the rank of Sergeant. He is now at Lahore. Congratulations, Jock. We are waiting for your next move! I was hoping to have the satisfaction of reporting my personal observations on the Highbury farce in September last. Am giving your share to Jake and Co.

KHANA.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

General.—There has been little of interest to report of late, only the Chitral Relief breaking the monotony of the late summer routine. However, we are now settling down to the winter and the collective training season.

Arrivals.—We welcome Lieutenant D. N. Deakin from Perham Down. We also welcome back to the fold Sergeant Ryan, Lance Sergeant Stockton, Corporal Long, Lance Corporal Blaikie, Signalmen Lettice and Semple after their summer at home.

Departures.—The first draft left us last month for the U.K. C.S.M. Stainer and Corporal Worthington to civilian life, Sergeants Moore, Berriff and Frey and Signalman Rankin to the Home Establishment. We wish them all the best of luck in their new spheres. Signalmen Bonner and Cook left us this month; the former for Risalpur and the latter for Sialkot.

Waziristan District Signals.

October.

General.—Having scrounged sufficient M.T. to carry all our baggage, the C.S.M.'s beer and Paul's dog, we all left Razmak on the morning of the 5th for our winter quarters in the Fort, Dera Ismail Khan. We arrived about 3 p.m., and found the painters in, but even that could not deter us, and by 5 p.m. we had unloaded and settled down once more.

There is a brighter D.I. Khan movement in progress; trenches are dug all over the place for irrigation purposes. By the time that Portsmouth wins the Cup, we shall have a nice green footer-pitch. Of course, the trenches also provide many a pitfall for the unwary, but anyway, he has now left us for Risalpur.

We are also the proud owners of a perfectly legitimate set of traffic lights; even the natives are going all "Hore-Belisha." Why, only the other day, one was heard to say to his pal, "What for these lights in daytime, please?"; and his pal replied, "Malum nahin, Government ka hukum hai."

We have finished firing our Annual Rifle and Revolver Courses, and the standard was fairly high. The majority of the Unit managed to shake on a first. (Oh, no, we didn't! Anyway, pencils were barred in the butts.)

The Sergeants' Mess managed to get hold of a photographer, who was willing to take a chance. They all had their photograph taken. I believe that it was taken as a sort of parting for Major F. W. S. Jourdain, and secondly, I hear rumours that the C.S.M. intends to inflict it on all his pals in the guise of Christmas cards.

Departures.—Major F. W. S. Jourdain to the U.K. on transfer to the half-pay list. All ranks were sorry to see him go, because during his command he has studied the interests of everyone in the Unit. We all hope that we may yet see him again in some other appointment.

Arrivals.—We take this opportunity of welcoming Major E. G. W. Pearse, from the S.T.C. (I), to command the Unit vice Major F. W. S. Jourdain.

Heard on the Range.—1st Signalman: "What's he waving that flag for?"

2nd Signalman: "You've got three bulls in succession."

WAZDIST.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

4th November.

General.—Apologies, many and profuse, for the absence of notes from this Unit for the last two months. Your humble scribe has been endeavouring to keep time with the recruiting slogan, "Join the army and see the world." In other words, a spot of leave in pastures new.

With the exception of those unfortunate few in hospital and Lance Corporal Price at Jubbulpore, we are once more gathered together in one place all ready for the collective training season. Another Unit Camp is in the offing this year at Alazi, a place all too familiar to many of those in the Unit, and to many who have passed on. One hopes that this year the Camp will be more successful than the last one, during which we had the tragic deaths of C.Q.M.S. Small ("Skittles") and Lance Sergeant Ward. After Camp, which takes place from 18th to 28th November, we have the Indus manœuvres to which we can look forward. The two will keep us out of mischief almost from now until Christmas.

One again, nude(k)ness and chilly carcases indicate that those bleak, unfriendly winds, which whistle down the Kurram valley, are making themselves felt. "On the toes up" is once again the order of the day ere the sun has scarcely risen from his bed.

Arrivals.—Corporal Ditchfield, Signalmen Thain and Robertson from U.K. leave and Corporal McCann who arrived with the party, but is a new member of the flock, having been posted to this Unit whilst on furlough. To him we offer the big mitt, and trust that he will enjoy every minute of his stay in Kohat. Signalman Jones, who also arrived with the leave party, was unfortunate enough to be admitted to hospital almost immediately. Diphtheria was suspected, but, fortunately, proved to be unfounded, and after about a week, he was discharged from hospital. This scare caused the leave details to be placed in segregation, much to their mortification, which was mainly due to the fact that the brewer had forgotten to call. From W.E.S., Cherat, Signalman Hobden (an old lamb returning to the fold) and Signalman Couch. A hearty welcome is extended, together with the Unit's best wishes for a very happy stay. From "A" Corps Signals, Signalman Warburton, a very well-known figure in Corps boxing. From Meerut, Signalman Green A., brother of Jimmy, one of our dance band saxophonists. A hearty welcome is extended, and may their shadows never grow less.

Departures.—Lance Sergeant Ray ("safty" catch) and Farrier Corporal Hart to H.E., after five years in the Unit. The best wishes of all go with them. To W.E.S., Cherat, Signalmen Kelly and Collings.

Congratulations.—To Lieutenants A. S. Milner, G. U. Finney and E. G. Good on joining the noble gang of benedicts. The whole Unit joins in wishing them and their wives a very happy married life and the best of good fortune in the future.

WESTERN COMMAND ..... *INDIAN ARMY*

2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Sergeant Daniell C. of the Unit in the British Military Hospital, Quetta, on 30th September.

Sergeant Daniell was a very old member of the Unit and had previous association with "B" Divisional Signals, as the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals was originally named. He had spent the whole of his service in India, with the exception of one period on the Home Establishment when he was attached to the Territorial Staff in Scotland as a P.S.I. His connection with Caledonia was one of his proudest memories and it was from there that he came to us "free and of good report."

His interest in athletics and his participation therein was a standing example to those with whom he was associated. Indeed, his name was already entered, and he was practising for the District Athletic Meeting at the time of his demise.

A more popular Section sergeant, who was happy with any Section so long as he had plenty of work to do, it would be hard to find, and "Danny Boy" is sorely missed by his brother N.C.O.s.

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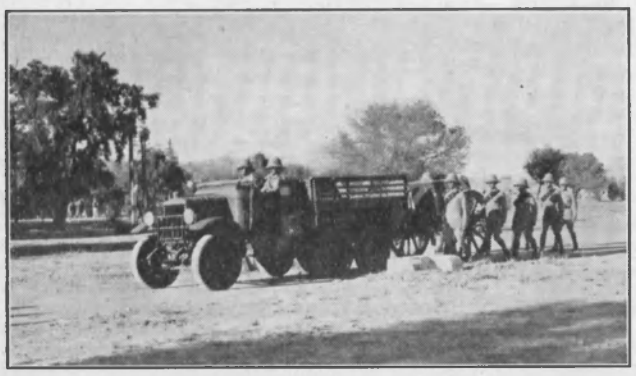
46 GROSVENOR GARDENS LONDON S.W.1 (Sloane 0071)

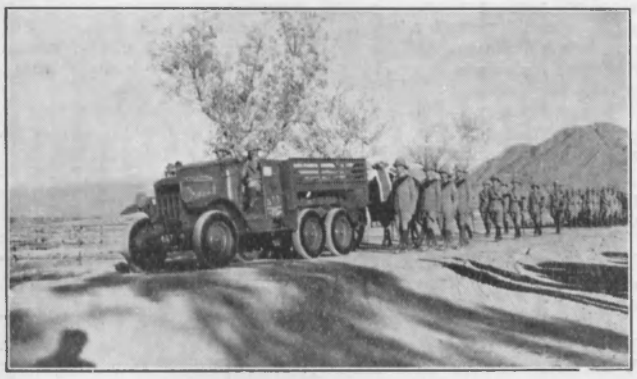
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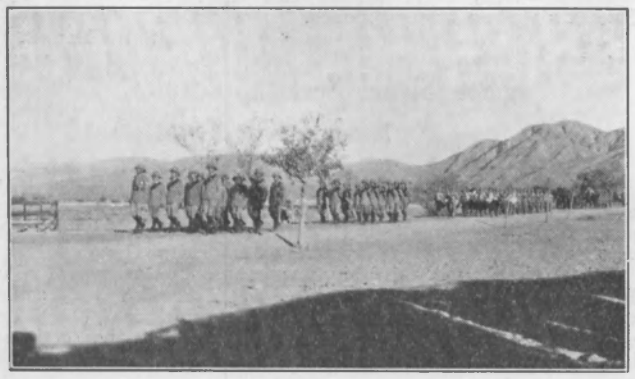
The interment took place on 1st October with full military honours in the Quetta Cemetery.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Daniell and her little family of two in their bereavement.











Unit Headquarters.

General.—Autumn training, which concluded on 24th September, was held in the vicinity of the Khojak Pass. We should like to know whether it was for the benefit of the new draft or those due for repatriation that it was run on " Blighty " lines. For example, an Infantry Brigade Section actually returned from the manœuvre area by train. Sergeant Hodge stated, when interviewed by our special correspondent, that it is the nearest he has been to mechanisation in all his twenty-one years.

Arrivals and Departures.—From Meerut, Sergeant Adams and wife and Sergeants Barber and Storey, all of whom seem to have settled down quickly in their new environment. Sergeant Gudgeon and wife left us for Meerut on 21st September. R.S.M. Shenton left for the United Kingdom on 24th September. " Red letter day " arrived on 15th October. All " earthquake survivors " (less those due for the United Kingdom this Trooper) left for Meerut on that day. We hope they enjoyed their train journey and that the " delights " of their new Station will not stop them from thinking of us who are wintering in Quetta. The parting cry was " Couldn't take it."

Apropos.—Seven days make one week, but according to " Pudden " seven days keep one out of the Wet Bar.

A Walsh anthem. " Say it with pencils (red and blue)."

Signalman " B." " What did Arsenal get ? "

Signalman " A." " A good gate, as usual, I believe." (The broken window has since been repaired.)

Jews' Mail.—Dixon, Meerut. " 41 days to go ! T. B. J."

Sweeney, Scarborough. " Still no letter ! Willy."

BURNISTON.

No. 1 Company.

I've been asked to report the activities of the Company this month. We are all so terribly busy, but it has got to be done. As the job has fallen on poor me, well, if you read them, I shall have the pleasure of knowing that I have whiled away a few spare moments of your time.

The move to Meerut has just taken place. We cannot call it a Unit move ; call it a glorified posting of personnel on a large scale. The Commanding Officer, Major C. E. Sketch, paraded with the officers, N.C.O.s, men and Indian ranks at 7 p.m. on 15th October on the Unit Parade Ground. As they started to move off to the railway station they were given three hearty cheers by those remaining behind, followed by such songs as " All for a shilling a day " and " We don't want to lose you." Major-General Huddlestone and various officers and friends were at the station to bid them good-bye, and they were given a good send-off to the warmer Station.

Those of us remaining behind, who are mostly repatriations for the United Kingdom this Trooper, went to the station in full force just to hand out a few kind words to our departing comrades. Naturally, we waited till the train was on the move and then the exchange of wit was really amusing—" Shah-bash the Indian ranks."

THE FAREWELL TO SIGNALS.

A date, the 15th of October ;
A year, nineteen thirty-six ;
A Unit, the 2nd Divisional Signals ;

A hundred odd men well picked.
These lads did good work in the earthquake ;
Their motto has always been " THROUGH."
We are saying good-bye to these heroes,
Modern young heroes it's true.
Their work for the suffering people
Can never be properly known ;
Those who were working beside them
Will carry their deeds back home.
A lot of them don't wish to leave us
And are often expressing regrets,
But those who are still remaining
Will carry that standard well set.
And so as our heroes leave Quetta
We stand on the roadside and cheer
To soldiers who willingly rallied
When the city of Quetta knew fear.
Their work will be history in Signals,
Inspired by a willing C.O.
When Quetta went down in ruins
They instantly manned the " Hullo."
And so as they leave this Station,
With others taking their stand,
They are going with " good luck " behind them
And willingly we shake their hand.
Meerut, next Station of office,
We trust they will show once again
That a Unit which will stand together
Can carry the Signals' good name.

The Signals Association held a farewell dance at the Garrison Skating Rink on the evening of 9th October. The B.O.R.s turned up in full force and made " whoopee." It was a good show and was enjoyed by all. Of course, we had those there 'ere who had a little too much and those who couldn't get enough, but the evening went off very well and will be happily remembered by those who took away prizes which were presented by Mrs. C. H. Barker, wife of the Adjutant.

Departures.—" Bags " to Meerut.

Arrivals.—" Plenty " from Meerut. Details later.

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Stearck E. A. Another flat tyre ! !

XERXES.

No. 2 Company.

General.—The last rumblings of the great 'quake faded away with the departure to Meerut on 15th October of the personnel who were here at the time of that catastrophe. A few echoes remain in the form of men awaiting the boat, but we who were not there are now in the majority and a welcome variety can now be introduced and sustained in general conversation. A series of dances were held to commemorate the exodus. Perhaps " commemorate " is not quite correct, as many of the dancers were highly spirited, but we have an idea that at least some of these would have used the word in preference to others at " 8 a.m.-ish " on the ensuing morning. The lines are very quiet after their departure and, in spite of the everlasting 'quake, maybe we miss them a little.

Prior to the foregoing a certain amount of skirmishing took place in the Khojak Pass district last month, but as it was not in earnest we cannot regard it as a subject of great topical interest. Suffice it to say that " J " and " G " Sections were involved from the outset, earned everlasting glory, and attained the right to sit and stand respectively for an indefinite period.

Warning.—The undefeated gripper of C.P. and Baluchistan is, at long last, being ejected from India. 'Ware Corporal Burke, you " Blighty Champs " ; he's gone into training for you ! As a part of his training routine, he has arranged a meeting with the " C.P. Champ " shortly (results later).

A. T. K.

D.R. Section.

D.R.s calling on wavelength 468. We aren't broadcasting, but just giving the outside world a slight idea of our progress. After work sports of any and every description appear to be the motto. In swimming " Smudge " Smith represents one of the Unit team. " Toby " (" Tanky ") Parker is an adept at practically anything. We have now finished with our Unit players, but the D.R.s' hockey team " rubbed out " the three Company teams and finished up by beating a team which represented the Unit a week later.

Soccer.—Blasé with beating the Company's team, we turned our attention to a Company team from the Gurkhas, and was it easy or was it easy ?

General.—The latest craze appears to be local " Voc." Courses. Signalman Evans D. (of Catterick fame) is taking a " Road Sweeper's " Course ; at least, that is what it amounts to, because he is i/c sweepers. Signalman Griggs (of Griggs and Wilson fame) is slowly but surely becoming an efficient " Nippy." To see him " whip " your tiffin away is a really good sight, and there is still a chance for him in " Civvy Street." Signalman Neilson wishes to become an insurance agent. He is getting every opportunity for that vocation by working in the Q.M. Stores (never trust a D.R. " Q "). Signalman Wilkinson, better known as " Wilkie Bard," wants to be alone, so the solitude of a librarian is his choice.

" Tubby " (" Jug Handle ") Hague (J. M.), " Digger " Lewis, " Smudger " Smith and, last but not least, " Two-Gun " Calos Leigh appear to be holding the fort for the winter. Sorry, I should say the bays. Still sleep with the .45 under your pillow, Cal. ? Two strange " phenoms," Signalman Bowey and " Lights Out " Macro.

Departures.—I am sure that the D.R. Section will wish Corporal Joe Bond, Lance Corporal Chadwick and Signalman Lamb all the best on their departure to Meerut. The same applies to the boys left in Quetta.

So adieu.

CHAD.

Sergeants' Mess.

Departures.—R.S.M. Shenton A. C. left for U.K. on 27th September and we said good-bye to one who set a wonderful example to us during the whole of his duty in this Unit. Of course, we had a farewell " do " in his honour, during which we learned that it is better to leave the world alone. That's philosophy ! C.Q.M.S. Coombes, Sergeants Fleet, Rawson, Cocks, Beard and Sergeant Hodge and wife to Meerut.

Entertainments.—On 10th October we held a farewell dance to the Garrison at the Skating Rink. We had a full house. It proved to be one of the finest dances held in Quetta of late and everybody thoroughly enjoyed it. The Unit dance band put up a superb performance. We held several competitive dances and gave several prizes for " swindles." Mrs. C. E. Sketch, wife of our late Officiating Officer Commanding, presented the prizes. She was fortunate in presenting herself with the lucky number prize.

Congratulations.—To Lance Sergeant Staerck on the birth of a daughter, Eileen Ivy. We notice he hasn't a care in the world now, except wondering when the boat is going to dock.

Mess Characters.—5. " Bill." " Never 'eard of it." Proceeding to U.K. on three months' privilege leave, pending discharge, on 23rd October accompanied by No. 6.

6. " Tubby " Lay. Now does he need characterising ? He is being posted to the Home Establishment and will soon be explaining why " She jumped on her push bike and pedalled away."

7. " Nunc " Standley. " Over my shoulder goes one care." Pshsh ! ! ! He is waiting for the next boat and is taking a Vocational Course in " Blighty." " Comical Plumbing " or something like that.

Finale.—Well, that's all for this time. Must weigh the Meerut blokes up for next month.

SAME BLOKE.

Zhob Signal Section, Loralai.

Headquarters.

6th November.

General.—On 30th October the 2/8th Gurkha Rifles invited all ranks of the Section to their Dushera Ceremony. This was particularly interesting to the British personnel, especially those who had not witnessed this ceremony in previous year.

Further variety in the Zhob was caused by the arrival of a Royal Tank Corps party from Quetta. This party gave some very interesting demonstrations, both as regards the co-operation with infantry and cavalry, and co-operation with the Institute barman (hence a decided rise in beer shares).

Arrivals.—Replacements for Lance Sergeant Cosens and Signalman Taylor A., reported in last month's WIRE to leave us on 1st October, have arrived in the persons of Corporal Chrystie G. and Signalman Irvin S. from " B " Corps Signals. We also welcome back to the fold Signalman Moad J., who, not being able to resist the " lure of the East," returned from six months' furlough in the U.K. for a few more years.

Entertainments.—During the month, a most successful whist drive and dance was held in the Institute. We sympathise with " Oozy " on having been caught for his entrance fee for the whist after " creeping " with the first prize.

Agony.—Will France and Mudge, somewhere in Waziristan, also Hughes in Hong Kong, write to 2260 Zhobsigs, Loralai, India ?

Things We Want to Know.—Will Ginger sign on ?

What's to become of Anthony Arter, when Pop signs on for his pontoon ?

Fort Sandeman Detachment.

30th October.

Very little has occurred in the past month or so worthy of note, but such news and items of interest which have happened are herewith appended.

Due to the death of one of the R.A.F. officers, Flight Lieutenant Yale, the Section were requested to make twelve wreaths for the funeral. The Detachment kept up the name of the Corps by being able to turn their hands to any job. Their efforts were very much appreciated by the Station Staff Officer and the officers and B.O.R.s of the R.A.F. The Detachment also attended the funeral.

We still continue to play the R.A.F. at football and hockey, but have not had any successes of late.

Since our last notes appeared, we have had three additions to the Detachment, namely, Signalmen Donohoe, Hay and Keenan. For these three stalwarts, we have given Loralai Signalman Greetham.

Dear old Donnelly is still hoping for the boat, but whether he gets home this year or next is in the hands of fate.

We all congratulate Lance Sergeant Pearson on attaining that rank and hope that we shall be with him to oil his next step in promotion.

There is an understanding between our Detachment Commander and the Reverend " Speedy " that, if the former takes the part of Father Christmas on Christmas Day, the latter will consent to do I.M. for the Column on a camel. Don't worry, Johnny ; they are not all being issued with camels !

It would be interesting to know who mistook a piece of string for a scorpion.

There is also a certain Signalman who said to an Indian, who had opened the door without knocking, " What about knocking at the door ? " The Indian staggered old " Soapy " by saying, in an aggrieved tone, " But I didn't knock at the door, sahib ! "

To Zack from Pip. Cheer up, you will soon be back with the old crowd. Don't forget to make it Aldershot !

J.H.E.

EASTERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut.

14th October.

General.—With the return of the detachment from Chakrata we now have almost a complete Unit in Meerut, but it is only for a short time. In a few days, nearly half of our happy band leaves Meerut for the land of snow and ice, Quetta. It is heart-breaking to some, who have spent various numbers of years on the plains, some a mere six or eight, and others almost a pontoon. We have already had a few arrivals from Baluchistan's stately capital. Their tales of cardigans, serge, greatcoats and posteens has filled some with eagerness and others with misery. However, in spite of all the mixed feelings, it is hard to tell who have done most celebrating, the optimists or their opposites. Perhaps the latter haven't called it celebrating.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., R.Signals, and Mrs. Howe arrived from Australia at the beginning of September.

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Colonel Howe immediately assumed command of the Unit. Lieutenant D. L. and Mrs. Hyde, and Lieutenant H. Worrall, also of 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, arrived from leave on 1st September.

Social Activities.—Prior to the departure of personnel to Quetta, the social activities of the Signals' lines this month have been very numerous. A farewell dance was held, first of all, by the senior N.C.O.s in the Sergeants' Mess. This was very well attended and, I hear, was a grand show. The B.O.R.s' reply to this was a very well organised farewell dance to our various friends in the Station. There was also a good attendance at this function, including a very welcome number of ladies. It has been said that during the evening the man who didn't forget his sorrows at leaving Meerut must have been either teetotal or unable to dance. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Howe, O.B.E., R.Signals, was present, together with Lieutenant R. J. and Mrs. Perry, who had just re urned, in time, from U.K. leave to attend, and all other officers of the Unit. On the whole, it was a good evening, and those who couldn't stand on their feet managed to stand on those of the other people. The refreshments were plentiful; everyone managed to put himself to bed without assistance, and not a soul was reported absent. Good show, 3rd Div. !

The corporals and junior N.C.O.s entertained the senior N.C.O.s to a Games Tournament in the Sergeants' Mess at a farewell gathering. I saw no tears, however, and at first concluded it was a newly-promoted N.C.O. getting the drinks in; everyone appeared to be so cheerful. I think all present forgot it was a farewell gathering until the next morning, when, after two hectic nights, they had to gather their scattered wits and look round for various belongings (if any), prior to going to Quetta.

Arrivals and Departures.—The change over of personnel between this Unit and 2nd Indian Divisional Signals, Quetta, has, of course, made it impossible for all arrivals and departures to be mentioned in these notes. However, those remaining behind were sorry to see the old faces departing. They can rest assured that we wish them all the luck we can in their new Station. Here's hoping it doesn't get too cold this winter round the Baluchistan Khuds and draughty Passes. Having witnessed the departure of our personnel, we had the pleasure of welcoming the 2nd Div. members. After a two days' tedious journey, they were pleased to get here. However, I am sure they will like this portion of India after they have settled down, and, although they have just finished a month's training with 2nd Div., they will enjoy the Camp here in preference to Quetta's snow.

The send off to the men leaving here was a terrific affair. During the day the following Brigade Special Order was published :

> " On the departure of personnel of 3rd Indian Divisional " Signals, for Quetta, the Brigade Commander wishes to " record his appreciation of the high standard the unit has " maintained and of the willing co-operation it has always " given in all Station affairs. In saying good-bye on behalf " of all ranks in Meerut, he wishes all ranks of the 3rd Indian " Divisional Signals the best of luck and success in the future."

This was read out to the men on Pay Parade, and it was hard to tell whether it was the message or the size of their pay that made several young soldiers blush.

The rest of the day was spent in taking wet farewells in the various Messes, after which a very happy band made its way to the railway station to give a last minute cheer to the " reliefs." The Brigade Commander and several officers of the Station visited the special train prior to its departure, and here again the Brigade Commander expressed his regrets at the departure of 3rd Divisional Signals, and wished them all the best of luck.

We lost quite a few well-known N.C.O.s on the change-over, but gained others from Quetta in return. Our Orderly Room Sergeant, Sergeant (Napi) Barber, after sixteen years in Meerut, had to go, together with those other stalwarts, Sergeants Storey, Adams and Lynham. The two C.Q.M.S.s Gould J. and G., and numerous other Corps personalities, were all members of the Quetta-bound party. The many friends of Lance Corporal (Spoke) Spong should be interested to know that he also left here, complete with soapbox, etc.

Several more departures, which take place this month and early next, include the first boat for the U.K. wallahs. We are losing nine men on this boat, and thanks to the Palestine trouble causing the troopships to be delayed, we are being allowed to keep these time-expired soldiers for a further month. Of course, the individuals concerned don't see things the same way that we do. Much as they would like to go, we are not keen on losing such personalities as C.Q.M.S. Lemon of " Q " branch, Corporal Potesta and Signalman Ellis of " G," Lance Corporal Palmer and Corporal Saunders, the D.R.s, Sergeant Ramsden, Signalmen Randall and Gallagher. Never mind, I can forecast more good send-offs about 11th November this year !

We have heard that the first draft from U.K. arrives here at the end of December, so all you chaps who are warned for this Station, just say good-bye to your warm underclothes and pack that drill for five adventurous years on the plains. We will surely give you a welcome.

Outings.—Those of us who could afford it, had a trip to Delhi a week ago to see the Indian Olympic hockey team play a selected Delhi side. It was a great game and the hockey was really worth seeing. If the members of our team who were present came away with any tips, we should beat all those whom we are due to meet in the future. However, I am afraid those who did bring any tips away sent them floating off into sweet oblivion during the later celebrations in the evening. In addition to the bus trip, one or two members of the Unit decided to travel in comfort and journeyed in hired cars. I had that honour myself, and, wonders of wonders, got there and back without a hitch. Of course, we had a good driver. Didn't we, Ronnie ? The party, whose car seized up just this side of Delhi on the outward journey, must have been extremely unlucky. We sincerely hope the day's outing made up for their early misfortunes. According to the strong rumours going round, the evening's entertainments easily counter-balanced the early bad luck.

Up-grading.—Several lucky ones have passed higher tests for higher pay—and, although, I am told, that this was well celebrated at the Trade Board dinner, it has been a good excuse for a few visits to the canteen here ; and not a few have worked out already how much they will have saved up on their B.I. pay by the time they have finished their tours.

Education.—We are now in the midst of Special and First-Class Examinations. Here's hoping that all the candidates have made names for themselves.

Conclusion.—The main activity now is preparing for the arrival of a large number of 2nd Div. men. We are looking forward to seeing both old and new faces. What a grip we are going to have ! Word has already been passed around that Tashy Gallaher is returning to his former Station—and doing a further five years here, too. Congratulations, old man !

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess.

The married members' families, having shaken the Spur from the Khan, are now back on the plains, looking fit and well. The married members themselves have assumed that normal appearance, and walk about more cheerily. The single members have adopted a wan look, partly because the dining side of the Mess has dwindled, with the result that the messing has not improved, and, partly, because those new tablecloths have been such a long time in coming. However, the merry throng still go round.

Cold weather, joules, ergs, etc., have connected, hence sport is well to the fore, so much so, that our twelve officers have challenged the Mess to a series of games, to wit, tennis, soccer, cricket, hockey and shooting. The first one, well, what could one could expect ? After a very pleasant afternoon, we ran out comfortable winners by 78 games to 74. The second game, soccer ; again, what could one expect ? He that expecteth receiveth nothing, but we did—a whacking to the tune of eight goals to two. The C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Hitchcock played a marvellous game in goal and proved a big thorn in our sides. However, 'twas a great game, full of sport and amusement for the spectators, who were much in evidence in the grandstand. Cricket is the next effort, but we refrain from comment. Just wait and see !

SOUTHERN COMMAND.....INDIAN ARMY

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

October.

General.—The monsoons, such as they were, have now left us. We get a few isolated showers now and again, however, but they are neither heavy nor frequent enough to interfere with

Section training, which is now in full swing in preparation for the big offensive of Brigade training, starting next month.

The outriders of the " 4-Bar-C," to wit the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, have left us for ten days' sojourn in Camp at Shamirpet.

The collective training programme promises a busy time for the various Sections, but, no doubt, we will manage to find time to celebrate Christmas in the good old-fashioned way.

Officers.—Captain F. K. Morton and Lieutenant S. F. Pipe-Wolferstan proceeded to rejoin " F " and " K " Signal Sections respectively, having completed their duty on the Trade Test Board at Trimulgherry. Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Pocock, R.E. (I.A.), returned from six months in the United Kingdom on 5th October. We hope that your leave proved enjoyable, sir! Our best wishes go with Lieutenant H. O. Pargeter, who left us for the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, on 15th October. Lieutenant Pargeter has been in this Unit for quite a long time, and has commanded both "A" W/T and " J " Infantry Brigade Sections at different times. The latter Section, which is an Indianised Section with a very small establishment of British ranks, has had a very able Section officer in Lieutenant Pargeter. They do not like losing him, and wish him every success in his new post. Lieutenant G. I. Burgess-Winn, who was posted from Zhob Signal Section, whilst on U.K. leave, assumed command of " G " Signal Section, Mhow, on his return from leave on 5th October. We hope that you enjoyed your stay with this Unit, sir! " J " Section have a new Section commander in Lieutenant R. J. Perry, who was posted to this Unit from 3rd Indian Divisional Signals, Meerut. A respectful welcome is accorded to Lieutenant and Mrs. Perry, and we hope that they will find Trimulgherry enjoyable. We respectfully congratulate Major A. B. Bushby, at present on U.K. leave, on his promotion to that rank.

Arrivals and Departures.—Lance Corporal Taylor, the Unit clerk, rejoined the Unit from leave at Wellington. We welcome Sergeant and Mrs. Wright from the Wireless Experimental Section, Cherat. Sergeant Wright is taking over the duties of Orderly Room Sergeant from Sergeant Baker L., who is shortly to leave us for the United Kingdom. The following Inter-Section postings took place during the past month, leaving us still fewer in numbers at Unit Headquarters: Corporal Poole D. to " F " Signal Section, Jubbulpore; Signalmen Kilburn and Field to " G " Signal Section, Mhow; Corporal Watts and Lance Corporal Webster to " K " Signal Section, Ahmednagar. We hope that their new homes will be to their liking.

Transfers.—We welcome Private (now Signalman) Field W., younger brother of Lance Sergeant Field of this Unit, who was transferred from 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, on 1st May. Signalman Field has been trained as an operator, and is now in Camp with " G " Signal Section at Kirkee. Lance Corporal McQuire J. of this Unit has now transferred to the I.U.L. for employment as a Sergeant with the Indian Army Ordnance Corps. Our best wishes go with him.

BEEDOX.

THE " PARADISE OF THE EAST."

NEAR TODA.

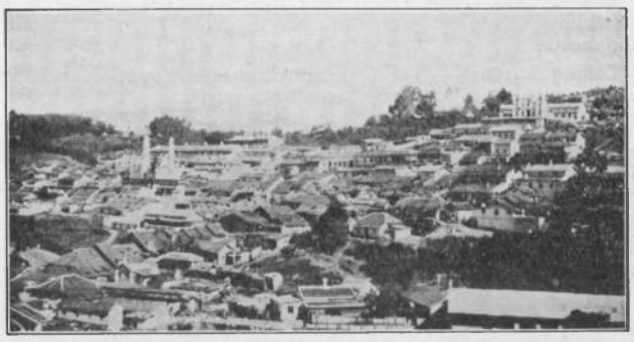
Up we go, up we go,
And leave the sweltering plains below.
The mountain air doth kiss my lips,
The birds do bid me come,
The hills they chant me one sweet song
Of love to heaven above.

A. H. J.

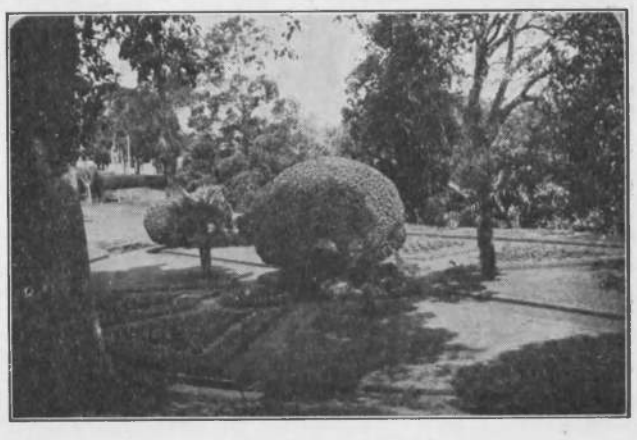
At the mention of India, most people visualise a place where the sun beats down pitilessly, driving all humans into the shelter of their dwellings, and the animals to whatever shade they can find. Yet here, in India, there are places where the climate and vegetation closely resemble that of the Mother Country. Such a place is the Nilgiris or Blue Mountains, perhaps the least known of India's hill stations. I can speak with some knowledge, because I have just spent a delightful summer there, and, it seems to me, that anyone must be hard to please if he or she could not find some pleasure there. The climate and scenery of the Nilgiris are very similar to those of the British Isles, except that the climate is better, because it lacks the raw cold of England; yet it is cool, invigorating and refreshing. The natural scenic beauty of the Mother Country is reproduced at almost every turn, and indeed, one leaves the rustic beauty of Devon and meets the rugged grandeur of Derbyshire by ascending from the valleys to the surrounding hill-tops.

Your geography book will tell you that the Nilgiris have an area of 957 square miles, its highest elevation being 8,640 feet above mean sea level. The largest town is Ootacamund, with a mean elevation of 7,250 feet. Here is the summer seat of the Madras Government—the Queen of the Hill Stations, and, by common consent, " The Paradise of the East." Its climate is as near perfection as possible, and every amenity is offered in the shape of hunting, fishing, golf, tennis and shikar, not to mention the entertainments provided in the Assembly Rooms and the social activities which radiate from the Government House. " OOty," as it is called locally, is a clean, well-kept and well-lit town, with delightful walks and drives, and beautiful houses with lovely gardens. The orchards and gardens are aglow with beauty and full of English fruits and flowers. Strawberries grow all the year round! Apples, pears and plums—you will find them all in abundance. Truly, it is a wonderful place for a holiday.

Then there are Coonoor and Kotagiri, each delightful in its own way, though both, especially Kotagiri, are less official than Ootacamund. The beautiful little town of Coonoor, situated twelve miles from Ootacamund, is surrounded by hills, which shield it from the monsoons. There are many charming walks and drives along the tree-shaded roads and various choice places of interest where picnics can be held. There is Lamb's Rock, which overlooks the plains for miles, Lady Canning's Seat, the best viewpoint on the Nilgiris, Droog Point from which many an English prisoner in the Tippu Sultan's days was cast into the ravine below. Coonoor, like Ooty, can boast of its beautiful public gardens, Sims Park, where many a pleasant hour may be spent. Kotagiri, a charming country place, has an elevation of 6,500 feet, and is twelve miles from Coonoor. It is slightly higher, and therefore a little cooler. The temperature rarely exceeds 76° in the summer. Here, too, there are many charming walks.



View of Coonoor.



Sims Park, Coonoor.

Although the Nilgiris were only discovered, so to speak, in the 'twenties of the last century, it was not long before they were found suitable for hunting, sambhur at first, then jackal. The jackal is a most sporting animal and cares nothing for the wind. Usually, he surmounts the highest hill he can find, and can stand up in front of a pack as well as the stoutest English fox. The first pack was imported from England in 1845, and has been well maintained constantly in "The Queen of the Hill Stations." Wild game abounds both here and in the neighbouring State of Mysore. There are tiger, panther, sambhur, wild pig, jungle sheep and others. For those who enjoy a day's hike or climb, there are numerous places to visit and many hills to conquer. Toda Beta, the highest point, commands a view of the whole of the Nilgiri hills, and the sight is a fitting reward for the climb. It is England in the Nilgiri Mountains.

4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

16th October.

General.—The Unit proceeds to Camp on 22nd October and the usual Section training and practice schemes have been carried out. Unfortunately, our long-awaited W/T Sets have not yet arrived, so the W/T personnel will not be able to show their ability during Camp.

Twelve remounts arrived from the Remount Depot, Ahmednagar and the long-drawn-out calls of "Halt" and "Trot" can now be heard a mile away from the lines.

The District Commander inspected the Unit on 5th October and, according to our secret service agents, he was very pleased with everything he saw.

Arrivals.—All ranks welcome Lieutenant J. N. Barker from S.T.C. (I). We trust that he will enjoy his tour of service with this Unit.

Births.—Sergeant Fairman J., a son, born at Trimulgherry on 4th October. We all wish the best of everything to the new arrival.

Competitions.—The Troop beat the Divisional Signals in a Miniature Range Shooting Match. Sergeant Page was again top scorer.

Calling All Cars.—Will Jock Spalding (ex-Dundee) reveal his whereabouts and send some news to 2322153.

SIGNALMEN!!

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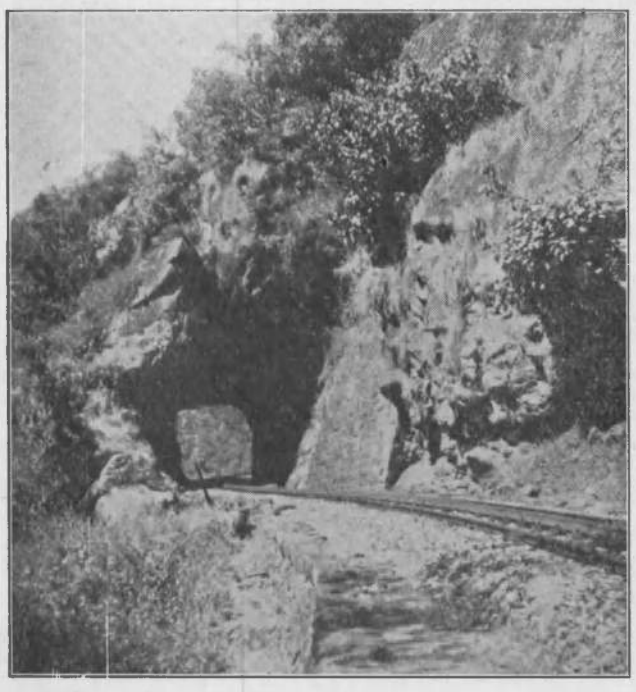
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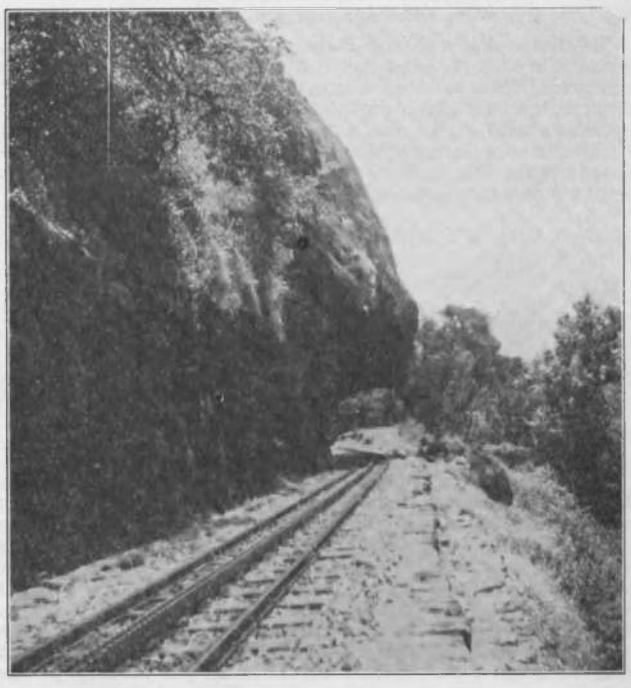
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Things We Want to Know.—Who is the mighty billiard champ (ex-Poona) who delights in taking picture cards from inferior opponents?

BONNIE DUNDEE.



A full tunnel on the mountain railway.



The half tunnel on the mountain railway.

OTHER STATIONS ABROAD

Corps Signals, Palestine Force.

Headquarters.

General.—The cessation of the general strike has not done much to lessen our activities, but the atmosphere is more congenial, and the curfew which never tolled has been un-curfewed. Magazines are happily empty, and heads are as happily full of the hopes of a boat. At the time of writing, we are still unable to say whether the individual who contemplates spreading his Christmas dinner over the Bay of Biscay is an optimist or a pessimist. Anyway, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ranks of the Corps at home and abroad. If we have parted with our good friends in 1st Divisional Signals by the time these notes appear, a particular greeting to them and especially to any of our fellows we may have left with them.

Facilities for sport and recreation are not abundant, but the most is being made of what there is. Football boots have been on strange feet, hockey sticks in untutored hands and Tel Aviv (the Palestine Lido) has seen some strange faces. A concert staged in the N.A.A.F.I. went with a gusto which made all the welkins in Palestine ring. The necessary "E.M.F." was provided by Corporal Mills, and the current by a willing band of helpers, albeit they nearly fused the guy ropes of the marquee at times.

Such portion of the winter as we do remain here will probably be spent under canvas by most of us. We have moved into marquees, suitably trenched, tarpaulined and sandbagged, and if the weather we have had so far is any indication of that for the future, then we ought to be reasonably comfortable.

Civil Employment.—All, except four, of our reservists are leaving us for Port Said for embarkation on S.S. *Tuscania* We wish them the best of luck. They have certainly given us of their best, and their departure will leave many vacancies, which will be hard to fill. The way they settled down into Army life again was certainly an eye-opener for some of us. The least we can do is to hope that they will settle down into civilian life once again with equal facility. Better brains than mine have cogitated on what might happen were we faced with a difficult situation and a preponderance of young soldiers. Now we know This little "escapade" has shown us that a leavening of Section "A" produces an ensemble that makes a happy augury for the future, if and when—as the politicians say—it is necessary. Good luck, lads! We hope we will be seeing you again—in civvies!

Problem.—How did the Crusaders collect their O.C.A. subs. when they were scattered up and down the country? Suggestions are not invited, we can furnish levity ourselves!

JESSAMINE.

"H" Troop, Cavalry Signals, Palestine.

Attached 8th Hussars, Gaza.

General.—"Shall we be home by Christmas?" This seems to be the general question at the present time. More and more rumours have been circulated, but we are still waiting for the real official news to arrive. The latest rumour was so strong and persistent that nearly everyone had invested in at least one air-mail stamp and sent on the good news. Alas! it was just a rumour, and once again we are listening for a fresh one.

Since our last notes appeared the whole of the Troop has been moved into billets and life has improved considerably. After spending the greater part of the last twelve months in rag huts heavily saturated with fine sand it is great to find comparative cleanliness inside a building. Following the end of the strike there has been great activity around the car park. All the cars have been repainted and recamouflaged and now all sets are being overhauled in turn. If we do go home, we shall leave quite a good-looking lot of stores behind.

Inspections.—Colonel R. E. Barker, C.S.O. in Palestine, visited the Troop recently.

Sport.—The Troop and Light Aid Detachment of the R.A.O.C. entered a combined team in the Inter-Troop Football Knock-out Competition. After quite a good game we were beaten by No. 2 Troop, "A" Squadron. We did not turn out the complete Troop team, as the rules of the Competition stipulated that the detached personnel of the Troop had to play for the sub-unit to which they were attached. Lance Corporals Evans and Cox played a good game. One other bouquet—to Signalman Jamieson—Best dressed player!!!

Leave.—It is rumoured (shoot that man!) that some of the personnel attached from Egypt Signals, who have ceased to be shown as reinforcements, are to proceed on leave to England prior to serving a full tour in Egypt. It also seems that a good many more reinforcements will serve a full tour in Egypt and Palestine prior to going on leave to England. Oh, Records! Can't you tell us something definite, even if it is the worst? At present we don't know whether to save up for a payment leave or not!!!

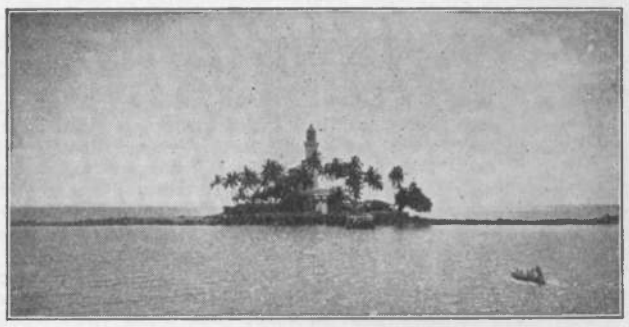
Agony—Lance Corporal Chatfield, 5th Divisional Signal Company. 'Twas a real good leave in Cairo, but not too good! Willo.

Abdul F., Ponki. Jimmy worried—write soon.

5th Divisional Signal Company. So you tried to creep off home, eh? Well, it is a pleasure to know that boats are still making the journey that way!

For Sale.—Four No. 7 Sets. Communication guaranteed up to five miles (weather permitting). Price 0d. cash.

WEEPIN' WILLO.



Malaya Signal Section, Singapore.

Pulau Brani Detachment.

General.—Apa khabai. Just in case you have never been fortunate enough to visit Malaya, I'd better enlighten you as to the meaning of this. It is the Malay way of addressing one when meeting; similar to our "How do you do?" It colloquially means, "What news?" Well, what news? Very little this month, I'm afraid!

Quite recently the defences of Singapore were put to their periodical test. The local volunteers took charge of most of the communications, but Signals were present in the background. Just in case, you know! The faithful old "C" Mark I Sets did their stuff once again. Some service operators, twiddling the knobs of their own super-supers are apt to sneer disdainfully when we unpack the bag and proceed to erect our rather old-fashioned-looking portable Sets. Ah! But do they change their opinions when they see and hear the results? Yes, sir! We'll say they do! It isn't often the Signals send out the "nothing received" signal, but some people would be lost without it.

BY APPOINTMENT BY APPOINTMENT

Breeches and the Man



THERE is probably no greater test of a tailor than his ability to cut a pair of riding breeches. And one does not have to look very closely to see which men have and which men have not the right kind of tailor.
All tailors are not Bernard Weatherills nor are all men Bernard Weatherill tailored. But if only more men realised that Bernard Weatherill's charges were only very little extra in proportion to the great increase in style and comfort, there would be far more smartly turned out men on parade.

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47 HIGH ROAD, ALDERSHOT

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Attachments.—Signalmen France and Charles to the R.A.F. for a month's flying and short-wave experience.

Back to the fold.—Signalmen Campbell and Barrett (complete with a 12in. cigarette holder and a Bond Street-cum-Change Alley tailor-made suit and hat to match).

Trooping Season.—The transports have once again started their yearly pilgrimages out East, and anxious eyes can often be seen scanning the distant horizon in the general direction of the Gap. Recently H.M.T. *Lancashire* called in at Singapore, but the Signals were not interested in its arrival, because it didn't affect their numbers in any way. Your turn will come though, so cheer up, or vice versa, in accordance with the way you feel towards this wondrous island paradise (?).

And it Costs Nothing.—" Spud," Northern Ireland. So the East calls you again ? How you must like it ? I hope your " cruise " will be as pleasant as mine. But there, you're used to it ! Bon voyage and the best of luck. Leave the other blokes some medals after your tour. W. B. Smart (and who put R. H. Smyth ?).

Paddy Withers (same place). How could you so ill-treat my property, you nasty man ? What that " big shot " must have suffered ! W. B. Smart.

Sergeant F. S. Andrews (or Mr. ?) of 1st Div. (or Ware ?). There's a few more stamps in the little black box if you will tell me where to send them ! H. V. Solley.

S. B. Coyne. I've only been here two years. There is still time to give me the " low-down." Several people, whom I've met, remember you. One, or am I mistaken (?), in particular. H. V. Solley.

Seen and Heard.—" Atlas " Pupil, No. 1 : " O.K., Bill ! Leave the dumbells, try the weights now. Put me 600 on. "

" A " P., No. 2 : " O.K., Mick ! That's fine. Just take a reading of my biceps, will you ? Ah ! That's topping. Tighten your girth."

" A " P., No. 1 : " Now, Bill, just a few rounds with the gloves, and then . . Oh ! By the way, how are you sleeping these days ? "

Christmas Greeting and Good Luck for 1937.—To all our readers we tender heartiest good wishes for Christmas and the New Year, especially to former members of the Malaya Signal Section, to wit, Sergeant Carpenter, Corporals Rogers and Lindsay and the " Ex's," Corporal Dacombe and Signalman Weeks (wonder where you finally landed up, Peter ?) Also to Signalmen Pearce (India), Harrison (China), " Dad " Brown, Brooks and Day (India). Lance Corporal Hubbard says, " Sama sama " to Corporal Furnell (S. of S.). The Garrison Sergeants' Mess, Pulau Brani, wish to associate themselves with all past members, and wish them a prosperous New Year.

And now, any more for any more ? O.K. then, that's all right for another year ! So whilst this spirit of good cheer is with us, I think it's a suitable time to say, Cheerio, everybody ! X 513 X, X 421 Brain, X 314 next month.

BARON (TBC).

Changi Detachment.

19th October.

Sayings.—Ol' Bill once said, " Yuh can't keep a good man down." He must have known his stuff, because I am here again, or words to that effect.

Collegians.—Members of this detachment are suffering rather severely at present. They are undergoing an intensive Course for the next First Class Examination. They are distinguished from the ordinary human being by their throbbing foreheads, the intelligent (?) glitter in the eyes and the quaint " x plus y " language which they speak. However, we wish them all success in their efforts.

Worn.—The men with the foot rule, compass and note book have apparently finished their game of cable spotting, now the local historian-cum-office clerk is presumably writing up the life stories, tall stories, and positions of each cable, in the hope that future members of this detachment will know where to look for them. We wonder what would happen if someone misplaced all the information.

Arrivals.—But not to us. The 41st (F.) Company, R.E., to whom we are attached for rations, etc., had occasion to celebrate the arrival of the 30th Company, R.E., to Changi, ex H.T. *Lancashire*, on 8th October. As usual, our Sapper friends invited us to take part in the celebrations, which were carried out in accordance with the ancient Malayan custom. We received the usual indication that the troopship had arrived safely ; a wet and morbid daybreak, but happily it cleared up before the 30th Company arrived. The new arrivals were met by the largest " new draft band " which ever happened in Singapore, the Signals providing two " gazookas," one mandolin, a pig-whistle, and two of the " Guard of Honour." With much tuneful " music," the draft was marched to the dining-room and liquid refreshments. The evening was rendered more or less hideous, when the songsters, dancers and crooners did their stuff. To quote Euclid, "A good time was 'ad by all." I thought that the two members of the " Guard of Honour," Lance Corporal French and Signalman Strong, looked rather smarter than usual, with their snowy beards and tattered K.D. Signalman Buck served his apprenticeship behind the bar, and is soon to be remustered as a " Barman, G.3."

Tennis.—On 7th October, the O.C. Detachment and N.C.O.s played the signalmen at tennis. As forecast by " Ithartso " in the last issue, the O.C. and N.C.O.s gathered most of the glory and the signalmen the moss. The results of the various games were : Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson defeated Signalman Tomlinson, 6—1 ; Lance Sergeant Walters defeated Signalman Gray, 6—3 ; C.Q.M.S. Chimes and Lance Sergeant Walters defeated Signalman Lambert and Strong, 6—4, 6—4 ; Signalman Payne and Holmes defeated Lieutenant Stirling-Wilkinson and Lance Corporal French, 6—2. After the games, the O.C. entertained the players, press representative and spectator to refreshments and stories at the Club House of the Garrison Yacht Club. The troops retaliated with more stories, though not such tall ones as the O.C.'s. Lance Corporal French was rather handicapped with a " frying-pan " racquet, the broad end being at about 90 degs. and pointing N.N.W. from the handle. This probably accounts for many of his shots being lost in the clouds. The spectator and I were annoyed at the number of times the ball was netted. We thought the score should have been much higher than it was. Signalman Lambert served a smart cannon, via his partner's back, into the net. We're not sure that this was accidental. The referee said, " Fault one " ; I thought it

was a good shot. Signalman Gray told me confidentially that he was forced to lose to Sergeant Walters or be "put on one under Section 40." We wonder?

Accidental Discoveries.—In endeavouring to prove the lifelessness of a three-foot cobra, a N.C.O. also proved that "the quickness of the hand deceives the eye." We presume that snakes object to being prodded with the forefinger.

The Last.—Who said, "'Phone up and ask the address of the R.A.O.C., Pulau Brani"?

Agony.—Robbo, 2nd Div. "Is Jimmy still on the cap-badge? Busty."

Nick, "G" Section, 2nd Div. "Mail is definitely received here about three weeks after posting." Lambert.

Young Levett. "Bear up, old man! Write to the above address and tell me all your troubles. Painful."

Big Bill Rushton. "Don't let 'em bully you. Little Alfie."

P. I. P.

Tientsin Signal Section.

October.

General.—Our late O.C., Captain L. A. E. Tozer, left us in July for the U.K. We thoroughly enjoyed his stay with us. He took a great interest in the welfare of the Section. Our very best wishes are extended to your future welfare, sir. In Captain Tozer's place we welcome Lieutenant G. Thomson from Hong Kong Signal Section. Although his stay with us has so far been brief, he has, nevertheless, proved himself very popular. May your stay with us be long and happy, sir.

Since our last issue of notes much of note has happened. Shan-Hai-Kuan Camp opened as usual; the first party experienced very cold weather. Towards the end of May the fine weather set in and the usual cross-country hikes (looking for the elusive break in the line) were enjoyed by everyone. The Camp was closed down on 17th September for the winter months.

Social.—The usual fortnightly whist drives and dances are again being held during the winter months. Last year they proved a great success, helping not a little to break the monotony. We sincerely hope that they will draw larger crowds this winter. During the summer months a few tennis tournaments were held. These were also successful. We regret to state that data regarding these tournaments is unfortunately lacking. In cricket the S. and D.s, for which the Section provided quite a few members, have had a very successful season.

Musketry.—On 2nd and 4th October the Section proceeded to Peking to fire their Annual Course. The shooting was very good and everybody obtained a first-class shot (Peking, please note).

Moves.—The usual movement of personnel has taken place between Peking and Tientsin. We welcome to the land of fur hats and topees Lance Corporal Somerville and Signalmen Edwards, Stoner G., Ashford R. and Cragg J. from Hong Kong. The last two have already left us on their return journey. We offer the remainder a belated greeting.

Departures.—Signalman Graham to Hong Kong Signal Section on medical grounds. With the imminent arrival of the troopship H.T. *Dilwara* the cry "Roll on, that boat," is very much in evidence. Personnel leaving this Section are as follows: Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Walker C. F. R. and wife to the U.K. Corporal Neeve F. and Signalman Cann L. to Hong Kong to await a later "serial" for the U.K. Signalman Harrison to Shanghai. The usual farewell and welcome party will be possible this year owing to the trooper berthing at Chin-Wang-Tao (ex-Tientsinites, please note).

G.P.O.—To Pete, Canterbury. "Has the price of stamps gone up? Nobby."

L. L. L. "How about a line? Max."

Ging. (2 Coy.). "How abaht it? Jock."

837 (Where?). "Lost the use of your fingers? 836."

Finis.—Finally, we heartily congratulate "Robbo" on his exceptional performances in the Inter-Embassy Guard Sports Meeting. Keep it up, "Robbo"!

All Tientsinites wish the members of the Corps a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

H. E. C. ZUBE.

Peking Detachment.

October.

No doubt many readers have queried the infrequent appearance of notes from this Station, so, before making any excuses, we humbly apologise for our absence of notes in previous issues of THE WIRE. We find it very difficult to prepare monthly notes owing to the small number of men in this detachment, and also due to the fact that our routine seldom changes. Our main notes usually consist of sporting activities. We, however, trust that readers will understand the cause of our irregular notes.

Introduction.—First of all, as a point of interest, we introduce to you the following members of this detachment:

The Ambassador's Wireless Station Staff.—N.C.O. in charge, Sergeant Atkinson F.; Fitter, Lance Corporal Govey W.; Instrument Mechanic, Signalman Dempsey R.; Operators: Signalmen Armstrong C., Bloom L., Davies C., Harrop C., Little R., McGinley J., Verlander E. and Welchman G.

The Peking-Tientsin Army Telegraph Line Signal Office Staff.—N.C.O. in charge, Lance Corporal Robinson B.; Operators: Signalmen Keene J. and Throup C.

Interest.—It might interest old members of this detachment to know that we have moved from the "bunks" (converted to married quarters) and that we are now in one of the barrack-rooms. Another new arrangement (perhaps more interesting) is that we now have our own Mess, on very similar lines to the Junior Staff Mess in Tientsin. The Mess is located in what is popularly known as the "Marconi Room," above the transmitter room. It was started (after the necessary approval had been obtained) by voluntary subscriptions from the whole Section (Peking and Tientsin combined) and has been in use since 1st September. Needless to say, the Mess is a great success and everyone is extremely satisfied with the arrangements.

Musketry.—On 2nd and 4th October the whole Section went to the International Ranges here and fired their Annual Musketry Course. The standard of shooting was very high; only two second-class shots were registered, the remainder being first class. Sergeant Lockyer F., Tientsin detachment, was the top scorer with 86 and Signalman Verlander E. was top scorer in the Peking detachment with 83.

Finis.—In closing our notes for this month we hope that our efforts (our first attempt at compiling WIRE notes) are satisfactory. In future we will endeavour to maintain a more frequent appearance.

We conclude by wishing all Units at home and abroad a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

VERLY SENIOR.

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THE TERRITORIALS and SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE

The London Corps Signals, T.A., and affiliated Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Fulham House, High Street, Fulham, S.W.6.
13th November.

General.—First we take this opportunity to wish all members of the Corps a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Work is going on apace in the various phases of pre-Christmas training preparatory to the forthcoming Trade Boards, and we are pleased to report that the attendance is being well maintained. The Thursday night Physical Training Class, judging from the bumping and scampering noises emanating from the Drill Hall, is proving a sweating success. We suspect that the Quartermaster will be busy in the near future fitting some of our young and growing bloods for new jackets with larger chest room.

We held our Armistice Church Parade on 1st November. The attendance was exceptionally good this year; the best ever, in fact. Some 250 officers and O.R.s, many members of the 47th Divisional Signals, 25th Cyclists' O.C.A., detachments of the local British Red Cross Society and British Legion were on parade. The band of the London Divisional R.E. played us on our march round the Putney district to church and back to Headquarters. We listened to a very homely little sermon by a padre, who told us that he had been both at Aldershot and on the Western Front. He was very particular to instruct us when to kneel, stand up or sit down. You see, he knew we only go to church once a year, and one is, we suppose, rather apt to get a bit forgetful of procedure without practice!

After the service we were inspected by our Honorary Colonel, Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. On arrival at Headquarters the important matter of paying out bounties was proceeded with, and after that—the spending of 'em.

On 11th November a party of one officer and eight O.R.s represented this Unit at the Armistice Service at the London Troops' Memorial, Royal Exchange. The Lord Mayor and his Sheriffs, together with many City and other notables, attended. The weather was almost perfect and, as has been the case for many times past, remained fine until after the ceremony was over.

We had a very interesting evening on 26th October, when Lieutenant-Colonel Firth, R.A., delivered a lecture at Headquarters on the Signal requirements of the Artillery in a Corps. He showed us, by means of aerial photographs taken during the Great War, how our buried cable, air-line routes and tracks made by patrolling linemen looked like miniature roads threaded about the countryside, eventually leading to or from what was obviously some kind of Headquarters. Something will certainly have to be done about this during the next "bust-up." But what? How about forming a Corps of "landscape gardeners" to make tracks and filled-in cable trenches resemble the surrounding land? At the moment we do not quite see how the problem of camouflaging an air-line route can be overcome. Any other daft suggestions?

Officers.—The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. H. Humphreys, T.D., has gone to East Africa on a business tour and will be away for about two months. We trust he will find the climate out there a good exchange for the weather we are getting here. Four newly-commissioned officers have joined us, to wit, 2nd Lieutenants J. W. G. Cocke, J. J. Collins, J. F. English and A. S. P. Salter. We now have our full establishment of officers.

Sergeants' Mess.—The redecoration of our Mess is completed, and, though we say it ourselves, it really does look nice. The walls have been done in Corps colours, which certainly make a very good colour scheme. You must come along and see it for yourselves. We were very pleased to have an introductory visit from our new Adjutant, Captain H. C. B. Rogers, on 22nd October, when he "popped in to have one" on the occasion of the farewell dinner given by our officers to our late Adjutant, Captain F. H. Bury, who has left us to take over command of the Malta Signal Section. We should like to take this opportunity of wishing Captain Bury a happy and successful tour of duty in this Mediterranean Station. A certain amount of activity has been in evidence in the Mess lately, due to the playing of some of the games in connection with the "Murphy" Snooker Competition. Results next month.

Social.—The Unit dance on 24th October was a very successful affair. The Armistice Ball was, however, even more so. In spite of the foulest of foul weather, a large number of people turned up and very quickly became a throng bubbling over with merriment. Dancing continued until 1.30 a.m., when we were forced to go away into the pouring rain and driving wind. This rather tended to take the gilt off the gingerbread, but it was all very well worth it.

Make a note of these dates on which we are holding dances in December: Unit dance on the 12th and New Year's Ball on the 31st. We can promise you a really jolly time if you care to look us up.

Tailpiece.—According to someone's remarks which we read lately, modern means of communication are telephone, telegraph and "tell-a-woman"!

EFFEMMA.

1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals.

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

During the month of October a series of lectures on popular subjects was arranged as in previous years and particularly good attendances were obtained this year. The lectures were:

(i) "Richborough Castle and Its Associations with Manston Camp," by Lieutenant-Colonel G. C. Wickins, T.D.
(ii) "Territorials and the Law," by Dr. Morris D. Hart, M.Sc. (Eng.), A.C.G.I., LL.B., D.I.C., M.I.E.E., Barrister-at-Law.
(iii) "Television and Broadcasting," by Mr. H. J. Barton Chapple, B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.
(iv) "International Relations in the Modern World," by Mr. J. W. Hunt, M.A.

Each year these lectures become more popular and there is every indication that they will form a permanent feature in our programme.

The annual address to the Unit by the Commanding Officer was given on 4th November to a very large gathering. Colonel Wickins referred to the progress which had been made during the past year, with particular reference to the new establishment which we received early in the year. The address was followed by the payment of the proficiency grant (an ever-popular attraction). Later a smoking concert took place with a number of outside artistes to help in the entertainment. A most enjoyable evening was spent by all present and our thanks are due to the entertainments committee, who were responsible for arranging the programme.

On 18th November a demonstration of Air Defence Signal Apparatus was arranged and Major-General R. H. D. Tompson, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., kindly consented to be present. Invitations have been issued to other Anti-Aircraft Units concerned in air defence, and it was hoped to obtain a record gathering.

An Armistice Sunday parade was again arranged this year and, as before, the parade was held at St. Mark's Church, Kennington. The parade marched to the church from Headquarters with a detachment of the 27th Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion, R.E., who also provided a band to lead the combined parade. We were glad to see a number of Old Comrades on this parade and hope that they will be with us again on future occasions.

Two other items of interest, one the invitation to take part in a film on air defence communications and the other to take part in the Lord Mayor's procession. With regard to the film, which occupied three mornings, our job was to man a control table erected in a control room at the film studio. No effort

had been spared to make the set complete in every detail, and we are now hoping that our own Headquarters will be modelled on the same lines ! On the whole, the budding film stars enjoyed themselves and will, no doubt, spend some time at the local cinema to see themselves when the film is released. For the Lord Mayor's procession we provided a detachment of one officer and twenty-four other ranks. We also had a mechanised cable wagon, which was kindly lent by Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Read, T.D., commanding the 44th Divisional Signals, T.A. Owing to the lack of seating accommodation (and probably other obscure reasons), only four of our party could ride on the wagon ; the remainder walked behind. We are careful to say walk and not march, because, being sandwiched between the cable wagon and some ferocious-looking tanks, our progress was a series of leaps and bounds. Fortunately, the strains of the band further in the rear came through at intervals to assist us in giving a good display. From the remarks and cheers of the crowd (not for us alone, of course !) we gather that the procession was generally appreciated and, for our part, we had a very enjoyable day.

The list of qualifications required to become an efficient signalman is increasing every day. We have added quite a few original ones, including ability to act, showmanship and an even higher standard of general knowledge.

H. S.

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

The Priory, Exeter.
November.

Editorial.—The keener elements in the three Companies have settled down well to their task of excelling in the subjects provided in their respective individual training programmes. It only remains for those who so far have not shown marked interest or keenness to come along and not only swell the numbers in the various classes, but to ultimately reap the financial benefit of organised interesting study and learning.

Before these notes appear each Company will have sent its quota of N.C.O.s to the parent Unit, 3rd Divisional Signals, for the second T.A. N.C.O.s' Instructor's Course, which takes place from 23rd November to 5th December inclusive. It is understood that a very hearty welcome awaits them at Bulford. This is not to be wondered at judging from the excellent reception given to the W.O. and N.C.O.s who attended the first Course last year. We have no doubt as to the result of the fortnight's experience, and it is interesting to note that some of this second group are already acting as class instructors.

As our next notes will not appear until next year. this Unit sends the best of Christmas and New Year greetings to our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. the Princess Royal, and to all members of the Royal Corps of Signals, past and present.

MERCURY.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

York Street Drill Hall, Devonport.
November.

The new Territorial year has begun and, by the increased attendance at drills, it looks as if all are out to qualify for the increased full bounty. All ranks are looking forward to the bounty, which is now due. The O.C., C.S.M. and P.S.I. have been working overtime on this matter until well into the night in order that the bounty sheets, etc., could be got off as soon as possible after the closing of the Training Year. It is only a few who hold up the bounty owing to their not qualifying until the last minute.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the O.C., 2nd Lieutenant R. D. Nash, C.S.M. Gibbings and Lance Sergeant Stone at Exeter on the occasion of No. 3 Company's annual dinner. No. 3, we thank you all for a pleasant evening and the warm welcome. We hope to return the compliment at Plymouth later. It was a pleasure to see many outside representatives, first and foremost of whom was Major J. W. Western, looking hale and hearty—it could not be a dinner without him ; also ex-C.S.M. Scrivens (Joe)—as young as ever ; the R.Q.M.S., P.S.I., Sergeant (6 feet 2 inches) Dickinson and, last but not least, Ole Man Rivers, all from Southampton. The 3rd Div. was represented by three members, including R.S.M. Herbert (looking as if Scarborough and Bulford have agreed with him), also R.Q.M.S. " Jim " Adcock.

The miniature rifle shooting has suffered a temporary check. The C.S.M. hopes, however, to see the various competitions completed prior to the New Year. The whist drives do not appear to be popular with our own people, who are to benefit from the results, if any. The soccer team is still doing fairly well. We would like to know whether " Jock " Watt prefers the East to Plymouth. Also the opinion of " Ginger " Mitchell on Catterick.

LEATHERNECK.

General.—Although the Training Year did not commence officially until 1st November, there was commendable activity in the Drill Hall during October. The operators have settled down to their individual training and have shown gratifying keenness. The recruits seem to be progressing very favourably. The Voluntary Drill Squad is still quite large and the enthusiasm of its members and instructor is good to see. The O.C. put each individual through his paces recently and expressed his complete satisfaction with the great strides which had been made in so short a course of training. He added that if the squad could be multiplied by five in numbers we should indeed be a credit to any regular ceremonial parade. The recreational side has not been neglected. Billiards and table tennis are both popular, but the Team Shooting Competition is temporarily held up owing to range alterations and improvements.

Special.—The other evening we had a very pleasant surprise visit from our old guide, counsellor and friend, ex-C.S.M. A. Leach (" Tich "). Although he could only stay ten minutes, each one was crowded with news from both sides. He declares that anno Domini is beginning to make itself felt, but we few who saw him could not see any outward and visible signs. The Company has undergone many changes since he first appeared in Plymouth in February, 1925, and assisted in recruiting the first man for the Plymouth Section of the then No. 3 Company, which had its Headquarters at Topsham. He was our first P.S.I. and ruled us with a rod of steel—pleasantly tempered. The two outstanding landmarks of his tour of duty with us were : (1) He rarely had to refer to any manual for information. (2) No matter how heavy the day or night before had been, Leach was the complete and perfect soldier on the 6.30 a.m. parade next morning. (Visions of the Teignmouth week-end Camp at Coombe Farm in 1926 appeared before me as I wrote No. 2.) The Company Commander, C.S.M. Gibbings, C.Q.M.S. Field and Sergeant Ford are the only ones left of his '25 contemporaries. We look forward to a further and longer visit early in 1937.

ONECOY.

No. 2 (Southampton) Company.

Hamilton House, Southampton.
November.

General.—We are now " full speed ahead " with our training programme. Although the lads are in the thick of it, news in the training sphere is somewhat scarce at the moment, so we must defer training news until next issue, when we shall report some progress and tell how the members shape. All concerned are eagerly looking forward to the comprehensive training programme and, in consequence, until the early part of next year

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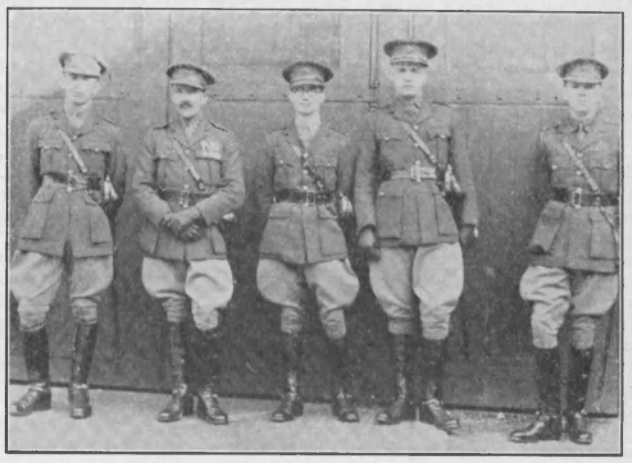
we shall be extremely busy with classes, lectures and demonstrations, etc., and also to all matters relative to the transformation of recruits into trained men and trained men into efficient men.

Armistice Remembrance Service.—As usual, there was a good muster of No. 2 Company, who turned out smartly at the Remembrance Service held in Southampton's mother church, St. Mary's, on Sunday, 8th November. The Company paraded with all other local Units, etc., in the forecourt of the civic centre, being joined at church by a civic procession of the Mayor and Corporation, various organisations, etc. Impromptu photographs of those who attended the parade are included in these notes.

Recruiting.—We are very pleased to be able to report that the Company is now over establishment. Our best thanks to all concerned. We sincerely hope this happy state of affairs will be maintained.

Welfare, etc.—The writer understands that certain improvements to our Headquarters at Hamilton House have been mooted. The potential increased facilities should still further enhance the popularity of the T.A. in this district. For some time the need for adequate club premises and a Sergeants' Mess, etc., has been felt. The efforts made in this direction will be thoroughly appreciated by all concerned.

BEGBIE.



Officers of No. 2 Company. (See photograph below).

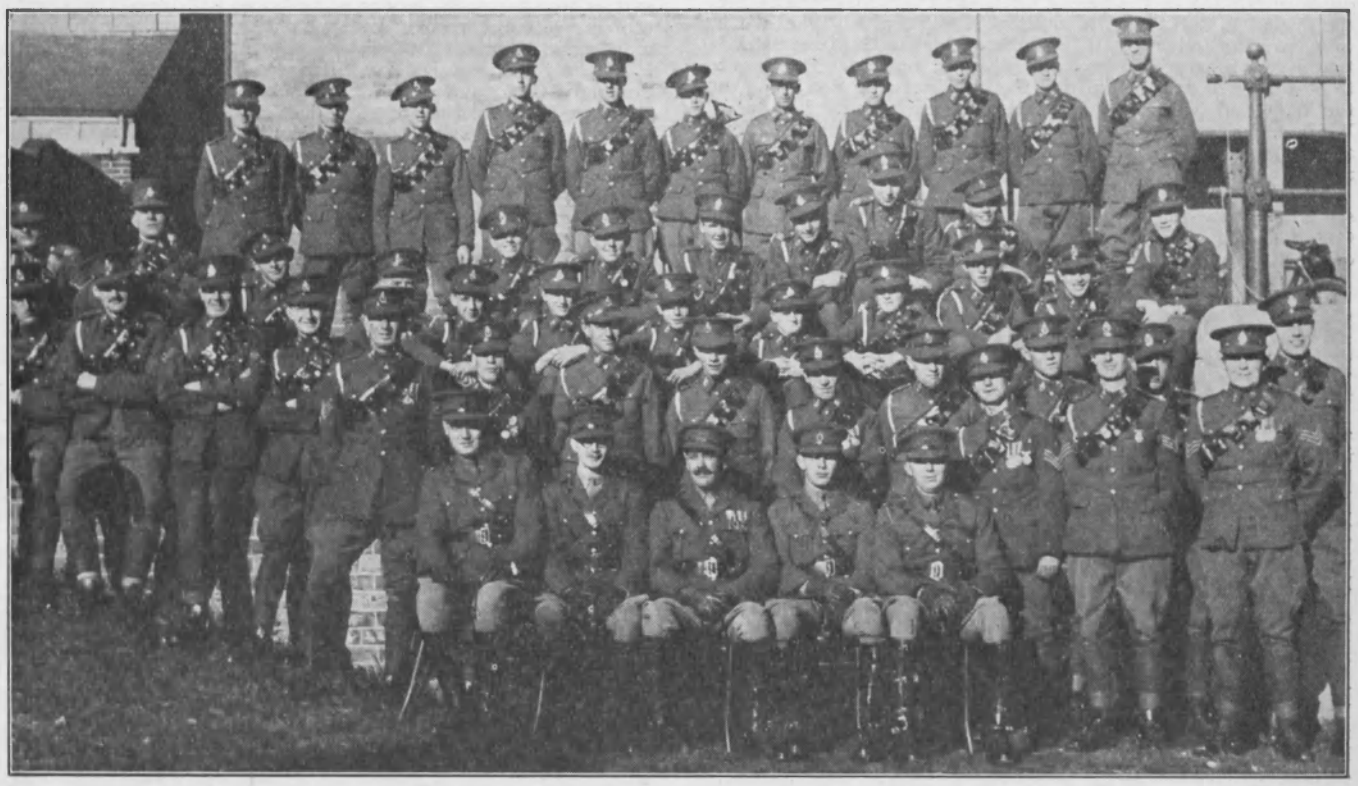
No. 3 (Exeter) Company.

The Priory, Exeter.
November.

Winter training is now in full swing, and the keenness which exists in the operating rooms would appear to justify the contention that at our next Camp we shall be well supplied with operators. This is always a dull time for linemen, but advantage is being taken of the lull in their training period to ensure that all the cable is in good condition for next spring's Section training.

The Armistice Parade was very well attended and the Company was up to its usual standard in turn-out. We were very pleased this year to have the O.C.A. with us on this parade, and we hope that now that they have started to come with us they will continue to do so. We hope that all local members will support them. The parade was witnessed by our Commanding Officer and Adjutant. We are delighted to think that the Commanding Officer was so pleased with the turn-out.

Social.—The annual dinner was held on Saturday, 7th November, and was better attended than for some years. We were very pleased to have with us our Commanding Officer, Major J. W. Western, Major W. J. L. Cornelius and 2nd Lieutenant Nash from No. 1 Company, as well as representatives of the Sergeants' Messes of No. 1 and No. 2 Companies. We were also more than delighted to welcome our old friend R.S.M. Herbert, from 3rd Divisional Signals, together with two other members from the Sergeants' Mess of that Unit. We regard their visit as a great compliment; it does so much to cement the good feeling which exists between the Unit and our parent Unit.



NO. 2 COMPANY. Impromptu photograph of Officers and Other Ranks who attended the Armistice Remembrance Service on Sunday, 8th November.

The Company Commander, in proposing the health of the Commanding Officer, emphasised the need for the members of the Company to concentrate on becoming efficient, and he felt certain that by adopting this course the numbers in the Company would look after themselves. A very pleasant evening was spent and we hope all our guests enjoyed it as much as we did.

THREECOY.

44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals.

Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.
13th November.

Editorial.—Little Audrey paid a secret visit to Chiswick last week. She laughed continuously. Audrey had thought "terriers" were dogs—now she knows they are the "cat's pyjamas." It seems that she got tangled up with the social committee and related many of her past experiences to them. These heathens very wisely utilised the news of her visit for publicity purposes, and now, of course, it is no longer a secret. However, Audrey intends to call round again in the near future and, in any case, has promised to write to me in a day or so.

Training continues apace; attendances are average and could be improved without serious inconvenience to many.

During the next six or eight weeks I am going to be particularly occupied with private affairs. This may mean that I shall neglect my notes, so have encouraged "Poly" to increase his contributions so that you, dear readers, may still get your money's worth.

Officers' Mess.—A very enjoyable evening was spent at Stamford Brook on the 7th, the occasion being the annual dinner. Only a few members were unable to attend, while many guests were present to fill the vacant chairs. The menu was most suitable and appetising. Captain Charlton has very successfully mastered the art of attending to our many needs and giving satisfaction to all. The C.O., in proposing the health of the guests, referred to the strength and efficiency of the Unit; the credit for this he attributed to the C.S.O., past C.O.s and the former Adjutant. In concluding his speech, he nearly let the "cat out of the bag" concerning his past visit to Spain. In reply, Colonel Hitchins and Major H. W. Lewis-Barclay made reference to their "swan songs." It is as well to remind them that, whatever their official capacity may be, a welcome at Stamford Brook is always assured. In conclusion, a Canadian representative of the Corps gave us a very detailed account of our contemporaries in that country. His personal memoirs should prove most interesting reading.

After dinner a most successful series of operations was carried out by our medical friends. Their activities might have gone further, but someone drank the anæsthetic. Oh, well, another jolly evening to look back upon!

0020.

Training.—This is the individual training season, and our indefatigable P.S.I.s have drawn up a comprehensive programme graded to cover everyone from the learner to the nearly expert who wishes to keep in practice. Instructors have been allocated, and if attendances are maintained the winter should produce some useful men for next Camp. Speaking of Camp reminds me that I heard the Unit has been asked to provide some more "lambs" for a special "slaughter" in September next, apart from our ordinary training. Evidently further proof of our capable efforts on the last Exercise, which certainly improved the knowledge of all ranks engaged.

Shooting.—The Unit rifle team are well in the limelight this month, because they attended the Middlesex Guildhall this week to be presented with the Middlesex Justices' Shield. St. John Gore Micklewaite, who presided, complimented the team on the remarkable feat of a technical Unit beating the Infantry at their own game, and this on no less than eight occasions. In the evening a tea-party was held in the Sergeants' Mess and enabled several old members of our teams to renew their acquaintance with the Shield. The team was as follows: Lieutenant-Colonel Read, T.D., Captain W. Gilbert, Lieutenant (Q.M.) E. W. Harris, Lieutenant S. J. Williams, C.S.M. Jordan, Sergeants Brown, Walker and James, Lance Sergeant Jordan, Corporals White, Coles and Robinson, Lance Corporals Nutting, Harding and Thomas and Signalman Bovis.

I understand that Little Audrey laughed again and again because their names got mixed up with some burglars; they nearly got six months each.

Social affairs come thick and fast now, and bounty nights, 16th-19th November, usually rather well-attended functions, will be followed by a date with the Unit social committee for 23rd November. Dances, children's parties, dinners, etc., are to follow, of which more later.

Sergeants' Mess.—On Wednesday, 14th October, we entertained our old friends of the Chiswick Memorial Club to a battle on the dart boards. After tense moments we ran out winners by two games to one (each team ten aside). "C.M.C." seemed to run away with the lead towards the end of each game, but some of our "rabbits" tripped on the mat or something and scored the necessary double sharply, so stemming the tide. During the consumption of light refreshments we renewed our acquaintance with old friends. After the match private wars took place at snooker, billiards and darts. A pleasant evening, and we look forward to the return match, which is to take place soon at the Club.

"Jo—y" was peeved because someone kept him talking while others whipped up all the onions. In some cases the "L" members' high scores, and the experts' constant double lamp shade, gave rise to much rending of molars.

Little Audrey was the only lady present (in spirit).

POLYH.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

Phœnix Street, Derby.
16th November.

Conversion to Corps Signals.—Before another month is out we shall have assumed our new title of "THE NORTH MIDLAND CORPS SIGNALS." The change from Divisional Signals, T.A., takes place in December and has become necessary owing to the disbandment of the 46th (North Midland) Division and the conversion of certain Infantry Units in the Division to Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalions, Royal Engineers. Next month we hope to give a short history of the 46th (N.M.) Divisional Signals from its inception.

Permanent Staff Changes.—A hearty welcome is extended to Sergeant Morley W. A. and family, who have arrived from S.I.C.D. Signal Section. Sergeant Morley takes over the duties of P.S.I. at Chesterfield from Sergeant (T/C.S.M. whilst in this Unit) Pronger W. G., who goes to Spike Island in relief of Sergeant Morley. It is to be hoped that Sergeant Pronger will like his new role. Both he, Mrs. Pronger and the infant have the very best wishes of all ranks of his late Unit.

Annual Dinners.—The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess annual dinner was held on Saturday, 7th November, at the Station Hotel, Chesterfield, and was attended by a company of about 100, including guests; R.S.M. Jackson was in the chair. After the toasts of "The King," "H.R.H. the Princess Royal" and "The Silent Toast" our C.O. (Colonel G. J. Underwood) proposed "The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess." In his remarks the C.O. thanked the members of the Mess for their good work and urged them to continue with even more force in the future in the change to Corps Signals. He said that it was his sad duty that day to say good-bye to several stalwarts who were shortly leaving us and wished them all the best of luck in their new ventures. Those mentioned were our C.S.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Fladgate), our Adjutant (Captain E. Levett), who leaves us in April next, two of our P.S.I.s, C.S.M. Pronger W. G., who goes to Spike Island on 17th November, and Sergeant Ellisf J. H., who will be proceeding to India sometime this trooping season. Colonel Underwood then gave a resume of our new duties, etc., as Corps Signals and referred to our need for more recruits, coupled with a request that all other ranks should bring along a pal.

In reply, Captain E. Levett referred to the many changes in the Unit during the last four years, and now the final change from Divisional to Corps Signals. He was sure that the work would be much more interesting with more up-to-date equipment. The Adjutant thanked everybody for their loyal support and believed that they would make as great a name for themselves as Corps Signals as they had done as the 46th (N.M.) Divisional Signals.

R.S.M. Jackson, responding to the toast, referred to those leaving us and remarked that perhaps some of our officers would be able to get their names inscribed on a certain cup for shooting when Captain Levett had gone, because the Adjutant had held it for so long. (Incidentally, we have heard that Captain Levett's successor is an excellent shot, so that our officers look

like having a very thin time in the Shooting Competition if this rumour is correct.)

C.S.M. Cutts proposed the toast of "The Guests" and Lieutenant-Colonel V. O. Robinson, O.C., 6th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters, responded.

Suitable entertainment was provided and an excellent evening was brought to a close.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company held their annual dinner at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on Friday, 13th November, Captain R. J. de C. Barber, R.Signals (T.A.), the O.C. Company, presiding as Chairman. Captain Barber referred to the good work of the Company and urged them to do even better in their new Unit, referring to their efforts in winning the "Jackson" Cup in a Map Reading Exercise at the last annual training and also the "Forman" Cup for shooting. In conclusion, Captain Barber said that all ranks had helped to maintain and enhance the good name of the Company both at work and at play and spoke of the loss of their P.S.I., Sergeant Ellis J. H., who goes to India (we believe to Jubbulpore) in the near future. Captain Barber thanked Sergeant Ellis for his excellent work for the Company and wished him, on behalf of all ranks, success and good luck wherever he might be.

Captain E. Levett, in the absence of our C.O., detained on private business, in a short but forceful speech, referred to the new role of the Company in Corps Signals and thanked the Company for their loyalty and their excellent work.

Lieutenant J. E. J. Perkins proposed "Our Guests" and Colonel N. G. Pearson, D.S.O., responded.

An excellent concert party provided the entertainment for the evening and everybody enjoyed themselves.

Shooting Competitions.—We continue to hold our own and have taken part in three events during the month. A team from each of No. 1 and No. 3 Companies met the Nottingham City Rifle Club at Trent Rifle Range on 24th October, and, although beaten, we were far from being disgraced. The Notts Club used the Bisley target and system of marking and we had the Service target and rifle. The Notts Club, complete with peep-sights, telescopes, pads of all descriptions and slings, were just a little too good for us, but we are not downhearted. We hope to meet them at some later date. After the match all firers and markers sat down to an excellent tea, at which quite a number of good shooting stories were told. Incidentally, one of the members of the Notts City team was none other than Major D. M. Lindsay, M.C., who recently won the King's Medal as the best shot in the Territorial Army. The other two matches were against the Nottingham City Police Rifle Club at the Drill Hall Miniature Range. We were the winners of both matches, which are ably described by "Sigsngm" in No. 3 (Nottingham) Company notes of this issue. Our R.S.M., as related, obtained possible scores on two occasions; our learned correspondent of No. 3 Company refers to these as marvellous efforts. Without minimising the good shooting on the part of our R.S.M., someone has since said that it would have been really marvellous if he had obtained one or two, or perhaps three, more points than the possible score.

L. S.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Company.

Apart from payment of the bounty on 20th October, the most interesting news is, perhaps, our continued success at shooting. Last month's notes related how we won the "Forman" Cup. This time we can only boast of miniature range successes over our old friends the Nottingham City Police. These "Bobbies" can certainly box (they beat the Stuttgart Police by seven fights to two here at Nottingham on 29th October), but they are not so good at shooting. We must, of course, admit to strong support from our Adjutant, P.S. members and the O.R. Clerk from Derby. We also take this opportunity of again congratulating our R.S.M. on his consistent and marvellous efforts. Possible scores do not seem at all possible, but they must be, since R.S.M. Jackson proves it so. The following are the scores of the recent matches: On 27th October: City Police, 325 points; No. 3 Company, 335 points. The Pool Competition on this date was won by R.S.M. Jackson with a possible score. On 4th November: City Police, 732 points; No. 3 Company, 749 points. The R.S.M. on this occasion returned possible points for all practices, whilst Signalman Munson S. won the Pool Competition with a possible. No mention is made of a match at Trent on 24th October, because the high wind and a scratch team kept us out of the limelight.

Tailpieces.—"Bon voyage and good luck to W. G. P. May Spike be to your liking! Ah's ta mean."

To Wee Tosh, Vacoas. "Tks. for chitty, kiswasti; no stamp? Will try and borrow one and write you. Salaams from all."

'Tis said that our P.S.I. (Sergeant Ellis J. H.) leaves us shortly and will sail to the mystic East. He has our best wishes, but we'll say cheeriebye to him later.

SIGSNGM.

48th (South Midland) Divisional Signals.

Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.
12th November.

Once again we have to apologise for the absence of our notes for last month. If the plea of pressure of time seems a bit threadbare, it is, none the less, very genuine in this instance, and for the same reason these notes will of necessity be rather sketchy.

The principal social event was the annual Unit concert and dance, which took place on 10th October. The Drill Hall was packed out, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. During the evening Captain F. E. B. Jones screened a film which was taken by him at Camp depicting glimpses of various Camp incidents and activities. The film is a fairly long one and was received with great interest. Captain Jones caused great amusement by running sections of it backwards, so that the D.R.s appeared to be riding their machines in reverse at break-neck speed, whilst in the cookhouse steam gathers in the air and retires into the stewpans. The star "shot," in our opinion, was undoubtedly Captain Simpson's salute. We should also like to enquire whether Corporal Davies is congenitally left-handed or merely perverse in insisting upon turning the grindstone the wrong way. Captain Jones must be congratulated upon making this excellent historical record, which is remarkably well produced both photographically (part of it is in colour) and in the selection of subjects. At the same time, it should be mentioned that the original idea came from Captain N. E. Steeley, who still continues to take a close interest in the Unit, and who lent his ciné-camera for the purpose.

During the interval the Commanding Officer presented Efficiency Medals to the following: C.S.M.s Langham W. H., Ryder H. W. and Sant R. and Signalman French A. R. (Air Contingent Signals, S.R.).

The C.O. also addressed a few words to the residents of Hall Green, appealing for recruits.

Cups won during the year were also presented as follows:
Officers' Shooting Cup: Lieutenant G. St. L. King.
Subalterns' Technical Cup: Lieutenant G. St. L. King.
"Danielsen" Cup: 2nd Lieutenant P. W. Malins.
Attendance Cup: 2nd Lieutenant P. G. M. Lee.
Chiseldon Sports: Captain H. F. B. Bolton.
"Martineau" Cup: Sergeant Bennett G. G.
"Smallwood" Cup, D.R.s: Lance Corporal Parrott J. C.

Lecture.—An interesting lecture on "Artillery Co-operation" was given by Captain Phayre, Adjutant, 68th Field Brigade, R.A., on 28th October. The lecture was illustrated by films. Officers and senior N.C.O.s attended.

Individual Training.—A Course for morse operators which was held during October was well attended. The results showed that excellent progress had been made. A Course for linemen instructors is being held during November. There is also a series of Courses for officers, including one for subalterns, on the No. 1 Sets.

The D.R.s' Club.—The Club continues to persevere. Four Sunday morning runs have already taken place. The first three were mystery runs, the courses being prepared respectively by Messrs. Hadnette, Clutterbuck and Claydon. They consisted of a section of more or less difficult country, including some patches of mud and a few deepish fords. The weather in all cases was exceptionally pleasant and, in spite of a rather disappointing attendance, all who took part managed to enjoy themselves. The fourth run was a treasure hunt organised by Lance Corporal Bill (assisted by a civilian friend, Mr. Sadler), who went to a great deal of trouble to work out this very interesting course. The attendance again was poor, but was compensated to some extent by the participation (in cars) of two of our vice-presidents, namely, Major P. H. Jones, M.C. (who had the Adjutant, Captain Bartlett, as observer), and Lieutenant Bowen. We should have loved to have seen Mr. Bowen's face when he bought his balloon and the look of deep concentration on the Major's face as he

counted the bricks in the wall. He should remember that " all that wilders isn't bang." The kitty, I regret to confess, ultimately went to myself and under rather suspicious circumstances.

A very successful smoking concert was held on 23rd October. It was well attended by the D.R.s and their friends. Vocal items were provided by Signalmen Osman and Arnott, whilst Signalman Smith H. brought his accordion, and also a civilian friend who plays one. Lance Corporal Bill officiated at the piano. Signalman Hadnett delivered a recitation expressing the joys of motor-cycling. The spice of the programme was provided by Captain F. E. B. Jones, who gave a second showing of the Camp film, and also another one. It is hoped to hold another of these concerts in the near future.

We are looking forward to a meeting with the D.R.s of the 42nd (East Lancs.) Signals in the spring. We trust that other Units will also consider the possibilities of such meetings.

The Late Signalman Wilkinson W. J.—We greatly regret to record the death of W. J. Wilkinson, who was killed as a result of a road accident on the Wolverhampton Road on 4th October. Wilkinson, who was only nineteen years of age, joined as a D.R. in 1935. He was an enthusiastic motor-cyclist and a keen D.R. He was greatly liked by all his comrades. His death has been a great shock to all who knew him. Immediately after hearing the tragic news the C.O. sent a letter of sympathy to his parents, and wreaths on behalf of the Unit and the D.R.s' Club were sent.

The D.R.s Sub-Section has been unfortunate in the loss of two valuable members within twelve months, both of whom met their deaths awheel.

Sergeants' Mess.—The Sergeants' Mess annual dinner was well attended by members, Old Comrades and representatives of other Unit Messes. Mementos in the form of clocks were presented to each of the two members who had recently retired, namely, C.S.M. Realf and Sergeant Mulgrue. A carnival dance was held on 7th November and proved to be the usual popular success.

Congratulations to Company Sergeant-Majors Ryder, Langham and Sant, who conspired to get their " rooty gongs " together. This is the right sort of team spirit. I wonder if " Barney's bogey " has at last been laid for ever.

So long till next time.

GETCHER.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals
and Air Contingent Signals, S.R.

Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

General.—Once again news from Yorkshire. By the time these notes appear in print the festive season will be the topic of the day. So a merry Christmas to all at home and abroad and all the best for the New Year from the 49th.

Things have been going on apace here lately and training has started again. At the present time experienced operators are training some of the present season's recruits on the same lines as the successful " father and son " method of working last year. These Courses have proved of real value to the Unit in producing good batches of operators from the untrained men. With the added inducement of pay for the evening classes we look forward to a further success. Twelve of the best operators will find themselves drafted to the wireless Section. With the coming of the New Year the pre-Camp individual training period commences. And, by the way, after our visit to the wide, open spaces of Gandale last August it will be welcome news to everyone to hear that it is Bridlington next year.

Royal Signals Reunion.—Though rather late with our thanks to the Depot for giving us such an excellent time, the party of thirty from this Unit who went to Catterick on 12th-13th September are none the less sincere in their appreciation of everything done. From the moment of arriving they were warmly welcomed, and it was with real regret that all good things had to come to an end. If, as at present proposed, it is Catterick again next year, there will be no regrets here.

Remembrance Day Parade.—As usual, the 49th Divisional Signals turned out the greatest number of troops on the Leeds Remembrance Day Parade on 8th November. Over 400 members of the S.R., T.A. and Old Comrades turned out. We had the honour of a visit from the Corps band, which headed the parade and added greatly to the bearing of the troops. There is no doubt that our proud record of smartness on such occasions was well maintained, and to the Corps band we express our great appreciation. They evinced many favourable comments from the Leeds residents who lined the route. Also very welcome, as they ever are, were the Old Comrades, who made a grand show. The Lord Mayor of Leeds, accompanied by the G.O.C., 49th Division, Major-General G. C. Kelly, took the salute at the " March Past," which followed the placing of a wreath on the Cenotaph. An innovation this year was a system of signalling carried out by a part of our wireless Section. A Set was erected in Vicar Lane, where the troops assembled. When everything was ready word was flashed to a second Set erected beside the saluting base. The General then gave the order to move off and everything went like clockwork.

Back in barracks our Honorary Colonel, Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., commented on the smartness of the parade. He then made a number of medal presentations to members of the T.A. and S.R. The Corps band completed the day by playing outside the Officers' Mess in the Drill Ground.

The Unit was also represented on the Civic Parade to the War Memorial on 11th November.

Major Schneider's Departure.—After four years with us, Major Schneider, our Adjutant, has reached the end of his tour of duty and will shortly leave us. When he announced his departure it caused a general feeling of real regret, because during the time that he has been at Gibraltar Barracks there has not been a more popular officer. Major Schneider has put in a tremendous amount of hard work and has seen many changes, including that important subject, " mechanisation." On 3rd November he was given a hearty reception in the Sergeants' Mess, when, amid much cheering and singing of " He's a jolly good fellow," he was the recipient of a small token of our thanks and good wishes. R.S.M. Pillinger made the presentation, supported by C.S.M. Joynes, Mess Secretary. In his reply Major Schneider expressed his thanks and announced that not only was he leaving Gibraltar Barracks, but also the Service, and then into " Civvy Street." He commenced his Army career in the old Territorial Force in 1911 and, as he himself said, it was very fitting that his Army career should end in the Territorials. His popularity was evidenced by the large number of Mess members who personally wished Major Schneider good luck. For shepherding us through some difficult years we owe much to him, and he takes with him the best wishes of every member of the 49th. We hope he finds success in his new sphere of life and will not forget his old and happy associations with Gibraltar Barracks.

Major Schneider is succeeded by Captain Danby from 4th Divisional Signals, Canterbury. To him we extend the glad hand of welcome. May his stay be a long and pleasant one.

Sergeants' Mess.—At the annual meeting of the Mess on 3rd November it was decided to hold a Coronation Ball in May next. C.S.M. Allen R. is the President for the ensuing six months. The thanks of the Mess were accorded to Colonel W. Boyle for his gift of twelve pictures. These old prints, showing types of the British Army, are a great addition to the Mess and add to the debt of gratitude for past gifts which we owe him.

49th Div. Cross-country.—Our Unit gained fourth place out of a field of seven in this event, which was run at Shadwell, Leeds, on 31st October. This is a fine improvement on past shows, and the following announcement appears in Part I Orders :

" Sergeant Speight, who organised the team, deserves special " congratulation from the whole Unit for gaining 10th place, " especially when it is remembered he is over 40 years of age."

Coming Events.—The following dates for regimental functions have been fixed : Children's Party, 9th January ; Unit Annual Ball, 15th January ; Sergeants' Ball, 22nd January.

The Regular Forces.—The number of men from the 49th Divisional Signals who have transferred to the Regular Forces is steadily growing and is again augmented by the current issue of Part II Orders. The introduction to a military career, started in these barracks and fostered by our frequent contact with our Regular colleagues, has emphasised the advantages of full-time soldiering to many of our lads and " old 49ers " are to be found in many parts of the globe. Salaams to them wherever they are.

And that seems a convenient moment for " Tyke " to sing his little swan song. Caught by the tide, our Unit scribe, Lance Sergeant Bell C. W., has been swept away and with the New Year forsakes his fullerphone for the wings of the Royal Air Force All the best to his old chums. He'll "come down and see you sometime " !

TYKE.

50th (Northumbrian) Divisional Signals.

Headquarters.

Greetings.—Our hearty greetings to all Signal Units at home and abroad and to all past members of the Corps. May seasonal fare " get through " to you under all conditions.

Promotion.—We offer our warmest congratulations to Brevet-Colonel G. H. Walton on his recent promotion to Colonel. On relinquishing command of the 50th Divisional Signals in September last Colonel Walton was placed on the supernumerary list, which is composed of certain senior officers whom the Army feel they cannot lose. This list is a long one and the vacancies from it for further promotion must, in the nature of things, be few. That Colonel Walton has left us to be selected for such promotion is an event of which this Unit may well feel proud.

Social.—It is pleasing to note that our old and seasoned Headquarter staff have followed the example set by the ultra-moderns in vieing with their children in the realms of sport. Badminton and shooting at the moment are the chief indulgences. Already two games of the former have taken place. The first versus " C " Company, 5th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry (lost 6—10) ; the second versus our No. 2 Company (lost 7—9). Two very enjoyable evenings were spent and, needless to say, we are eagerly looking forward to the return matches. " Now, Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, what about it ? " Vacant fixtures abound either home or away.

Agony Column.—Will the corpulent little gentleman kindly note that arrangements are being made for the early " filling up " of Headquarters' " forms." In this respect due consideration is being paid to the body to ensure that this Section only receives its due proportion. It is sincerely hoped that our efforts to repair the " bone " he picked will " meat " with his approval.

C. B. S.

No. 1 (Darlington) Company.

General.—In spite of gales, gale warnings and deep depressions, this Company is still showing its keen spirit by maintaining the excellent attendance at winter training. We sincerely hope this will continue and that the recruits at present on probation will soon pass their test and so become members of our very happy Company.

Annual Company Supper.—Our annual Company supper was held on 28th October. This is an event to which we always look forward with keen interest. On this occasion the attendance was excellent. We also wish to take this opportunity of thanking our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield, T.D., the officers and their guests, who helped to make the evening such a success. Our Company Commander spoke of the hard work which was performed by this Company during the year and the success that it achieved. He was confident that still further successes would be accomplished, provided that the same spirit of keenness was in evidence. The Commanding Officer, addressing a few well-chosen remarks to the men, said that he personally found it most gratifying to notice the general improvement which had become evident during the last twelve months. He went on to stress the importance of every man making a special effort to attend the full fifteen days' annual training. The evening concluded with an excellent musical entertainment, and our thanks are due to all artistes who contributed to the success of the evening.

Badminton.—It would seem that our remarks of previous months are beginning to bear fruit. There is every possibility that the strenuous exertions undergone in the past by Headquarters are likely at last to provide us with a fair amount of opposition.

Winter Training.—The Schemes drawn up for winter training promise to be both interesting and instructive. The N.C.O. Operator's Course, which is at present in progress, is being keenly attended and cannot fail to be successful if the same interest is maintained until the completion of the Course.

Boxing.—The ring has been erected and, whilst not wishing to go into greater detail at present, we are very satisfied with the progress which is being made.

KNOCK KNOCK.

No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company.

General.—Winter training has now become of primary importance and is being attended in good numbers by N.C.O.s and men who are very keen to become possessors of higher ratings, which, of course, carry higher rates of pay. Although the place of next year's Camp has not been officially disclosed, this is being very ardently discussed, and many guesses have been put forward, which include Scarborough and Whitby. It is, however, left to the powers that be to divulge the place. Here's to a place somewhere on the South Coast.

Musketry.—We offer our congratulations to Lance Corporal Harris E. R. for his fine effort in winning the Musketry Cup for the year 1936. He was closely followed by Signalman Elliott C., who also put up a fine attempt, only to be beaten by two points.

Congratulations are also offered to Signalman Walker E. H., who has won the Efficiency Cup for the year 1936. A very fine effort indeed by this man.

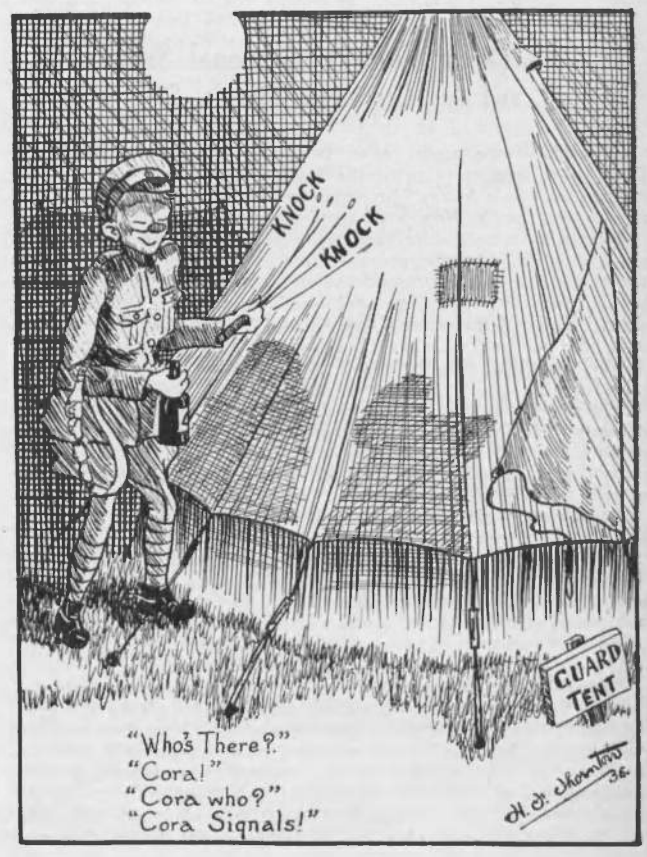
Promotions.—To Lance Corporal Thornton H. F. we extend hearty congratulations on his promotion to the rank of Corporal. Also to Signalman Harris E. R., who has now become Lance Corporal.

Strength.—To Lance Sergeant Tolliday T. H. congratulations are due on his marriage. This item should have appeared in last month's issue, but was inadvertently omitted ; but better late than never. Bon voyage, " Tolly " ! With a cargo of happiness and prosperity always in your hold may your only squalls be little ones.

Badminton.—The badminton team has now been resurrected on entirely different lines, has become an added attraction, and is very popular in the Company. Lieutenant-Colonel T. T. J. Sheffield did us the honour of opening the season by bringing to our Drill Hall his private party to oppose us on the badminton court. This game ended by Colonel Sheffield's team winning easily, but many points of the game were learned by which we will benefit. On Friday, 13th November, we entertained the Headquarter staff from Darlington and gave them a very good game on the badminton court, which ended in a win for our team by nine games to seven. The return game at Darlington is being looked forward to very keenly.

Knock-knock.—It has just come to our notice that we possess in the Company talent which has been laying dormant and was discovered by accident. Here is our artist's first attempt which follows the present craze. We invite the other Companies to emulate.

MIDBRO.



No. 3 (Gateshead) Company.

Departures and Arrivals.—The departure of old friends, despite the arrival of others whom we already know and appreciate, always causes real regret, and this month the following changes have become operative :

Company Commander.—It is with sincere regret that we bid farewell to Captain R. Stevenson-Wight. We can only hope that we will meet him again often. How short a time it seems since he assumed command. The happy occasion was a " smoker " and the highlight of the evening was a ballad devised revised, exercised and formally executed by Captain Wight. Forgiveness will surely be forthcoming when it is stated that the ballad brought tears to the eyes. But we did work like —— in No. 3, didn't we ? Au revoir, good luck and good health, sir !

Captain J. G. Hopkins.—A hearty welcome to our new Company Commander. The wagon is already hitched to a star, but is ready to move to any higher, brighter constellation which you may happen to find.

C.S.M. Widgery.—Transferred to No. 2 (Middlesbrough) Company. His stay in Gateshead was brief. Although marred by ill-health, he quickly established himself a warm favourite. Many members of No. 3 will miss his numerous acts of personal kindness. It is a matter of satisfaction to know that he is not lost to the Unit. A warning, however ; look after him in Middlesbrough.

The C.S.M., a bachelor gay,
Found a tavern at Redcar-by-Sea,
And at the close of each very warm day
To that tavern repair-ed he.
He paid four pennies for a wee soda water.
We wonder ; was it thirst or that landlady's daughter ?

C.S.M. Woodcock.—Posted vice C.S.M. Widgery. We offer him a warm welcome. The occasions on which we have met before recall pleasant memories. We are extremely happy in the appointment.

Annual Bounty.—There was a good turn-out ! Of course, the occasion was of some little importance, but cannot we have an encore in the matter of attendance when the winter Courses commence ?

Winter Training.—An Operator's Course is now in progress and is being well attended. There are more to follow, and those who wish to make advancement in the Company are particularly advised to attend. Interesting lectures in what may aptly be described as one's own club are surely a valuable diversion during the cold winter nights.

Marriage.—Since the return of the Unit from annual training at Redcar Cupid has been working overtime hereabouts. The latest to fall in " two deep " is Lance Sergeant Snooks T. If Cupid and Redcar worked the trick, Tommy, may you never regret either. Hearty congratulations and good luck !

THREECOY

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Unit Headquarters and No. 1 (Aberdeen) Company.

Training.—The issue of Training Memorandum and Training Instruction No. 23 will give Company Commanders an opportunity of arranging the winter's work in good time and will prove of value in showing the trades requiring special efforts.

We hear various rumours about our 1937 Camp site ; some are cheering, others less so.

No. 1 Company 90 hours' Course for operators is in full swing. Twenty O.R.s are attending ; 16 of these are 1936 recruits. This Course concludes on 28th December, but others for operators and linemen are planned for the New Year.

Annual Dinner.—The venue for this event varies. It is a fixed practice that each Company in turn undertakes the arrangements, always keeping in mind the desirability of having the meeting at a place which is easily accessible to all. If a triangle were drawn with the three Company Headquarters " out at the elbows " it would probably be found that the Abertay lightship would be (speaking as the crow flies) just as central as anywhere, but in the search for a suitable pub the perfect reconnaissance of the organisers fixed on an ideal county inn, Gleneagles " to boot.

However, Hallow-e'en, 1936, will be long remembered. There were no treacle scones, paper hats or (as far as we know) false faces, but the carnival spirit was not lacking. Those who are familiar with this annual event will realise that we can say no better of it than that it equalled, if not surpassed, our best previous efforts.

Amongst those present at the dinner were Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Snatt, M.C., C.S.O., Scottish Command, Colonel E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., T.D., D./C.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Robertson, D.C.M., Commanding 52nd (L.) Divisional Signals, and Major V. D. Warren and Captain R. A. Forsyth, 52nd (L.) Divisional Signals, Wing-Commander Noakes, R.A.F. Base, Leuchars, Major Douglas, Secretary, Fifeshire T.A.A., Dr. Sellar and representatives from the Depot, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Depot, R.A.O.C., and 7th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The following officers of the Unit attended : Colonel R. J. Nicol, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel E. Birnie Reid, Majors D. P. Levack and T. P. E. Murray, Captains L. W. J. Dryland, A. H. Lennie, M.M., J. W. Levack, A. T. Wood, R. B. Williamson and J. Cochran, Lieutenants J. Gray, J. J. Donald, A. D. Davidson, D. J. Bogie and W. R. Muirhead and 2nd Lieutenants A. Fraser, T. A. Stewart, W. G. Mitchell, D. L Campbell and J. McLaren.

Dances.—The first sergeants' dance of the season was held on 30th October. Although the M.C. was rather bored with talking to himself during the early part of the evening, things livened up towards midnight and quite a large number spent a very enjoyable evening. The first all ranks' dance was held on 13th November and was attended by the C.O., Second-in-Command, O.C. and officers of No. 1 Company and a large gathering of O.R.s. This dance, as usual, was a splendid show and was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody.

Sport.—Those of us who were privileged to attend the instructional classes in connection with judging and refereeing of boxing have brought away a very high opinion of the suitability of Captain S. N. Byrne, D.C.M., for the position he holds as O.C., P.T., Scottish Command. Many, perhaps most, of the officers attending would be content to be considered as referees in the pre-novice class. The sort of people who think they do not know anything, and they're quite right. Surely no one could make referees with such material in the short period devoted to the Course, but Captain Byrne and his assistant, C.S.M. Weir J., at Maryhill, with the help of the various boxers at the Depot, have created a new interest. The method of instruction has surely made everyone determined that such a thorough grounding in the difficult tasks of judging, and more particularly refereeing, is augmented as opportunity offers. Army boxing, conducted on the lines demonstrated, leaves the impression that it is a far more sporting thing than the average civilian bouts available to most of us. Altogether a most instructive and amusing Course.

The Badminton Club are very active this season and held their their first match on Saturday, 31st October. Although badly beaten, our standard of play, as a whole, is improving, and it is hoped to record a win in the near future.

Competition.—Readers are invited to send in a suitable alternative to the last line for the following :

They hang up a nice diet sheet
To make sure that we know what we eat.
When asked to arrange
To give us a change
Quartie says, " Upside-down for next week."

There will be no prize offered other than the surprise the winner will have in seeing his lines printed in these columns. To ensure absolute fairness in this literary test the judges will be a committee of Company Cooks, whose decision will be final. Complete limericks on the same topic are invited. All efforts, in fairness to the judges, to be confined to three courses.

Conclusion.—

Now as the festive season nearer draws
May we in kindness bid you pause
Before you disbelieve in Santa Claus.
Have you forgot him ?
Or are you one believing, without cause,
The Aberdonian shot him ?
We use this space (counting our bawbees)
To get this message through, sans postage fees.
Signals all, at home or overseas,
We gladly wish you
A merry Christmas and this chance would seize
To say " God bless you."

No. 2 (Stirling) Company.

Training.—Winter Courses now having passed the half-way stage, we are soon hoping to be able to sort out the chaff from the grain and concentrate on those who are most fitted to appear before the first Trade Board, which is not so far off now. The recruits' classes are showing great promise, and it is hoped that by the end of the winter training season that our strength of both operators and linemen will be somewhere near what it should be. The first Course is due to end on 24th December and arrangements are under way for the second of these Courses to commence immediately the effects of the New Year's celebrations have passed off.

Strength.—We are in the proud position of being able to report that we are now allowed 10 per cent. over strength, and applications for entry into the Company still continue to arrive. It is also nice to say that the present applications are from men rather above the average type, and we hope to absorb some of these into the Company in the near future.

Departures.—Followers of this Company's activities will be interested to hear that another of our stalwarts, to wit, Sergeant Thomson J. W., for many years our Pay Sergeant, has been forced to leave us owing to the age limit. We certainly did not like to lose him, but, as he says himself, " All good things come to an end." This month also sees another change in Stirling, because the Company P.S.I., Sergeant Law J., leaves the Company on relief and goes into civilian life to work for his living for a change. Opportunity was taken on Thursday evening, the 5th, to present him with a parting gift from the other ranks of the Company. This took the form of a canteen of cutlery suitably inscribed and a cigarette case and lighter (with petrol complete). The gifts were presented by C.S.M. Todd, who in a few well-chosen words on behalf of the other ranks of the Company wished Sergeant Law the very best of luck in civil life. In reply, Sergeant Law thanked all present for their wishes. He said that he was remaining in the town and hoped to see many of us. He in turn wished everyone, and the Unit in general, the very best of luck.

Arrivals.—We welcomed Sergeant Price from Edinburgh, who arrived here via Aberdeen on Saturday last to take over the duties of P.S.I. of the Company. All ranks of the Company wish him every success and hope that his stay in Stirling with the Company will be a happy one. The fact that his arrival coincided with the disappearance of a famous relic from a nearby monument was commented upon, but we have quite satisfied ourselves that he was in no way responsible. It was purely a coincidence.

Finis.—The scribe, having now reached the allotted span in the Service, in this, his swan song, wishes all those who knew him the very best of luck, success to the Corps, and to this Unit in particular. He hopes that he will yet have the opportunity to meet many of the friends he made in the Corps at future functions.

Tuco.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals and Supplementary Reserve Units.

21, Jardine Street, Glasgow, N.W.

Glasgow's Greetings.—To our comrades in the Corps, at home and abroad, we wish a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Revolver Results.—Once again we have done well in the 3rd Warwicks (Birmingham) Revolver Shooting Competition. We achieved third place this time, but are a step down on our second place last year. Nevertheless, we are well satisfied with our position in this year's Competition.

Arrival.—We heartily welcome ex-Lance Corporal Steel J,. who has commenced duty in the Lieutenant-Quartermaster's department.

A Record ?—The deeply regretted death of Corporal Gilbert Macdonald at Gailes in July ended a record of service perhaps unequalled in the annals of the Corps. We had five brothers serving in our Units. Their total service amounted to fifty years. Three of the brothers were sergeants, two were corporals. Four of the Macdonald brothers are, of course, still with us. We have read of records of service in THE WIRE, but we believe the case of the Macdonalds of Glasgow is unique.

Recruits' Resource.—Some of our youngsters take a bit of beating. The latest example of the resourceful lad who went direct to the fountain head to gain his point is instanced in the following letter to the Commanding Officer : Dear Sir,—Would you please inform me as to when the Regimental dance takes place ? Yours in anticipation, Signalman ——, No. 3 Company.

Macdougall's Memory.—There is one of the name Macdougall, a sergeant in the D.R. Section of our S.R. Units. Macdougall is one of the best patrons of the Sergeants' Mess Library. Mac. borrows books by the square yard. He is a very learned man. He is honest, but his memory is faulty. He returns the books in " sidecar fulls " at intervals of three months. So say the watchful sages of the beer bar.

The Commentator.—We had a film show for the technical classes on 4th November. The commentator failed to put in an appearance. It has been said that opportunity comes to each one of us at least once in a lifetime. There was one who waited on the opportunity of addressing his fellow men. That man was " Honest John " Schofield, better known as " The Silent Sayer." John had always been known as a man of silence and strength. His maximum utterances for any given week have never been known to exceed thirty words. But the day of transfiguration had arrived. Silent Schofield assumed the role of film commentator. The audience gaped ! Schofield spoke ! He spoke for minutes, for hours. Wonder of wonders ! The film finished. Schofield spoke on. He could not be throttled. Finally, his vocal organs failed him. Ceased was the melody of his voice. Yet Schofield has spoken. He has since reverted to his role of stoical silence.

Sergeants' Mess.—The annual general meeting on 6th November was a happy affair. Everything came out on the right side. We have survived the depression. Our bank balance is entirely in order. It is a long time since we have had such a successful year. C.Q.M.S. Marshall, Treasurer Roberts and Secretary McCulloch deserve the laurels. They have done their jobs well. We are grateful to them. Last, but not least, there is no one better deserving of our thanks than Caterer John Christie. We owe him much for piloting us on a safe course throughout the year.

The Armistice.—We observed Armistice Day by sending a contingent to the parade at the Cenotaph, George Square, Glasgow. Our contingent was commanded by Captain J. C. Anderson, who was assisted by Lieutenant R. Graham.

Obituary.—We extend our sincere condolences to C.Q.M.S. Marshall T. A. on the death of his mother. He may rest assured that he has the deepest sympathy of his comrades in his great loss.

53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals.

Drill Hall, Park Street, Cardiff.

This has been a busy month socially, although training has not been neglected. An officers' lecture takes place each week, concluding with a morse class for increasing speed.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s invited the officers to a Games Tournament on 21st October ; no quarter was given or taken, but pints were in great demand. The P.M.C., with customary tact, declared the result to be a draw. Extraordinary how evenly matched the two sides have been for many years. During the evening a presentation from the W.O.s and N.C.O.s of the Unit, as a token of their esteem, was made to Captain R. T. H. Gelston. The present was a soup tureen suitably inscribed. Captain Gelston, responding, recalled the happy times he had spent with the Unit and thanked them for their loyal and generous support.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s held their fifteenth annual dinner at the Carlton Hotel, Cardiff, on Saturday, 31st October. The repast, judging by the benevolent expressions of everyone, and the hiccoughs, was excellent. A toast to the 53rd (Welsh) Divisional Signals (T.A.) was proposed by Captain R. T. H. Gelston. " Tradition " was his keynote. The Unit, he pointed out, was but sixteen years old and had the enormous advantage of being able to record with accuracy the history of events from its commencement. Such a record has been compiled for the Officers' Mess and the W.O.s and N.C.O.s are believed to be following their example. In years to come members of this Unit will thus possess an invaluable and unique history of their Unit. The Commanding Officer, Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., T.D., responded. He delivered the great news that next year's Camp would be at Hereford. He appealed for further efforts in recruiting so that he could hand over a Unit up to strength to his successor,

Major W. G. Trice. He referred to his impending retirement and asked for the same support to be given to Major W. G. Trice as had been given to him.

A presentation was made to ex-C.Q.M.S. Dickson, who recently completed his service with the Unit. He received a grandfather clock. It is appropriate that he is a grandfather. He referred to the W.O.s and N.C.O.s' Mess as the best in Cardiff and urged junior members of the Mess to appreciate the facilities which it offered. The remainder of his speech is better left out of print.

Sergeant Forse, the P.M.C., in toasting the officers, certainly spoke the truth when he stated that a fine comradeship between officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s definitely existed. "Walla, walla," I take it, refers to Exchange operators' faults.

Major W. G. Trice responded. He regretted that we were to lose Colonel Seel as a Commanding Officer, a sentiment echoed by everyone present.

Colonel A. Hier-Davies, D.S.O., T.D., on behalf of the visitors, expressed thanks for being asked to this function. He was particularly concerned with the state of recruiting for the T.A. and said it was astounding that with so many lads in Cardiff of the right type difficulty was experienced in bringing the Units up to strength.

Colonel R. G. Llewellyn, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., was reminded of his own despondency when giving up command and could well appreciate Colonel Seel's feelings at the present time. He cheered us, however, with the prospect of Colonel Seel becoming D.C.S.O. in the near future.

The evening's entertainment was provided by Messrs. F. J. Davey, T. Williams and S. Morgan, with Mr. C. Cox at the piano. It was really a fine show. The committee are to be congratulated on the success of the function. The best ever.

A good deal of discussion took place about next year's Camp at Hereford. Some of us have happy recollections of 1928 in that neighbourhood. The evening wound up to the accompaniment of more hiccoughs and an adjournment to the Drill Hall.

A smoking concert was held at the Drill Hall on 4th November, with R.S.M. McCormick R. presiding. A cigarette box was presented to Captain R. T. H. Gelston from members of the canteen. Thanking them, Captain Gelston expressed his regret at severing his connection with the Unit; his stay of over four years had been most happy.

The Commanding Officer made a presentation of a hot-water jug and coffee pot to R.S.M. McCormick R. and thanked him for his services, which, it is regretted, terminate in February next. R.S.M. McCormick, replying, stressed the importance of supporting the Unit in all its activities. It was up to everyone to do his share.

Sergeant Forse, on behalf of the W.O.s and N.C.O.s, presented a cheque to C.S.M. McLachlan P., who has also completed his tour of duty. His Company Commander, Captain W. R. Hawkins, who praised his services and regretted his departure, presented him with a watch. C.S.M. McLachlan said he had enjoyed his time with the Unit one hundred per cent.; in fact the best three years he had ever spent.

We were delighted to welcome our new Adjutant, Captain R. H. Copeland. Introducing himself, he looked forward to spending four happy years with the Unit.

The Rhondda Gleemen provided the evening's programme, and right well they did it. Let us not leave matters at this stage without assuring those good friends who are leaving us that we don't forget. All the best!

There was a happy gathering in the Officers' Mess on Tuesday evening, 10th November. Captain R. T. H. Gelston, who was departing the next day for Catterick, gave the officers something to remember him by. It took the form of a special brew served hot. Yes, they remembered him the following morning? Good luck to them both!

We take our hats off to the soccer team, who, in their last two matches, have scored an aggregate of nineteen goals. On this form they should get through the second round of the T.A. Cup in their match against the 7th R.W.F.s on 12th December. Keep it up, lads!

Congratulations to Major W. S. Catleugh, our worthy Quartermaster, on attaining that rank. He has many things coming to him. This was one. At the moment he is inconsolable. His pal from the town of Ballymuck has deserted him.

Good old "K" Section! Congratulations on winning the "Llewellyn" Trophy for the best average score per man on the .22 range.

The W.O.s and N.C.O.s held their annual Armistice dance at the Drill Hall, Park Street, on Wednesday night, 11th November. About 250 were present and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Lance Sergeant Hawkins was the M.C. Sergeant Baxter and his committee are to be congratulated on such a fine show. Our C.O., Colonel R. C. Seel, M.C., T.D., and Mrs. Seel, with most of the Unit officers, attended. They obviously enjoyed themselves judging by the length of their stay.

The London Divisional Signals.

Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, S.W.12.
16th November.

Officers' Mess Annual Dinner, 22nd October.—the 1936 dinner will be remembered as being the first occasion on which the Unit has had the honour of entertaining the Secretary of State for War. Mr. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P., not only dined with the officers, but afterwards went all round the Drill Hall and paid the Unit the compliment of being very thorough in this inspection. During the course of his tour he visited the Sergeants' Mess and stayed there for some time talking to the dozen or so members who were present. Among the other guests were Major-General B. N. Sergison-Brooke, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the General Officer Commanding, London District. Our own Divisional Commander, Major-General P. R. C. Commings, was unavoidably absent through illness and his place was taken by Colonel G. M. Giles, M.C., T.D., the Commander of the 2nd (London) Infantry Brigade. Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., the Colonel-Commandant of the Corps, was present, as well as the Chairman of the City of London Territorial Army Association, Brigadier-General the Earl Lucan, K.B.E., C.B., T.D., and Sir Stanley Machin, one of its prominent members. The Commanding Officers of Territorial Army Units in London formed the bulk of the remaining guests.

After the loyal toasts the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. C. Willway, welcomed Mr. Duff Cooper and the other guests. The Commanding Officer emphasised the trouble Mr. Duff Cooper had taken to make himself acquainted, at first hand, with the problems of the Territorial Army. He stressed the importance of the provision of good Headquarters as an aid to recruiting and illustrated his point by referring to the fact that when the City of London Signals left Calthorpe Street, "easily the worst Headquarters in London," its strength was only 43 per cent. of establishment. That was only three years ago, and yet the strength of the Unit was now 95 per cent. of establishment. Not even the strenuous efforts of his predecessor, Colonel Ozanne, could have achieved that result at Calthorpe Street. The Commanding Officer admitted that this Unit has the reputation of being expensive, but he contended that cheapness was not consistent with efficiency. The capital outlay on this Headquarters, including the generous contribution of the Association, was approximately £25,000. From figures supplied to him showing the cost of this Unit per week during Annual Camp he deduced that the cost in pay alone of a Regular Divisional Signals must be well over £30,000 per annum. Making all allowances for the difference in efficiency of a Regular and a Territorial Army Unit, he ventured the opinion that the City of London Signals, now practically up to strength, was not a bad dividend on the original outlay. While good Headquarters, he said, and good publicity went far towards attracting the right type of man to the T.A., something more than this was needed to keep him interested and enthusiastic once he had joined. That something was the provision of modern equipment. The Territorial Army had existed, uncomplaining, for many years with its out-of-date equipment, but now that times were more propitious he prayed Mr. Duff Cooper to remember this matter. In conclusion, the Commanding Officer spoke of the great regret felt by all present at the absence, through illness, of Major-General Commings. No gathering of a Divisional Signals was complete without the presence of its Divisional Commander. He also spoke with regret of the impending retirement of that very good friend of the City of London Signals, Colonel Evelyn Wood, the Secretary of the City of London Territorial Army Association.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. F. Allan, the Officer Commanding, Line of Communication Signals, S.R., then proposed the toast of "The Guests." He spoke of the difficulties experienced by Mr. Duff Cooper in overcoming the pacifism of the last eighteen years and which had made it so difficult to recruit for the Army,

both Regular and Territorial. He welcomed Brigadier H. Clementi Smith, the Representative Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals, and also Colonel Giles and the other guests present, who might be said to represent the Territorial Army in London.

Mr. Duff Cooper, Secretary of State for War, responding to the toast of "The Guests," spoke of his slight embarrassment at speaking in the presence of two very senior officers of his old regiment, Major-General B. N. Sergison-Brooke and Colonel J. S. Hughes. Speaking of the future, he stressed the fact that this country received from its citizens more unpaid, unrecognised and unrewarded service than any other. The Territorial Army had survived a long period when, through financial stringency, it suffered from neglect. Speaking of the strength of the Army, he pointed out that ours is almost the only Government in Europe which has to persuade men to join its Army. This country, therefore, must make service in the Army an attractive, sound proposition. He emphasised that a strong Britain was the best security for world peace. He mentioned that Admiral H. W. Grant, who was sitting next to him, had quoted the motto of the Gunnery School at Portsmouth, "If you want peace prepare for war."

Colonel G. M. Giles, M.C., T.D., Commander, 2nd (London) Infantry Brigade, proposing the toast "City of London Signals," spoke of the remarkable increase in the strength of the Unit since its arrival at Signal House. He mentioned the various methods which had been used to obtain recruits and expressed his pleasure that the Unit was now firmly established in this locality. In the regrettable absence of the Divisional Commander he felt that he should mention the difficulty, if not impossibility, for a Divisional Signals to function unless the closest possible liaison was effected between its officers and those of other branches of the service. A gathering of the senior officers of the Division, such as was then present in the Officers' Mess of the Divisional Signals, was, perhaps, the best way to effect such a liaison.

Colonel J. C. Denison Pender, the Honorary Colonel, announced that he had that morning received a letter from the Secretary of the Royal Tournament inviting the City of London Signals to provide a display by their despatch riders at the forthcoming Royal Tournament. It gave him great pleasure to make this announcement and he hoped that Mr. Duff Cooper would take that opportunity to see something more of the Unit and its work. He lamented the fact that other speakers, notably Colonel Giles, had already said all that he had intended to say. He paid a striking tribute to Mr. Duff Cooper and the present Government.

Divisional Commander's Inspection.—The Divisional Commander was, unfortunately, unable to carry out his inspection on Friday, 16th October, owing to an indisposition. We shall look forward to seeing him at Headquarters at some future date.

Officers' T.E.W.T. at Oxford.—The Commanding Officer and eleven other officers spent a pleasant week-end, based on the Clarendon Hotel at Oxford, studying imaginary problems similar to those confronting the troops in Palestine. For the purpose of this Exercise, the Cotswolds and the surrounding country had become a mandated territory, the inhabitants of which had risen in revolt. Various problems both of communications and tactics were discussed. Of the lessons learnt the chief one was that under certain circumstances visual telegraphy becomes a very valuable means of inter-communication. The second lesson was the limitations imposed by the "official" range of the No. 1 W/T Set. Incidentally, we hear from an officer recently returned from Palestine that, with a modified aerial, this Set is capable of being used for speech or morse over very considerable distances. Had we possessed this knowledge before, and not after the T.E.W.T., many of us would have been saved much thought.

Individual Training, Paid Courses.—These started on 3rd November and are being well attended. It is hoped that the efforts of the instructors will result in good Trade Board results.

Dances.—These are now in full swing. The attendances at the first two were disappointing, although it was noticed that an increasingly large number of members of the Unit are getting the habit. The Sergeants' Mess dance on Saturday, 7th November, made up for the previous lack of numbers. The hall was well filled and we were glad to welcome a large number of the members of the Sergeants' Messes of other T.A. Units in London. Particularly pleased were we to see five members of the London Corps Signals. We think they enjoyed themselves and hope they will come again.

Camp, 1937.—As these notes go to press we hear that our Camp next summer will almost certainly be Dibgate, near Shorncliffe. Older members of the Unit will remember Camp there in 1934. The dates are not yet settled definitely, but will, of course, be round about August Bank Holiday.

Armistice Sunday Church Parade.—As usual, the Unit marched to church on Armistice Sunday, 8th November. The Unit was commanded by Captain A. V. D. Hort. The Commanding Officer, who returned specially from Gloucestershire for the purpose, inspected the parade after the service and took the salute at the "March Past" afterwards. City of London Signals were accompanied by their band. The contingent of the Clapham Branch of the British Legion was accompanied by the band of the 2nd City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers). After the service inside the church a short memorial service was conducted by the vicar at the war memorial. The two bands accompanied the singing. The band of the City of London Signals also played during the inspection.

Armistice Day Service at the London Troops War Memorial at the Royal Exchange.—Two officers and eight other ranks formed the quota allotted to this Unit and, together with representatives of all other T.A. Units in London, attended the service. The Commanding Officer, who was a member of the entourage of the Lord Mayor, was also present.

Festival of Remembrance of the British Legion at the Albert Hall.—Eight other ranks, under the command of C.S.M. London A. J., were present in the capacity of a representative detachment of the Unit on the evening of Armistice Day.

Christmas Greetings.—All ranks of the City of London Signals send their hearty greetings to all ranks of the Corps, past and present, of the Regular Army, Territorial Army and the Supplementary Reserve for a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

C. O. L. S.

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SPORTS NOTES

Signal Training Centre.

S.T.C. CROSS-COUNTRY.

North Yorkshire and South Durham Harriers League.—The second and third runs have been held at Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool respectively. In each of these runs a senior and junior team was entered from the S.T.C. Plenty of talent has been discovered from the "Mackworth" runs and, as a result of this, the S.T.C. teams are still leading in points and hold the top positions in the League. All the runners have shown the greatest keenness and are to be congratulated on their success. Although the lead is now only one point in the Senior League, there is little doubt that in the final three runs the S.T.C. teams will hold their own.

The junior team has run excellently throughout and is far superior to the opposition encountered up to date. Detailed results of the last two runs are given below. The remaining three runs will be at R.A.F., Thornaby, on 21st November, at Billingham on 28th November, and the final run at Darlington on 12th December. Full results will be given later.

RESULT OF SECOND RUN HELD AT MIDDLESBROUGH ON 24TH OCTOBER.

SENIOR RACE.—Winners: Darlington Harriers, 40 points.

Scoring.		*Totals to Date.*
R.Signals	58	84
Darlington	40	106
Middlesbrough	101	234
Synthonia	138	285
R.A.F.	205	378
Hartlepool	237	553

R.Signals Individual Placings (six to count): Signalman Neve, 3; Corporal Bucke, 4; Signalman Batchelor, 5; Boy Campion, 13; *Signalman Craig*, 15; *Signalman Mackinnon*, 18; Lance Corporal Boy Brewster, 20; *Lance Corporal Boy Butler*, 21; *Lance Corporal Blades*, 22.

(Those in italics ran in the "Fast" pack and conceded three minutes.)

JUNIOR RACE.—Winners: R.Signals.

Individual Placings (four to count): Boy Clover, 1; Boy Roberts, 2; Boy Richards, 3; Boy Watson, 4; Boy McKenna, 5; Boy Valentine, 6; Boy Holness, 8; Boy Halstead, 9.

RESULT OF THIRD RUN HELD AT WEST HARTLEPOOL ON 7TH NOVEMBER.

SENIORS.—Winners: Darlington Harriers.

Scoring.		*Totals to Date.*
R.Signals	78	162
Darlington	57	163
Middlesbrough	133	367
Synthonia	143	428
R.A.F.	175	554
West Hartlepool	193	746

Individual Placings: Signalman McCormack, 3; Signalman Lutener, 12; Signalman Mills, 13; *Lance Corporal Blades*, 15; *Signalman Neve*, 17; Signalman McLean, 18; Signalman Legg, 20; *Corporal Bucke*, 21; *Lance Corporal Boy Butler*, 23; *Signalman Mackinnon*, 26; Lance Corporal Boy Brewster, 34; *Signalman Batchelor*, 36.

(Those in italics ran in the "Fast" pack and conceded three minutes.)

JUNIORS.—Winners: R.Signals.

Individual Placings: Boy Clover, 1; Boy Roberts, 2; Boy Jones, 3; Boy Valentine, 4; Boy McKenna, 5; Boy Watson, 6; Boy Richards, 7.

"Mackworth" Cross-country.—The final run for the "Mackworth" Cross-country Shield took place on Wednesday, 11th November. The final order, combining the results of all three runs, was as follows:

1, "F" Company; 2, School of Signals; 3, "D" Company; 4, Mounted Wing; 5, Dismounted Wing; 6, "E" Company.

The Individual Cup was won by Boy Roberts D., "F" Company, after a great run. This boy is not yet seventeen and has the makings of a very good distance runner.

The team's leading runners, who will receive S.T.C. "Jimmies," were Boy Roberts, Signalman Batchelor, Signalman Mackinnon, Boy Clover, Lance Corporal Boy Butler, Boy Valentine, Signalman Neve, Boy Watson, Signalman Craig, and Lance Corporal Blades.

Training Battalion.

Swimming.—During the past two years the interest in this branch of sport has increased immensely and the weekly half-hour which was allotted to each Company at the baths was looked forward to by many. In all, over one hundred qualified at sixty yards under K.R.s, paragraph 798, during the past season.

On Tuesday, 29th September, the Battalion held its annual swimming gala, which was well supported both by entrants and spectators. The Battalion swimming team gave a short display of swimming and diving during the interval, and a good laugh was caused by the rescue of the "maiden" in distress. Details of events and winners:

"F" Company, Boys under 16: Boy Smith.
"F" Company, Boys over 16: Boy Moore.
Team Handicap: Signalman Moore, "E" Company.
"E" Company, Free Style: Signalman Johns.
"D" Company, Free Style: Signalman Webb.
Breast Stroke: Signalman Moore, "E" Company.
Candle Race: Signalman Neve, "E" Company.
Undressing Race: Signalman Moore, "E" Company.
Balloon Race: Signalman Taylor W., "E" Company.
Open Diving: Boy Barr.
Diving for Plates: Boy Finnegan.
Inter-Company Race: "E" Company.

The Battalion swimming team have also had a very successful season and completed the "double" by winning the Water Polo Cup and the "Catterick Journal" Challenge Cup for the best swimming Unit.

In the Water Polo six matches were played, with the following results:

versus	Depot Battalion, R.Signals	Won	9—2
	4th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps	Won	12—2
	Details, East Lancashire Regiment	Won	14—2
	Details, Cheshire Regiment	Won	11—1
	21st Field Brigade, R.A.	Drew	7—7
	21st Field Brigade, R.A. (replay)	Won	5—4

At the Garrison Swimming Meeting the Battalion team also did very well, winning four individual and seven team events:

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS.

100 Yards Enlisted Boys: Boy Finnegan.
100 Yards Back Stroke: Signalman Neve, "E" Company.
440 Yards Free Style: Signalman Neve, "E" Company.
Diving: Boy Barr.

TEAM EVENTS.

One Length Relay (team of six).
Three Lengths Relay (team of six).
Five Lengths Relay (team of four).
Variety Race (team of five).
440 Yards Relay (team of two).
Plunging (team of two).
Diving (team of two).

In the Medley Race we were second to the 21st Field Brigade, R.A., this being the only team event which we lost. The team consisted of the following: Lance Corporal Boy Brewster; Boys Finnegan, Barr and Holness; Signalmen Connett, Mark and Mole, "D" Company; Sergeant Hart and Signalmen Moore, Neve, Taylor W. and Yates, "E" Company.

School of Signals.

Soccer.—The soccer team are going strong in the Garrison Company League. Here are the results to date:

v.	Royal Signals 1	Lost	2—3
v.	"Q" Bty., R.A.	Won	5—0
v.	Royal Scots "B"	Won	9—3

In the first round of the " Mackworth " Trophy Competition we again had to bow the knee to the Mounted Wing, after a very close game, by two goals to one.

Billiards.—The billiards team have been getting plenty of practice and are very confident of winning the Inter-Company League and Cup for the second year in succession. On the 5th inst. we entertained Mounted Wing, runners-up last year, and beat them by five games to one. This is a very good start, which we hope will be maintained.

Hockey.—Owing to the " Mackworth " Competition being played later this season, friendly games are being played only. This season there are many new players who may have to carry on the good work in future seasons. We had a most enjoyable game with No. 9 Flying Training School at Thornaby-on-Tees on Wednesday, 6th November, when we lost 2—3. The ground, which was very soft on top, rather handicapped us after being so used to a hard ground. The R.A.F. were two goals to the good before we settled down. Signalmen Lutener, Healey and Young, not forgetting Lieutenant Sanders, who is skipper, have pulled their weight in the Garrison eleven and brought added honour to the School.

Rugby.—With a view to keeping the grip on the " Mackworth " Rugby Shield, the School fifteen are having intensive practice at every opportunity and we are again assured of turning out a strong School side this season. A number of the team assisted the Depot Battalion to reach the final of the " Cobb-Nicholls " Cup, which was played at Aldershot. Two were also selected to play in a Corps trial. One of these, Lance Corporal Beck, was finally selected to play for the Corps as back, but was unable to do so owing to an injury received whilst playing for the Depot Battalion. It was very hard luck for him. We are pleased to see that he is fit and well again and ready to do battle in the " Mackworth " Competition.

Cross-country.—The main item of interest this month has been the great success of the School cross-country team. All the runners showed great keenness and stuck to their training, with the result that the School gained second place in the final order of the three " Mackworth " runs. Signalmen Mackinnon and Craig are to be congratulated on obtaining S.T.C. " Jimmies " for the second year in succession. The success of the team gives the School a far better chance in the struggle for the " Mackworth " Trophy. Well done, the runners !

Team : Corporals Bucke and Smith and Signalmen Mackinnon, Craig, Todd, Lutener, Quinn, Mills, Legg and Hodgson R.

Reserves : Lance Corporal Lafford and Signalmen Cross, Williams A. E. and Hallett.

" D " Company Training Battalion.

Shooting.—To date we have won two matches and lost one, our victims being Mounted Wing and " F " Company and our victors Dismounted Wing. A considerable amount of talent is available and selecting teams is somewhat eased.

Football.—In the " Mackworth " Trophy Competition we have reached the final and are due to meet the Mounted Wing on 19th November. We defeated " F " Company by three goals to one after a very thrilling game. The play was of a high standard and " F " Company were unfortunate in being defeated. The Company team will visit Bishop Auckland Social Service Centre, A.F.C., on 14th November for the annual fixture. So keen are members to attend that many would-be spectators to fill the 32-seater bus have had to be refused. More will be said about this match in our next issue.

Rugby.—The team is putting in plenty of good practice and we hope to put up good performances in the " Mackworth " Trophy Competition.

Cross-country Running.—To date there have been three " Mackworth " runs held and the Company did fairly well in each run. It is rumoured that the team intend turning out with the Catterick Garrison Beagles—just to show them how.



TRAINING BATTALION SWIMMING TEAM.

Standing (left to right)—Signalman Connett, " D " Company ; Lance Corporal Boy Brewster, " F " Company ; Signalman Yates, " E " Company ; Signalman Taylor W. A., " E " Company ; Signalman Barr, " E " Company ; Signalman Moore, " E " Company ; Signalman Neve, " E " Company.

Seated (left to right)—Boy Holness, " F " Company ; Boy Finnigan, " F " Company ; Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., Officer Commanding ; Sergeant Hart, " E " Company ; Boy Barr, " F " Company ; Signalman Mark, " D " Company.

"F" Company, Training Battalion.

Football.—In the first round of the "Mackworth" Trophy (soccer) we defeated the Dismounted Wing by four goals to nil and, consequently, met our old rivals, "D" Company, in the semi-final.

We met "D" Company on Saturday, 7th November. Both teams were up to the mark. At the kick-off "D" Company rushed through and came dangerously near to scoring. At the interval neither team had scored. Soon after the recommencement Sergeant Murphy scored for us. Immediately afterwards "D" Company equalised, and then began a ding-dong struggle for a winning goal. Ainsworth netted for "F" Company, but the goal was disallowed by the referee as being offside. "Don" then scored twice in rapid succession and qualified for the final. Although we were beaten, we consider it was by a better team, who will, we hope, deservedly win the final.

Rugby.—As a Company we have only played one friendly match this season, once more against "D" Company, who were beaten by nine points to three. We are shortly to meet the Dismounted Wing in the first round of the "Mackworth" Rugby.

Billiards.—We met "D" Company in the Inter-Company Billiards Competition and were beaten by four games to two.

Cross-country running.—For the thirteenth successive time "F" Company won the "Mackworth" Cross-country Shield. We won all the three runs on which the result is based. The following qualified for S.T.C. "Jimmies" by finishing in the first twelve: Boys Roberts D., Clover, Butler, Valentine and Watson and Lance Corporals Blades, McKenna and Richards. Congratulations to Boy Roberts D. on his performance by finishing first in the final run, and also to the others mentioned on their performance.

The team scored 125 points. This, we understand, is the lowest on record.

Everyone will agree that our successes in this respect are mainly due to the hard work put in by Lance Corporal Blades, who, apart from being our trainer, can always be seen well to the fore in the actual runs.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Association Football.—Results of matches in the Salisbury Plain Area League played to date are as follows:

7th October	v. 7th Field Bde., R.A.	Home	Drawn	1—1
19th October	v. 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders ..	Home	Lost	1—4
26th October	v. R.A.F., Old Sarum ..	Away	Won	6—1
28th October	v. Experimental Station, Porton	Home	Won	5—3
4th November	v. 5th Battalion, Royal Tank Corps ..	Away	Drawn	3—3

These results provided an encouraging start to the season, because we have such a small field of players to choose from and few of last year's members of the team remain. At the outset it looked impossible to find a successor to last year's mainstay of the team, the goalkeeper, but a volunteer has proved himself a worthy substitute. Our best game so far was that in which we met the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, on 21st October in the first round of the Army Cup. Hopes ran high when we led 1—0 at half-time, but after a hard tussle in the second half we found ourselves defeated by two goals to one. The team for the Army Cup match was: Signalman Holtby; Signalman Shore, Signalman Bell; Lance Corporal Johns, Signalman Terry, Lance Corporal Henwood; Signalman Oakey, Signalman Davey, Lance Corporal Beard, Lance Corporal Craig, Lance Corporal Matthews.

Details, 5th Divisional Signals, Scarborough.

Football.—I suppose all those interested readers are looking forward to the result of our League Cup-tie with Filey Town F.C., as notified at the end of last month's notes. Well, for some unknown reason, the teams turned out on 17th October under League conditions and not a League Cup-tie. This, however, did not detract any interest from the game, either from the spectators' or players' points of view. The conditions were not admirable for good football, but, nevertheless, the usual ding-dong struggle took place. After holding the lead by two goals to one from early in the game until only two minutes remained for play, Filey secured the equaliser and so shared a division of the points. On 31st October we played Scarborough Juniors in the Hospital Cup-tie. This match was due to be played on the Juniors' ground, but, by agreement, the match took place on our ground with a view to a better gate and, incidentally, a better subscription to the hospital. A rousing game before a fairly large number of spectators resulted in our defeat by three goals to nil. This result may seem overwhelming, but the play was more even than the score indicates. The Juniors played grand football and their goalkeeper defied all our efforts to score in spite of severe pressure.

The 7th November saw us at Filey to play the rearranged League Cup-tie. Here again the luck of the game was against us. We held on to a draw of one goal each right to the last second of the game, when Filey snatched a surprise winning goal. The ball was then centred, but the game ended.

The 14th November again found us in quest of League points at Pickering. All those who know this area are probably aware of the difficulty in beating a team like Pickering on their own ground. It therefore proves that our team are becoming more settled, when they returned a victory by three goals to two.

Our League results to date are: played 3, won 1, lost 1, drawn 1 (three points). This is in keeping with the usual League leadership form, so we are hoping to do well.

Signal Training Centre (India) Jubbulpore.

"A" Company, Signal Training Battalion.

Football.—Since our last notes the Inter-Half-Company Football League games have been completed so far as this Company is concerned. We have emerged the winners, but things were not so easy as might have been expected. Two Half-Companies, namely, "C" right and "B" left, gave us two very close games, and we only managed to win by the odd goal in both games. With a little more practice the Indian Companies will be walking away with the Inter-Half-Company Competition. Two friendly games were played with the Detachment, No. 31 Company, R.A.M.C., and on both occasions we were the winners.

Cricket.—In the Military versus Civil match, which is being held in Jubbulpore, the following have been selected to play for the Military side: Major R. L. M. Rosenberg, Captain L. C. Boyd, Lieutenant A. C. Iyappa, Sergeant Matthew F. and Signalman Bourner A. We wish them luck. In the Inter-Section Clock Competition No. 2 Section defeated the Attached Section by one run. What a result! I must say that the Attached Section played a very sporting game by trying out all their first-class bowlers and not asking for a recount of the scores.

Hockey.—We have had some very good hard games with the C.P. Police during the past month. In the three matches played we were defeated each time by a superior team in all respects, and credit must be given to the Company team for the hard work which they put in to lose only by a small margin. The refreshments supplied by the Police were very much appreciated by those who participated in the games. In the Section matches the Attached Section have a really good team and can produce such good form as to defeat even our Company team (but not at full strength).

A try-out of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Room hockey teams did not bring about the desired result, because the Corporals were the winners by two goals to one. It was a very hard game, packed with thrills. The Corporals predominated in the game until fifteen minutes from the end, when the seniors took the upper hand. They were within an ace of scoring when the final whistle blew.

Basket Ball and Deck Tennis.—The Inter-Half-Company Basket Ball and Deck Tennis League games have just commenced. In our first game we were exceedingly fortunate to defeat "B" Left Company by five goals to three. This is considered rather an achievement for this Company, who are rather novices at this form of sport and never won a game last season.

1st Indian Divisional Signals, Rawalpindi.

With the Durand finished the Unit's teams at Rawalpindi were restored to their full strength. The problem at the moment is to find replacements for those who are going home before the beginning of the District meetings next February.

The cricket season opened on 1st October and, with one exception, the Unit team has so far shown satisfactory form. Results: v. "A" Corps Signals, won. v. Northern Command Headquarters, won. v. Silver Jubilee Club, lost.

The Tennis Club has reached a stage where there are so many members that, in order to get a game, one has to follow a recent American craze of squatting for a record period.

1st Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop, Risalpur.

In the world of sport we have not been idle. In the final of the "Jack" Hockey Cup we beat "I" Battery, R.H.A. This achievement is all the more notable, because we have met the same team in the final for the last three years and have previously been beaten. In the final of the Rahman Hockey Tournament we met, and lost to, the "Remnants." Let it be said in our defence that the ground was in very bad condition and undoubtedly handicapped all the team, who lost on a penalty goal.

At tennis Signalman Drew kept the flag flying by winning the Singles event in the Y.M.C.A. Tennis Tournament open to the Garrison. Sergeant Starling and Signalman Drew also reached the final of the Doubles in the same tournament, but were unfortunate to lose.

Peshawar District Signals, Peshawar.

For several years hockey has been the game in this Unit; but during the past few weeks, with the return from Landi-kotal and the U.K. of some of our footballers, we have gathered together a very useful soccer team. We have entered the McEwan Tournament, which is run on a league basis, each team playing every other team once only.

We opened up by defeating the 15th Medium Battery, R.A., by two goals to nil. Corporal Milligan and Signalman Broadbridge were the scorers.

In the second match we beat the R.A.M.C. by two goals to one. The goals were scored by Corporal Milligan and Corporal Gibbons, the latter from a penalty kick.

The next match takes place on 23rd November, so we hope to report further successes next month.

We entered the Francis Memorial Hockey Tournament again this year, but as we were defeated by the 8th Anti-Aircraft Battery, R.A., in the first round, we qualified for the subsidiary tournament, and successfully reached the final, when we met our own I.O.R.'s team. After a very good game, the match was drawn, no goals being scored. The replay will be reported in next month's notes.

Kohat District Signals, Kohat.

Tennis.—Our "A" team eventually finished third in the Hot Weather League. The S. & D. Club were the winners, the R.A.F. officers' team runners-up. A good show, but we want to see it even better next year. There is plenty of room for the Cup, you tennis enthusiasts!

Cricket.—We proved to be the winners of the Hot Weather League after four years as runners-up. Our last match was against the Best XI, who, like ourselves up to that time, were undefeated. Batting first, we made a total of 112 in the hour. Our opponents, for some inexplicable reason, had a total collapse, and were all out for the meagre total of 42, leaving us the victors by 70 runs. So, for the first time since its inception in 1932, this Unit holds the Shield. Hearty congratulations to all!

Football.—The Durand Football Tournament took place at Simla, at the latter end of September, and, although we did not send a team to compete, the services of our crack football referee, Lance Sergeant Robins, were requested by the Committee. From reports received, Lance Sergeant Robin's keen interest in the game materially contributed to the success of this year's tournament, and it was an honour to himself and the Unit that he was selected by the Committee to referee the final.

ROBO.

4th Indian Divisional Signals.

Hockey.—The Garrison Indian Tournaments have been holding the stage for the past month, and as a Combined Signal Team was entered, our attention was transferred there also. The team consisted of players from both the 4th Indian Divisional Signals and the 4th Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop. Lieutenant E. L. L. Vulliamy, C.S.M. Westwood and Signalman Roberts are regular members of the team. On 3rd October the Combined Signals team played "S" Company, 5/6th Rajputana Rifles, in the Small Units' Tournament, and ran out easy victors to the tune of 7—0. In the semi-final, against the Headquarter Company of the same Regiment, the Signals team was beaten 2—1, after a hard struggle.

In the Inter-Unit Tournament, the Signals team were to play the 5/6th Rajputana Rifles in the semi-final, but the 5/6th scratched, so we got a bye to the final, which we play off against the P.A.V.O. Cavalry, on 31st October.

Football.—The Signals' team opened up the Garrison Inter-Unit Football League (British) against 1st Battalion, N. Staffs. Regiment, on their ground. As we have only some twenty-three men from which to pick our team, we cannot hope to do great things, but we do hope to give the other teams some good games. In the match against the N. Staffs. we lost 1—0. The goal was scored about three-quarter time, and, though we pressed heavily, could not manage to equalise. Still, it is quite a good performance against a Battalion team.

On 24th October we played "B" Company, N. Staffs., in a friendly game, and the result was a draw, 3—3. The N. Staffs managed to get two goals in quick succession at the beginning of the match, but the Signals soon settled down, and at half-time the score stood 2—2. Soon after the start of the second half, the Signals again scored, and we had hopes of running out winners; but the N. Staffs. managed to get the equaliser shortly before full time.

Inter-Section Tabloid Sports.—An Inter-Section Tabloid Sports Tournament was held on 23rd October. The events were: 100 Yards Sprint, High Jump, Long Jump, Putting the Shot, Horsework and 100 Yards Relay Race. The result was as follows:

1	"J" Section, No. 1 team	48 pts.
2	Headquarters and "D" Sections' team ..	43 ,,
3	"A" Section, No. 2 team	42 ,,
4	"J" Section, No. 2 team	30 ,,
5	"A" Section, No. 1 team	17 ,,

Corps Signals, Palestine Force.

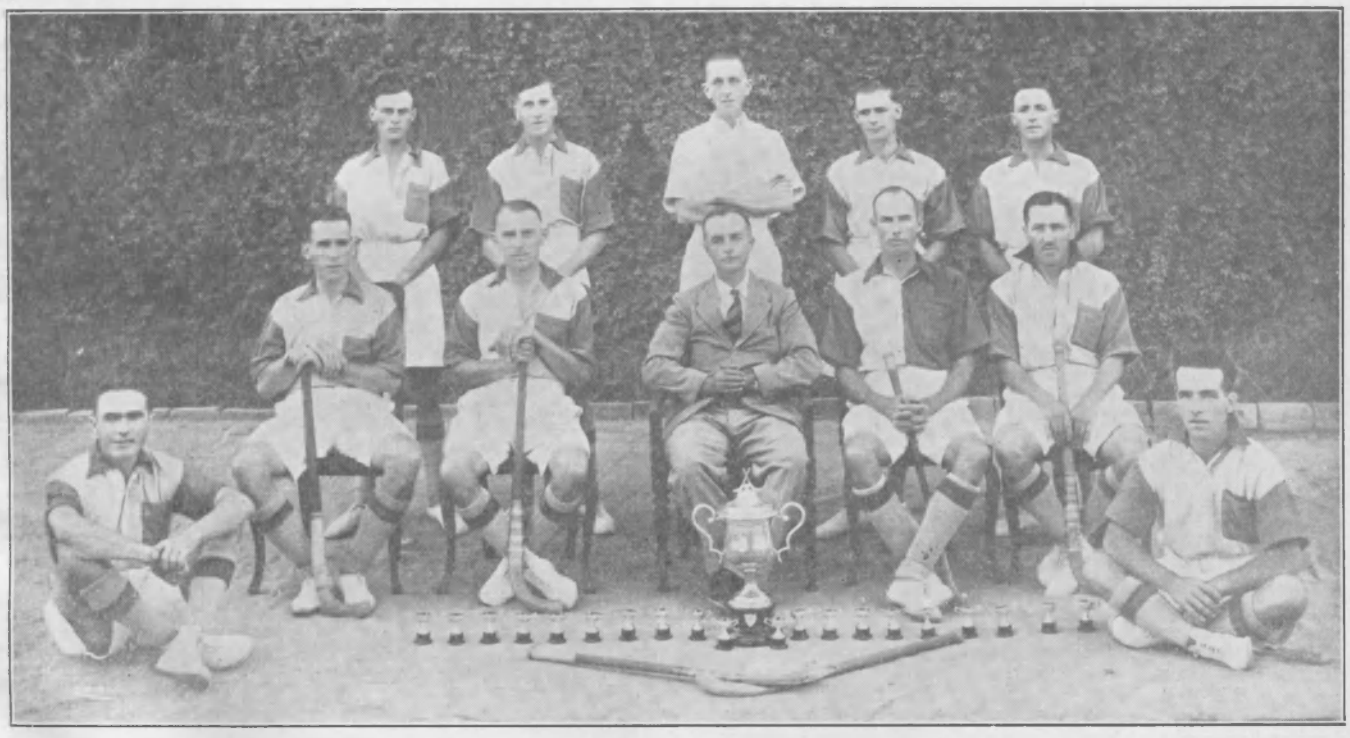
Soccer.—We have had some really good games of football, and have only lowered our colours once so far. While we have some good players scattered about the Holy Land, we were fortunate in having at least four useful reservists, of whom Signalmen Botting and Mawsen rendred yeoman service. They are now on the free transfer list and are earmarked for the *Tuscania*. Here are our results to date:

v. Cameronians	Won 4—2
v. Palestine Police	Drawn 4—4
v. 1st Divisional Signals	Drawn 1—1
v. Corps H.Q.	Drawn 3—3
v. Scots Guards	Lost 1—2
v. 14th Company, R.A.S.C.	Won 3—2
v. Palestine Police	Drawn 2—2

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1st CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP HOCKEY TEAM. WINNERS OF THE "JACK" HOCKEY TOURNAMENT.
Back Row (left to right)—Signalman Drew, Lance Corporal Wood, Signalman Bryan, Lance Corporal Strong, Corporal Trew.
Centre Row (left to right)—Sergeant Hefferman, Sergeant Longhurst, Major V. C. Holland, T.S.M. Taylor, Sergeant Starling.
Front Row (left to right)—Signalman James, Signalman Howard.



1st CAVALRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP HOCKEY TEAM. WINNERS OF TWO POOLS IN THE "JACK" HOCKEY TOURNAMENT.
Back Row (left to right)—Signalman Drew, Lance Corporal Wood, Signalman Bryan, Corporal Bale, Corporal Trew.
Centre Row (left to right)—Sergeant Hefferman, Sergeant Longhurst, Major V. C. Holland, T.S.M. Taylor, Sergeant Starling.
Front Row (left to right)—Signalman Warwick, Signalman Howard.

All of which looks as if it was a matey-matey sort of business, but, believe me, it wasn't. They were all hardly contested matches.

Hockey.—We have played at least as many games of hockey as football, and it is hard to say which is the more popular. We have been oftener on the winning side, probably that is why the modest secretary hasn't produced a few notes. Meanwhile, I am sorry, you chaps, but these must go.

Tientsin Signal Section.

Peking Detachment.

We have nothing of importance to report in regard to our sporting activities, because the football and hockey season has not properly commenced yet. During the summer months we were well occupied with various tournaments organised by "C" Company, 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment. The tournaments were Inter-Platoon Competitions and we were entered as a Platoon. The tournaments consisted of swimming, cricket, billiards, snooker and darts. We did succeed in winning the swimming, darts and billiards on one occasion, but usually we were eliminated in the semi-finals or finals. However, considering the small number from which we have to select our teams, our performances can be considered very good on all occasions.

Tennis.—In an Embassy All Ranks' Tournament which was held here recently Signalman Verlander E. J. beat Pte. Wright (2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment) in the final of the Singles by 4—6, 6—3, 6—0, and in the Doubles final Lance Corporal Robinson B. and Corporal Gordon (2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment) beat Signalmen Armstrong C. and Welchman G. by 9—7, 6—3, 6—3. The S. and D.s' tennis club's Annual Handicap Tournament is in progress at the time of writing. We will give you the final results in our next issue of notes.

Athletics.—On 18th, 19th and 20th October the International Guards' Annual Athletic Meeting took place on the French glacis here. The standard of athletics was very high and most of the races had exciting finishes. The Italian Guard won the Meeting with a total of 54 points; the British Guard was a close second with 53 points. This result caused tremendous excitement throughout the Meeting, as it was "touch and go" as to who would win. The British team had first places in all the track events, with the Italians always close behind. In the field events, however, the Italians took most of the first places. A third place in the pole vault was the only British success in the field events.

The Meeting was a great success, with good-hearted sportsmanship shown by all nationalities.

We specially wish to congratulate our only representative in these athletics, Lance Corporal Robinson B., who won the 1,500 and 800 metres races and also ran the 800 metres in the 1,600 metres relay race. In the 800 metres race he broke the track record for the Meeting by 6⅘ seconds, his time for the race being 2 minutes ⅕ second. Congratulations, "Robbo"! Keep it up!

43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Plymouth) Company.

Sport.—Since my last notes only two soccer league games have been played by our Company team. At home versus the Co-op. Athletic Reserves we put up a fight for the point secured. The Co-op. took an early lead of two goals, after which our defence played stubbornly. Five minutes from the end Lance Sergeant Northam scored a great goal, and with only a minute to go Mills equalised with a great individual effort.

Against Melbourne Athletic at home we commenced two short; then Boy Spear came on and later C.S.M. Gibbings managed to get on a skin-tight jersey and came on to make up the side. Melbourne were a good team. Paterson (goal) put up a great show and was only beaten by three shots. Long scored our only goal. The C.S.M. decided to retire from the active list. The stiffness has not worn off yet!

Our record to date reads: Played, 6; Won, 2; Drawn, 1; Lost, 3; Goals for, 13; Goals against, 16.

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Chitral Relief, 1936.

[*Continued from page* 511].

men and a crew consisting of the first and second pilots, wireless operator and one aircraftsman, a total of 21, or a freight load of 4,000 pounds, has a "ceiling" of about 12,000 feet and a cruising speed of about 90 m.p.h.

On the morning of 18th September there was a feeling of subdued excitement in the wireless station at Drosh, especially amongst those who were leaving for Rawalpindi by the return journey. At 6.30 a.m. we had news by wireless that the Troop Carriers had left Chaklala and their expected time of arrival in Drosh was 8.15 a.m. By 8 a.m. everyone was on the landing ground gazing heavenwards, and at about 8.10 a.m. the first 'plane was sighted coming over the hills towards Drosh. By 8.20 a.m. both 'planes had landed safely. The "deplaning" of troops and unloading of the stores was quickly carried out, and soon the prospective air travellers were gathered round the new arrivals. Numerous and rather urgent questions were asked, such as "What is it like?" "Did you feel sick?" etc., etc., but these were cut short by orders from the "emplaning" officer to "Fall in," "Get weighed" and, finally, "Emplane." The machines departed at 9.30 a.m. and arrived safely at Chaklala at 11.15 a.m., just one and three-quarter hours later. My turn was yet to come, but I still had another two days to think about it.

[*To be continued next Month.*]



Deplaning at Chaklala.